

# Stylish stops

A boutique hotel on Hong Kong's Lantau Island and hidden villas in Borneo are among Keya Modessa's round up of worldwide hotel openings



GAYA ISLAND RESORT

## New HOTEL OPENINGS

MALAYSIA

TURKEY

HONG KONG

USA



MARTI ISTANBUL



THE ATTWATER



TAI O HERITAGE HOTEL



GAYA ISLAND RESORT



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Originally built as a police station to combat pirates in 1902, Tai O Heritage Hotel is a nine-bedroom property in a sleepy fishing village on Lantau Island. Dreamt up by the Hong Kong Heritage Conservation Foundation, the aim was to restore a sense of importance to the crumbling building and its community. Inside the décor is countryside chic – with crisp, white bedding, rattan furniture, muted timber and original fireplaces in a selection of rooms. The glass-roofed restaurant offers views stretching across the island ([taioheritagehotel.com](http://taioheritagehotel.com)).

New England-based Lark hotels has expanded its roster of stylish, coastal properties by opening The Attwater in Rhode Island. Inspired by the area's sailing heritage, the hotel's design makes use of classic hues of blue and turquoise fused with splashes of tangerine and apple green. Small touches give the hotel its own personality, from beach bags and iPads in rooms to home-made pastries in the coffee bar ([larkhotels.com](http://larkhotels.com)).

Turkish family-owned Marti Group is poised to strengthen its brand this summer with the opening of its first ever city hotel. Created by female architect Zeynep Fadillioğlu, the Marti Istanbul features an Ottoman-inspired tent in the Atrium, decorated with hand-painted designs and hanging lamps. Rooms are spread over 11 floors and come with feature walls, silk cushions and splashes of colour ([martiistanbulhotel.com](http://martiistanbulhotel.com)).

Malaysian-based YTL Hotels is set to open Gaya Island Resort this month, a luxury property set on a coral reef island in Borneo. As with all its properties, every detail has been carefully considered. Villas are hidden among mangroves and crafted using local materials with views of the sea or Mount Kinabalu. The two-bedroom Suria suite sits on the edge of a hillside and comes with an outdoor bath leading onto a private balcony. Food is just as exquisite and includes a fine dining seafood restaurant on the hotel's rooftop ([pulaugayaresort.com](http://pulaugayaresort.com)).

## Diary dates



### AUSTRALIA

More than 21,000 visitors will attend the Mundaring Truffle Festival 28-29 July, in Western Australia. Watch truffle dog races and compete in a truffle-themed cooking challenge. [mundaringtrufflefestival.com](http://mundaringtrufflefestival.com)

### ENGLAND

Do you know a damask from a noisette rose? Discover thousands of blooms at The Hampton Court Palace Flower Show, 3-8 July. While there, get free gardening and plant advice. [rhs.org.uk](http://rhs.org.uk)

### SLOVENIA

Admire 15,000 candles floating on the lake during Bled Days, 20-22 July. Held to celebrate the peak of summer, watch folk concerts, buy home-made gifts and try Kranjska sausage. [bled.si](http://bled.si)

### GERMANY

The Gendarmen market square hosts the Classic Open Air Festival from 5-9 July, Berlin. More than 100 events from Italian opera to ballet will take place under the stars. [classicopenair.de](http://classicopenair.de)

### SINGAPORE

Enjoy a *tingkat* (Chinese lunchbox) cruise during the Singapore Food Festival 13-22 July. Back on land sample Chinese, Indian and Peranakan food and join the city's heritage trail. [singaporefoodfestival.com](http://singaporefoodfestival.com)