TRAVEL + LEISURE SHOWCASES THE GREATEST ISLANDS, CITIES, HOTELS, CRUISE LINES, AIRPORTS, AND MORE — AS VOTED BY YOU.

 Edited by BROOKE PORTER KATZ | Additional reporting by PEARLY HUANG AND MELANIE LIEBERMAN


Survey methodology is on page 96.
Kraków was the surprise top 10 addition this year, appearing on the list for the first time ever. With its beautifully preserved buildings, rich history, and vibrant cultural scene, we get why it’s buzzing. But the real comeback award goes to No. 6, Bangkok: the Thai capital was No. 1 in the world from 2010 to 2013 before being bumped last year, likely due to political unrest.
# Top 100 Hotels

1. Oberoi Udaivilas, Udaipur, India 99.29
2. Hotel Castello di Casole—A Timbers Resort, Casole d’Elsa, Italy 98.00
3. Ashford Castle, County Mayo, Ireland 97.33
4. Triple Creek Ranch, Darby, Montana 97.33
5. Oberoi Rajvilas, Jaipur, India 97.26
6. Four Seasons Hotel Istanbul at Sultanahmet 96.57
7. Singita Sabi Sand, Kruger National Park Area, South Africa 96.47
8. Farmhouse Inn, Forestville, California 96.00
9. The Peninsula, Shanghai 96.00
10. Sunset Key Guest Cottages, a Luxury Collection Resort, Key West, Florida 96.00

11. 41, London 95.87
12. Wickaninnish Inn, Tofino, British Columbia 95.81
13. Le Meurice, Paris 95.71
14. Inn at Palmetto Bluff, a Montage Resort, Bluffton, South Carolina 95.64
15. Four Seasons Hotel Gresham Palace, Budapest 95.61
16. Oberoi Amarvilas, Agra, India 95.60
17. One&Only Palmilla, Los Cabos Resort, San José del Cabo, Mexico 95.56
18. Chanler at Cliff Walk, Newport, Rhode Island 95.50
19. Ocean House, Watch Hill, Rhode Island 95.43
20. Allison Inn & Spa, Newberg, Oregon 95.25
21. Rosewood Mayakoba, Playa del Carmen, Mexico 95.20
22. The Peninsula, Bangkok 95.11
23. Primland, Meadows of Dan, Virginia 95.06
24. Hotel Gritti Palace, a Luxury Collection Hotel, Venice 94.82
25. Saxon Hotel, Villas & Spa, Johannesburg, South Africa 94.75
26. Ritz-Carlton New York, Central Park 94.73
27. Banyan Tree Mayakoba, Playa del Carmen, Mexico 94.67
28. Little Nell, Aspen, Colorado 94.67
29. Le Bristol, Paris 94.51
30. Hotel Terra Jackson Hole, Teton Village, Wyoming 94.50
31. Inn at Little Washington, Washington, Virginia 94.50
32. The Cloister, Sea Island, Georgia 94.49
33. Hotel Alfonso XIII, a Luxury Collection Hotel, Seville, Spain 94.35
34. Cape Grace, Cape Town 94.32
35. The Peninsula, Hong Kong 94.22
36. Wentworth Mansion, Charleston, South Carolina 94.22
37. Cavallo Point Lodge, Sausalito, California 94.15
38. Egerton House Hotel, London 94.13
39. The Peninsula, Tokyo 94.00
40. Park Hyatt Paris-Vendôme 93.93
41. Four Seasons Resort Chiang Mai, Thailand 93.91
42. Hotel Lungarno, Florence 93.88
43. Lodge at Sea Island, Georgia 93.78
44. Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong 93.75
45. The Goring, London 93.67
46. Calistoga Ranch, California 93.66
47. Lake Placid Lodge, New York 93.65
48. Belmond Hotel Caruso, Ravello, Italy 93.60
49. Hotel Vier Jahreszeiten Kempinski, Munich 93.60
50. Four Seasons Resort Punta Mita, Mexico 93.54
51. Inn Above Tide, Sausalito, California 93.54
52. Sebastian Vail—A Timbers Resort, Vail 93.47
53. Four Seasons Hotel Prague 93.47

74 Travel + Leisure / August 2015
CONTINENTAL U.S.
LARGE CITY HOTELS (100 Rooms or More)
1 Ritz-Carlton New York, Central Park 94.73
2 The Hay-Adams Washington, D.C. 93.33
3 St. Regis New York City 93.33
4 Four Seasons Hotel Seattle 92.84
5 The Peninsula Beverly Hills, California 92.44
6 Four Seasons Hotel Chicago 92.14
7 The Langham Chicago 92.00
8 Montage Beverly Hills, California 91.82
9 Michelangelo Hotel New York City 91.73
10 The Peninsula New York City 91.60
11 Waldorf Astoria Chicago 91.54
12 Mandarin Oriental New York City 91.53
13 The Peninsula Chicago 91.43
14 The Langham Boston 91.24
15 Four Seasons Hotel Las Vegas 91.04
16 St. Regis San Francisco 90.90
17 Fairmont Olympic Hotel Seattle 90.84
18 Hotel 1000 Seattle 90.75
19 Grand Bohemian Hotel Asheville, North Carolina 90.53
20 Four Seasons Hotel Denver 90.46
21 21c Museum Hotel Cincinnati 90.40
22 Lenox Hotel Boston 90.32
23 Rittenhouse Hotel Philadelphia 90.29
24 St. Julien Hotel & Spa Boulder, Colorado 90.11
25 Loews Regency (formerly the Mandarin Oriental) San Francisco 90.09

SMALL CITY HOTELS
(Fewer Than 100 Rooms)
1 Wentworth Mansion Charleston, South Carolina 94.22
2 French Quarter Inn Charleston, South Carolina 92.38
3 Planters Inn Charleston, South Carolina 91.23
4 The Vendue Charleston, South Carolina 90.88
5 21c Museum Hotel Louisville, Kentucky 90.22
6 Market Pavilion Hotel Charleston, South Carolina 90.12
7 Rosewood Inn of the Anasazi Santa Fe, New Mexico 89.68
8 The Jefferson Washington, D.C. 88.89
9 Bohemian Hotel Savannah Riverfront Georgia 85.71
10 Ritz-Carlton Georgetown Washington, D.C. 85.11

No. 1 Continental U.S. | Small City
HOTEL
WENTWORTH MANSION, CHARLESTON, S.C.
With its spectacular restaurant scene, exquisitely preserved architectural wonders, and soul-stirring coastal landscapes, CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA, earns the Best U.S. City nod in this year’s Travel + Leisure World’s Best Awards. Take an inside look at the alluring appeal of this cultural gem.
PRIZED ACCOMMODATIONS

Picturesque Charleston is nestled on a relatively small peninsula that is home to several Travel + Leisure 2015 World’s Best Award-winning hotels.

+ At **Wentworth Mansion** (#1 BEST SMALL CITY HOTEL), climb up to the rooftop cupola for a rare view of the city in all directions.

+ Staying at **Planters Inn** (#3 BEST SMALL CITY HOTEL) is akin to an overnight with well-to-do friends in their gorgeous old Charleston mansion.

+ The Vendue (#4 BEST SMALL CITY HOTEL) just reopened with a chic, modern-art theme.

+ The best harbor views are found at the **Market Pavilion** (#6 BEST SMALL CITY HOTEL) rooftop bar.

+ The **French Quarter Inn** (#77 TOP 100 HOTELS) has a terrific location beside the Charleston City Market.

FOR MORE ON CHARLESTON’S AWARD-WINNING HOTELS, GO TO CHARLESTONLY.COM.

CULTURAL JEWELS

The Historic Charleston Foundation’s Nathaniel Russell House Museum (above) offers a glimpse of the grandeur with which Charlestonians entertained during the 1800s, while the flowers at Magnolia Plantation (top) are among the nation’s oldest public gardens.

EAT, DRINK, EXPLORE.

FOR A DAILY DOSE OF BEAUTY, FOLLOW THE DESTINATION ON INSTAGRAM.

@ExploreCharleston

FOR MORE THAN 300 YEARS, the Charleston area’s evocative beauty has inspired writers, painters, travelers, chefs, and musicians. The go-to spot for classic Southern style and authentic Lowcountry cuisine, Charleston offers a laid-back lifestyle accompanied by a gentle harmony of church bells, rustling palmetto fronds, sea island accents, and ocean waves.
STROLL THROUGH SPLENDOR.
When Charleston was settled in 1680, an urban development plan called the Grand Modell established an orderly grid of streets, which makes it easy to wander and difficult to get lost amid the colorful mansions and fragrant gardens that dot the famed Historic District.

TREASURE HUNT
Drawing inspiration from the candy-colored row houses and sunny weather, a growing number of jewelry, clothing, and home décor designers are showcasing local panache with their collections.


HAT TRICK FITZGERALD
1½ oz. Hat Trick Botanical Gin
1 oz. simple syrup
¾ oz. fresh lemon juice
2 to 3 dashes Angostura bitters

LOCAL SPIRITS
A new chapter in the South’s iconic cocktail culture is being written thanks to Charleston’s growing number of award-winning spirits and mixers including Hat Trick Gin, King Charles Vodka, Striped Pig Rum, Virgil Kaine Bourbon, Jack Rudy Tonic, and Bittermilk Charred Grapefruit Tonic.
COME, CELEBRATE.

Visit ExploreCharleston.com to start planning your trip.

@ExploreCHS  @ExploreCharleston