The Latest Pandemic Travel Trend: Adults-Only Luxury Resort Vacations

After too much together time during lockdown, parents are ditching the kids. These six luxury resorts all cater to grown-ups and offer serene, sophisticated diversions, from wine-tasting in Napa to catnaps on Italy’s Amalfi Coast.

The private beach at Il San Pietro in Positano. One of the Amalfi Coast’s most iconic hideaways, the hotel only accepts guests age 10 and older.

PHOTO: IL SAN PIETRO DI POSITANO

By Janet O’Grady
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THE PANDEMIC BROUGHT many families closer together, but even the tightest clans can squabble over Scrabble matches after one too many game nights. A surfeit of together-time is triggering a rise in demand for kid-free vacations, said Jack Ezon, founder of travel company Embark Beyond. Sixty-one percent of the summer trips that Embark Beyond booked this year were for adults only, compared with 48% in 2019. These grown-up escapes aren’t just for couples. Some are booked by groups of friends who want to travel together after many months of Zoom-only contact or individuals seeking solo sojourns. To help you plan your own immersion in maturity we’ve selected five resorts that offer
decidedly grown-up diversions, from wining and dining to flopping down on a beach with a thick page-turner and uninterrupted nap time.

**Sun, Sea, Spritz**

One of the Amalfi coast’s most iconic hideaways, Il San Pietro (which welcomes ages 10 and up) is perched dramatically on a cliff edge. The rooms, carved into rocky hillsides, almost blend into the landscape, while the décor marries old-world elegance with Mediterranean chic. All 56 rooms open onto balconies with sea views. An elevator whisks guests down the cliff to the only private beach associated with a hotel in Positano. With an Aperol spritz in hand, stare at the sunset from the grand terrace. Its Michelin star Zass restaurant prepares local Mediterranean dishes like scampi tartare, with ingredients from its on-site organic gardens. *From about $850 a night, ilsanpietro.com*

The 39 guest rooms at the Post Ranch Inn, on the Big Sur coast, bring to mind lavish treehouses, *PHOTO: KODIAK GREENWOOD*

**Big Sur’s Big Little Skies**

The Post Ranch Inn stands 1,200 feet above the Pacific on the cliffs of Big Sur. Like the home at Green O, the inn’s 39 guest rooms bring to mind lavish treehouses, most built for two (no guests under age 18 allowed). The spa offers massages and private yoga and meditation classes. You can also book an astrology or shaman session. Or commune with the celestial spirits yourself by taking in the night sky—far from city lights, the hotel is a sublime place to stargaze. *From $1,425 a night, postranchinn.com*