

# Condé Nast Traveller

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HOLIDAY IN  
THAILAND

TRUTH IN TRAVEL

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## THE HOT LIST 2010

Our choice of the best new hotels in the world



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wild interior &  
unknown beaches

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How the city is being  
restored to its  
colonial splendour

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Gorgeous places  
to stay that won't  
break the bank



# HOT THE LIST 2010

This year's Hot List covers 31 countries from Austria to Uruguay. The 66 hotels in our final selection were chosen after months of research, starting with hundreds of suggestions from our correspondents across the globe. Despite the economic climate there was no shortage of very strong contenders, and we hope you agree that the final list is extraordinary in its range, from a former hospital to brand-new urban resorts and country retreats. Take your pick



## Middle East, Africa & Indian Ocean

### EGYPT

Villa Belle Epoque, Cairo p186

### ISRAEL

Mamilla Hotel, Jerusalem p110

Neve Tzedek Hotel,

Tel Aviv p186

### JORDAN

Evason Ma'in Hot Spring & Six Senses Spa p186

### KENYA

Tribe, Nairobi p186

### LEBANON

Four Seasons Hotel Beirut p188

Le Gray, Beirut p188

### MALDIVES

Halaveli p188

Shangri-La's Villingili

Resort & Spa p111

### MOROCCO

La Mamounia,

Marrakech p109

### SOUTH AFRICA

The Homestead at &Beyond

Phinda Private Game

Reserve p110

One&Only Cape Town p188

Taj Cape Town p188

### UAE

Qasr Al Sarab Desert Resort

Abu Dhabi p188



## Asia & Australasia

### AUSTRALIA

Arkaba Station, South

Australia p190

Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa,

New South Wales p114

### CHINA

Banyan Tree Hangzhou p190

The Langham Yangtze

Boutique, Shanghai p190

The Mira Hong Kong p190

The Peninsula Shanghai p112

The PuLi Hotel & Spa,

Shanghai p190

The Upper House,

Hong Kong p192

### INDIA

The Leela Palace Kempinski

Udaipur p192

Nadesar Palace, Varanasi p192

RAAS, Jodhpur p113

The Serai, Rajasthan p113

The Trident Bandra Kurla

Mumbai p192

### INDONESIA

Alila Villas Uluwatu, Bali p115

### LAOS

Amantaka, Luang Prabang p192

### THAILAND

Phulay Bay Ritz-Carlton

Reserve, Krabi p192



## The Americas & Caribbean

### ARGENTINA

Azur Real Hotel Boutique,

Córdoba p192

### CARIBBEAN

Viceroy Anguilla p194

### CHILE

The Aubrey, Santiago p194

### URUGUAY

Estancia Vik José Ignacio p117

### USA

Ames Hotel, Boston p194

The Betsy, Miami p118

Crosby Street Hotel,

New York p116

The Mark, New York p194

The Pierre, New York p195

The Ritz-Carlton

Highlands, Lake Tahoe,

California p195

The Standard, New York p119



## UK, Europe & The Russian Federation

### AUSTRIA

Aurelio Lech p195

### BELGIUM

Odette en Ville, Brussels p195

### CZECH REPUBLIC

The Augustine, Prague p195

### FRANCE

Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat,

Côte d'Azur p123

Hôtel Jules, Paris p196

Le Kube, St Tropez p196

### GERMANY

Casa Camper, Berlin p196

Ketschauer Hof,

Deidesheim p196

### GREECE

Poseidonion Grace,

Spetses p121

### ITALY

Castel Monastero,

Tuscany p120

Centurion Palace, Venice p121

Palazzina Grassi, Venice p196

Hotel Romeo, Naples p196

Il Salviatino, Fiesole p197

Verdura Golf & Spa Resort,

Sicily p197

### RUSSIA

Barvikha Hotel & Spa,

Moscow p197

### SPAIN

Mandarin Oriental,

Barcelona p122

W Barcelona p197

### SWEDEN

Hotel Skeppsholmen,

Stockholm p197

### UK

Blythswood Square Hotel,

Glasgow p198

Boundary, London p122

The Fitzwilliam Hotel,

Belfast p198

Lime Wood, Hampshire p198

Hotel Missoni,

Edinburgh p199

The Scarlet, Cornwall p199

For reviews of the hotels not in the pages immediately following, turn to **page 186**

take a restaurant from the concierge: the niche, with its train-carriage and impeccable service, Parisian dining (and is open surrounding area, at first rewards forays by foot made chocolates at La antiques in Passage Verdeaux at Au General Lafayette. As soon as you can, for Laurent retrospective at

**K** The light-filled 519, Ira and L'Eiffel, and the elevators directly outside. 744; [www.hoteljules.com](http://www.hoteljules.com). 48

### Propez

le busy coastal road that e (look out for the glowing ure on the lawn), Le Kube, clinic, could easily be taken temporary private home. through the perspex cube k-in desk, the friendly, hip ediate. The latest venture els & Resorts is a 41-room le sister for the slick, Paris. There are no fewer o pools, and a small h a private coach on call). are a minimalist medley d grey, with a mascot d on each fluffy duvet, and rchairs and sofas by Ligne s de rigueur; lunch is and creative chef Ronan up a variety of treats, from ns to passion fruit crème ir. The star attraction is the re a suntanned clubbing is and gloves to sample is in sub-zero temperatures. ts drift upstairs to the here live DJs play music, s. And if ever you tire of the village and beaches are shuttle-ride away. une or September to avoid c snarls; July and August sphere.

**K** The sea-view XL 204 vate hammam, or the 300, which has an outdoor uzzi. 00; [www.kubehotel.com](http://www.kubehotel.com). 10

### Berlin

er Camper is known for le footwear, and five plied the same functional Camper in Barcelona, el. The company's second in, is similarly chic and by the same interior io and Fernando Amat. this high-rise hotel are

decorated in a rich and restful red, with dark-stone floors and blond-wood wardrobes. From bedside lights to bathroom fittings, every detail is fit for purpose, with mod cons kept to a minimum and no superfluous frills or clutter. The communal spaces are sparsely furnished but the hotel still feels cosy, and the penthouse bodega has the intimate élan of a private members' club. This bodega has a good selection of local books and magazines, but the highlight is the all-day buffet, serving complimentary snacks and soft drinks. If you fancy something more substantial, Albert Raurich, former chef de cuisine at Spain's most famous restaurant, El Bulli, produces Asian tapas downstairs in the new Dos Palillos restaurant. With no spa or gym, this is a compact bolthole rather than a fully fledged resort hotel, but with helpful, friendly staff and bicycles for hire in the lobby, it's a great base from which to tour central East Berlin.

**When to go** Winters in Berlin can be savage, and the summers are often surprisingly hot. For the best sightseeing weather, go in June or September.

**Room to book** Ask for a room on the sixth floor, just below the top-floor bodega. The bathrooms have great views over the surrounding rooftops. 00 49 30 2000 3410; [www.casacamper.com](http://www.casacamper.com). Doubles from €205

### Ketschauer Hof, Deidesheim

The Ketschauer Hof is an exquisite hotel on the edge of Deidesheim, in the heart of the German winelands, with views over the vineyards to the Rhine Valley. Berlin-based interior designer Tasilo Bost has transformed the Bassermann-Jordan wine estate's former manor house with great skill. The hotel is also a gourmand's paradise. Freundstück restaurant (16 Gault Millau points) is manned by a dynamic young chef, Jens Fischer; both the restaurant and the Bassermannnchen bistro open on to a courtyard planted with Mediterranean cedar, fig and citrus trees. There are only 18 bedrooms, of which 13 are suites, all of a generous size. The decor is calm and contemporary: a white-on-white palette dominates, with lacquered cupboard fronts inlaid with mirrored patterns, and white Loewe TVs, offset by burgundy red and leafy green accents in the embroidered cushions. Beautifully stitched eiderdowns and travertine marble bathrooms with underfloor heating, khaki-coloured cotton-fronted towelling bathrobes and lamps hand-strung with Swarovski crystal, add luxurious touches. The small spa under the cellar arches somehow manages to include a treatment room, sauna and steam rooms plus a relaxation lounge. The separate Heumarkt building contains the Cooking Atelier and its own dining room.

**When to go** Any long, hot summer.

**Room to book** Room 34, a top floor, corner suite with views across the vineyards. 00 49 63 26 70 000; [www.ketschauer-hof.com](http://www.ketschauer-hof.com). Doubles from €220

## ITALY

### Hotel Romeo, Naples

If all goes according to plan – not always a given in Naples – the Romeo will eventually become part of an ambitious development destined to transform the rather seedy commercial port area. The city's most talked-about new hotel stands metres from the hop-off point for Capri and Ischia and occupies the former headquarters of the Lauro Lines shipping company, transformed by the late Kenzo Tange into a hi-tech glass-and-steel edifice. Inside, the open-plan, ground-floor space serves as a showcase for the hotel's remarkable collection of contemporary art, along with one-off designer pieces of furniture and some impressive antiques. The 85 bedrooms and suites feature exotic woods, glass and black leather alongside a plethora of gadgets and gizmos (some, like the motion-sensitive lights, more pretty than practical) plus extras such as Nespresso coffee machines and a bed-linen menu. Wall-to-wall windows in front-facing rooms on the upper floors make the most of views over Capri and the brooding Vesuvius. Foodies will be impressed by the talented young chef Andrea Aprea, who turns out top-notch dishes at the Comandante restaurant. The Zero sushi bar is a more casual dining option. For post-sightseeing down time, the ninth-floor spa provides a wide range of treatments plus a stunning, heated Jacuzzi pool-with-a-view. The team of young, smiley staff, dressed in slightly bizarre mod-Pulcinella costumes, are genuinely helpful and there's a Maserati to whizz you off to the Amalfi Coast.

**When to go** December to see the city's traditional Christmas cribs; spring and autumn for the best weather.

**Room to book** One that faces the sea, but beware the large, semi-derelict warehouse that (for now) blocks the view from the lower floors. Go for a spacious seventh- or eighth-floor Romeo suite. 00 39 081 0175001; [www.romeohotel.it](http://www.romeohotel.it). Doubles from €235

### Il Salviatino, Fiesole

On the verdant slopes below leafy Fiesole – that traditional upper-class refuge from the summer heat in Florence – Il Salviatino is very refined, and very Florentine. Once home to the powerful Salviati family, this historic villa of Renaissance origins has been restored to the luxurious but unshowy appearance it had at the turn of the 19th century, when it was home to art critic and socialite Ugo Ojetti. Rooms have weathered oak floors, large mirrors concealing flatscreen TVs, Poltrona Frau leather armchairs, huge beds and spacious bathrooms with Victorian-style fittings – the only contemporary touch being the LED-lit rain showers. On the walls are a gallery-worth of Italian landscape and genre paintings, while the ground-floor Affresco Suite has a vast frescoed ceiling, and a bathtub inside a carved marble Roman sarcophagus. If it