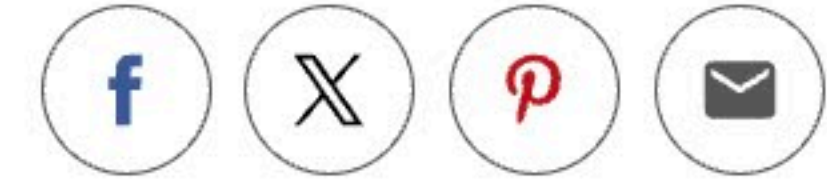


HOTELS + RESORTS

It List 2022: Our Editors' Picks of the Best New Hotels in the World

By [Travel + Leisure Editors](#) | Published on April 12, 2022



Despite the tumultuous travel landscape of the last few years, the hotel industry has remained resilient, and the pace of openings and renovations hasn't slowed down. That's why we here at T+L have spent the last year obsessively tracking debuts and major overhauls, consulting our trusted network of travel pros and globe-hopping writers, and crossed the world in search of the most memorable, game-changing hotels of the year for our annual It List.

This year, our guide to the essential openings (and reopenings) of the past year took us to 35 countries in pursuit of the unforgettable. T+L writers and editors have visited ancient former palaces in Sicily, cutting-edge wellness centers in Qatar, a working farm in South Africa, and a Miami hot spot from Pharrell Williams. This isn't merely a list of the most high-end resorts, nor is it a who's-who of major hotel chains, though you'll find both indulgent stays and familiar brands in the mix. Instead, we've aimed to showcase the properties that are at the top of their game and adding something new to the conversation, whether they're century-old stalwarts fresh off a major reno or intimate family-run boutiques that hit the sweet spot between hotel hospitality and vacation-rental hominess.

Alila Marea Beach Resort — Encinitas, California



PHOTO: COURTESY OF ALILA MAREA BEACH RESORT ENCINITAS

The Alila Marea Beach Resort, located just north of San Diego in Encinitas, takes surfing just as seriously as it takes sustainability. The hotel has brought the surrounding natural elements into its design, using stone façades and natural wood elements like a century-old southern yellow pine tree, now reclaimed as the reception desk. All of the 130 sprawling rooms feature floor-to-ceiling windows with ocean views, as well as prints from photographer Aaron Chang. The locale is perfect for a laid-back getaway, with waves crashing on the beach, bicycles available to ride into town for tacos, and a solar-heated pool. The on-site restaurant Vaga, helmed by chef Claudette Zepeda, pairs the menu to the seaside views with dishes like yellowtail crudo and mushroom tostadas and cocktails like the gin- and grapefruit-based Sunday Namaste. alilahotels.com; doubles from \$720. —Tanvi Chheda