



world's top ten rooms with a view

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Wake up to a picture postcard setting everyday
on the most romantic week of your life...

POOL WITH A VIEW

Evason Phuket, Thailand

Despite the tragic Tsunami, Phuket is still a dream destination. The Evason hotel is a designer haven with a huge asset: private pool villas. Secluded, the room has a glorious view but even better, so does your very own infinity dipping pool and the exterior bath! Turquoise waters beyond and rugged islets contrast with the bright exotic flowers growing in your very own garden. The odd boat disturbs the perfect peace. It doesn't get much better than this.

Find out more at www.sixsenses.com
Pool Villa rates from £310 per night.

ROMANCE ON WHEELS ▶

Eastern and Oriental Express, Bangkok to Singapore

This is a room with an ever-changing view! The Eastern and Oriental Express travels from Bangkok to Singapore over two nights. The train is all about elegance: silver service, breakfast and high tea in your cabin, your very own butler for the journey and a strict dress code. After all, this is a train of legends. For supper, the dining coach features pristine linens, colourful orchids and delicious eastern fusion dishes. The stunning scenery rolls by, switching from rice paddy fields to dense jungle as the train travels from Thailand into Malaysia, onto Singapore making stops at the River Kwai, Penang and Kuala Lumpur.

Find out more at www.orient-express.com or call 0845 077 2222. Package rates from £960 per person (includes cabin and meals).

UNPLUGGED IN MEXICO

Hotelito Descondisco, Cruz de Loreto, Mexico

Miles of beach stretching into the horizon, the sound of the Pacific and not much else. At the Hotelito, an eco-paradise for those who really want to get away from it all, you can forget about TVs, laptops and mobile phones. This beach hideaway, a couple of hours drive south of Puerto Vallarta, is electricity free and entirely eco-friendly. Brightly painted cabins stand aligned, looking out onto the sea and sand. Before sunset, watch as baby turtles make their first dash into the ocean. After dark, while you use your flashlight to summon a rowboat to take you to dinner, turn down service will set up a maze of tea lights. Very, very romantic.

Find out more at www.hotelito.com or call +52 (322) 281-4010. Oceanfront room rates from £236 per night.

THE BIG APPLE'S CORE

The Benjamin, New York City, USA

For a touch of *Sex and the City*, head to Manhattan's Benjamin on Lexington Avenue and 51st. The typical New York hotel is sleek yet cosy, chic yet comfortable and luxurious yet discreet. After a hard day's shopping and sightseeing slip on your Jimmy Choos and head across the road to the W's whiskey Blue for a Cosmopolitan before heading home to your Pillow Menu and perfect bed. Book a suite on the higher floors to gaze down the Big Apple's core. Bathe in the sea of structures: a typical New York skyline where one building out does the next. Even more spectacular at night as the city twinkles.

Find out more at www.thebenjamin.com. Room rates from £141 (includes Deluxe studio suite and breakfast for 2).

TYGAZP SINGAPORE SLING ▶

Mandarin Oriental, Singapore

To see Singapore's skyline in its full glory, check into the Mandarin Oriental's 17th floor City Suite. The panoramic view of the buzzing financial district is astonishing from the elegant rooms with their lavish marble bathrooms. Sleek skyscrapers and the Marina Bay give a picture postcard setting, and nestled there, like an anachronistic reminder is the wedding cake style Fullerton, once a post office and now one of the swankiest bars in town. Aside from the usual attractions of Singapore: little India, Chinatown and Chijmes, the convent dating back to 1854, sushi lovers should pop into the hotel's stylish Wasabi restaurant for excellent fresh sushi with a view.

Find out more at www.mandarinoriental.com. City Suite room rates from £172 per night.





▲ CARIBBEAN CLASSIC: BED, BATH AND BEYOND

Peter Island, British Virgin Islands

The British Virgin Islands are a rugged paradise, gloriously unspoiled with postcard vistas of sea, sun and sand. Peter Island, an 1,800 acre private resort covered in hibiscus and lilies, has its very own honeymooners beach and is surrounded by coral reefs teeming with colourful marine life. The beachfront suites overlook Deadman's beach and rooms are designed so that you can enjoy the azure skies and sparkling waters from your balcony, from the Caribbean style room and even from the Jacuzzi in the bathroom. On the beach, go snorkelling, sleep or relax in your hammock, and at night take a twirl under the stars to the mellow sounds of a steel band.

Find out more at www.peterisland.com or call 01935 873344. Package rates from £2,350 (includes a 7 night 'Island Romance' get-away).

..... CANADIAN ISLAND CALM

Brentwood Bay, Vancouver Island

Vancouver Island sits under a cloak of calm and still. The Canadian north western relaxed vibe prevails. Here priorities are healthy living, good food and exercise. Jacuzzis, fireplaces, designer furniture, jaw-dropping gourmet food made from local organic goods and a world class wine cellar with plenty of local produce... and all that on the edge of a fjord, where oocas and otters come to play. On your room's deck you'll feel totally serene. It's the place to absorb the majestic surrounding nature. Brentwood Bay also has a fantastic spa where wine therapy means wallowing in local vino.

Find out more at www.brentwoodbaylodge.com
Romance Package from £373 (includes 3 nights in a Deluxe Oceansuite room, champagne celebration tray, 'Chef's Menu' dinner for two at the Arbutus Grille & Wine Bar, breakfast in bed each morning, and passes to The Butchart Gardens).

..... COTE D'AZUR BLING

Chateau de la Messardiere, St Tropez, France

Experience the song of the crickets and the magic of the Cote d'Azur at the fairy tale Chateau de la Messardiere. Overlooking the Gulf of St Tropez, the 19th Century castle has its own corner turrets, glorious swimming pool and incredible view over the Gulf of St Tropez. Décor is a luxurious mix of opulent Florentine style, classic Provencal and a touch of Moorish influence. The Pampelonne suite, with its romantic four-poster bed, has an incomparable view over the legendary beach where celebrities and supermodels alike have been strutting their stuff for years. At the Three Seasons restaurant sample fantastic French cuisine, and don't miss the symphony of chocolate for the sweetest, most indulgent dessert!

Find out more at www.messardiere.com
Pampelonne suite rates from £478 per night.



▲ PRIVATE RAINFOREST PARADISE

Morgan's Rock, Nicaragua

Once synonymous with guerilla warfare, newly democratic Nicaragua is now opening its wild heart to tourism. Morgan's Rock lodge, an eco-designer's dream, is wedged between the Pacific coast and Lake Nicaragua. Like in the Garden of Eden, giant butterflies flutter in the lush tropical forest. A tempting pool enhances the picture perfect view of the dazzling ocean below. From your wooden cabin with its decadent hanging daybeds, the view across the private beach is framed by greenery. The sound of the Pacific is overwhelming. Take time to enjoy the daily coffee delivery before heading out for a day's horse riding.

Find out more at www.morgansrock.com or call +506 296-9442. Package rates from £156 per night (includes 3 meals and beverages).

..... DESIGNER HAVEN IN THE ANDES

Bariloche, Argentina

Deep in Patagonia, the town of Bariloche, both ski and summer resort is home to the Design Suites hotel. Not what you'd expect in this vast expanse of lakes and mountains but, the city offers a mix of contemporary style and nature. Highlights include the restaurant and its menu featuring game dishes with a twist, the glorious pool and sleek service. Quiet and peaceful, the views stretch over lake Nahuel Huapi and the snowy peaks beyond. Rooms are simple with a designer touch: pine furniture, splashes of colour and stone double showers and, best of all a hot tub by the window, for bubbles with a view.

Find out more at www.epoquehotels.com or call +54-11-4814-8700. Honeymoon package rates from £200 (includes 3 nights in a Jacuzzi lake view room, breakfast, champagne on arrival and health club use).

FOR THE ANNIVERSARY?

Five classic runners up...

- Shutters on the Beach, Santa Monica, California, USA: Baywatch every day
- The Cipriani, Venice, Italy: A classic overlooking the lagoon
- The Banff Springs Fairmont, Banff, Canada: Majestic castle in a perfect Alpine setting
- Columbus Hotel, Monaco: Sleek & chic on the Mediterranean
- The Montalembert, Paris, France: Landmarks a plenty from the Eiffel Tower to the Louvre.