

**Luciano Di Gregorio** checks out the sizzling supper clubs where Europe's bright young things will be wining, dining and dancing this summer

City sands: the decadence of the Med comes to Antwerp with the Perrier Strantwerpen



### The Perrier Strantwerpen ANTWERP

Kattendijkdok-Westkaai, tel. +32 (0)474 040040, perrier-strantwerpen.be

Clearly inspired by the sand, surf and beach culture of the Belgian Riviera (yes such a thing does exist), a bunch of Antwerp locals have created the perfect summertime hangout: a man-made beach club in an otherwise ancient urban conglomeration. But this is not to be confused with the try-hard efforts of Paris or Berlin. From April through to the end of summer, the Perrier Strantwerpen draws the sand-searching crowds from as far away as Brussels. And it's no wonder: this funky haunt offers a food menu to match the best restaurants in the country and a night-time atmosphere redolent of the French and Italian coastlines that are – though you wouldn't think it – a thousand miles away. Look out for our report on the Flemish resort of Knokke next month.



Wyld times: dine at Spice Market before heading to W's club

### Spice Market LONDON

W London Leicester Square, 10 Wardour Street, tel. +44 (0)20 7758 1088, spicemarketlondon.co.uk, wlondon.co.uk

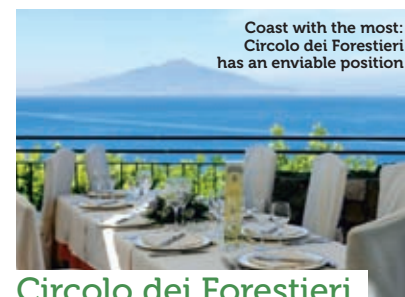
This hot new restaurant is already attracting London's movers and shakers. Three Michelin-starred chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten presides over a Southeast Asian menu, while diners eat below 600 glitzy wok lamps. For after-dinner showbiz pizzazz head to the hotel's nightclub Wyld – where Kate Moss recently mingled with naked bar staff and burlesque dancers. The supermodel even treated herself to a session in the 'Whatever, Whenever' dark room. Wyld has a guest list policy – email wyld.bar@whotels.com to be added – but the main Lobby and Lounge Bar are open to all.

# food+drink

## Island ATHENS

Sounio Avenue, Varkiza, tel. +30 210 965 3563, islandclubrestaurant.gr

If Athens is looking a little thin on the ground it's because the chic and fashionable have decamped to Island, the city's most stylish summer restaurant and nightclub. Perched on a cliff 25km south, overlooking the turquoise waters of the Med, the establishment occupies a setting synonymous with almost everybody's idea of bliss. There aren't many places that will offer you a meal accompanied by a sharp drop to the sea on your right and the chance to shake off the lethargy of a day spent in the sun by getting down in the Greek party spirit. With an extensive wine list and an atmospheric lounge area to usher you into the night, you may just get the urge to throw your ticket home into the moonlit water below...



## Circolo dei Forestieri

AMALFI COAST, NAPLES

35 Via Luigi de Maio, Sorrento, tel. +39 081 877 3263, circolodeiforestieri.com

Sat on Italy's terrace – the Neapolitan coast – this place mixes traditionalism with world-class dining, framed by cliffs, grottoes and the deep blue of the Tyrrhenian Sea. The vistas are to die for and you'll relish the delights of a four-course meal featuring staple dishes of Campania and other Italian specialities, before throwing off your napkin in favour of the romantic beats of Italian music. OK, so perhaps the *tarantella* isn't exactly romantic, but your reward is an impeccably homemade – and intense – *limoncello* in your hand as you watch the Amalfi Coast sparkle in the night.

## Nassau Beach Club

PALMA DE MALLORCA

Paseo de Portixol, tel. +34 871 701159, nassaubeachclub.com

The owners of Nassau Beach Club describe their little haunt as “something special” – but they're being modest about this elegant, suave establishment. The restaurant, serving belly-bursting dishes of meat and seafood, later sheds the serene undertones of its dining atmosphere for the upbeat musical styling of some of Europe's best DJs. The beach, meanwhile, adorned with southern-European beach beds, is framed by ancient church spires and the golden shades of Mediterranean hills. At the Nassau, arriving in the morning for some sun inevitably runs into a meal, then drinks to the backdrop of the setting sun before bopping into the night to some very catchy Spanish rhythms.