GREAT ESCAPES

From wine country getaways to oceanfront retreats, discover five grandiose vacation destinations to call your home away from home. By Claire Harper & Elizabeth Harper
MONTAGE RESIDENCES
HEALDSBURG
HEALDSBURG, CALIF.

Mix one part Northern California countryside, one part vineyard views and one part world-renowned wine, and the resulting blend is Montage Residences Healdsburg—the luxury hotel group’s first Northern California offering. Located in northern Sonoma County, the homes—of which there are 23 Harvest and 13 Estate homesites—sit adjacent to the Alexander and Russian River valleys, among the private rolling vineyards of Apocrita Cellars and within reach of all a Montage property has to offer. Spa Montage, on-site dining, pools, and outdoor activities like archery, cycling and pickleball. Plus, residence owners have exclusive access to special estate wine releases, private tours and a rosé of grapes named for the first 10 homeowners.

“Montage Healdsburg offers the ultimate connection to the landscape, outdoors, wellness, culinary and wine experiences,” says Tina Neerason, executive vice president, residential for Montage International. Designed by San Diego-based architecture firm Delawie, the Harvest homes are a generous 4,300 square feet of intelligently planned indoor-outdoor living spaces. The Estate homes, courtesy of San Francisco-based BAR Architects, offer ample privacy, with homes up to 5,390 square feet, five-bedroom suites, media rooms, swimming pools and expansive terraces from which you can gaze onto the vineyards. “When envisioning the interior design of each home, inspiration was taken from the region’s distinctive architectural character as well as the terrain of Healdsburg,” says Neil Johnson, managing director of residential real estate for Ohana Realty. “We wanted to invite the outdoors in, using restrained color and luxurious textures.” Each homeowner has the freedom to personalize the home and decor to fit their individual needs. Says Neerason, “The architecture of both the resort and the custom residential enclave authentically embrace the views of rolling vineyards and tree groves among the perfect setting to embrace the natural beauty of Sonoma wine country,” $995,000-$1.4 million, montageresidenceshealdsburg.com.
THE RESIDENCES
AT RANCHO LA PUERTA
TECATE, BAJA CALIFORNIA,
MEXICO

Nested in Baja California, Rancho La Puerta—the first fitness and wellness resort in North America—has been serving up luxury for 80 years. In honor of its milestone anniversary, the property announces its latest development, The Residences at Rancho La Puerta. "For many years at Rancho La Puerta we have nurtured the dream of creating a residential community—a village rooted in our traditions of living in harmony with the natural world," says Sirru Livia Brighiwood Stokely, president of Rancho La Puerta. "This village is a place where you can draw strength and become your most resilient self."

The new builds will feature three home types: Casitas at two bedrooms and 2 ½ baths; Casonas with three bedrooms and 3 ½ baths; and Villas featuring four bedrooms, 4 ½ baths and 4,209 square feet of space. Each home is equipped with Darwin home wellness technology; advanced water purification systems; extensive outdoor space; and available designer-curated, turnkey furniture packages. "As part of the plans for The Residences lifestyle, we will create spaces that can be open to the public and become a bridge between the local community of Tecate and our residents," says Alejandro Chien, head architect of Grupo Espiritu, which worked alongside Stokely in master planning the community. The Villas are standalone, with an emphasis on privacy, views of Mount Kuchumara, a pool, a wine cellar, and 24-hour concierge and security services. Homeowners also have access to amenities such as guided hikes, a meditation room, pickleball and tennis courts, The Winery and its tasting rooms, on-site dining and the spa. "We want this place to be a celebration of life," Chien says. Villas from $6.7 million, rancholapuerta.com

From top: A Casa exterior; the primary bedroom, with calming, neutral tones and stunning views towards a cozy living area, which showcases the works of local artisans. Furthering the connection with the community of Tecate, each Villa has a swimming pool, while Casa choreo a dipping pool and ocean fountain.
There’s a particular genre of calm that takes over as you drive down the long stretch of Spanish moss-draped oak trees on the trip to Kiawah. Forty-five minutes from downtown Charleston, Timbers Kiawah is putting its own luxury stamp on the Lowcountry. Recently opened by Timbers Resorts, the newest residences are steps from the ocean and oceanfront pool, with panoramic views, spacious living quarters, a laundry list of amenities and concierge conveniences, and impeccable design courtesy of J. Banks Design Group. “The interiors,” says founder and President Joni Vanderslice, “were designed to flow seamlessly from interior to exterior in color and texture, reflecting the sea grass, sand, sky and water that is the focal point from the moment you walk into the space. The furnishings were selected to reflect luxury without pretense, inviting you to linger, gather and reflect. The art, baskets and accessories include work from local artists and artisans, adding to the sense of place that is the Lowcountry.”

With one-ninth deeded ownership (penthouses are one-sixth deeded ownership), each resident is guaranteed four weeks per year in the three-bedroom residences or four-bedroom penthouses of beachside relaxation, numerous lunches and dinners at the Beach Club, family-friendly activities, a wine club and supremely customized services. Case in point: As you return to your South Carolina home away from home, staff will set out your family photos, rearrange the home according to your preference, round up the groceries and even restore your favorite cast iron to its rightful place in the kitchen—all before you step foot in the door. “The goal,” says Chris Burden, the property’s chief development officer, “when crafting the Timbers Kiawah experience was to offer our owners a fresh, carefree approach to the finest Lowcountry lifestyle, showcasing the best of what the region has to offer.” From $69,000, timbersresorts.com
ROCK HOUSE
PROVIDENCIALES,
TURKS AND CAICOS

Cascading down dramatic limestone cliffs on the northern coast of Providenciales, Grace Bay Resorts recently unveiled Rock House, an exclusive resort and residential development spanning more than 14 acres and with 6,000 feet of secluded ocean frontage. Builders Projects Ltd., Coast Architects and interior designer Shawn Henderson were tapped for the resort’s 40 single-family abodes. To blend the homes into the rugged landscape, the architecture team called on local artisans to handcut and lay stone cladding sourced from the cliffs for both the exteriors and interiors.

Once inside, a grand living space gives way to soaring 15-foot-plus timber-clad vaulted ceilings with bleached hardwood teal, nearly 60-foot-by-10-foot German Schüco sliding glass doors and Italian-designed windows to showcase unobstructed Atlantic Ocean and Providenciales views. Complementing the textured design, Henderson—who drew inspiration from coastal resorts like Hotel du Cap-Eden-Roc in Antibes, France, and Parco dei Principi Grand Hotel & Spa in Rome—selected furnishings with a nod to Scandinavian design and a neutral palette to allow the views to be the focus. Each modern ridge home also features an expansive private pool, 10-foot terraces, lush outdoor shower gardens, top-of-the-line Waterworks and Sub-Zero appliances, plus spa-like master bathrooms equipped with Calacatta countertops and custom bleached hardwood teal cabinets (also used for the kitchen cabinets). Apart from the private accommodations, homeowners have access to the resort’s shared luxuries, including the largest oceanfront infinity pool ever built in Turks and Caicos—which rests beautifully atop a 25-foot cliff peppered with ancient indigenous trees—a private beach at the base of the cliff, a 100-foot beach club jetty, on-site restaurants, a full-service spa and more.

Private residences $600,000-$2.5 million, rockerresort.com
FOUR SEASONS PRIVATE BEACHFRONT VILLAS AT COSTA PALMAS
LA RIBERA, BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR, MEXICO

Situated on 1,000 secluded acres on the East Cape of the Baja peninsula sits Four Seasons Private Beachfront Villas, a real estate offering within private resort and residential community Costa Palmas. Ranging in size from 9,168 square feet to nearly 17,000 square feet (with 6,588 square feet of exterior living), the 46 bespoke residences feature five open layouts, including the Pavilion Villa floor plan of Villa No. 11, mere steps from the Sea of Cortez. The custom project, helmed by Jon Breant Design, Guerin Glass Architects and Costa Palmas Home, reveals a six-bedroom, six-bath, 10,000-square-foot masterpiece that juxtaposes the surrounding regional landscape with modern, organic design elements. “The home’s spaces are organized to reflect specific qualities of the site: sea, mountains, dunes and farmland,” says principal architect Scott Glass. “A series of pavilions are tied together through plantings and water features, tuning the scale of a generous house so it blends quietly with the land. It’s a place of calm familial connection with the environment.” Along with securing total creative control over custom villas, homeowners have the resort’s many comforts at their disposal—think access to the Oasis Spa and Wellness Center; multiple pools and five restaurants, including the famed Estiatorio Milos, among others. Come 2022, owners will also have select access to the new Amariù resort and all of the amenities that come with it; a Robert Trent Jones II-designed golf club and course, 88 acres of beautiful orchards and a farm, and a spa with yoga and Pilates studios, to name a few. Between the resort’s endless indulgence and the grandeur of a custom-designed villa, life at Costa Palmas is a never-ending respite. Less $5 million to $10 million, escapalmas.com.