

MODERN LUXURY

# BOSTON COMMON

MAY 2026

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## GOLDEN HOUR

Michelle Monaghan Soaks in the Moment

AWAY WE GO  
PRESENTING THE 2026 BEST  
OF TRAVEL AWARDS



A high-angle, wide shot of a volcanic crater. The foreground is a smooth, reddish-brown sand dune. Two small figures of hikers are walking away from the viewer on a path that curves along the edge of the dune. In the background, the steep, dark, and jagged walls of the crater rise up, partially covered with patches of white snow. The sky is not visible, as the crater walls fill the upper portion of the frame.

# The 2026 BEST of

MODERN **LUXURY**

# TRAVEL



At Kerlingarfjöll Highland Base in Iceland, hikers can explore the incredible Hofsjökull and Langjökull glaciers, which were formed 300,000 years ago through a series of subglacial volcanic eruptions.

From private jet adventures and posh safari lodges to the world's hottest new hotels and wellness retreats, our editors have curated the ultimate list for today's luxury travel around the globe.

By THE EDITORS

# AWARDS



MODERN LUXURY

THE 2026  
BEST OF TRAVEL  
AWARDS

Boston



Newport's Gardiner House sits on Lee's Wharf, right off Thames Street, and is fashioned after a house full of art and character.

PHOTO BY NICK MELE





The Brant's design-forward guest rooms feature luxury finishes; The Harbor View Hotel's location is unsurpassed on Martha's Vineyard, with views of the harbor and the Atlantic, just steps from downtown Edgartown.



#### **BEST NEW HOTEL** **THE BEACHSIDE HOTEL**

The impeccable design is both charmingly retro and perfectly current, and everything from the rooms to the pool to the bar caters to both adult travelers and families without sacrificing the experience for either. [thebeachside.com](http://thebeachside.com)

#### **MOST ANTICIPATED** **HOTEL OPENING** **CAMBRIDGE** **COMMON HOUSE**

Harvard Square's latest darling is a 16-room boutique hotel housed in the former residence of the historic Howe family, which has been thoughtfully restored in a timeless design inspired by academia. [cambridgecommonhouse.com](http://cambridgecommonhouse.com)

#### **BEST HOTEL/RESORT** **GENERAL EXCELLENCE** **TWIN FARMS**

The intrigue surrounding Vermont's exclusive all-inclusive retreat lives up to the allure and then some with extraordinary culinary excellence and unparalleled service tucked amid verdant forests for a truly bespoke woodland getaway. [twinfarms.com](http://twinfarms.com)

#### **BEST HOTEL/RESORT** **PROGRAMMING**

#### **WEQUASSETT** **RESORT & GOLF CLUB**

Boat rides to a secluded beach, a fly fishing school, wine dinners, and clamming on a private beach are just some of the unique experiences that make this five-star resort a destination all year long. [wequasset.com](http://wequasset.com)

#### **BEST HOTEL CAPE COD** **CHATHAM BARS INN**

The idyllic private beach, oceanfront pool, award-winning spa, Har-Tru tennis courts and fleet of custom boats offering excursions up and down the seashore make this luxury property stand out from the competition. [chathambarsinn.com](http://chathambarsinn.com)

#### **BEST BOUTIQUE HOTEL** **CAPE COD** **CHATHAM INN**

The intimate Relais & Châteaux hotel features rooms with private balconies and fireplaces, manicured gardens and an acclaimed restaurant, Cuvée, showcasing the area's freshest seafood and coastal flavors. [chathaminn.com](http://chathaminn.com)

#### **BEST HOTEL NANTUCKET** **THE WAUWINET**

The closest thing to having an island second home, the oceanfront

property boasts rooms and cottage suites, two private beaches, a sprawling seaside lawn and the storied Toppers restaurant all on a secluded location nestled between the bay and the Atlantic. [wauwinet.com](http://wauwinet.com)

#### **BEST BOUTIQUE HOTEL,** **NANTUCKET** **THE BRANT**

The unassuming, perfectly located property, just a quick walk from town and beaches, packs quite a punch with well-appointed rooms (some even have kitchenettes), a plunge pool, and a stylish bar. [thebrantnantucket.com](http://thebrantnantucket.com)

#### **BEST HOTEL** **MARTHA'S VINEYARD** **HARBOR VIEW HOTEL**

There's just no place like it on the island—oceanfront location, pool, three restaurants and accommodations that range from rooms to suites to cottages. [harborviewhotel.com](http://harborviewhotel.com)

#### **BEST BOUTIQUE HOTEL** **MARTHA'S VINEYARD** **FARAWAY MARTHA'S** **VINEYARD**

One of the latest additions to the island hospitality scene is arguably the most stylish, with a thoughtful, high-end design that embraces indulgence, elegance and relaxation, and features the unique touch of in-room turntables and a vinyl library. [farawaymarthasvineyard.com](http://farawaymarthasvineyard.com)

#### **BEST HOTEL MAINE** **HIDDEN POND**

Set among 60 acres of forest just minutes from Goose Rocks beach with two swimming pools, treetop spa and acclaimed restaurant Earth, this nature-forward hideaway debuts newly re-envisioned cottages this season. [hiddenpondmaine.com](http://hiddenpondmaine.com)

#### **BEST BOUTIQUE** **HOTEL MAINE** **KENNEBUNKPORT CAPTAINS** **COLLECTION**

Four historic mansions, each

The bustling lobby of Four Seasons, One Dalton.



thoughtfully designed with a personality all their own, mean a choice between dramatic, serene, artful or private, all with the spirit of the Maine coast. [larkhotels.com](http://larkhotels.com)

#### **BEST HOTEL VERMONT WOODSTOCK INN & RESORT**

Its stately white building anchors the lively downtown and offers a charming, relaxing respite in any season. [woodstockinn.com](http://woodstockinn.com)

#### **BEST BOUTIQUE HOTEL VERMONT THE HERMITAGE INN**

An extensive renovation brought the inn back to its grandeur as a luxury country escape, and the acclaimed food and wine, along with warm hospitality, keep the 14 rooms in high demand. [thehermitageinnvermont.com](http://thehermitageinnvermont.com)

#### **BEST HOTEL RHODE ISLAND OCEAN HOUSE**

The renowned property overlooking the Atlantic became even more desirable this year with a full-scale redesign of all 49 guest rooms. [oceanhouseri.com](http://oceanhouseri.com)

#### **BEST BOUTIQUE HOTEL RHODE ISLAND GARDINER HOUSE**

Built in 2023, the hotel just keeps getting buzzier due to its playful design, the Studio Bar, Flora restaurant and the recent addition, Gardiner Provisions. [gardinerhouse.com](http://gardinerhouse.com)

#### **BEST HOTEL NEW HAMPSHIRE THE LAKE ESTATE ON WINNISQUAM**

The much-anticipated lakefront hotel's opening did not disappoint, bringing the promised opulence and high-end experience at every touchpoint. [thelakeestatenh.com](http://thelakeestatenh.com)

#### **BEST BOUTIQUE HOTEL NEW HAMPSHIRE HOTEL THAXTER**

What was once a church is now an upscale hotel adorned in local art with new suites added last year and a restaurant, Nichian, that alone is worth a visit. [hotelthaxter.com](http://hotelthaxter.com)

#### **BEST HOTEL RESTAURANT CONTESSA AT THE NEWBURY**

The view plus the food equals an experience that is unsurpassed in the city. It has unequivocally taken its place as the new spot to see and be seen for a power lunch. [thenewburyboston.com](http://thenewburyboston.com)

#### **BEST HOTEL BAR THE LONG BAR & TERRACE AT RAFFLES, BOSTON**

Even as a local, journeying to the 17th floor for cocktails and the stunning view feels like an escape from the ordinary. [raffles.com](http://raffles.com)

#### **BEST WELLNESS HOTEL MIRAVAL BERKSHIRES**

The property's experience planners ensure each day's agenda is perfectly paired with personal intentions, and the all-inclusive format means never having to reach for a wallet. [miravalresorts.com](http://miravalresorts.com)

#### **BEST GOLF RESORT OCEAN EDGE RESORT & GOLF CLUB**

Cape Cod's only Nicklaus-designed golf course is better enjoyed as an overnight guest, where one can have unlimited same-day play, golf cart and bag storage and a choice of private hotel rooms or villas to share with buddies. [oceanedge.com](http://oceanedge.com)

#### **BEST SKI RESORT SPRUCE PEAK**

The mountainside lodge offers hundreds of accommodations, club membership, ownership opportunities and a resort bustling

with restaurants and activities to keep everyone happy on and off the slopes. [sprucepeak.com](http://sprucepeak.com)

#### **BEST SKI GETAWAY SOUTH PEAK RESORT**

The fastest-growing ski destination spans 360 acres of slopeside terrain, offering ski-in/ski-out access, including 11 new trails, a gondola spanning the river and a convenient location near downtown Lincoln, N.H.'s restaurants. [southpeakresort.com](http://southpeakresort.com)

#### **BEST MUSEUM EXHIBIT NATURE SANCTUARY AT DECORDOVA SCULPTURE PARK AND MUSEUM**

Opened last summer, the exhibition explores the relationship between the natural world and ideas of home through original commissions and loans by six female artists while deepening awareness of the landscape on which it resides. [thetrustees.org](http://thetrustees.org)

#### **BEST VISITOR ATTRACTION NEWPORT MANSIONS**

Step inside the literal Gilded Age in the sprawling homes that serve as sets for the popular television show and as a time capsule for imagining an entirely different way of life. [newportmansions.org](http://newportmansions.org)

#### **BEST DRIVEABLE DESTINATION PORTLAND, MAINE**

Just two hours from Boston is this ever-growing city that attracts top culinary talent from around the country in a seaside setting that is both charming and inspiring for its restaurants, bars, coffee shops, antiques, bookstores and people. [visitportland.com](http://visitportland.com)

#### **BEST FAMILY EXPERIENCE INN BY THE SEA**

Reminiscent of a resort from yesteryear where families would faithfully return, this coastal property just outside Portland has newly renovated suites, a spa, a farm-to-table restaurant, experiential programming and an ethos rooted in sustainability. [innbythesea.com](http://innbythesea.com)





### BEST WINTER WEEKEND MOUNTAIN TOP RESORT

Fall in love with winter at the resort's 700 private acres on which to enjoy cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, ice skating on the 740-acre lake, horse-drawn sleigh rides and sledding. [mountaintoppinn.com](http://mountaintoppinn.com)

### BEST ROMANTIC GETAWAY THE LENOX HOTEL

Its storied history whisks you away to another time, its newly reimagined cozy restaurants and well-appointed lobby help you forget the day's stress and its ideal location to all the city has to offer makes you feel like a giddy tourist. [lenoxhotel.com](http://lenoxhotel.com)

### BEST OCEAN GETAWAY NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

Come for the beaches and stay for the waterfront shops and eateries, the elegant hotels, the folk and jazz festivals, the International Tennis Hall of Fame, the mansions and all of the yachts. [discovernewport.org](http://discovernewport.org)

### BEST FRIENDS' WEEKEND LONGFELLOW HOTEL

Plan a weekend at this centrally located hotel just steps from all that Portland has to offer —meet up in the stylish lobby bar and hit the town or curl up in the well-appointed rooms, book spa appointments and take advantage of the hotel's wellness bent. [longfellowhotel.com](http://longfellowhotel.com)

### BEST STAYCATION THE ELIOT HOTEL

Although ideally located in the center of Back Bay and adjacent to Cambridge, one might choose to stay inside the hotel's elegant rooms, leaving only for a reservation at the award-winning restaurant Uni. [eliothotel.com](http://eliothotel.com)

### BEST HOTEL POOL THE COLONNADE HOTEL

Bostonians know it's summer when The Colonnade Hotel's rooftop pool opens, and the sunbathing begins at the season's most coveted poolside scene. [colonnadehotel.com](http://colonnadehotel.com)

### BEST MEMBERSHIP WYCHMERE BEACH CLUB

Offering the epitome of a Cape Cod summer, membership provides access to a private beach, three pools, tennis courts, kids' camp and three dining options, including a poolside tiki bar. [wychmerebeachclub.com](http://wychmerebeachclub.com)

### BEST PRESIDENTIAL SUITE FOUR SEASONS, ONE DALTON

The newest Four Seasons property opened in Boston with a bang in 2019. Now, 7 years later, it keeps the excitement going with its newly renovated presidential suite on the 21st floor, featuring floor-to-ceiling windows, an expansive living room, dining room for eight and primary bedroom with soaking tub. [fourseasons.com](http://fourseasons.com)

### BEST VIEW BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

Whether from inside looking out on the harbor or from the street walking under the iconic dome, it's a sensation for the eyes at this waterfront hotel. [bostonharborhotel.com](http://bostonharborhotel.com)

Clockwise from top left: The Nicklaus-designed golf course at Ocean Edge Resort & Golf Club; Henry's Study at the Longfellow Hotel; the Stargazer cottage at Hidden Pond.

