

02. FIVE REASONS TO VISIT MÁLAGA RIGHT NOW

Forget what you think you know... Picasso's birthplace is our top tip for a cultural mini-break this year

1. AN EXCITING VISITOR

Paris's Centre Pompidou is set to open its first-ever outpost (centrepompidou.es) on 30 March, featuring a rotating show of 90 works from art A-listers including Bacon, Magritte and Kahlo. Housed in a giant glass cube on the seafront, it joins the city's impressive roster of over 20 galleries.

2. A RUSSIAN SATELLITE

No, not the space-bound, Cold War variety, but another gallery pop-up: the product of a 10-year deal with the St Petersburg Art Museum. At La Tabacalera, a 1920s tobacco factory-turned-event space, there'll be gold-leafed icons, Fabergé-esque objets d'art and Soviet prints a go-go.

3. AN EDGY MAKEOVER

Imagine a mural 38m tall by 9m wide. Málaga has two of them. Part of the MAUS



(Málaga Arte Urbano en el Soho) project, they're just a couple out of hundreds of murals that have turned the city's rundown, port area into an incredible outdoor gallery.

4. DESIGNER DISHES

For those who'd rather culture on a plate than a canvas,

GastroArte (gastroarte.es) is a collaboration of 30 top Andalusian chefs and producers that's hot to trot right now. Highlights include Óleo, a Mediterranean-Japanese café, and José Carlos García's eponymous restaurant – the city's newest recipient of a Michelin star.

5. ARACHNOPHILIA

Spider fan? From 15 June to 27 September, the Picasso Museum (museopicasso.malaga.org) will host a retrospective of the French artist Louise Bourgeois, famed for her giant spiders. Arachnophobics might want to give this one a miss.

SLEEP AROUND

03. HOW TO OPEN YOUR OWN HOTEL

ROOM SERVICE USED to consist of an uninspiring club sandwich or a bottle of overpriced 'Champagne', but in 2015 things are set to get a lot more impressive. Following on from last year's trend for pop-up hotels, Sweden's Scandic Hotels will deliver its guests far more than just drinks and nibbles – a



whole room, in fact. Those who fancy their own private hotel simply have to email to-go@scandichotels.com, giving their name and proposed location, and Scandic will deliver one of their four-person cabins, complete with terrace, living room, TV, wi-fi and air-con to anywhere in Sweden (or Denmark from this summer), as long as the proposed spots are legal and accessible. It's got us plotting a weekend out on the Stockholm archipelago already – the only problem now will be, with no room service on site, who's going to bring the bubbly? scandichotels.com