

AWARDS

# The Gold List 2017: The 20 best hotels in the world

BY CONDÉ NAST TRAVELLER 13 December 2018

All products are independently selected by our editors. If you buy something, we may earn an affiliate commission.



Uli Weber

## Hotel Il Pellicano

# TUSCANY, ITALY

# Check availability for Il Pellicano on Expedia now.

Opened in the 1960s on a wild, rocky stretch of the coast of **Tuscany** by a dashing British aviator and his American wife, **Hotel II Pellicano** hotel has just celebrated its 50th birthday. For its fiercely loyal clientele, this discreetly elegant seaside refuge is a club as much as a hotel, one where staff are greeted like family and fellow guests become good friends. So how do first-timers



Website: thecarlyle.com

Price: doubles from about £315



#### Titilaka

## LAKE TITICACA, PERU

At first glance, Titilaka's neo-industrial entrance appears to have turned its back on new arrivals. But step into the airy lobby and it's easy to why: the entire hotel is built to make the most  $out \ of \ South \ America's \ highest, \ largest, \ most \ wondrously \ beautiful \ lake \ on \ the \ other \ side.$ Everyone comes to this corner of the world to visit Lake Titicaca's curious islands, but only guests at Titilaka get floor-to-ceiling views of the lake and its soaring dome of blue sky. And, as if this isn't enough, there's a wrap-around terrace with double beds and deck chairs from which to take it all in. The bright interiors are crafted by architect Jordi Puig, the owner Ignacio Masías and his sister Sandra Masías (also the team behind the smart Hotel B and the new Atemporal hotels in  $\underline{\text{Lima}}\text{)}.$  Untainted sunlight streams in, warming the adobe brickwork, plush sofas, throws and  $rugs\ in\ bold\ Altiplano\ colours, and\ bespoke\ Pop-art\ pieces.\ During\ the\ day, a\ choice\ of\ 14\ outings$ is offered as standard, ranging from rafting or exploring the archaeological site of Sillustani to  $\,$ taking a catamaran to Bolivia's glorious, car-free Island of the Sun. On your return, inclulge in a massage or kick back in your room - all 18 have lake views and heated floors, and most have big bathtubs. Start the evening with pisco-powered cocktails at sunset - a pit-fire is lit to tame the Andean chill - before a supper of New Peruvian dishes such as alpaca carpaccio, mountain trout ceviche and quinoa soufflé. Before bed, make one final visit to the deck to see one of the best night skies on the planet.

Address: Titilaka, Lake Titicaca, Puno, Peru

Telephone: +5117005100 Website: titilaka.com

 $\textbf{Price:} \ \text{doubles from about £820, including meals, excursions and transfers}$ 



Michael Turek

# Nihiwatu

### SUMBA, INDONESIA

Originally built as a simple surf lodge in the 1990s, **Nihiwatu** was bought by American entrepreneur Chris Burch four years ago, who transformed it into a smart barefoot retreat. **Indonesia**'s Sumba island, which Burch likens to Bali 40 years ago, has pristine beaches, quiet forests and traditional villages, where ikat weaving is still done by hand and cattle are used as dowry. The 33 bedrooms here are all seductive with elaborate, shell necklaces used as decoration and cushions covered in colourful batik; even the outdoor, egg-shaped bathtubs have been artfully gilded. Only 10 guests at a time are permitted to ride the left-hand break that made Nihiwatu the stuff of surf legend: everyone else lounges by the infinity pool, hikes through the



