



# SEVEN CITIES TO VISIT IN THE SUMMER

From the heart of the Med to the fringe of the Pacific, here are the places to see before autumn arrives

*Words by Ms Hettie Harvey*

While it's tempting to eke out your summer holiday poolside, lazily gazing at the horizon, by our reckoning it takes at least a week to really feel the benefits of doing nothing at all – whereas the fun:time ratio of a city break means you can cram a whole lot into a few feverish days and still come out feeling like you've had a proper escape. Not as well rested, maybe, but you can sleep when you're dead, right?

And enjoyable as it can be to take a city break just for the hell of it, a stay timed to coincide with an out-of-the-ordinary event, be it the world's best pop-up restaurant, all-night blues jams or the greatest street party on the planet, can be just that bit more thrilling.

So, whether you're a gourmand, a beer aficionado, a jazz connoisseur or simply a frustrated flâneur, we have searched high and low for an urban getaway that's just right for this time of year – and the most stylish places to lay your head when all that culture, dancing and good cooking gets too much.

05 *Zurich*



Think of Zurich, and secret bank accounts and very clean streets spring to mind. Well, think again. With wild swimming in Lake Zurich and the River Limmat, some of the best art galleries in Europe – the Kunsthaus boasts every name from Rembrandt to Rodin to Rothko – spectacular medieval architecture, including the imposing Grossmünster, and a booming arts scene, Zurich could be the best summer holiday you've never had.

And summer is the ideal time to visit. Not only do the many swimming baths in the river reopen as open-air bars come evening, but the calendar of festivals and events puts every other city in Europe to shame. Take your pick from the Street Food Festival (29 June–9 July), the outdoor concerts of Live at Sunset (6–22 July), or the Zurich Festival, with more than 40 theatre productions from around the world (17 August–3 September).

### *Where to stay: Marktgasse Hotel*



Combine the best of ancient and modern at the recently revamped Marktgasse Hotel, close to the river and Lake Zurich and many of the city's main cultural spaces, as well as the buzzing Niederdorf district. Parts of the building are said to date from as early as 1291, but with its airy, cool, contemporary interiors, it's hard to believe it.

[marktgasseehotel.ch](http://marktgasseehotel.ch)

### **What to wear**



LORO PIANA  
Slub Linen Shirt



BERLUTI  
Elio Polished-Leather Slides