



**CHICAGO**  
**RADISSON BLU  
AQUA HOTEL**

**DESIGN NOTES:** The 334-room hotel is nestled in one of the more distinctive pieces of architecture in a city brimming with great buildings. The 82-story Aqua Tower—designed by MacArthur “genius grant” winner Jeanne Gang—is bedecked with blue-tinted windows and undulating balconies that evoke the waves of nearby Lake Michigan.

**WHAT YOU’LL FIND JUST OUTSIDE:** An 80,000-square-foot private green space comes complete with a pool, cabanas, a hot tub, fire pits, walking paths and a running track. Plus, Millennium Park—with gardens, a promenade and public art galore—is just a couple of blocks away.

**ROOM WITH A VIEW:** Pretty much every room on the higher floors

**John Rutledge  
House Inn**

**CHARLESTON,  
S.C.**

**BACKSTORY:** This sprawling Georgian home was built in 1763 by John Rutledge, a signatory of the Constitution and the first governor of South Carolina, for his teenage bride, Elizabeth Grimke. The house has been remodeled over the centuries—the marble mantels and cast-iron detailing were later additions—but Rutledge’s devotion to his young wife remains rooted in the foundation.

**IDEAL GUEST:** Older than the United States itself, the Rutledge House is the perfect spot for History Channel devotees, architecture buffs and people who want to be able to say that they and George Washington have eaten breakfast in the same place (albeit not at the same time).

**HOT PLATE:** At the inn’s sister restaurant, Circa 1886, executive chef Marc Collins combines traditional Lowcountry cuisine with sophisticated global flavors. Try the Niman Ranch pork chop with pulled pork, “peach nectar” barbecue sauce, ditalini and cheese, and dilly beans.

