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# A-Z of honeymoons

Learn the alphabet all over again with Amanda Statham's latest honeymoon destinations and accessories



## B Beautiful beach

Some things are extra important to couples on honeymoon and a fabulous beach is usually one of them. Look no further than the stretch of sand ringing recently reopened five-star resort Hideaway Beach Maldives ([hideawaybeachmaldives.com](http://hideawaybeachmaldives.com)), which lies on one of the largest islands in the archipelagos. The \$50 million refurbishment also means the rest of the resort is pretty special too.



## A Amazing villa

The Sky Villas at new Kata Rocks Hotel ([katarocks.com](http://katarocks.com)) in Phuket are sublime. Dotted across a hillside overlooking the Andaman Sea, each comes with sleek white lounge, dreamy bedroom and floor-to-ceiling glass doors that slide open to reveal an infinity pool. The rest of the resort is honeymoontastic too, from the white-tiled swimming pool to the spa and gorgeous golden sands of Kata Beach. Ocean Front Sky Villa from £380 per night.

## C Cuddle up

If your honeymoon style is more ice queen than beach babe, you'll love Kakslautanen Arctic Resort in Finland ([kakslautanen.fi](http://kakslautanen.fi)), which has just launched Kelo-Glass Igloos. These cosy log cabins have roaring fires and, best of all, glass domes in the bedroom for a romantic evening stargazing at the spectacular Northern Lights. From £210 per person per night based on two sharing.

## D Daydream bedroom

Whether your wedding is weeks or years away, we bet you've already daydreamed about the sort of swanky suite you want to honeymoon in. Most brides' fantasy room includes at the very least a huge bed, amazing view, Champagne-stocked bar and a terrace for sunset, and the new Singita Ebony Lodge

in South Africa ([singita.com](http://singita.com)) ticks all the requirements, plus the chance to spot the Big Five. The 12 safari-tent-style suites each have a four-poster, private plunge pool and outdoor pavilion decks suspended off the river banks – the best place in the world for sundowners – before an evening game drive in the 45,000 hectare reserve famous for leopard sightings. Suites from around £820 per person per night.



## E Easy exploring

You want to be intrepid on your trip-of-a-lifetime but, frankly, it's a little too much effort to backpack; you're honeymooners not hitch-hikers. The solution is a week or two at Nihiwatu ([nihiwatu.com](http://nihiwatu.com)) on the stunning Indonesian island of Sumba. This is proper off-the-beaten-track adventure, with loads on offer from surfing, sport fishing and hiking through dramatic waterfalls and ancient villages. When you tire of all the activities, you can relax in one of the nine new luxury villas or at the spa. From £852 per night.



## F Food glorious food

When you're on honeymoon, it's time to throw the scales out of the window. Rediscover your love of food at Dolce Vita, the new restaurant at Villa Marie ([villamarie.fr](http://villamarie.fr)), which lies in a hillside pine forest with sea views. You'll dine on locally sourced fresh seafood at the beautiful outdoor terrace with views overlooking the Bay of Pampelonne. Offering immaculate interiors, an inviting swimming pool carved from rock and an indulgent Pure Altitude spa, Villa Marie is also just 10 minutes from St Tropez. From 450€ per night on a half-board basis.



## K Kiss in Kenya

The new Angama Mara safari camp in Kenya has glass-fronted suites suspended on the edge of an escarpment, giving the sensation of floating in the air. Scott Dunn ([scottdunn.com](http://scottdunn.com)) offers four nights at Angama Mara and three nights at Kinondo Kewtu from £4,470 per person.

## G Go glam



Dress up a honeymoon outfit with these lust-have heart earrings, £140, [beaverbrooks.co.uk](http://beaverbrooks.co.uk).

## H Hip hang-out

When you update Instagram or Facebook, make sure it's a picture of the two of you having cocktails at the rooftop bar of the new Hotel Hugo ([hotelhugo.com](http://hotelhugo.com)) in New York. With 360-degree views, it's sightseeing from your bar stool. This Manhattan gem also has Il Principe restaurant, a high-end Italian joint often frequented by celebs, and there are Vespas available to experience the city. From \$300 per room per night.

## I Island hopping

The Caribbean is a magnet for honeymooners with its fabulous year-round climate, amazing beaches and fabulous hotels. The problem is which island to choose. Luckily Sandals Resorts ([sandals.co.uk](http://sandals.co.uk)) has come up with a solution - island hopping. Its new tour includes three destinations: Sandals Halcyon Beach Resort & Spa in Jamaica, Sandals Grande Antigua Resort & Spa and Sandals Barbados. From £2,699 per person for 15 nights all-inclusive, including flights.



## J Jump in!

Who wouldn't want to hit the swimming pool in this oh-so-chic swimsuit? The new Fisher Island collection one-piece from Heidi Klein ([heidiklein.com](http://heidiklein.com)) is £200.

## L Luxe luggage

You're bound to get an upgrade if you say you're honeymooners and you're sporting this hot lips Lulu Guinness carry-on luggage, £195, ([caseluggage.com](http://caseluggage.com)).



## M Mmm mini moon

Head to Tenerife to stargaze through the new telescopes at Teide Observatory. Set on Mount Teide, Spain's highest peak, it's one of the best locations on the planet for viewing the night sky. Check in to adults-only Hotel Colon Guanahani ([adrianhoteles.com](http://adrianhoteles.com)) and relax in the new rooftop pool. From £110 per night.



## N Neat nest

Nest at Per Aquum Niyama in the Maldives is quite possibly the coolest place to dine in the world. The new dining hot spot is a multi-level treehouse reached via wood pathways and canopy bridges through the jungle. Set amid banyan trees, it's a labyrinth of dining pods and tables nestled among vines on the forest floor, or on platforms in the branches. Water villas from £1,979 per night (travelbag.co.uk).



## O One&Only style

The upmarket resort collection One&Only (oneandonlyresorts.com) has launched its own fashion brand and boy are they gorgeous: think floaty kaftans, dresses and shorts, all beautifully embroidered and perfect for the beach or evening cocktails. What's the catch? You'll have to honeymoon at one of the O&O hotels in the Maldives, Mauritius, Cape Town, Mexico or Bahamas to get your hands on one.

## Q Quiet please

If you want to get away from it all then book Casa Celestina, a pretty cottage tucked away in central Istria, Croatia. Perched on a hillside with views of the Adriatic, its pastel green shutters, bedroom with king-size bed and terrace overlooking vineyards and olive groves are wonderfully rustic and romantic. Croatian Villa Holidays (croatianvillaholidays.com) offers a week in September from £750.

## R Rocking restaurant

Lay back on giant cabanas, swing in a hammock together, dine on delicious seafood with your feet in the sand, sip cocktails at sunset and dance the night away at Scorpios (scorpiosmykonos.com), a new bar-restaurant-beach club causing a stir on the Greek island of Mykonos. The vibe is like a holistic house party at a friend's amazing villa, and is just the spot for hip newlyweds. When it's time to hit the sack, choose the super-stylish San Giorgio Mykonos (designhotels.com), from £140 per night.



## S Spectacular spa

The best way to beat the post-wedding blues is to book an amazing honeymoon and treat yourselves to some pampering. The new state-of-the-art spa at Windjammer Landing Villa Beach Resort in St Lucia is what you're looking for, with two couples' treatment rooms and a relaxation room. Book the private After Hours Spa Experience followed by dinner served by a private butler. ITC Luxury Travel (itcluxurytravel.co.uk) offers seven nights from £1,329 per person.

## P Private paradise

'Wow' is what you'll be saying when you settle in to one of the seven villas at recently opened Paradise Beach Nevis in the Caribbean. With views of Mount Nevis and neighbouring St Kitts, the thatched villas, each boasting a pebble-lined pool, sexy outdoor marble shower and lush garden, make dreamy beach retreats. Western Oriental (westernoriental.com) offers seven nights from £3,110 per person in a two-bedroom Garden Villa on a room-only basis, including flights.





## T Talk of the town

If you fancy a city honeymoon, Amsterdam is a fabulous choice what with its bikes, canals and flower markets. Another reason to visit is the new Hoxton Hotel ([thehoxt.com](http://thehoxt.com)), the first of the Hoxton chain to open outside London. Situated on Herengracht canal, near cool bars and shops, prices start from just 89 per night so you could stay for weeks.

## U Unique experience

Top of most people's animal encounters wish list are elephants, which is why Anantara Golden Triangle Elephant Camp & Resort's new Walking With Giants experience in Thailand ([anantara.com](http://anantara.com)) is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. You'll get to join them on a stroll, watch them take a river bath, prepare snacks and help feed them. Walking With Giants experience included in the room price, from £649 per night all-inclusive.



## V VIP ski

If you want snow rather than sand as your honeymoon backdrop, then Little Zebra ([vipchalets.com](http://vipchalets.com)) is for you. This gorgeous chalet spread over two floors at the chic resort of Meribel has a private terrace with hot tub. Best of all, it's fully catered. A week's stay from £1,209 per person, including flights, full-board and afternoon tea each day.



## Y Yucatan pampering

You'll never want to leave the Cenote spa at the new Grand Hyatt Playa del Carmen ([grandhyattplaya.com](http://grandhyattplaya.com)) on Mexico's Riviera Maya. The design's inspired by 'cenotes' - natural swimming holes traditionally found on the Yucatan Peninsula. Book a couples' treatment room and work your way through the menu - Mayan head massages combine cocoa and tequila oils, while a hot stone massage uses locally sourced opal, believed to give positive energy. Post-treatment, there's a beach to lounge on and Playa Del Carmen to explore. From \$199 per night.

## W

### Wow shades

If ever there was a good time to rock these gold snakeskin sunnies, £330, Linda Farrow, it's on your glamorous honeymoon.



## X X-Factor

If you want something extra-special, check out luxury new hotel Tri Lanka Koggala on the banks of Lake Koggala in Sri Lanka. What makes this 10-suite escape so special? It sets new standards for eco-luxury: think living walls, green roofs and solar hot water. Ampersand Travel ([ampersandtravel.com](http://ampersandtravel.com)) offers seven nights from £1,533 per person.

## Z Zzzzz

After some sleepless nights in the run-up to the big day it's good to know you're guaranteed a fabulous night's sleep at the new L'Amandier hotel ([lamndierhotel.com](http://lamndierhotel.com)) just south of Marrakech in Morocco. There's a bed menu, so you can choose how many and what type of pillows and how firm your mattress is. But it's not only about shut-eye here, the 360° views of Toubkal National Park, the Atlas Mountains, olive groves and gardens are unforgettable and the Moroccan cuisine in the swish restaurant is stunning. Prices from £280 per night.

