

TRAVEL+ LEISURE

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PHOTO COURTESY OF RANCHO SANTANA

Rivas, Nicaragua

Returning to the top 100 hotels after a three-year hiatus, Rancho Santana is situated in the city of Tola-Rivas and has stunning views of the Pacific Ocean. The 2,700-acre resort just keeps getting better—their culinary team sources many ingredients from the on-site farm and garden—but the resort's mainstays, including five beaches, three pools, a sea turtle sanctuary, and a sprawling spa in the jungle, are what keep readers coming back.

These 100 Hotels Were Voted Best in the World by T+L Readers — and 18 of Them Are in the U.S.

Hotels in 33 countries across five continents are represented in our annual “World’s Best Awards” survey for 2025.

By Jess Feldman and Maya Kachroo-Levine

Travel + Leisure readers don't need destination dupes—they're here for the greatest hits. Our reader-voted 100 best hotels of 2025 list boasts properties in 33 countries across five continents. From resorts that date back to the 19th century to the newly opened swish boutiques that shot straight to the top, these are the 100 best hotels of 2025 across the globe, according to our readers.

- **How Voting Works**

Every year for our World's Best Awards survey, T+L asks readers to weigh in on travel experiences around the globe—to share their opinions on the top hotels, resorts, cities, islands, cruise ships, spas, airlines, and more. Nearly 180,000 T+L readers completed the 2025 survey. A total of more than 657,000 votes were cast across over 8,700 properties (hotels, cities, cruise lines, etc.).

Hotels were classified as either resort hotel, city hotel, inn, or safari lodge based on their location and amenities, and they were specifically rated on the criteria below:

- Rooms/facilities
- Location
- Service
- Food
- Value

For each characteristic, respondents could choose a rating of excellent, above average, average, below average, or poor. The final scores are averages of these responses.

- **What Readers Loved**

As T+L readers search for hotels that draw them in—with a rich backstory, entrancing interiors, and

authentic, local experiences—they don't shy from trying a new stay: seven of the 100 best hotels of 2025 opened in the last two years. And yet, it's the [exceptional service](#) at tried-and-true favorites that turns curious travelers into return guests.

For the second year in a row, only one U.S. hotel cracked the top 10, which is otherwise dominated by safari lodges (No. 1 [andBeyond Bateleur Camp](#) and No. 3 [Mfuwe Lodge, The Bushcamp Company](#)), as well as far-flung island resorts ([Joali Maldives](#) at No. 7 and newcomer Nay Palad in the tenth spot).

Among the top 100 favorites from T+L readers, there are 18 U.S. hotels on this year's list, up from the 16 that placed last year. Of the U.S. stays, sprawling, remote resorts stood out—like [Primland Resort, Auberge Resorts Collection](#), the 12,000-acre stay in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains (No. 8), and Wildflower Farms, Auberge Resorts Collection (No. 54) in New York's bucolic Hudson Valley. But in the heart of Carmel-by-the-Sea, a charming Northern California town, Villa Mara (No. 40) came back to once again rank in the top 50—a rarity for a relatively new and independently owned boutique hotel.

As the U.S. winners hint, Auberge Resorts Collection had a phenomenal year, with eleven resorts on the list. Capella, voted the best hotel brand for the third year in a row, had three winners; Oberoi, also a favorite hotel brand among readers, received four nods. And yet, it's a luxury safari outfitter with 29 lodges and camps that nabbed the top spot in this fiercely competitive World's Best Awards category.

Read on for a closer look at the top 100 hotels in the world, according to T+L readers.

Score 97.39