



The 100-villa **Six Senses Laamu** launches in May on the private Laamu Atoll in the Maldives with Altitude, a wine cellar rising out of the sea in a glass tower to compliment the resort's delicatessen. The spa will offer signature Asian treatments in rooms set among the trees with a yoga pavilion looking out to sea (€332, sixsenses.com/SixSensesLaamu)

Now that the snow has gone and airport chaos has calmed, where will we be holidaying in 2011? **Jo Fernández** reports

NEW YEAR, NEW DESTINATIONS

A LONG line of new luxury hotels opening in London began with the re-opening of the Savoy late last year, heralding a new era for the capital's classic hotels. This month the Four Seasons Hotel London at Park Lane re-opens with 1930s-inspired interiors by designer Pierre-Yves Rochon and a rooftop spa cozing high-end brands – Organic Pharmacy, Omorovicza and Espo (€265, fourseasons.com/London).

Hot on its heels, W's first London hotel, the striking 192-room W London – Leicester Square opens its doors on Valentine's Day on the corner of Leicester Square and Wardour Street in a 10-storey tower veiled in translucent glass that continually changes colour. It also features a curved nightclub space with an oversized mirror ball, screening room, SWEAT gym and 17 WOW suites (€232, whotels.com/London).

Overlooking Trafalgar Square, the grand Corinthia Hotel London opens in April in a Victorian city block that was once home to the Metropolitan Hotel and more recently used by the less glamorous MoD. The 294-room hotel will have a four-level SPA spa and David Collins-designed bar (€450, corinthiahotel.com).

Five minutes from Frinton on the Essex coast, a new contemporary holistic day spa with rooms, the Lifehouse, launches officially this month in the pretty village of Thorpe-Soken. Set in 130 acres of grounds and historic listed gardens of the former Thorpe Hall, the facilities include some 35 therapy rooms offering high-end Baboer treatments, outdoor fitness circuit, gym and swimming pool, not to mention an



on-site spiritualist (€175pp with massage included, lifehouse.co.uk).

Although not strictly speaking a hotel, Alain de Botton's innovative Living Architecture project rolls out a new addition in July with The Long House, sleeping 10, on the edge of Cockthorpe, Norfolk, created by modernist architects Sir Michael and Lady Tatty Hopkins (€760 per four-night break, livingarchitecture.co.uk).



Launching in April is the 40-room **Electon Square Hotel** in Pimlico, whose handsome white Georgian front belies high techery within – LED

Further afield in the Maldives, the 22-villa Jumeirah Dhevanafushi (left) opens this month in the Gaafa Alifu Atoll with an over-water Talise spa, the first hotel to open outside of the Jumeirah group's existing markets (UK, Dubai and US). Jumeirah Vittaveh, a five-star deluxe family resort in the South Malé Atoll, is scheduled to open in March (€1,294 per villa, jumeirah.com)

Also this month, the 260-room Leela Palace Kempinski New Delhi opens with three suites with private swimming pools, 24-hour butler service, heated rooftop swimming pool and Japanese, Indian & Italian restaurants (€260, theleela.com).

In April, the five-star all-inclusive, all-villa Buccamant Bay Resort opens as the first luxury resort on the south-west of the island of St Vincent and the

Grenadines, with a spa and football and tennis academies (€243, a week for £1,799pp with flights, kuoni.co.uk, buccamantbay.com).

In Greece, a 79-room Yest Hotel opens in Athens in May. This will be Brazilian design duo the Campana Brothers' first hotel project with a 'live in' sensation along the lines of an art gallery experience (€154, yestohels.gr).

The 138-room Mandarin Oriental Paris opens in June on Rue Saint-Honoré with an indoor swimming pool, spa and Michelin-starred restaurant by Thierry Marx and inner courtyard with year-round art fresco dining (prices unavailable at time of going to press, mandarinoriental.com). Also opening in June is Puma Lodge, set in a remote area of the central Chilean Andes. Chile's first heli-ski lodge will sleep 24 with a wine cave, library, a boutique ski shop and a resident doctor. The spa will come with a gym, dedicated yoga room and an outdoor pool (seven-night package from £8,189pp full board with six days private heliskiing, one night at the Ritz Carlton, Santiago, and international flights, exsus.com).

In October, low-key private island Petit St Vincent, just off the coast of St Vincent, re-opens as a boutique resort with 22 ocean-view villas, a new spa, yoga centre, children's club and restaurants (€440, psvresort.com). The glitzy 219-room Palazzo Versace resort finally opens in October in Dubai with 163 luxury villas (some available for purchase) overlooking lushly landscaped gardens, a Versace boutique, marina and scuba laxca (prices unavailable at time of going to press, palazzoversace.ae). The private Song Saa all-villa resort



New arrivals: (top) the striking facade of the W London and (above) the private island resort of Petit St Vincent

will be aimed at the luxury traveller when it opens in South Cambodia in November, on Koh Ouen and Koh Bong, two tiny islands connected by a footbridge in the Koh Rong archipelago. A total of 25 overwater, rainforest and beach villas will be built with sustainable materials while the resort has its own marine reserve and conservation programme (€388, cazuloyd.com).

In China, the 46-room Taj Palace Temple of Heaven in Beijing opens near the Temple of Heaven UNESCO World Heritage Site later this year (prices unavailable at time of going to press, tajhotels.com).

Prices quoted are per double room per night, unless otherwise stated.