

IN-STORE

Mandarin Oriental Bodrum makes consumers active participants in olive harvest

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Exterior of Mandarin Oriental, Bodrum

By STAFF REPORTS

Mandarin Oriental, Bodrum in Turkey is giving guests an agricultural experience with a special offer surrounding the local olive harvest.

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From Nov. 1 through Dec. 29, consumers can book the experience, which includes olive picking, creating olive oil and sampling the fruits of their labor. Travelers are often looking for ways to immerse themselves in the local culture, so this offer that lets them work alongside residents will likely appeal.

Harvest helpers

Those who book the “winter tale under the olive trees” will be able to pick olives from an onsite grove at the hotel. Guests will also be treated to VIP transportation to and from the Olive Oil Factory, where they will learn and experience the production process of olive oil.

Consumers will taste olive oil created from their own picked fruit, and will go home with a specially packaged bottle of olive oil.



Promotional image for Mandarin Oriental room package

An exclusive dining experience at the hotel's Sofra Restaurant will showcase dishes incorporating olive oil. Guests can work their own culinary muscle when they return home with a cookbook written by chefs from the property.

The Ritz-Carlton, Charlotte, NC is bringing farming to its urban situated hotel with the addition of several “agritourism” offers.

This focus on locally grown food enters the hotel's lobby, where guests can peruse a farmers market, snip their own herbs, learn of related recipes and leave with complimentary produce. Also, on the first floor, as consumers enter they will walk past a garden on the perimeter growing plants such as tomatoes, lavender, mint, basil, rosemary, thyme, oregano and lantana ([see story](#)).

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