

Condé Nast Traveller

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READERS' TRAVEL AWARDS 2018

THE
WORLD'S
TOP 100

THE BEST ISLANDS, HOTELS,
SPAS, CITIES & COUNTRIES

FRESH LOWDOWNS
ON CLASSIC
DESTINATIONS

MEXICO, BANGKOK, NEW YORK, SICILY,
BUENOS AIRES, PROVENCE & TEL AVIV



THE READERS' TRAVEL AWARDS 2018

YOUR FAVOURITE PLACES, FIXERS & MOVERS IN THE WORLD

VIEW OF POSITANO ON THE AMALFI COAST, ITALY

HOTELS



OVERSEAS HOLIDAY HOTELS

Our 21st Readers' Travel Awards have many well-known names from over the years and a few relatively new arrivals. Many have flamboyant back-stories, most have fleets of intuitive staff, and all come with incredible settings, whether urban hub or island beach. In **THE MIDDLE EAST, AFRICA & THE INDIAN OCEAN**, Mauritius has long been a hit escape, and **Le Touessrok** has a loyal following not least for its service – which includes Segway-riding waiters delivering fruit platters on the sand. Last year's winner, **Singita Sabi Sand**, scored well for its inventive safari menus, but high marks all round took Cape Town's **Belmond Mount Nelson**,

with its recently redesigned east wing, to the top. A few well-tailored Sydney city hotels made it to your **AUSTRALASIA & THE SOUTH PACIFIC** list, but most votes were swept away by more escapist locations. At New Zealand's **Blanket Bay** lodge on the shores of Lake Wakatipu, menus of locally sourced crayfish, venison and wine got it high scores for food, while its over-water villas gave **Four Seasons Resort Bora Bora** the advantage for rooms. But **The Brando**, set on 12 private South Pacific islets, is in a world of its own. In **EUROPE**, **Six Senses Douro Valley** was liked for its modern-chic rooms; while **Belmond Hotel Splendido**

impressed with its Riviera elegance. At the top, **Hôtel du Cap-Eden-Roc**, an inspiration for F Scott Fitzgerald, is still a place to be written about more than a century after it opened.

In **ASIA & THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT** it's mainly about those ever-magnificent Indian palace hotels. With its grandstanding views, **The Taj Mahal Palace Hotel**, Mumbai, scored highly for location and atmosphere, while the beautiful rooms and intricate design at **The Oberoi Udaivilas** pushed it to the winning spot. In **THE AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN**, the ocean-side setting gave **The Cotton House** the edge for location, and when it comes to a swinging hammock next to a private plunge pool, **Viceroy Riviera Maya** was given full marks for rooms and atmosphere. And the food at **One&Only Palmilla** is considered the best, thanks largely to chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten.

THE MIDDLE EAST, AFRICA & THE INDIAN OCEAN

- 1 **BELMOND MOUNT NELSON HOTEL**, CAPE TOWN 92.25
- 2 **Singita Sabi Sand**, South Africa 92.01
- 3 **Four Seasons Resort Maldives at Landaa Giraavaru** 91.71
- 4 **Shangri-La's Le Touessrok Resort & Spa**, Mauritius 90.35
- 5 **One&Only The Palm Dubai** 90.33
- 6 **The St Regis Mauritius Resort** 90.11
- 7 **Soneva Fushi**, Maldives 89.92
- 8 **Four Seasons Resort Maldives at Kuda Huraa** 89.57
- 9 **Ulusaba Private Game Reserve**, South Africa 89.32
- 10 **Cape Grace**, Cape Town, South Africa 87.84
- 11 **One&Only Reethi Rah**, Maldives 86.45
- 12 **Emirates Palace**, Abu Dhabi 85.92
- 13 **Cheval Blanc Randheli**, Maldives 85.09
- 14 **One&Only Le Saint Géran**, Mauritius 83.84
- 15 **Burj Al Arab Jumeirah**, Dubai 82.68
- 16 **Six Senses Zil Pasyon**, Seychelles 80.99
- 17 **Jumeirah Al Naseem**, Dubai 79.93
- 18 **Bushmans Kloof Wilderness Reserve & Wellness Retreat**, South Africa 79.63
- 19 **Alila Jabal Akhdar**, Oman 79.28
- 20 **Giraffe Manor**, Nairobi, Kenya 78.54

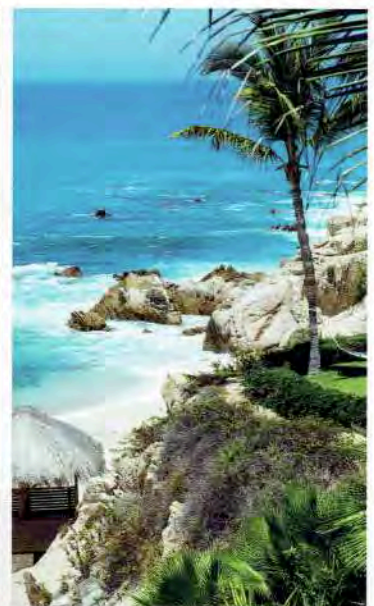


ASIA & THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

- 1 THE OBEROI UDAIVILAS UDAIPUR, INDIA 94.49
- 2 The Taj Mahal Palace Hotel, Mumbai, India 94.25
- 3 The Peninsula Hong Kong 92.48
- 4 Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok Thailand 91.13
- 5 Six Senses Yao Noi, Phang Nga, Thailand 90.49
- 6 The Fullerton Hotel, Singapore 89.09
- 7 Taj Lake Palace Hotel, Udaipur, India 88.35
- 8 Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong 86.78
- 9 The St Regis Bali Resort, Indonesia 85.21
- 10 Song Saa Private Island, Cambodia 84.35
- 11 Taj Falaknuma Palace, Hyderabad, India 83.14
- 12 The Oberoi Rajvillas, Jaipur, India 81.47
- 13 Amansara, Siem Reap, Cambodia 79.66
- 14 Six Senses Ninh Van Bay, Vietnam 79.53
- 15 Alila Ubud, Bali, Indonesia 78.19
- 16 The Upper House, Hong Kong 77.07
- 17 Nihi Sumba Island, Indonesia 75.72
- 18 Leela Palace, New Delhi, India 75.47
- 19 Amanpuri, Phuket, Thailand 75.03
- 20 Four Seasons Resrot Chiang Mai, Thailand 74.32

THE AMERICAS & CARIBBEAN

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| 1 ONE&ONLY PALMILLA, LOS CABOS, MEXICO 93.18 | 11 Delano South Beach, Miami, USA 81.28 |
| 2 Eden Rock – St Barths, St Barth's 91.99 | 12 Post Ranch Inn, Big Sur, California, USA 80.26 |
| 3 Viceroy Riviera Maya, Playa Del Carmen, Mexico 89.58 | 13 Auberge du Soleil, Napa Valley, California, USA 78.72 |
| 4 The Cotton House, Mustique 88.54 | 14 Round Hill Hotel and Villas, Montego Bay, Jamaica 77.26 |
| 5 Jumby Bay Island, Antigua 87.01 | 15 Amanera, Dominican Republic 75.43 |
| 6 Jamaica Inn, Ocho Rios, Jamaica 86.47 | 16 Cap Maison, Saint Lucia 74.93 |
| 7 Crosby Street Hotel, New York, USA 84.85 | 17 Montpelier Plantation & Beach, Nevis 73.19 |
| 8 The Beverly Hills Hotel, Los Angeles, USA 83.67 | 18 Sandy Lane, Barbados 72.46 |
| 9 Cheval Blanc St-Barth Isle de France, St Barth's 82.70 | 19 Palácio Tangará, São Paulo, Brazil 72.28 |
| 10 Rosewood Mayakoba, Playa del Carmen, Mexico 81.47 | 20 COMO Parrot Cay, Turks & Caicos 70.77 |



WHAT ARE ALL THESE NUMBERS? They are an index of satisfaction, scored out of a maximum of 100. In our Readers' Travel Awards 2018 questionnaire posted at cntraveller.com from 4 March to 3 May, you were asked to choose the best that the travel world has to offer – from hotels and spas to airlines and airports. You were then asked to rate your choices according to various criteria, such as service, design and value for money. From your responses, we calculated the average mark on each criterion, and used this to provide the overall satisfaction percentage figure you see on these pages and in The World's Top 100 on page 112. Edited by RICK JORDAN