

CONDÉ NAST

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Introducing the 2018 Hot List

by CNT EDITORS

For the 22nd edition of the Hot List—our picks of the year's top hotel openings—these 102 outstanding winners represent not just the vanguard of the world, but where travelers are headed next.

The term *hot* is not something we throw around lightly at *Condé Nast Traveler*. Every year, we vet hundreds of new hotels that swing open their doors promising all sorts of industry catnip: raw-silk Italian sheets, customized Ayurvedic dining, views of some blindingly cerulean bay that no human has ever woken up to before. Most of these openings are good. Many of them, great. But only a fraction are what we'd deem hot. To determine this, we've cultivated an army of the most discerning hotel sleuths—*Traveler* staff as well as a network of trusted contributors across six continents that we call on year-round—to make sure that nary a perfectly mixed lobby bar old-fashioned nor unfluffed swan-down pillow goes undocumented. We arm our scouts with a survey that's been developed and refined over the past 22 years, with questions that get at the practical (Is the Wi-Fi signal strong enough to download a movie? What's the must-order on the room service menu?) and the emotional, or even sociological (How does the hotel make you feel? Is there a lobby vibe? What celeb can you imagine hanging out at the pool?). We then cull close to a thousand pages of hotel dossiers to come up with our final list. This year, 102 properties, fewer than 25 percent of the hotels we CSI-ed, made the cut.

Keep reading to find out why we think they're extraordinary, and see how beautiful these places are in our [gallery of hotels](#).

UNITED STATES

CALIFORNIA

[Proper Hotel San Francisco](#)