

Jun 30, 2021

# BEST OF THE MEDITERRANEAN



This is it. It's the first real summer in two years. Most of the world is open again to travel and people are releasing the pent-up wanderlust that accumulated from being in lockdown. For those that are fully vaccinated, what better way is there to enjoy this first summer of jet setting than luxurious days in the Mediterranean? Whether it's a glamorous beachside holiday you're after, an aristocratic boutique stay, a Michelin-star gastronomical experience, or a wellness-led holiday,

Paragon 700  
Ostuni Puglia, Italy



The term old-world meets new-world is one that is hardly so accurate as it is with the Paragon 700 hotel. Atop its vaulted ceilings (some as high as 23 feet) sit old mouldings and distressed paints amongst fresco-like walls. Placed within this stunning backdrop are massive, white tubs sunken into the floor of rooms, sofas and headboards made custom in South Africa, antiques from India repurposed for a new life, while end tables and nightstands are the windfall from antique fairs from around the world. Every corner of this hotel has been crafted for originality, for internationalism, and for decadence. Although within this old-meets-new are undeniable classics such as exquisite food and wine, a spa that rivals any other, and indulgent excursions like the charter of the hotel's private yacht. The highlight? The art on display is curated with discerning taste and some of the works are for sale, including pieces of furniture from around the hotel, so you can go home with a bit of the Paragon in your pocket.

**Caroline Conostas Online  
(UMV 40,000; Points 9)  
30th June 2021**

(IMAGE 2 OF 2)