

A photograph of a modern hotel room with a bed, a lamp, and a television. The room has a rustic feel with exposed brick walls and a vaulted ceiling. A bed with white linens and pillows is in the foreground. A floor lamp with a white shade is in the background. A television is on a stand to the right. A small table with a bottle and glass is in the foreground.

2020

Big Sleep Awards

In our annual awards, this year more than ever we raise a glass to the new kids on the block who've been turning heads and setting the standard for the hotel scene — from urban design dens to stately stays in the country

Turndown service at
Cirqa, Arequipa



THE WINNERS

LEAVE THE WORLD BEHIND

URBAN COWBOY LODGE,
NEW YORK

BOUTIQUE BREAK

CIRQA, AREQUIPA, PERU

CITY SLICKER

ROSEWOOD HONG KONG,
HONG KONG

GOOD EGG

SAORSA 1875, PERTSHIRE,
SCOTLAND

LORD OF THE MANOR

THE NEWT IN SOMERSET,
SOMERSET

BREATH OF FRESH AIR

SONOP, HARDAP REGION,
NAMIBIA

GRAND REDESIGNS

MANDARIN ORIENTAL,
BANGKOK

HANGOUT

DESA POTATO HEAD, BALI,
INDONESIA

GOURMET GETAWAY

CASA MARIA LUIGIA,
MODENA, ITALY

LOVE SHACK

PARAGON 700,
OSTUNI, ITALY

SNOW QUEEN

NIEHKU MOUNTAIN VILLA,
SWEDISH LAPLAND, SWEDEN

WELLNESS WONDER

LEFAY RESORT & SPA
DOLOMITI, TRENTINO, ITALY

DESIGN DEN

ARCTIC BATH, SWEDISH
LAPLAND, SWEDEN

COMEBACK KID

THE STANDARD, LONDON

CASTAWAY

LELEWATU RESORT SUMBA,
LESSER SUNDA ISLANDS,
INDONESIA

ON THE MONEY

THE CHOW KIT,
KUALA LUMPUR

THE JUDGING PANEL

KASH BHATTACHARYA
BudgetTraveller.com

JULIA BUCKLEY
Freelance travel writer

LEE COBAJ
Freelance travel writer

EMMA GREGG
Freelance travel writer

LAURA HOLT
Freelance travel writer

JULIET KINSMAN
Luxury travel consultant

JOHN Ó CEALLAIGH
Luxury travel consultant

PÓLÓ CONGHAILE
Freelance travel writer

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
TRAVELLER (UK) TEAM



Lord of the Manor

With breathtaking settings and exceptional service, some hotels let us live like royalty — even just for a weekend. We tip our hats to these first-class country escapes

★ THE NEWT IN SOMERSET, SOMERSET

One of the most talked-about hotels of the past year, The Newt in Somerset could probably win an award for column inches alone. Why? Well, when you're the latest launch from South African power couple Koos and Karen Bekker (of winelands wonder Babylonstoren), you command a certain thirst for more. A stone's throw from Bruton, this stylish country stay hits all the right notes, fleshing out the honey-stoned halls of 17th-century Hadspen House with classy, modern designs. Staying here inspires an almost childlike urge to explore — and there's plenty to discover on this 800-acre estate, including a spa, cider press, farm shop, spectacular gardens and the sumptuous rooms of the Stable Yard and Granary. It's worthy of any discerning lords and ladies of the manor. From £275, B&B. thenewtinsomerset.com

RUNNERS-UP

HOTEL CHÂTEAU DU GRAND-LUCÉ, LOIRE VALLEY, FRANCE

This 18th-century palace near Le Mans is the epitome of Gallic grandeur. Expect immaculate interiors awash with antiques, original oak parquet flooring and canopied four-poster beds. It's all very endearingly French and fancy. From €475 (£428), B&B. chateau-grandluc.com

GRANTLEY HALL, YORKSHIRE

The grand Palladian mansion near Ripon nails first impressions — and the charm continues indoors, too, with everything from a state-of-the-art spa to a wine-tasting room, as well as 47 regal rooms and suites. The numerous dining options include fine fare from Shaun Rankin. From £350, B&B. grantleyhall.co.uk

CLOCKWISE FROM RIGHT: Freestanding tub overlooking the Namib Desert, Sonop; private yoga class at Sonop; lunch at The Newt in Somerset, made with home-grown garden produce; the 17th-century Hadspen House, The Newt in Somerset

