

THE

50



most romantic
HOTELS
in Europe

popular bar and restaurant and is a sister to the Hôtel Amour.

Room to book: The beautiful and eccentric attic room, 602, sleeps four. But for something more intimate, room 304 is deep blue with high ceilings. Doubles from £128 (hotelamourparis.fr).

26. Cotton House, Barcelona

There's always a new hotel in Barcelona, but this chic offering in the Eixample district, housed in the old headquarters of the city's cotton guild, is a little gem. Cosy up with a cocktail in the library or, on a balmy summer night, repair to the rooftop pool for a swim beneath the stars.

Room to book: For a real treat, book the huge Damask Suite in the former boardroom, with its frescoed ceilings, canopy bed and balcony. Doubles from £171 (hotelcottonhouse.com).



Above
Ett Hem,
Stockholm

Left
Cotton
House,
Barcelona



27. Fendi Private Suites, Rome

Essentially a very fancy B&B, this sleekly serene seven-suite hotel sits above Rome's flagship Fendi store in 17th-century Palazzo Fendi, at the crossroads of Via del Corso and Via dei Condotti. Amid the Fendi Casa gorgeousness, with black-and-white photography by Karl Lagerfeld, it's tempting to take your continental breakfast in bed. Upstairs is Italy's first branch of Japanese restaurant Zuma and a bar with a wraparound terrace.

Room to book: Palazzo Suite 1, overlooking Rome's iconic Trinità dei Monti church at the top of the Spanish Steps. Suites from £529 (fendiprivateSuites.com).

Right
The
Gainsborough,
Bath

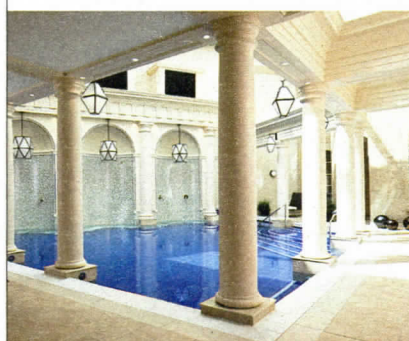
28. Ett Hem, Stockholm

Ett Hem feels like the immaculate private home it once was. Hidden beyond a wooden gate in a garden wall in Östermalm, Stockholm's grand embassy district, it has 12 gloriously stylish bedrooms. There's also a kitchen you can wander in and out of, and beautiful drawing rooms in which to hang out, snooze, sip cocktails and enjoy leisurely lunches. The finishing touch is a spa with a traditional sauna.

Room to book: The Junior Suite has a working antique ceramic fireplace. Doubles from £338 (ettthem.se).

29. The Gainsborough, Bath

Live like a Roman at this slick new spa hotel, named after painter Thomas Gainsborough. Housed in a Grade II listed 18th-century building in the centre of Bath, this is Britain's first spa to have direct access to natural thermal waters. You could easily while away an entire afternoon bobbing about in its three wonderfully tranquil pools.



Hang out, snooze, sip cocktails and enjoy leisurely lunches in Ett Hem's beautiful drawing rooms

Room to book: A Bath Spa Room, with thermal water on tap, a lovely roll-top bath and unlimited access to the Spa Village. Doubles from £285 (thegainsboroughbathspa.co.uk).

30. Canal House, Amsterdam

The leafy courtyard garden of the Canal House – a row of three 17th-century merchants' houses on the Keizersgracht canal in the Jordaan neighbourhood – is reason enough to book a room here. Meals are served in the decadent-feeling Great Room and, in warm weather, private dinners can be arranged in the pretty summer house.

Room to book: A Great Room in the wooden-beamed eaves, for its huge windows and canal views. Doubles from £168 (canalhouse.nl).

31. Tivoli Palácio de Seteais, Sintra, Portugal

Just a short drive from Lisbon, this antique-filled restored palace sits in the shadow of the Pena Palace and is a great option for a traditional romantic break. Be sure to have sunset cocktails on a veranda overlooking the pool.

Room to book: A superior room with a valley view and a spacious terrace on which to dine beneath the stars. Doubles from £207 (tivolihotels.com).