

# The 30 greatest hotels in France

Hotels in this handsome land of hilltop villages, vineyard-stitch countryside and cool alpine peaks are impossibly enchanting

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19 July 2021 • 8.00am

A hotel in France is so much more than a functional layover. Across the country, highly individual hotels of all shapes, sizes and styles pepper hilltop villages, mellow small towns, remote mountain valleys, bucolic countryside and cosmopolitan cities.

In the Loire Valley and wine-producing regions such as Bordeaux, Burgundy and Provence, you could combine a scenic road trip through vineyards with chateau accommodation on a historic wine estate. On the Mediterranean and Atlantic coasts, check into a Hamptons-style surf cabin, a belle époque villa or a clifftop glass box. In Paris, choose a design hotel where the city's historic pavés (cobblestones) marble the lobby floor.

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## Les Source de Caudalie, Aquitaine

Pastoral splendour emanates from this five-star rural hotel and spa, which sits by a lake amid the vines of the 600-year-old wine estate still home to Château Smith Haut Lafitte. It was constructed in 1999 out of oak beams and chalky stone reclaimed from local farms. New buildings, designed in reference to the region's architecture, have been placed within the landscape to create an idyllic hamlet, also encompassing a small farm and rows of vines. Much of the focus here is on the exceptional food and wine but there's also a spa with both indoor and outdoor pools.

*Doubles from £266 (00 33 5 57 83 83 83; [sources-caudalie.com](http://sources-caudalie.com)). Read the full review.*

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