

# Robb Report

## From a Resurgent Puerto Rico to the Mexican Hamptons, the 13 Best Places to Travel in 2019

From the Caribbean to Cambodia, Texas to Tunisia, these are the hot destinations to book this year.

BY SANDRA RAMANI ON JANUARY 17, 2019



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### Matera

Located in the southern Basilicata region around the “ankle” of Italy’s boot, Matera spills out over a craggy hilltop down into two adjacent gorges where, in a network of limestone caves, humans had been living since prehistoric times. But this year, the ancient city is getting buzz for a new reason: It’s the 2019 European Capital of Culture.

Twelve months of cultural programming will run the gamut from contemporary art exhibits, poetry readings, and dressmaking workshops to concerts, operas, and theatrical performances, including an interpretation from *The Divine Comedy*. In between the events, visit some of the more than 150 ancient cave churches in the area, savor the local Basilicata variation on Italian cuisine (and wine), and stay in boutique hotels like the [Sextantio](#), where the atmospheric rooms and suites are set in converted grottoes. “Exploring Matera is a journey back in time,” says Matteo Della Grazia of [Discover Your Italy](#), which creates bespoke itineraries throughout Matera. “It showcases a part of Italy where history, traditional life, and natural and man-made beauty converge.”