

TRAVEL+ LEISURE

THE BEST

Hotels · Cities · Islands · Cruises · Airlines

IN THE WORLD ARE...



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THE WORLD'S BEST AWARDS



THE TOP CITIES, HOTELS, CRUISE LINES,
DESTINATION SPAS, AIRLINES, TOUR COMPANIES,
AND MORE, AS DETERMINED
BY OUR VERY DISCERNING READERS.



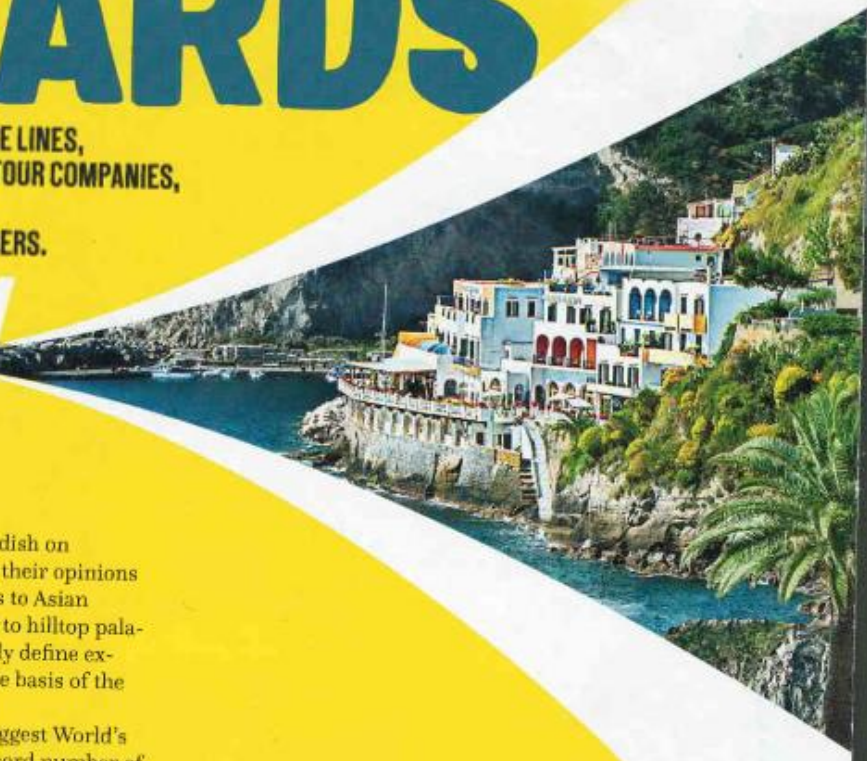
► Who's to judge? You are.

Every year T+L asks readers to dish on their travel experiences—to share their opinions on everything from Southern cities to Asian islands, all-inclusive beach resorts to hilltop palazzos. Those assessments collectively define excellence in travel today, forming the basis of the World's Best Awards.

This year's edition marks the biggest World's Best Awards ever. We counted a record number of votes—more than 200,000 respondents submitted ratings—added dozens of new categories, and saw a heap of new players make the lists. (For more details on how the awards work, turn to page 81.) Kudos to all the winners, and thanks to you.

Edited by Sara Clemence

► Open the gatefold for our map of
the No. 1 hotels in 86 cities

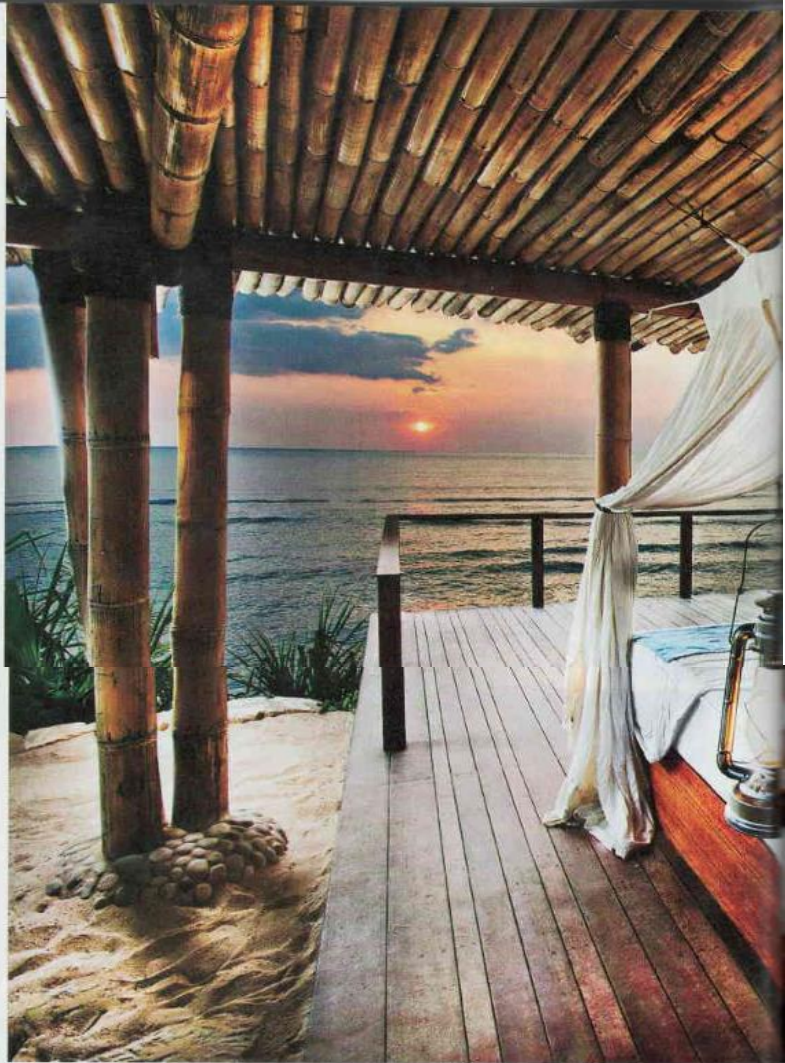


WORLD'S BEST

Top 100 Hotels

BIGGER ISN'T NECESSARILY BETTER—SMALL PROPERTIES, MANY OF THEM INDEPENDENT, DOMINATE THE RANKINGS.

- 1 Nihiwatu Sumba,** Indonesia 98.35
- 2 Spectator Hotel** Charleston, South Carolina 97.78
- 3 Huka Lodge** Taupo, New Zealand 97.65
- 4 Montage Kapalua Bay** Maui, Hawaii 97.39
- 4 Southern Ocean Lodge** Kangaroo Island, Australia 97.39
- 6 Lodge at Glendorn** Bradford, Pennsylvania 97.38
- 7 The Willcox** Aiken, South Carolina 97.25
- 8 Casa Gangotena** Quito, Ecuador 97.20
- 9 Twin Farms** Barnard, Vermont 97.19
- 10 Singular Patagonia** Puerto Bories, Chile 97.14
- 11 Singita Grumeti** Serengeti National Park Area, Tanzania 97.11
- 12 Farmhouse Inn** Forestville, California 97.07
- 13 Londolozi Sabi Sand** Game Reserve, South Africa 97.06
- 14 The Peninsula** Shanghai 97.01
- 15 Hotel Castello di Casole-A Timbers Resort** Casole d'Elsa, Italy 97.01
- 16 Gateway Canyons Resort & Spa** Gateway, Colorado 97.00
- 17 Cavas Wine Lodge** Mendoza, Argentina 96.99
- 18 Singita Sabi Sand** Sabi Sand Game Reserve, South Africa 96.95
- 19 Manoir Hovey** North Hatley, Quebec 96.93
- 20 The Brando** Tetiaroa, French Polynesia 96.80
- 21 Château du Sureau** Oakhurst, California 96.77
- 22 Oberoi Udaivilas** Udaipur, India 96.76
- 22 Opposite House** Beijing 96.76
- 22 Triple Creek Ranch** Darby, Montana 96.76
- 25 Wequassett Resort & Golf Club** Chatham, Massachusetts 96.68
- 26 Old Edwards Inn & Spa** Highlands, North Carolina 96.67
- 27 Weekapaug Inn** Westerly, Rhode Island 96.67
- 28 Oberoi Vanyavilas** Ranthambhore, India 96.63
- 29 Mombo Camp and Little Mombo Camp** Moremi Game Reserve, Botswana 96.50
- 30 Rosewood Mayakoba** Playa del Carmen, Mexico 96.39
- 31 Sol y Luna Sacred Valley**, Peru 96.36
- 32 Nayara Springs Arenal Volcano National Park**, Costa Rica 96.36
- 33 Kamalame Cay** Andros, Bahamas 96.30
- 34 XV Beacon** Boston 96.27
- 35 St. Regis Bali Resort** Indonesia 96.22
- 36 Tongabezi Lodge** Livingstone, Zambia 96.20
- 37 Alpina Gstaad** Gstaad, Switzerland 96.00
- 37 Beau-Rivage Palace** Lausanne, Switzerland 96.00
- 37 Brenners Park-Hotel & Spa** Baden-Baden, Germany 96.00
- 37 137 Pillars House** Chiang Mai, Thailand 96.00
- 37 Rosewood Sand Hill** Menlo Park, California 96.00
- 42 Katikies Hotel** Santorini, Greece 95.95
- 43 41 London** 95.94
- 44 Nayara Hotel, Spa & Gardens** Arenal Volcano National Park, Costa Rica 95.91
- 48 Lodge at Sea Island** Georgia 95.90
- 46 Lodge & Cottages at Primland** Meadows of Dan, Virginia 95.87
- 47 Ashford Castle** County Mayo, Ireland 95.84
- 48 Las Ventanas al Paraíso, A Rosewood Resort** San José del Cabo, Mexico 95.81
- 49 Gasparilla Inn & Club** Boca Grande, Florida 95.76
- 50 Rancho Valencia Resort & Spa** Rancho Santa Fe, California 95.69
- 51 Nam Hai Hoi An**, Vietnam 95.63
- 52 Fogo Island Inn** Newfoundland 95.60
- 53 Brewery Gulch Inn** Mendocino, California 95.59
- 54 Hotel Santa Caterina** Amalfi, Italy 95.57
- 55 Acqualina**, Miami Sunny Isles Beach, Florida 95.53
- 56 Chanler at Cliff Walk** Newport, Rhode Island 95.51
- 57 Zamas Hotel** Tulum, Mexico 95.49
- 58 J.K. Place** Capri, Italy 95.46
- 59 Oberoi Rajvillas** Jaipur, India 95.45
- 60 Lion Sands Game Reserve** Sabi Sand Game Reserve, South Africa 95.42
- 61 Winvian Farm** Morris, Connecticut 95.41





WINNER'S CIRCLE

NIHIWATU

By Yves Béhar

It's not a place you go because you want a luxurious retreat from the real world. I've been visiting for six years, and for me it's like, *Where can I take my family where we're going to be outdoors the entire time?* There is no sort of indoor space per se, besides your bedroom. You feel very connected to the beach and the ocean.

But what makes it really special is the local culture. The island is populated by animists who live in small villages. Life there hasn't changed much for half a millennium. Ninety percent of the staff are local. We see them every year; we've visited their houses, they've taught me how to battle with a sword. That just doesn't happen when you have Swiss-trained butlers and hotel operators. This is a place that gives you the opportunity to enter somebody else's reality, somebody else's tradition, somebody else's culture.

Yves Béhar is a designer, entrepreneur, and sustainability advocate.



- 62 Inn at Hastings Park** Lexington, Massachusetts 95.40
- 63 Curtain Bluff** Antigua 95.40
- 64 The Surrey New** York City 95.37
- 65 Farm at Cape Kidnappers** Hawke's Bay, New Zealand 95.33
- 66 Four Seasons Resort** Chiang Mai, Thailand 95.33
- 67 Biltmore Hotel** Coral Gables, Florida 95.32
- 68 Milestone Hotel** London 95.32
- 69 La Réserve Paris Hotel, Spa & Apartments** Paris 95.29

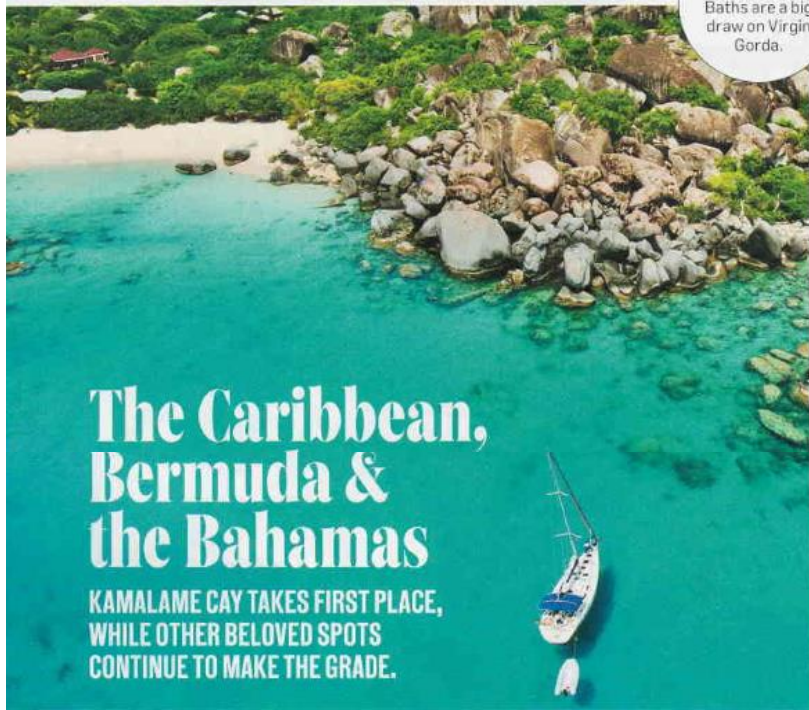
- 70 La Residence** Franschhoek, South Africa 95.27
- 71 The Goring** London 95.19
- 72 Four Seasons Tented Camp Golden Triangle** Chiang Rai, Thailand 95.17
- 73 Cloister at Sea Island** Georgia 95.16
- 74 Tambo del Inka, a Luxury Collection Resort & Spa** Sacred Valley, Peru 95.11
- 75 Saxon Hotel, Villas & Spa** Johannesburg, South Africa 95.09
- 76 Gleneagles Hotel** Perthshire, Scotland 95.08
- 77 Tu Tu'tun Lodge** Gold Beach, Oregon 95.06

- 78 Leela Palace** New Delhi 95.06
- 79 Le Bristol** Paris 95.06
- 80 Sonnenaip Hotel** Vail, Colorado 95.04
- 81 Villa Cora** Florence 95.04
- 82 Ocean House** Watch Hill, Rhode Island 95.03
- 83 Inn by the Sea** Cape Elizabeth, Maine 94.97
- 84 La Casa Que Canta** Zihuatanejo, Mexico 94.96
- 84 Madikwe Safari Lodge** Madikwe Game Reserve, South Africa 94.96

- 86 Inn at Harbour Town** Hilton Head Island, South Carolina 94.95
- 87 Qualia** Hamilton Island, Australia 94.89
- 88 The Lanesborough** London 94.87
- 89 Egerton House Hotel** London 94.86
- 90 Jade Mountain** St. Lucia 94.85
- 91 Greenwich Hotel** New York City 94.76
- 92 The Knickerbocker** New York City 94.75
- 93 River Inn of Harbor Town** Memphis, Tennessee 94.71

(Continued on page 38)

WORLD'S BEST



The boulder formations of the Baths are a big draw on Virgin Gorda.

The Caribbean, Bermuda & the Bahamas

KAMALAME CAY TAKES FIRST PLACE, WHILE OTHER BELOVED SPOTS CONTINUE TO MAKE THE GRADE.

TOP 5 Islands

- 1 Virgin Gorda**
British Virgin Islands 84.98
- 2 Harbour Island**
Bahamas 84.84
- 3 Anguilla** 84.40
- 4 Exuma**
Bahamas 84.36
- 5 St. John**
U.S. Virgin Islands 83.55

TOP 25 Resort Hotels

- 1 Kamalame Cay**
Andros, Bahamas 96.30
- 2 Curtain Bluff**
Antigua 95.40
- 3 Jade Mountain**
St. Lucia 94.85
- 4 The House**
Barbados 94.70
- 5 Round Hill Hotel & Villas**
Montego Bay, Jamaica 94.26
- 6 Somerset on Grace Bay**
Turks and Caicos 93.61
- 7 Ladera**
St. Lucia 93.26
- 8 GoldenEye**
Oracabessa, Jamaica 92.50
- 9 Jamaica Inn**
Ocho Rios, Jamaica 92.35

- 10 Eden Rock**
St. Bart's 91.94
- 11 Secret Bay Resort**
Dominica 91.89
- 12 Capella Marigot Bay Resort & Marina**
St. Lucia 91.78
- 13 Anse Chastanet Resort**
St. Lucia 91.45
- 14 Jumby Bay, A Rosewood Resort**
Antigua 91.44
- 15 Sandals LaSource**
Grenada Resort & Spa Grenada 91.42
- 16 Grace Bay Club**
Turks and Caicos 91.37
- 17 Nisbet Plantation Beach Club**
Nevis 91.26
- 18 Dorado Beach, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve**
Puerto Rico 91.15
- 19 Colony Club**
Barbados 91.04
- 20 Petit St. Vincent Island Resort**
St. Vincent and the Grenadines 90.98

- 21 Christopher Hotel, Villas & Spa**
St. Bart's 90.88
- 22 Reefs Resort & Club**
Bermuda 90.76
- 23 Zoëtry Agua**
Punta Cana, Dominican Republic 90.67
- 24 Parrot Cay by Como**
Turks and Caicos 90.65
- 25 The Palms**
Turks and Caicos 90.61

Canada

IT'S A TALE OF EAST AND WEST, WITH BRITISH COLUMBIA AND QUEBEC PREVAILING.

TOP 3 Cities

- 1 Quebec City**
86.91
- 2 Vancouver** 85.02
- 3 Victoria**
British Columbia 84.98

TOP 3 Islands

- 1 Vancouver Island**
British Columbia 85.22
- 2 Prince Edward Island** 82.75
- 3 Cape Breton Island**
Nova Scotia 82.29

TOP 5 City Hotels

- 1 Wedgewood Hotel & Spa**
Vancouver 93.75
- 2 Rosewood Hotel Georgia**
Vancouver 92.20
- 3 Trump International Hotel & Tower**
Toronto 90.80
- 4 Ritz-Carlton**
Montreal 90.09
- 5 Shangri-La Hotel**
Vancouver 89.70

TOP 5 Resort Hotels

- 1 Manoir Hovey**
North Hatley, Quebec 95.93
- 2 Fogo Island Inn**
Newfoundland 95.60
- 3 Wickaninnish Inn**
Tofino, British Columbia 92.08
- 4 Four Seasons Resort & Residences**
Whistler, British Columbia 91.01
- 5 Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise**
Alberta 89.18



READERS SAY...

"Kamalame is the epitome of island chic."