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# Condé Nast Traveler

TRUTH IN TRAVEL

JANUARY 2005

**GOLD** <sup>2005</sup> **LIST**  
**WORLD'S BEST**  
**700 PLACES TO STAY**  
TOP HOTELS, RESORTS, CRUISE LINES  
UNITED STATES, ASIA, EUROPE, AUSTRALIA,  
THE AMERICAS, AFRICA, THE PACIFIC



U.S.A. \$4.95  
Foreign/Canada \$5.95

brates its "glorious location" on Central Park South by stocking its "large, tastefully appointed rooms" with movies featuring the park. The French restaurant, Atelier, serves "divine dinners" in a space with suede walls and cefadon banquettes.  
 \$\$\$; 277 rooms; spa; 212-308-9100; ritzcrlon.com; ☑

**St. Regis, New York**

☑88.3 ☑88.2 ☑83.7 ☑91.3 ☑84.6 **87.2**  
 This 100-year-old Beaux Arts hotel was declared a New York City landmark in 1998, and this year will update the look and technology in rooms. The property has "a superlative concierge service" and a favorable location for seeing concerts at Carnegie Hall. At the Astor Court restaurant, sip afternoon tea to the sounds of a harpist.  
 \$\$\$; 315 rooms; spa; 212-339-6777; stregis.com; ☑

**✓Trump International Hotel & Tower, New York**

☑100 ☑100 ☑96.3 ☑89.7 ☑92.9 **95.7**  
 The top-rated hotel in the United States has rooms overlooking Central Park that are "bigger than apartments in most cities," with flat-screen TVs and motorized scrims on the floor-to-ceiling windows. The "unbelievable service" means staff will childproof a room and stock it with baby supplies. The tower is near the theater district and a few blocks from Lincoln Center. The "outrageously good French-Asian cuisine of the Jean Georges restaurant" is even available through room service.  
 \$\$\$; 167 rooms; pool, spa; 212-299-1000; trumpintl.com; ☑

**The Carlyle, New York**

☑78.6 ☑89.1 ☑79.2 ☑83.6 ☑76.4 **81.4**  
 \$\$\$; 179 rooms; 212-744-1600; thecarlyle.com; ☑

**The Mark, New York**

☑82.1 ☑84.6 ☑78.9 ☑79.5 ☑71.8 **79.4**  
 \$\$\$; 176 rooms; 212-744-4300; themarkhotel.com; ☑

**Ritz-Carlton New York, Battery Park, New York**

☑88.1 ☑83.6 ☑82.1 ☑70.1 ☑80.6 **80.9**  
 \$\$\$; 298 rooms; spa; 212-344-0800; ritzcrlon.com; ☑

**St. Regis Club at the Essex House, New York**

☑78.1 ☑81.3 ☑68.8 ☑96.9 ☑70.0 **79.1**  
 \$\$\$; 104 rooms; spa; 212-247-0300; stregis.com/essexhouse.com; ☑

**60 Thompson, New York**

☑79.3 ☑75.9 ☑71.4 ☑86.2 ☑93.1 **81.3**  
 \$\$\$; 98 rooms; 212-431-0400; 60thompson.com; ☑

**The Point, Upper Saranac Lake**

☑95.7 ☑91.3 ☑95.5 ☑91.3 ☑95.5 **93.8**  
 Best-wood furniture and plaids epitomize the Great Camp style at this resort. Originally built for the Rockefeller, the cottages and lodges of timber and rough stone create "a luxurious wilderness retreat." After the cocktail cruise on Saranac Lake, "everyone sat at communal outdoor tables for a wonderful dinner." Guests must be 18 or older.  
 \$\$\$; 11 rooms; golf, tennis, water sports; 518-891-5674; thepointresort.com

**Mirbeau Inn & Spa, Shannateles**

☑77.8 ☑89.5 ☑84.2 ☑68.4 ☑80.0 **80.0**  
 ☑; 34 rooms; spa; 315-685-5006; mirbeau.com; ☑

**NORTH CAROLINA**

**Inn on Biltmore Estate, Asheville**

☑87.0 ☑89.5 ☑86.1 ☑93.0 ☑89.6 **89.0**  
 This "very romantic inn" on a hilltop is on the 8,000-acre grounds of the George Vanderbilt estate, which guests can tour before relaxing in rocking chairs on the patios of the "traditionally decorated rooms." "Staff are gracious and welcoming." The dining room has "huge windows" and serves regional cuisine and wines from the estate's vineyard.  
 ☑; 213 rooms; pool, water sports; 800-858-4130; www.biltmore.com; ☑

**Grove Park Inn Resort & Spa, Asheville**

☑72.8 ☑81.2 ☑75.2 ☑87.6 ☑82.7 **79.9**  
 ☑; 510 rooms; golf, tennis, pool, spa; 828-252-2711; groveparkinn.com; ☑

**Siena Hotel, Chapel Hill**

☑85.7 ☑81.1 ☑86.1 ☑73.0 ☑81.1 **81.3**  
 ☑; 80 rooms; 919-929-8000; sienahotel.com; ☑

**Pinehurst Resort, Pinehurst**

☑72.7 ☑87.2 ☑79.5 ☑76.9 ☑85.9 **80.5**  
 ☑; 477 rooms; golf, tennis, pool, spa, water sports, beach; 910-295-6811; pinehurst.com; ☑

**Farrington House Country Inn and Restaurant, Pittsboro**

☑86.1 ☑88.9 ☑91.4 ☑74.3 ☑82.9 **84.7**  
 This former dairy farm amid English gardens is "in a relaxing rural area" west of Raleigh. The rooms in and around the 1927 farmhouse have a country feel and come with antique furniture, jacuzzis, and fireplaces. Anticipate "sophisticated cuisine" such as North Carolina yellowfin tuna carpaccio.  
 \$\$\$; 33 rooms; golf, tennis, pool; 919-542-2121; farringtonhouse.com; ☑

**OHIO**

**Ritz-Carlton, Cleveland**

☑87.1 ☑88.6 ☑83.6 ☑87.1 ☑85.5 **86.4**  
 "On the outside, it looks nondescript, but the inside is classic, polished Ritz-Carlton." From this hotel close to Jacobs Field, "you can get anywhere." The lobby is on the sixth floor, and guest room balconies face either the city or the lake. The Century Restaurant and Bar, named for the famous train line, serves modern American cuisine amid railroad memorabilia.  
 \$\$\$; 208 rooms; pool; 216-623-1300; ritzcrlon.com; ☑

**OREGON**

**Salishan Spa & Golf Resort, Gleneden Beach**

☑81.0 ☑75.9 ☑75.4 ☑94.6 ☑75.9 **80.5**  
 ☑; 205 rooms; golf, tennis, pool, beach; 800-452-2300; salishan.com; ☑

**Tu Tu' Tun Lodge, Gold Beach**

☑85.4 ☑82.9 ☑79.5 ☑85.7 ☑90.5 **84.9**  
 From the rooms, guests "hear water rushing over pebbles in the Rogue River." This family-run hotel built of wood and river stones has large mission couches that "beg you to fall into them." Staff show "a great deal of thought and care." The "very good Northwest fare" is prepared using local ingredients. Children must be ten or older.  
 \$\$\$; 20 rooms; pool, water sports; 541-247-6664; tututun.com; ☑

**Fifth Avenue Suites Hotel, Portland**

☑88.7 ☑80.4 ☑72.9 ☑92.2 ☑88.2 **84.6**  
 "A good staff and a great downtown location" near Pioneer Square are highlights at this hotel in a historic 1912 building. Rooms have gold, cream, and buttercup color schemes. Wine tastings are held by the fire in the lobby every evening; dinner in the Red Star Tavern & Roast House means dishes such as citrus-and-spice spit-roasted chicken.  
 ☑; 221 rooms; spa; 503-222-0001; fifthavenuesuites.com; ☑

**Heathman Hotel, Portland**

☑74.2 ☑85.6 ☑82.8 ☑84.3 ☑77.5 **80.9**  
 ☑; 503-241-4100; heathmanhotel.com; ☑

**PENNSYLVANIA**

**Four Seasons Hotel, Philadelphia**

☑90.5 ☑92.1 ☑89.1 ☑85.2 ☑89.9 **89.4**  
 This seven-story granite building with rose marble floors, high ceilings, and floral arrangements has "an attractive downtown setting." Rooms offer large closets, "many of the things you don't get in other hotels," and "impeccable room service." The Fountain Restaurant has an international menu and views of Logan Square. All rooms will be renovated in 2005.  
 \$\$\$; 364 rooms; pool, spa; 215-963-1300; fourseasons.com/philadelphia; ☑

**Rittenhouse Hotel, Philadelphia**

☑85.5 ☑83.1 ☑85.9 ☑90.9 ☑83.3 **85.8**  
 Expect "attentive but not obsequious service." Recently renovated rooms have all-new furnishings and bathrooms with TVs and phones. "Lunch poolside after a spa treatment is a delight." The Cassatt Tea

**Maui Calls**

You've imagined Maui's soaring emerald peaks and lush rainforests. Her beaches that sparkle like diamonds, her inspiring Hawaiian culture. She's exotic, with international flair, yet still part of America. Exciting, with thrilling activities, yet also relaxing and refreshing. Superb cuisine, wonderful shopping, world-class resorts, legendary golf... her magic never ends. Yes, Maui is many special things, but one thing's for sure. There's never been a better time to make your dreams come true.

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