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# HISTORIC HOTELS of AMERICA

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National Trust *for* Historic Preservation®

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## 2017 FACT SHEET

### **PURPOSE**

Historic Hotels of America® is the official program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation for recognizing, celebrating, and promoting the finest historic hotels. Each fascinating place has been inducted into this distinguished program based upon noteworthy standards, including quality of accommodations, historic significance, record of preserving authenticity, sense of place and architectural integrity.

### **FOUNDING DATE**

Historic Hotels of America was founded in 1989 by the National Trust for Historic Preservation with 32 charter members. To learn more about the first quarter of a century of Historic Hotels of America, visit [here](#).

### **MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA**

To be nominated and selected for membership in this prestigious program, a hotel must be at least 50 years old; designated by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior as a National Historic Landmark or listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places; and recognized as having historic significance. The Historic Sites Act of 1935 authorized the U.S. Secretary of the Interior to formally record and organize historic properties and to designate them as having national historical significance and gave the National Park Service authority to administer the program. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 established the National Register of Historic Places for recognizing districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects worthy of preservation. Both programs were combined with oversight by the National Park Service. Travelers can discover over 23 historic hotels designated by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior as National Historic Landmarks and experience more than 126 historic hotels listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

### **HERITAGE**

Members of Historic Hotels of America represent the heritage and development of America. One of the earliest hotels, Hotel El Convento in Old San Juan, Puerto Rico is a former Carmelite Convent dating to 1651. Another, Concord's Colonial Inn dates to 1716. During the Revolutionary War, one of the inn's original

buildings stored arms and provisions for the Concord Minutemen. One other example is the Omni Homestead Resort in Hot Springs, Virginia. Known as America's First Resort, The Homestead has been welcoming guests since 1766..

*“The work of Historic Hotels of America is indispensable in maintaining architectural masterpieces, which not only continue to serve the traveling public, but are also enduring monuments to our national heritage.”*

-Dr. A.K. Sandoval-Strausz, Ph.D., History Professor, University of New Mexico, Distinguished Lecturer, Organization of American Historians

*“If a hotel was not built recently, then consumers will categorize the hotel as either historic or old. Obviously, it is better to be historic.”*

*“Academic research conducted across several different industries suggests that brand heritage supports premium pricing. ... historic hotels can achieve a significant advantage in ADR and REVPAR versus contemporary hotels ... The key variable seems to be the degree to which the older hotel emphasizes and celebrates its history.”*

-Bradford Hudson, Ph.D., Marketing Professor, Boston College, Excerpts from his keynote address to owners, general managers, and other senior leadership attending the 2015 Annual Conference of Historic Hotels of America.

## **TOTAL MEMBERSHIP**

More than 295 hotels that have faithfully maintained their authenticity, sense of place and architectural integrity participate in the Historic Hotels of America program. Historic Hotels of America is comprised of mostly independently owned and operated properties. More than 30 hotel chains, brands, and collections are represented in Historic Hotels of America. More than 100 historic hotels are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

## **LOCATIONS**

Member hotels are located in 46 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

## **ROOMS**

Hotels range in size from a 15-room historic country inn, such as The Smith House in Dahlonega, Georgia to the city-center Palmer House Hilton in Chicago with 1639 rooms.

**SETTINGS**

Hotels are situated in settings that range from rustic to refined, in locales as diverse as the mountain wilderness, manicured country sides, the center of small towns and bustling metropolises. From opulent mansions to converted factories, each fascinating place has been inducted into this distinguished brand based upon noteworthy standards, including quality of accommodations, historic significance, listed in or eligible to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and building age.

**RESERVATIONS**

Rooms at any of the member hotels can be reserved by visiting [HistoricHotels.org](http://HistoricHotels.org), calling + 1 800 678 8946, or a travel planner (GDS code HE). A portion of every booking fee received from Historic Hotels of America for bookings made through [HistoricHotels.org](http://HistoricHotels.org) supports the National Trust for Historic Preservation in its mission to enhance local community historic preservation programs across America.

**OWNERSHIP**

More than 100 of the 295 hotels are operated by some of the worlds finest hospitality brands, including Fairmont, Hilton, InterContinental, Marriott, Omni, Starwood and Wyndham, while others, including the Strater Hotel in Durango, Colorado, and the Mohonk Mountain House in New Paltz, New York, have been in the same family for generations.

**MEMBERSHIP  
DIRECTORY**

The 2017 Annual Directory can be found by visiting [HistoricHotels.org/Directory](http://HistoricHotels.org/Directory). Here you can order a copy, download the ebook, or select and download the free app on [iTunes](#), [Amazon](#), [Google play](#), and the [Windows Store](#).

**WEBSITE**

[HistoricHotels.org](http://HistoricHotels.org)

**LOGO**

To download versions of the Historic Hotels of America Logo, please visit [www.historichotels.org/about-historic-hotels/](http://www.historichotels.org/about-historic-hotels/)

**GDS CODE**

HE (“Historic Experience”)

**2017 MILESTONES  
AND CELEBRATIONS****100 Years**

DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Detroit Downtown- Fort Shelby (1917) Detroit, Michigan

**125 Years**

Airlie (1892) Warrentown, Virginia

**150 Years**

The Inn at Leola Village (1867) Lancaster, Pennsylvania

**200 Years**

River Street Inn (1817) Savannah, Georgia

**225 Years**

Mast Farm Inn (1792) Banner Elk, North Carolina

**275 Years**

Kelley House of Martha's Vineyard (1742) Edgartown,  
Massachusetts

**MEDIA  
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