

TRAVEL+ LEISURE

T+L • WORLDS BEST • FLORIDA

The 10 Best Resort Hotels in Florida



No surprise here: our readers favored properties where they could relax by the sea.

John Scarpinato July 11, 2017

If the 50 states held a popularity contest, Florida might win for its beaches alone. Which is why our readers chose seaside properties across the state, from [Miami](#) and Palm Beach to Sanibel Island and the Florida Keys, as their favorite places to stay.

This year's winner, the Gasparilla Inn & Club, on Gasparilla Island, is renowned for its old-Florida elegance. The 166-room property embraces a country-club vibe (picture guests sipping sparkling wine while bouncing from tennis lessons to the golf course) and has been open since 1913. "It is a wonderful, relaxing, inspiring, and engaging destination," said one reader. "Kids can run free and make friends," added another. "We see the same families year after year."

Every year for our [World's Best Awards](#) survey, T+L asks readers to weigh in on travel experiences around the globe — to share their opinions on the top hotels, resorts, cities, islands, cruise ships, spas, airlines, and more. Hotels were rated on their facilities, location, service, food, and overall value. Hotels were classified as City or Resort based on their locations and amenities.

But if there is one area that steals the resort spotlight, it's Miami: four of the top 10 hotels on this year's list can be found near the city. The Betsy (No. 5) is a 1942 landmark, and the property's Georgian architecture is a refreshing change of scenery in a neighborhood filled with Art Deco gems. The cultural programming is unique, too: the hotel hosts an artist-in-residence and regular book signings. "The Betsy goes above and beyond to capture, reflect, and support Miami's intellectual and artistic energy," said one fan.

Another Miami hot spot is the Edition, a T+L It List Winner in 2015. Stay here if you love the nightlife: the Basement is home to a nightclub, a bowling alley, and yes, even an ice-skating rink. After a night out, guests can enjoy cold-pressed juices and huevos rancheros for breakfast at the airy Market by Jean Georges restaurants, and lounge by one of the two lovely pools. “This place has it all: great food, nightlife, and good vibes at the beach,” said one reader. “Can’t wait to go back.”



5 of 10 Courtesy of Hawks Cay Resort

6. Hawks Cay Resort, Duck Key

Score: 94.03

<http://www.travelandleisure.com/worlds-best/resort-hotels-in-florida#hawks-cay-resort>