



Lisa Romerein/Courtesy Preferred Hotels

The Best Hotels in the U.S.: 2019 Readers' Choice Awards

📷 10 PHOTOS

by CNT EDITORS
October 7, 2019



Proving once again we have the world's best traveled readers.



For our 32nd annual **Readers' Choice Awards** survey—yes, more than three decades—a record 600,000 registered voters weighed in on their favorite hotels in the United States. Though many of you may not need a passport to visit them, they'll still take you worlds away. These getaways—voted the 10 best hotels in the U.S.—all have something to brag about. The impressive number of 2019 results were especially exciting for us: we're ever curious about where you go, what you loved, and who you went with. As you continue to travel, we continue to listen: Here are the U.S. hotels you loved most this year.

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Kurt Lischka/Courtesy The Pearl Hotel

HOTEL

10. The Pearl Hotel →

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With black and white-striped awnings on the West Indies-inspired architecture, balconies overlooking the Gulf of Mexico, and a wooden bridge linking to the beach, The Pearl Hotel could be snatched straight out of our Emerald Coast beach town

dreams. Rooms come with rainfall showerheads or soaking tubs, mini cheesecakes by the beds each night, and iPads with software for making quick reservations. The Florida hotel also has a dedicated strip of beach, dotted with complimentary beach chairs and oversized umbrellas. The two adults-only sloping pools are surrounded by decks with towel service and poolside dining. For those looking to get active, the hotel offers access to golf courses, tennis courts, bike and boat rentals, and access to a nearby fitness facility.

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Courtesy 21c Museum Hotels/Photo by Magnus Lindqvist

HOTEL

9. 21c Museum Hotel, Lexington →

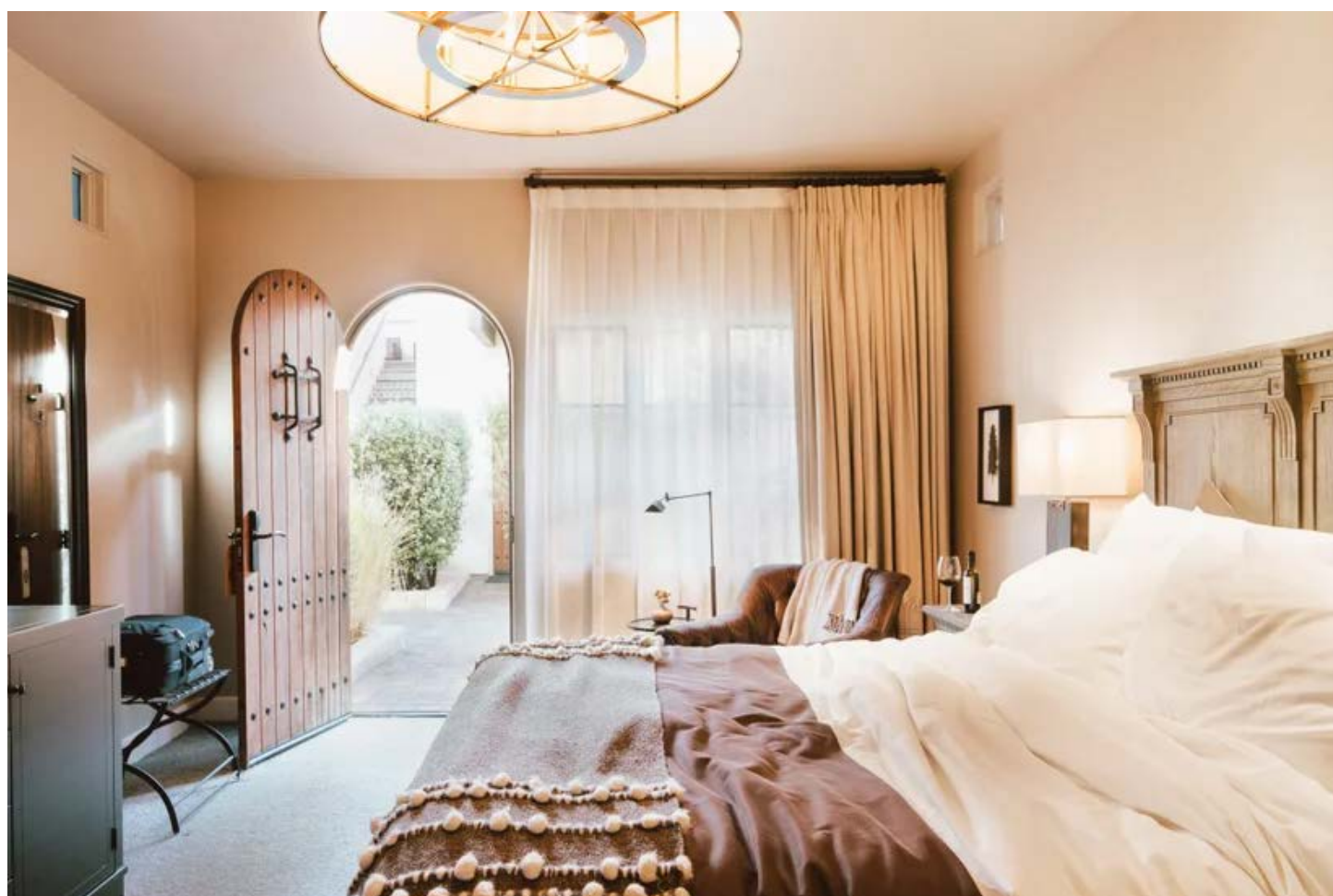
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There are a million different directions that your eyes can wander to in the 21c Museum Hotel in Lexington, Kentucky, thanks to the incredibly ornate lobby, fabulous front desk, and the healthy amount of contemporary art peppered throughout the hotel. Lockbox, the hotel's restaurant, doesn't disappoint: Order like a local, and enjoy a bourbon before you dive into their country ham hushpuppies or seed-crust catfish. The vibe of the place permits a LBD or dinner jacket, but doesn't frown on casual, either. Still, the crowd here is posh, and you better believe they're Instagramming

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Courtesy North Block Hotel

HOTEL

8. North Block Hotel →

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In many ways, the North Block Hotel is the anti-boutique hotel: There are few gimmicks at this Mediterranean-inspired stucco-and-stone stay. Instead, its draws are

its laidback, sophisticated style, its top-tier service, and its proximity to the wining and dining of downtown Yountville, California. Hidden behind plantation-style shutters and breezy archways, the spare, smartly-done lobby sports no space for live musical performances or fierce face-offs at leather-upholstered pool tables. And its 20 rooms, situated around a central outdoor courtyard, are equally simple and well-appointed. Try to book a suite on the second floor for prime views of the rolling Napa Valley hills. At the on-site spa by Francis & Alexander, the Un-Corked treatment—a foot and back

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Courtesy Olema House

HOTEL

7. Olema House at Point Reyes →

Set on four acres on the outskirts of the Point Reyes National Seashore, an hour north of **San Francisco**, Olema House at Point Reyes offers a restful stay on the West Marin Coast, complete with views of Olema Creek, the Inverness Ridge, and Mt. Wittenberg. The 24 individually appointed rooms, which include two cottages, all tout heat-warmed floors, down comforters and pillows, and artisan Americana decor. Should you dine at the hotel—and you should—the local, seasonal menu from Due West pulls

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Courtesy 21c Museum Hotels

HOTEL

6. 21c Museum Hotel, Louisville →

Contemporary art installations and exhibitions are woven throughout the complex of five 19th century warehouses that include the 91-room boutique hotel ideally located in downtown **Louisville** on Museum Row. (That's a total of 9,000 feet of exhibition space open to visitors.) The art greets you as you arrive, with a double-size replica of the *David* right outside, to *Asleep in the Cyclone*, a multi-media installation inside a guest room that you can book. Ready to dive into that buzzy restaurant scene you've heard

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HOTEL

5. Hotel Casa del Mar →

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An Italian palace feel on the California beach, Casa del Mar is the other iconic **Santa Monica** ocean-front property along with **Shutters**. Rooms feel romantic yet residential, with Italian linens and private patios facing a peaceful inner courtyard. You'll large marble bathrooms with the most tasteful products, then once you're dressed for the evening there's live entertainment every night in the lounge. This place is always worth

it: for the views, fairytale four-poster beds, and the warm light that makes the adjustment from beach to room the smoothest possible.

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Courtesy Relais & Chateaux

HOTEL

4. Inn of the Five Graces →

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Smack in the middle of downtown **Santa Fe**—and just a stone's throw away from the 17th-century San Miguel Chapel—**Inn of the Five Graces** is a reflection of the city's vibrant and eclectic tastes. While the adobe exterior is a classic piece of Southwestern architecture, the interiors are decked out with everything from Persian textiles and Afghan rugs to antique furniture sourced from across the U.S. Each room is designed

differently, leaving guests spoilt for choice, but all come with kiva fireplaces, hand-laid tiled mosaics in the bathrooms, and luxurious bath products made in nearby Taos. Don't leave without taking advantage of the made-to-order breakfast, which can be delivered straight to your room: After all, you haven't really been to New Mexico until you've eaten a breakfast burrito smothered in green and red chili.

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Adrian Gaut

HOTEL

3. Four Seasons Hotel at The Surf Club →

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Over the years, guests here have included Elizabeth Taylor, Wallis Simpson, and the Shah of Iran. Winston Churchill used to rent two cabanas, one to paint in and one “for naps” (and drinks, as during Prohibition spirits were served illegally here). Set in Surfside at the less-developed northern end of **Miami Beach**, this hacienda-style hotel has been brilliantly extended by Richard Meier, whose 12-story glass towers seem to

float above the terra cotta tiles of the original 1930s Mediterranean-style pantile roofs, and interiors by Joseph Dirand. The cabanas now house part of the charming spa, where even the brushed-brass key pads on the lockers are a thing of beauty, as well as a handful of Cabana Studio bedrooms, each a pale-but-interesting essay in contrasting textures: canvas, rattan, and travertine. Of course, the restaurants are as much of an attraction: The Surf Club by superchef Thomas Keller opened its doors in summer 2018, and Le Sirenuse Miami comes from the owners of its **namesake hotel in Positano**.

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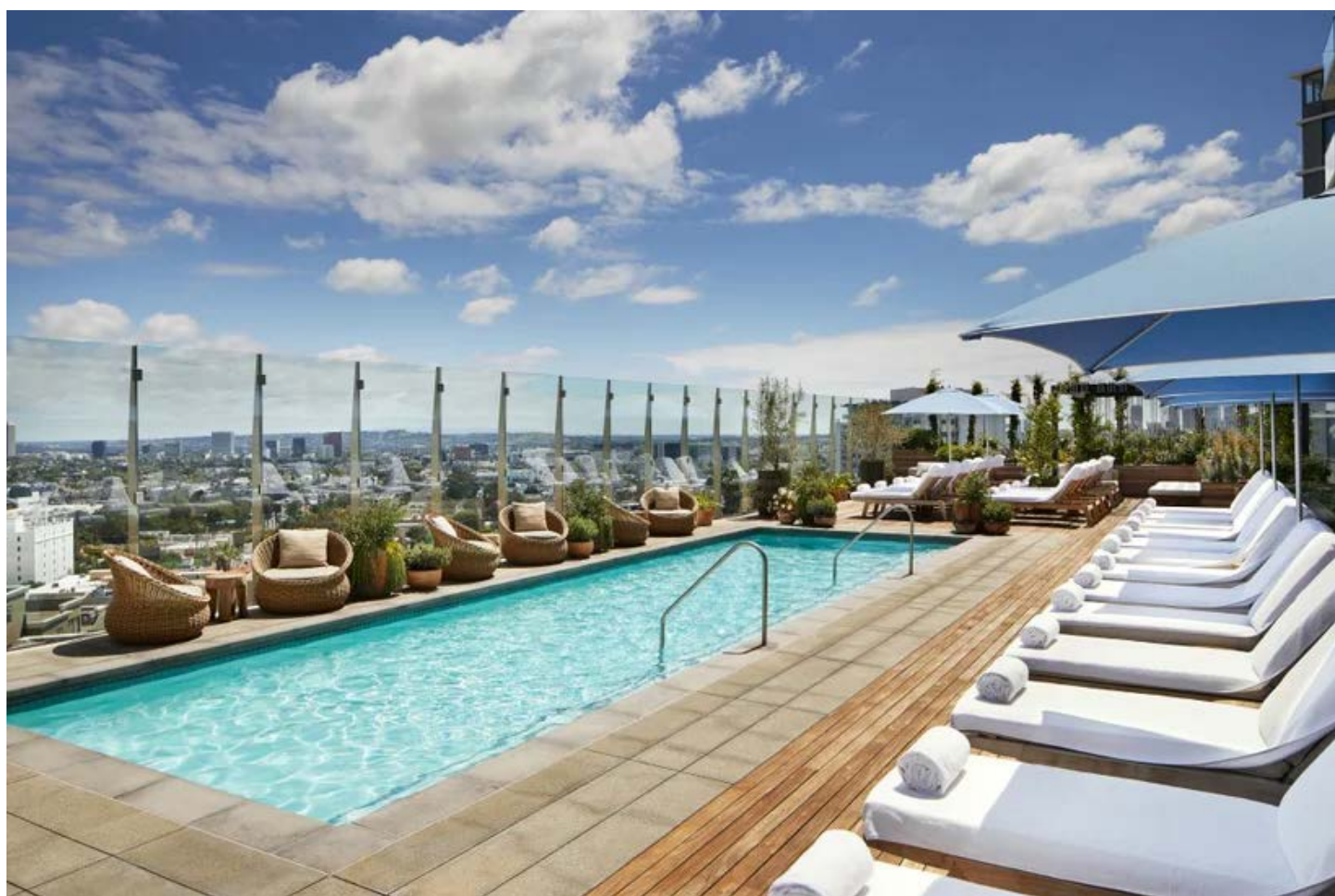
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the Surf Club in November 1959. And so it is, nearly 60 years on.

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James Baigrie/Courtesy 1 Hotel West Hollywood

HOTEL

2. 1 Hotel West Hollywood →

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It'll take a second for your Uber or Lyft to find the right pull-in for the 1 Hotel: It's on a busy Sunset Boulevard corner and its concrete exterior, decorated with sprawling lush plants, fades into the background compared to the sparkling billboards scattered in view. It makes sense then that you feel as if you've stepped far from Los Angeles when

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sustainable initiatives. From a chef's garden filled with herbs and veggies for the four on-site restaurants and carpets made from recycled plastics pulled out of the ocean, it's a floor-to-roof mission.

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Courtesy SLS Hotel, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Beverly Hills

1. SLS Hotel, a Luxury Collection Hotel, Beverly Hills →

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The chic Philippe Starck decor at this **Los Angeles** hotspot rockets guests into the future as soon as they walk in. Fresh off a \$22 million renovation in 2018, the hotel has retained the playground-esque feel that Starck created through a unique blend of

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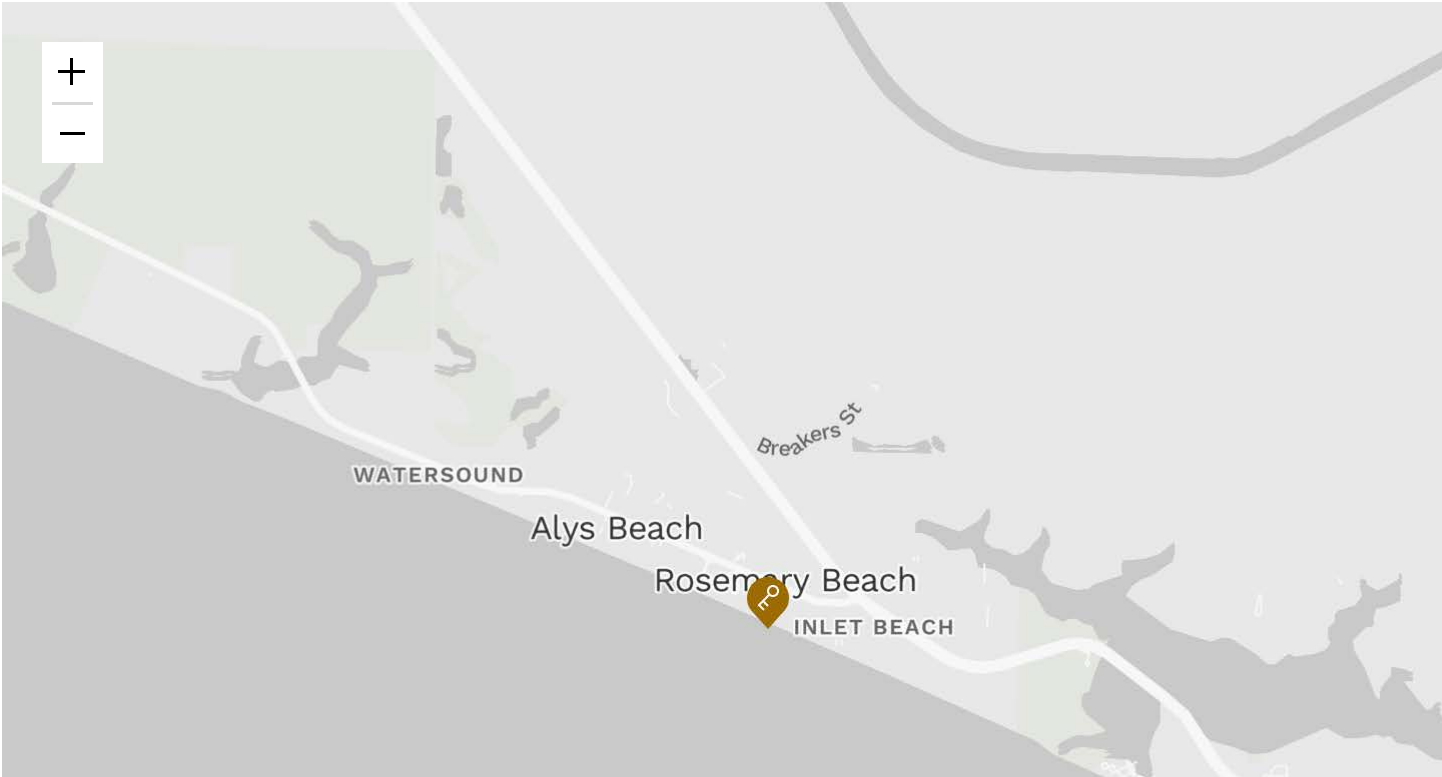
dreamscape" and that it is, with ethereal white decor and treatment rooms featuring huge, free-standing bathtubs.

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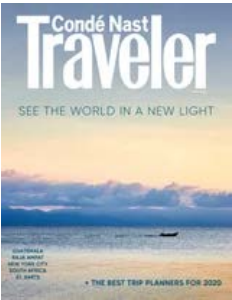
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