

TRUTH IN TRAVEL

CONDÉ NAST

NOVEMBER 2017

# Traveler

2017  
READERS' CHOICE  
AWARDS



**BEST**

1,021  
Hotels

40  
Islands

25  
Airlines

**RESORTS**

636  
Resorts

2017  
**READERS' CHOICE  
AWARDS**



**CRUISE LINES**

47  
Cruise Lines

**AWARDS**

70  
Cities

**CITIES**

▶ Long before likes and shares were the clearest indicators of popularity, *Condé Nast Traveler* launched the Readers' Choice Awards survey, literally a ballot card stuffed into every subscriber's issue and newsstand copy of the magazine. As our founding editor, Sir Harold Evans, put it, the RCAs were "not the ultimate, definitive truth on every hotel, airline, or destination, but a rough popularity poll." This year, even though you tag, direct message, or email us on a daily basis about your favorite hotels around the world, we're happy to report that you still took the time to weigh in. More than 300,000 of you voted on a record-breaking 7,320 hotels and resorts, 610 cities, and 255 islands, making it our largest and most diverse list of winners ever. So what did we learn? With all of its hotel openings (and reopenings), as well as a frisson of excitement around its food scene, Chicago topped the chart for domestic cities, edging out New York and San Francisco; internationally, Tokyo retained its number one spot, with Kyoto coming in third (Vienna slipped in between). And while you always love the grande dame hotels in big cities, you're crushing hard on newish boutique hotels—La Réserve in Paris, the High Line in New York City, and Ham Yard and Chiltern Firehouse in London were among their respective city's top five. As travel obsessives, we honor the tried-and-true but live for the new kids on the block who leapfrog from our Hot List to RCA in less than a year—a journey that used to take at least five. Of course, as this process never really ends for us, we can't wait to hear where you're off to next. For more of your favorite hotels (and islands, airlines, and cruises), turn the page.

For more on this year's Readers' Choice Awards, check out [cntraveler.com/rca](http://cntraveler.com/rca).

# HOTELS

№ 1 Hotel in Africa: Royal Mansour, Marrakech, Morocco (page 72).



## INDIA TOP 20

- 1 **The Lodhi**, New Delhi 99.43
- 2 **Rambagh Palace (Taj)**, Jaipur 98.38
- 3 **Taj Diplomatic Enclave**, New Delhi 97.86
- 4 **Umair Bhawan Palace (Taj)**, Jodhpur 97.83
- 5 **Wildflower Hall**, Shimla 97.62
- 6 **The Oberoi, Bangalore** 96.94
- 7 **Taj Falaknuma Palace**, Hyderabad 96.94
- 8 **Oberoi Udaivilas**, Udaipur 96.84
- 9 **Taj Jai Mahal Palace**, Jaipur 96.43
- 10 **Oberoi Rajvilas**, Jaipur 95.80
- 11 **Oberoi Amarvilas**, Agra 95.68
- 12 **ITC Grand Chola (Luxury Collection)**, Chennai 94.49
- 13 **The Leela Palace New Delhi** 94.32
- 14 **The Oberoi, Mumbai** 94.00
- 15 **The Westin Gurgaon, New Delhi** 93.89
- 16 **The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata** 93.83
- 17 **Taj Lake Palace**, Udaipur 91.40
- 18 **The Imperial**, New Delhi 91.07
- 19 **The Leela Palace Udaipur** 90.87
- 20 **The Taj Mahal Palace**, Mumbai 90.85

## JAPAN TOP 10

- 1 **The Ritz-Carlton, Kyoto** 97.86
- 2 **Hoshinoya Tokyo** 96.43
- 3 **Andaz Tokyo Toranomon Hills** 94.84
- 4 **Aman Tokyo** 94.29
- 5 **Suiran (Luxury Collection)**, Kyoto 93.89
- 6 **Mandarin Oriental, Tokyo** 92.14
- 7 **The Ritz-Carlton, Tokyo** 89.73
- 8 **The Peninsula Tokyo** 89.29
- 9 **Park Hyatt Tokyo** 86.76
- 10 **Conrad Tokyo** 85.12

## BANGKOK TOP 10

- 1 **Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok** 96.14
- 2 **Banyan Tree Bangkok** 96.13
- 3 **Anantara Siam Bangkok Hotel (formerly Four Seasons)** 96.01
- 4 **St. Regis Bangkok** 95.83
- 5 **W Bangkok** 95.00
- 6 **The Sukhothai Bangkok** 94.90
- 7 **The Peninsula Bangkok** 92.86
- 8 **COMO Metropolitan Bangkok** 92.26
- 9 **Anantara Sathorn Bangkok Hotel** 90.52
- 10 **The Siam** 88.84

## SINGAPORE TOP 12

- 1 **The Fullerton Hotel** 98.57
- 2 **St. Regis Singapore** 97.79
- 3 **The Fullerton Bay Hotel** 96.43
- 4 **Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore** 96.15
- 5 **Raffles Singapore** 95.05
- 6 **InterContinental Singapore** 93.89
- 7 **Conrad Centennial Singapore** 92.86
- 8 **Regent Singapore, A Four Seasons Hotel** 92.15
- 9 **Capella Singapore** 91.84
- 10 **The Ritz-Carlton, Millenia Singapore** 87.86
- 11 **Marina Bay Sands** 85.00
- 12 **Swissôtel The Stamford** 80.71

## ASIA TOP 25

- 1 **The Reverie Saigon**, Ho Chi Minh City 99.23
- 2 **Hotel Mulia Senayan**, Jakarta 98.46
- 3 **COMO Uma Punakha**, Bhutan 97.86
- 4 **Raffles Jakarta** 97.72
- 5 **Gangtey Lodge**, Bhutan 97.39
- 6 **Softel Phnom Penh Phokeethra** 97.38
- 7 **Taj Tashi**, Thimphu, Bhutan 97.14
- 8 **La Résidence Hotel & Spa**, Hue, Vietnam 96.95
- 9 **Villa Maly**, Luang Prabang, Laos 96.67
- 10 **Mandarin Oriental, Taipei** 96.54
- 11 **Alila Jakarta** 96.14
- 12 **Zhiwa Ling Heritage**, Bhutan 95.60
- 13 **Four Seasons Hotel Jakarta** 95.54
- 14 **Four Seasons Hotel Seoul** 93.75
- 15 **Shangri-La Hotel, Kuala Lumpur** 93.35
- 16 **COMO Uma Paro**, Bhutan 93.21
- 17 **Belmond La Résidence d'Angkor**, Siem Reap, Cambodia 92.86
- 18 **Park Hyatt Saigon**, Ho Chi Minh City 90.98
- 19 **JW Marriott Dongdaemun Square Seoul** 89.94
- 20 **Park Hyatt Seoul** 87.95
- 21 **Softel Legend Metropole Hanoi** 87.75
- 22 **Raffles Hotel Le Royal**, Phnom Penh 87.50
- 23 **Grand Hyatt Kuala Lumpur** 87.00
- 24 **Edsa Shangri-La**, Manila 86.31
- 25 **The Peninsula Manila** 85.71

## AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND TOP 12

- 1 **COMO The Treasury**, Perth, Australia 98.63
- 2 **QT Sydney** 94.39
- 3 **The Langham, Melbourne** 94.14
- 4 **Halcyon House**, Cabarita Beach, Australia 93.33
- 5 **The Mayfair Hotel**, Adelaide, Australia 93.09

- 6 **InterContinental Sydney** 92.60
- 7 **The George**, Christchurch, New Zealand 92.55
- 8 **Park Hyatt Sydney** 87.37
- 9 **Four Seasons Hotel Sydney** 86.87
- 10 **Shangri-La Hotel, Sydney** 85.71
- 11 **Sydney Harbour Marriott Hotel at Circular Quay** 84.90
- 12 **The Langham, Auckland** 80.10

## AFRICA TOP 20

- 1 **Royal Mansour**, Marrakech 98.95
- 2 **La Residence**, Franschhoek, South Africa 98.81
- 3 **Birkenhead House**, Hermanus, South Africa 97.53
- 4 **El Fenn**, Marrakech 97.32
- 5 **Saxon Hotel, Villas & Spa**, Johannesburg 97.25
- 6 **Ellerman House**, Cape Town 97.22
- 7 **One&Only Cape Town** 97.06
- 8 **The Oyster Box**, Durban, South Africa 96.97
- 9 **Giraffe Manor**, Nairobi 96.43
- 10 **The Twelve Apostles Hotel and Spa**, Cape Town 96.26
- 11 **Four Seasons Hotel The Westcliff**, Johannesburg 95.71
- 12 **The Silo Hotel**, Cape Town 95.62
- 13 **The Victoria Falls Hotel**, Zimbabwe 94.44
- 14 **La Mamounia**, Marrakech 93.92
- 15 **Gibb's Farm**, Ngorongoro, Tanzania 93.79
- 16 **Belmond Mount Nelson Hotel**, Cape Town 90.99
- 17 **Cape Grace**, Cape Town 87.55
- 18 **Essque Zalu Zanzibar**, Tanzania 87.02
- 19 **The Westin Cape Town** 84.29
- 20 **Taj Cape Town** 82.14

## THE MIDDLE EAST TOP 15

- 1 **Waldorf Astoria Dubai Palm Jumeirah** 98.52
- 2 **Shangri-La Hotel, Qaryat Al Beri, Abu Dhabi** 98.12
- 3 **Taj Dubai** 96.90
- 4 **Four Seasons Hotel Doha** 96.43
- 5 **Rosewood Abu Dhabi** 96.43
- 6 **Al Bustan Palace, A Ritz-Carlton**, Muscat, Oman 94.39
- 7 **Waldorf Astoria Jerusalem** 94.39
- 8 **W Doha Hotel** 93.11
- 9 **Burj Al Arab Jumeirah**, Dubai 92.46
- 10 **The Chedi Muscat**, Oman 91.88
- 11 **The Oberoi, Dubai** 91.87
- 12 **King David Jerusalem** 89.71
- 13 **JW Marriott Hotel Dubai** 87.40
- 14 **JW Marriott Marquis Hotel Dubai** 86.51
- 15 **Park Hyatt Dubai** 86.31

The tiny Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan, regarded as one of the happiest places on earth, has finally eased its travel restrictions. You liked five hotels there this year, and we eagerly anticipate the opening of five Six Senses lodges in 2018.



- 6 **Castello di Casole**, Tuscany, Italy 97.86
- 7 **Blue Palace Resort and Spa (Luxury Collection)**, Crete, Greece 97.53
- 8 **Renaissance Tuscany Il Ciocco Resort & Spa**, Italy 97.53
- 9 **Ashford Castle**, Co. Mayo, Ireland 97.46
- 10 **Bio-Hotel Stanglwirt**, Going am Wilden Kaiser, Austria 97.38
- 11 **Lefay Resort & Spa Lago di Garda**, Italy 97.14
- 12 **Six Senses Douro Valley**, Portugal 97.09
- 13 **Rosewood Castiglion del Bosco**, Tuscany, Italy 96.94
- 14 **Dromoland Castle Hotel & Country Estate**, Co. Clare, Ireland 96.82
- 15 **The Romanos (Luxury Collection)**, Messinia, Greece 96.73
- 16 **Chewton Glen Hotel & Spa**, Hampshire, United Kingdom 96.43
- 17 **Brenners Park-Hotel & Spa**, Baden-Baden, Germany 96.43
- 18 **Trump International Golf Links and Hotel Doonbeg**, Co. Clare, Ireland 96.32
- 19 **The Gleneagles Hotel**, Auchterarder, United Kingdom 95.83
- 20 **Castello Banfi—Il Borgo**, Tuscany, Italy 95.72
- 21 **Terme di Saturnia Spa & Golf Resort**, Tuscany, Italy 94.13
- 22 **Terre Blanche Hôtel Spa Golf Resort**, Provence, France 94.05
- 23 **Schloss Elmau**, Krün, Germany 93.69
- 24 **JW Marriott Venice Resort & Spa**, Italy 93.41
- 25 **Adare Manor**, Co. Limerick, Ireland 92.50
- 26 **Borgo Egnazia**, Puglia, Italy 91.67
- 27 **Vila Vita Parc**, Alporchinhos, Portugal 89.88
- 28 **Mykonos Blu**, Greece 89.29
- 29 **San Giorgio Mykonos**, Greece 89.29
- 30 **Powerscourt Hotel Resort & Spa**, Co. Wicklow, Ireland 88.93

## ASIA TOP 50

- 1 **Anantara Hua Hin Resort**, Thailand 99.38
- 2 **Four Seasons Tented Camp Golden Triangle**, Chiang Rai, Thailand 99.18
- 3 **Viceroy Bali**, Indonesia 99.07
- 4 **Chiva-Som**, Hua Hin, Thailand 99.00
- 5 **St. Regis Bali Resort**, Indonesia 98.71
- 6 **Banyan Tree Lang Co**, Vietnam 98.50
- 7 **The Sarojin**, Khao Lak, Thailand 98.39
- 8 **InterContinental Danang Sun Peninsula Resort**, Vietnam 98.19
- 9 **El Nido Resorts Pangulasian Island**, Philippines 98.07
- 10 **ITC Grand Bharat (Luxury Collection)**, Gurgaon, India 98.06
- 11 **Angsana Lang Co**, Vietnam 98.02
- 12 **Four Seasons Resort Koh Samui**, Thailand 97.94

# 5

Number of steamy, muddy jungle safari lodges in Uganda and Rwanda that appeared on this list. Seems like gorillas might just be the new Big Five.

- 13 **Four Seasons Resort Langkawi**, Malaysia 97.92
- 14 **Anantara Peace Haven Tangalle Resort**, Sri Lanka 97.69
- 15 **The Legian Bali**, Indonesia 97.66
- 16 **Alila Seminyak**, Bali, Indonesia 97.10
- 17 **Four Seasons Resort Chiang Mai**, Thailand 97.05
- 18 **The Sanchaya**, Bintan Island, Indonesia 97.00
- 19 **Nihi Sumba Island (formerly Nihiwatu)**, Indonesia 96.88
- 20 **COMO Shambhala Estate**, Bali, Indonesia 96.75
- 21 **Amanpulo**, Pamalican Island, Philippines 96.43
- 22 **Phum Baitang**, Siem Reap, Cambodia 96.43
- 23 **Alila Ubud**, Bali, Indonesia 96.43
- 24 **Shangri-La's Rasa Sayang Resort & Spa**, Penang, Malaysia 96.43
- 25 **Tiger Mountain Pokhara Lodge**, Nepal 96.43
- 26 **Alila Villas Uluwatu**, Bali, Indonesia 96.07
- 27 **The Mulia & Mulia Villas**, Bali, Indonesia 96.01
- 28 **Katamama**, Bali, Indonesia 95.80
- 29 **Anantara Golden Triangle Elephant Camp & Resort**, Chiang Rai, Thailand 95.78
- 30 **COMO Uma Ubud**, Bali, Indonesia 95.76
- 31 **COMO Point Yamu**, Phuket, Thailand 95.36
- 32 **Phulay Bay, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve**, Krabi, Thailand 95.28
- 33 **Four Seasons Resort Bali at Sayan**, Indonesia 95.09
- 34 **JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa**, Thailand 95.00
- 35 **Amandari**, Bali, Indonesia 94.97
- 36 **Mandapa, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve**, Bali, Indonesia 94.84
- 37 **Four Seasons Resort The Nam Hai, Hoi An**, Vietnam 93.96
- 38 **Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Golf and Spa Resort**, Siem Reap, Cambodia 93.95
- 39 **Banyan Tree Phuket**, Thailand 93.35
- 40 **Shangri-La's Boracay Resort & Spa**, Philippines 93.11
- 41 **Sanctum Inle Resort**, Myanmar 92.04
- 42 **Shangri-La's Mactan Resort and Spa, Cebu**, Philippines 91.84
- 43 **Four Seasons Resort Bali at Jimbaran Bay**, Indonesia 90.58
- 44 **Ananda in the Himalayas**, Narendra Nagar, India 89.88
- 45 **Alila Diwa Goa**, India 89.29
- 46 **Mulia Resort**, Bali, Indonesia 89.12
- 47 **Pangkor Laut Resort**, Malaysia 88.84
- 48 **Iniala Beach House**, Phuket, Thailand 83.33
- 49 **Amanpuri**, Phuket, Thailand 83.21
- 50 **The Datai Langkawi**, Malaysia 82.14

## INDIAN OCEAN TOP 20

- 1 **Naladhu Private Island Maldives** 99.74
- 2 **Niyama Private Islands Maldives** 99.50
- 3 **One&Only Reethi Rah**, Maldives 99.29
- 4 **Four Seasons Resort Seychelles** 99.17
- 5 **Soneva Fushi**, Maldives 99.11
- 6 **Cheval Blanc Randheli**, Maldives 98.81
- 7 **Velaa Private Island**, Maldives 98.38
- 8 **Banyan Tree Vabbinfaru**, Maldives 97.86
- 9 **Four Seasons Resort Maldives at Kuda Huraa** 97.73
- 10 **COMO Maalifushi**, Maldives 97.22
- 11 **St. Regis Maldives Vommuli Resort** 96.78
- 12 **Anantara Kihavah Maldives Villas** 96.72
- 13 **Four Seasons Resort Maldives at Landaa Giraavaru** 96.68
- 14 **COMO Cocoa Island, The Maldives** 96.43
- 15 **Gili Lankanfushi**, Maldives 96.43
- 16 **Soneva Jani**, Maldives 95.76
- 17 **Anantara Veli Maldives Resort** 94.73
- 18 **Anantara Dhigu Maldives Resort** 94.20
- 19 **Four Seasons Resort Mauritius at Anahita** 93.57
- 20 **Conrad Maldives Rangali Island** 87.14

## AFRICA TOP 40

- 1 **Sanctuary Olonana**, Masai Mara, Kenya 99.70
- 2 **andBeyond Matetsi River Lodge**, Matetsi Private Game Reserve, Zimbabwe 99.45
- 3 **Ulusaba Private Game Reserve**, Sabi Sand, South Africa 99.35
- 4 **Sanctuary Chief's Camp**, Moremi Game Reserve, Botswana 99.29
- 5 **Shambala Private Game Reserve**, Vaalwater, South Africa 99.29
- 6 **andBeyond Serengeti Under Canvas**, Tanzania 99.17
- 7 **Singita Sabi Sand**, South Africa 99.11
- 8 **Bwindi Lodge**, Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, Uganda 98.98
- 9 **andBeyond Phinda Private Game Reserve**, South Africa 98.94
- 10 **Royal Malewane**, Kruger National Park, South Africa 98.90
- 11 **andBeyond Sandibe Okavango Safari Lodge**, Botswana 98.81
- 12 **Royal Chundu Luxury Lodges**, Zambezi River, Zambia 98.81
- 13 **Mount Gahinga Lodge**, Mgahinga Gorilla National Park, Uganda 98.81
- 14 **andBeyond Benguerra Island**, Mozambique 98.69
- 15 **Kyambura Gorge Lodge**, Bushenyi, Uganda 98.57
- 16 **Bushmans Kloof Wilderness Reserve & Wellness Retreat**, Clanwilliam, South Africa 98.41
- 17 **Singita Kruger National Park**, South Africa 98.38
- 18 **Sirikoi Lodge**, Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, Kenya 98.21
- 19 **Londolozi**, Sabi Sand, South Africa 98.19 →