

BEST AIRLINE SEATS — WHO HAS THEM, WHERE THEY FLY

Condé Nast Traveler

TRUTH IN TRAVEL

MAY 2011

124
Best New
Hotels in the
World (Including
40 under \$300)

The Hot
List 2011

21 Top Restaurants
40 Sensational Spas

PLUS

BEIJING
Insider's Guide
to the World's
Wildest City

CARIBBEAN'S
Sleeping Beauty

THE SEXIEST
PLANE
IN THE SKY



TIBET TODAY: At the St. Regis Lhasa Resort

15th Annual

Hot List

2011

The Year's 124 Top New Hotels

Including 40 under \$300 a night*

EVERY HOTEL IN THIS LIST won its place the old-fashioned way—by earning it. After scrutinizing nearly a thousand of the hotels that opened worldwide over the past year, we selected a couple hundred of the most promising candidates, then checked into each one—anonously, of course—trying out the beds, testing the staff, tasting the food. Finally, 124 properties ultimately won us over. Spanning 43 countries and six continents, this year's Hot Hotels are

an eclectic group, from tree houses to farmhouses, and they range in size from a three-suite safari camp in South Africa's leopard-rich Londolozi Private Game Reserve to a glossy 2,995-room tower on the Vegas Strip. The cost per night also runs the gamut—from a mere \$75 for a groovy room above a white-hot gastropub in Chicago's boho Logan Square to \$2,040 for a private three-story *riad* with a rooftop plunge pool and a butler in the heart of Marrakech. Despite the diversity, the hotels share a common standard in their artful blend of high style and a strong sense of place. Now that we've completed our white-glove test (and even ferreted out exactly which room to book), all that's left for you to do is make a reservation.

Wait! There's more. Look on the following pages for:

THE HOTTIES Those little details that elevate our favorite new hotels from likable . . . to lovable.

THE ONES TO WATCH Another year of reviewing may have wrapped, but the hotels haven't stopped opening. A number of notable properties debuted just after our press deadline, or are slated to open soon. Our Truth in Travel policy means that we inspect a hotel by staying the night as any traveler would—we do so incognito. As you read this, our editors have already begun a new cycle of reviews, and this year we're offering a sneak peek at some of the places on the radar. A few may land a spot on next year's Hot List; others may not make the cut. For our predictions on the next wave of great new hotels, check out our roundup of the Ones to Watch.



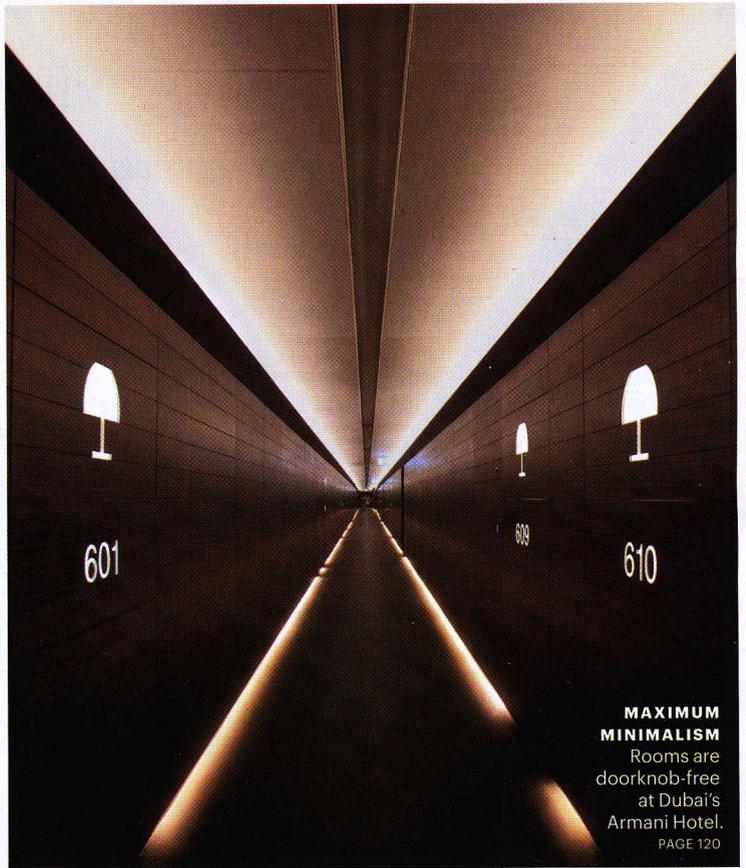
PLUS

p. 129 **Hot Spas**
40 blissful
new places to relax
and recharge

p. 143 **Hot Tables**
Top chefs pick
their favorite new
restaurants

Hot Hotels

- 73 ARGENTINA**
Algodon Mansion, Buenos Aires
Fierro Hotel, Buenos Aires
Luma-Casa de Montaña, Villa La Angostura
- 73 AUSTRALIA**
Crown Metropol, Melbourne
The Olsen, Melbourne
Saffire Freycinet, Tasmania
- 76 AUSTRIA**
Sofitel Vienna Stephansdom, Vienna
- 76 BELGIUM**
Tenbosch House, Brussels
- 76 BRAZIL**
Villa Corcovado, Rio de Janeiro
- 76 CAMBODIA**
Villa Romonea, Kep
- 76 CANADA**
Thompson Toronto, Toronto
- 78 CARIBBEAN**
Rosalie Bay Resort, Dominica
GoldenEye, Jamaica
St. Regis Bahia Beach Resort, Puerto Rico
W Retreat & Spa, Vieques Island, Puerto Rico
Turtle Beach Bungalows, St. Kitts
- 80 CHILE**
Palafito 1326, Chiloé Island
Le Rêve Boutique Hotel, Santiago
- 80 CHINA**
Yi House Art Hotel 798, Beijing
Conrad Sanya Haitang Bay, Hainan Island
Four Seasons Hotel Hangzhou at West Lake, Hangzhou
Hullett House, Hong Kong
St. Regis Lhasa Resort, Lhasa
Fairmont Peace Hotel, Shanghai
Waldorf Astoria Shanghai on the Bund, Shanghai
Waterhouse at South Bund, Shanghai
- 82 ENGLAND**
The Arch, London
Four Seasons Hotel London at Park Lane, London
The Savoy, London
Coworth Park, Surrey
- 86 FRANCE**
U Palazzu Serenu, Corsica
Le Strato, Courchevel
Hôtel Thoumieux, Paris
- Le Burgundy**, Paris
Le Pavillon des Lettres, Paris
Le Royal Monceau Raffles, Paris
Les Jardins de la Villa, Paris
Shangri-La Hotel, Paris
- 90 GERMANY**
Soho House, Berlin
- 90 GREECE**
Kinsterna Hotel and Spa, Monemvassia, Peloponnese
The Romanos, Costa Navarino, Peloponnese
Westin Resort, Costa Navarino, Peloponnese
- 90 INDIA**
The Sol, Bardez, Goa
Taj Falaknuma Palace, Hyderabad
Samode Safari Lodge, Bandhavgarh National Park, Madhya Pradesh
The Sarai at Toria, Panna National Park, Madhya Pradesh
Ranvas, Nagaur Fort, Rajasthan
- 95 ISRAEL**
The Brown TLV, Tel Aviv
- 95 ITALY**
Grand Hotel Villa Cora, Florence
Principe Forte dei Marmi, Forte dei Marmi
CastaDiva Resort, Lake Como
Town@House Street, Milan
Borgo Egnazia, Savelletri di Fasano
The Metropole, Taormina, Sicily
Val di Luce Spa Resort, Abatone, Tuscany
- 98 JAPAN**
Hotel Kanra, Kyoto
- 100 KENYA**
Solio Lodge, Laikipia
- 100 LAOS**
Alila, Luang Prabang
- 100 LATVIA**
Hotel Neiburgs, Riga
- 100 LEBANON**
Four Seasons Hotel, Beirut
- 100 MALDIVES**
Constance Moofushi, South Ari Atoll
- 100 MEXICO**
Banyan Tree Cabo Marqués, Acapulco
Hotel Boca Chica, Acapulco
Las Alcobas, Mexico City
Hotel at Imanta Resort, Punta de Mita
- Rosewood San Miguel de Allende**, San Miguel de Allende
- 104 MOROCCO**
Palais Amani, Fez
Le Royal Mansour, Marrakech
- 107 NEW ZEALAND**
Matakauri Lodge, Queenstown
- 108 PERU**
Mancora Marina Hotel, Mancora
Tambo del Inka, Urubamba
- 108 PORTUGAL**
Hotel Areias do Seixo, A-dos-Cunhados
The Oitavos, Cascais
Hotel da Estrela, Lisbon
Hotel Inspira Santa Marta, Lisbon
LX Boutique Hotel, Lisbon
The Yeatman, Porto
Hotel Martinhal, Sagres
Vidago Palace, Vidago
- 110 RUSSIA**
Radisson Royal Hotel, Moscow
Taleon Imperial Hotel, St. Petersburg
- 112 SINGAPORE**
Fullerton Bay Hotel, Singapore
Wanderlust, Singapore
- 112 SLOVAKIA**
Kempinski River Hotel Park, Bratislava
- 112 SOUTH AFRICA**
The Last Word Sea Five, Cape Town
Babylonstoren, Cape Winelands
Winston Hotel, Johannesburg
Pioneer Camp, Londolozi Private Game Reserve, Sabi Sand Private Game Reserve
Delaire Graff Lodges and Spa, Stellenbosch
- 114 SPAIN**
Hotel Atrio, Cáceres
Giri Residence Hotel & Spa, Ibiza
Hotel Viura, Villabuena de Álava
Cap Rocat, Mallorca
- 116 SWEDEN**
The Treehotel, Harads
Nobis Hotel, Stockholm
- 116 THAILAND**
Siam Kempinski Hotel, Bangkok
Banyan Tree Samui, Koh Samui
W Retreat Koh Samui, Koh Samui
- 120 TUNISIA**
Dar Hi, Nefta
- 120 UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**
Armani Hotel, Dubai
One&Only The Palm, Dubai
- 120 UNITED STATES**
The Redbury, Los Angeles, California
- Hotel Yountville**, Yountville, California
Four Seasons Hotel, Denver, Colorado
Four Seasons Resort, Vail, Colorado
Hotel Beau Arts, Miami, Florida
Soho Beach House, Miami Beach, Florida
The Waikiki Edition, Honolulu, Hawaii
JW Marriott Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Longman & Eagle, Chicago, Illinois
Ranch at Rock Creek, Philipsburg, Montana
Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas, Las Vegas, Nevada
Andaz 5th Avenue, New York, New York
The Chatwal, New York, New York
The James, New York, New York
Setai Fifth Avenue, New York, New York
Ocean House, Watch Hill, Rhode Island
W Hotel, Austin, Texas
Montage Deer Valley, Deer Valley, Utah
- 194 URUGUAY**
Playa Vik, José Ignacio
Hotel Fasano Las Piedras, La Barra
- 196 VIETNAM**
Six Senses Con Dao, Con Dao
Fusion Maia, Danang
Ana Mandara, Hue



MAXIMUM MINIMALISM
 Rooms are doorknob-free at Dubai's Armani Hotel.
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Hot Hotels

lobby bar and basement nightclub, 1812, draw crowds on weekends, but hotel guests and condo owners, select locals, and occasional celebs escape to the rooftop lounge for its infinity pool. **WHICH ROOM TO BOOK:** Northwest-facing rooms on upper floors have great city views—Nos. 713, 813, and 913 are high enough to be unobstructed by other buildings (416-640-7778; thompsonhotels.com; doubles, \$405-\$467). 🍷 🍴 🏊 🛏

CARIBBEAN

UNDER \$300 Rosalie Bay Resort, *Dominica*

🔥 767-446-1010; rosaliebay.com; doubles, \$185-\$450. 🍷 🍴 🏊 🛏

GoldenEye, Jamaica

🔥 Hidden in plain sight on the island's northern coast, GoldenEye has long been a mainstay of Caribbean casual chic. These days, this former estate of Ian Fleming's has expanded dramatically with the addition of a series of accommodations unfurling between a placid lagoon and the Caribbean Sea, as well as restaurants and a spa. The property's four original villas (also refurbished) still sit like smaller siblings around Fleming's three-bedroom house on the lush side of the resort. This section connects via a footbridge to the 11 beachfront cottages and 6 Lagoon Suites. The accommodations are all painted in soft pastels while still evoking a Jamaican style, with thresholds that are defined with the natural twists of weathered tree limbs and driftwood. Lagoon-facing suites in particular encourage dawdling, as you can move between dips in the water and lounging on the terrace while gazing at the mangroves and the occasional fish popping up. Above the beach is Bizot Bar, the more casual of the resort's two excellent restaurants, while Gazebo, with its elegant takes on classic resort favorites, overlooks the freshwater and saltwater pools. The Jamaican staff are exceedingly polite and outgoing, always offering their assistance. Mosquito-wary guests can close up the shutters and use the AC—but at the expense of missing the sweet night air. **WHICH ROOM TO BOOK:** The Lagoon Suites are serene, with a covered deck and a private sunning platform (876-975-3354; goldeneye.com; doubles, \$840-\$1500). 🍷 🍴 🏊 🛏

St. Regis Bahia Beach Resort, Puerto Rico

🔥 787-809-8000; stregisbahia.beach.com; doubles, \$819-\$1,750. 🍷 🍴 🏊 🛏

W Retreat & Spa,

Vieques Island, Puerto Rico
🔥 Designed for the terminally hip, the W is a beach house-style explosion of reclaimed wood,

