

Bliss out in Berkshire

Trace the Thames to **The Olde Bell at Hurley**, a medieval coaching inn that's reinvented itself with five-star smarts.

CHECK IN Mostly Ilse Crawford-designed rooms are cleverly textured with strokeable sheepskin rugs and Jacob wool blankets.

CHILL OUT Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton once canoodled in the intimate stone-flagged bar – so its romantic powers are tried and tested!

GO EXPLORE Wander Hurley – you'll find Thameside peace at Hurley Lock.

CHIC EATS A kitchen garden plus locally foraged ingredients make the restaurant a foodie's fantasy.

WHAT IT COSTS Doubles from £190 B&B per room. Call 01628-703505; theoldebell.co.uk.

MORE INFO visittthames.co.uk



The stylish Olde Bell in Hurley



The calm after wandering the busy city

Magical Marrakech

Crisp fusion design and the service of a five-star hotel make **Riad Farnatchi** the medina's most covetable destination.

CHECK IN Airport taxi transfers are included, so you're whisked effortlessly to an intimate space with nine exquisite suites and indoor pool.

CHILL OUT Steam gently in the white-marble hammam spa – it's free from 4pm to 7pm.

GO EXPLORE Shop the souks and Sidi Ghanem – then head to a garden with pool outside the medina where guests can spend the day.

CHIC EATS A Berber cook whisks up afternoon patisseries and evening canapés. Dinner can be ordered, for a supplement.

WHAT IT COSTS Doubles from £237 B&B per room, including all of the above; see i-escape.com

MORE INFO marrakech.travel

Into the blue: Puglia

Absorb the vivid seascapes of Italy's south-eastern corner from a villa.

WHERE TO STAY Cool, whitewashed Lo Scoglio (sleeping six) lives for the sea. Its terraces gaze across azure water and natural seawater fills its pool.

CHILL OUT Swim in the pristine sea directly from the villa or pack your best bikini for Leuca's sandy beaches, nearby.

GO EXPLORE Sun-splashed Santa Maria di Leuca Marina has the buzz. Fortified Gallipoli's old quarter is shady and intriguing.

CHIC EATS Swordfish with capers, and local Primitivo, are minutes away at wonderful Lo Scalo restaurant.

WHAT IT COSTS From £624pp for seven nights' self-catering. Call (020) 7359 3938; realholidays.co.uk. Nearest airport: Brindisi.

MORE INFO italia.it w&h



A natural seawater pool