

# World's Top 50 Hotels

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by Melanie Lieberman July 6, 2015

“Luxury, redefined,” is how one *T+L* reader described The Oberoi Udaivilas, which was ranked No. 1 hotel overall in our survey this year. Is it any surprise guests rhapsodize about its private pools, flanked by visiting peacocks and parakeets, or the views of glittering Lake Pichola from the bay windows in their rooms?

Two decades ago, we began asking *T+L* readers to share with us their favorite hotels and resorts. They’ve taken into account value, service, food, and design, among other categories, to determine the best properties in the world. Each year, the list is surprising, dynamic, and provides clear insight into the trends and tastes shaping our global travel community.

This year, readers’ favorite hotels ranged from the far reaches of India to the frenetic streets of Tokyo. But a significant number of the winners are closer to home, with nearly 40 percent of the hotels on the Top 50 list located stateside. A clutch of chic properties in California, two on Rhode Island’s picturesque shores, and a duo perched on Sea Island in Georgia are just a few of the beloved standouts.

There is no shortage of options in classic European cities—Paris, Venice, London—as well as Asia’s booming hotspots, including Shanghai and Chiang Mai. Let’s not forget the dreamy resorts scattered across Mexico’s best beaches.

For trip inspiration or a few hard-earned daydreams, click through our list of World’s Best Hotel winners.



## **No. 50 Inn Above Tide Sausalito, Sausalito, California**

Score: 93.54

This debut property sneaks onto the Top 50 list with a score that has it tied with the veteran Four Seasons Resort Punta Mita. So how did cozy, shingled Inn Above Tide wash away the competition in this year's poll? The hotel sits on the San Francisco Bay, atop concrete and timber pilings that allow balconies and teak-furnished decks to jut out directly over the water. Complimentary selections of California wines, wood-burning fireplaces, Bulgari toiletries, and in-room binoculars for spying on the locals (sea lions, migratory birds, and stand-up paddle boarders) seal the deal. Book a table at nearby restaurant Fish for the West Coast iteration of the lobster roll, made with Dungeness crab.

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