

Condé Nast Traveler

THE WORLD MADE LOCAL

NOVEMBER 2025

the 2025 READERS' CHOICE AWARDS

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**AUTUMN IN JAPAN
SARDINIA'S INDEPENDENT SPIRIT
CLIMBING KILIMANJARO WITH DAD**



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It isn't possible for the *Condé Nast Traveler* team to see and do everything, everywhere, all at once—though we try our best! Fortunately, we also have you, our readers. This year you cast an astonishing 757,109 votes in the 38th annual Readers' Choice Awards survey, sharing your opinions on the very best in travel. You told us you were enchanted by Italian hotels (especially if their names included Belmond), went on safari with Wilderness in Botswana, took to semiprivate aviation, and advocated for Columbus, Ohio, as a top American city. We loved poring over the results to find out what's sticking with readers and editors (like the new Raffles Jaipur, which also appeared on last year's Hot List) and spinning the data into a snapshot of the current moment in travel. Ahead: your manual for planning that next adventure.

When a friend tells you a travel experience is unmissable, you take note. So in the spirit of friendship, we've scrawled a few recommendations for things you absolutely must do when you visit this year's RCAs winners—like arrive at the Hotel Cipriani, A Belmond Hotel, Venice, in a mahogany speedboat.

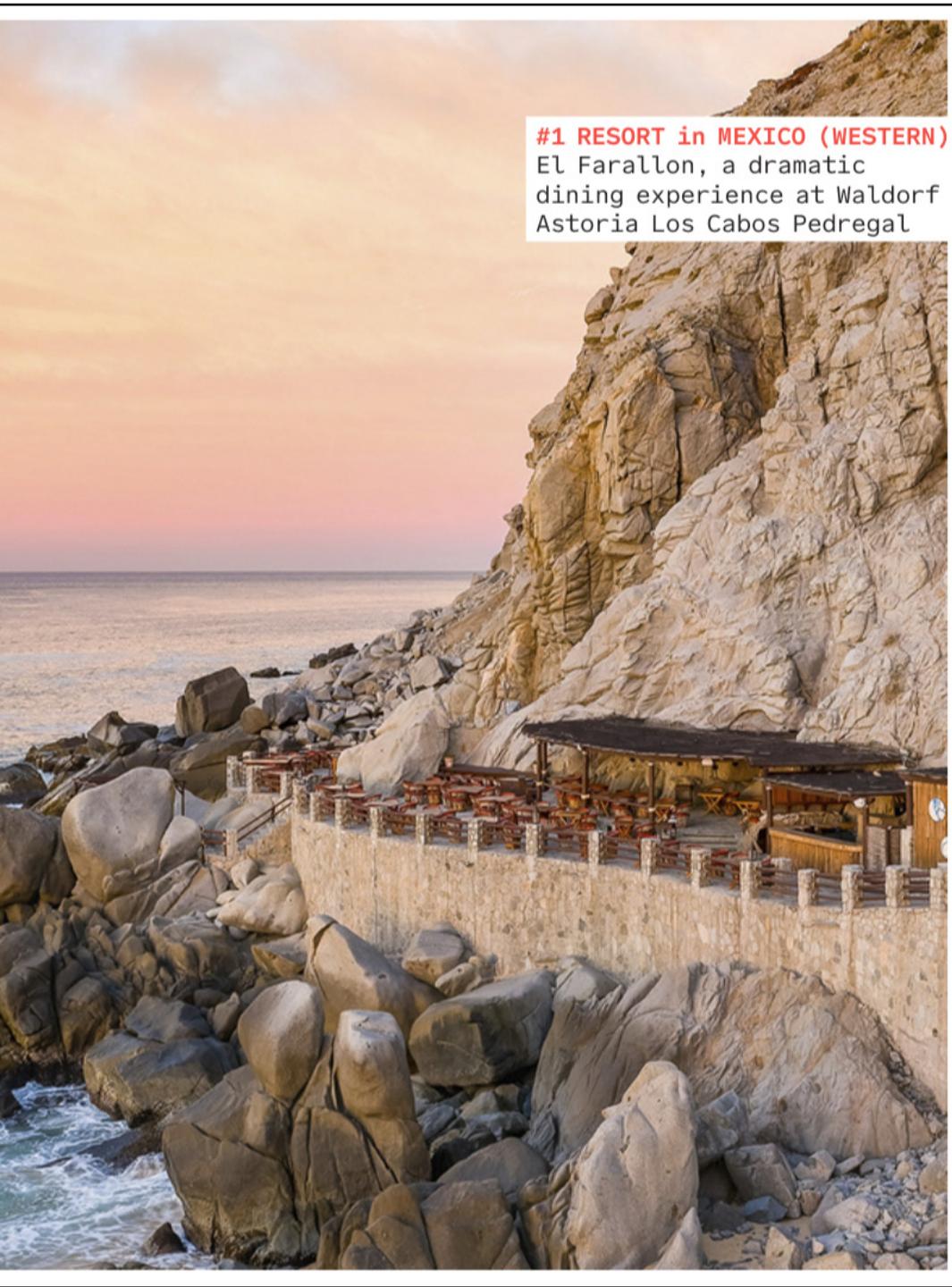
—THE EDITORS



#4 HOTEL IN VENICE
The glamour begins the moment you arrive at Hotel Cipriani, A Belmond Hotel, Venice

RESORTS

What, exactly, *is* a resort these days? These results show how rich and diverse the category has become, with a property for every imaginable kind of traveler. A few highlights: a Montana cattle ranch where guests can live out their *Yellowstone* dreams; a Botswana safari camp with a strong conservation focus; and a historic and beloved Bahamas retreat that is enjoying its next act.



#1 RESORT in MEXICO (WESTERN)
El Farallon, a dramatic dining experience at Waldorf Astoria Los Cabos Pedregal



ASK A LOCAL

David Hernandez, the director of bars at the **Waldorf Astoria Los Cabos Pedregal** and an agave expert, on making the most of Baja California's southern tip

ART WALK IN SAN JOSÉ DEL CABO

"Every Thursday night from November through June, the whole historic district turns into an artsy hangout with live music and craft vendors in the streets. You'll find handmade ceramics, jewelry, and paintings and meet the people who made them."

JAZZ ON THE ROCKS

"Locals take visitors here when we want to show them something cool that's not just tequila shots and loud clubs. It's Los Cabos's first jazz space, and it's up on the cliffs at Sunset Point, so the views of the Pacific really leave you breathless."

ALQUIMIA COCINA IMPERFECTA

"I recommend the freshly baked pastries and short rib enchiladas at this small family-owned restaurant. It's a cozy spot, tucked away in a nontouristy corner of Cabo San Lucas, so it stays relaxed and local. It's totally worth the short drive."

REST OF THE WORLD

CANADA

- 1 Fairmont Chateau Whistler, B.C. 99.72
- 2 Clayoquot Wilderness Lodge, Bedwell River Valley, B.C. 99.47
- 3 Four Seasons Resort and Residences Whistler, B.C. 99.41
- 4 Fairmont Tremblant, Quebec 98.42
- 5 Sonora Resort, Sonora Island, B.C. 97.15
- 6 The Westin Resort & Spa, Whistler, B.C. 96.72
- 7 Wickaninnish Inn, Tofino, B.C. 96.48
- 8 Spirit Ridge, Osoyoos, B.C. 96.21
- 9 Nita Lake Lodge, Whistler, B.C. 95.03
- 10 Cabot Cape Breton, Inverness, N.S. 94.49

MEXICO (EASTERN)

- 1 Maroma, A Belmond Hotel, Riviera Maya 99.88
- 2 The St. Regis Kanai Resort, Riviera Maya 97.58
- 3 Fairmont Mayakoba 97.00
- 4 Rosewood Mayakoba 96.47
- 5 Etéreo, Auberge Resorts Collection, Riviera Maya 96.22

MEXICO (WESTERN)

- 1 **Waldorf Astoria Los Cabos Pedregal 99.01**
- 2 Chileno Bay Resort & Residences, Auberge Resorts Collection, Cabo San Lucas 98.52
- 3 Viceroy Los Cabos 98.18
- 4 The St. Regis Punta Mita Resort 97.83
- 5 Esperanza, Auberge Resorts Collection, Cabo San Lucas 97.16