

BEACHES + ISLANDS SPECIAL

TRAVEL+ LEISURE

SOUTHEAST ASIA
HONG KONG & MACAU

SUMMER 2025

The **BEST**
HOTELS *Cruises*
Spas **AIRLINES**
+ MORE *Across*
Asia-Pacific

THAO NHI
'JENNY' LE
AT HOIANA
RESORT & GOLF



HKD80 - MYR15
SGD8 - PHP400
THB250 - IDR100,000



VIETNAM

BY JOVEL CHAN

A winning outlook from a room at InterContinental Danang Sun Peninsula.



BEST BEACH + ISLAND RESORTS

1. InterContinental Danang Sun Peninsula

Dreamed up by Bill Bensley, this fantastical hillside retreat—tucked within the lush Son Tra Nature Reserve a half-hour from Danang—blends bold, dramatic design with a sense of laidback luxury. There's even a boat-shaped funicular cable car (yes, really) connecting the resort's four levels. The food? Next level. From Michelin-starred French cuisine at La Maison 1888 to chef Junichi Yoshida's brand-new restaurant, plus Vietnamese classics served in sky-high conical-hat-shaped booths at Citron, 100 metres above the sea. Wellness offers the royal treatment, too, with dreamy Asian-inspired therapies at HARNN Heritage Spa. And if you're feeling adventurous, lace up for a trek through the jungle to spot red-shanked douc langurs or pay a visit to an 800-year-old banyan tree.

2. Regent Phu Quoc
3. Four Seasons Resort The Nam Hai
4. La Veranda Resort Phu Quoc —MGallery
5. JW Marriott Phu Quoc Emerald Bay Resort & Spa
6. Six Senses Con Dao
7. Hyatt Regency Danang Resort
8. Villa Le Corall Gran Mellá, Nha Trang
9. Anantara Quy Nhon Villas
10. InterContinental Phu Quoc Long Beach Resort



BEST UPCOUNTRY HOTELS

1. Anantara Hoi An Resort

This is the kind of place that forces you to slow down. Set on the banks of the Thu Bon River, it blends old-world charm with effortless luxury, just a short walk from Hoi An's lantern-filled ancient town. The vibe here is chic colonial-meets-Vietnamese heritage: think French-style buildings, breezy corridors, and lush tropical gardens. For a truly unique dining experience, book at Art Space, where modern East-meets-West tapas are served alongside rotating art exhibitions and Vietnam's first 3D food printer. And when you're ready to unwind, choose from the riverside pool, tranquil garden gym, a blissful spa session—or drift away on a dreamy Thu Bon River cruise.

2. Zannier Hotel Bãi San Hô

3. Alba Wellness Valley by Fusion

4. Hôtel de la Coupole—MGallery

5. Azera La Residence, Hue

6. Amanoï, Ninh Thuan

7. Avana Retreat, Mai Chau

8. Topas Ecolodge, Sapa

9. My Boutique Hotel & Spa, Sapa

10. Melia Ba Vi Mountain Retreat

BEST CITY HOTELS

1. Sofitel Metropole, Hanoi

Located in the heart of Hanoi, this hotel has been a symbol of French-colonial elegance and refined hospitality since 1901. It offers two distinct wings: the freshly renovated Heritage Wing, rich with classic architecture, which is all about old-school elegance with high ceilings, marble floors, and antique touches; and the Opera Wing, which keeps things bright and modern, so you get history and contemporary comfort all in one stylish package. Over the decades, the hotel has welcomed world leaders and artists, from OG luminaries like Charlie Chaplin and Graham Greene onwards, making it a living piece of history. And if you're into a little adventure, the wartime bunker tours give you a cool underground peek into Hanoi's past.

2. Capella Hanoi

3. Park Hyatt Saigon

4. The Reverie Saigon

5. Hôtel des Arts Saigon – MGallery

6. InterContinental Hanoi Landmark72

7. New World Saigon Hotel

8. Hilton Saigon

9. Potique Hotel Nha Trang

10. Sheraton Saigon



BEST HOTEL POOLS

1. JW Marriott Phu Quoc Emerald Bay Resort & Spa

This award-winner is a pastel-hued paradise featuring three standout pools. The Shell Pool, an adults-only seashell-shaped masterpiece, steals the show with its mosaic tiles and retro vibe. There's the serene ocean-facing Sun Pool and family-friendly Sand Pool. (Or get your own pool in a luxe private villa.)

2. Regent Phu Quoc

3. Alma Resort Cam Ranh

4. Hyatt Regency Danang Resort

5. InterContinental Phu Quoc Long Beach Resort

6. Four Seasons Resort The Nam Hai

7. Amanoï, Ninh Thuan

8. Capella Hanoi

9. Angsana Lang Co

10. Park Hyatt Saigon





BEST HOTEL SPAS

1. Tinh Wellness Sanctuary, La Veranda Resort Phu Quoc—MGallery

This Indochine-inspired 1,500-square-metre retreat is set in lush gardens with ocean views. It features eight luxurious treatment rooms and four VIP suites themed around earth, water, wood and fire, each fitted with saunas and hydrotherapy. Guests can choose from six curated wellness journeys like Detox and Burnout Recovery, and enjoy facilities including a saltwater pool, yoga shala, fitness centre, and an organic beauty salon.

2. Anantara Quy Nhon Villas

3. TIA Wellness Resort

4. Six Senses Con Dao

5. Regent Phu Quoc

6. Banyan Tree Lang Co

7. InterContinental Danang Sun Peninsula Resort

8. InterContinental Phu Quoc Long Beach Resort

9. Alma Resort Cam Ranh

10. JW Marriott Phu Quoc Emerald Bay Resort & Spa



BEST GENERAL MANAGERS

1. Phan Trong Minh, Azerai La Residence Hue

Phan Trong Minh has more than 30 years of experience in hospitality, including helming top luxury resorts. As GM of Azerai La Residence Hue, he has driven cultural, environmental and wellness programs inspired by local tradition, and his dedication to authentic experiences and impeccable service has firmly positioned the imperial capital's grande dame as a premier destination for travellers seeking a blend of worldly luxury and local soul.

2. Jean Pierre Gerbet, La Veranda Resort Phu Quoc—M Gallery

3. Le Dai Hai, Ana Mandara Cam Ranh

4. Jai Kishan, New World Phu Quoc

5. Herbert Laubichler-Pichler, Alma Resort Cam Ranh

FROM TOP LEFT: COURTESY OF LA VERANDA RESORT PHU QUOC; AND PAN, OPPOSITE: BILLETSKIVGEMY.COM

DESTINATIONS

BY JESSICA KOZUKA



BEST CITIES

1. Tokyo, Japan

Japan continues to exert its siren call, blowing past pre-coronavirus records for visitors this year—and fashionable, fascinating Tokyo is not just the gateway but the main destination for most. Small wonder, with diverse attractions throughout its endless sprawl, from ancient shrines and temples to the poppiest of pop-culture hangouts. Tokyo is home to the most Michelin-starred restaurants in the world and a drinks scene that spans elegant sake and cocktail bars to street-side dives... and we love them equally. Add a hospitable culture with unparalleled safety and exquisite politeness, and you've got a destination that charms everyone. As the saying goes: If you're tired of Tokyo, you're tired of life.

2. Bangkok, Thailand

3. Singapore

4. Seoul, South Korea

5. Hong Kong

6. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

7. Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

8. Kyoto, Japan

9. Sydney, Australia

10. Osaka, Japan