

The San Diego Union-Tribune



The more than 80-year-old Rancho La Puerta resort in Baja California has been named the top international wellness retreat by Travel + Leisure, which each year releases its "world's best awards." (Travel + Leisure)

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Local lodging destinations get top marks in Travel + Leisure's World's Best Awards

Making the cut in three categories were a small inn, a wellness retreat and an oceanfront hotel

Three local hospitality destinations have been recognized by Travel & Leisure as best in their class in the U.S., with one of them earning a worldwide ranking.

In the travel publication's annual [World's Best Awards](#), Rancho La Puerta in Tecate — located about 45 miles southeast of San Diego — was named the No. 1 international wellness retreat. Long a popular destination for both San Diegans as well as visitors from around the country, Rancho La Puerta has received the top honor multiple times, most recently in 2024.

Closer to home, the 13-room Orli boutique hotel in La Jolla was ranked third among the best inns in the continental U.S., while the Mission Pacific Beach hotel in Oceanside came in at No. 12 among the best resorts in the country.

Each year, Travel & Leisure asks its readers to weigh in on their favorite hotels, resorts, cruise ships, airlines, and more. This year, more than 207,000 readers voted in the survey. Together, they cast 661,000 votes, across more than 10,088 total properties, from hotels and cities to spas and islands.

The magazine describes the 4,000-acre Rancho La Puerta just south of the border as encompassing 40 miles of hiking trails, an organic farm, holistic spa treatments, and a culinary school. Founded in 1940 by Deborah Szekely and her late husband Edmond Szekely, Rancho La Puerta is known for its broad array of fitness offering, including yoga, water aerobics and Tai Chi, plus healthy pescatarian meals sourced from an on-site organic farm.

“We are incredibly honored and humbled to receive this accolade by the readers of Travel + Leisure once again,” said General Manager Eliezer Quiñones. “This achievement is a true testament to our incredible staff and supportive guests, who we consider our friends and family. This recognition is a meaningful reminder of the enduring legacy of the Szekely family that we are proud to carry forward.”