

Forbes

Mother's Day Gift Guide: The 10 Best Places For A Babymoon



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Travel

I cover singular, luxury travel and food experiences around the world

Next year, Mother's Day will be celebrated with an infant in tow so in the last months before the family of two becomes three, there's a special reason to plan a trip in a romantic, restful place with an emphasis on pampering. Certain places, realistically, can't qualify due to the past and possibly present existence of the Zika virus in that locale and destinations that requires too many flight changes or otherwise arduous travel. But there are other places in the world that would be perfect spots for this pre-baby stretch.



The 18th century chateau that is now the Hotel Chateau du Grand Luce CATHERINE OHARA
PHOTOGRAPHY

Hotel Chateau du Grand Luce, Loire Valley, France. It will be easy to imagine being back in the 18th century courts of French kings when this chateau opens in June in a chateau completed in 1764 in the Loire Valley an hour south of Paris. Constructed to be worthy of a visit from the king, it's a neoclassical extravagance on 80 acres surrounded by a medieval wall containing formal French gardens and a white oak forest dotted with statues that were a gift from King Louis XV. Inside the 45,000 square foot chateau, that white oak provides material for the floors along with local limestone, crystal chandeliers representing several centuries illuminate the salons and the 17 bedrooms utilize fine fabrics both classic and current, from Pierre Frey to Christian Lacroix and include silver and gold accessories and art and tapestries that span 300 years.