



The Best Hotels and Resorts in the World: The 2019 Gold List

85 PHOTOS

by CNT EDITORS
December 11, 2018



The editors' favorite hotels and resorts of all time.

This year's Gold List of our editors' favorite hotels, resorts, and cruise ships in the world is the first transatlantic list for *Traveler*, created by teams in New York and London. It spans six continents and 36 countries. They're gold as in exceptional. Gold as in classic. Gold as in brilliant. Gold as in you'd do it all tomorrow. ([Click here](#) to view as a list.)

Asia



HOTEL

The Opposite House, Beijing, China →

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The building's textile-clad façade and verdant latticework by Japanese architect Kengo Kuma creates a palpable sense of calm—ideal for meditating on the deeper cultural meaning behind contemporary Chinese artworks in the atrium, such as *Beijing Memory No. 1* and *No. 2*, Li Xiaofeng's wearable cheongsam and military breastplate covered in Ming and Qing-dynasty porcelain shards, and ceramicist Fiona Wong's ghostly, lace-like *White Wings*. There's also a 20-foot-high Chinese apothecary chest of 6,000 drawers in the lobby, and the multilingual staff shuffling around in all-black outfits further add to the art-gallery vibe. More straightforward are the 99 open-plan guest rooms finished in oak wood and Turkish sandstone, with Japanese-style *furo* soaking tubs and powerful overhead rain showers. The complimentary 'maxi-bar' features craft brews from the nearby Arrow Factory and bottles of orange-flavored Arctic Ocean soda, the nectar of any Beijing childhood. A decade after the hotel opened, the Sanlitun area surrounding the House has blossomed. Cross the street to Dover Street Market, where you're likely to spy staff nipping out to pick up niche items at pop-up events. Follow the scent of date wood back to the hotel's Jing Yaa Tang restaurant: cumin-laced lamb skewer and fiery *kung pao* chicken from a cage-free farm south of Beijing deliver just the right amount of anticipation, while the master roaster glazes your duck with his secret combination of osmanthus, honey, vinegar, molasses, and crushed dates. Order an Old Peking as nightcap, made with Diplomático Reserva Exclusiva rum, Mancino Vecchio vermouth, and finished in a cloud of date wood smoke—the only type used by serious Beijing duck roasters.