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PHOTOS: 17 Lost Cities That You Can Still Visit

Juliet Kinsman
Posted: September 28, 2010 07:31 AM

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Morocco Forte (PHOTOS)

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Boutique hotel lovers who insist of the most stylish of stays will find [Marrakesh](#) to be pure gold says **Juliet Kinsman**, editor-in-chief of [Mr & Mrs Smith](#).

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Amid the mêlée of this Moroccan city's ancient medina, many of its riads - the name of the traditional houses with an inner courtyard - have been transformed into stylish hideaways. Not only do these intimate guesthouses provide pindrop-peaceful sanctuaries within the winding alleyways of the bustling souks, these old-meets-new glamorous hideaways are fantastically chic. Some of this unique breed of bunk-up hail from a more-is-more school of interior design, festooned with rich fabrics and loaded with exotic embellishments. Others are sleekly minimalist, elegantly employing the local render of choice, *tadelakt*, the smooth polished plaster in pink and chocolate shades originally restricted to the hammams. The riads' rooftops, usually suntraps by day and candlelit perches by night, are atmospherically sound-tracked by the call to prayer, offering romance around the clock.

Have a favorite boutique hotel in Morocco? Send us pictures!

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Dar les Cigognes

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Designer riad neighboring the Royal Palace, once a wealthy merchant's house. Behind a discreet door in the medina quarter, with the help of celebrity architect Charles Boccara, the owners of [Dar Les Cigognes](#) have turned two riads into a boutique hotel. Dar Les Cigognes translates as 'the storks' in French, as you can see them circling the skies.

Rooms Three superior, seven deluxe, one suite
Rates Low season, €160-€240; high season, €190-€350, excludes breakfast (€11 each for Continental). You can rent the entire riad for €2,100-€2,500 a night. There's an additional local tax of €3.50 a person a day.

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So-so. So stunning!

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