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JANUARY 2012

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You take the elevator to the beach
at Il San Pietro di Positano, a Gold List
star on Italy's Amalfi Coast.



The Boulevard Pool is one of three at the Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas. Opened in December 2010 on The Strip, the hotel gets a location score of 92.1.

MARYLAND

Inn at Perry Cabin, St. Michaels 90.2

94.8 87.9 88.9 90.4 88.8

MASSACHUSETTS

Eliot Hotel, Boston 94.6

94.7 93.7 95.3 97.9 91.5

Mandarin Oriental, Boston 95.3

95.8 95.7 94.6 94.7 95.8

Wequassett Resort and Golf Club, Chatham 90.8

85.9 84.0 92.5 98.8 93.8 89.7

Blantyre, Lenox 92.8

92.3 100 84.6 94.9 92.3

The Wauwinet, Nantucket 94.0

86.7 95.0 100 95.0 93.2

NEVADA

Bellagio, Las Vegas 89.5

90.3 81.8 89.6 94.6 90.9

Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas, Las Vegas 89.5

94.7 76.3 89.5 92.1 94.7

The Cosmopolitan is "a fresh, fun, sophisticated, yet not-too-Vegas hotel in the heart of it all," next to CityCenter. Each of the residential-style guest rooms has a sprawling terrace. Inside, you'll find plush sectionals, lacquered coffee tables, and marble bathrooms. There are 13 restaurants, but "the service is not as good as it should be."

Encore at Wynn, Las Vegas 90.0

95.9 87.0 90.3 84.1 92.5

Four Seasons, Las Vegas 91.0

93.1 96.6 91.6 83.2 90.2

The Palazzo, Las Vegas 89.4

92.9 81.8 88.9 91.7 91.0 90.1

Venetian Resort Hotel Casino, Las Vegas 89.1

92.7 84.2 87.0 91.5 89.9

Wynn, Las Vegas 91.3

96.7 89.1 91.2 87.1 93.9 89.7

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Wentworth by the Sea Hotel & Spa, New Castle 91.9

92.6 93.6 88.6 92.7 91.7

2012 GOLD LIST

GOLD STANDARD

BEST PLACE FOR POOCH PAMPERING

At The Peninsula, Beverly Hills, canine guests are treated to personalized towels, plush doggy beds, walks around the neighborhood by white-uniformed staff, and a special "people-food-for-dogs" menu, with eats like a Bow Wow Beef Burger and Spot's New York Strip. Owners can keep the doggy bag for themselves!

NEW MEXICO

Inn and Spa at Loretto, Santa Fe 91.4

90.7 87.6 85.5 99.2 93.8

This Taos Pueblo replica just a block from the historic plaza "captures the spirit of the landscape." "Beautiful guest rooms" have adobe walls, beamed ceilings with vigas and latillas, and kiva fireplaces, but are "a little too dark" for some. Luminaria Restaurant uses fruits, vegetables, and spices from local farmers in its cuisine.

NEW YORK

***Whiteface Lodge, Lake Placid** 92.9

94.4 92.6 92.5 90.7 96.3 90.6

The only all-suite resort in the Adirondacks was built in 2005 using timber and stone from the region. Get checked in by "the tremendously friendly staff." Sepia-tinted suites have cast-iron gas fireplaces, slate floors, and custom alder-wood cabinetry. "There are endless outdoor opportunities," while the 5,800-square-foot spa offers "a heaven-sent four-handed massage."

Mohawk Mountain House, New Paltz 91.5

82.9 90.6 88.7 97.5 93.7 95.6

Andaz Wall Street, New York 89.5

96.3 85.2 88.0 81.5 96.3

This "very cool" 42-story property has a sculptural steel-and-stone staircase that links public areas, while "modern and chic guest rooms" are bright, with high ceilings, stained-oak floors, and stenciled metal artwork but "not as much privacy as I like." At Wall & Water, dine on seasonal cuisine with ingredients from the Hudson Valley.

The Carlyle (Rosewood), New York 92.3

93.6 94.9 92.1 92.4 88.6

Four Seasons, New York 91.9

92.0 92.0 89.9 93.9 91.6

Mandarin Oriental, New York 90.7

93.4 86.1 86.4 94.0 93.4

The Peninsula, New York 91.4

92.6 89.4 88.8 94.3 91.9

The Plaza, New York 89.4

89.0 88.9 82.0 98.0 88.9

Ritz-Carlton New York, Central Park, New York 92.1

91.7 94.0 91.0 94.0 89.8

St. Regis, New York 90.7

92.2 89.2 88.2 94.8 89.2

Trump International Hotel & Tower, New York 91.1

92.1 89.8 93.3 96.9 83.5

NORTH CAROLINA

Inn on Biltmore Estate, Asheville 92.3

93.4 93.9 89.0 92.8 92.4

Umstead Hotel and Spa, Cary 90.2

97.0 94.0 86.0 81.2 93.1

This "lovely retreat" ten minutes from Raleigh is surrounded by pine trees and borders a three-acre lake. Constructed of rough-cut Texas limestone, aluminum panels, and bronze-colored glass, it has a design that is "quite stunning." Guest rooms come in palettes of golds and greens. "Staff are really top-notch." Herons serves American cuisine with Southern accents.

Ritz-Carlton, Charlotte 95.2

100 96.0 89.6 96.0 94.0

Guests "love the Zen feel" of this eco-friendly hotel with an electric vehicle charging station and a roof with 18,000 plants and two hives that are home to 100,000 bees. "Amenities are outstanding" in the perfect-scoring rooms. Offering service that is "downright amazing, staff best those at any other hotel." Bar Cocoa offers chocolate bites and beverages.

Ferrington House Inn & Restaurant, Pittsboro 94.9

100 95.9 97.3 86.5 94.6

Swag Country Inn, Smoky Mountains National Park 94.5

93.1 96.6 89.7 96.6 96.6

OREGON

Stephanie Inn, Cannon Beach 90.0

92.6 93.4 90.8 98.3 90.0

Tu Tu' Tun Lodge, Gold Beach 92.0

90.6 88.7 90.0 96.3 94.4

Allison Inn & Spa, Newberg 89.5

92.9 86.2 89.3 82.8 96.6

Surrounded by vineyards, orchards, and farmland, this "jewel of a hotel" rises on a hillside in Oregon's wine country. "Very spacious rooms" have private terraces or balconies—"we loved the in-room fireplaces." Serving up local produce from the chef's farm, Jory also offers Oregon wines, microbrews, and spirits.

The Nines (Luxury Collection), Portland 90.0

91.8 86.4 85.6 94.5 91.4

This hotel in a former flagship department store is in "a perfect downtown location." The artwork and fashion-influenced design are a nod to its retail past. Corridors with crystal chandeliers lead to "Hollywood-glam rooms" with ivory leather headboards and mercury glass lamps. With a 20-foot communal table and "second-to-none staff," the modern steak house Urban Farmer highlights local organic produce.

PENNSYLVANIA

Lodge at Woodloch, Hawley 93.1

95.3 94.3 93.0 87.4 93.0 95.3

Ninety minutes from New York, this 2006 property with more than 150 wooded acres and a private lake in northeast Pennsylv-