

Condé Nast Traveler

2011 READERS'
CHOICE
AWARDS*

TRUTH IN TRAVEL // NOVEMBER 2011

BEST IN THE WORLD!
HOTELS, ISLANDS, AIRLINES, CITIES, CRUISES

TOP **100**

PLUS

**SOUTH SEAS
PARADISE**
INSIDER'S GUIDE TO
24 IDYLIC ISLES

BHUTAN
THE ULTIMATE
HIMALAYAN HIGH

**6 DAZZLING
DAYS IN BRAZIL**
A STEP-BY-STEP
ITINERARY

25
SECRETS TO
SAVVY TRAVEL
(SAVE BIG NOW!)







SPECIAL REPORT

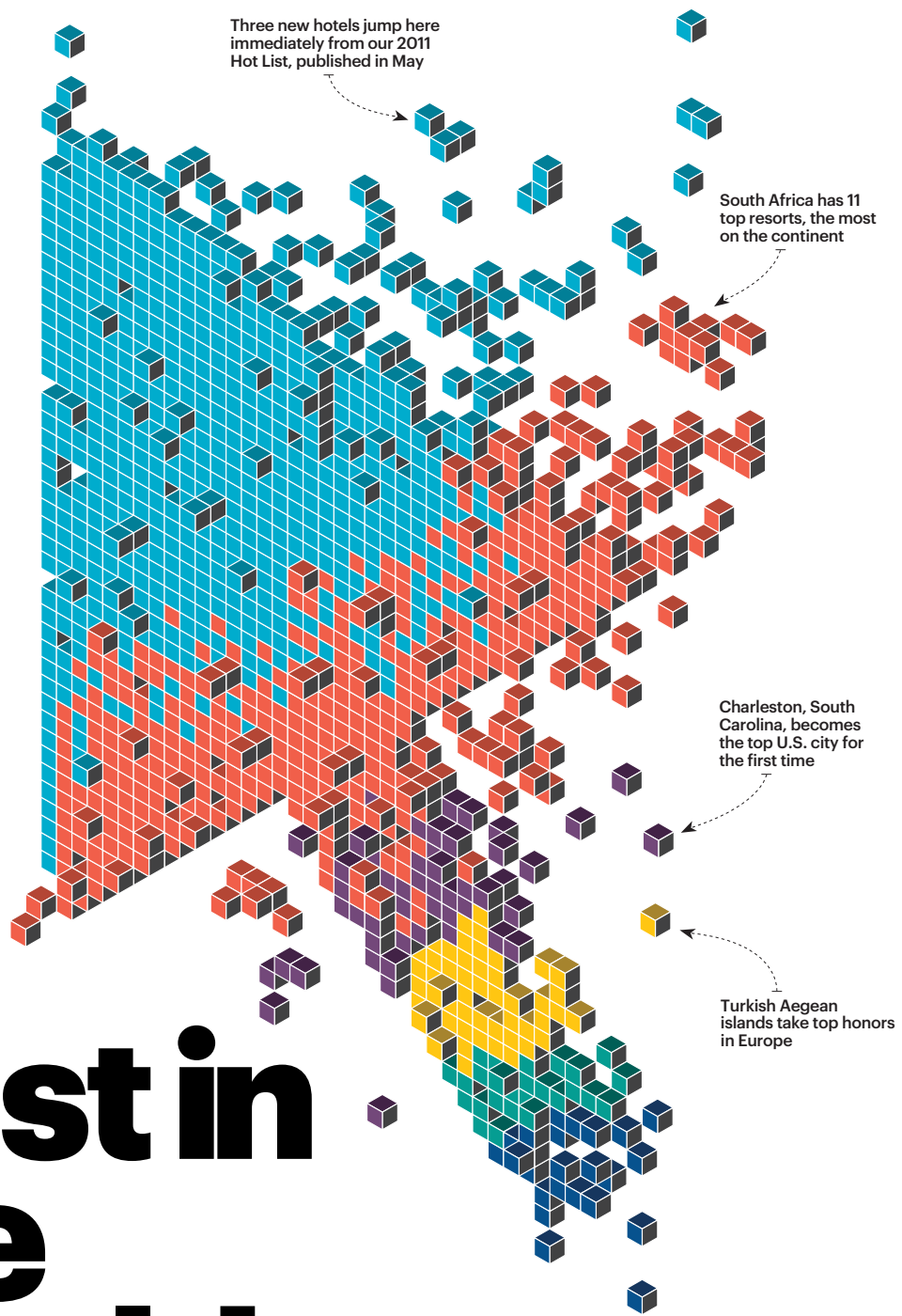
THE TRUTH
ABOUT AIRPORT
SECURITY

* Rated by the
28,876 most discriminating
travelers on earth



2011 Readers' Choice Awards

-  Hotels 665
-  Resorts 455
-  Cities 55
-  Islands 55
-  Airlines 30
-  Cruise Lines 25



Best in the World

Cities, Islands, Hotels, Resorts, Cruises, Airlines

Here they are, the final winners sifted from more than 8 million votes cast in our annual Readers' Choice Awards survey, swept up together to form travel's apex of excellence. Each cube represents one of the 1,285 top scorers who arrived at their allotted place on the following pages (color coded by category).

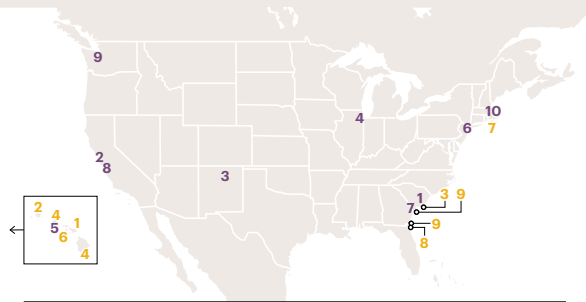
These awards reflect the combined opinions of 28,876 *Condé Nast Traveler* readers rating the cities, islands, and hotels they visited in the past year, and the airlines and cruise ships they traveled with. For its range and depth, the Readers' Choice Awards are a unique and trusted source of advice globally, and that is thanks to America's most discerning and demanding travelers—you.



Download our digital edition, debuting this month (see page 22 for more) and you'll find a photo gallery of the Top 100 winners (see next page) as well as detailed pages on all 1,120 top hotels and resorts.

United States

It's a year of firsts on our domestic lists: A perennial top-ten U.S. city, Charleston grabs the No. 1 spot for the first time in a list dominated by coastal cities. Chicago's Elysian Hotel and Williamsburg's Colonial Houses each make their Readers' Choice Awards debuts as our nation's top hotels.



TOP 10 CITIES

- 1 Charleston, S.C. 84.7
- 2 San Francisco 83.7
- 3 Santa Fe 83.0
- 4 Chicago 82.2
- 5 Honolulu 80.9
- 6 New York 80.8
- 7 Savannah 79.1
- 8 Carmel, Calif. 78.5
- 9 Seattle 78.4
- 10 Boston 78.0

TOP 10 ISLANDS

- 1 Maui 92.1
- 2 Kauai 90.0
- 3 Kiawah, S.C. 86.6
- 4 Big Island 85.8
- 4 Oahu 85.8
- 6 Lanai 84.6
- 7 Nantucket 82.4
- 8 Amelia Island, Fla. 81.1
- 9 Cumberland Island, Ga. 80.2
- 9 Hilton Head, S.C. 80.2

Resorts

TOP 150

MAINLAND U.S.

- 1 Resort at Pelican Hill, Newport Coast, Calif. 96.3
- 2 Westin Riverfront Resort & Spa at Beaver Creek Mountain, Avon, Colo. 96.1
- 3 Sanctuary at Kiawah Island Golf Resort, S.C. 95.9
- 4 CordeValle (Rosewood), San Martin, Calif. 95.2
- 4 Hotel Terra, Jackson Hole 95.2
- 6 Lodge at Pebble Beach 95.0
- 7 Lodge & Club, Ponte Vedra, Fla. 94.8
- 8 Lodge at Woodloch, Hawley, Pa. 93.1
- 9 Stowe Mountain Lodge, Vt. 93.0
- 10 Ritz-Carlton, Lake Tahoe 92.9
- 10 Whiteface Lodge, Lake Placid 92.9
- 12 LaPlaya Beach & Golf Resort, Naples, Fla. 92.6
- 12 WaterColor Inn & Resort, Santa Rosa Beach, Fla. 92.6
- 14 Inn at Spanish Bay, Pebble Beach 92.5
- 15 Arrabelle at Vail Square 92.4
- 16 Montage Laguna Beach, Calif. 92.1
- 16 Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel, Dana Point, Calif. 92.1
- 18 The Breakers, Palm Beach 91.9
- 19 The Broadmoor, Colorado Springs 91.6
- 20 Mohonk Mountain House, New Paltz, N.Y. 91.5
- 21 Miraval Resort & Spa, Tucson 91.3
- 21 Wynn Las Vegas 91.3
- 23 Enchantment Resort, Sedona 91.2
- 23 Ritz-Carlton, Dove Mountain, Tucson 91.2
- 25 Four Seasons Resort Jackson Hole 91.0
- 25 Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay, Calif. 90.8
- 26 Viceroy Snowmass, Colo. 90.8
- 26 Wequassett Resort and Golf Club, Cape Cod 90.8
- 29 The Phoenician and Canyon Suites (Luxury Collection), Scottsdale 90.4
- 30 Ritz-Carlton, Naples, Fla. 90.3
- 31 Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples, Fla. 90.2
- 31 St. Regis Monarch Beach, Dana Point, Calif. 90.2
- 33 Ocean Key Resort & Spa, Key West 90.0
- 33 Sanctuary on Camelback Mountain, Scottsdale 90.0
- 35 Barnsley Gardens Resort, Adairsville, Ga. 89.9
- 36 Stein Eriksen Lodge, Park City 89.7
- 37 Ritz-Carlton, Bachelor Gulch, Avon, Colo. 89.6
- 38 The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, W.Va. 89.5
- 39 Palazzo Las Vegas 89.4
- 40 Inn at Palmetto Bluff, Bluffton, S.C. 89.3
- 41 Marco Island Marriott Beach Resort, Golf Club & Spa, Fla. 89.1

- 41 Solage Calistoga, Napa Valley 89.1
- 43 Waldorf Astoria Park City 89.0
- 44 Brazilian Court, Palm Beach 88.8
- 44 The Little Nell, Aspen 88.8
- 44 Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. 88.8
- 44 Ritz-Carlton, Palm Beach 88.8
- 48 Four Seasons Resort The Biltmore, Santa Barbara 88.7
- 48 Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island 88.7
- 50 Ocean House, Watch Hill, R.I. 88.6
- 51 Inn at Bay Harbor, Little Traverse Bay, Mich. 88.4
- 52 The Cloister, Sea Island, Ga. 88.3
- 52 Inn at Harbour Town, Hilton Head 88.3
- 52 Rancho Valencia Resort, Rancho Santa Fe, Calif. 88.3
- 55 Alderbrook Resort & Spa, Union, Wash. 88.1
- 55 Ritz-Carlton Lodge, Reynolds Plantation, Greensboro, Ga. 88.1
- 55 Royal Palms Resort and Spa, Phoenix 88.1
- 55 Tulalip Resort Casino, Tulalip, Wash. 88.1
- 59 West Baden Springs Hotel, French Lick, Ind. 87.9
- 60 Canyon Ranch, Lenox, Mass. 87.6
- 60 Woodmark Hotel, Yacht Club & Spa, Kirkland, Wash. 87.6
- 62 Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale at Troon North 87.4

- 63 Big Cedar Lodge, Ridgedale, Mo. 87.3
- 63 Chatham Bars Inn, Cape Cod 87.3
- 65 Sanderling Resort & Spa, Duck, N.C. 87.2
- 66 Costa d'Este, Vero Beach, Fla. 87.1
- 66 Disney's Grand Floridian Resort & Spa, Lake Buena Vista, Fla. 87.1
- 68 American Club, Kohler, Wis. 87.0
- 68 Cheeca Lodge & Spa, Islamorada, Fla. 87.0
- 68 Williamsburg Inn, Va. 87.0
- 71 St. Regis Deer Valley Resort, Park City 86.8
- 71 Sundance Resort, Utah 86.8
- 73 Disney's Wilderness Lodge, Lake Buena Vista, Fla. 86.7
- 73 El Monte Sagrado, Taos 86.7
- 73 La Torretta del Lago Resort & Spa, Montgomery, Tex. 86.7
- 73 The Sagamore, Lake George, N.Y. 86.7
- 73 St. Regis Aspen Resort 86.7
- 73 Teton Mountain Lodge & Spa, Jackson Hole 86.7
- 79 Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort and Spa at Gainey Ranch 86.6
- 79 Park Hyatt Aviara Resort, Carlsbad, Calif. 86.6
- 81 Renaissance Vinoy Resort & Golf Club, St. Petersburg, Fla. 86.5
- 82 Lodge at Torrey Pines, La Jolla 86.4
- 83 Willows Lodge, Woodinville, Wash. 86.3
- 83 W South Beach Hotel & Residences 86.3
- 85 ONE Bal Harbour Resort & Spa, Fla. 86.2
- 85 Resort at Squaw Creek, Lake Tahoe 86.2
- 87 Ahwahnee Hotel, Yosemite 86.1
- 88 Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, Mich. 86.0
- 88 Omphoy Ocean Resort, Palm Beach 86.0
- 90 Disney's Animal Kingdom Lodge, Lake Buena Vista, Fla. 85.9
- 90 Park Hyatt Beaver Creek Resort and Spa 85.9
- 92 Grove Park Inn Resort & Spa, Asheville, N.C. 85.8
- 93 Jupiter Beach Resort & Spa, Jupiter, Fla. 85.7
- 93 Loews Portofino Bay Hotel at Universal, Orlando 85.7
- 93 Pines Lodge, Beaver Creek 85.7
- 96 Ritz-Carlton, Sarasota 85.5
- 97 Biltmore Hotel, Coral Gables 85.4
- 97 Cave B Inn & Spa, Quincy, Wash. 85.4

California's Resort at Pelican Hill opened in 2008, appeared on our 2009 Hot List, emerged among top U.S. Mainland Resorts in 2010, and rises to No. 1 this year.

Jean-Michel Gathy and Kelly Wearstler contributed their vision and skills to Colorado's Viceroy Snowmass, which achieves a design score of 96.6, its highest score in any category.

VINTAGE GLORY Spanish revival at the Four Seasons Biltmore, Santa Barbara.





ULTIMATE UTAH The Sagestone Spa and an “adventure concierge” make the 106-room Red Mountain Resort as healthy as luxury gets.

- 99 **Disney's Grand Californian Hotel & Spa**, Anaheim 85.3
- 99 **Hyatt Regency Huntington Beach**, Calif. 85.3
- 101 **Cranwell Resort, Spa and Golf Club**, Lenox, Mass. 85.2
- 102 **L'Auberge Del Mar**, Calif. 85.1
- 102 **Loews Royal Pacific Resort at Universal**, Orlando 85.1
- 102 **Ritz-Carlton**, Key Biscayne 85.1
- 105 **JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa**, Phoenix 85.0
- 105 **Williamsburg Lodge**, Va. 85.0
- 107 **Boulders Resort & Golden Door Spa**, Scottsdale 84.9
- 107 **Grand View Lodge**, Nisswa, Minn. 84.9
- 107 **The Homestead**, Hot Springs, Va. 84.9
- 110 **Hotel Telluride** 84.8
- 110 **Rancho de los Caballeros**, Wickenburg, Ariz. 84.8
- 112 **Meadowood Napa Valley**, St. Helena 84.7
- 113 **Four Seasons Resort and Club Dallas at Las Colinas** 84.6
- 113 **Hotel del Coronado**, San Diego 84.6
- 113 **Loews Ventana Canyon Resort**, Tucson 84.6
- 116 **Gasparilla Inn & Club**, Boca Grande, Fla. 84.5
- 116 **Sonnenalp Resort of Vail** 84.5
- 116 **Terranea Resort**, Palos Verdes, Calif. 84.5
- 119 **Disney's BoardWalk Inn**, Lake Buena Vista, Fla. 84.4
- 119 **Renaissance Lodge at Sonoma** 84.4
- 121 **Fairmont Scottsdale Princess** 84.3
- 121 **Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club & Spa**, Point Clear, Ala. 84.3
- 121 **Ritz-Carlton**, Fort Lauderdale 84.3
- 121 **Westin Monache Resort**, Mammoth Lakes, Calif. 84.3
- 121 **Wild Dunes Resort**, Isle of Palms, S.C. 84.3

- 126 **Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes** 84.2
- 127 **Bacara Resort & Spa**, Santa Barbara 84.1
- 127 **Canyon Ranch**, Tucson 84.1
- 127 **Legacy Golf Resort**, Phoenix 84.1
- 130 **Hyatt Regency Hill Country**, San Antonio 84.0
- 130 **Marco Beach Ocean Resort**, Fla. 84.0
- 132 **Grand Del Mar**, San Diego 83.9
- 132 **JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort & Spa**, Tucson 83.9
- 134 **Beau Rivage**, Biloxi 83.8
- 134 **Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort**, Santa Ana Pueblo, N.M. 83.8
- 134 **Mirror Lake Inn Resort and Spa**, Lake Placid 83.8
- 137 **Ojai Valley Inn & Spa**, Calif. 83.7
- 137 **Osthoff Resort**, Elkhart Lake, Wis. 83.7
- 137 **Red Mountain Resort**, Ivins, Utah 83.7
- 140 **Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek** 83.6
- 141 **Disney's Vero Beach Resort**, Fla. 83.4
- 142 **Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa**, Fla. 83.3
- 142 **Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress**, Orlando 83.3
- 142 **JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa**, Palm Desert, Calif. 83.3
- 142 **Westin Kierland Resort & Spa**, Scottsdale 83.3
- 146 **Sandia Resort & Casino**, Albuquerque 83.2
- 147 **JW Marriott Camelback Inn**, Scottsdale 83.1
- 147 **Tortuga Beach Club Resort**, Sanibel Island 83.1
- 147 **Westin Key West Resort & Marina** 83.1
- 150 **Falling Rock at Nemaquin Woodlands Resort**, Farmington, Pa. 83.0
- 150 **Pinehurst Resort**, N.C. 83.0
- 150 **Woodstock Inn & Resort**, Vt. 83.0

TOP 30

SMALL RESORTS

- 1 **Keswick Hall at Monticello**, Va. 94.7
- 2 **Mii Amo**, Sedona 94.0
- 3 **Amangani**, Jackson Hole 93.5
- 4 **New Sheridan Hotel**, Telluride 92.9
- 5 **Kenwood Inn and Spa**, Sonoma Valley 92.7
- 6 **Elizabeth Pointe Lodge**, Amelia Island, Fla. 92.5
- 7 **Lake Austin Spa Resort**, Austin 92.4
- 8 **Rabbit Hill Inn**, Lower Waterford, Vt. 91.6
- 9 **Little Palm Island Resort & Spa**, Little Torch Key 91.2
- 10 **Sunset Key Guest Cottages** (Westin), Key West 90.6
- 11 **Canoe Bay**, Chetek, Wis. 87.3
- 11 **Triple Creek Ranch**, Darby, Mont. 87.3
- 13 **CopperWynd Resort and Club**, Scottsdale 87.0
- 14 **Little St. Simons Island**, Ga. 86.8
- 15 **Calistoga Ranch**, Napa Valley 86.6
- 16 **Inn at Langley**, Whidbey Island, Wash. 85.7
- 17 **Mirbeau Inn & Spa**, Skaneateles, N.Y. 85.4
- 18 **Vail Mountain Lodge & Spa** 85.2
- 19 **Lodge at Sea Island Golf Club**, St. Simons Island, Ga. 84.8
- 20 **Inn at Thorn Hill & Spa**, Jackson, N.H. 84.3
- 21 **Rusty Parrot Lodge**, Jackson Hole 84.1
- 22 **Winvian**, Litchfield Hills, Conn. 83.9
- 23 **Charlotte Inn**, Martha's Vineyard 83.6
- 24 **Jenny Lake Lodge**, Grand Teton National Park 83.4
- 25 **Osprey at Beaver Creek** 82.1
- 26 **Litchfield Plantation**, Pawley's Island, S.C. 82.0
- 27 **Hermosa Inn**, Paradise Valley, Ariz. 81.0
- 28 **Greystone Inn**, Lake Toxaway, N.C. 80.9
- 29 **Mission Ranch**, Carmel 80.5
- 30 **Ten Thousand Waves**, Santa Fe 80.4

TOP 20

HAWAII RESORTS

- 1 **Travaasa Hana** (formerly Hotel Hana-Maui) 95.0
- 2 **Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea** 93.9
- 3 **Trump International Hotel Waikiki Beach Walk** 93.7
- 4 **Four Seasons Resort Hualalai**, Big Island 93.4
- 4 **Four Seasons Resort Lana'i at Manele Bay** 93.4
- 6 **Four Seasons Resort Lana'i, The Lodge at Koele** 93.1
- 7 **Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort & Spa** 92.6
- 8 **St. Regis Princeville Resort**, Kauai 91.8
- 9 **Fairmont Orchid**, Big Island 91.2
- 10 **Kahala Hotel & Resort**, Oahu 89.8
- 11 **Grand Wailea**, Maui 89.3
- 12 **Fairmont Kea Lani**, Maui 89.0
- 13 **Hyatt Regency Maui Resort & Spa** 87.8
- 14 **Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua**, Maui 86.9
- 15 **JW Marriott Ihilani Resort and Spa**, Oahu 86.8
- 16 **Mauna Lani Bay Hotel & Bungalows**, Big Island 86.7
- 17 **Kauai Marriott Resort & Beach Club** 84.7
- 18 **Hilton Waikoloa Village**, Big Island 83.7
- 19 **Hyatt Regency Waikiki Resort & Spa** 83.3
- 20 **Mauna Kea Beach Hotel**, Big Island 83.2



Virginia's Keswick Hall at Monticello holds the No. 1 ranking for a second year in a row, earning its best scores for dining and design.



A newcomer to the list of Hawaiian resorts, the Trump International Hotel in Honolulu, which opened in 2009, was the first new luxury property on Waikiki Beach in over a decade.