COUNTRY & TOWN HOUSE

Five of The Best Greek Islands to Visit

From Corfu to Crete...

BY DAISY FINER (/AUTHOR/DAISY/)

Caramel by Grecotel Crete

Caramel by Grecotel

Cretan traditions are burning bright. Late starts and swims in the green sea, platters of fish and shots of raki – why break good habits? That's certainly the ethos on Crete's longest beach, now taken by Greek hotel chain Grecotel. Along the golden sand, couples loll under linen canopies and squint into the sunshine just long enough to order a seaside lunch. Behind the sea-facing villas, yelping children jump into the pool and run between the palm trees and sun beds. For true decadence, order drinks to the room and jump in a balcony hot tub as the sun goes down – bliss. On Sundays don't miss a trip to the hotel's Agreco Farm, where you can learn how to press olive oil, crush grapes for wine and have a go at sheering a wriggly sheep's coat. Their restaurant is also unbeatable.

Junior Suite Caramel by Grecotel