

TRAVEL AND HOSPITALITY

Cond Nast Traveler debuts 25th annual Hot List

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Hotel The Mitsui Kyoto, a Luxury Collection Hotel. Image credit: Hotel The Mitsui Kyoto/Cond Nast Traveler

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

Luxury hospitality brands Ritz-Carlton, Four Seasons and Preferred Hotels each landed properties on *Cond Nast Traveler's* 25th annual Hot List as the travel industry begins its recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Cond Nast Traveler's international network of correspondents safely vetted each of the 69 winners, which represent the best hotel openings of the past year. According to the publication, nearly 1,000 new properties have debuted in the U.S. alone since the start of the pandemic.

"At the heart of this year's Hot List is hospitality," said Erin Florio, travel news director at *Cond Nast Traveler*, New York. "Each of the 69 properties on the list rewrote the rules in terms of creating a space that travelers can feel comfortable and safe in, and did so in a way that feels non-invasive.

"The old hospitality axiom says that the best service is the service you can't see," she said. "These winners applied that to health and safety, turning these measures into selling points, by creating more outdoor spaces for guests and switching up food and beverage concepts."

Hot List

The Hot List includes hotels from around the world, with every continent represented except for Antarctica. Among the countries represented are the United States, Canada, Japan, Mexico, Costa Rica, Argentina, Lebanon, Kenya, South Africa and Vietnam.

Notable winners include the Four Seasons Madrid; the Four Seasons Bangkok; Japan's Higashiyama Niseko Village, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve; Preferred Hotels' Lake House on Canandaigua in New York and Commodore Perry Estate, Auberger Resorts Collection in Austin.



The Four Seasons Madrid was one of two Four Seasons hotels on the list. Image credit: Four Seasons/Cond Nast Traveler

The Cond Nast Traveler Hot List issue will appear on newsstands next week, with more details on the winners and spotlights on different types of properties.

Last year in response to the pandemic, *Cond Nast Traveler* launched a digital hub geared towards consumers interested in safely resuming leisure travel.

"The New Standard" is guided by five principles that travelers expect hospitality brands and destinations to uphold. The editorial initiative was inspired to draw attention to the travel providers working to meet those evolving expectations ([see story](#)).

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