



4 Hotels to Stay at in 2020

Drop your bags at these unique digs, which range from a former New Orleans church to a cozy Texas B&B.

BY TOMMIE ETHINGTON AND MELISSA FLANDREAU

Hotel Figueroa (<https://www.hotelfigueroa.com/>)

Los Angeles

A portrait of a woman on a motorcycle hangs in the lobby of this downtown Los Angeles landmark. The subject is Maude Bouldin, the hotel's original managing director—and the first woman in the country to hold that position. In 1926, Bouldin piloted a plane to L.A. and began work at the hotel, which was financed, owned, and operated entirely by women. Their goal? Provide a haven for solo female travelers during a time when most accommodations required a male counterpart to co-sign a stay. Their legacy lives on in the newly restored 268-room hotel. Walls feature works by

female artists, a soundtrack plays tunes curated by female DJs, and guests can enjoy a discussion series led by entrepreneurs and tastemakers who are known as the “Maude Squad.” *From \$249*



Hotel Peter & Paul (<https://hotelpeterandpaul.com/>)

New Orleans

When Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church shuttered in 2001, the sanctuary stood vacant for almost two decades before a collaboration between design and development firm ASH NYC and local partner Nathalie Jordi brought it back to life. Today, the hip hotel, which opened in the Marigny district in late 2018, is a testament to Old World elegance. The restoration of the grounds—which include the church, as well as the former schoolhouse, rectory, and convent—lovingly preserved original details, from the stained-glass windows to wainscoted hallways. And of the 71 guest rooms, no two are alike. In the Rectory, peach-hued rooms feature antique fireplaces, and the Convent’s seven rooms sport canopied

beds and a mix of antique and regionally made furniture and lighting. Meanwhile, the School House's color palette is inspired by religious paintings and tapestries from the 14th to 18th century. But no matter where you rest your head, don't forget to visit the Convent for a banana split at Sundae Best. No slacks necessary.

From \$119



Carr Mansion (<https://carrmansion.com/>)

Galveston, Texas

Time has a way of slowing down at this 153-year-old home turned bed-and-breakfast. Looking toward the water from the top-floor balcony, it's easy to picture sailboats in place of cruise ships or to imagine women in ball gowns descending the front steps to meet their suitors. It feels only natural, then, to enjoy a leisurely breakfast sans cellphones or to while away an afternoon in a rocking chair on the veranda. More than half of the eight rooms—each named for a past resident, like former Texas governor Richard

Coke—come with clawfoot tubs for further relaxation. When you do have somewhere to be, the inn’s location between the beach and The Strand Historic District makes it easy to get there. Just remember to be back in time for the complimentary happy hour, where guests can indulge in two drinks and an appetizer—think freshly caught Gulf shrimp and ice-cold margaritas. *From \$179*



Hu. Hotel (<https://huhotelmemphis.com/>)

Memphis, Tennessee

The question you have to answer upon checking into this downtown Memphis hotel isn’t which room you prefer, but rather: “How do you like your coffee?” That’s because at the Hu. Hotel, the front desk doubles as a coffee bar, serving up pastries, overnight oats, and a specialty java blend with notes of salted caramel and apricot. Later in the day, baristas serve local craft beers and wine by the glass. Settle in for a game of Yahtzee or chess in the light-filled lobby, and then make your way upstairs, where rooms have a

moody midcentury modern feel, with clean lines and copper accents. Wondering where to go for dinner? Beale Street is within walking distance, or it's a short drive to the city's famous Central BBQ. If you feel like staying in, the on-site Hu. Diner delivers elevated Southern staples like pan-roasted catfish and cornflake-fried chicken. No matter what you choose, you can still make time for a nightcap or, if it suits you, one last cup of joe. *From \$159*

Photography courtesy of Hotel Figueroa (<https://www.hotelfigueroa.com>) (header), Hotel Peter & Paul (<https://hotelpeterandpaul.com>), Aparium Hotel Group (<https://www.aparium.com>) (Hu. Hotel); photography by Divya Pande (<http://divyapande.com>) (Carr Mansion)



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