

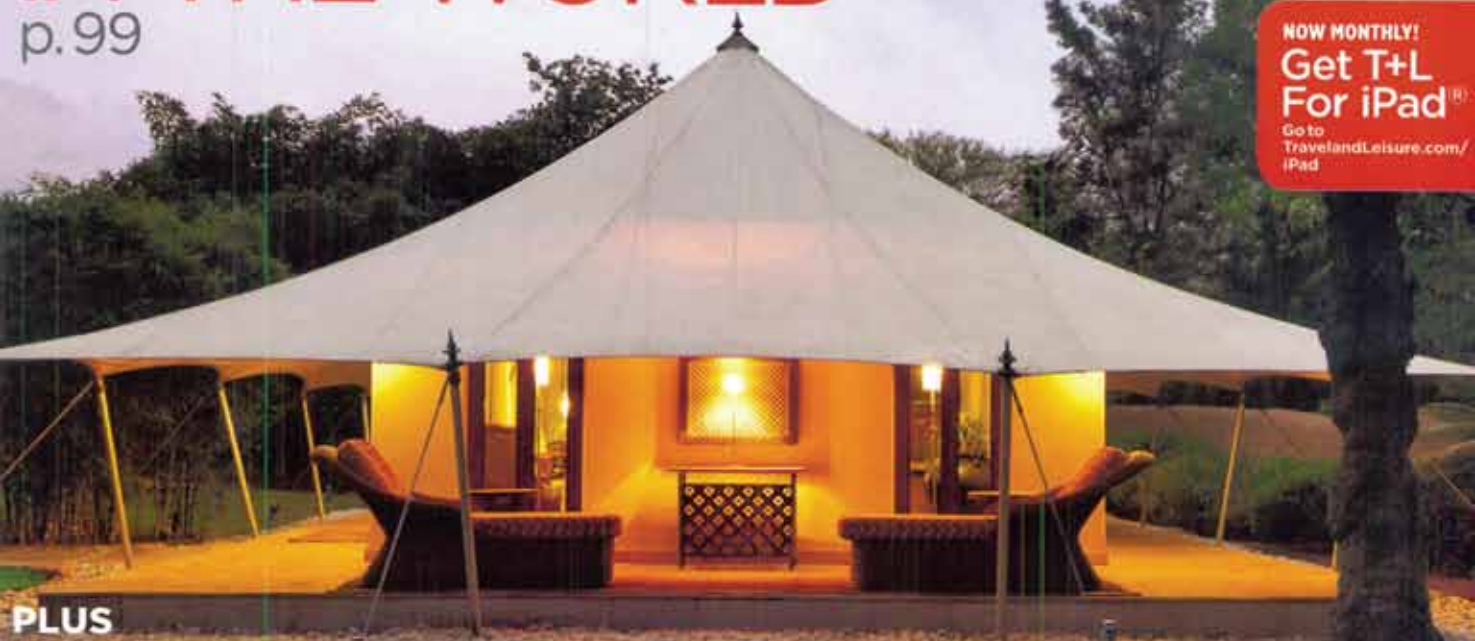
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T+L 500

WORLD'S BEST HOTELS

WITH THIS, OUR 10TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION OF THE T+L 500, we bring you the ultimate collection of the top hotels around the globe, as selected by readers in our annual World's Best Awards survey. ★ We spotlight the properties that ranked No. 1 in their region, highlight the 53 T+L 500 debuts, and, new this year, provide many hotel rates as a range—noting the lowest and highest price of a standard room—which means you'll know how much the price will vary from season to season. ★ Find enhanced digital extras (expanded online reviews; select booking links in the version for iPad) on your computer, tablet, or smart phone—or simply turn the page for your 500 favorite places this year.

UNITED STATES

ALABAMA

BIRMINGHAM

Renaissance Birmingham Ross Bridge Golf Resort & Spa (88.00) 259-room resort southwest of the city, with a Robert Trent Jones golf course and the area's best spa. 4000 Grand Ave.; 800/593-6419; rossbridgeresort.com; doubles from \$169-\$289.

ARIZONA

PHOENIX/SCOTTSDALE

Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale at Troon North (90.03) Pueblo-inspired property (plus a renovated pool and a soon-to-open gastropub) surrounded by the foothills of the McDowell Mountains. 10600 E. Crescent Moon Dr., Scottsdale; 800/332-3442; fourseasons.com; doubles from \$139-\$719.

Hermosa Inn (88.47) Under-the-radar 34-room 1930's hacienda; highlights include Sunday barbecue dinners and an artists-in-residence program. 5532 N. Palo Cristi Rd., Paradise Valley; 800/241-1210; hermosainn.com; doubles from \$189-\$319.

Montelucia Resort & Spa (87.90) Scottsdale's newest spa resort is a Moorish-inspired spread brimming with Spanish and Moroccan antiques. 4949 E. Lincoln Dr., Scottsdale; 888/627-3010; montelucia.com; doubles from \$159-\$449.

The Phoenician, a Luxury Collection Resort (88.30) Newly upgraded resort on 250 acres with a \$25 million art collection, 3 golf courses, and a Jean-Georges Vongerichten steak house. 6000 E. Camelback Rd., Scottsdale; 800/325-3589; thephoenician.com; doubles from \$199-\$800.

Royal Palms Resort & Spa (89.33) 119 rooms, casitas, and villas (some individually designed) in a 1929 Spanish-inspired mansion on 9 leafy acres near Camelback Mountain. 5200 E. Camelback Rd., Phoenix; 800/672-6011; royalpalmsresort.com; doubles from \$219-\$499.



No.1 ARIZONA

Sanctuary on Camelback Mountain Resort & Spa (90.27) Chic resort on the mountain; perks include a Watsu-pool-equipped spa and *Iron Chef America* winner Beau MacMillan in the kitchen at Elements restaurant. 5700 E. MacDonald Dr., Paradise Valley; 800/245-2051; sanctuaryoncamelback.com; doubles from \$259-\$499.

BEHIND THE SCENES Culinary programs—from a Saturday mixology class to a recently launched chef's table—helped boost this hotel's score above the competition's.

SEDONA

Enchantment Resort (89.73) 218 rooms and suites just off an \$11 million refurbishment, plus the celebrated Mil Arno Spa. 800/826-4180; enchantmentresort.com; doubles from \$275-\$495.

L'Auberge de Sedona (87.65) Romantic creek-side retreat with a renovated spa that includes a massage cabana set among the trees. 800/272-6777; lauberge.com; doubles from \$295-\$1,025.

TUCSON

Arizona Inn (89.04) Historic, 95-room pink-tinged adobe-style estate, piano bar, and pristine gardens. 2200 E. Elm St.; 800/933-1093; arizonainn.com; doubles from \$169-\$329.

CALIFORNIA

BIG SUR

Post Ranch Inn (90.99) 41 solar-powered aeries made of wood, glass, and slate, cantilevered out from a cliff overlooking the ocean. 800/527-2200; postranchinn.com; doubles from \$595, including breakfast.

Ventana Inn & Spa (90.40) An adults-only hideaway; 57 rooms and 3 cedar villas, surrounded by 243 acres along the rugged coast.

800/628-6500; ventanainn.com; doubles from \$500-\$750, including breakfast.

CARMEL

Bernardus Lodge (87.56) Provençal-inspired winery hotel, a celebrated restaurant, and an organic garden. 888/648-9463; bernardus.com; doubles from \$305-\$555.

L'Auberge Carmel (89.00) 20-room inn that maintains a decidedly European feel, plus an exclusive restaurant, Aubergine (12 tables; 4,500 bottles of wine). 800/735-2478; laubergecarmel.com; doubles from \$340-\$425, including breakfast.

HALF MOON BAY

Ritz-Carlton (89.42) Statuesque resort—261 rooms, 2 golf courses, a spa, and a vintner series—set on a cliff that fronts the Pacific. 800/241-3333; ritzcarlton.com; doubles from \$435-\$625.

LOS ANGELES AREA

Beverly Hills Hotel & Bungalows (87.16) 210-room Dorchester Collection pink palace, now including 2 new Presidential Bungalows. 9641 Sunset Blvd., Beverly Hills; 800/650-1842; beverlyhillshotel.com; doubles from \$640-\$820.

Beverly Wilshire, a Four Seasons Hotel (88.27) Glamorous touches at this updated 1928 hotel include a Richard Meier-designed Cut steak house by Wolfgang Puck and a Rolls-Royce and driver for guest transportation. 9500 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills; 800/332-3442; fourseasons.com; doubles from \$395-\$625.

Four Seasons Hotel Los Angeles at Beverly Hills (87.79) 285 recently revamped rooms a mile from Rodeo Drive, with a 4th-floor pool scene. 300 S. Doheny Dr., Los Angeles; 800/332-3442; fourseasons.com; doubles from \$395-\$565.

Hotel Bel-Air (91.71) 103-room Dorchester Collection sanctuary reenvisioned by a hotel dream team: Alexandra Chantalpalmud, David Rockwell, and Wolfgang Puck (see page 84 for more). 701 Stone Canyon Rd., Los Angeles; 800/650-1842; hotelbelair.com; doubles from \$590-\$730.

L'Ermitage Beverly Hills (89.76) Averaging 650 square feet, the

rooms in this intimate hotel are some of the city's largest. 9291 Burton Way, Beverly Hills; 877/235-7582; lemitagebh.com; doubles from \$425-\$625.

Montage Beverly Hills (90.00) Old Hollywood glamour in a new (2008) building on a prime L.A. corner. 225 N. Canon Dr., Beverly Hills; 888/860-0788; montagebeverlyhills.com; doubles from \$495-\$775.

Peninsula Beverly Hills (89.96) To celebrate its 20th birthday in 2011, this posh oasis is adding updated technology, including smart-phone check-in. 9882 S. Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills; 866/382-8388; peninsula.com; doubles from \$475-\$625.

Ritz-Carlton, Marina del Rey (87.20) Five miles from LAX, the 304-room hotel faces the harbor for expansive waterfront views and easy access to yachting. 4375 Admiralty Way, Marina del Rey; 800/241-3333; ritzcarlton.com; doubles from \$299-\$459.

Shutters on the Beach (91.27) 198-room resort that exudes a polished coastal look (wicker furniture; subtle blue-and-white-patterned fabrics) and opens onto a beachfront bicycle path. 1 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica; 800/334-9000; shuttersonthebeach.com; doubles from \$465-\$595.

NAPA/SONOMA

Auberge du Soleil (92.29) A favorite for nearly 30 years; the string of vine-covered *maisons* house 50 rooms; it also has 2 cottages. Rutherford; 800/348-5406; aubergedusoleil.com; doubles from \$600-\$1,175.

Calistoga Ranch, an Auberge Resort (88.73) 48 cedar-shingle lodges with open-air showers and a farm-to-table restaurant. Calistoga; 800/942-4220; calistogaranch.com; doubles from \$675-\$850.

Carneros Inn (87.71) Secluded country cottages (private patios; heated bathroom floors; soaking tubs) in the bucolic Carneros wine region. Napa; 888/400-9000; thecarnerosinn.com; doubles from \$395-\$690.

Hotel Healdsburg (89.30) Charlie Palmer's minimalist haven in Healdsburg's town square, home to the chef's Dry Creek Kitchen and a 500-bottle wine room.

ROOM RATES When offered as a range, hotel prices in the T+L 500 represent the starting rate during low season and the highest rate for the same room in high season; certain hotels have only one rack rate. In the case of a more complex pricing structure, T+L has asked each property for the most accurate range; lower rates may be available. International prices reflect exchange rates at press time.

METHODOLOGY T+L 500 hotels are the top-scoring properties as voted by readers in the annual World's Best Awards survey. Certain properties that scored highest in their state, country, or region are highlighted with images and extra content. For more information, go to TravelandLeisure.com/WorldsBest.