



Andrew Harper's

Hideaway Report®

A connoisseur's worldwide guide
to peaceful and unspoiled places

Our 26th Year

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SPECIAL



05

AWARDS

- **Distinguished Staff & Service Award** — Four Seasons George V in Paris, overseen by an obliging and hospitable house-proud staff, who make you instantly feel at home. In U.S., Tel. (800) 332-3442.
- **Best New Resort Hotel** — The Sanctuary at Kiawah Island, a splendidly appointed and graciously staffed Southern jewel near historic Charleston. A truly spectacular beach, five championship golf courses, a sophisticated spa and more. Tel. (843) 768-6000.
- **Best New City Hotel** — Four Seasons Gresham Palace Budapest, a gorgeously restored art nouveau landmark affording grand city views from the banks of the Danube River. In U.S., Tel. (800) 332-3442.
- **Best New Small Hotel** — Mollies (Auckland, New Zealand), a stylish 15-suite Victorian manor set amid lovely gardens above St. Mary's Bay, five minutes from city center. Email: reservations@mollies.co.nz
- **Best Contemporary Boutique Hotels** — Canada's Hôtel Le St-James set in the charming old section of Montréal (Tel. 514-841-1232), and Spain's Gran Hotel Domine situated across the street from the wondrous Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao (Tel. 34-94-425-3300).
- **Gourmet Sanctuary of the Year** — Based on our annual reader survey, your overwhelming choice was "Les Crayeres," a sumptuous French epicurean shrine tucked into a Pommery chateau on the fringe of Reims. Email: crayeres@lescrayeres.com
- **Best Little Scottish Inn** — Glenmorangie House, a cozy and convivial 6-room gem nestled on the shores of Cromarty Firth, not far from Royal Dornoch Golf Club. Don't miss the festive whisky-tasting weekends, replete with Highland dancing! Tel. (44) 1862-871671.
- **Most Overrated Resort Hotel** — Parrot Cay in the Turks & Caicos, which just doesn't understand what the hospitality business is supposed to be all about.
- **Most Consistent Restaurant in the World** — *Botín* (Madrid). In operation since 1725, this gregarious *taberna* still turns out fabulous garlic soup, as well as suckling pig and tender lamb on sizzling platters.
- **Best Down-Home Cookery** — *Jasmine Porch* at The Sanctuary (Kiawah Island, SC). Sautéed jumbo shrimp with cheddar grits, she-crab bisque, smoked duck gumbo with andouille sausage, sweet pepper slaw, barbecued pulled pork with buttermilk mashed potatoes, peach tea-rubbed yellowfin tuna and more.
- **Best Foreign Tour Guide** — Akif Gürerk, a very professional and knowledgeable English-speaking driver-guide, who puts you at ease amid the exotic culture of Turkey. Email: agurerk@hotmail.com

- **Most Unique Hotel Amenity** — Little Dix Bay's arrangement with top publishing houses that allows guests to read advance copies of new fiction and non-fiction works by best-selling authors months before they reach bookstores. In U.S., Tel. (888) 767-3966.
- **Best Outdoor Pool For All Seasons** — Be it sun or snow, the 115-foot open-air heated pool and whirlpool spa at Amangani (Jackson Hole, WY) provides memorable swims and alpine vistas from its panoramic 7,000-foot perch. Tel. (307) 734-7333.
- **Best Place To Watch A Winter Storm** — Canada's Wickaninnish Inn, a sensuous sea lover's sanctuary capping a wave-dashed point along the wildly scenic west coast of Vancouver Island. Tel. (250) 725-3100.
- **Most Quirky Destination** — The timeless and remote 1,300-acre island of Sark in the Channel Islands. It's Europe's only surviving feudal state!

Hideaway Report Hotel Review Procedures

Hotel and resort recommendations made by this newsletter are arrived at on a completely independent basis. We accept no advertising and are therefore totally free of pressure from advertisers. To further maintain our freedom of judgment and objectivity, we pay full rate for all meals, lodgings, transportation and related travel expenses and receive no complimentary fees or other subtle forms of remuneration from the hotels/resorts reviewed within our pages. We also make it a point to travel incognito, booking rooms as typical guests and not under our pseudonyms of Andrew Harper, Richard Harper, Iain Harper, nor *The Hideaway Report* or Harper Associates, Inc.

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