

DEPARTURES

The Best New Hotel Openings in Major Cities Around the World

The 2020 Legend Awards.

By The Editors on May 12, 2020

The 2020 Legend Awards are meant to serve as inspiration for future travel—when it is safe to do so. Learn more about this year's awards on our [methodology page](#).

For the second year running, *Departures* set out to honor the very best new hotels in the world. This year, we broke them out into two categories, separately celebrating the best new city hotels and the [best new resorts and lodges around the world](#). Between May 1, 2019 and March 31, 2020, we have collectively visited, researched, and corresponded with an astounding number of worthy luxury hotels. These commendable new properties raised the already-high bar on five-star hotel openings. They opened our eyes to new destinations, and allowed us to see places we'd already fallen for in a new light. They have, of course, been [met with unthinkable challenges](#) in their hotel's infancy, and we are even more in awe over the way they are handling this time with such grace under pressure. Suffice it to say, we're counting down the days until we can return to these architecturally spectacular, hospitality pioneering hotels.

Here, the best new city hotels of the 2020 Legend Awards:

Aman Kyoto



When [Aman Kyoto](#) opened its doors on November 1, 2019, it became the [third Aman in Japan](#). The property, of course, lives up to the Aman reputation, with traditional Japanese onsen bathing pools, artfully designed relaxation pavilions, and on-site omakase restaurant Taka-An, a dining concept by executive chef Chef Shinichiro Takagi, where no two meals are alike.