

Plus WHY GABON AND MO

WHY GABON AND MOZAMBIQUE SHOULD BE ON YOUR WISH LIST

THE WILD-CARD CANARY ISLAND
ON THE ROAD WITH SPIKE LEE

SMART NEW SRI LANKAN STAYS

BRAZIL'S HIPPEST BEACH HOTEL UNVEILS ITS SEQUEL THE 2025
READERS'
CHOICE
AWARDS

your winning

HOTELS • ISLANDS • SPAS
COUNTRIES • RESORTS
TOUR OPERATORS • AIRLINES
CITIES • TRAINS





Welcome to The 2025 Readers' Choice Awards. This is the 28th edition of our annual event, and, as with last year, the results are based purely on votes from our UK readership. Each vote is a little memento of your travels - a fridge magnet brought back from your journeys, if you will - and together they piece together a global map of your favourite places, fixers and enablers. In this never-ending age of the selfie, awards such as these provide a valuable reset: an outward-looking view of the world that's built on an appreciation of the people who plan your trip for you, fly or sail you to your destination, check you in and lead you on adventures out onto the savanna or up into the Alps. Oh, and the people who prepare your food: this year, more than any other, it seems to be the culinary prowess of hotels and destinations that has really whetted your appetite for travel - whether that's the piri-piri squid with a samphire tartare dip at The Rooster's garden restaurant on Antiparos, or a Wagyu burger splattered in shibazuke ketchup at Ace Hotel Kyoto. As a wise man once said, "The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page." Well, here are several to flick through and hopefully inspire you to go further and deeper. More results, including your top beaches and ski resorts, best luggage and friendliest destinations, can be found online at cntraveller.com/readers-choice-awards

#### A SNAPSHOT OF OUR HOTEL LISTS

Every year we ask you to rate your favourite hotels according to a checklist of criteria, from food and location to design, rooms and service, as well as activities and, where appropriate, community investment. Few lists are as hotly contested as our Italian ones, with lakeside villas, sprawling Tuscan estates and Renaissance masterpieces all jousting to be numero uno. This year had some fresh contenders, such as the beach-clubby La Roqqa in Porto Ercole, making waves for its Scandi Italian design, and The Venice Venice Hotel - so good they named it twice - for its location on the Grand Canal. But it was more well-established names that won out, including next-level boutique group JK Place, which triumphed outright in two lists thanks to its sprezzatura rooms and cuisine. In Spain, Mallorca shone brightly with four hotels in the top 10, including Can Ferrereta, which you loved for its jasmine-ringed pool (among other facilities). Our Rest of Europe list always makes for interesting reading: this year sees appearances by newly revived classics such as Vienna's Anantara Palais Hansen and Corinthia Brussels both liked for their design and location - alongside gourmet favourites including Austria's legendary Rote Wand, with farm-to-fork fine dining one of the many reasons you gave Amsterdam's De L'Europe enough points to take gold.

### EUROPE LONDON

- 1 THE CONNAUGHT 99.71
- 2 Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park, London 99.65
- 3 Corinthia London 99.50
- 4 Claridge's 99.45
- 5 Rosewood London 98.88
- 6 The Dorchester 98.78
- 7 Ham Yard Hotel 98.77
- 8 The Langham, London 98.73
- 9 Brown's Hotel, a Rocco Forte Hotel 98.67
- 10 Shangri-La The Shard, London 98.47
- 11 The Goring 98.39
- 12 The Kensington 98.00
- 13 The Ritz London 97.99
- 14 The Beaumont Mayfair 97.98
- 15 The Savoy 97.97
- 16 The London Edition 97.96
- 17 The Lanesborough 97.77

- 18 The Ned 97.67
- 19 Dukes London 97.59
- 20 The Berkeley 97.56
- 21 The Soho Hotel 97.49
- 22 Hotel Café Royal 97.48
- 23 The Peninsula London 97.47
- 24 The Egerton House Hotel 97.33
- 25 Four Seasons Hotel London at Park Lane 97.25
- 26 InterContinental London Park Lane 97.24
- 27 Covent Garden Hotel 97.21
- 28 Mandarin Oriental Mayfair, London 97.00
- 29 The Londoner 96.99
- 30 Flemings Mayfair 96.93
- 31 Four Seasons Hotel London at Tower Bridge 96.87
- 32 Broadwick Soho 96.82
- 33 NoMad London 96.80
- 34 One Aldwych 96.78

- 6 The Merrion, Dublin 97.36
- 7 Park Hotel Kenmare, Co Kerry 97.00
- 8 The Montenotte, Cork 96.80
- 9 Kilkea Castle, Co Kildare 96.57
- 10 Ballyfin Demesne, Co Laois 96.29

#### **FLORENCE**

- 1 VILLA SAN MICHELE, A BELMOND HOTEL, FLORENCE 96.67
- 2 La Gemma Hotel 96.22
- 3 Villa Cora 95.95
- 4 Villa La Massa 95.71
- 5 Il Tornabuoni Hotel 95.54
- 6 Portrait Firenze 95.38
- 7 Palazzo Portinari Salviati 95.17
- 8 Four Seasons Hotel Firenze 94.20
- 9 Hotel Lungarno 92.11
- 10 Hotel Bernini Palace 90.29

#### ROME

- 1 JK PLACE, ROMA 98.00
- 2 The Rome Edition 96.80
- 3 Six Senses Rome 96.64
- 4 Hotel d'Inghilterra 96.33
- 5 Palazzo Ripetta 96.00
- 6 Hotel de Russie, a Rocco Forte Hotel 95.43
- 7 Hotel Eden 94.81
- 8 The Fifteen Keys Hotel 94.67
- 9 Portrait Roma 94.44
- 10 Donna Camilla Savelli 90.67

### VENICE

- 1 HOTEL CIPRIANI, A BELMOND HOTEL, VENICE 98.36
- 2 Ca' di Dio 98.00
- 3 Hilton Molino Stucky Venice 97.60
- 4 JW Marriott Venice Resort & Spa 97.00
- 5 The Gritti Palace, a Luxury Collection Hotel, Venice 94.55
- 6 Aman Venice 93.68
- 7 II Palazzo Experimental 93.29
- 8 Palazzo Venart Luxury Hotel 92.55
- 9 The Venice Venice Hotel
- 10 San Clemente Palace 90.00

#### **REST OF ITALY**

- 1 JK PLACE, CAPRI 99.67
- 2 Villa Sant'Andrea, a Belmond Hotel, Taormina Mare 98.86
- 3 Villa d'Este, Lake Como 98.75
- 4 La Roqqa, Porto Ercole 98.59
- 5 Villa Crespi, Orta San Giulio 98.50
- 6 L'Andana, Tuscany 98.30
- 7 Mandarin Oriental, Milan 98.00
- 8 Hotel Capo d'Orso Thalasso & Spa, Sardinia 97.84
- 9 Splendido, a Belmond Hotel, Portofino 97.68
- 10 Grand Hotel Tremezzo, Lake Como 97.66
- 11 Anantara Convento di Amalfi Grand Hotel 97.33
- 12 Borgo Santandrea, Amalfi Coast 97.14
- 13 Casa Angelina, Amalfi Coast 97.13
- 14 Borgo Santo Pietro, Palazzetto 97.11
- 15 Hotel II Pellicano, Porto Ercole 96.81
- **16 Castello di Vicarello,** Tuscany 96.77
- 17 II Borro, San Giustino Valdarno 96.46
- 18 Passalacqua, Lake Como 96.29
- 19 Palazzo Fiuggi 96.00
- 20 Caruso, a Belmond Hotel, Amalfi Coast 95.86

#### **PORTUGAL**

- 1 PALÁCIO PRÍNCIPE REAL, LISBON 98.40
- 2 The Ivens, Autograph Collection, Lisbon 98.00
- 3 Savoy Palace, Madeira 97.99
- 4 The Yeatman Hotel, Porto 96.56
- 5 São Lourenço do Barrocal, Alentejo 96.00
- 6 Corinthia Lisbon 95.71
- 7 AlmaLusa Baixa/Chiado, Lisbon 95.50
- 8 Four Seasons Hotel Ritz Lisbon 95.20
- 9 Reid's Palace, a Belmond Hotel, Madeira 95.00
- 10 Sublime Comporta, Grândola 94.71

#### SPAIN

- 1 THE PRINCIPAL MADRID 99.67
- 2 Finca Cortesin, Málaga 99.60
- 3 Sant Francesc Hotel Singular, Mallorca 99.47
- 4 El Palace Barcelona 99.14
- 5 Can Ferrereta, Mallorca 98.92
- 6 Grand Hotel Son Net, Mallorca 98.86
- 7 Menorca Experimental 98.57
- 8 El Llorenç Parc de la Mar, Mallorca 98.56
- 9 Villa Soro, San Sebastián 97 81
- 10 Petunia, a Beaumier Hotel, Ibiza 97.71

#### TURKEY

- 1 RAFFLES ISTANBUL 99.97
- 2 Four Seasons Hotel Istanbul at Sultanahmet 99.83
- 3 The Ritz-Carlton, Istanbul 99.38
- 4 Shangri-La Bosphorus, Istanbul 98.20
- 5 Six Senses Kocatas Mansions, Istanbul 98.12
- 6 Four Seasons Hotel Istanbul at the Bosphorus 94.03
- 7 10 Karaköy, Istanbul 93.50
- 8 The St Regis Istanbul 92.25
- 9 Çırağan Palace Kempinski Istanbul 90.44
- 10 Scorpios Bodrum 88.29

#### **REST OF EUROPE**

- 1 DE L'EUROPE AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS 99.96
- 2 Corinthia Brussels, Belgium 98.95
- 3 Badrutt's Palace, St Moritz, Switzerland 98.90
- 4 Pulitzer Amsterdam, Netherlands 98.41
- 5 Ett Hem, Stockholm, Sweden 98.36
- 6 Aria Hotel Budapest by Library Hotel Collection, Hungary 98.24
- 7 The Woodward, Geneva, Switzerland 97.67
- 8 Botanic Sanctuary Antwerp, Belgium 97.43
- 9 Anantara Palais Hansen Vienna Hotel, Austria 97.28
- 10 Waldorf Astoria Berlin, Germany 96.88
- 11 Párisi Udvar Hotel Budapest, Hungary 96.32
- 12 Anantara Grand Hotel Krasnapolsky Amsterdam, Netherlands 95.80
- 13 The Phoenicia Malta, Floriana, Malta 95.67
- 14 Hotel Brosundet, Ålesund, Norway 95.66
- 15 Four Seasons Hotel Gresham Palace Budapest, Hungary 95.60
- 16 Rote Wand Gourmet Hotel, Lech, Austria 95.35



#### METHODOLOGY

The Condé Nast Traveller Readers' Choice Awards survey was made available through a secure website at <a href="cntraveller.com/vote">cntraveller.com/vote</a>. This year's tabulation of results from thousands of respondents who submitted ratings during the period of 1 April to 30 June 2025 was done by Condé Nast and Market Management. The questionnaire contained lists of candidates in various categories (hotels, resorts, airlines, cities, islands, etc). Candidates must have received a required minimum number of responses and a minimum overall rating to be eligible for a Readers' Choice Award. Candidates are judged on a set of criteria relevant to their category, based on a standard five-point scale converted to a percentage: excellent, very good, good, fair and poor. The average of these ratings determined their final score based on four decimal points, with two decimal points being published. For example, a score of 98.36 for Ett Hem hotel in Stockholm represents the average ratings it received from respondents for all criteria relevant: rooms, service, food, design, location and activities/experiences – as well as cleanliness, community investment, concierge and facilities. EDITED BY RICK JORDAN

# HOTELS AFRICA NORTHERN

- 17 Meneghetti Wine Hotel & Winery, Bale, Croatia 95.05
- 18 Kruisherenhotel Maastricht, Netherlands 95.03
- 19 The Agora Hotel, Cyprus 94.62

# NORTHERN

- 1 MANDARIN ORIENTAL. MARRAKECH, MOROCCO
- 2 Royal Mansour Marrakech, Morocco 99.33
- 3 La Mamounia, Marrakech, Morocco 99.31
- 8 Marriott Mena House, Cairo, Egypt 94.00
- 9 Riad Botanica, Marrakech, Morocco 93.95
- 10 Selman Marrakech, Morocco

#### **EASTERN & SOUTHERN**

1 BABYLONSTOREN,

RICA 98.67 on, a Belmond Town, 98.21

20 Gr

# 19 The Agora Hotel, Cyprus

MOIOCCO 70.31

94.62 22

- 23 Annabelle, Cyprus 94.05
- 24 Baur au Lac, Zürich, Switzerland 93.69
- 25 Hotel Diplomat, Stockholm, Sweden 93.07
- 26 Hotel Bella Grande, Copenhagen, Denmark 92.83
- 27 Excelsior Hotel Ernst, Cologne, Germany 92.58
- 28 Suvretta House, St Moritz. Switzerland 92.46
- 29 Britannia Hotel, Trondheim, Norway 92.31
- 30 Mandarin Oriental Palace, Luzern, Switzerland 92.23
- 31 The Chedi Andermatt, Switzerland 91.91
- 32 Eriro, Ehrwald, Austria 91.59
- 33 Gstaad Palace, Switzerland 91.44
- 34 Mandarin Oriental, Munich, Germany 91.43
- 35 Eleven Deplar Farm, Ólafsfjörður, Iceland 91.37

## **AUSTRALASIA**

- 1 SILKY OAKS LODGE, DAINTREE, AUSTRALIA
- 2 Capella Sydney, Australia
- 3 The Langham, Melbourne, Australia 99.33
- 4 The Ritz-Carlton, Melbourne, Australia 99.26
- 5 The Tasman, a Luxury Collection Hotel, Hobart, Australia 99.20
- 6 The Fullerton Hotel Sydney, Australia 99.09
- 7 Halcyon House, Cabarita Beach, Australia 98.92
- 8 Pihopa Retreat, Nelson, New Zealand 98.86
- 9 Otahuna Lodge, Tai Papu, New Zealand 97.50
- 10 Como The Treasury, Perth, Australia 95.80

7 Royal Mansour Casablanca, Morocco 96.00

Since these awards began in the late 1990s, few regions have evolved as much as the Gulf states, with hotels rising as if conjured by jinn from the sand. Oman is a favoured destination, with Adrian Zecha's The Chedi Muscat - a game-changer when it opened in 2003, and still admired for its minimal rooms and maximal service - joined recently by the Mandarin Oriental, Muscat, which picked up points for its Silk Road-inspired menus. Our Habitas Ras Abroug has ramped up Qatar's hotel scene, with acclaim for its oryx-grazed desert location, but it was Dubai that ruled the roost, with the Beyoncé-serenaded Atlantis The Royal making the biggest splash. Elsewhere you rated Morocco's Kasbah Tamadot for its Berber-inspired design and

The Oyster Box in South Africa for its welcoming staff, and the rainforestand-reef activities of Silky Oaks Lodge lifted it to the top in Australasia.



- 3 Leeu Estates, Franschhoek, South Africa 97.64
- 4 Cape Grace, Cape Town, South Africa 97.56
- The Oyster Box, Umhlanga, South Africa 97.27
- 6 Le Quartier Français, Franschhoek, South Africa
- 7 Cape Cadogan Boutique Hotel, Cape Town, South Africa 96.00
- 8 The Royal Livingstone Victoria Falls Zambia Hotel by Anantara 95.91
- The Plettenberg, Plettenberg Bay, South Africa 95.71
- 10 Giraffe Manor Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya 95.65
- 11 One&Only Cape Town, South Africa 95.56
- 12 Spier, Stellenbosch, South Africa 95.49
- 13 The Old Rectory, Plettenberg Bay, South Africa 95.07
- 14 The Twelve Apostles Hotel and Spa, Cape Town, South Africa 94.92
- 15 Gibb's Farm, Karatu, Tanzania 94.46

### THE MIDDLE EAST

- 1 ATLANTIS THE ROYAL, DUBAI, UAE 99.40
- 2 Rosewood Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 3 Waldorf Astoria Dubai Palm Jumeirah, UAE 98.75
- 4 The Chedi Muscat, Oman 98.60
- 5 Mandarin Oriental Jumeira, **Dubai**, UAE 98.59
- 6 Jumeirah Burj Al Arab, Dubai, UAE 97.52
- 7 The Ritz-Carlton, Amman, Jordan 97.44
- 8 Atlantis, The Palm, Dubai, UAE 97.01
- 9 Raffles Al Areen Palace Bahrain, Manama, Bahrain
- 10 Kempinski Hotel Muscat, Oman 96.34
- 11 Mandarin Oriental, Muscat, Oman 96.04
- 12 Our Habitas Ras Abroug, Dukhan, Oatar 94.92
- 13 Anantara Downtown Dubai Hotel, UAE 94.78
- 14 Shangri-La Al Husn, Muscat, Oman 94.53
- 15 The Oberoi, Madina, Saudi Arabia 94.49