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IN THE WORLD

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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.

Arquitectonica—with ergonomic desk chairs and a new ceviche lounge—situated on cliffs above the Pacific in picturesque Miraflores. 615 Avda. Malecón de la Reserva; 800/228-9290; jwmarriott.com; doubles from \$350-\$380.

MACHU PICCHU

Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel (93.47) A 12-acre retreat (85 terra-cotta-roofed casitas; plunge pools; an orchid garden) among waterfalls in the cloud forest below Machu Picchu. 800/442-5042; inkaterra.com; doubles from \$996, including breakfast, dinner, and excursions.

URUGUAY

CARMELO

Four Seasons Resort (95.20) 20 bungalows, 24 suites, and an Asian-influenced spa on a beach nestled between a eucalyptus forest and the Río de la Plata, all just a 3-hour trip north of Buenos Aires. Km 262, Ruta 21; 800/332-3442; fourseasons.com; doubles from \$240-\$445.

THE CARIBBEAN, BERMUDA, AND THE BAHAMAS

ANGUILLA

CuisinArt Golf Resort & Spa (88.29) Six whitewashed villas with 93 upgraded rooms, a new 7,000-square-foot sushi restaurant, the island's largest spa complex, and activities such as tennis, bocce, and croquet. Rendezvous Bay; 800/943-3210; cuisinartresort.com; doubles from \$440-\$815, including breakfast.

ANTIGUA

Curtain Bluff (91.29) Colonial-era style in 72 rooms and suites along Surf Beach; special once-a-week seafood dinners are served on the sand. St. John's; 888/289-9898; curtainbluff.com; doubles from \$715-\$795, all-inclusive.

Jumby Bay, A Rosewood Resort (88.17) The epitome of Caribbean luxury on a 300-acre island; a \$28 million reconstruction in 2009 added the open-air Sense spa and Estate Homes. Jumby Bay Island; 888/767-3966; rosewoodhotels.com; doubles from \$995-\$1,495, all-inclusive.

Sandals Grande Antigua Caribbean Village & Spa (87.72) A mega beach resort on Dickenson

Bay that's two properties in one: the Caribbean Grove is known for its 17 rondavels; the Mediterranean village has central piazzas and suites with Italian marble. St. John's; 800/726-3257; sandals.com; doubles from \$1,378-\$1,446, all-inclusive, 2-night minimum.

BAHAMAS

One&Only Ocean Club (88.98) British-colonial hideaway and a Jean-Georges restaurant, plus Adam Tihany interiors in the hotel's updated Crescent Wing. Paradise Island; 888/528-7157; oneandonlyresorts.com; doubles from \$540-\$995.

Sandals Emerald Bay (87.64) Two-year-old sprawling tropical resort that sports a Greg Norman golf course, French restaurant, and 60-slip marina for those arriving by boat. Great Exuma; 800/726-3257; sandals.com; doubles from \$1,540-\$1,670, all-inclusive, 2-night minimum.

BARBADOS

Sandy Lane (88.88) A Rolls-Royce Phantom airport transfer brings guests to this Palladian-style palace (a 7,500-square-foot swimming pool; tennis; jewelry boutiques) surrounded by 3 golf courses on a quiet bay. St. James; 866/444-4080; sandylane.com; doubles from \$1,040-\$1,445.

BERMUDA

Reefs Hotel & Club (87.93) 57 western-facing rooms on a pink-sand beach; the sunset views are unparalleled. Southampton; 800/742-2008; thereefs.com; doubles from \$410-\$670, including breakfast, afternoon tea, and dinner.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

Sugar Mill Hotel (87.20) 23-room cottage colony with alfresco stone showers; set in a former rum distillery just steps from a 200-foot private beach rimmed by tropical gardens. Tortola; 800/462-8834; sugarmillhotel.com; doubles from \$255-\$340.

Rosewood Little Dix Bay (87.71) Old-world touches (including restaurant dress codes) and water activities—sailing, snorkeling—on a pristine half-mile crescent beach. Virgin Gorda; 888/767-3966; rosewoodhotels.com; doubles from \$295-\$665.

No. 1
THE CARIBBEAN,
BERMUDA, AND
THE BAHAMAS



Cooling off in Nisbet Plantation Beach Club's pool, on Nevis.

CAYMAN ISLANDS

Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman (89.76) 365-room oceanfront haven offering nature tours crafted by Jean-Michel Cousteau, a La Prairie spa, and a restaurant by chef Eric Ripert. Seven Mile Beach; 800/241-3333; ritzcarlton.com; doubles from \$999.

JAMAICA

Couples Negril (91.21) Colorful, 234-room resort and 5 restaurants on 18 acres fronting Bloody Bay Beach. Negril; 800/268-7537; couples.com; doubles from \$333-\$680, all-inclusive.

Couples Sans Souci (92.41) Couples' most intimate Caribbean hideaway: 150 rooms overlooking a cove in Ocho Rios. St. Mary; 800/268-7537; couples.com; doubles from \$320-\$1,037, all-inclusive, 3-night minimum.

Couples Swept Away (92.93) 312 suites, waterskiing, pool volleyball, and even a nightclub, on 27 acres along Seven Mile Beach. Westmoreland; 800/268-7537; couples.com; doubles from \$342-\$630.

Couples Tower Isle (94.33) The original Couples property is a 226-room, all-inclusive, adults-only resort with an award-winning spa. Ocho Rios; 800/268-7537; couples.com; doubles from \$316-\$588.

Rockhouse Hotel (88.19) Chic-but-casual cliffside retreat: private sundecks, a chilled-out spa, a Jamaican

street-food restaurant, and great snorkeling. Negril; 876/957-4373; rockhousehotel.com; doubles from \$125-\$160.

NEVIS

No. 1 THE CARIBBEAN, BERMUDA, AND THE BAHAMAS

Nisbet Plantation Beach Club (95.24) Unpretentious 36-room wicker-and-wood inn and 1778 great house on 30 acres, the Caribbean's only historic plantation inn on the beach. 800/742-6008; nisbetplantation.com; doubles from \$391-\$670, including breakfast, tea, and dinner.

BEHIND THE SCENES Three on-site restaurants (the Great House, Coconuts, and Sea Breeze) and attentive service have made this Caribbean hotel a winner for 2 years running.

PUERTO RICO

Hotel El Convento (87.59) Lovingly preserved 17th-century former convent in Old San Juan with the perfect mix of Andalusian antiques and modern amenities. 100 Cristo St., San Juan; 800/468-2779; elconvento.com; doubles from \$255-\$340.

ST. BART'S

Eden Rock - St. Barths (92.00) A 34-room, celebrity-studded hotel complete with an art gallery and studio and 2 open-air restaurants where ingredients are sourced from the on-site herb and vegetable garden. Baie de St. Jean;

877/563-7105; edenrockhotel.com; doubles from \$675-\$929.

Hotel Saint-Barth Isle de France (92.57) Beach club-style boutique hotel, a Natura Bissé spa, and 2 new villas on the island's widest stretch of sand. Baie de Flamands; 800/810-4691; isle-de-france.com; doubles from \$650-\$961, including breakfast and airport transfers.

ST. LUCIA

Anse Chastanet Resort (88.25) Nature-centric hillside cottages in a 600-acre forest on the volcanic southwestern coast. Soufrière; 800/223-1108; ansechastanet.com; doubles from \$330-\$495.

Jade Mountain (90.49) The 29 open-air suites have either a private infinity pool or whirlpool—and only 3 walls, for dramatic Piton views. Soufrière; 800/223-1108; jademountainstlucia.com; doubles from \$950-\$1,200.

NEW Jalousie Plantation, Sugar Beach (90.25) Beachfront bungalows on a former sugar estate, undergoing a \$100 million renovation before relaunching as Tides Sugar Beach this fall. La Baie de Silence; 800/235-4300; jalousieplantation.com; doubles from \$330-\$550.

Ladera (92.30) 32 mountainside villas and suites open to the elements on one side; guests spend their days on boat tours, in cooking classes, and lounging by the infinity pool. Soufrière; 866/290-0978; ladera.com; doubles from \$400-\$665.

TURKS AND CAICOS

NEW Amanara (88.00) West Indian outpost of Amanresorts—all polished concrete and terrazzo—on a marine preserve. Providenciales; 800/477-9180; amanresorts.com; doubles from \$1,250-\$1,400.

NEW Gansevoort Hotel (87.75) Four-year-old 91-room resort with a South Beach vibe. Grace Bay Beach; 888/844-5986; gansevoortturksandcaicos.com; doubles from \$350-\$625.

Grace Bay Club (88.08) Resort complex with an adults-only wing, family villas, and a 5,157-square-foot gym and spa. Providenciales; 800/946-5757; gracebayresorts.com; doubles from \$575-\$995.

Parrot Cay (87.85) A wellness-oriented private-island resort with feng shui-approved Asian accents and the top-notch Como Shambhala spa. Providenciales; 877/754-0726; como.bz; doubles from \$545.

Regent Palms (92.00) Five low-slung buildings on Grace Bay Beach make up the only Regent in the Americas. Perks include a new kids' club. Providenciales; 800/967-9044; regenthotels.com; doubles from \$625-\$850.

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

Ritz-Carlton (87.90) Mangrove-shrouded beach escape (infinity pool; sushi bar; aquatic center) on 30 acres in Great Bay. St. Thomas; 800/241-3333; ritzcarlton.com; doubles from \$399-\$699.

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, AND THE SOUTH PACIFIC

AUSTRALIA

KATOOMBA

Lilianfels Blue Mountain Resort & Spa (89.87) 85-room storybook country manor in the Blue Mountains, just 90 minutes from Sydney. 61-02/4780-1200; lilianfels.com.au; doubles from \$264-\$677.

MELBOURNE



No. 1 AUSTRALIA

Langham Hotel (90.55) Langham's first hotel down under, located between the Royal Botanic Gardens and the Yarra River, now with Club Terrace rooms that open onto 527-square-foot balconies. 1 Southgate Ave.; 800/588-9141; langhamhotels.com; doubles from \$312-\$672.

T+L TIP A short walk from the hotel is top Sydney chef Neil Perry's Rockpool Bar & Grill (dinner for two \$160), which serves more than 10 cuts of premium Australian steak

Park Hyatt (90.29) Peaceful Art Deco gem overlooking St. Patrick's Cathedral, a 5-minute stroll from downtown. 1 Parliament Square; 877/875-4658; park.hyatt.com; doubles from \$312-\$744.

No. 1 AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, AND THE SOUTH PACIFIC



The main living room at the Lodge at Kauri Cliffs, along Matauri Bay in New Zealand.

SYDNEY

InterContinental (88.53) Centrally located tower set in the 1851 Treasury Building; the Club InterContinental lounge has some of the best harbor views in town. 117 Macquarie St.; 800/327-0200; intercontinental.com; doubles from \$350.

Park Hyatt (88.00) Four-story hotel, primed after a \$65 million transformation, that's now topped by 3 new rooftop suites—directly opposite the Opera House. 7 Hickson Rd.; 877/875-4658; park.hyatt.com; doubles from \$763.

FRENCH POLYNESIA

BORA-BORA

InterContinental Bora Bora Resort & Thalasso Spa (93.56) The ultimate fantasy: 80 Polynesian-style villas perched above the Motu Piti Aau coral reef. 800/327-0200; intercontinental.com; doubles from \$1,079-\$1,755.

NEW ZEALAND

MATAURI BAY

No. 1 AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, AND THE SOUTH PACIFIC

Lodge at Kauri Cliffs (96.25) North Island cliffside lodge, golf

course, and top spa on 6,000 acres with waterfalls and private beaches. 800/735-2478; kauricliffs.com; doubles from \$1,140-\$1,485, including breakfast and dinner.

T+L TIP Ask the Kauri Cliffs team to pack a picnic (soba noodles; smoked-salmon sandwiches) before heading to Pink Beach, one of Kauri Cliffs' private coves; in summer, barbecue dinners are served on the sand.

QUEENSTOWN

NEW Sofitel Queenstown Hotel & Spa (87.33) French-style, 82-room hotel and new lobby on the edge of Queenstown's lively center, reborn after a \$2 million upgrade last year. 800/763-4835; sofitel.com; doubles from \$262-\$599.

TAUPO

Huka Lodge (92.57) The ne plus ultra of New Zealand lodges, thanks to an idyllic Waikato River garden setting and an extensive roster of activities (fishing, hiking, golf). 64-7/378-5791; hukalodge.com; doubles from \$1,193-\$2,130, including breakfast and dinner. +

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