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Hotel news OPENINGS IN... **ECUADOR** **FRANCE** **CHINA** **USA**



Positioned on Avenue Kléber, one of the spokes fanning out from the Arc de Triomphe, **The Peninsula Paris** is elegance exemplified. On the outside, revel in its neoclassical and Haussmann facade, adorned with intricately carved roses and ribbons, while inside look up and see chandeliers hanging like glittering gardens of glass. The impression is upheld throughout each of its 166 rooms and 34 suites, albeit on a more understated level. On the top deck, L'Oiseau Blanc restaurant serves contemporary French cuisine paired with panoramic views of the city (peninsula.com). In China's capital, where new hotels are springing up like bamboo, the **Rosewood Beijing** is a cut above. Opening August, the five-star address is rooted in the urbane Chaoyang District, close to an array of high-end shops and food joints. That's if you feel the need to stray from the six restaurants and bars. Each of the 283 rooms and suites features original artwork to suit the clean, contemporary scheme, and a final gilding comes in the form of its yoga studio, indoor pool and spa with six treatment rooms (rosewoodhotels.com). Over in Goleta, California, **The Goodland** is a study in bohemian beach living. Bright and breezy, eclectically furnished rooms, locally inspired menus in the Outpost restaurant and nostalgic touches like a record concierge and vintage house car all ooze coastal cool (thegoodland.com).

Words by Alex Allan

Clockwise from top left: the craters and craggy coastline of the Galápagos Islands; eco-chic Pikaia Lodge; The Peninsula Paris makes a statement; Rosewood Beijing; surf over to The Goodland for some laidback living

Given their equatorial climate and scientifically hallowed status, it's easy to imagine the Galápagos Islands becoming a kind of Darwinian Disneyland. Instead, they are selectively granting permission for projects such as the Pikaia Lodge which, when it opens in September, will be the first carbon-neutral accommodation in the island group. It'll also be one of the most secluded. Located on Santa Cruz island, on a plateau between two extinct volcano craters, its panoramic view of the South Pacific is shared between the 14 rooms and suites, not to mention the outdoor infinity pool. And while the Sumaq spa, with massage rooms, infrared sauna and gym, are geared up for winding down, there are also 3.5km of walking trails to stretch your legs on. Keep an eye out for the giant tortoises, who are thriving thanks to the hotel's on-site reserve. If you're itching to explore further afield, hop onboard their private 30m yacht, which runs day excursions to other nearby islands. Back at base, the Evolution restaurant serves up Peruvian-Ecuadorian fusion cuisine using locally sourced ingredients (pikaialodgegalapagos.com).

