

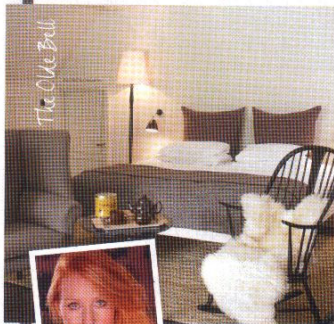
SHIREEN JAYYUSI
Co-founder *Gilda's Tryst*
"The Hotel El Convento

in San Juan, Puerto Rico is amazing. A restored 17th century ex-Carmelite convent, it's located in the Ciudad Amurallada (the Walled City) in the middle of the old quarter surrounded by cobbled streets and Spanish colonial architecture. I remember having one of those moments there where life felt very magical, drinking dark rum with fresh lime on the rocks, leaning on the balcony, gazing downhill at the oldest fort in the Americas – el Morro – and the Caribbean sea behind it. Bliss." *El Convento*, from £101 per room, per night (elconvento.com)



JANE ANDERSON
Editor, *101honeymoons.co.uk*

"The Giri Residence in San Juan is Ibiza's first boutique property in a small town. Tucked discreetly behind the police station, this renovated girls' school has the shock-of-the-new factor thanks to provocative photographic art on the walls, juxtaposed with top-notch artisan furniture from Bali. There are just five suites, a communal dining area, a chic library/sitting room and a chef who consults guests on a daily basis. The bijou spa has side-by-side stone baths and a huge wooden table for hot oil treatments. Outside there are three Balinese style salas and a Moroccan bar tent, while giant rust-coloured letters spell out LOVE beside the chic lap pool. As in-the-know hideaways go, this is one of the best around." *The Giri Residence*, from around £190 per room, per night (thegiri.com).



SARAH SHOTTON
Creative director,
Agent Provocateur

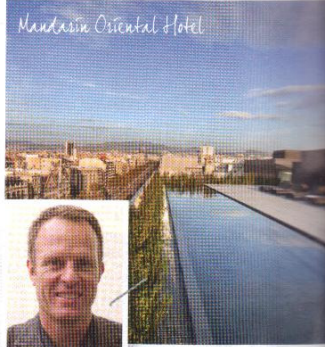
"The Olde Bell in Berkshire dates back to the 12th century and has sexy, rustic glamour in its DNA. In the Forties and Fifties, Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton, Cary Grant and Errol Flynn used to roar up for weekends in Rolls-Royces and Aston Martins, and recent guests include Rachel Weisz and Judi Dench. Ilse Crawford reimagined the décor a couple of years ago, chucking the chintz but keeping the wonky wood floors." *The Olde Bell*, from £139 per room, per night (theoldebells.co.uk).



DAVID FIELDEN
Bridal designer

"Book a suite in the old part of the Villa Igica in Palermo, Sicily, with its long corridors and pictures

of its royal guests. It's an art nouveau hotel with a faded opulence and the most beautiful mirrored ballroom. I also love the Algonquin in New York with its panelled walls and wonderful literary history." *Villa Igica* from £145 per room, per night (hotelvillagiecapalermo.com). *Algonquin* from £232 per room, per night (algonquinhotel.com).



GUY DITTRICH
Author, *Wallpaper* City Guides*

"Quality is the real luxury at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel Barcelona, starting with the blow-you-away entrance through a soaring atrium. Gourmet dining, a vibrant cocktail bar and a courtyard terrace shaded by mimosa trees are all reason enough not to leave the hotel for days, despite the treasures of Barcelona on your doorstep. And that's without considering the classy spa or cocktails on the roof beside the dipping pool as the sun sets." *From* £279 per room, per night (mandarinoriental.com).

