

Condé Nast Traveller

THE WORLD MADE LOCAL

JULY/AUGUST 2025

Summer daze

SUN-KISSED STAYS IN SARDINIA, FRANCE, THE GREEK ISLANDS AND BEYOND

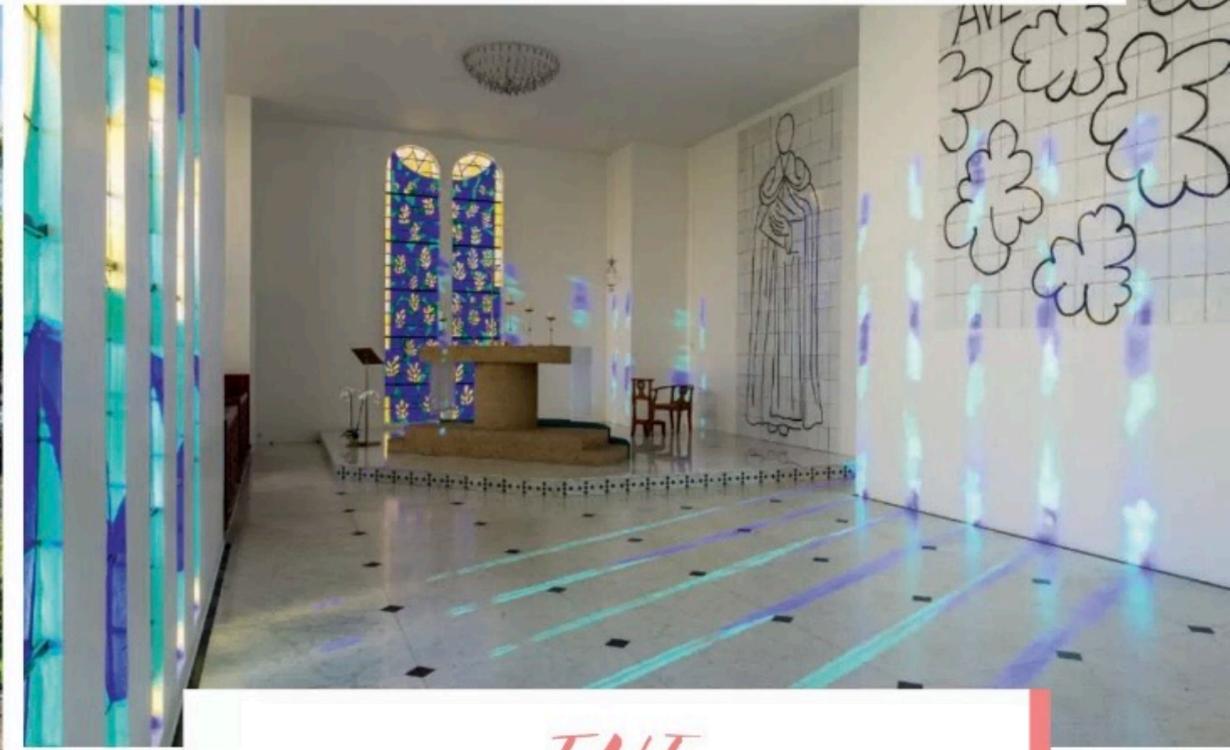
Beauty
AWARDS

TO LUGGAGE HEROES,
SKINCARE SAVIOURS
CUTTING-EDGE TECH

PLUS FINDING GOLD ON THE RING OF KERRY • SMART NEW VILLAS IN TUSCANY AND UMBRIA
TOKYO'S CASUAL GOURMET HOTSPOTS • THE SOUNDS OF THE GLOBAL FESTIVAL SCENE

The summer heat map

OUR PICK OF THE EUROPEAN CORNERS HITTING THE LIMELIGHT THIS SEASON



THE SOUTH OF FRANCE FOR GREAT ART

Nearly a century and a half since Renoir and Monet took a painting trip to the Med – inspiring generations of artists to follow suit – the South of France is having an art moment.

A key locale is Aix-en-Provence where, from 1859, the so-called father of modern art, Paul Cézanne, lived on and off at **Jas de Bouffan**, a gracious ochre manor house in leafy grounds. Until 12 October, Aix's **Musée Granet** is staging an exhibition of the work he produced there, including his much admired portraits of card players and bathers. Both the manor house – now visitable for the first time – and the artist's final atelier in nearby Les Lauves are being restored. Ten minutes east of the city are guided walks around the abandoned **Bibémus quarries**, where Cézanne paved the way for cubism with his experimental landscapes of the dramatic red rocks and Mont Sainte-Victoire behind them. Two hours east, Saint-Paul-de-Vence is another magnet for art lovers, especially because of **La Colombe d'Or**, a 1920s bar that gradually evolved into a 25-room inn with an extraordinary collection of works by the likes of Picasso and Matisse, some of them gifted or exchanged for bed or board. Today the hilltop village is also home to **Toile Blanche**, a retreat owned by the Leroy Brothers, three Flemish artists who have added five new suites to the original 17 and extended the gallery space to show work including AI-generated pieces by Arora Vale, a fictional artist they created. There's more modern art nearby at **Fondation Maeght** and Matisse's exquisite **Rosary Chapel**. And collector Christian Levett has relaunched the Mougins Museum of Classical Art as **FAMM: Female Artists of the Mougins Museum** to highlight the role of women in the modern art story. LISA JOHNSON



Clockwise from this picture: pool at Toile Blanche; part of *le Labyrinthe Miró* (1964-73) by Joan Miró at Fondation Maeght; Matisse's Rosary Chapel

PHOTOGRAPHS: OLIVIER AMSELLEM; LUCAS DUTERTRY; DAVID FERNANDEZ; RICHARD HAUGHTON; HAIZEA OGUETA; SEPIA TIMES/GETTY IMAGES; MARU SERRANO; TOILE BLANCHE. ARTWORKS: ARCHIVES FONDATION MAEGHT/SUCCESSIÓ MIRÓ/ADAGP, PARIS AND DACS LONDON 2025; CROUCHING SPIDER (2003) BY LOUISE BOURGEOIS. THE EASTON FOUNDATION/VAGA AT ARS, NY/DACS, LONDON 2025



From top: part of *le Labyrinthe* Miró (1964-73) by Joan Miró at Fondation Maeght; *Mont Sainte-Victoire (La Montagne Sainte-Victoire)* (1892-95) by Paul Cézanne; *Toile Blanche; Crouching Spider* (2003) by Louise Bourgeois at Château La Coste in Aix-en-Provence



WORD OF MOUTH

Castilla y Leon FOR GROUNDED GASTRONOMY

In Castilla y Leon, the region between Madrid and the Basque Country, there's a locavore foodie movement brewing in the city of Ávila – where a Six Senses opens next year – at restaurants including sustainability-focused, New Nordic-inspired **Barro** and the newer **Caleña** in the 10-room **Casa del Presidente** hotel.

The renowned Bubble rooms at **Noctis Hotel** near Soria are a great base from which to explore the area.



Clockwise from top: room at Noctis Hotel; Caleña's pass; Noctis Hotel; prawn dish at Barro