

THE BEST NEW HOTELS IN THE WORLD: THE HOT LIST 2020

As picked by the editors of Condé Nast Traveller



ere is this year's Hot List of new hotels. The 76 addresses that have caught our eye over the past 12 months, and been brought to our attention by our writers and editors around the globe. Every single one has been visited and reviewed by a travel expert, to ensure our edit contains the best hotels out of the hundreds that have opened.

There are surprises in familiar destinations, and places that have put some unexpected regions on our radar. Some are architectural wonders, some easy-going beach or island escapes; others tap into their home city's creative life, with innovative menus from up-and-coming chefs, works by local artisans, designers and artists. And many are responding to climate concerns with a clear-headed [approach to sustainability](#) – the way in which they impact upon the planet and their communities.

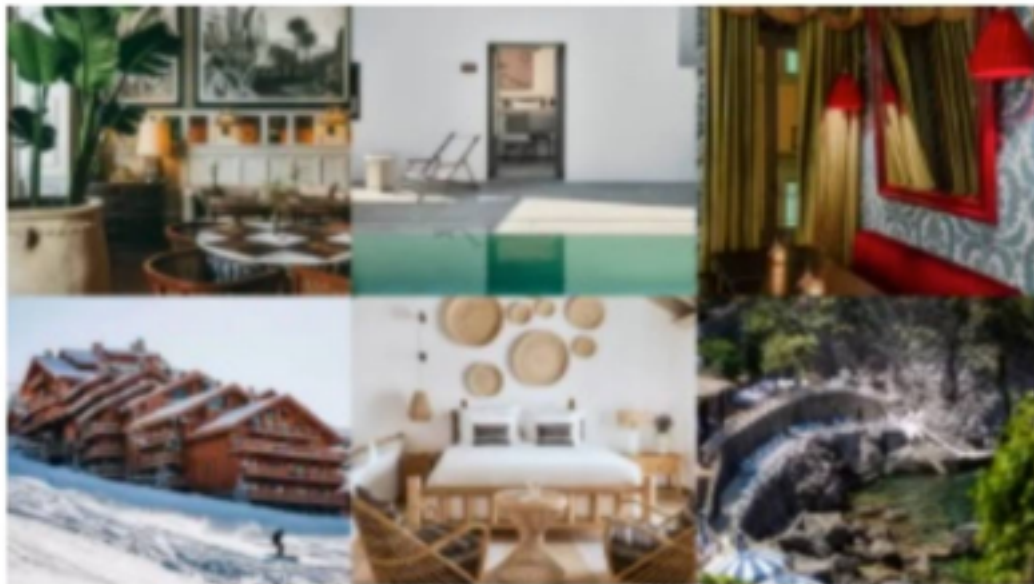
[When the world reopens](#) after the Covid-19 crisis, it will be a much-changed one. But the idea and romance of the hotel will remain. They are places that can distill the essence of their setting, whether South American city or African savannah, and sweep you off your feet. A place of both sanctuary and connection, an enabler of fresh encounters with cultures and peoples. Here are our game-changing hotels for 2020 and beyond, to plan future getaways.

HOW IS THE HOT LIST CREATED?

The [Hot List](#) is one of four major lists that *Condé Nast Traveller* assembles every year. It showcases our favourite new hotels that have opened over the previous 12 months, from February 2019 to February 2020. The [Spa Guide](#) rounds up the best places for wellness treatments and programmes, the Gold List is our selection of [the best hotels in world](#), while the [Readers' Choice Awards](#) is the annual selection of your top-ranking travel experiences, voted for by readers and including hotels in many categories, all around the world.

HERE ARE THE BEST NEW HOTELS IN THE WORLD, BY LOCATION

The best new hotels in Europe





The best new hotels in Europe, as picked by the editors of *Condé Nast Traveller* for The Hot List 2020

Splashy new stays in our favourite [European cities](#); fresh beachy boltholes on the French Riviera and in less-visited pockets of [Greece](#); a reimagining of a Zurich lakeside classic; and a game-changing Scandi wellness retreat lauded as the biggest opening of the year – these are our favourite new hotels in Europe right now.

This selection of hotels is part of the annual [Condé Nast Traveller Hot List 2020](#). See the other lists below:

- [The best new hotels in Africa and the Middle East](#)
- [The best new hotels in Asia](#)
- [The best new hotels in Australia and New Zealand](#)
- [The best new hotels in North America and Mexico](#)
- [The best new hotels in Central and South America and The Caribbean](#)

Read on for the complete list of the hottest new hotels in Europe, as chosen by the editors of *Condé Nast Traveller*.



HOTEL LE COUCOU, MERIBEL

The Trois Vallées ski resort of Méribel is better known for rosy-cheeked British families (it's the kind of place where the Middletons are spotted on the slopes) than design cred. Unless chocolate-box twee is recognised as an architectural movement. Which is what makes the piste-side arrival of Le Coucou, a radical take on a chalet from [Paris](#)-based interior designer Pierre Yovanovitch that was 18 months in the making, all the more remarkable. Yovanovitch's flair and fastidious attention to detail is evident everywhere, from the polka-dot carpet inspired by falling snow to furniture with a playful sense of form and place: ice-cube-shaped light shades, ski-pole table legs and bouclé chairs with teddy-bear-ear headrests. While at first glance it looks gloriously grown-up, splashed with loosely Seventies colours, look closer and there are plenty of tongue-in-cheek twists, from emoji-themed plates and offbeat cuckoo clocks to a recurrent bird trope that includes owls as well as the titular cuckoos. Silky mashed potato paired with cuts of rare steak is the signature in the Beefbar restaurant, while the Italian bistro Biancaneve serves seductive risotto al tartufo. The third hotel from fledgling French group Maisons Pariente (the first two being Provençal hit Crillon Le Brave and St Tropez's Lou Pinet), also cleverly teams up with toxin-free beauty queen Tata Harper for the spa, which leads to a serene indoor-outdoor pool overlooking the mountains. Proactively family-friendly, the hotel also has a yeti-themed kids' club plus games room for older teens. A spirited take on the ski lodge and the cuckoo in the nest of cookie-cutter chalets in these parts. *By Sophie Butler*

FLASH POINT There are two beautiful, self-contained four-bedroom apartments, each with their own pool, mini-spa and boot room opening directly onto the piste.

BOOK YOUR STAY

CREDIT: JEROME GALLAND