

Wednesday, Feb. 1st 2012

signonsandiego.com 748,628 UVs for  
December 2011 | Compete

**U-T**  
San Diego

**BUSINESS**

## Another best hotels list, another SD hotel



The 45-acre Rancho Valencia made U.S. News & World Report's list of top 10 hotels in the country. — Rancho Valencia



Written by  
**Lori  
Weisberg**

7:28 a.m., Feb. 1, 2012

Rancho Valencia, in the midst of a \$20 million overhaul, is the only San Diego property to make it onto U.S. News & World Report's just-released ranking of the top luxury hotels in the country.

The latest in a recent slew of "best of" lists in the lodging industry, the magazine's compilation is based on an analysis of expert and user opinions. It takes into consideration not only awards bestowed by respected travel publications, but it also looks at guest ratings on [tripadvisor.com](http://tripadvisor.com).

"The properties reflected on this list are winners not only for their luxurious amenities, fine service and lavish décor, but also for the way they showcase America's diversity," the magazine explained. "These properties range from major hotel brands to independent boutiques, and you'll find them in

states from California to Montana to South Carolina."

The Rancho Santa Fe resort, which in 2010 sold for more than \$15 million, ranked number seven in the nation and number one in California. The only other San Diego County hotels to make the "Best Hotels in the USA" list were the Grand Del Mar (no. 13) in Carmel Valley and The Lodge at Torrey Pines in La Jolla (no. 141).

The renovation of Rancho Valencia, which got underway this month, includes added meeting space, a new restaurant, redesigned ballroom and yoga pavilion, all of which requires shutting down the 49-suite hotel for about six months.