

**9 PERFECT DAYS  
IN TURKEY**

Step-by-Step Itinerary

**ECUADOR'S  
LITTLE GEM**

A Town to Love

**EUROPE'S  
BIG ADVENTURE**

Mont Blanc Highs

**HOW TO SAVE  
A BUNDLE**

15 Magic Web Sites

# Condé Nast Traveler

TRUTH IN TRAVEL

NOVEMBER 2010

**BEST IN THE WORLD!**

*HOTELS, ISLANDS, AIRLINES, CITIES, CRUISES*

**1000**  
*Top*

**READERS' CHOICE AWARDS**

*Voted by the 26,000 Most  
Discerning Travelers on Earth*

\$4.99US \$5.99FOR



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- 1 Four Seasons Tented Camp Golden Triangle, Chiang Rai, Thailand 100 🏠
- 2 Peninsula House, Las Terrenas, D.R. 98.6 🏠
- 3 Lodge at Kauri Cliffs, Northland, New Zealand 98.4 🏠
- 3 Mombo and Little Mombo Camps, Botswana 98.4 🏠
- 5 Safari Lodges at Phinda Game Reserve, South Africa 98.1 🏠
- 6 21c Museum Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky 97.7 🏠
- 7 The Peninsula, Tokyo 97.5 🏠
- 8 Singita Sabi Sand, South Africa 97.3 🏠
- 9 Il San Pietro di Positano 97.2 🏠
- 9 Pudong Shangri-La, Shanghai 97.2 🏠
- 11 King Pacific Lodge (Rosewood), British Columbia 97.0 🏠
- 12 Westin Riverfront Resort at Beaver Creek, Colo. 96.9 🏠
- 13 Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok 96.8 🏠
- 14 Hotel Fasano, São Paulo 96.7 🏠
- 15 Oberoi Vanyavilas, Rajasthan 96.5 🏠
- 16 The Peninsula, Chicago 96.4 🏠
- 17 Four Seasons Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt 96.3 🏠
- 18 Kirawira Luxury Tented Camp, Tanzania 96.2 🏠
- 18 Mandarin Oriental Dhara Devi, Chiang Mai 96.2 🏠
- 20 Mandarin Oriental, Boston 96.1 🏠
- 20 Oberoi Udaivilas, Rajasthan 96.1 🏠
- 22 Amandari, Bali 96.0 🏠
- 22 Le Franschhoek Hotel & Spa, South Africa 96.0 🏠
- 22 Resort at Pelican Hill, Newport Beach 96.0 🏠
- 25 Four Seasons Hotel Istanbul at Sultanahmet 95.9 🏠
- 25 Oberoi Amarvilas, Agra 95.9 🏠
- 27 Milestone Hotel, London 95.8 🏠
- 27 Oberoi Rajvilas, Jaipur 95.8 🏠
- 29 Keswick Hall at Monticello 95.6 🏠
- 29 Sanctuary at Kiawah Island Golf Resort 95.6 🏠
- 31 Huka Lodge, Taupo, New Zealand 95.5 🏠
- 31 The Peninsula, Hong Kong 95.5 🏠
- 33 Hôtel de Paris, Monte Carlo 95.4 🏠
- 33 The Peninsula, Bangkok 95.4 🏠
- 35 Four Seasons Resort, Chiang Mai 95.3 🏠
- 35 Four Seasons Resort Bali at Sayan 95.3 🏠
- 35 Perivolos, Santorini 95.3 🏠
- 38 Palacio Duhau Park Hyatt, Buenos Aires 95.2 🏠
- 38 Raffles Beijing 95.2 🏠
- 40 Four Seasons Hotel George V, Paris 95.1 🏠
- 40 Le Sirenuse, Positano 95.1 🏠
- 42 Amanpuri, Phuket 95.0 🏠
- 42 Four Seasons Hotel Gresham Palace Budapest 95.0 🏠
- 42 Four Seasons Resort Langkawi, Malaysia 95.0 🏠
- 42 Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea 95.0 🏠
- 42 The Peninsula, Beverly Hills 95.0 🏠
- 47 Villa San Michele, Fiesole, Tuscany 94.9 🏠
- 48 Emerald Lake Lodge, Alberta 94.7 🏠
- 48 Kenwood Inn and Spa, Sonoma 94.7 🏠
- 48 The Saxon, Johannesburg 94.7 🏠
- 51 Beau-Rivage Palace, Lausanne 94.6 🏠
- 51 Inn at Spanish Bay, Pebble Beach 94.6 🏠
- 51 Portman Ritz-Carlton, Shanghai 94.6 🏠
- 51 Ritz-Carlton Beijing, Financial Street 94.6 🏠
- 55 Auberge du Soleil, Napa Valley 94.5 🏠
- 55 Burj Al Arab, Dubai 94.5 🏠
- 55 Chanler at Cliff Walk, Newport 94.5 🏠
- 55 One&Only Palmilla, Los Cabos 94.5 🏠
- 59 BoBo Hotel, Buenos Aires 94.4 🏠
- 59 Chewton Glen, New Forest, Hampshire 94.4 🏠
- 59 Farrington House Country Inn, Pittsboro, N.C. 94.4 🏠
- 59 Four Seasons Hotel Firenze, Florence 94.4 🏠
- 59 Hotel Hana-Maui and Honua Spa, Maui 94.4 🏠
- 59 Sabi Sabi Private Game Reserve, South Africa 94.4 🏠
- 59 Singita Lebombo and Sweni, South Africa 94.4 🏠
- 59 Stephanie Inn, Cannon Beach, Oregon 94.4 🏠
- 59 Taj Lake Palace, Rajasthan 94.4 🏠
- 68 Jao Camp, Botswana 94.3 🏠
- 69 Rosewood Crescent Hotel, Dallas 94.2 🏠
- 70 Four Seasons Resort Hualalai, Big Island 94.1 🏠
- 70 Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman 94.1 🏠
- 72 Hôtel Le Germain-Dominion, Quebec City 94.0 🏠
- 72 Park Hyatt Tokyo 94.0 🏠
- 74 Baur au Lac, Zurich 93.9 🏠
- 74 Four Seasons, Prague 93.9 🏠
- 76 Hotel Murano, Tacoma 93.8 🏠
- 76 Jade Mountain, St. Lucia 93.8 🏠
- 76 Madikwe Safari Lodge, South Africa 93.8 🏠
- 76 The Reefs, Bermuda 93.8 🏠
- 76 Regent Berlin 93.8 🏠
- 76 Ritz-Carlton, Tokyo 93.8 🏠
- 82 Nisbet Plantation Beach Club, Nevis 93.7 🏠
- 83 Amangani, Jackson Hole 93.6 🏠
- 83 Rosewood Mansion on Turtle Creek, Dallas 93.6 🏠
- 83 Sandibe Okavango Safari Lodge, Botswana 93.6 🏠
- 83 The Wauwinet, Nantucket 93.6 🏠
- 87 La Réserve de Beaulieu, Côte d'Azur 93.5 🏠
- 87 Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong 93.5 🏠
- 87 Mandarin Oriental, Prague 93.5 🏠
- 90 Four Seasons Resort Lana'i at Manele Bay 93.4 🏠
- 90 The Setai, Miami Beach 93.4 🏠
- 90 Shangri-La Hotel, Bangkok 93.4 🏠
- 90 Stowe Mountain Lodge, Stowe, Vermont 93.4 🏠
- 90 Yachts of Seabourn 93.4 🏠
- 95 Casa Palmero, Pebble Beach 93.3 🏠
- 95 DumaTau Camp, Botswana 93.3 🏠
- 95 Fairmont Le Montreux Palace, Montreux 93.3 🏠
- 95 Lapa Rios Ecolodge, Costa Rica 93.3 🏠
- 99 Casa Santo Domingo, Antigua, Guatemala 93.2 🏠
- 99 Hotel Monasterio, Cuzco 93.2 🏠
- 99 Londolozzi, South Africa 93.2 🏠
- 99 MalaMala Game Reserve, South Africa 93.2 🏠
- 99 Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel, Dana Point, Calif. 93.2 🏠

KEY TO SYMBOLS 🚢 Cruise Line 🏠 Hotel 🏡 Resort

**METHODOLOGY** Every year since 1988, a select sample of *Condé Nast Traveler* readers have taken the Readers' Choice Survey. The questionnaire is available to all readers through a secure Web site. The final tabulations of 25,916 responses were done by Global Market Insight, Inc., of Boston. **Organization:** Poll categories (Cities, Hotels, etc.) are followed by the criteria for each. Questionnaires contained lists of candidates (individual cities, hotels, etc.), and write-ins were allowed. Only candidates that received a required minimum number of responses were deemed eligible for an award. **Evaluation:** Each candidate was rated, criterion by criterion, on a five-point scale: excellent, very good, good, fair, and poor. Criterion scores, which represent the percentage of respondents rating a candidate excellent or very good, were averaged to determine the final score. For example, in the Islands category, Maui's 90.7 is the average of its scores for Activities, Atmosphere/Ambience, Beaches, Friendliness, Lodging, Restaurants, and Scenery.

Highest rated (95.3) in all of Greece, Perivolos has only 17 rooms, which also makes this Santorini gem the top Small Hotel in Europe.

IF CONSISTENCY IS A VIRTUE, then the winning hotels on this year's list have it in spades. Of the 15 regions highlighted here, four have repeat No. 1's: **Il San Pietro di Positano** (97.2), the **21c Museum Hotel** in Louisville, Kentucky (97.7), the **Lapa Rios Ecolodge** on Costa Rica's Osa Peninsula (93.3), and the highest-rated hotel in the world, the Dominican Republic's **Peninsula House** (98.6). ● But consistency isn't the only virtue to emerge from this impressive roster. Of the 530 hotels on these pages, 80 began on our Hot List of the world's best new properties—and that includes multiple top scorers such as the **Four Seasons Gresham Palace Budapest** (95.0) and **Le Franschhoek Hotel & Spa** in South Africa (96.0). The trendsetting is even more pronounced in Asia, where 20 percent of the entire list consists of former Hot Listers, led by the formidable two-year-old **Peninsula Tokyo** (97.5).

TOP  
5  
HOTELS

## CENTRAL AMERICA

- 1 **Lapa Rios Ecolodge**, Osa Peninsula, Costa Rica 93.3
- 2 **Casa Santo Domingo**, Antigua, Guatemala 93.2
- 3 **Hotel Capitán Suizo**, Guanacaste, Costa Rica 82.6
- 4 **Hotel Grano de Oro**, San José 80.2
- 5 **Villa Caletas**, Puntarenas, Costa Rica 79.0

TOP  
75  
HOTELS

## SOUTHERN EUROPE

- 1 **Il San Pietro di Positano** 97.2
- 2 **Four Seasons Hotel Istanbul at Sultanahmet** 95.9
- 3 **Hôtel de Paris**, Monte Carlo 95.4
- 4 **Four Seasons Hotel George V**, Paris 95.1
- 4 **Le Sirenuse**, Positano 95.1
- 6 **Four Seasons Hotel Firenze**, Florence 94.4
- 7 **Four Seasons**, Prague 93.9
- 8 **Mandarin Oriental**, Prague 93.5
- 9 **Hôtel Ritz Paris** 92.5
- 10 **Hotel Métropole Monte-Carlo** 92.3
- 11 **Hotel Alfonso XIII** (Luxury Collection), Seville 92.0
- 12 **Ciragan Palace Kempinski**, Istanbul 91.8
- 13 **Westin Excelsior**, Florence 91.4
- 14 **Hotel Hassler**, Rome 91.1
- 14 **Park Hyatt Paris-Vendôme** 91.1
- 16 **Bairro Alto Hotel**, Lisbon 91.0
- 17 **Four Seasons Hotel Istanbul at the Bosphorus** 90.5
- 17 **Grand Hotel Villa Serbelloni**, Lake Como 90.5
- 17 **Le Meurice**, Paris 90.5
- 20 **Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat**, Côte d'Azur 90.4
- 21 **Four Seasons Hotel Ritz Lisbon** 90.3
- 22 **Hotel Grande Bretagne** (Luxury Collection), Athens 90.2
- 23 **Bauer Hotel**, Venice 90.1
- 23 **Bauer Il Palazzo**, Venice 90.1
- 25 **Four Seasons**, Milan 90.0
- 25 **Grand Hotel Excelsior Vittoria**, Sorrento 90.0
- 25 **Hôtel de la Cité**, Carcassonne 90.0
- 25 **Hotel Santa Caterina**, Amalfi 90.0
- 29 **Parador Hostal dos Reis Católicos**, Santiago de Compostela 89.9
- 30 **Swissôtel The Bosphorus**, Istanbul 89.7
- 31 **Royal Riviera**, Côte d'Azur 89.6
- 32 **Hotel Villa Real**, Madrid 89.5
- 33 **Londra Palace**, Venice 89.4
- 34 **Hôtel Plaza Athénée**, Paris 89.3
- 35 **Hotel Urban**, Madrid 89.0
- 36 **Hotel Maria Cristina** (Luxury Collection), San Sebastián 88.9
- 37 **Park Hyatt Milan** 88.5
- 38 **Fortyseven**, Rome 88.2
- 39 **Hotel Cipriani**, Venice 88.1
- 40 **Grand Hotel Quisisana**, Capri 88.0
- 41 **Hotel Arts**, Barcelona 87.7
- 42 **Olisippo Lapa Palace**, Lisbon 87.6
- 42 **Regent Esplanade Zagreb** 87.6
- 44 **Hotel Ritz Madrid** 87.4

Photograph by William Abranowicz

RATED ON

Food/Dining • Location • Overall Design • Rooms • Service