



Condé Nast **Traveller**

**SPECIAL
DOUBLE ISSUE**

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THE HOT LIST 2018

**THIS YEAR'S BEST NEW HOTELS,
RESTAURANTS, BEACH CLUBS & BARS**

**+ THE 50 PEOPLE
CHANGING THE
WAY WE TRAVEL
RIGHT NOW**

MOTELS GO ALL RETRO-AGGRESSIVE

BUBBLE HOUSES ARE THE NEW TREEHOUSES

FIRST LOOK AT THE REOPENED RESTAURANT PHENOMENON NOMA

PANTELLERIA MAKES A BIGGER SPLASH

MAXIMUM CITY: A PORTRAIT OF SHANGHAI

THE BOLD ARRIVAL PUTTING TURKEY BACK ON THE AGENDA

WHY CHINESE ARCHITECTS ARE BLOWING OUR MINDS

L.A.'S URBAN SHAMANS

THE GREATEST ROAD TRIP IN SOUTH AMERICA



ITALY

DIMORA DELLE BALZE, SICILY

When Elena Lops first came across this delightful fortified masseria just north of the town of Noto nine years ago, it was a crumbling ruin. Since then, she has restored it with great care and dedication: plaster stripped away to reveal original stone arches; roof tiles cleaned and relaid; unhinged doors rescued and re-hung (peeling paint included). The result is a joy, successfully straddling old and new, with only 12 bedrooms but communal spaces big enough to hold a crowd with cool stone floors and vaulted ceilings painted the colours of Sicily: delicate duck-egg blue, dusty pink and soft green. The loosely themed bedrooms, divided between the main house and the ex-workers' cottages overlooking a courtyard paved with pale stone from Modica, are named after Sicilian artists and their works (Proibito, Eva, Poesie). Lops has filled inside and out with a mix of contemporary Italian design pieces, vintage finds and ceramics, and custom-made cementine tiles from Morocco. Shady terraces are the setting for long breakfasts and summer suppers (seafood salad followed by linguine with courgettes from the hotel's organic garden, shrimp and pistachios maybe). And after a swim in the saltwater pool, you can retreat to the Limonaia, a lovely indoor-outdoor bar area in a scented Mediterranean garden, to sip mint tea or, later, to watch the stars in the inky night sky until it's cool enough to fall into bed. **FLASH POINT** The small town of Palazzolo Acreide, a 15-minute drive away, is an undiscovered baroque gem with its own little Greek amphitheatre. +39 327 9064756; dimoradellebalze.com. Doubles from about £350

