

Hideaway Report[®]

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Traveling the world in search of truly enchanting places



Editors' Choice Awards 2020

In 2019, Hideaway Report editors flew more than 151,000 miles, visited 28 countries and stayed in 112 hotels, of which 54 were recommended. The highlights of the year are reflected in this special Editors' Choice issue.

Each January, we have the pleasure of recalling our travel experiences over the previous 12 months and drawing attention to a number of particularly memorable hotels and resorts. To be considered for our annual Editors' Choice Awards, properties

must be relatively small in size, possess strong personalities and demonstrate a consistent devotion to personal service. Once, sophisticated hideaways existed chiefly in North America and Western Europe. But today, superior levels of comfort, stylish design, polished service and refined cuisine can be found on every continent. In 2020, we will continue our enviable task of circling the globe in order to seek out the very best that the world of travel has to offer.

Hideaway Report editors travel anonymously and pay full rate for all lodging, meals and related expenses.

Since the launch of the Hideaway Report in 1979, featured hotels and restaurants have been selected on a completely independent basis.

For comments and inquiries, please email memberservices@hideawayreport.com.



Royal Champagne Hotel & Spa

CHAMPILLON, FRANCE

Set on a hillside overlooking Épernay, the Royal Champagne Hotel & Spa was once a coaching inn where the kings of France would stay en route to their coronation in Reims. The breathtaking views over the vineyards were what convinced an American couple to acquire the 49-room property. Perhaps the hotel's most distinctive amenity is its Champagne bar with more than 200 selections on offer. Chef Jean-Denis Rieubland, who formerly worked at Michelin two-star Le Chantecler in

Nice, oversees the hotel's two restaurants, which include Le Royal, a Michelin one-star gastronomic table, where we opted for the delicious five-course Signature Menu. Designer Sybille de Margerie's look for the accommodations is contemporary but cozy, with lots of blond oak and a mostly taupe and Champagne color scheme punctuated by splashes of color. The excellent spa has a hammam, a sauna and a yoga studio. Throughout our stay the service was thoughtful, friendly and professional.



São Lourenço do Barrocal

MONSARAZ, PORTUGAL

Located about a two-hour drive east of Lisbon, São Lourenço do Barrocal opened in 2016. Barrocal had been a farming village for centuries. Owner José António Uva hired the architect Eduardo Souto de Moura, winemaker Susana Esteban and wellness expert Susanne Kaufmann to help revive the olive groves and vineyards and create a hotel and spa in their midst. Our Farm Room came with terra-cotta floors, high ceilings, understated modern furnishings and a shared terrace with a

view of the Alentejan hills. It exuded stillness and simplicity. There are 24 rooms in all, as well as 16 cottages with kitchens and living areas. The complex also contains a spa, stables, a winery and a restaurant. The farm-to-table food served there proved a highlight of our stay, with ingredients prepared in a straightforward manner that amplified their quality. Activities include horseback riding, wine tasting and stargazing. Few properties communicate such a strong sense of history and place.

SÃO LOURENÇO DO BARROCAL FARM ROOMS: NELSON GARRIDO

SÃO LOURENÇO DO BARROCAL POOL: ASH JAMES