

TRAVELING LIKE ROYALTY: HOW THE 0.01% GET THEIR THRILLS (you can too)

Condé Nast Traveler

HONG KONG:
INSIDER'S GUIDE

TRUTH IN TRAVEL
MARCH 2013

AHHH, PRIVACY!

5,000+ DREAM VILLAS WORLDWIDE

(Italy, France, Argentina, Hawaii,
England, Greece, Brazil, Turkey, Costa Rica,
the Caribbean, Spain, and more)

AMAZON LUXURY SAILING THE RIVER IN STYLE

AMERICAN BOUNTY FEASTING THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

AFRICAN FANTASY THE BUSH, THE BEASTS, AND YOU

PLUS

270 TOP SPAS IN THE U.S., MEXICO, CARIBBEAN, AND AT SEA

HOME DOLCE HOME: The five-bedroom Villa Podere Alto, overlooking Tuscany's Val d'Orcia, is available for weekly rentals.

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THE
VOTES
ARE IN!

Top 270 Spas

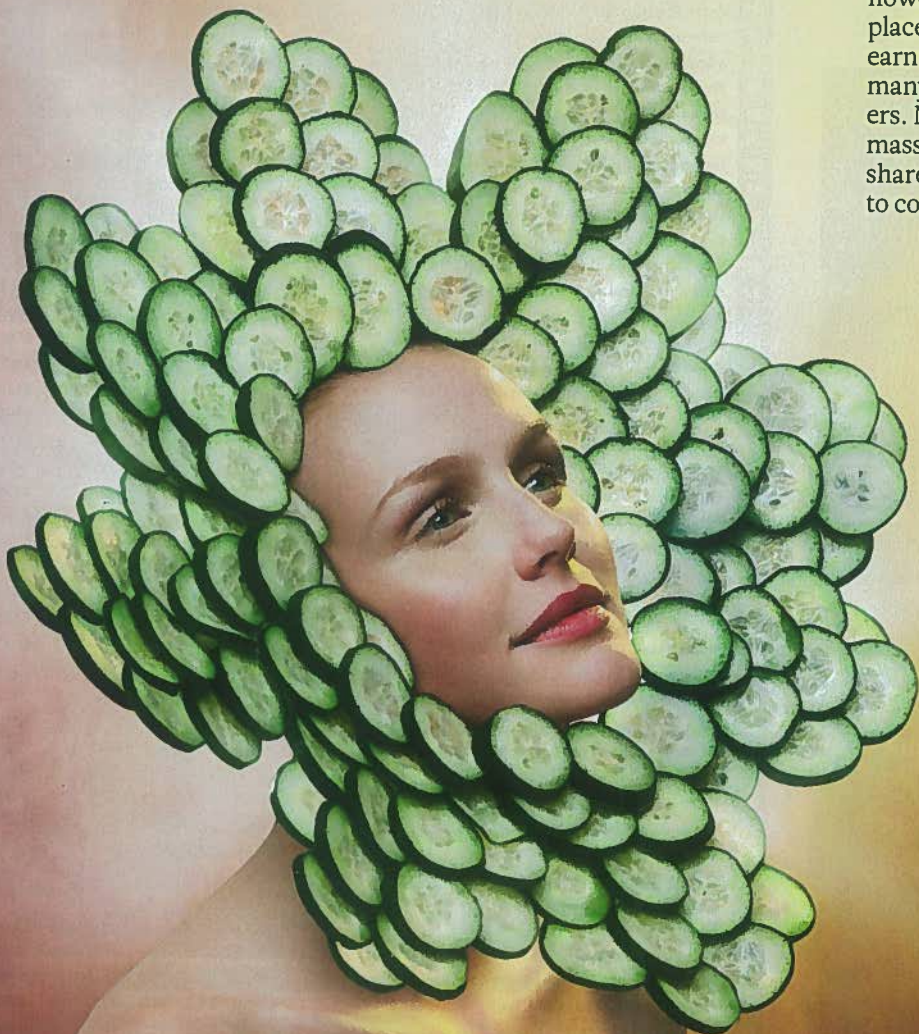
IN NORTH AMERICA, THE CARIBBEAN, HAWAII,
AND AT SEA—GO AHEAD, BE PAMPERED!

Here are the results of 22 years of research—we're not kidding. Readers who participated in this poll had a total of 46,352 visits to hotel, resort,

and cruise ship spas. If each visit lasted one hour, it would take a solitary spa-goer 22 years to repeat the feat (based on 40-hour "work weeks"). The results here are, however, a collective effort, and a place on these lists is a distinction earned only after many visits by many *Condé Nast Traveler* readers. Now please get back on that massage table, and continue to share what you find by logging on to condenasttraveler.com/vote.

REPORTED BY
WALKER HARRISON AND
JOHN NEWTON

PHOTOGRAPH BY
PHILLIP TOLEDANO



SPA TRENDS

► CHILL OUT

The power of cold temperatures to reduce inflammation and soothe aches and pains has long been known and perhaps most famously embraced by Finns, who follow their time in a sauna with a plunge in icy water. Today, many spas are finding new ways to incorporate the healing powers of cold in treatments. Maui's **Mandara Spa at Wailea Beach Marriott Resort**, for example, has an Ice-Goddess Facial that uses super-cooling procedures to rejuvenate skin (\$179), and Boston's **Mandarin Oriental** takes a do-it-yourself ap-



proach, with an ice fountain from which guests can grab frosty handfuls to apply to sore areas. Other spas are also contrasting hot and cold to enhance therapies. The Big Island's **Mauna Lani Spa** has a Fire & Ice Package that includes 50 minutes in its Lava Sauna and a signature Fire & Ice Facial (\$495), while the **Inn at Palmetto Bluff's** Steamy Pine Purification follows a detoxifying warm wrap with a circulation-stimulating cold one (2 hours; \$310). ►

FYI **25** Number of top U.S. resort spas in Florida, more than any other state.

Top 100 U.S. Resort Spas



Rank	Spa Name	Overall Score	Treatments	Staff	Facilities	Treatment Rooms	Basic Massage
1	Mohonk Mountain House, New Paltz	99.4	99.4	99.4	99.4	16	14
2	Vall Cascade Resort & Spa	98.3	100	98.3	96.6	14	14
3	Oathoff Resort, Elkhart Lake, Wis.	98.2	97.3	100	97.3	14	14
3	Sundara Inn & Spa, Wisconsin Dells	98.2	97.3	97.3	100	13	13
5	Resort at Squaw Creek, Lake Tahoe	98.0	100	93.9	100	10	10
6	Williamsburg Inn, Va.	97.9	97.9	98.0	98.0	13	13
7	Inn at Palmetto Bluff, Bluffton, S.C.	97.7	96.5	98.2	98.2	8	8
8	The Cloister, Sea Island, Ga.	97.3	95.1	97.6	99.2	22	22
8	Westin Riverfront Resort at Beaver Creek Mountain, Avon, Colo.	97.3	97.0	97.4	97.4	14	14
10	The Standard, Miami Beach	97.2	100	95.8	95.8	11	11
11	Gasperilla Inn & Club, Boca Grande, Fla.	97.1	97.1	97.1	97.1	9	9
12	Pier House Resort and Caribbean Spa, Key West	96.7	95.0	100	95.0	4	4
12	Whiteface Lodge, Lake Placid	96.7	100	100	90.0	6	6
14	Resort at Pelican Hill, Newport Beach	96.4	96.5	96.6	96.0	22	22
14	Stowe Mountain Lodge, Vt.	96.4	95.4	95.9	97.8	18	18
14	Teton Mountain Lodge & Spa, Jackson Hole	96.4	96.3	96.4	96.4	10	10
17	Ocean Key Resort & Spa, Key West	95.9	97.3	95.9	94.6	6	6
17	Sojage Calistoga, Napa Valley	95.9	96.8	95.1	95.9	15	15
19	WaterColor Inn & Resort, Santa Rosa Beach, Fla.	95.8	100	96.9	90.6	2	2
20	Grove Park Inn, Asheville, N.C.	95.7	96.3	93.3	97.6	31	31
21	Calistoga Ranch, Napa Valley	95.6	98.5	95.7	92.8	5	5
22	Rancho Valencia, Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.	95.4	93.1	96.6	96.6	5	5
22	Stoweflake Mountain Resort & Spa, Stowe, Vt.	95.4	96.0	95.4	94.7	30	30
24	Lodge at Woodloch, Hawley, Pa.	95.2	95.2	95.2	95.2	27	27
24	Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes, Fla.	95.2	94.4	94.6	98.4	40	40
26	Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa, Fla.	95.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	14	14
26	El Monte Sagrado, Taos	95.0	100	100	85.0	10	10
28	Caesars Palace, Las Vegas	94.9	96.5	92.5	95.7	51	51
28	Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club & Spa, Point Clear, Ala.	94.9	96.6	94.9	93.2	5	5
30	Four Seasons, Jackson Hole	94.8	93.8	93.8	96.9	16	16
30	Sanctuary Hotel at Kiawah Island Golf Resort, S.C.	94.8	96.4	96.6	91.5	12	12
32	Four Seasons Resort, Palm Beach	94.7	96.0	96.0	92.0	11	11
33	Ritz-Carlton Lodge, Reynolds Plantation, Greensboro, Ga.	94.6	94.6	91.9	97.3	19	19
34	Disney's Animal Kingdom Lodge, Lake Buena Vista, Fla.	94.4	95.8	95.8	91.7	3	3
35	Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort & Spa, Santa Ana Pueblo, N.M.	94.3	97.9	91.5	93.6	12	12
35	The Sebastian—Vall	94.3	93.5	95.7	93.6	5	5
37	Royal Palms Resort and Spa, Phoenix	94.2	94.8	94.8	92.9	9	9
38	Williamsburg Lodge, Va.	94.0	92.9	95.7	93.5	12	12
39	Equinox Golf Resort & Spa, Manchester Village, Vt.	93.9	97.6	95.6	88.9	10	10
39	Park Hyatt Beaver Creek Resort and Spa	93.9	93.2	91.7	96.7	23	23
41	Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort & Spa, Cedar Creek, Tex.	93.8	96.3	92.6	92.6	18	18
41	Villagio Inn and Spa, Yountville, Calif.	93.8	97.5	93.2	90.9	16	16
43	Montage Laguna Beach, Calif.	93.7	93.3	93.3	94.4	12	12
44	Hotel Hershey, Pa.	93.5	93.5	93.5	93.5	15	15
45	Peaks Resort & Spa, Telluride	93.3	94.2	92.9	92.9	32	32
46	Lodge at Pebble Beach	93.1	97.1	88.2	94.1	15	15
47	Barnsley Gardens Resort, Adairsville, Ga.	93.0	94.7	94.7	89.5	10	10
47	The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, W.Va.	93.0	93.8	91.4	93.8	18	18
47	JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort & Spa, Tucson	93.0	94.7	92.1	92.1	23	23
50	Hawks Cay Resort, Duck Key, Fla.	92.9	95.7	93.0	90.1	8	8
50	Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort & Spa, San Antonio	92.9	91.9	97.4	89.5	21	21
50	Terranea Resort, Rancho Palos Verdes	92.9	88.6	93.6	96.3	25	25
53	Ritz-Carlton, Palm Beach	92.8	92.0	90.2	96.1	19	19
54	LaPlaya Beach & Golf Resort, Naples	92.7	94.2	93.1	90.8	7	7
54	Little Palm Island Resort & Spa, Little Torch Key	92.7	94.5	94.5	88.9	5	5
54	Montelucia Resort & Spa, Scottsdale	92.7	90.8	92.0	95.5	19	19
57	Coeur d'Alene Resort, Idaho	92.6	93.5	93.5	90.6	21	21
58	Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort and Spa at Gainey Ranch	92.5	91.3	93.6	92.6	19	19
58	Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island, Fla.	92.5	92.2	91.6	93.7	26	26
60	The Homestead, Hot Springs, Va.	92.4	91.7	95.2	90.3	16	16
60	The Phoenician and Canyon Suites, Scottsdale	92.4	95.0	92.7	89.6	24	24
60	Ritz-Carlton, Bachelor Gulch, Avon, Colo.	92.4	93.4	91.2	92.6	19	19

★ Overall score 🏠 Treatments 👤 Staff 🏡 Facilities 🏠 Number of treatment rooms 💰 Basic massage
 Boldfaced scores are the highest for their criterion.

MUST TRY HOTELS

SPA TRENDS

KIDS' PLAY

These days, spas are truly a family affair and a growing list of kid-specific options “empowers children to be part of the leisure experience,” says Melissa Jansma, spa director at the **Waldorf Astoria Chicago Elysian Spa**—which offers ice-cream manicures (plus a free scoop) for young guests (\$35). They're not alone in getting the next generation of customers hooked on beauty treatments. At Maui's **Grand Wailea**, the Spa Grande's menu includes chocolate-coconut massages for kids (50 minutes; \$145), and at Honolulu's **Halekulani at Waikiki Beach**, the spa offers makeup lessons for teens and tweens (\$65). You can even get a Polynesian armband tattoo. But don't worry, Mom, it's only temporary (\$20). ▶

FYI
50,000

Size, in square feet, of Spa Grande at Grand Wailea, the largest spa in Hawaii.



Spa Grande at Grand Wailea.

480

Depth, in feet, of the 48 geothermal wells that heat and cool the spa wing at New York's Mohonk Mountain House.

Top 100 U.S. Resort Spas (cont.)



63	Hotel Terra, Jackson Hole	92.3	95.2	90.9	90.9	6
63	JW Marriott Orlando Grande Lakes, Fla.	92.3	94.1	92.3	90.4	40
63	Miramonte Resort & Spa, Indian Wells, Calif.	92.3	96.9	92.3	87.7	13
63	Ritz-Carlton, Dove Mountain, Tucson	92.3	94.9	87.2	94.9	10
67	Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel, Oana Point, Calif.	92.2	94.5	91.8	90.4	12
68	Grand Del Mar, San Olego	92.1	90.9	91.2	94.1	11
68	JW Marriott Las Vegas	92.1	93.1	90.0	93.3	36
68	Marco Island Marriott Beach Resort, Golf Club & Spa, Fla.	92.1	94.5	90.9	90.9	26
71	JW Marriott Camelback Inn, Scottsdale	92.0	94.6	92.9	88.6	16
71	Red Mountain Resort, St. George, Utah	92.0	96.0	96.0	84.0	12
73	Harbor Beach Marriott Resort & Spa, Fort Lauderdale	91.9	92.5	94.3	89.1	17
74	Miraval, Tucson	91.8	93.2	93.8	88.4	18
74	Senderling Resort & Spa, Duck, N.C.	91.8	93.9	93.9	87.8	10
76	Fairmont Scottsdale Princess	91.7	93.3	87.0	94.8	27
76	Mirror Lake Inn Resort and Spa, Lake Placid	91.7	91.7	91.7	91.8	7
78	Sanctuary on Camelback Mountain Resort and Spa, Ariz.	91.5	93.6	89.2	91.8	12
79	Rancho Bernardo Inn, San Olego	91.4	92.5	90.9	90.9	11
79	Wynn and Encore Wynn, Las Vegas	91.4	96.0	96.2	93.2	45
81	Loews Don CeSar Hotel, St. Petersburg, Fla.	91.2	91.2	91.2	91.2	16
81	Ritz-Carlton Key Biscayne	91.2	93.5	88.9	91.1	21
83	Canyon Ranch Hotel & Spa, Miami Beach	91.1	90.0	90.0	93.3	54
84	Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay, Calif.	90.8	88.6	93.8	90.1	16
84	Sandpearl Resort, Clearwater Beach	90.9	91.5	92.5	88.7	7
86	One Ocean Resort & Spa, Jacksonville, Fla.	90.8	95.2	90.9	86.4	7
87	Little Nell, Aspen	90.7	92.9	92.9	86.7	3
87	Omni Bedford Springs Resort, Pa.	90.7	90.7	88.9	92.6	13
87	West Baden Springs Hotel, Ind.	90.7	92.0	88.0	92.0	8
90	American Club, Kohler, Wis.	90.6	91.0	89.7	91.2	21
91	St. Regis Monarch Beach, Oana Point	90.5	91.2	95.0	85.5	10
91	Woodstock Inn & Resort, Vt.	90.5	91.7	92.0	88.0	10
93	The Breakers Palm Beach	90.4	91.2	91.4	88.6	17
94	Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn & Spa, Sonoma County	90.1	91.9	87.1	91.3	11
94	Viceroy Snowmass, Colo.	90.1	96.3	88.9	85.2	6
96	Nemacolin Woodlands Resort, Farmington, Pa.	90.0	94.4	86.5	89.2	40
97	Sanibel Harbour Marriott Resort & Spa, Fort Myers, Fla.	89.9	92.0	92.6	85.2	23
98	Hyatt Regency Huntington Beach Resort & Spa, Calif.	89.8	93.9	85.7	89.8	17
99	Omphoy Ocean Resort, Palm Beach	89.7	89.7	89.7	89.7	4
99	Paradise Point Resort & Spa, San Diego	89.7	92.3	88.5	88.5	5

Top 20 Resort Spas—Hawaii



1	Four Seasons Resort Hualalai, Big Island	97.0	97.4	97.4	96.2	17
2	Grand Wailea, Maui	96.3	94.5	93.5	97.8	25
2	Kauai Marriott Resort	95.3	96.4	100	89.7	4
4	St. Regis Princeville Resort, K�auai	94.8	97.8	93.3	93.3	12
5	Wailea Beach Marriott Resort & Spa, Maui	94.7	94.7	89.5	100	12
6	Kahala Hotel & Resort, Oahu	93.6	95.5	95.5	90.9	10
7	Mauna Lani Bay Hotel & Bungalows, Big Island	93.4	96.6	90.3	93.5	14
8	Royal Hawaiian (Luxury Collection), Waikiki	93.3	93.3	93.3	93.3	10
9	Ritz-Carlton, Kapaleua, Maui	93.0	95.2	90.3	93.5	15
9	Trump International Hotel Waikiki Beach Walk	93.0	97.4	94.9	87.2	5
11	Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea	92.9	94.7	93.4	90.7	13
12	Halekulani, Waikiki	91.4	91.4	94.3	88.6	7
13	Four Seasons Resort Lana'i at Maneie Bay	91.3	90.2	92.9	90.7	11
13	Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort & Spa	91.3	92.5	92.9	88.6	14
15	Westin Maui Resort & Spa	90.4	87.1	93.7	90.5	16
16	Fairmont Orchid, Big Island	90.3	90.9	90.9	89.1	18
17	JW Marriott Ihilani Ko Olina Resort & Spa, Oahu	90.1	90.7	88.6	90.9	17
18	Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa, Ke'anapali	88.1	92.9	92.9	78.6	7
19	Hyatt Regency Maui Resort & Spa	87.9	89.4	90.0	84.6	15
20	Turtle Bay Resort, Oahu	87.5	87.5	87.5	87.5	6

★ Overall score □ Treatments 👤 Staff ✂ Facilities 🏠 Number of treatment rooms 💰 Basic massage
 Boldfaced scores are the highest for their criterion.