

PARILIO HOTEL PAROS, GREECE

THE SCOOP FROM ABOUT £190

As Santorini and Mykonos become ever more crowded, savvy hoteliers are shifting their focus to the lo-fi Greek islands. That's certainly the case for husband-and-wife owners Kalia and Antonis Eliopoulos who, for their fourth venture, pinpointed the peaceful north-east coast of Paros. The setting is spot-on:

Parilio is a stroll away from the island's main waterfront full of tacky, higgledy-piggledy, bohemian hotels. The hotel itself, a series of white buildings with wooden shutters and light blue accents, has cool porcelain floors, decorative touches (like abstract-patterned plaques) and a lap pool, which is overlooked by the barman mixing drinks on the terrace of the buzzing bar. The menu is an aristocratic explorer's list of dishes such as baked fish in lemon leaves. **BOOK IT +30 22810 1111**



MAISON CERONNE NORMANDY, FRANCE

THE SCOOP FROM ABOUT £135

Parisians love Le Perche, a nature reserve in lower Normandy that's a two-hour journey from the capital, winding through rolling green fields and forests, small medieval villages and plenty of *brocante* stops to furnish that imaginary country crashpad. Architect Vincent-Louis Voinchet and his partner were regular visitors who one day stumbled upon two abandoned barns that they originally planned as a place to bring friends. But after three-and-a-half years of renovating, they've opened this contemporary eight-room guesthouse. Every aspect of the interiors has a story to tell: the lamps above the marble-topped kitchen were salvaged from an old theatre; there's a screen made of Mercedes-Benz panels designed in the 1960s; two Coquetier chairs had a bit part in the film *Mon Oncle*. Bedrooms, too, are testament to the owners' good taste, sprinkled with art, books and records. This is much more than just a base to bed down, with plenty of options for lingering – an indoor and an outdoor pool, a cinema, a sauna lined in stained black Nordic wood, a white-tiled hammam, Japanese computer games and a karaoke bar. There are even Maison Ceronne candles designed for the hotel by hit brand Cire Trudon and a cool soundtrack loaded onto the Maison's own Spotify playlist. And make sure to borrow the baby-blue classic Simca P60 Aronde to drive to the country outpost of Michelin-starred restaurant Septime. An expertly curated hideaway in this burgeoning rural corner. **BOOK IT +33 7 63 54 71 17; maisonceronne.com**

