

By Erin Rottman



Ramp up the comfort while camping beside Zion National Park's famous red-striped cliffs in a luxurious Under Canvas tent equipped with beds, bathrooms, wood-stove heating, and adjoining tepees.

# HOLIDAY IN THE DESERT

Unlike Palm Springs motels that have simply been redesigned to look midcentury modern, **Holiday House** ([holidayhouseps.com](http://holidayhouseps.com); from \$199) boasts actual historical significance. Built in 1951, it was designed by Herbert Burns, whose architecture helped to define Palm Springs modernism. The recently restored 28-room boutique hotel maintains its original architecture but with a pop of playfulness. Throughout the adults-only property, the artwork includes pieces by David Hockney and



In a welcoming nook in the lobby, wheat-colored egg chairs and graphic artwork stand out against the new blue-and-white scheme that runs throughout Palm Springs' historic Holiday House boutique hotel. An array of umbrellas carry the theme to the pool area.

Herb Ritts as well as pop-graffiti street artist Mr. Brainwash.

For the guest rooms, Los Angeles-based designer Mark D. Sikes incorporated vivid blues with bright whites as well as bold zigzag, floral, and butterfly patterns to create what he calls "a welcoming energy that feels happy." To complement the blue and add warmth, Sikes mixed rattan fabrics and brass finishes. "Using blue for the main color of the hotel wasn't an option; it was a necessity," he says. "I felt the energy it would create."

## STARGAZING IN ZION

British-born Sarah Dusek had fun camping as a kid, despite the fact that her excursions were often punctuated by rain. "It was always a very wet affair," says Dusek. Inspired by an upscale safari experience in Zimbabwe in 2000, she and her husband, Jacob, started **Under Canvas**, a collection of U.S. properties at which they offer luxurious camping accommodations and adventures. The newest location opens in August at Utah's Zion National Park.

Nestled next to Zion's pink and red sandstone cliffs, the 196-acre Under Canvas ([undercanvas.com/camps/zion](http://undercanvas.com/camps/zion); from \$299) property features five dozen tents, each accommodating up to four

guests, with bathrooms, wood stoves, and area rugs. Stargazer tents have glass viewing windows above the beds.

A campfire-themed restaurant offers indoor and outdoor seating and a menu with locally sourced ingredients. Dishes include a smoked pork belly sandwich with sage honey served with grilled peaches and boar ribs with ancho chili pepper sauce and a side of radish slaw.

It's a great way to fuel up for the adventure offerings, such as private rock-climbing, biking, and helicopter tours and guided canyoneering activities for kids. "We want to be a bridge for people to get out and enjoy the outdoors," Dusek says.

**HOT TIP** View the flight of Andean condors at Belmond's newest luxury hotel in Peru, **Belmond Las Casitas** ([belmond.com/las-casitas-colca-canyon](http://belmond.com/las-casitas-colca-canyon)), a collection of 20 bungalows with private terraces and heated plunge pools in the Arequipa region of the Andes. If South America isn't on this year's travel agenda, opt for a staycation at the equally luxe **Belmond El Encanto** ([belmond.com/el-encanto-santa-barbara](http://belmond.com/el-encanto-santa-barbara)) in Santa Barbara, more affordable now that every third night is half off through the end of the year.

Peruvian dancers perform in traditional costume.

