

# The 50 best hotels in the world - Telegraph

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- [Offers](#)
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- [Advice](#)
- [Destinations](#)
- [Holiday Types](#)
- [Cities](#)
- [Cruises](#)
- [Hotels](#)
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- [Snow and Ski](#)
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## The 50 best hotels in the world

Looking for somewhere inspirational to stay in 2011?

Telegraph Travel writers pick their all-time favourites – in price brackets to suit all budgets.



Image 1 of 6

The Taj Mahal Palace Hotel, opposite the Gateway of India, has hosted presidents and rock royalty  
10:00AM GMT 31 Dec 2010

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## Up to £150 per room per night

### 1. The Lugger, Cornwall

The setting for this 17th-century inn could not be better. Sandwiched between the cliffs in the tiny fishing village of Portloe – the fiercely sloping landscape of which has spared it from development – this whitewashed hotel looks out across the harbour. But it is not just about the location – the 22 rooms are as bright and welcoming as the amiable staff, while the food (given its seafront position, fish features heavily) is superb. If you plan to push the boat out, opt to stay in the miniature cottage for something a bit special.

- [www.luggerhotel.co.uk](http://www.luggerhotel.co.uk)

### 2. Mama Shelter, Paris

Cheap but chic, with quirky decor by Philippe Starck, and a buzzing bar and restaurant attracting cool Parisians. Beds feel luxurious; standard extras include Kiehl's toiletries, free Wi-Fi and iMac televisions. The bedside fancy-dress masks are possibly not for everyone, but the price is.

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- [www.mamashelter.com](http://www.mamashelter.com)

### **3. Hotel Alpenrose, Wengen, Switzerland**

This is the best sort of traditional, family-run hotel. You won't find designer furnishings or trappings, but it's a comfortable, well-run three-star set on a plateau at the edge of a pretty Alpine village, with great views over the valley below (opt for a south-facing balcony room). It has a welcoming lounge with log fire, books, games and Wi-Fi, friendly owners and staff, and a loyal band of regulars who return year after year to ski or walk in the mountains.

- [www.alpenrose.ch](http://www.alpenrose.ch)

### **4. Palazzo Zichy, Budapest**

This elegantly refashioned former Hungarian count's palace is an impressive fusion of 19th-century Habsburg-era elegance and 21st-century (Italian designer) style. Beautiful, spacious lobby; sleek contemporary rooms; a funky sitting room area; and a great location in a wonderfully atmospheric part of Pest. A bargain to boot.

- [www.hotel-palazzo-zichy.hu](http://www.hotel-palazzo-zichy.hu)

### **5. The Inn at Narrow Passage, Woodstock, Virginia**

In the heart of rural Virginia, this beautifully restored and homely colonial inn served as Stonewall Jackson's headquarters during the American Civil War. Bedrooms are charmingly old-fashioned and filled with period antiques and each has a working fireplace. Breakfasts are the thing here; try the blueberry pancakes and French toast.

- [www.innatnarrowpassage.com](http://www.innatnarrowpassage.com)

### **6. The Mountain Retreat Inn, Yangshuo, China**

Outstanding hideaway on a bend of the Lu Long River, a few miles outside the tourist town of Yangshuo in Guangxi province and surrounded by distinctive limestone karst peaks. American-owned, it has 29 rooms, all with air conditioning, and 29 staff, who all come from local villages and provide charming service. Ask for a river-view room.

- [www.yangshuomountainretreat.com](http://www.yangshuomountainretreat.com)

### **7. Dean Street Townhouse, Soho**

In the heart of Soho, this hip urban hideaway is part of the Soho House collection and a masterful example of its trademark style of marrying the cool with the comfortable. All 39 rooms come with a king-size bed with Egyptian linen, a drenching rainforest shower, a tastefully cream Roberts Radio – and seven big bottles of Cowshed spa products to play with. If you're coming to town to party, this is the base.

- [www.deanstreettownhouse.com](http://www.deanstreettownhouse.com)

### **8. Parador Zafra, Extremadura, Spain**

Zafra huddles tight, white and bright on the scorched Extremaduran tableland. Towering over it like a caballero among peons, the Parador Zafra is a 15th-century fortress without, Renaissance palace within. As a hotel, it has forfeited none of its ducal elegance. Above the arcaded courtyard, rooms retain the period nobility that suited Hernán Cortés. He holed up there, pre-American discovery, on the run from a jealous husband (though there was no swimming pool in his day). You should follow suit.

- [www.parador.es](http://www.parador.es) or [www.keytel.co.uk](http://www.keytel.co.uk).

### **9. Corte de Lugas, Lugas, Spain**

High above Villaviciosa, the farming hamlet of Lugas is so remote that they have yet to hear what happened to the Spanish Armada. Except at La Corte, a grand stone-and-wood farmstead where the welcome is sharp and frankly Anglophile. Upgraded in baronial style – all beams, open fireplace and four-posters – the family-run spot has warmth, dignity and good food, in equal measure. A cracking base for the Atlantic coast or Picos de Europa mountains.

- [www.lacortedelugas.com](http://www.lacortedelugas.com)

### **10. Couvent d'Hérépian, Hérépian, France**

Next time someone urges you to "get thee to a nunnery", come here. Hidden away in a small town at the foot of the Haut-Languedoc mountains, the former convent has been converted into lovely contemporary suites, without losing the winding, stone-built integrity. Sisters would still find their way around the compact place, but might be surprised by the sober extravagance of the comfort, the terraces, little spa and pool, and, especially perhaps, the vaulted wine bar. Warm informality infuses the place, from the central kitchen – where you meet for table-d'hôte dinner – to the lounge-library, winter terrace and garden beyond.

- [www.garrigaeresorts.com](http://www.garrigaeresorts.com)

## **£150-£300 per room per night**

### **11. Oltre Il Giardino, Venice**

This intimate hotel not only has a beautiful garden – a precious thing in Venice – but also six stylish

rooms that break the Venetian decorative mould (no heavy brocades, velvet swags and the like) while preserving plenty of pleasing period details. Unlike other excellent mid-range hotels in the city – notably La Calcina ([www.lacalcina.com](http://www.lacalcina.com)) – it's also centrally located, close (but not too close) to the Rialto.

- [www.oltreilgiardino-venezia.com](http://www.oltreilgiardino-venezia.com)

#### **12. La Residence, Franschhoek, South Africa**

An 11-suite extravagance on the slope of Franschhoek, the Cape village that is probably South Africa's prettiest. No expense has been spared. Each of the suites has its own decor theme, from Buddhist retreat to French decadent, while the public areas are a riotous collection of Louis XIV furniture, Persian carpets, plus objets, art and fabrics from India, Indo-China, France, Italy and everywhere else. And it works thanks to the impeccable taste of Liz Biden, the proprietor.

- [www.laresidence.co.za](http://www.laresidence.co.za)

#### **13. Château de la Chèvre d'Or, Eze, France**

Remembering the location of your room may require some concentration as the 30-odd spacious suites are dotted around this walled village. Decked out in Italian marble and Parisian antiques, they boast whirlpool baths and large terraces with sweeping views of the Mediterranean. Inside the grounds, a series of intricate terraces drops towards the ocean, revealing quiet courtyards, swimming pools and Moroccan-style gardens, while the chateau itself is all high ceilings and vast chandeliers. Give a Gallic shrug to austerity and book a table at Philippe Labbe's fabulous restaurant (two Michelin stars).

- [www.chevredor.com](http://www.chevredor.com)

#### **14. Calcot Manor, nr Tetbury, Gloucestershire**

The trouble with so many family hotels is that they leave either parents or children feeling short-changed. But Calcot Manor manages to deliver for all ages. It's luxurious without being precious, has superb, well-staffed children's den areas for young and older children, and an exceptional spa, with a lovely indoor pool. Service is spot on and the food is good – both in the formal restaurant and in the family-friendly Gumstool pub.

- [www.calcotmanor.co.uk](http://www.calcotmanor.co.uk)

#### **15. Mykonos Grace Hotel Mykonos, Greece**

This chic little hotel is in a great setting, just outside Mykonos town, with sweeping sea views from the lovely pool and bar. Rooms are simple but stylish, decorated in white and pastels; many have balconies overlooking the sea. The quality of the food is well above average and there is a small spa offering excellent treatments. It is sophisticated without being daunting, deeply relaxing, and beautifully run by attentive staff.

- [www.mykonosgrace.com](http://www.mykonosgrace.com)

#### **16. Four Seasons Hotel Gresham Palace, Budapest**

A swirling pattern of more than a million mosaic tiles guides you through the dazzling lobby at the heart of this restored temple of Art Nouveau. Here modern chandeliers blend perfectly with original stained glass and velvet furnishings to create stately 21st-century comfort. Perfectly situated at the foot of Budapest's Chain Bridge, this new grand dame of eastern Europe is crowned with a contemporary rooftop spa complete with sweeping views of the Danube.

- [www.fourseasons.com/budapest](http://www.fourseasons.com/budapest)

#### **17. Blancaneaux Lodge, Belize**

The film director Francis Ford Coppola used this as his secluded mountain bolt hole for several years before throwing open its doors to the public. It now has 20 airy bungalows on stilts dotted around a tree-covered hillside overlooking a babbling stream. There is a lovely restaurant and bar (featuring the original ceiling fan from Apocalypse Now), and charming staff.

- [www.coppolaresorts.com/blancaneaux](http://www.coppolaresorts.com/blancaneaux)

#### **18. Villa Marie, Saint Tropez**

A refreshingly unpretentious hotel on an undeniably ostentatious stretch of the Côte d'Azur, the Villa Marie is a rambling Provençal villa, with beautiful, high-ceilinged rooms, an understated, Parisian-chic clientele and an excellent restaurant with views over vineyards down to the bay of Pampelonne.

- [www.villamarie.fr](http://www.villamarie.fr)

#### **19. Rasa Sayang Resort & Spa, Penang, Malaysia**

A beautiful setting in a 30-acre tropical garden reaching out to the beach, a Spice Market café serving a medley of Chinese, Indian and Malaysian dishes, classically elegant (Shangri-La-style) rooms (the best with giant-sized, petal-strewn bathtubs on terraces within earshot of the sea) and, in the superior Rasa Wing, a happy hour of free-flowing champagne and exquisite canapés.

- [www.shangri-la.com](http://www.shangri-la.com)

#### **20. East Hotel, Hamburg**

Jordan Mozer, a Chicago-based architect, has transformed this former iron foundry into a bravura display of designer exuberance, a feast for the senses – and one of the coolest places in Hamburg. Dramatically lit curvy pillars tower in the three-storey-high Asian-themed restaurant; differing scents define each floor; free-standing baths and futuristic curves are the mark of the rooms. Looking for the wow factor? You'll find it here.

- [www.east-hamburg.de](http://www.east-hamburg.de)

#### **21. Hotel de Toiras, Ile de Ré, France**

An enchanting, elegantly furnished seaside hotel in a chichi French resort. A 17th-century former ship owner's house, it has been imaginatively and sensitively restored, and the restaurant is exquisite. Each of the 20 rooms is named after a local historical character; ask for one overlooking St Martin's busy harbour.

- [www.hotel-de-toiras.com](http://www.hotel-de-toiras.com)

#### **22. Grootbos, South Africa**

Found on one of the world's finest whale-watching coastlines, this five-star retreat offers unadulterated luxury without the guilt. Every effort has been made to assimilate these fabulous private lodges – complete with all mod cons, state-of-the-art bathrooms, four-poster beds and unsurpassable views – into the environment. And what an environment: a 1,750-hectare reserve that is home to more than 740 different species of plants and the impossibly white sands of Walker Bay.

- [www.grootbos.com](http://www.grootbos.com)

#### **23. The Taj Mahal Palace, Mumbai**

Try to forget what happened here in 2008 and focus instead on the illustrious history of India's most celebrated hotel. Opened in 1903, it has played host to everyone from the Beatles to Barack and Michelle Obama. Its vaulted ceilings, tranquil courtyard and airy, colonial bedrooms are a marvellous introduction to traditional Indian style. Excellent spa, too.

- [www.tajhotels.com](http://www.tajhotels.com)

#### **24. Aria, Prague**

Malá Strana's most appealing former palace serenades its demanding guests with jazzy modernist designs by Rocco Magnoli; top-drawer in-room stereos equipped with Mozart and Beethoven playlists; views overlooking a formal Baroque garden straight out of Shakespeare; and a staff musicologist. The incredible location and grand service complete the magic.

- [www.ariahotel.net](http://www.ariahotel.net)

#### **25. The Hotel das Cataratas, Iguazú Falls, Brazil**

Opened in 1958, the 193-room Hotel das Cataratas has a pink-and-white facade, extensive tropical gardens and colonial-style rooms with hardwood floors, and lies deep inside Brazil's Iguazú National Park. Guests who rise early can enjoy a near private viewing of a cacophonous, 2.5-mile-wide waterfall aptly described as "an ocean falling into an abyss", then take dreamy walks through a naturally spritzed rainforest rich with colourful birds and flowers.

- [www.hoteldascataratas.com](http://www.hoteldascataratas.com)

#### **26. The Sukhothai, Bangkok**

Appropriately named after an ancient Thai capital, the Sukhothai is palatial in size, style and décor, contemporary in service and amenities. If you want traditional Thai elegance – in fabrics, cuisine, art and ancient Khmer-style carvings – this is arguably the best that Bangkok has to offer, with its rooms the very definition of Far Eastern luxury.

- [www.sukhothai.com](http://www.sukhothai.com)

#### **27. The Ritz, Madrid**

Opened by King Alfonso XIII in 1910, Madrid's grandest five-star hotel has just celebrated its centenary, an event marked by the revamping of rooms and the luxurious spa and gym. All 167 rooms and suites are different. The location is superb, by the Prado museum and a short walk from the Retiro park.

- [www.ritz.es](http://www.ritz.es)

#### **28. Abbaye de la Bussière, Bussière, France**

When the British Cummings family arrived at this former Cistercian abbey in 2005, they took vows of luxury and elegance – now amply fulfilled. Slotted into the hidden Ouche (pron: "Oosh") valley and surrounded by 35-acre grounds, the magnificent old pile is sumptuous with comfort, stately style and temptations enough to distract the most ascetic of abbots. Not least in the Michelin-starred restaurant. Among the very best Burgundian establishments, in short.

- [www.abbaye-de-la-bussiere.com](http://www.abbaye-de-la-bussiere.com)

### 29. Château de la Barre, Sarthe dépt (near the Loire Valley, France)

The de Vanssay family has occupied the honey-stoned chateau since the 15th century. The present, 20th count and his Anglo-American countess welcome you as if all those centuries have been building up to your arrival. There's a convivial voluptuousness about the public rooms and bedrooms, all restored in the brightest possible period style. Stateliness is softened by civilised gaiety – notably at dinner with the hosts. Outside, the chateau grounds stretch for ever. Beyond them, the Loire Valley.

- [www.chateaudelabarre.com](http://www.chateaudelabarre.com)

## More than £300 per room per night

### 30. Crillon, Paris

For sheer style, there is nowhere in Paris – possibly in the world – to beat the Hôtel de Crillon. The polished marble floors, the gilded stucco, the glittering chandeliers, and the oh-so-discreet and efficient service are the epitome of what a palace hotel should be. Rooms vary enormously – some are palatial, some much more modest – but all are smart. The showpiece restaurant, Les Ambassadeurs, has one of the best wine lists anywhere.

- [www.crillon.com](http://www.crillon.com)

### 31. Four Seasons George V, Paris

Further up towards the Arc de Triomphe, and much bigger and perhaps a little brassier than the Crillon, with slightly showier service, the George V vies for the top spot in Paris. It has an Art Deco rather than an 18th-century heritage, but the feeling is just as much that of a city palace. The rooms – of a good size and more consistent than the Crillon – are in Louis XV style. Le Cinq is the gastronomic restaurant, currently holding two Michelin stars.

- [www.fourseasons.com/paris](http://www.fourseasons.com/paris)

### 32. Le Taha'a, French Polynesia

This private resort offers one of the last chances to see what French Polynesia was like before it got too popular. Set on the small islet of Motu Tautau, it offers that winning honeymoon formula of overwater villas, spacious decking, complete privacy, faultless service and shallow azure waters. The villas themselves are spacious, with dark wood furnishing, stark white linens and even a glass-topped trunk at the foot of the bed with views of the ocean beneath. For those who prefer a snorkel and mask, the resort's coral garden offers snorkelling to rival that on the very best reefs.

- [www.letahaa.com](http://www.letahaa.com)

### 33. Southern Ocean Lodge, Kangaroo Island, Australia

From the moment you walk into the limestone-clad, open-plan lobby you are confronted by a wraparound screen of floor-to-ceiling glass to show off this wilderness-and-wellness retreat's dramatic Southern Ocean setting – with gentle rollers in summer or thunderous breakers in winter. The views from all 21 suites (each named after a shipwreck) are no less impressive, the food is fresh and imaginative, and the service always comes with a smile. There can be few better places to be shipwrecked.

- [www.southernoceanlodge.com.au](http://www.southernoceanlodge.com.au)

### 34. The Peninsula, Hong Kong

Opened in 1928, this is the Peninsula group's flagship property and Hong Kong's most historic hotel. You have a choice between the original building or the soaring tower that was built around the original in 1994 and which commands outstanding views of Victoria Harbour and beyond. The service remains the best in modern hospitality; the restaurants, particularly the French-influenced Gaddi's and the Philippe Starck-designed Felix, are superb; and the traditional afternoon tea, taken in the glorious lobby, remains one of the former colony's great traditions.

- [www.peninsula.com/Hongkong](http://www.peninsula.com/Hongkong)

### 35. Four Seasons, New York

From the moment you walk into the soaring, marble lobby, designed by I M Pei, you know you are in a grand hotel. It is modern grand, for it was only completed in 1991. Since then, however, it has towered over Manhattan's hospitality landscape and is one of the places to be seen in New York. The concierges are walking encyclopedias, the location on 57th and Park is central uptown, and the 364 rooms are bright, with silk-lined walls and furniture of English sycamore. From rooms above the 40th floor, there are superb views of Central Park. L'Atelier du Joël Robuchon is also worth a visit.

- [www.fourseasons.com/newyork](http://www.fourseasons.com/newyork)

### 36. The Gleneagles Hotel, Auchterarder

Staff here make it seem the most natural thing in the world to get every detail right. It's expensive,

but good value for money, with access to 850 scenic acres of Perthshire, a shooting school, gun-dog school, off-road driving centre, tennis and croquet – not to mention a superb spa and three championship golf courses. Standards are universally high, and there is a refreshing lack of stuffiness – guests of all ages are made to feel very welcome.

- [www.gleneagles.com](http://www.gleneagles.com)

### **37. Villa San Michele, Florence**

A converted 15th-century Franciscan monastery (with a façade reputedly designed by Michelangelo), the Villa San Michele has 46 rooms with magnificent views over Florence and the hills of Tuscany, an achingly romantic restaurant and terracotta-floored, butter-yellow rooms.

- [www.villasanmichele.com](http://www.villasanmichele.com)

### **38. Little Palm Island, Florida Keys**

A tiny private island reached by speedboat from the Lower Florida Keys, Little Palm Island was once a favourite playground of presidents (Roosevelt and Truman) and still draws American celebrities (Michael Jordan, Ivana Trump, Drew Barrymore) to its 30 secluded bungalows. The beach is narrow, but the sense of peace and privacy (there are no televisions or phones) is first-class.

- [www.littlepalmisland.com](http://www.littlepalmisland.com)

### **39. Parrot Cay, Turks & Caicos**

A 1,000-acre private-island resort with a chic, almost south-east Asian vibe, 35 minutes by boat from Providenciales. With a white-sand beach, holistic spa and two excellent restaurants, it offers the best kind of barefoot luxury. Stay in a private villa, with its own pool, on the beach.

- [www.parrotcay.com.bz](http://www.parrotcay.com.bz)

### **40. COMO Shambhala Begawan Giri, Ubud, Bali**

The former, and somewhat eccentric, Begawan Giri hotel was transformed into the world's most luxurious – and effective – holistic retreat by COMO hotels in 2005. Everything, from the location and vernacular design to the spa and wellbeing programmes, is impeccable. With butler service to ensure that nothing dissipates that just-back-from-the-spa feeling, it's impossible not to feel rejuvenated.

- [www.cse.como.bz](http://www.cse.como.bz)

### **41. Maia, Seychelles**

Thirty simple but beautifully done villas, all with private pool and butler service, on a secluded peninsula landscaped with exotic plants. With 230 staff, service at this French-managed resort is exemplary; and though it is well placed for exploring the other islands on the resort's own luxury yacht or Mahe's lively capital, 30 minutes' drive away, you will probably want to stay put most of the time. Gorgeous spa with outdoor treatment rooms.

- [www.maia.com.sc](http://www.maia.com.sc)

### **42. The Dorchester, London**

There are several contenders in London, including Claridge's, the Connaught and now the Savoy. But for us, the Dorchester has pulled ahead this year: superb restaurants (we even like the Scottish murals in The Grill), skilful but friendly service and that unbeatable location overlooking Hyde Park. The urban-chic design of the new spa is innovative and wholly appropriate for the location. Our favourite room: The Terrace Suite.

- [www.thedorchester.com](http://www.thedorchester.com)

### **43. Park Hyatt, Toyko**

The Lost in Translation hotel is still the one to head for in Tokyo and it begins on the 38th floor of the Shinjuku Park Tower. Bedrooms are sumptuous, with fabulous views of the city. Overall attention to detail is second to none. Head for the New York Bar and Grill on the 52nd floor – it's expensive but the cocktails and steaks are worth it.

- [www.hyatt.com](http://www.hyatt.com)

### **44. Four Seasons, Istanbul**

Housed within the ochre-coloured walls of a former prison, the austere cells of the infamous Sultanahmet jail have been replaced with large, airy rooms and Ottoman-era antiques. The atmosphere is elegant and rarefied (just 65 rooms and suites), and the hotel's verdant courtyard provides a welcome respite from the hubbub of one of the world's most populous cities. Hagia Sophia and the Topkapi Palace are moments away, while the call to prayer from the neighbouring Blue Mosque resounds evocatively throughout the hotel.

- [www.fourseasons.com/istanbul](http://www.fourseasons.com/istanbul)

### **45. Jumby Bay, Antigua**

Serene, idyllic and utterly cut off from reality. Nowhere does sheer escapism better than this tiny island resort just off the coast of Antigua. You arrive by motorlaunch, take up residence in your

beachside suite – most of them completely rebuilt in 2009 – and relax under a palm tree. And that is it. An army of helpers will ensure you have everything you need, and all meals, facilities and drinks (except for premium wines) are included in the room rate. Reality hits only when you pay the bill.

- [www.jumbybayresort.com](http://www.jumbybayresort.com)

#### **46. PuLi, Shanghai**

In a city where new luxury hotels seem to be going up every month, the PuLi is a truly cool and tasteful medium-sized property in the Jing'An district. The rooms are large, modern and well designed, and feature large flat-screen televisions, iPod docking station, Bose Wave music system and free high-speed internet. The cool marble lobby has a bar more than 100ft long and there is a small but lovely garden just outside the lobby. Food in the Jing'An restaurant is outstanding.

- [www.thepuli.com](http://www.thepuli.com)

#### **47. Villa Feltrinelli, Lake Garda**

Charming 19th-century Italian villa with 13 rooms in the main house and seven more tucked away in the grounds (go for the Boat House). Fabulous food cooked by chef Stefano Baiocco which you can eat wherever you like: by the lake or pool, in a gazebo in the grounds, or even in the villa's well-stocked wine cellar. You really do feel as if you're staying with friends, albeit ones that own a fabulous lakeside villa. This is everything a small, intimate country-house hotel should be.

- [www.villafeltrinelli.com](http://www.villafeltrinelli.com)

#### **48. Villa Spalletti Trivelli, Rome**

The spectacular Roman town house of the blue-eyed and blue-blooded Count Giangiacomo Spalletti Trivelli has been turned into the city's most aristocratic luxury hotel. Ideally placed between the shopping street of Via Nazionale and the presidential palace, this antique and art-stuffed palazzo boasts opulent interiors of such historic significance that they are listed by the Italian heritage ministry. But there's no haughtiness or condescension: the customer is king here and from the spa to the turndown service, it all works to perfection.

- [www.villaspalletti.it](http://www.villaspalletti.it)

#### **49. Residenza Napoleone III, Rome**

Not a hotel in the conventional sense, but then it's hard to imagine any hotel in Rome, or any other city for that matter, with rooms as sumptuous as the two suites in this majestic 16th-century palazzo. The antiques, Roman busts, priceless oil paintings and vast, silk-draped canopy bed are much as they were when Napoleon III lived here in 1830. And unlike many of Rome's luxury hotels, which languish on, or beyond, the peripheral Via Vittorio Veneto, the patrician Residenza is centrally located on Via Condotti, Rome's smartest shopping street.

- [www.residenzanapoleone.com](http://www.residenzanapoleone.com)

#### **50. The Carlyle, New York**

Discreet, elegant, the Upper East side retreat for the likes of Mick Jagger and David Bowie when they are in town. This is Old World New York with all the modern facilities you would expect from a contemporary hotel. It also has two of the best entertainment rooms uptown: Bemelmans, the famous bar that is both classy piano lounge and purveyor of the best martinis in the neighbourhood; and the Café Carlyle, a wonderful supper club where you can hear, among others, Woody Allen and his trad jazz band when he's not filming.

- [www.thecarlyle.com](http://www.thecarlyle.com)

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[Jamyang Lodoe](#)

01/16/2011 11:23 PM

I am very agree with the decision of the management committee cos East in Hamburg is included. But in reality East belong to the very far in the top of the 50. Any how I am proud of East!! East can.....gives..... \*East to the West, North to the South, East is the Best!! \*

If anybody comes to Hamburg, don't miss the East.

[Report Recommend](#)



[Isabelle Moulinier](#)

01/11/2011 01:06 PM

Recommended by

1 person

I really enjoy the hotel Franklin Roosevelt, in the 8th arrondissement. The decor is really sophisticated, and the location is amazing! It's a few steps from the Champs Elysees!

<http://www.paris-hotel-rooseve.../> .

The hotel Splendid Etoile is a dream! The rooms are really elegant, and some rooms enjoy a view of the Arc de Triomphe AND a balcony! Indeed, the hotel is located really close to the Arc de Triomphe, it's unbelievable! <http://www.paris-hotel-splendi.../>

[Report Recommend](#)



[Alex Wihp](#)

01/11/2011 12:50 PM

Recommended by

1 person

The hotel de l'Abbaye Saint Germain is one of the most beautiful hotels I've been to in Paris! Inside garden and patios in rooms. A perfect & calm place.

[www.hotelabbayeparis.com](http://www.hotelabbayeparis.com)

The Frontenac Champs Elysees is more "grandeur" and luxury, but it's also a fabulous place!

[www.frontenac-paris-hotel.com](http://www.frontenac-paris-hotel.com)

[Report Recommend](#)



[david\\_in\\_rome](#)

01/10/2011 11:32 PM

Villa D'Este at Cernobbio just around the corner from Como. Wake up in the morning, mist on the lake, quiet sound of ducks quacking and the sun rise over the mountain on the other side of the lake. Nice, trouble was the dinner menu which started with Beluga Caviar and was rather outside my per-diem.

Lake Como is really rather more attractive than Garda (except the jewel that is Sirmione).

[Report Recommend](#)



[Simi Sharma](#)

01/10/2011 10:17 PM

Taj Mahal Palace is really a wonderful hotel and deserves to be the best 50 in the world. More info can be found at <http://www.topindiahotels.com>

[Report Recommend](#)



[jackhal](#)

01/06/2011 08:37 AM

We stayed at Grootbos Private Nature Reserve 2 years ago, and I must say it is truly one of the most special places in the world. Grootbos is situated just outside of Hermanus on a incredible nature reserve with amazingly beautiful views over the Walker bay. Besides the luxury accommodation, world class whale watching, and un-spoilt beaches, the reserve also offers a plant diversity of note. Grootbos is in the heart of the cape floral kingdom, the Fynbos, which is one of the most fascinating plant biomes of the world. This is must see for anyone going to South Africa! Have a look at their website [www.grootbos.com](http://www.grootbos.com) and you will see what I mean....

[Report Recommend](#)



[spain](#)

01/05/2011 09:37 AM

Loved the list of hotels, but couldn't help noticing, my hotel in the Picos mountains of northern Spain, for some strange reason appears to be missing. So for the benifit of all [www.hoteltorrecerredo.com](http://www.hoteltorrecerredo.com)

[Report Recommend](#)



[lordbarnett](#)

01/02/2011 12:25 PM

Hamid Al-Laebi, A few years ago i was in the Burj al Arab,its a stunning hotel in a stunning position,what lets it down was that they let tourists in to take photos from the roof top restaurant,you are trying to eat and these people are bumping into your chair,very bad,and the food was crap,sort those problems out and you have a real winner,the food in the top hotels in Dubai is excellent,we love Dubai and everything about it but the traffic is a problem,buts its the same all over the world.

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[Hamid Al-Laebi](#)

01/02/2011 10:18 AM

Recommended by

1 person

What about (Burj Al-Arab) seven stars hotel in Dubai? Sheikh of Dubai idiot Mohammed bin Rashid said its number one hotel in the world.

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[egt](#)

01/02/2011 10:03 AM

Recommended by

1 person

Although I only know the Dorchester of those mentioned I would consider that Longueville Manor in St Saviour, Jersey should be amongst the best 50 hotels in the world. It has exquisite suites, food about which to dream and much from its own garden and staff for whom nothing is too much.

[Report Recommend](#)



[commuter](#)

01/02/2011 09:42 AM

But the London hotel you say is under 150 pounds can only be booked (off peak season midweek) at twice that much. Cheapest room on offer, described as tiny, is 220.

[Report Recommend](#)



[jingleballix](#)

01/02/2011 08:50 AM

Recommended by

2 people

Raffles - Singapore

The Oriental - Bangkok

Chateau Lake Louise - Canadian Rockies

The Grand - Calcutta

Frontenac - Quebec

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[cynic48](#)

01/02/2011 08:19 AM

Shurley the Burj al Arab in Dubai would make the list - especially if the Rasa Sayang in Penang makes it.

Strand Hotel in Rangoon is missing as well.

[Report Recommend](#)



antipodies

01/04/2011 05:34 AM

.....no swimming pool at the Strand.....

[Report](#) [Recommend](#)



Porkington

01/02/2011 05:58 AM

Recommended by

1 person

Where's Gidleigh Park? Undoubtedly one of the world's great hotels.

[Report](#) [Recommend](#)



arabianmoney

01/02/2011 05:52 AM

May we throw in a few Middle Eastern favorites, see: <http://www.arabianmoney.net/ca.../>

[Report](#) [Recommend](#)



themilkmaid

01/01/2011 09:15 PM

Recommended by

3 people

This article is frustrating horseshit. I've randomly checked a handful and the price brackets you quote can easily triple once you've gone through the hotel booking systems.

[Report](#) [Recommend](#)



timeisright

01/01/2011 05:34 PM

Took Christmas lunch at the Sukhothai, Bangkok. Totally historic food and brilliant service. Which is why I go back there every year.

[Report](#) [Recommend](#)



swashway

01/01/2011 03:02 PM

Little Palm Island? Really? I stopped off there whilst on a boat trip down to Key West. The place is secluded for sure but we found it rather tacky - aesthetically more like a desert island theme park than a classy hotel....nice dinner with sunset though and rather cute little deer running around.

[Report](#) [Recommend](#)



maj

01/01/2011 02:46 PM

Please correct the link for number 12- it's taking us to Napa instead of Franschoek!

[Report](#) [Recommend](#)



Marcus

01/01/2011 09:30 AM

Wangz and the Conrad Centennial in Singapore are two of my top finds in 2010.

[Report](#) [Recommend](#)



[Mark Wise](#)

01/01/2011 08:28 AM

Noticably left off the list is the Gaylord Oryland Hotel in Nashville, TN. It has 3,000 rooms, over 600,000 sq ft meeting space, an indoor botanical garden covering several acres, six good restuarants, and an indoor river. Cost is only 150 - 200 pounds a night.

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[eyorerox](#)

12/31/2010 09:33 PM

Recommended by

3 people

Dean Street Townhouse, Soho Is more than 300 pounds a night,

not less than 150.

[Report Recommend](#)



[bertie\\_wooster](#)

12/31/2010 04:46 PM

Recommended by

1 person

The Ritz in London has undoubtley the best concierge service in the world. La trianon palace on the door step of versailles is a great hide away. But the fours seasons in paris is like living in heaven. :)

[Report Recommend](#)



[edwint](#)

12/31/2010 03:30 PM

When I stayed there, in '96, The Inn at English Harbour in Antigua was undoubtedly the best hotel on the Island. Its restaurant and cliff-side rooms enjoy superb views over English Harbour with the yachts glistenong like jewels in the water.

Peter Deeth founded the hotel in the 70s and it was one of the first, if not the first, to set up shop there. He spent months sailing around the island to find the perfect location. It was well worth the effort.

I stayed in one of about 5 chalets that are about 100m from the surf.

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kevinleosmith  
01/20/2011 07:04 PM



From [twitter](#) via [BackType](#)  
The 50 best hotels in the world - Telegraph: <http://t.co/h6lelAZ> Well done Grootbos - wonderful place and people



sindhirca  
01/15/2011 04:51 PM



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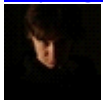
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hacemosturismo  
01/14/2011 10:15 AM



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Abodewes  
01/13/2011 09:46 PM



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The 50 best hotels in the world according to The Telegraph Palazzo Zichy Budapest is no 4.! This elegantly... <http://fb.me/Mm8D5Qsi>



daryllau  
01/12/2011 04:12 AM



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Check out No.19 on the list :D <http://bit.ly/gFknXH>



Posh\_N  
01/11/2011 10:50 PM



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