



Take a dip in the hotel de Paris pool

GRANDES MAISONS

In this town, unless you Air BNB it, your options are luxury or super luxury. The Belle Epoque-style Hotel de Paris (rooms from €690) is a two-minute walk from the waterfront and the chicest option. Insider tip — ask for a room with a sea-facing balcony that overlooks the terracotta rooftops. If you don't mind staying just outside St Tropez then La Reserve Ramatuelle (rooms from €600) offers beautiful villas with all white furnishings and haute wellness treatments from Creme de la Mer at the in-house spa. (hoteldeparis-sainttropez.com, lareserve-ramatuelle.com)



The cove at the old town

PAGE TURNER

Should you need any further persuading to book your French adventure, peruse the pages of Gray Malin's collector's edition book 'Beaches'. The perfect Riviera travel inspo' and beyond. £20, at thebookpeople.co.uk. (graymalin.com/book)



HOT LINERS AND BLING

Katie Service joins the have-yachts on the French Riviera

No one ever said 'I went to St Tropez for a taste of the simple life'. Placed firmly on the sunseeker's map by Brigitte Bardot in the Sixties, this seaside port still charms the glitterati each summer. But if you don't own a Ferrari, don't panic — this seafood haven still holds plenty of allure for the non-billionaire and still beats Cannes and Monaco on culture, service and its glorious rolling beaches. Station yourself kerbside at one of the town's historic cafés and enjoy the most gripping people-watching in the world. You won't lay a finger on your book, trust us.



Brigitte Bardot in St Tropez



The best coffee in town served at Senequier

MAKE A MEAL OF IT

The old town offers plenty of cloistered lunch spots but nothing beats the sheer nosy fun of dinner on the harbour front. The family run L'Escale has great views and even better food (it's best known for its seafood). For souvenirs, head to Senequier for its famous nougat. (alpazurhotels.com/fr/escale/senequier.com)



Lunch is served at Club 55

CATCH SOME RAYS

The chicest euro crowds flock to the beach at Club 55 for a day in the sun. Rent a sun bed behind a wind shield on the beach, and make sure you have time for a late lunch of freshly caught lobster on the veranda. Forgot your sarong? No problem. The beach shop sells the most gorgeous beach linens and locally made cushions. Coco Beach is recommended if you are looking for somewhere a bit quieter to zone out. (club55.fr; nikkibeach.com)

