

Condé Nast Traveller

THE WORLD MADE LOCAL

NOVEMBER 2026

THE 2026 READERS' CHOICE AWARDS

THE BEST OF THE BEST IN TRAVEL, AS VOTED BY YOU



PLUS

A SPATE OF HEAVENLY
ITALIAN HOTELS

MARLON JAMES PUTS
KINGSTON ON THE COUCH

SÃO PAULO'S ROOTSY
CRAFT RENAISSANCE

HOW ANGOLA IS
EMBRACING TOURISM

THE 2026 READERS' CHOICE AWARDS

YOUR PICK OF THE BEST HOTELS, COUNTRIES, ISLANDS, SPAS,
RESORTS, AIRLINES, CITIES, TOUR OPERATORS, TRAINS AND MORE



JOALI MALDIVES, THE INDIAN
OCEAN'S TOP RESORT



Claridge's, the grandest dame in London

Catch all the buzzwords flying around at the moment and it seems there's an ever-expanding multiverse of reasons why people travel, from eclipse chasing to set-jetting and skillcations. But one of the best reasons might simply be that it's good for us. A chance to unplug and step away from our daily routines, to de-stress and keep our minds nimble by learning new languages, trying our hand at new activities, meeting new people. Dare we say it, but those seeking longevity could do worse than studying the perspectives that the Readers' Choice Awards 2026 provides. Based solely on votes from our UK readership, it shines a light on the places, people and outfits that positively encourage us to engage with the world. That could be a morning trek across the salt flats of Chile's Aguas Calientes, one of the experiences at Awasi Atacama, learning the way of the samurai thanks to the concierge at Mandarin Oriental, Tokyo or simply dipping into the zen moment in the swimming pool at The Chedi Muscat, palm trees reflected in the water around you. This is the 29th edition of our awards, and together it provides hundreds of good reasons to travel. More results, including top beaches, ski resorts, luggage and airport lounges, can be found online at cntraveller.com/readers-choice-awards

A SNAPSHOT OF OUR HOTEL LISTS

This summer **The Savoy** auctioned off much of its furniture ahead of a refurbishment – a chance to pick up a Georgian-style cabinet, set of silk curtains or bevelled wall mirror and recreate a little of its ambience at home. There are doubtless things about each of the London hotels here that we'd like to take back with us – the velvet-soft service of **The Connaught**, the culinary skills of the **Hotel Café Royal** – but their appeal, of course, lies in the fact they're not our homes. Every year we ask you to rate your favourite escapes according to a checklist of criteria, including service, food, location, design, activities, rooms and community investment, which result in the final scores you see here. Hotels are more than the sum of their parts, but it's handy to know you liked **Broadwick Soho** for its off-Carnaby Street setting,

1 Hotel Mayfair for its biophilic design and **The Ned** for its globetrotting restaurants. Scotland, the Cotswolds, Cornwall and the Lake District are the sweet spots elsewhere in the UK, with **The Torridon's** remote mountainside location a boon, **Gilpin's** ambitious food stirring your appetite, and **Lucknam Park** first past the post for several reasons, including its giddy-up horseback activities. Special mention goes to newcomers **Louma** and **Saltmoore**, and to **Hotel Tresanton**, a regular in these awards since 2002 and recognised for its Olga Polizzi-designed rooms. In Ireland, after being beaten by a nose last year, **Ballyfin** took first place, not least because of its affable service. Another shot of whiskey, anyone?

EUROPE

LONDON

- 1 **CLARIDGE'S** 99.75
- 2 **The Goring** 99.25
- 3 **Corinthia London** 99.20
- 4 **Rosewood London** 99.14
- 5 **Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park, London** 98.97
- 6 **Raffles London at The Owo** 98.89
- 7 **1 Hotel Mayfair** 98.81
- 8 **Broadwick Soho** 98.73
- 9 **The Peninsula London** 98.70
- 10 **The Kensington** 98.68
- 11 **W London** 98.63
- 12 **Four Seasons Hotel London at Park Lane** 98.61
- 13 **The Ned** 98.55
- 14 **The Connaught** 98.53
- 15 **The Lanesborough** 98.50
- 16 **The Cadogan, a Belmond Hotel, London** 98.48
- 17 **One Aldwych** 98.40
- 18 **The Bloomsbury** 98.26
- 19 **The Londoner** 98.22
- 20 **The Berkeley** 98.18
- 21 **Treehouse Hotel London** 98.00
- 22 **Hyatt Regency London – The Churchill** 97.95
- 23 **The Standard, London** 97.88
- 24 **The Langham, London** 97.81
- 25 **Montcalm Mayfair, Autograph Collection** 97.75
- 26 **Flemings Mayfair** 97.67
- 27 **The Savoy** 97.61
- 28 **NoMad London** 97.56
- 29 **Sea Containers London** 97.45
- 30 **Brown's Hotel, a Rocco Forte Hotel** 97.31
- 31 **The May Fair Hotel** 97.23
- 32 **The London Edition** 96.98
- 33 **The Dorchester, Dorchester Collection** 96.87
- 34 **Hotel Café Royal** 96.53
- 35 **Kimpton Fitzroy London** 96.24
- 36 **Ham Yard Hotel** 95.95
- 37 **Henrietta Experimental** 95.82
- 38 **The Soho Hotel** 94.50

- 7 Four Seasons Astir Palace Hotel Athens 97.31
- 8 Hotel Grande Bretagne, a Luxury Collection Hotel, Athens 97.11
- 9 Canaves Oia Suites, Santorini 96.25
- 10 Perivolos Lifestyle Houses, Santorini 95.53

TURKEY

- 1 **THE PENINSULA ISTANBUL** 98.45
- 2 Raffles Istanbul 98.32
- 3 Maçakızı Hotel, Bodrum 98.10
- 4 Mandarin Oriental Bosphorus, Istanbul 97.56
- 5 Ahāma, Fethiye 96.95
- 6 Yazz Collective, Fethiye 96.40
- 7 Four Seasons Hotel Istanbul at Sultanahmet 96.13
- 8 Çırağan Palace Kempinski Istanbul 95.02
- 9 The Ritz-Carlton, Istanbul 94.63
- 10 10 Karaköy, Istanbul 92.43

ROME

- 1 **CORINTHIA ROME** 99.83
- 2 JK Place, Roma 99.13
- 3 Hassler Roma 98.41
- 4 Hotel Eden, Dorchester Collection 98.27
- 5 The Fifteen Keys Hotel 97.81
- 6 Romeo Roma 96.23
- 7 The Rome Edition 96.01
- 8 Hotel de la Ville, a Rocco Forte Hotel 95.76
- 9 Casa Monti 94.00
- 10 Palazzo Ripetta 93.25

VENICE

- 1 **THE GRITTI PALACE, A LUXURY COLLECTION HOTEL, VENICE** 98.00
- 2 Hotel Cipriani, a Belmond Hotel, Venice 97.36
- 3 JW Marriott Venice Resort & Spa 97.12
- 4 Hotel Gabrielli 96.67
- 5 Palazzo Venart Luxury Hotel 95.78
- 6 Hilton Molino Stucky Venice 95.42
- 7 Nolinski Venezia 93.40
- 8 Il Palazzo Experimental 92.89
- 9 Ca' di Dio 92.83
- 10 Aman Venice 91.00

FLORENCE

- 1 **IL TORNABUONI HOTEL** 98.34
- 2 Villa Cora 98.12

- 3 Portrait Firenze 97.70
- 4 The James Suite Hotel 1564 Firenze 97.12
- 5 Villa San Michele, a Belmond Hotel, Florence 96.94
- 6 Villa La Massa 96.83
- 7 Il Salvatino 96.64
- 8 Four Seasons Hotel Firenze 96.40
- 9 Ottantotto Firenze 95.70
- 10 La Gemma Hotel 94.78

REST OF ITALY

- 1 **GRAND HOTEL TIMEO, A BELMOND HOTEL, TAORMINA, SICILY** 99.81
- 2 Hotel Il Pellicano, Porto Ercole 99.71
- 3 Borgo Egnazia, Puglia 99.62
- 4 JK Place, Capri 99.52
- 5 Anantara Convento di Amalfi Grand Hotel 99.45
- 6 Splendido, a Belmond Hotel, Portofino 98.50
- 7 Passalacqua, Lake Como 98.18
- 8 Hotel Cala di Volpe, a Luxury Collection Hotel, Costa Smeralda, Sardinia 98.11
- 9 Como Castello del Nero, Tuscany 97.89
- 10 Castel Badia, Dolomites 97.72
- 11 L'Albereta, Lombardy 97.37
- 12 La Roqqa, Porto Ercole 97.17
- 13 Splendido Mare, a Belmond Hotel, Portofino 96.67
- 14 Mandarin Oriental, Milan 96.44
- 15 Villa d'Este, Lake Como 96.13
- 16 Borgo Santo Pietro, Siena 96.07
- 17 Chalet Mirabell, South Tyrol 95.33

- 18 Caruso, a Belmond Hotel, Amalfi Coast 95.00
- 19 Jumeirah Capri Palace 94.89
- 20 Grand Hotel Savoia Cortina d'Ampezzo, a Radisson Collection Hotel 94.48

PORTUGAL

- 1 **SÃO LOURENÇO DO BARROCAL, ALENTEJO** 98.89
- 2 Palácio Príncipe Real, Lisbon 98.44
- 3 Savoy Palace, Madeira 98.37
- 4 AlmaLusa Alfama, Lisbon 98.18
- 5 The Yeatman Hotel, Porto 98.00
- 6 Vila Joya, Algarve 97.64
- 7 The Largo, Porto 97.53
- 8 Reid's Palace, a Belmond Hotel, Madeira 96.50
- 9 The Vintage House, Douro 95.56
- 10 The Magnolia Hotel, Algarve 94.85

SPAIN

- 1 **FINCA CORTESÍN, MÁLAGA** 99.75
- 2 Urso Hotel & Spa, Madrid 99.20
- 3 Brach Madrid 99.06
- 4 El Llorenç Parc de la Mar, Mallorca 98.09
- 5 Menorca Experimental 97.77
- 6 Sant Francesc Hotel, Mallorca 97.36
- 7 El Vicenç de la Mar, Mallorca 96.17
- 8 La Residencia, a Belmond Hotel, Mallorca 95.52
- 9 Villa Soro, San Sebastián 93.75
- 10 El Palace Barcelona 93.10

THE NORDICS

- 1 **STORFJORD HOTEL, ÅLESUND, NORWAY** 99.13
- 2 Sommerro, Oslo, Norway 98.29
- 3 Grand Hôtel, Stockholm, Sweden 98.15
- 4 The Reykjavik Edition, Iceland 97.50
- 5 Nimb Hotel, Copenhagen,

6 Hotel Sanders, Copenhagen, Denmark 97.30

- 7 Hotel Continental, Oslo, Norway 96.67
- 8 Ett Hem, Stockholm, Sweden 96.57
- 9 Union Øye, Sunnmøre, Norway 95.75
- 10 Hotel Kämp, Helsinki, Finland 93.73

REST OF EUROPE

- 1 **BOTANIC SANCTUARY ANTWERP, BELGIUM** 98.93
- 2 Grand Hotel Belvedere, a Beaumier Hotel, Wengen, Switzerland 98.71
- 3 Corinthia Grand Hotel Astoria Brussels, Belgium 98.38
- 4 Suvretta House, St Moritz, Switzerland 98.29
- 5 De L'Europe Amsterdam, Netherlands 98.13
- 6 The Alpina Gstaad, Switzerland 98.06
- 7 Mandarin Oriental, Munich, Germany 97.63
- 8 The Dolder Grand, Zürich, Switzerland 97.52
- 9 Hotel Sacher Vienna, Austria 97.45
- 10 Chesa Marchetta, Sils Maria, Switzerland 97.31
- 11 Hotel Schweizerhof Bern & Spa, Switzerland 97.20



Number one in the Nordics, Storfjord Hotel in Ålesund, Norway

HOTELS

- 12 The Agora Hotel, Larnaka, Cyprus 97.14
- 13 Ultin, Switzerland 95.12
- 14 Expe, New Zealand 92.00
- 15 Verbier, Switzerland 97.01
- 16 Mama Thresl, Leogang, Austria 96.85
- 17 Mandarin Oriental Conservatorium, Amsterdam, Netherlands 96.63
- 18 W Budapest, Hungary 95.50
- 19 The Brecon, Adelboden, Switzerland 95.46
- 20 Badrutt's Palace Hotel, St Moritz, Switzerland 95.32
- 21 Hotel Motto, Vienna, Austria 95.24
- 22 Mandarin Oriental Savoy, Zurich, Switzerland 95.12
- 23 Royal Savoy Hotel & Spa, Lausanne, Switzerland 94.78
- 24 Anantara Palais Hansen Vienna Hotel, Austria 94.25
- 25 Le Grand Bellevue, Gstaad, Switzerland 94.18
- 26 Das Goldberg, Bad Hofgastein, Austria 94.09
- 27 Iniala Valletta, Malta 93.79
- 28 The Dominican, Brussels, Belgium 93.62
- 29 Gstaad Palace, Switzerland 93.24
- 30 Château Royal, Berlin, Germany 92.00
- 31 Rosewood Amsterdam, Netherlands 91.98
- 32 The Xara Palace, Mdina, Malta 91.86
- 33 Stradom House Hotel & Spa, Autograph Collection, Kraków, Poland 91.69
- 34 The Hoxton, Amsterdam, Netherlands 90.43
- 35 Château St Gerlach, Valkenburg, Netherlands 90.36
- 36 The Mandala Hotel, Berlin, Germany 90.29

AUSTRALASIA

- 1 CAPELLA SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA 98.38
- 2 The Fullerton Hotel Sydney, Australia 98.14
- 3 The Langham, Melbourne, Australia 97.98
- 4 W Sydney, Australia 96.63
- 5 The Ritz-Carlton, Melbourne, Australia 95.69

- 6 Ace Hotel Sydney, Australia 95.25
- 7 Como The Treasury, Perth, Australia 93.29
- 8 Jnane Rumi, Marrakech, Morocco 97.02
- 9 The Oberoi, Marrakech, Morocco 96.53
- 10 El Fenn, Marrakech, Morocco 95.35
- 11 Royal Mansour Casablanca, Morocco 94.39
- 12 Le Farnatchi, Marrakech, Morocco 92.99
- 13 La Sultana Marrakech, Morocco 91.75

AFRICA

NORTH AFRICA

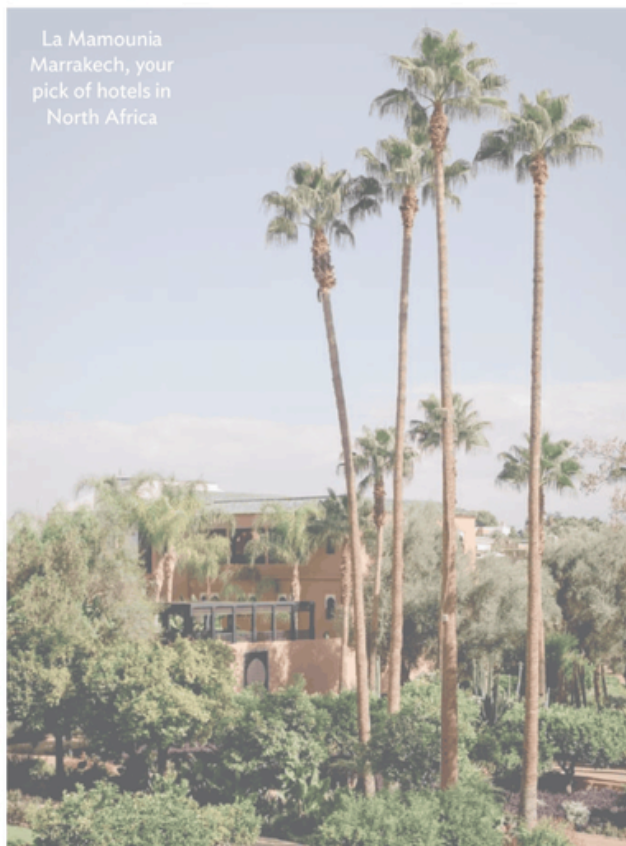
- 1 LA MAMOUNIA, MARRAKECH, MOROCCO 99.31
- 2 Royal Mansour Marrakech, Morocco 98.75
- 3 Mandarin Oriental, Marrakech, Morocco 98.32
- 4 La Sultana Oualidia, Morocco 97.15

SOUTHERN & EASTERN AFRICA

- 1 MOUNT NELSON, A BELMOND HOTEL, CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA 99.15
- 2 Cape Grace, a Fairmont Managed Hotel, Cape Town, South Africa 98.86

When it comes to a sheer concentration of desirable hotels, it's hard to beat Marrakech – there's enough to make a medina. Almost all received top marks for design, from the zellige-tiled **La Mamounia** to recent arrival **Jnane Rumi**, whose art collection was curated by artist Samy Snoussi. Cape Town's **Mount Nelson** leant into homegrown creativity by inviting designer Thebe Magugu to craft a suite, and **The Cabanas Lamu**, long an inside secret, was outed thanks to points for its unspoilt beach location. With Jumeirah Burj Al Arab taking a breather, it was a chance for recent Dubai arrival **Jumeirah Marsa Al Arab** to shine, with high scores for service and food. And Australia's old guard were overtaken by **Capella Sydney**, set in the city's CBD, from a brand that seems to be doing everything right at the moment.

La Mamounia Marrakech, your pick of hotels in North Africa



- 3 Babylonstoren, Franschhoek, South Africa 98.14
- 4 The Silo Hotel, Cape Town, South Africa 97.65
- 5 Pod Camps Bay, Cape Town, South Africa 97.23
- 6 Last Word Franschhoek, South Africa 97.01
- 7 The Cabanas Lamu, Kenya 96.84
- 8 The Twelve Apostles Hotel and Spa, Cape Town, South Africa 96.71
- 9 Ellerman House, Cape Town, South Africa 95.61
- 10 The Oyster Box, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa 94.23
- 11 Anantara Stanley & Livingstone Victoria Falls Hotel, Zimbabwe 93.94
- 12 Giraffe Manor, Nairobi, Kenya 91.82
- 13 Sterrekopje Farm, Franschhoek, South Africa 90.79
- 14 One&Only Cape Town, South Africa 90.14
- 15 The Plettenberg, Plettenberg Bay, South Africa 89.67

THE MIDDLE EAST

- 1 JUMEIRAH MARSALA ARAB, DUBAI, UAE 99.38
- 2 The Chedi Muscat, Oman 99.13
- 3 Atlantis The Royal, Dubai, UAE 98.83
- 4 Mandarin Oriental, Muscat, Oman 98.59
- 5 Mondrian Doha, Qatar 97.40
- 6 Jumeirah Beach Hotel, Dubai, UAE 97.12
- 7 The St Regis Abu Dhabi, UAE 96.80
- 8 Raffles Doha, Qatar 95.78
- 9 The Lana, Dorchester Collection, Dubai, UAE 94.78
- 10 ME Dubai by Meliá, UAE 94.00
- 11 Anantara Downtown Dubai Hotel, UAE 93.71
- 12 One&Only The Palm, Dubai, UAE 93.61
- 13 The Abu Dhabi Edition, UAE 92.59
- 14 Rosewood Abu Dhabi, UAE 91.33
- 15 Souq Waqif Boutique Hotels by Tivoli, Doha, Qatar 91.31

