

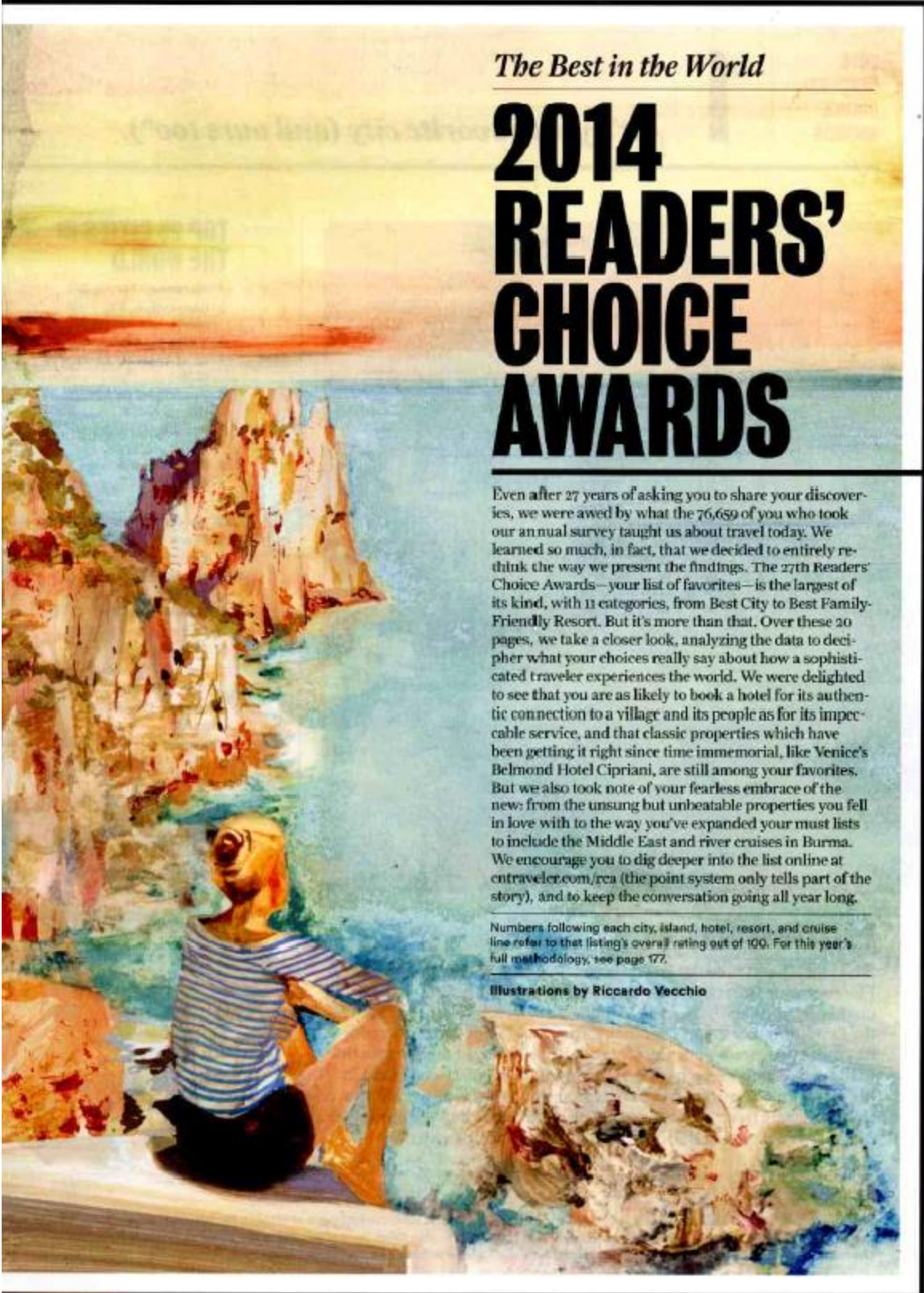
Condé Nast Traveler

NOVEMBER 2014
TRUTH IN TRAVEL

**LIVING
THE DREAM
IN THE
MÉDOC**



THE 2014 READERS' CHOICE AWARDS



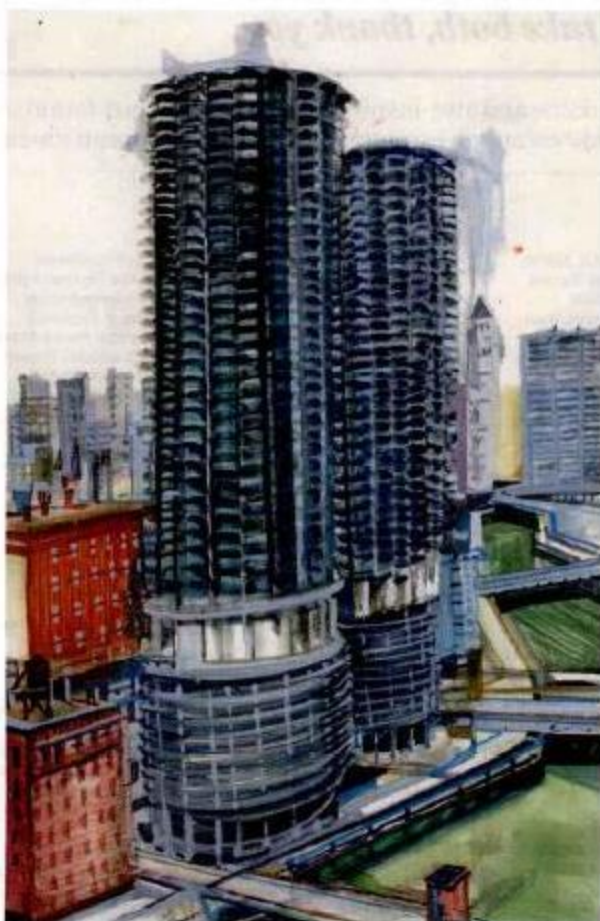
The Best in the World

2014 READERS' CHOICE AWARDS

Even after 27 years of asking you to share your discoveries, we were awed by what the 76,659 of you who took our annual survey taught us about travel today. We learned so much, in fact, that we decided to entirely rethink the way we present the findings. The 27th Readers' Choice Awards—your list of favorites—is the largest of its kind, with 11 categories, from Best City to Best Family-Friendly Resort. But it's more than that. Over these 20 pages, we take a closer look, analyzing the data to decipher what your choices really say about how a sophisticated traveler experiences the world. We were delighted to see that you are as likely to book a hotel for its authentic connection to a village and its people as for its impeccable service, and that classic properties which have been getting it right since time immemorial, like Venice's Belmond Hotel Cipriani, are still among your favorites. But we also took note of your fearless embrace of the new: from the unsung but unbeatable properties you fell in love with to the way you've expanded your must lists to include the Middle East and river cruises in Burma. We encourage you to dig deeper into the list online at entraveler.com/rea (the point system only tells part of the story), and to keep the conversation going all year long.

Numbers following each city, island, hotel, resort, and cruise line refer to that listing's overall rating out of 100. For this year's full methodology, see page 177.

Illustrations by Riccardo Vecchio



... and the Midwest

Chicago is having a moment, thanks to a recent explosion of buzzy restaurants and a thriving art and design scene (the city will hold its first architectural biennial next year). The influx of visitors (a six percent increase from just three years ago) are well served by the newest kids on the hotel block: The Langham (No. 3) and the Thompson (No. 10, and home to Nico Osteria, one of the city's best new restaurants) both opened last year. A few hundred miles southeast in Cincinnati, the two-year-old 21C (No. 2) continues to draw visitors to its 1924 landmark building; the hotel doubles as a contemporary gallery and is adjacent to the cafés and shops of the quickly gentrifying Over-the-Rhine neighborhood.

ONLINE ONLY

You Won't Take Manhattan ... or Los Angeles, for that matter. Only two hotels in New York City (the Trump International Hotel & Tower and the Langham Place, Fifth Avenue) and one in L.A. (the Peninsula Beverly Hills) squeaked onto the list of Top 50 U.S. Hotels.

TOP 25 HOTELS IN THE U.S.

- 1 **XV Beacon** / Boston / 95.537
- 2 **21C Museum Hotel** / Cincinnati / 95.204
- 3 **The Langham** / Chicago / 95.177
- 4 **Old Edwards Inn and Spa** / Highlands, N.C. / 94.417
- 5 **Waldorf Astoria** / Chicago / 94.289
- 6 **Pitcher Inn** / Warren, Vt. / 93.948
- 7 **Twin Farms** / Barnard, Vt. / 93.750
- 8 **The Wauwinet** / Nantucket, Mass. / 93.681
- 9 **Hotel Sorella CityCentre** / Houston / 93.150
- 10 **Thompson** / Chicago / 92.778
- 11 **Château du Sureau** / Oakhurst, Calif. / 92.668
- 12 **River Inn of Harbor Town** / Memphis / 92.607
- 13 **The Willock** / Aiken, S.C. / 92.342
- 14 **Hotel Vermont** / Burlington, Vt. / 92.327
- 15 **Mokara Hotel & Spa** / San Antonio, Tex. / 92.024
- 16 **Tu Tu' Tun Lodge** / Gold Beach, Ore. / 91.954
- 17 **Post Ranch Inn** / Big Sur, Calif. / 91.803
- 18 **Brewery Gulch Inn** / Mendocino, Calif. / 91.747
- 19 **Greyfield Inn** / Cumberland Island, Ga. / 91.598
- 20 **The Jefferson** / Washington, D.C. / 91.487
- 21 **Chanler at Cliff Walk** / Newport, R.I. / 91.400
- 22 **Allison Inn & Spa** / Newberg, Ore. / 91.234
- 23 **Hotel Granduca** / Houston / 91.214
- 24 **Virginia Hotel** / Cape May, N.J. / 90.976
- 25 **Wentworth Mansion** / Charleston, S.C. / 90.762



For this year's complete Readers' Choice Awards list, check out cntraveler.com/rca.



THE NEWCOMERS AND THE COMEBACKS

Nayara Springs /
Arenal, Costa Rica /
97.940

The Langham /
Chicago, USA / 95.177

Thompson / Chicago,
USA / 92.778

Hotel Vermont /
Burlington, Vt., USA /
92.127

**Gritti Palace (Luxury
Collection)** / Venice,
Italy / 90.507

The Pearl / Rosemary
Beach, Fla., USA / 90.478

**Andaz Maui at Wailea
Resort** / Maui, USA /
89.615

Alfond Inn / Winter
Park, Fla., USA / 88.626

Epicurean Hotel /
Tampa, USA / 88.258

**Park Hyatt Siem
Reap** / Cambodia /
87.546

Hotel D'Angleterre /
Copenhagen,
Denmark / 86.260

The Quin / New York,
USA / 85.335

➤ For this year's complete Readers' Choice Awards list, check out cntraveler.com/rca.

Everything Old Is New Again And that's a good thing. This year, two iconic properties that had been closed for lengthy and expensive renovations—the 489-year-old Gritti Palace in Venice and the 259-year-old D'Angleterre in Copenhagen—are right back on the list.