TripAdvisor Rolls Out Red Carpet for Top 10 Celebrity-Owned Hotels Worldwide

Famous Actors, Musicians, and Fashionistas Among Celebrity Hotelier Elite

NEWTON, Mass., Jan. 7 /<u>PRNewswire</u>/ -- TripAdvisor®, the world's most trusted source of travel advice, today announced its list of the top 10 celebrity-owned hotels in the world, as determined by TripAdvisor editors and travelers. From luxurious resorts and spas, to budget hotels and camp cabins, these famous hoteliers are offering star treatment to a wide variety of travelers.

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1. Rustic Luxe with Robert Redford: <u>Sundance Resort</u>, Sundance, Utah

Ranked #1 in Sundance, Utah - Average nightly rate: \$601

Recommended by TripAdvisor travelers for: Romantic Retreat, Honeymoon

Situated at the base of Mount Timpanogos on 6,000 acres of rolling hills and babbling brooks, the Sundance Kid's retreat has TripAdvisor travelers raving about the resort's rustic beauty, excellent service, and outdoor activities. "Robert Redford did us all a favor by opening this resort, remaining loyal to nature, and preserving the beauty of the canyon," noted one TripAdvisor traveler.

2. City Chic with Robert De Niro: <u>The Greenwich Hotel</u>, New York, New York

Ranked #104 in New York, New York - Average nightly rate: \$579

Recommended by TripAdvisor travelers for: Stylish Decor, Romantic Retreat

Travelers are talking about the understated elegance and complimentary in-room snack baskets found at Robert De Niro's Greenwich Hotel in New York City. Located on a quiet street in Tribeca, De Niro's hideaway features 88 uniquely decorated rooms and suites, plus a zen-like indoor pool enclosed in a 250-year-old Japanese bamboo farmhouse. One TripAdvisor traveler commented on the celebrity clientele that The Greenwich Hotel attracts, "We stopped by the drawing room for coffee and were surprised to see that Mel Gibson chose to do the same at the table next to us."

3. Rejuvenation Retreat with Olivia Newton-John: Gaia Retreat & Spa, Brooklet, Australia

Ranked #1 in Brooklet, Australia - Package deals start at \$1,825 for two nights, shared accommodation for two people

Recommended by TripAdvisor travelers for: Relaxation, Spa Vacation

With only 20 rooms, this boutique retreat features tranquil grounds, healthy food, a full-service spa, fitness center, and relaxing pool. One TripAdvisor traveler said, "The one thing above all else was the incredible feeling of calm I felt as soon as I arrived on the property. It's almost magical."

4. In the Jungle with Francis Ford Coppola: Blancaneaux Lodge, San Ignacio, Belize

Ranked #5 in San Ignacio, Belize - Average nightly rate: \$317

Recommended by TripAdvisor travelers for: Staff/Service, Honeymoon

At Francis Ford Coppola's Blancaneaux Lodge in San Ignacio, Belize, architecture blends effortlessly with nature. Situated in the northwest corner of the 107,000-acre Mountain Pine Ridge Forest Reserve, the lodge's high-end cabanas and villas enhance the natural surroundings with thatched roofs, open-air living areas, and hammocks. One TripAdvisor traveler noted that, "Blancaneaux definitely provides a luxurious experience - though the setting is rustic, the accommodations are not."

5. Life's a Beach with Gloria Estefan: Costa d'Este Beach Resort, Vero Beach, Florida

Ranked #7 in Vero Beach, Florida - Average nightly rate: \$320

Recommended by TripAdvisor travelers for: Prime Location, Beach/Sun Getaway

One thing guests won't experience at Costa d'Este, Gloria Estefan's posh Vero Beach resort, is a diva attitude from its celebrity owner. Costa d'Este boasts a beachside location, pool, spa, and a Cuban restaurant. As one TripAdvisor traveler revealed, "We had drinks at the pool before dinner and to our surprise Gloria Estefan was there with some friends. We saw many people approach her for pictures and she was as sweet and gracious as could be."

6. Haute Travel with Donatella Versace: Palazzo Versace, Main Beach, Queensland, Australia

Ranked #1 in Main Beach, Queensland, Australia - Average nightly rate: \$538

Recommended by TripAdvisor travelers for: Cleanliness, Stylish Decor

High fashion and hospitality join forces at Donatella Versace's trendy Palazzo Versace resort on Australia's Gold Coast. All aspects of the resort were designed to reflect the Versace brand, including luxe freebies like mini bottles of Versace perfume. With so much lavishness in one place, it's no surprise that one TripAdvisor traveler said, "Staying here is like having a taste of what it can be like living 'rich'!"

7. On a Mission with Clint Eastwood: Mission Ranch, Carmel, California

Ranked #2 for Specialty Lodging in Carmel, California - Average nightly rate: \$200

Recommended by TripAdvisor travelers for: Location, Culture/Sightseeing

When celebrated actor and director Clint Eastwood purchased the historic Mission Ranch in 1986, he saved 22 acres of prime real estate on Carmel's Monterey Peninsula from impending development. Eastwood, who owns a home nearby, is still spotted on occasion at Mission Ranch, a cozy farmhouse with 31 unique rooms, ocean views, and sheep grazing in the meadow. One TripAdvisor traveler offered, "We admit it - we wanted to stay at 'Clint's place.' It was worth every penny."

8. Camp Fever with Kate Pierson: Kate's Lazy Meadow Motel, Mount Tremper, New York

Ranked #1 in Mount Tremper, New York - Average nightly rate: \$150

Recommended by TripAdvisor travelers for: Location, Pet-Friendly

After jet-setting around the world as a lead singer for the B-52s, Kate Pierson caught cabin fever and decided to open Kate's Lazy Meadow Motel near Woodstock, New York. Visitors have their choice of kitschy 1950s camp cabins, or vintage Airstream trailers. While guests note that these are not luxury accommodations, one TripAdvisor traveler wrote, "Kate's has an aura of 'cool' and you feel cool because you've stayed there."

9. Counting Sheep with John Malkovich: The Big Sleep Hotel, Eastbourne, United Kingdom

Ranked #8 in Eastbourne, United Kingdom - Average nightly rate: \$92

Recommended by TripAdvisor travelers for: Stylish Decor, Pet-Friendly

TripAdvisor travelers admit that they were attracted to Hollywood heavyweight John Malkovich's Big Sleep Hotel because of the budget-friendly prices, seaside location, and trendy reputation. While many travelers praise the hotel's overall value and excellent free breakfast, opinion is divided on the funky decor, including photos of John Malkovich and furry curtains. One TripAdvisor traveler sums it up, "Cheap and comfortable with a wee bit of cool and trendy."

10. Rockin' Out with Bono and The Edge: The Clarence, Dublin, Ireland

Ranked #74 in Dublin, Ireland - Average nightly rate: \$270

Recommended by TripAdvisor travelers for: Young Singles, Nightlife

Purchased in 1992 by world-famous rockers Bono and The Edge of U2, The Clarence Hotel in Dublin, Ireland is adjacent to Temple Bar, a popular nightlife area. Although most travelers praise the hotel's location, some cite the evening noise as a problem. As explained by one TripAdvisor traveler, "The rooms are stylish and comfortable. The location is excellent, but note that due to the location in the Temple Bar district, it can be a bit noisy."

"While travelers may visit a celebrity-owned hotel hoping for a brush with fame, these top celebrity-owned properties offer more than just star power," said Christine Petersen, chief marketing officer for TripAdvisor. "Excellent accommodations, mixed with a famous owner's personal touches, have earned these A-list hotels high marks with TripAdvisor travelers."

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