

# 6 best spa hotels in Europe



Gwyneth fell in love with Croatia's beautiful scenery

## 1 RADISSON BLU RESORT & SPA, DUBROVNIK SUN GARDENS, CROATIA

**Who goes?** Gwyneth Paltrow loves the country.

**What's so special about it?** The Radisson Blu Resort & Spa, Dubrovnik Sun Gardens ([www.radissonblu.com/resort-dubrovnik](http://www.radissonblu.com/resort-dubrovnik)), is like a picturesque Mediterranean village with sea views, plus it's only a few minutes from historical Dubrovnik. Doubles from around £130 per night.

**What's the spa like?** The stunning Anne Sémonin spa is one of the largest on the Dalmatian coast and has top-notch facilities – including couples' suites.

**Getting there:** BA ([www.ba.com](http://www.ba.com)) is offering one-way flights from Gatwick to Dubrovnik from £49 until 31 October.

## 2 MONCHIQUE TERMAS SPA RESORT, PORTUGAL

**Who goes?** The Beckhams are fans of the region.

**What's so special about it?** Nestled in the hills above Portimão in restored 16th-century buildings, Villa Termal das Caldas de Monchique SPA resort ([www.monchique-termas.com](http://www.monchique-termas.com)) is a world away from the crowded beaches of the Algarve nearby. Doubles from around £84 per night.

**What's the spa like?** Try a Thermal Circuit (£13 for guests) in the indoor pool, which leaves your skin feeling rejuvenated.

**Getting there:** Ryanair ([www.ryanair.com](http://www.ryanair.com)) offers return flights to nearby Faro from around £85.



The Beckhams loved their family holiday in Portugal



Jennifer's family originally come from the Greek island

## 3 MINOIA PALACE RESORT & SPA, CRETE

**Who goes?** Jennifer Aniston has been to Crete – her dad's homeland – on several occasions.

**What's so special about it?** A five-star resort, Minoa Palace ([www.minoapalace.gr](http://www.minoapalace.gr)) has six acres of grounds with views of the White Mountains and is located next to a white-sand beach. Doubles from around £128 per night.

**What's the spa like?** The spa offers a range of treatments from aromatherapy to water-jet cocoon massage.

**Getting there:** Opodo ([www.opodo.co.uk](http://www.opodo.co.uk)) offers return flights from Gatwick to nearby Chania for around £189.

Sandra is half-German and speaks the language fluently



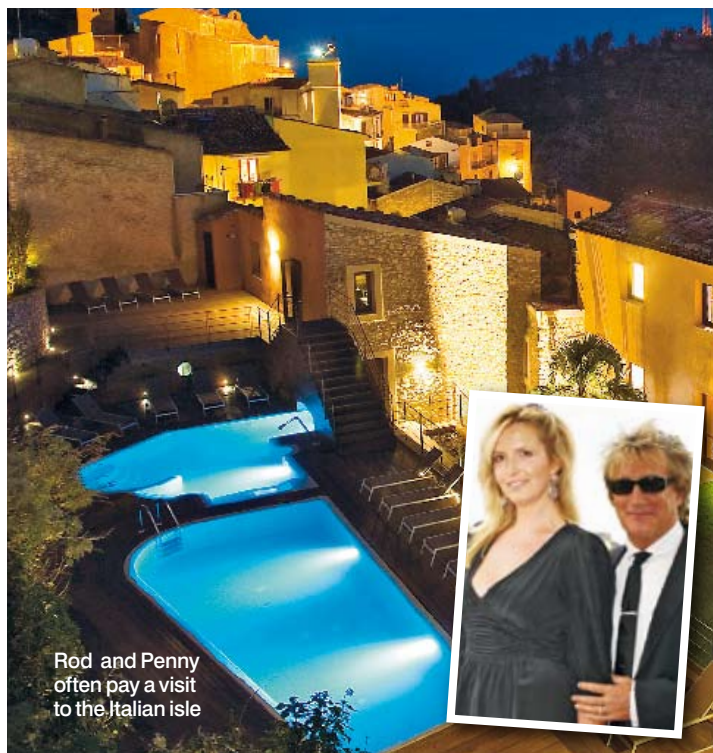
## 4 SCHLOSSHOTEL BUHLERHOHE, GERMANY

**Who goes?** Sandra Bullock has visited the area.

**What's so special about it?** Set in 44 acres, Schlosshotel Bühlerhöhe ([www.buehlerhoehe.de](http://www.buehlerhoehe.de)) is the ideal base from which to explore the Black Forest. Doubles from £237 per night.

**What's the spa like?** Near the border with France and dubbed "the nicest spa in Europe", your every whim is catered for.

**Getting there:** Air France ([www.airfrance.co.uk](http://www.airfrance.co.uk)) offers return flights to Strasbourg from London City from around £176.



Rod and Penny often pay a visit to the Italian isle

## 6 BELLI RESORT SPA, SICILY

**Who goes?** Penny Lancaster and Rod Stewart have enjoyed holidays in Sicily.

**What's so special about it?** A boutique spa hotel, Belli Resort Spa ([www.belliresortspa.com](http://www.belliresortspa.com)) is a hidden oasis in the medieval town of Gratteri. Doubles from £100 per night.

**What's the spa like?** This unique spa is set at the foot of Madonie Mountains. Enjoy a full-body massage and then kick back and relax in the thermal hydro-massage pool.

**Getting there:** Ryanair ([www.ryanair.com](http://www.ryanair.com)) offers return flights to Palermo from £34.

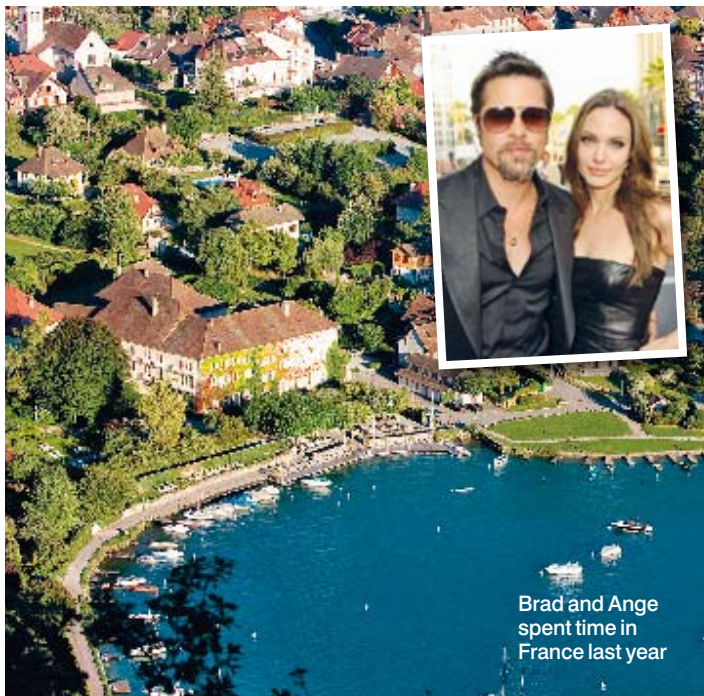
## 5 ABBAYE DE TALLOIRES, FRANCE

**Who goes?** Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie welcomed their twins into the world in France.

**What's so special about it?** Situated on Lake Annecy in the French Alps, the 17th-century Abbaye de Talloires ([www.abbaye-talloires.com](http://www.abbaye-talloires.com)) has a certain fairytale charm about it. Doubles from around £125 per night.

**What's the spa like?** The hotel's luxurious spa has an extensive list of full-body beauty treatments. Be sure to make use of the hot tub and sauna.

**Getting there:** British Airways offers return flights from Gatwick to nearby Geneva from £78.



Brad and Ange spent time in France last year

WORDS: ANNA POINTER, ELIZABETH GARDNER; CHARLOTTE MORRIS; MELANIE TRAIN. PHOTOS: ALAMY; CAMERA PRESS; GETTY IMAGES; REX FEATURES