

THE MAIN POOL AT NAFPLIA PALACE HOTEL & VILLAS. BELOW: ARVANITIA BEACH AND PALAMIDI



ABOVE: THE BATHROOM OF AN EXECUTIVE BUNGALOW SUITE. BELOW: AN AMBASSADOR VILLA WITH OUTDOOR POOL

# Private heaven

*The modern-retreat concept looks divine at the Nafplia Palace Hotel & Villas*

The infinity pool at Nafplia Palace Hotel & Villas in the Greek Peloponnese, within the exclusive area given over to the hotel's renovated villas, takes the eye far out over the blue waters and pretty coastline of the Argolic Gulf. The ancient fortress of Akronafplia, among whose ruins the hotel was built, has seen invaders come and go through history; the Venetians and Byzantines were among those to leave a picturesque legacy, in the form of squares, fountains and facades in Nafplion old town.

Last summer saw a complete overhaul of 33 villas at the Nafplia: the result is a state-of-the-art relaxation environment, framed by picture-postcard castle ruins – you can literally reach out and touch the ancient fortifications as you lie by the pool. The facilities are spoiling, even by the standards of a top boutique hotel: you can ask for a private pool, Jacuzzi, a surround-sound home cinema, a pivoting fireplace... And Hermes products, marble floors and treats such as hydro-jets, hammam, aero-spa and chromotherapy bathtubs make the Nafplia heaven on earth for bathroom-indulgence seekers.

Juxtaposed with the technology-meets-luxe of the villas and the historical grandeur of the location, the huge glass walls and stone artwork of the 1970s main building mark it out as a Modernist monument. Guests can access the boutiques, tavernas and cafés of the old town via three lifts, and the hotel-managed beach, pretty Arvanitia, is just a few minutes' walk away.

Set in one of the Peloponnese Islands' most idyllic harbour towns, the Nafplia represents a new take on 'ancient and modern', offering traditional mezze by the pool – as well as butler service



in the Presidential Suite, should you desire it. When the spa opens this spring, the Nafplia will take its rightful place in the canon of the world's most exciting hotels.

*Nafplia Palace Hotel & Villas, Akronafplia, Peloponnese, Greece (+30 27520 70800; reservations@nafplionhotels.gr; www.nafpliapalace.gr).*



ABOVE: THE BEDROOM AND BATHROOM OF AN AMBASSADOR VILLA. BELOW: THE BATHROOM OF AN AMBASSADOR VILLA

