

The ten intimate boltholes proving that size does matter Travel / 15 Jun 2018

Intimate, stylish and unique, each of these small hotels – possessing 15 rooms or less – are home to an abundance of personality and charm that belie their size. Havens in their own right, yet undeniably rooted in their locales, these hotels are worth the trip alone.



Zash Country Boutique Hotel
Archi Riposto, Sicily

Once a winery, now a 10-room luxury hotel, Sicily's Zash Country Boutique Hotel is a fulfilling country hideaway, supplemented by a slick spa, Mediterranean gardens and a creative restaurant. Guestrooms are evenly spread across three buildings – emphasising the hotel's overarching mood of intimacy – and are characterised by cool, modern interiors. Floor-to-ceiling windows and glass balconies are instrumental in Zash's inclusion of a surrounding landscape that incorporates the Gulf of Taormina and rolling countryside, and also imbue the property with a strikingly contemporary aesthetic that makes a welcome change from the region's usual villa-style. Carved from a former wine cellar, Zash's restaurant places an emphasis on slow cooking and local wine, while the spa puts volcanic rock from nearby Mount Etna at the heart of both interiors and treatments.