

# The big splash

*We are obsessed with hotel interiors, but sometimes it's all about the pool. Dive into planning your next trip with a look at these sublime swimming spots – and don't forget to pack a towel worthy of the stay*

## The seafront pool **Cosme Hotel, Paros**

The lucky occupants of this new retreat's 40 suites may have access to an exclusive slice of Agioi Anargyroi beach, and even a private jetty, but they could be forgiven for not making it past the swimming pool. Its semi-circular layout, the genius idea of the hotel's architects and designers ID Laboratorium, ensures an unobstructed view of the Aegean sea for every sun worshipper. Pull yourself away from the loungers, and you'll find an interior inspired by the quaint fishing-village style of the more traditional parts of Paros, plus work by Greek artists including Margarita Myrogianni and ceramicist Terpsichore. From approx £315 per night ([cosmehotelparos.com](http://cosmehotelparos.com)).







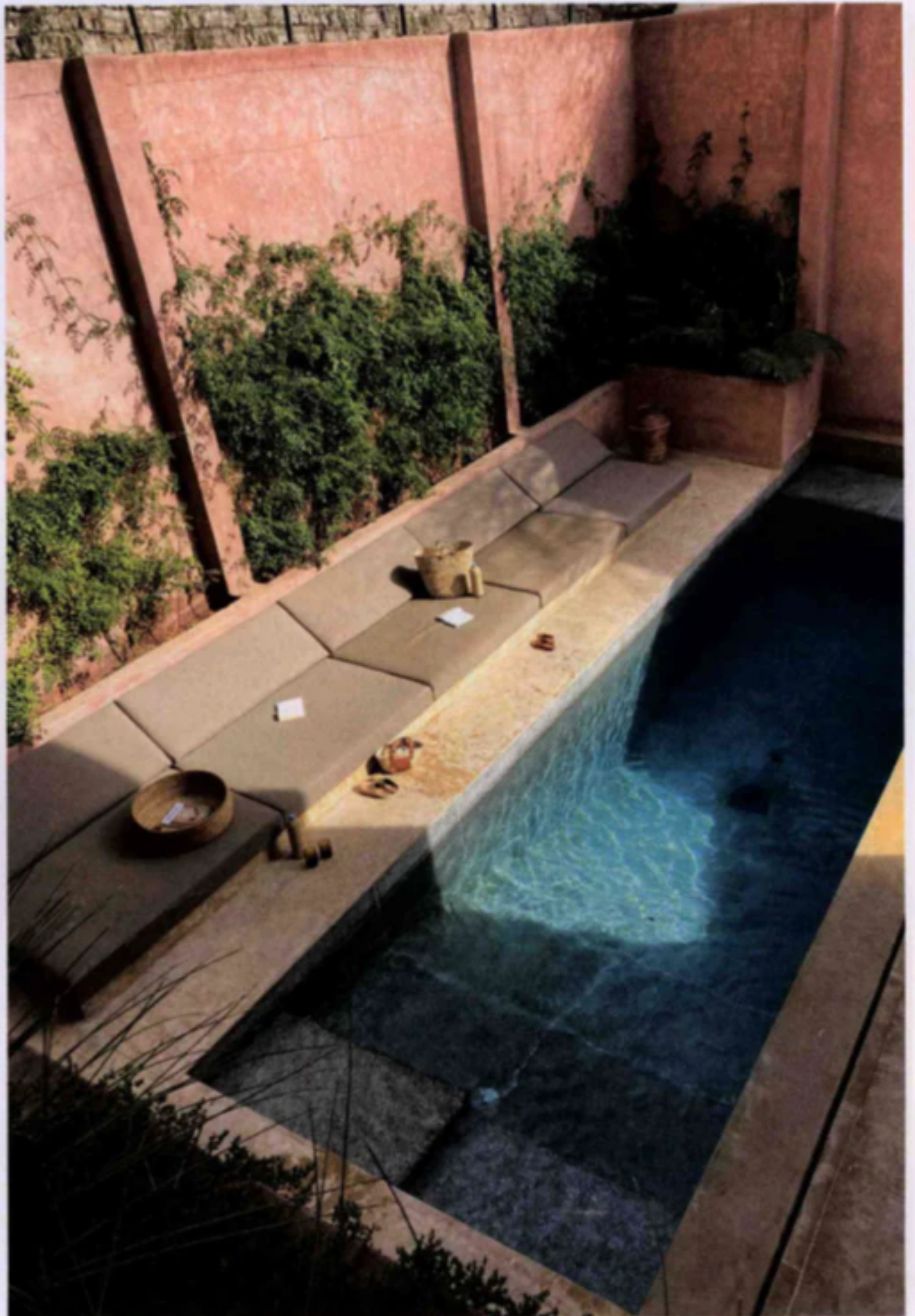
## The urban rooftop **Art'Otel, London**

When it comes to landmarks to gaze at between lengths, few are as imposingly iconic as the recently renovated Battersea Power Station. Heated to accommodate the vagaries of the British summer, the infinity pool and adjoining jacuzzi at this art-focused hotel are masterpieces. The pool is open year-round, as is the Joia rooftop cocktail bar. Inside, the Art'Otel is just as memorable, as the Spanish designer Jaime Hayon has infused the communal areas, restaurants and rooms with his trademark joyful use of colour. From £400 per night ([artotellondonbattersea.com](http://artotellondonbattersea.com)).

The modern oasis

## **Maison Brummell Majorelle, Marrakech**

With terracotta-coloured walls cocooning it from the tourists visiting the nearby Majorelle Gardens, this peaceful pool features built-in sun loungers and an outdoor shower. The hotel is bijoux, able to accommodate only 16 guests, who can all enjoy its minimalist take on Moroccan architecture (the work of New Zealander Bergendy Cooke and local talent Amine Abouraoui) and designer interiors, featuring classic pieces by the likes of Egon Eiermann and Ingo Maurer. From approx £175 per night ([maisonbrummellmajorelle.com](http://maisonbrummellmajorelle.com)).



## The private dip **Acro Suites, Crete**

For those who don't like to share, the hidden luxury of the premium cave suites in this wellness retreat may be the ultimate treat. Set into the cliffside, with uninterrupted views of the sea, they are decorated in a neutral palette. Plus, the natural shade provided by the setting is ideal for escaping the heat of the day. Cave Suites, from £783 per night ([acrosuites.com](http://acrosuites.com)). ➤



## The eco swim La Ferme Hibrade, Luberon

Stake out the prime spot – a sun lounger marooned on an island at the centre of the pool – and you will feel the true sense of seclusion in nature that is at the heart of this agrotourism resort's ethos. Located on a farm, complete with olive groves and a vineyard, the location is remote but the experience is far from rustic. Each of La Ferme Hibrade's eight rooms, two studios and two houses is punctuated with bold colour and furniture from brands including Kartell and Vitra. From £165 per night ([hi-life.net](http://hi-life.net)).



## Poolside essentials

*Claim your sun lounger in style with the best towels for this year's hottest retreats*



'Wave' bath sheet by Matthew Williamson, £39, John Lewis & Partners ([johnlewis.com](http://johnlewis.com))



'Pince-Moi' beach towel, £560, Hermès ([hermes.com](http://hermes.com))



'Green Block Stripes' beach towel by Tekla, £115, Ssense ([ssense.com](http://ssense.com))



'Parrots' beach towel, £98, Jonathan Adler ([uk.jonathanadler.com](http://uk.jonathanadler.com))



'Savanni' beach towel, £70, Marimekko ([marimekko.com](http://marimekko.com)) **LD**