

## It List 2020: Our Editors’ Picks of the Best New Hotels in the World

BY [TRAVEL + LEISURE STAFF](#)

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COURTESY OF CAMISSA HOUSE

A great hotel offers more than merely a place to rest your head and stow your stuff between sightseeing excursions. A truly standout property can offer new insight into a beloved place; bring fresh energy to a been-there, done-that neighborhood; even become a destination in its own right. That’s why we here at T+L spend months obsessively tracking new openings and major overhauls, consulting our trusted network of travel pros and jetsetting writers, and traversing the globe in search of the most memorable, game-changing hotels of the year for our annual It List.

This year, our guide to the essential openings (and reopenings) of the past year took us to 32 countries in pursuit of the unforgettable. Over the course of 2019, T+L writers and editors have trekked to [a remote West Texas escape](#) that feels like a supersize Donald Judd sculpture, hooked trout at [a fly-fishing retreat in remote Patagonia](#), and soaked in the spring-fed baths of [a Taiwan resort](#) until their fingers went prune — tough work, but we're just *that committed* to the cause. This isn't merely a list of the most high-end resorts, nor is it a who's-who of major [hotel chains](#), though you'll find both splurgey stays and familiar brands in the mix. Instead, we've aimed to showcase the properties that are at the top of their game and adding something new to the conversation, whether they're century-old stalwarts fresh off a major reno or intimate family-run boutiques that hit the sweet spot between hotel hospitality and vacation-rental hominess.

Ahead, you'll find a stay for every style and mood. There's [a Loire Valley château](#), reborn as a grande dame for the modern era. A [sleek beach retreat](#) in Asbury Park challenges the notion that the Jersey Shore is merely a regional summer hang for the tri-state area, and in Queens, the [converted TWA terminal](#) has thrown down the gauntlet for airport hotels the world over. We've got end-of-the-world escapes in [Bolivia](#) and [Namibia](#), chic city hotels in [Cape Town](#) and [the UAE](#), and wellness resorts that will suit both [hardcore health nuts](#) and the merely [spa-curious](#). Read on for all 72 properties on the 2020 It List — your next vacation spot awaits.

*Edited by Lila Harron Battis & John Wogan*

**Canyon Ranch Woodside — Woodside, California**



COURTESY OF CANYON RANCH

There's only one thing to do at Canyon Ranch Woodside, the third property from the legendary wellness brand: slow down and embrace introspection. Nature sets the tone and rhythm of the 38-room property, composed of a lodge, stand-alone treehouses, and 16 acres of redwoods, madrone trees, Douglas firs, and oaks. The spa offers treatments using Pacific sea salts and botanicals from Northern California; the fitness room, with yoga and Bosu balance classes, is equipped with circadian lighting; fireside chats feature wellness advisors, from singing bowl practitioners to life coaches; and the kitchen sources ingredients from nearby farms (lamb kebabs with chermoula and pomegranate; choux farci with mixed mushrooms and smoked tomato sauce). The outdoors strongly influences the indoors too, with sky- or foliage-themed rooms dressed in subdued hues and natural fabrics. Get a good night's sleep courtesy of a white-noise machine and temperature-controlled pillow-top mattresses, then awake from your slumber to the curtain-free view of the sun peering through the redwoods. *Doubles from \$899 per person, all-inclusive.* — Lisa Cheng