

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines
Travel Well

Lima
Madrid
desde
\$861
ida y vuelta, c/tasas

Explore ahora

TRIP IDEAS

The 50 Best Places to Travel in 2020

Whether you're traveling solo or planning a family vacation, here are the 50 best places to visit in 2020.

By [Travel + Leisure Editors](#) | Published on December 9, 2019



PHOTO: RICHARD JAMES TAYLOR

What makes a place worth visiting *right now*? That's what we at *Travel + Leisure* ask ourselves when compiling our annual list of the [50 best places to travel](#). Is it a show-stopping new hotel? A once-in-a-lifetime celebration? A critical mass of [game-changing restaurants](#)?

For definitive answers on the best vacation spots of the moment, we hit the books, scouring tourism statistics, scoping out major events, charting new flight routes, and logging hotel debuts. We take stock of the most compelling new restaurant openings, scroll through the Instagram posts of our most well-traveled pals, and mine our inboxes for tips. We also survey our vast network of travel experts — T+L's [A-List travel advisors](#), first, plus trusted writers, hospitality insiders, and other industry pros — to see what places they have their eyes on.

Related: [Guide to more travel ideas](#)

The result is a list of must-visit vacation destinations, and with something to suit every interest — food, shopping, culture, history, and nature — one is bound to spark your wanderlust. We've got traveler favorites like Costa Rica and Austria, which are making waves in the months ahead. There are vacation spots still flying under the radar, like a tiny coastal surf town in Denmark, or Guyana, a South American idyll that has a fraction of the crowds of its neighbors. There are even places in your own backyard worth a closer look — who would've guessed just a few years ago that Oklahoma City would become *this* red-hot?

So, we ask you: where will your travels take you this year? On a wine-soaked [river cruise](#) through Portugal? To a *ryokan*-style [luxury hotel](#) in a serene corner of Kyoto? To a chic cabin in Maine for a feast of oysters plucked fresh from the sea?

Ahead, *Travel + Leisure's* 50 best places to travel in 2020, listed in alphabetical order. If you already have travel plans lined up for the coming year, share your vacation destination picks with us on social media with [#TLBestPlaces](#).

1. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



Advertisement

max

Learn more

Advertisement

Advertisement

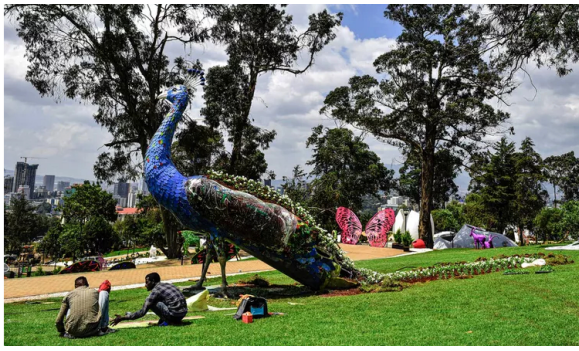


PHOTO: MICHAEL TEWELDE/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

For much of the past four decades, Menelik Palace loomed over Addis Ababa as a symbol of imperial imposition. Now, nearly two years into his term and with a Nobel Peace Prize already under his belt, the country's reformist prime minister, Abiy Ahmed, has opened the 19th-century palace to the public and tapped local artist Elias Sime to build a public garden, slated to open midyear alongside the once-forbidding space. It's the latest sign that something has shifted in Ethiopia's capital — and thanks to a major expansion of [Addis Ababa's airport](#) that's tripled capacity and brought new routes, U.S. travelers can easily witness the change firsthand. Last year, Sime and his partner, the curator and cultural anthropologist Meskerem Assegued, opened the [Zoma Museum](#) after a 20-year planning and building process. Situated in the Mekanisa neighborhood, the museum blends Ethiopia old and new, using vernacular architecture as a backdrop for contemporary art — including some of Sime's own pieces. In its attention to both traditional and modern influences, Zoma parallels the aims of Addis Foto Fest, a biennial photography festival that will be held again in December 2020. Until then, find work by the country's finest artists on display at institutions such as [St. George Gallery](#), [Addis Fine Art](#), and [LeLa Gallery](#). —*Hannah Giorgis*

2. Arequipa, Peru



PHOTO: RICHARD JAMES TAYLOR

The preserved colonial architecture of "the White City" — so named for its gleaming structures made from sillar, a volcanic rock — earned the historic center of Arequipa UNESCO World Heritage status in 2000. But a dearth of upmarket lodgings has kept this [Peruvian destination](#) off most travelers' radar. Now, the town finally has accommodations befitting the local history: August saw the opening of [Cirqa](#), originally built in 1540, the year Arequipa was founded, as an inn for guests of the Church of San Agustín next door. The property marries preserved elements of the original parador — high vaulted ceilings, textural stone walls — with contemporary flourishes, such as black-steel-framed windows and a plunge pool. Further steeped in history is the cuisine at [La Nueva Palomino](#), where a female-led staff cooks hearty stews from heirloom recipes. It's all best enjoyed while admiring the three volcanoes in the distance (Chachani, Misti, and [Pichu Pichu](#)) with a tall glass of chicha, an Andean beer made from corn. —*Scott Bay*

3. Asheville, North Carolina



Advertisement



Advertisement



TRIP IDEAS

The 50 Best Places to Travel in 2025

By Travel + Leisure Editors



2020

Our Readers' Favorite 3 Islands in Canada in 2020

By Siobhan Reid



CULINARY VACATIONS

The Best Places in the World to Vacation If You Love Cheese

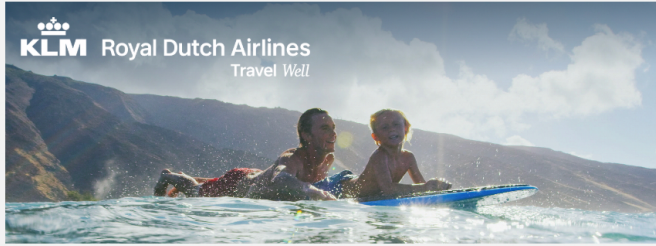
By Andrea Romano



2020

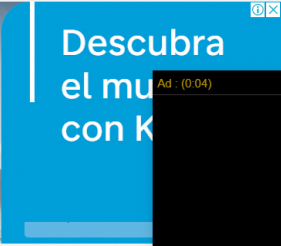
Our Readers' Favorite 20 Islands in Europe in 2020

By Rebecca Ascher-Walsh



KLM Royal Dutch Airlines
Travel Well

Advertisement



Descubra
el mundo
con KLM

Ad - (0:04)

TRAVEL+ LEISURE

Must Visit Hotel in India

CLOSE X