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# HISTORIC HOTELS *of* AMERICA

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National Trust *for* Historic Preservation®

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**Promoting Cultural & Heritage Travel to Prestigious Historic Treasures**

## 2023 FACT SHEET

### MISSION

Historic Hotels of America® is an official program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and has the mission to increase the preservation, recognition, and celebration of the finest Historic Hotels. On October 26, 1949, Congress chartered the National Trust for Historic Preservation to advance the policies established by the Historic Sites Act of 1935 and “provide for the preservation of historic American sites, buildings, objects, and antiquities.” For more than 70 years, the National Trust for Historic Preservation has led the movement to save Americas historic places. A privately funded nonprofit organization, it works to save America’s historic sites; tell the full American story; build stronger communities; and invest in preservation’s future. Today, Historic Hotels of America has more than 300 historic hotels that have all faithfully maintained their authenticity, sense of place, and architectural integrity and located in 44 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Historic Hotels of America is comprised of independently owned and operated historic hotels and historic hotels representing more than 35 of the world’s finest hospitality brands, chains, and collections.

### FOUNDING DATE

Historic Hotels of America was founded in 1989 by the National Trust for Historic Preservation with 32 charter members.

## 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 historical 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 25 historic hotels designated by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior as National Historic Landmarks and experience more than 130 historic hotels listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

## HERITAGE

Members of Historic Hotels of America represent the heritage and development of the United States of America. One of the earliest hotels, El Convento Hotel 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 was used to store arms and provisions for the Concord Minutemen. The Omni Homestead Resort in Hot Springs, Virginia, considered America's First Resort, 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-Strauss, Ph.D., History Professor, University of New Mexico, Distinguished Lecturer, Organization of American Historians.

*“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 2018 Annual Conference of Historic Hotels of America.

TOTAL  
MEMBERSHIP

More than 300 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 130 historic hotels are listed in the National Register of Historic Places and more than 25 have been designated by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior as National Historic Landmarks. In 2020, The Hermitage Hotel (1910) in Nashville, Tennessee, became the most recent Historic Hotels of America hotel to be designated by the U. S. Secretary of the Interior as a National Historic Landmark.

LOCATIONS	Member hotels are in 44 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.
ROOMS	Hotels range in size from the Greyfield Inn (1900) with 15 rooms to the Palmer House, A Hilton Hotel (1871) with 1,641 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 program 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 <a href="http://HistoricHotels.org">HistoricHotels.org</a> , 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 <a href="http://HistoricHotels.org">HistoricHotels.org</a> supports the National Trust for Historic Preservation in its mission to enhance local community historic preservation programs across America.
OWNERSHIP	More than 130 of the 300+ hotels are part of some of the world's finest hospitality brands, including Fairmont, Hilton, Curio Collection by Hilton, DoubleTree by Hilton, InterContinental, J.W. Marriott, Marriott, Autograph Collection, Westin, The Luxury Collection, Omni, Sofitel, Preferred Hotels & Resorts, Leading Hotels of the World, and Hyatt; while other historic hotels, including the American Club (1918) in Kohler, Wisconsin,

and the Mohonk Mountain House (1869) in New Paltz, New York, have been in the same families for generations.

MEMBERSHIP  
DIRECTORY

The Annual Historic Hotels of America Directory can be [HistoricHotels.org/Directory](http://HistoricHotels.org/Directory).

WEBSITE

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

LOGO

To download the Historic Hotels of America Logo, please visit [www.historichotels.org/us/press/logos-brand-assets.php](http://www.historichotels.org/us/press/logos-brand-assets.php)

GDS CODE

HE (“Historic Experience”)

2023 MILESTONES  
AND CELEBRATIONS

**250 Years**

The Red Lion Inn (1773) Stockbridge, Massachusetts

**150 Years**

Capital Hotel (1873) Little Rock, Arkansas

**100 Years**

Haywood Park Hotel (1923) Asheville, North Carolina

Ojai Valley inn & Spa (1923) Ojai, California

The Brown Hotel (1923) Louisville, Kentucky

Zion Lodge (1923) Zion National Park, Utah

**75 Years**

Royal Palms Resort and Spa (1948) Phoenix, Arizona

The Edgewater (1948) Madison, Wisconsin

Surf & Sand Resort (1948) Laguna Beach, California

## ANNUAL AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Historic Hotels Awards of Excellence honor, encourage, and recognize the most exemplary historic hotels, hoteliers, and leadership practices. From around the world, nominations are submitted by historic hoteliers, preservation supporters, prior award recipients, community leaders, and leadership from Historic Hotels of America. The Historic Hotels Awards of Excellence are presented to historic hotels and hoteliers demonstrating innovative leadership, stewardship, and contribution to furthering the recognition, preservation, and celebration of these preeminent historic hotels and their histories. Nominee finalists are announced in summer and winners are announced at the Historic Hotels Awards of Excellence Ceremony & Gala in fall. The Wigwam (1929) in Litchfield, Arizona, will host the 2023 Historic Hotels Awards of Excellence Ceremony & Gala, where winners will be announced before an audience of industry leaders on Thursday, October 12, 2023.

## TOP 25 LIST WINNERS

Historic Hotels of America recognizes the excellence of its legendary hotels throughout the year by honoring them for their noteworthy character and histories. Historic Hotels of America Top 25 lists celebrate iconic hotels for their magnificent art and architecture, holiday gingerbread displays, stunning gardens, delicious culinary heritage, thrilling local legends, and historic golf courses that rank among the best in the world. Nominations for hotels named to The Top 25 Historic Hotels of America Lists are submitted by historic hoteliers, preservation supporters, community leaders, and Historic Hotels of America leadership.

## ANNUAL MEDIA IMPRESSIONS

Over 1.5 billion impressions in print and digital in 2022.

MEDIA  
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