

VERTIGO SUMMER HEIGHTS

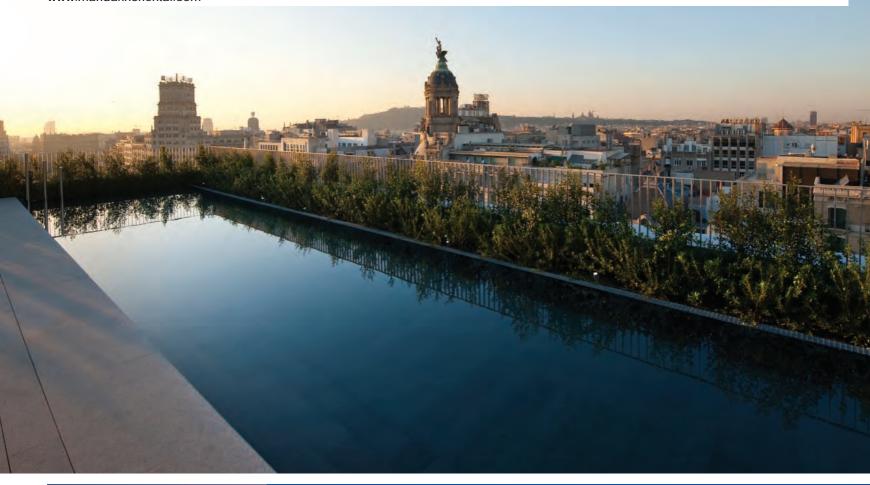
There is a lot happening in the skies this summer. As we get ready for some altitude climbing Daniela Bonetto jets around the world in an attempt to scale new heights while gazing smugly down on the suits hurrying along the pavements far below. Read on to discover the latest rooftop hotspots dizzying the international elite...



Terrat, Barcelona

Feast your eyes on the vista and what better view to take in than Barcelona. Claiming to have the greatest collection of Art Nouveau buildings of any city in Europe, the Mandarin Oriental is located in the heart of what is known as Quadrat d'Or- or Golden Square- because it contains many of these modernist facades. The Block of Discord (Illa de la Discòrdia, in Catalan) with the famous Casa Batlló by Gaudi and the Casa Ametller by Domènech i Montaner architects are located just across the hotel. Enjoy the exceptional views of these buildings and 360 degree views of Barcelona's skyline while having a refreshing and relaxing bath. Step into the dipping pool, recline and enjoy all-day refreshments until sun falls over the horizon. Terrat is the exclusive space that can only be accessed for in-house guests at Mandarin Oriental, Barcelona. Pick up the phone, ask for a fresh and natural smoothie and enjoy looking down on the world.

www.mandarinoriental.com





Sirocco & Sky Bar, Bangkok

Bangkok is a city that pulsates with vibrancy. But if you are looking for peace, quiet or an unforgettable night out, Sirocco could just be the answer. Located high above the earth on the 63rd floor of The Dome at lebua, Sirocco is the world's highest al fresco restaurant with a breathtaking view of Bangkok. Sirocco brings with it a breath of fresh air to the dining scene. A sweeping deck dramatically fans out from the floor to the middle of the sky, freezing midway in space. Descending onto the deck is a beautifully lit stairway leading to one corner where the multihued Sky Bar takes centre stage. Live jazz music, featuring vocalists of international repute is the cherry on the cake for this rooftop oasis.





Forty Five, Tokyo

Known to locals as their stairway to heaven, is Forty Five. Situated on the 45th floor of the Ritz Carlton Hotel with daylight streaming into the modern French restaurant, Forty Five offers fabulous views of Tokyo and the iconic Tokyo Tower. Amidst a modern interior design, dinner can be a pick and choose from the a-la-carte menu which includes a blend of continental and Asian flovored selections for breakfast, lunch and dinner. www.ritzcarlton.com

360 Istanbul, Istanbul

Having become an international icon, 360 lstanbul marks Istanbul nights in keeping its posture as a firm favorite in the city. Its love at first sight when you enter 360 Istanbul and then the sumptuous food comes next. Following the new trends in the world, 360 Istanbul offers a very rich and delectable menu. Opening the doors of world kitchens, the menu is prepared by the famous chef Mike Norman. The specialties in 360 Istanbul's menu are quite pretentious; the first one is lamb served with rice with pomegranate and Curry with green beans. It is a must try taste. If you like fish, the filet of sole served with lemon, coconut and Thai basil is recommended. One of the samples of Turkish cuisine, Ostrich Stone Kebab offers you a modern but traditional taste. Death by Chocolate part 4 and cherry bread pudding with yogurt ice cream are among favorites as desserts. Designed by the famous interior designer Emir Uras, 360 is a sincere atmosphere. Mesmerising to say the least!

www.360istanbul.com



Plunge Bar, NYC

Another all American gem sits on top of the newly iconic Gansevoort. The original Plunge Bar + Lounge at Hotel Gansevoort in the Meatpacking district was one of the first rooftop bars in the city and continues to be incredibly popular. Plunge was refreshed and recharged in 2010. Seductive images by noted photographer Deborah Anderson now adorn the bar and walls in sexy crimson red. It's a place to "see and be seen." High above the city, sip signature drinks at the bar while taking in the 360-degree views of the most famous skyline. Speakers pump music into the bar, but people really don't dance up here - it's a more relaxed, cool sort of vibe. The bar is outdoors, but has a retractable glass roof that can be covered when the weather turns cold. An outdoor terrace winds around the entire rooftop and has tables for extra seating and a full landscaped Garden area that features a private cabana (available for bottle service), cushioned seating and a fire pit, for cozy gatherings.

www.hotelgansevoort.com

