



Condé Nast  
**Traveller**

JUNE 2020

THE  
**HOT LIST**  
2020

THOUGHTFUL HOTELS CLEVER RESTAURANTS

TRENDS COOL BARS TWISTED DESIGN CAVES

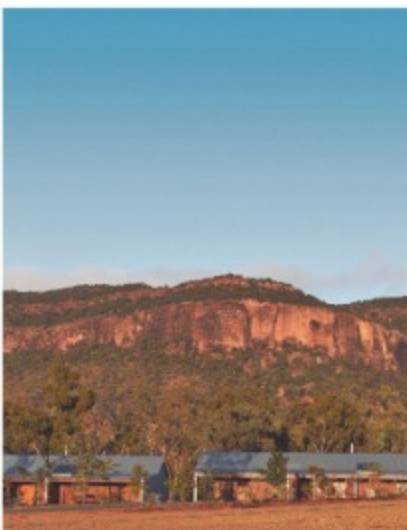
YOUR ADDRESS BOOK FOR THE FUTURE

SURF SCENES UPCYCLED CRAFTS URBAN SAFARIS IMMUNITY SECRETS FRESH BRITISH HIDEAWAYS

## AUSTRALIA

## MOUNT MULLIGAN LODGE, QUEENSLAND

The best way to get here is by helicopter. It's a 35-minute ride from Cairns, swooping and whirring toward the towny suburb of Bush, leaving the tropical north Queensland coast behind. As the chopper nears the colossal sandstone mountain that gives the lodge its name, it feels like a fly buzzing around its immense bulk, 10 times the size of Uluru. On 28 hectares of working cattle station, this isn't the first remote outpost to add smart digs to its operation — it is following a path well forged by El Questro and Balio River Station, among others. But it is the latest showcase of a hard-working spin on luxury that allows guests to roll up their sleeves and be part of the action. With its double-height sandstone fireplace and earth-toned camp-style chairs that colic out just the infamy pool, the indoor-outdoor homestead is rugged but refined. The heart is where great yards are topped over pre-dinner aperitifs after a day spent doing everything — cattle mustering, bushing, paddle boarding, fishing, off-road driving — or nothing. Each room, with soft leather furniture, spotted-glass floorboards and bronze fittings, leads onto a private deck with a hot tub and uninterrupted views of the imposing crown of rock. An immersive but extremely cozy set deep dive into Australian outback culture. **FLASH POINT** Whizz up to the compacted-iron Sunset Bar to watch the spectacular tangy sunset dip over Mount Mulligan and beyond. [mountmulligan.com.au](http://mountmulligan.com.au). Double for from about \$950 per night.



## ITALY

## HOTEL DE LA VILLE, ROME

If Rocco Forte's first foray in the Italian capital, the spare Hotel de Russie, is Marco Polo Massimo and Arca & Berg all dressed up in La Dolce Vita, this peppy couple is former Hollywood's Audrey Hepburn and Gregory Peck buzzing around zones on a Vespa. Located at the top of the Spanish Steps, it's a head-on toe-curler of the inner-Centraville de la Ville, a once-glamorous address that had become increasingly staid. There's nothing staid about Tommaso Ziffer's new interiors. 30 years on from his bebop, Art Deco-singed work on De Russie, he's in a playful mood. Hubs of convex mirrors, wallpaper studded with digital reproductions of antique prints, deft touches of chinoiserie, coffee tables topped with computer-generated mosaics, colours that range from powder blue to deep plum — it's the Grand Tour on acid. The decorative veneer and help to make up for the fact that not all of the 104 rooms have full-on city views. (For those, check into a Panoramic Suite or the swanky top-floor space). But the millennials who are already flocking to this good-looking Roman berth are unlikely to complain. Silk Rocco-inspired cocktails at the Juliet bar and the smart updates of traditional dishes served in the hotel's chic, street-side Da Sistra restaurant focus the mind on the inner view. **FLASH POINT** Do stress from a long day of culture slaying with a Mediterranean Mudding Ritual in the seemingly perennial spa. [roccofores.com](http://roccofores.com). Double for from about \$340.



## ITALY

### HOTEL DE LA VILLE, ROME

If Rocco Forte's first foray in the Italian capital, the suave Hotel de Russie, is Marcello Mastroianni and Anita Ekberg all dressed up in *La Dolce Vita*, this peppy cousin is *Roman Holiday*'s Audrey Hepburn and Gregory Peck buzzing around town on a Vespa.

Located at the top of the Spanish Steps, it's a head-to-toe overhaul of the InterContinental de la Ville, a once-glamorous address that had become increasingly staid. There's nothing staid about Tommaso Ziffer's new interiors: 20 years on from his debonair, Art Deco-tinged work on De Russie, he's in a playful mood. Nests of convex mirrors, wallpaper studded with digital reproductions of antique prints, deft touches of chinoiserie, coffee tables topped with computer-generated mosaics, colours that range from powder blue to deep plum – it's the Grand Tour on acid. The decorative verve and brio helps to make up for the fact that not all of the 104 rooms have full-on city views (for those, check into a Panoramic Suite or the swoony top-floor space). But the millennials who are already flocking to this good-looking Roman berth are unlikely to complain. Silk Road-inspired cocktails at the Julep bar and the smart updates of traditional dishes served in the hotel's chic, streetside Da Sistina restaurant focus the mind on the inner view.

**FLASH POINT** De-stress from a long day of culture slogging with a Mediterranean Mudding Ritual in the soothingly penumbral spa. [roccofortehotels.com](http://roccofortehotels.com). Doubles from about £540

