

WORLD'S Top 10 INFINITY POOLS

Writer Mabs Potter

Which resort would dare to go without an infinity pool with today's ever-growing ranks of sophisticated and worldly guests? Infinity pools, which have a false edge, as any displaced water simply spills over the rim and into a hidden trough, give the feeling of floating in a pool of water that seamlessly melds with the horizon, and are, quite simply put, an utterly divine experience, which is why they are becoming quite ubiquitous. Whether perched on a mountainside or overlooking an endless white beach, we have selected the best of these blissful pools from around the world.

1

Cavo Tagoo, Greece

The Greek island of Mykonos, known as the island of the winds, for the gusts that whip across the Aegean Sea, has just as much history as it does a current culture of hip, and nowhere is this more evident than at the minimalist design hotel, **Cavo Tagoo**, set in the cliffs above the surf. With numerous private villas, each with its own secluded infinity pool, the award-winning resort is a hot spot to cool off. Glamour and earthiness merge at the main infinity pool where wooden loungers float as if unmoored and the sunset, plus a martini are only a glance away. With brilliant cerulean blue skies, gleaming whitewashed, rounded buildings and an infinity pool from which to take it all in, Cavo Tagoo is the epitome of the elegant way to relax. www.cavotagoo.gr



2

Jade Mountain, St Lucia

Jade Mountain, St Lucia in the West Indies is the brainchild of Russian-Canadian architect, Nick Troubetzkoy, who has designed a creative version of a sensorial experience through organic architecture. The well-thought-out arrangement of the 24 private sanctuaries that rest above the Caribbean Sea include private infinity pools that take luxury and sustainability to the next level. Each pool is designed to seamlessly merge with the rest of the suite and is tiled with one-of-a-kind recycled glass tiles that Troubetzkoy created in a unique design collaboration. The iridescent nature of the tiles, combined with built-in fibre optic lighting displays and extensive ozone-based water treatment, gives guests a truly ethereal experience as they take in views of St Lucia's pristine Piton Mountains. www.jademountain.com



3

Munduk Moding Plantation, Indonesia

In the northern hills of Bali, the restored coffee plantation, **Munduk Moding Plantation**, offers guests the chance to tour a working coffee plantation, while enjoying all the benefits of luxury accommodation. With only five villas and five suites, individual attention is at its utmost. Being high up in the hills places the resort at a perfect vantage point for views from its infinity pool, where guests can revel in the expanse of the Java Sea and Bali's central mountains. The 18-metre pool juts out from the surrounding pool deck and appears to hover in space, as clouds and mist fill the jungle treetops below. Sunsets are particularly spectacular as the fuchsia light is reflected in the pool's sublime surface. www.mundukmodingplantation.com





4

Banyan Tree Seychelles, Seychelles

What was once a private estate owned by British rock stars in the 1970s is now a gloriously restored grouping of pool villas, both beachside and mountainside, accompanied by the original classic building. With a style that blends colonial and local, open-air wrap-around porches and high ceilings coincide to create a homey, but luxurious atmosphere at **Banyan Tree Seychelles**. Ocean-facing pool villas all feature private infinity pools, while the main infinity pool is housed by a rock wall that rises from the beach boulders and tropical foliage and is designed as such that it appears as if cantilevered out over the brilliant white beach. Guests can also enjoy the exclusive Presidential Villa, which has its very own infinity pool, set within a private cove just steps from the tumbling waves of the Indian Ocean. www.banyantree.com/en/seychelles

7

The Cambrian, Switzerland

In the heart of Adelboden in the Swiss Alps is **The Cambrian**, a distinct design hotel with historical roots that captures not only the essence of modern interiors, but also the jaw-dropping views that are the epitome of this ski destination. In both summer and winter, guests can inhale the crystal clear air, while floating in a vast infinity pool with impressive views of the mountains, which are across the deep valley below. With swathes of wildflowers patterning the broad hillsides in the spring and deep drifts of pristine snow engulfing the sharp peaks in the winter, The Cambrian offers a host of outdoor activity to fill the days, which are perfectly ended with a soak in the pool with the ultimate view. www.thecambrianadelboden.com



5



Perivolos, Greece

What were once fishermen's cave dwellings dug in the side of a hillside on the Greek Island of Santorini, are now 17 luxurious suites that have been sculpted with attention to design, setting and history. The Psychas family has imbued **Perivolos** with the essence of harmony and simplicity that can only come from true tradition melded with creative foresight. The whitewashed walls create a dramatic backdrop, as the rounded doorways of suites frame the sky like a perfect blue orb. Below lies the expansive infinity pool, which offers uninterrupted views of the distant horizon of the Aegean Sea. The undulating rim of the pool mimics the soft edges of the exclusive suite walls, and a sense of quiet harmony presides. www.perivolos.gr

6

Hotel Caruso, Italy

Romantic Ravello on the gorgeous Amalfi Coast is the setting for **Hotel Caruso**, which is at the highest point within this alluring destination. It has historically been a hideaway for the Hollywood elite and the artistically inclined. The classically restored 11th century palace is now a perfect home base for experiencing the many charms of the captivating coast. But for those who would like to just while away the days, the hotel's infinity pool is just a short ramble through a pergola of climbing roses and has a gentle set of stone stairs that lead into the warmed waters. Swim to the edge and look out to where the rocky coast and sea meet at sunset, and you will know why so many artists and celebrities have been drawn to this captivating place. www.hotelcaruso.com





9

Four Seasons Resort Langkawi, Malaysia

Four Seasons hotels and resorts are certainly known for high brow luxury, but at their beachside **Four Seasons Resort Langkawi** that borders the Andaman Sea, the infinity pool, aptly named the Adult Quiet Pool, and thus not to be confused for a place for rowdy kids, takes pool lovers to a new realm. The 4,100-sq-ft pool not only has a vast collection of loungers in case everyone decides to use the pool at once, but for those who like their privacy, also available are well stocked Missoni-designed cabanas. If lounging poolside is not your first choice, then the swim-up bar and in-pool bubble loungers should keep you well-hydrated and cool. Not to exclude those who are on a fitness kick, underwater music makes the laps tick by. www.fourseasons.com/langkawi



8

Ubud Hanging Gardens, Indonesia

Outside of the culturally-rich and artistically-vibrant city of Ubud, amidst the tropical foliage, is **Ubud Hanging Gardens**, a pool lover's dream. All villas, whether family accommodating, riverside or hillside, come with their own private infinity pool, where views, nature and serenity meet. But the pièce de résistance is a bi-level infinity pool and relaxation deck that is canopied by lush vegetation. Above the rushing Ayung River, a high stonewall divides the two pools, such that one can either look down into the second pool below and feel on top of the universe, or gaze upward and sense the vast spaciousness that surrounds the jungle setting. For the true nature lover, exotic gardens designed by landscape architect John Pettigrew offer further respite from stress, as the swaying bamboo and flame trees move gently in the breeze. www.ubudhanginggardens.com



10

Silavadee Pool Spa Resort, Thailand

Silavadee Pool Spa Resort, set on a secluded and jungle-covered hill, overlooking the Gulf of Siam on the island of Koh Samui, obtains its name from the Thai language as *silavadee* means 'beautiful rock.' And indeed, the pool is set above giant boulders that are strewn along the sandy shore below. The exclusive villas offer stunning panoramic views of the ocean, which can be enjoyed from private infinity pools that one can just slip into from the spacious villa interiors. Aqua jet massage beds submerged in the pools complete the relaxing water experience with additional hydrotherapy in the form of private terrazzo tubs and an outdoor rain shower. The main infinity pool is oriented with a full view of the horizon, including stellar sunsets and can be enjoyed with full bar service right at hand. www.silavadeeresort.com