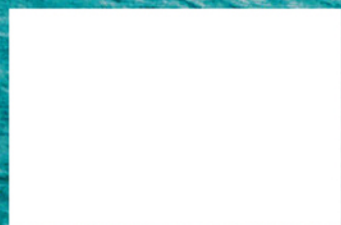


TRAVEL + LEISURE

the
best

HOTELS
CITIES
ISLANDS
CRUISES
AIRLINES

in
the
world





It's a big world out there—so many destinations to visit, so many ways to get there, so many places to stay. How to choose? Answering that question is the aim of T+L's World's Best Awards, the annual survey where we invite you, our trusted, globe-trotting readers, to rate your recent trips to identify the leaders shaping travel today by providing top-notch service and remarkable experiences. This is the 22nd edition of World's Best, with more than 300,000 respondents submitting ratings in categories ranging from cities and hotels to airlines and destination spas. As always, the results surprise, delight, and inspire. (For more details on how the survey was conducted, turn to page 81). Thanks to everyone who took the time to participate, and congratulations to all the 2017 winners—bravo!

the world's best awards

Open the gatefold for our map of
the No. 1 hotels in 85 cities



Faultless service and stunning views of the Aegean helped Katikies Hotel, in Santorini, become this year's No. 1 resort hotel in Greece.

EDITED BY JACQUELINE GIFFORD

TOP 15
Hotel Brands

- 1 **Six Senses** 96.15
- 2 **Oetker Collection** 96.09
- 3 **Auberge Resorts** 95.39
- 4 **Alila Hotels & Resorts** 94.71
- 5 **Capella Hotels & Resorts** 94.57
- 6 **One&Only Resorts** 93.95
- 7 **The Peninsula Hotels** 93.91
- 8 **Oberoi Hotels & Resorts** 93.74
- 9 **Aman** 93.72
- 10 **The Leela Palaces, Hotels & Resorts** 93.33
- 11 **Rosewood Hotels & Resorts** 93.19
- 12 **Montage Hotels & Resorts** 93.07
- 13 **Rocco Forte Hotels** 92.93
- 14 **Thompson Hotels** 92.90
- 15 **Belmond** 92.71



At Six Senses Douro Valley, in Portugal, guests can sip local vintages and unwind with grape- and citrus-based spa treatments.



Winner's Spotlight

SIX SENSES, A FEEL-GOOD FOCUS

World's Best winner Six Senses, whose nine resort hotels around the globe—from Vietnam to Oman and the Seychelles—have wellness in their DNA. At the spas, guests can undergo a screening to measure stress levels, heart rate, and tissue oxygen uptake, among other markers; a personalized fitness and diet routine is created based on the results. Many of our readers raved about the brand's practices. "Their wellness emphasis, plus the organic food, is over the top," said one. "Very cool approach," added another. "Six Senses is on the move and is pioneering in this space."

All hotels want their guests to get a good night's rest. But few properties go so far as to offer a dedicated team of on-call Sleep Ambassadors—whose mission is to make your room conducive to superior shut-eye—as well as a sleep-tracking app. These are just two of the amenities offered by first-time

Continental United States

Southern cities fared the best—claiming seven of the top 10 spots—while a luxury Wyoming ranch is the highest-ranking hotel in the country.

TOP 10 Islands

- 1 Hilton Head Island** South Carolina 90.83
- 2 Nantucket** Massachusetts 87.26
- 3 Mount Desert Island** Maine 86.69
- 4 Golden Isles** (Jekyll Island, Little St. Simons Island, Sea Island, St. Simons Island) Georgia 85.60
- 5 Mackinac Island** Michigan 85.45
- 6 San Juan Islands** Washington 83.86
- 7 Florida Keys** 83.49
- 8 Martha's Vineyard** Massachusetts 83.34
- 9 Kiawah Island** South Carolina 83.22
- 10 Sanibel Island** Florida 82.43

TOP 10 Cities*

- 1 Charleston South Carolina** 91.54 ①
 - 2 Santa Fe** New Mexico 89.94 ①
 - 3 Savannah** Georgia 89.30
 - 4 New Orleans** 89.15
 - 5 Nashville** 85.50
 - 6 Honolulu** 85.29
 - 7 New York City** 84.86 ②
 - 8 Austin** Texas 84.72
 - 9 Asheville** North Carolina 84.69
 - 10 San Antonio** Texas 84.49
- *Including Hawaii

TOP 15 Resort Hotels

- 1 Lodge & Spa at Brush Creek Ranch** Saratoga, Wyoming 98.77
- 2 Triple Creek Ranch** Darby, Montana 98.23
- 3 Inn at Willow Grove** Orange, Virginia 98.13
- 4 Rosewood CordeValle** San Martin, California 98.00

- 5 Twin Farms** Barnard, Vermont 97.54
- 6 Rabbit Hill Inn** Lower Waterford, Vermont 96.87
- 7 Gasparilla Inn & Club** Boca Grande, Florida 96.43
- 8 The Willcox** Aiken, South Carolina 96.38
- 9 Blackberry Farm** Walland, Tennessee 96.37
- 10 Château du Sureau** Oakhurst, California 96.25
- 11 Gateway Canyons Resort & Spa** Gateway, Colorado 96.24
- 12 Wequassett Resort & Golf Club** Chatham, Massachusetts 96.21
- 13 Farmhouse Inn** Forestville, California 96.06
- 14 Old Edwards Inn & Spa** Highlands, North Carolina 95.89
- 15 Blantyre** Lenox, Massachusetts 95.83


TOP 15 City Hotels

- 1 The Surrey** New York City 96.09
- 2 Alford Inn** Orlando Area, Florida 96.00
- 3 21c Museum Hotel** Oklahoma City 95.77
- 4 The Chatwal** New York City 95.57
- 5 Thompson** Seattle 95.15
- 6 Archer** New York City 95.13
- 7 Urban Cowboy** Nashville, 95.11
- 8 21c Museum Hotel** Bentonville, Arkansas 94.95
- 9 The Vendue** Charleston, South Carolina 94.88
- 10 Roxy Hotel** New York City 94.77
- 11 Hotel Elysee** New York City 94.67
- 12 Zero George** Charleston, South Carolina 94.52

- 13 Old 77 Hotel & Chandlery** New Orleans 94.50
- 14 The Peninsula** Chicago 94.44 ①
- 15 Mandarin Oriental** Las Vegas 94.35

TOP 10 Hotels New York City

- 1 The Surrey** 96.09
- 2 The Chatwal** 95.57
- 3 Archer** 95.13
- 4 Roxy Hotel** 94.77
- 5 Hotel Elysee** 94.67
- 6 The Beekman, a Thompson Hotel** 94.19
- 7 The Lowell** 94.15
- 8 Greenwich Hotel** 92.98
- 9 The Peninsula** 92.94
- 10 Lotte New York Palace** 92.05


READERS SAY...
“Charleston is a fusion of the best of Southern culture and contemporary class. Whether you’re a foodie, an art lover, or a history buff, there is never a dull time in this city.”



Left: The Vendue, the No. 1 hotel in Charleston, has more than 300 pieces of art. **Right:** Shrimp and grits at Hominy Grill, a popular brunch spot in the city.



Winner's Spotlight

THE PERFECT LONG WEEKEND IN CHARLESTON

How to spend three unforgettable days in America's best city.

Friday

Check in to the **Vendue** (thevendue.com; doubles from \$150), which is located on humming East Bay Street. Voted the No. 1 hotel in Charleston, this boutique property is known for its rotating art exhibits. Go for an evening stroll in Waterfront Park, then loop down to the historic Rainbow Row houses. Just up the street is **McCrary's Tavern**, where celebrity chef Sean Brock's escargot-stuffed marrow bone is an umami-rich dream (mccrarystavern.com; entrées \$16–\$32).

Saturday

Wake up with a Southern-style brunch at the **Grocery** (thegrocerycharleston.com; entrées \$12–\$21). Then head south along King Street, which is packed with quality shops like **Blue Bicycle Books** (bluebicyclebooks.com). Follow shopping with a visit to one of the city's many historic homes. For dinner, **Le Farfalle** serves unconventional Italian, like sorghum pappardelle, and the silkiest ricotta you've ever tasted (lefarfallecharleston.com; entrées \$15–\$43).

Sunday

Kick off your last morning with a classically Charlestonian brunch at **Hominy Grill** (hominygrill.com; entrées \$5–\$19) followed by a kayaking excursion into nearby swamps and waterways with **Nature Adventures Outfitters** (kayakcharlestonsc.com; rentals from \$40). Before you leave, get a taste of home-style cooking to go at **Nana's Seafood & Soul**. The deviled crab will have you planning your next trip (nanasseafoodsoul.com; entrées \$2–\$15).



TOP 5 Hotels Washington, D.C.

- 1 **The Jefferson** 93.89
- 2 **The Hay-Adams** 92.29
- 3 **Melrose Georgetown Hotel** 91.02
- 4 **Four Seasons Hotel** 89.74
- 5 **Sofitel Washington D.C. Lafayette Square** 89.64

TOP 5 Hotels Chicago

- 1 **The Peninsula** 94.44
- 2 **The Langham** 94.26
- 3 **Thompson** 93.73
- 4 **Chicago Athletic Association Hotel** 92.88
- 5 **Waldorf Astoria** 91.50

TOP 5 Hotels Charleston

- 1 **The Vendue** 94.88
- 2 **Zero George** 94.52
- 3 **The Spectator** 94.18
- 4 **French Quarter Inn** 94.10
- 5 **Wentworth Mansion** 93.40

TOP 5 Resort Hotels Florida

- 1 **Gasparilla Inn & Club Boca Grande** 96.43
- 2 **Acqualina Resort & Spa Sunny Isles Beach** 95.42
- 3 **Little Palm Island Resort & Spa Little Torch Key** 95.38
- 4 **Biltmore Hotel Coral Gables** 94.47
- 5 **The Betsy Miami Beach** 94.31

TOP 5 Resort Hotels California

- 1 **Rosewood CordeValle San Martin** 98.00
- 2 **Château du Sureau Oakhurst** 96.25
- 3 **Farmhouse Inn Forestville** 96.06
- 4 **Auberge du Soleil Rutherford** 95.36
- 5 **Calistoga Ranch, an Auberge Resort Calistoga** 95.03

TOP 5 Hotels Greater Los Angeles

- 1 **Hotel Bel-Air Los Angeles** 92.32
- 2 **The Peninsula Beverly Hills** 92.00
- 2 **Viceroy L'Ermitage Beverly Hills** 92.00
- 4 **Petit Ermitage West Hollywood** 91.32
- 5 **The Redbury Los Angeles** 90.97