

# HOTELS-SUR-MER

Sip rosé and stretch  
out on the sand  
at France's best  
beachside boltholes.

By Carolyn Boyd

## 1 THE ROMANTIC ONE

### LE LANDEMER

#### Urville-Nacqueville, Normandy

Perched on the north coast of the Cotentin Peninsula, this 150-year-old hotel was once the favoured bolthole of Edith Piaf and her lover Marcel Cerdan. The walls are creamy stone, the 10 rooms are cosy, the restaurant's light and bright: it all adds up to a secluded, subtly romantic escape from the world.

Doubles from £82; [le-landemer.com](http://le-landemer.com)

## 2 THE ACTIVE ONE

### HOTEL DE LA MER

#### Brignogan-Plages, Brittany

With the Atlantic crashing against the shore just a few steps from the front door, this ecofriendly hotel makes the perfect base for ambles along the wild Finistère coast. Join a seaweed-foraging trip for the full experience.

Doubles from £71; [hoteldelamer.bzh](http://hoteldelamer.bzh)

## 3 THE MICHELIN-STARRED ONE

### HOTEL BRITTANY & SPA

#### Roscoff, Brittany

The welcoming Hôtel Brittany enjoys one of Roscoff's best views: gaze out at the dainty Sainte-Barbe chapel, the dinky harbour and the Ile de Batz on the horizon. Its Michelin-starred restaurant gives the best vantage point and serves tempting dishes that use Roscoff's famous pink onions and copious seafood. There are 33 rooms, including 11 new sea-view suites; the spa offers seawater-inspired treatments and a tranquil indoor pool.

Doubles from £116; [hotel-brittany.com](http://hotel-brittany.com)

## 4 THE JACQUES COUSTEAU ONE

### CASTELBRAC

#### Dinard, Brittany

This former aquarium in ritzy *belle époque* Dinard has been revamped into a glam midcentury-modern-style hideaway. You're so close to the blue that you could dip a toe in – from the little pool, from your balcony or from the airy, white-tableclothed restaurant.

Doubles from £204; [castelbrac.com](http://castelbrac.com)

## 5 THE HOMELY ONE

### LODGE KERISPER

#### Trinité-sur-Mer, Brittany

A short stroll from the harbour in the boat-lovers' bolthole of Trinité-sur-Mer, this fresh, bright hotel has 20 relaxing rooms and suites, and a home-from-home vibe. It's within easy reach of some of the best beaches on Brittany's south coast.

Doubles from £79; [lodgekerisper.com](http://lodgekerisper.com)

## 6 THE SPA ONE

### CASTEL CLARA

#### Belle-Ile-en-Mer, Brittany

Inhale the fresh sea air and admire the views on the wildly beautiful island of

Belle-Ile-en-Mer, then head to this chilled spa hotel for some shoulder-loosening aquatic treatments. The thalassotherapy will soothe aching limbs, and the gourmet seafood in its restaurant is a healthy(ish) indulgence in itself.

Doubles from £137; [castel-clara.com](http://castel-clara.com)

## 7 THE SUNSET-SHOWSTOPPER ONE

### LE GRAND LARGE



**Ile d'Oléron, Charente-Maritime**  
Tucked behind west-facing sand dunes, this low-rise, snow-white hotel has an indoor pool and a hot tub offering sensational views of a wide, golden beach that is at its most romantic when the sun begins to set.  
*Doubles from £123; [www.le-grand-large.fr](http://www.le-grand-large.fr)*

**8 THE BEACH-CHIC ONE**

**HOTEL HA(A)ITZA**

**Pyla-sur-Mer, Gironde**

Southwest of Bordeaux, a short stroll from Pyla beach and not much further north of the Sahara-like Dune du Pilat, this villa of alpine-style balconies and shutters has been revamped by Philippe Starck. The restaurant is styled after an old yacht club, with boater hats on the walls and three skiffs hanging from the ceiling.  
*Doubles from £205, B&B; [haaitza.com](http://haaitza.com)*

**9 THE ROBINSON CRUSOE ONE**

**HOTEL LE MANOIR DE PORT-CROS**

**Port-Cros, Provence**

Play castaway in this remote blue and white Mediterranean manor surrounded

by pine forests on the idyllic island of Port-Cros, part of the Îles d'Hyères archipelago. On the ferry crossing over, keep your eyes peeled for peregrine falcons soaring overhead. Then tuck in: Provence's sun-powered vegetables play a starring role on the menus at this laid-back, family-run place.

*Doubles from £193; [hotel-lemanoir-portcros.com](http://hotel-lemanoir-portcros.com)*

**10 THE VALUE ONE**

**HOTEL LA BELLE-AURORE**

**Ste Maxime, Côte d'Azur**

Prices here might be lower than most people are paying for a hotel on the Côte d'Azur, but that doesn't mean the cosy La Belle-Aurore lacks glamour: it hangs on the edge of the Mediterranean, with an infinity pool that gazes towards St Tropez.

*Doubles from £134; [belleaurore.com](http://belleaurore.com)*

**11 THE PANORAMIC ONE**

**LES ROCHES ROUGES**

**Piana, Corsica**

It would be hard to find a hotel with a better view than Les Roches Rouges. Overlooking the rust-red cliffs of the Calanques de Piana, in the Gulf of Porto

nature reserve, this art-deco pad harks back to a sophisticated bygone era, with period furniture, parquet floors and an elegant bar.

*Doubles from £110; [lesrochesrouges.com](http://lesrochesrouges.com)*

**12 THE NO-NEED-TO-LEAVE ONE**

**HOTEL DES PECHEURS**

**Ile de Cavallo, Corsica**

The generous whitewashed rooms at this serene hotel on the Ile de Cavallo, in the Lavezzi archipelago, off the island's southern tip, are so close to the turquoise water that you'll hear surf lapping against the shore as you nod off. Its spa, restaurant and bar should provide everything you need for a week of relaxation.

*Doubles from £245, B&B; [hoteldespecheurs.com](http://hoteldespecheurs.com)*



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