

THE HOT LIST 2017

OUR PICK OF THE BEST NEW HOTELS, BARS, RESTAURANTS
& BEACH CLUBS TO HAVE OPENED IN THE PAST YEAR

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&BEYOND MATETSI RIVER LODGE, ZIMBABWE



UK

HENRIETTA HOTEL, LONDON

Some couples are meant to be: Bonnie and Clyde, Bogie and Bacall, and now Experimental Group – the four French hipsters behind the speakeasy-style Experimental Cocktail Club on Gerrard Street – and wunderkind London chef Ollie Dabbous.

Their love child? Henrietta Hotel, with a restaurant, bar and 18 elegant, Art Deco-inspired bedrooms by young Parisian designer Dorothee Meilichzon, all forged from two 19th-century Covent Garden townhouses. The long, slim restaurant – with an open kitchen at the back where Dabbous visibly beavers away – was packed within about 12 minutes of opening. The experience begins with creative cocktails in the elegant front bar. Try the frothy Language, Truth and Logic (Appleton Signature rum, cardamom, almond milk, star anise and chai).

Diners dip radishes into zingy, flavour-loaded taramasalata and graze on grilled flat bread heaped with crab, crème fraîche and coastal herbs, followed by perfectly seasoned sea bass with a wedge of charred hispi cabbage. The boudoir-like bedrooms are on the top four floors, each individually designed in dusky colour schemes, with handmade half-circle headboards, marble-topped side tables and elegant brass lampshades. Two rooms have little terraces, one a claw-foot bath and rooftop views across to the London Eye and Nelson's Column. **FLASH POINT** The mezzanine just above the main dining room, with a soaring glass roof and a second little bar, is a secret space well worth seeking out.

henriettahotel.com. Doubles from £250

USA

1 HOTEL BROOKLYN BRIDGE, NEW YORK CITY

In the cavernous double-height lobby, there's a wall covered with vines and huge tubs filled with giant plants, under which millennials, families and out-of-towners tussle with dogs and children or sip kombucha drinks and locally roasted coffee. The hotel's much-vaunted eco-friendly elements, which can't always be seen, are certainly admirable (it's paper-free, wind-powered and has a complex water reclamation system), but sustainability is not the whole story. This new 1 Hotel is in one of the city's prime spots, right on the river in Dumbo. Which means bedrooms have sensational views over Manhattan and along the newly revamped Brooklyn Bridge Park (a meandering mix of gardens, sports areas and beaches). They look good too, being a cosy take on industrial style with wire-mesh headboards and wooden floors reclaimed from an old domino factory, plus the hemp mattresses are really comfortable. Complimentary organic socks, water-saving timers in the shower and an iPad ordering system that actually works all encourage a kind of laid-back feel-good factor. A new Bamford spa, rooftop bar and restaurant are on the cards. **FLASH POINT** This is the sweet point between Manhattan and Brooklyn where you can admire the constant flow over Brooklyn Bridge from bed or embrace the energy and activity on either side of the East River. +1 347 696 2500; 1hotels.com. Doubles from about £300

