



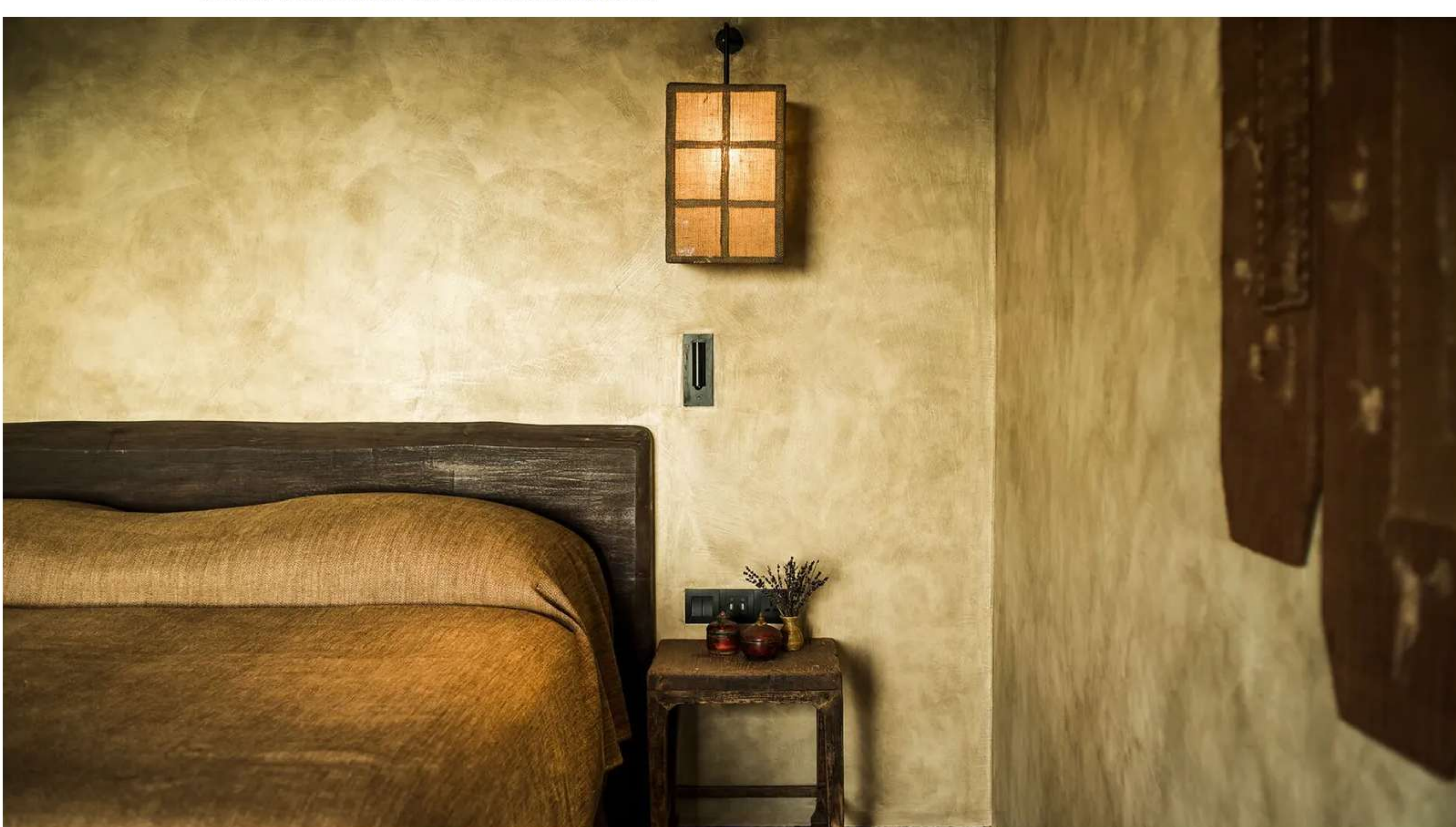
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TRAVEL

The Hotel Awards: 39 of the world's best new hotels in 2021

What makes a hotel brilliant? Is it the stylish surroundings or the stellar service? First-class food or commitment to sustainability? We reveal the hotels that stood out from the crowd in our annual awards.

BY NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC TRAVELLER
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Hill Pool Villa at Bãi San Hô, Vietnam, winner of the Love Shack category.
PHOTOGRAPH BY FREDERIK WISSIHK

Far more than just a place to stay, hotels can make or break a travel experience. And as we tentatively begin to explore the world again, where we choose to check in matters more than ever. Our awards champion the new and improved properties that have stood out from the crowd over the past year — whether it's an exciting new refurb, outstanding eco credentials, spectacular architecture or unforgettable gastronomic experiences that linger long in the memory.

THE WINNERS

Grand Redesigns: best major refurbishment
Mandarin Oriental Ritz, Madrid

City Slicker: best urban hotel
The Hoxton, Rome

Good Egg: most sustainable hotel
Xigera Safari Lodge, Botswana

Lord of the Manor: best country house hotel
Castello Di Reschio, Italy

Love Shack: most romantic hotel
Bãi San Hô, Vietnam

Castaway: best desert-island escape
Kisawa Sanctuary, Mozambique

Boutique Break: best boutique hotel
Can Ferrereta, Majorca, Spain

Leave the World Behind: best outdoor escape
Angama Safari Camp, Kenya

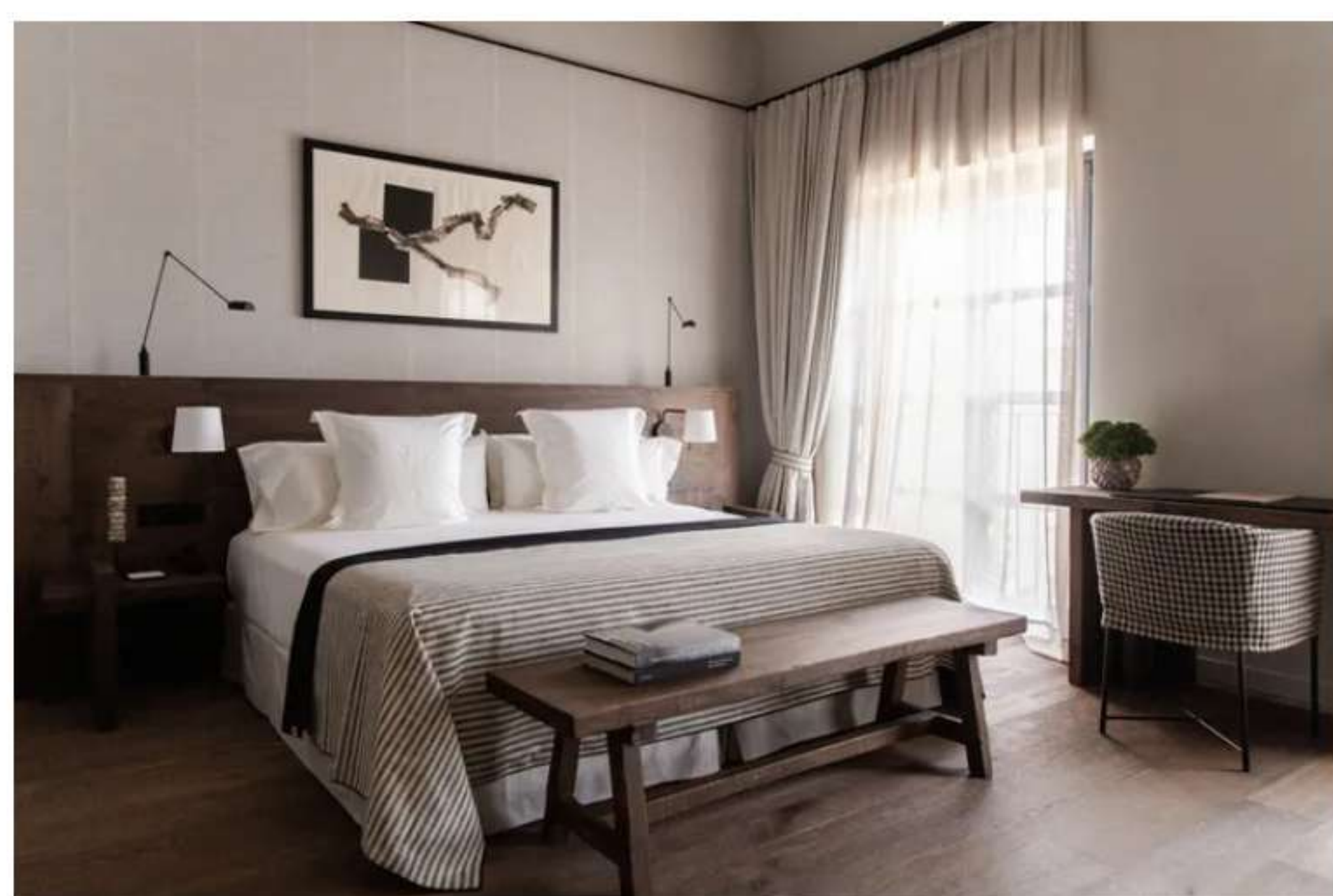
On the Money: best-value hotel
The Harrison Chambers Of Distinction, Belfast

Comeback Kid: best restoration
Nomad London, London

Design Den: best design hotel
Paradero Todos Santos, Mexico

Gourmet Getaway: best gourmet hotel
Tillingham, East Sussex

Wellness Wonder: best wellness retreat
Les Sources de Cheverny, France



A once-derelict farmstead has been entirely reborn as Can Ferrereta, a chic retreat near the village of Santanyi, Majorca.
PHOTOGRAPH BY CAN FERRERETA

BOUTIQUE BREAK: best boutique hotel

Behold the shining jewels of the hotel world: stand-out properties that shimmer with exquisite style, excellent service and just a handful of sumptuous rooms.

WINNER

Can Ferrereta, Majorca, Spain

Farm paths that once funnelled livestock now feel the trot of shoes on stone in the south Majorcan village of Santanyi, thanks to a restoration by Palma-based Bastidas Architecture and Spanish interior design firm WIT. This once-derelict farmstead is now unrecognisable as Can Ferrereta, transformed into a boutique sanctuary that makes an unforgettable first impression. Knobbly, butterscotch-coloured walls and olive-gnarled grounds muster alongside a cool, canvas-like interior, showcasing works by Catalan artists, including Joan Miró. Restaurant Ocre, meanwhile, occupies an erstwhile wine cellar, serving market-bought vegetables alongside smoked Majorcan cheese. Over at the old shepherd's hut, a pool house beckons, while a barn-style spa uses products rooted in the island's geography, including citrus fruits from Sòller and salts from Es Trenc. Mark our words: this is one you'll want to talk about until the cows come home. *From* £315 (£269), B&B.

Want more inspiring hotels? Discover the winners and runners-up of our Hotel Awards 2021

The judging panel

- Julia Buckley, freelance travel writer
 - Lee Cobaj, freelance travel writer
 - Emma Gregg, freelance travel writer
 - Lauren Jade Hill, freelance travel writer
 - Laura Holt, freelance travel writer
 - Francisca Kellett, travel writer and editor
 - Juliet Kinsman, sustainable travel consultant
 - John O'Ceallaigh, luxury travel consultant
 - Pól Ó Conghaile, travel writer and editor
 - Travis Levis, luxury travel writer
 - Jonathan Thompson, freelance travel writer
- The National Geographic Traveller (UK) team

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