

BRIDES

honeymoon guide 2011

THE TOP 100
HONEYMOONS
IN THE WORLD

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

Turquoise

The Turquoise Holiday Company

MOOONS

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For honeymoon luxury on your doorstep,
check into one of these British hotels



Cowley Manor,
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Contemporary, country chic in the Cotswolds – it can only be Cowley Manor. Set in 55 acres of parkland, woods and meadows, this is where hip urbanites come to unwind. The spectacular C. Side spa is one of the UK's best – offering a range of treatments including the signature Cloud 9 holistic treatment (as you'd expect it's heavenly) using its organic product range, Green & Spring. Foodies will enjoy the menu with its emphasis on seasonal, local and organic food – which can be enjoyed in the restaurant or on one of the living-room couches. Rooms are split between the main house (with an eclectic range of designs) and a newer wing. But for true honeymoon romance, the main-house rooms get our vote every time.

WOW FACTOR The two swimming pools; a one green-slate-lined indoor pool and a stylish outdoor pool heated all year round.

GO Doubles (called Good Rooms) from £175 B&B (cowleymanor.com).



Gilpin Lake House
CUMBRIA

Rowing on the lake, in-room massages *à deux*... Whatever takes your fancy, one thing is for sure: you'll feel like you're the only guests. Because, not only are there just six (individually decorated) suites, but this is a slick, family-run operation preparing everything just the way you like it. Afternoon tea with fresh-from-the-oven scones? Done. Champagne in the hot tub? It's already on ice. Nothing has been overlooked, from the decor (hand-painted wallpaper, chic chandeliers) to the thoughtful touches, such as binoculars in your room. Dinner is a complimentary chauffeur ride away, at Gilpin Hotel; choose from four dining rooms. With knock-out food – updated local classics – to top off your stay, you won't want to leave.

WOW FACTOR The breathtaking Lake Windermere is just two miles away – if you can drag yourself away from the hot tub.

GO Doubles from £490 including dinner, B&B and afternoon tea; one-hour in-room treatments from £50 (gilpinlodge.co.uk).



South Sands, DEVON

The small bay of South Sands in Salcombe, south Devon, is packed with bobbing boats in summer, and the sea air is just as alluring out of season when the bay's eponymous new boutique hotel is far from quiet. The hotel occupies a fantastic position on the scenic South West Coast Path. Stay here and you'll be lulled to sleep by the sound of the waves, after feasting on seafood from the menu by restaurateur Mitch Tonks. The New England-style clapboard building reveals sandy-beige and sea-blue interiors with nautical graphics in its 22 rooms. The bedrooms feature coral prints, portholes in the bathrooms and, for most, sea views. Each room is made for lingering in, with a plasma TV and DVD player, iPod dock and king-sized bed. In summer, there's every watersport under the sun, but if the closest you get to the water is sinking into a huge free-standing bath, your stay will be just as fabulous.

WOW FACTOR Check into the signature J-class suite for two free-standing baths and an enormous eight-foot bed.

GO Doubles from £120 B&B (southsands.com).