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## Recommended by Members of the Canadian Institute of Travel Counsellors

### Top Hotels Around the World

- The Knightsbridge Hotel, London
- Couples, Negril, Jamaica
- The Riu Chain of hotels, for their food, service and price.
- Sandals Whitehouse, in Jamaica
- Grand Lido, Negril, Jamaica
- Occidental Royal Hideaway (Cayo Santa Maria, Cuba)
- Melia Cayo Coco (Cayo Coco, Cuba)
- Four Seasons, Sayan, Ubud, Bali
- San Clemente Palace Resort and Hotel, Venice, Italy
- The most amazing experience was my stay at a paradore in Portugal/pousada in Spain. They are pricey but try and visit the grounds and lobbies and even have a meal or drink to get the cultural experience of these beautifully restored estates.
- Certainly one of my favourites is the La Mariposa Hotel (Manuel Antonio, Costa Rica). This magnificent small property is perched high on a hill overlooking the bay and the national park. Superb food, a wonderful staff and a tremendous setting all highlight the property
- Sandals Royal Caribbean, Jamaica;
- Fairmont Empress, Victoria
- Rickshaw Inn, Takayama, Japan. A quaint little hotel with great character, friendly English speaking people and a great location.
- La Mariposa, Quepos, Costa Rica—very romantic—marvelous smaller hotel overlooking Manuel Antonio National Park
- Brook Lane Hotel, Kenmare, Co. Cork, Ireland - <http://www.brooklanehotel.com/> Not a deluxe hotel but not all special places are. The Brook Lane is one of those special places.... incredibly clean, great food and a wonderful lounge compliment Kenmare. This is another of those "must see" destinations in the south of Ireland - great place to stop and explore the Ring of Kerry.
- Queen's Landing, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario Not all great experiences need be planned by air - The Queen's Landing (and her sister properties, The Pillar and Post and Prince of Wales) is one such gem. Nestled in Ontario's Niagara-on-the-Lake, this exceptional resort has it all - from superb food to the friendly staff, this "Queen" is one of the most enjoyable properties one is likely to find in Ontario
- The Four Seasons Resort, Nevis, West Indies. Simply put - WOW - this must be a small piece of heaven dropped into the Caribbean.
- The Browns Hotel, London, England - I remember this one fondly from when I was younger - typical British elegance in the very heart of one of the world's great cities. Not for those seeking an inexpensive experience, the Browns is well-known for the excellence of its staff, the superb food and, after a full restoration, being one of the most delightful boutique hotels in the Mayfair area of London
- Westin Hotels: Everything that is said, or printed about the Heavenly Bed is true.

- Old Course Hotel, St. Andrews, Scotland – if you're lucky, you may even bump into Michael Douglas and Katherine Zeta Jones.
- The service and beach at secrets Capri – Riviera Maya
- Fairmont Vancouver Airport; Best Western Sands Vancouver; Sas Hotel Stansted Airport  
Maggior Consiglio - Treveso Italy; Eaton Hotel, Hong Kong; Sheraton Nusa Dua. Bali
- One of my favorite hotels is the Place d'Armes in Old Montreal
- Sandals Royal Bahamian and Offshore Island
- RIU Yucatan - wonderful resort, as all RIU's are. Located in the Playacar area, you can walk a beautiful boulevard into the town of Playa Del Carmen while passing lovely resorts, and upscale houses and condos.
- The Disney Contemporary hotel
- Wales - Bodysgallen Hotel
- The Peninsula in Hong Kong, followed by the Shangri-la in Bangkok. My favourite hotel in Paris is the Hotel de Bourgogne et Montana in St. Germain de Pres. A really darling small boutique hotel with an old lift that will only hold 2 passengers.
- Travelling to Italy? Try the Palazzo Consoli, a great B & B on the border of Umbria and Tuscany in Monteleone D'Orvieto short train ride from Rome to Chiusi (car rental available in Chiusi).
- Ritz Carlton New Orleans, Fairmont San Francisco, Emerald Lake Lodge in Field BC.
- Chateau Lake Louise, Alberta
- Hotel de la Pelissaria, Saint-Cirq-Lapopie, France (near Toulouse)
- Hotel La Cisterna, San Gimignano, Italy (Tuscany)
- Both of my favourites are in Vietnam:
- Phan Thai Hotel in the old quarter of Hanoi - close to everything and right in the middle of all the locals and their activities. A great place to people watch, and the owners do as much as they can to make your stay enjoyable. An old building with loads of character, and to a Canadian standard, I'd say a 2 1/2 to 3 star...has TV, phone, bathroom extras like soap, toothpaste, shampoo etc...clean and comfy.
- Hang Nga's Guest House and Art Garden in Dalat - very Salvador Dali – and rooms very reasonably priced, Amazing architecture which she designs and does herself with each room having an animal theme eg. ant, spider, phoenix. Just great - original furnishings too, including a phoenix egg for a fireplace, giraffes and many mazed staircases. She is still adding to it too! A lot of tourists come to check the place out so not so quiet nor private, but worth the bizarre-ness of it all. I'd say a 2 1/2 to 3 star standard.
- Hyatt Vancouver; Radisson Kauai; Oriental Singapore
- Travelling with family / small children.
- I find All-Suite hotels excellent when travelling with family. It is hard to get enough space in a hotel room, when small children take naps, or go to sleep earlier than the parents. There is nowhere for parents to go while the kids sleep. Regular Hotel suites are much too expensive for most regular people's budgets. That is why we love to stay at Residence Inns, and any other hotel chain that have Suites as their regular offering. Also the cost savings of having Breakfast included in the price of the room ( and usually Full Buffet at Residence Inns)
- Also my husband and I think the Gold Floor at any Fairmont Hotel is a cost savings as well. Most include Breakfast/and evening appetizers - which sometimes can be qualified as a small meal. Although the cost is higher for the room, the savings by using their lounge for some meals saves money overall than going to the hotel restaurant.
- We love the Chateau Laurier Gold Floor...and will never stay in a regular room again. The staff are exceptional. Last February they prepared a teapot of Hot Chocolate for us (and 4 year old daughter) and a plate of home made cookies for the evening. No extra cost, just great service.
- We also stayed at the Fairmont Chateau Montebello (both in February and last week - August). Beautiful Hotel. Very family friendly. Children's meals are good.
- The Suites at 1 King Street West, in Toronto

- The Conrad Bali in Tanjung Benoa, Bali is a great hotel. Very friendly service, wonderful rooms. We asked for an ocean front and our room cornered on the swimming pool and the Indian Ocean. Very good food—good location—bicycle rentals—about 20 minutes to Nusa Dua—and even a 7-Eleven down the street to pick up refreshments.
- Galle Face Hotel, Columbo, Sri Lanka. This is an older property with a long history, some beautiful architecture—and a great view of the sea and the Galle Face Green. Prices were very reasonable and the food was amazing and cheap. When we were there a few years ago, we paid the equivalent of \$5.00 for an amazing breakfast buffet of curries and breads—sitting out on the patio, looking at the Indian Ocean. Ahhhhhhh.....
- Favourite place to stay in Tokyo? The Hilton in Shinjuku. It is a typically well-kept property in the heart of Shinjuku. About a 15 minute walk to the Shinjuku shopping area (tons of restaurants, electronics) and the bus terminal (buses to Mount Fuji area and more) and the major train/subway station. There is also a subway stop (Nishi-Shinjuku) that connects to the Hilton.
- A favourite place to stay in Havana, Cuba is Hostal Los Frailes. It is off the main street, not far from Plaza Vieja. This quaint hotel has very comfy rooms at reasonable prices. The motif and decor is 'monastery' and the staff dress in monks robes. There is a beautiful skylight on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, under which plants and a delicate waterfall extend to the main lobby. The coffee shop is by the front door and usually a jazz group is serenading the guests as they eat fresh pastries from the bakery next door.
- Travelling to Guilin, China? Stay at the Sheraton, alongside the Li River and close to everything including local attractions, restaurants, the night time artist market, bicycle rentals, and the boat departures for Yangshuo. On the Li River Cruise, you see the absolutely fascinating karst peaks (the beautiful mountains) as well as a glimpse of the countryside with farms, fishermen, water buffalo and more...
- The 'KAANAPALI BEACH HOTEL' in Maui because of their friendliness, Aloha spirit, participation of the staff with the guests, Hawaiian Heritage program and the wonderful garden and beach at the hotel.
- Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Resort and Spa-Oahu,
- Outrigger Waikiki on the Beach-Oahu,
- ResortQuest Waikiki Beach Hotel - Oahu.
- Ritz Carleton - Maui, Prince Hotel - Maui,
- Westin Maui Resort and Spa - Maui,
- Hilton Waikoloa - Big Island,
- Waikoloa Beach Marriott - Big Island,
- Animal Kingdom lodge - Disney World,
- Boardwalk-Disney World
- Chateau Lake Louise, Banff, Chateau Frontenac, Quebec City, Chateau Laurier, Ottawa
- La Mamounia Hotel – Marrakech, Morocco (check for new Opening—currently being renovated)
- Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas
- Four Seasons Hualalai, HI; - Pangkor Laut Resort, Malaysia; Lake O'Hara Lodge, Yoho National Park, BC; Langdon Hall Relais et Chateaux, Cambridge ON ; Hotel du Palais, Biarritz FR

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