
HISTORIC HOTELS *of* AMERICA

National Trust *for* Historic Preservation®

Promoting Cultural & Heritage Travel to Prestigious Historic Treasures

2024 FACT SHEET

MISSION

Historic Hotels of America® is an official program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and has the mission to increase the preservation, recognition, and celebration of the finest Historic Hotels. On October 26, 1949, Congress chartered the National Trust for Historic Preservation to advance the policies established by the Historic Sites Act of 1935 and “provide for the preservation of historic American sites, buildings, objects, and antiquities.” For more than 70 years, the National Trust for Historic Preservation has led the movement to save America’s historic places. A privately funded nonprofit organization, it works to save America’s historic sites; tell the full American story; build stronger communities; and invest in preservation’s future.

FOUNDING DATE

Historic Hotels of America was founded in 1989 by the National Trust for Historic Preservation with 32 charter members.

MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

To be nominated and selected for membership in this prestigious program, a hotel must be at least 50 years old; designated by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior as a National Historic Landmark or listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places; and recognized as having historical significance. The Historic Sites Act of 1935 authorized the U.S. Secretary of the Interior to formally record and organize historic properties and to designate them as having national historical significance and gave the National Park Service authority to administer the program. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 established the National Register of

HERITAGE

Historic Places for recognizing districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects worthy of preservation. Both programs were combined with oversight by the National Park Service. Travelers can discover over 40 historic hotels designated by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior as National Historic Landmarks and experience more than 160 historic hotels listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Members of Historic Hotels of America represent the heritage and development of the United States of America. For example, one of the earliest hotels, El Convento Hotel in Old San Juan, Puerto Rico is a former Carmelite Convent dating to 1651. Concord's Colonial Inn dates to 1716 and one of the inn's original buildings was used to store arms and provisions for the Concord Minutemen during the American Revolution. The Omni Homestead Resort in Hot Springs, Virginia, considered America's First Resort, has been welcoming guests since 1766. The Hermitage Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee, was the headquarters for the women's suffrage movement at a critical moment during the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

"The work of Historic Hotels of America is indispensable in maintaining architectural masterpieces, which not only continue to serve the traveling public, but are also enduring monuments to our national heritage"

-Dr. A.K. Sandoval-Strauss, Ph.D., History Professor, University of New Mexico, Distinguished Lecturer, Organization of American Historians.

"Academic research conducted across several different industries suggests that brand heritage supports premium pricing... historic hotels can achieve a significant advantage in ADR and REVPAR versus contemporary hotels ... The key variable seems to be the degree to which the older hotel emphasizes and celebrates its history."

-Bradford Hudson, Ph.D., Marketing Professor, Boston College, from his keynote address at the 2018 Annual Conference of Historic Hotels of America.

**TOTAL
MEMBERSHIP**

More than 300 hotels that have faithfully maintained their authenticity, sense of place, and architectural integrity participate in the Historic Hotels of America program. Historic Hotels of America is comprised of mostly independently owned and operated properties. More than 30 hotel chains, brands, and collections are represented in Historic Hotels of America. More than 160 historic hotels are listed in the National Register of Historic Places and more than 40 have been designated by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior as National Historic Landmarks. Browse the Member Directory at www.HistoricHotels.org/Directory

ROOMS

Hotels range in size from The Historic Magnolia House (1889) with 4 rooms to the Palmer House, A Hilton Hotel (1871) with 1,641 rooms.

SETTINGS

Member hotels are in 44 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. From opulent mansions to converted factories, historic hotels are situated in settings that range from rustic to refined, in locales as diverse as the mountain wilderness, manicured country sides, the center of small towns and bustling metropolises.

RESERVATIONS

Rooms at any of the member hotels can be reserved by visiting HistoricHotels.org, calling + 1 800 678 8946, or a travel planner (**GDS code: HE**). A portion of every booking fee received from Historic Hotels of America for bookings made through HistoricHotels.org supports the National Trust for Historic Preservation in its mission to enhance local community historic preservation programs across America.

OWNERSHIP

More than 130 of the 300+ hotels are part of some of the world's finest hospitality brands, including Fairmont, Hilton, Curio Collection by Hilton, DoubleTree by Hilton, InterContinental, J.W. Marriott, Marriott, Autograph Collection, Westin, The Luxury Collection, Omni, Sofitel, Preferred Hotels & Resorts, Leading Hotels of the World, and Hyatt; while other historic hotels, such as Mohonk Mountain House (1869) in New Paltz, New York, have been in the same families for generations.

2024 MILESTONES**225 Years**

- The Inn at Montchanin Village (1799) Montchanin, Delaware

150 Years

- Wentworth by the Sea (1874) New Castle, New Hampshire

100 Years

- The Emily Morgan San Antonio- A DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel (1924) San Antonio, Texas
- Hotel 24 South (1924) Staunton, Virginia
- Francis Marion Hotel (1924) Charleston, South Carolina
- Fairmont Olympic Hotel (1924) Seattle, Washington

ANNUAL AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Historic Hotels Awards of Excellence honor, encourage, and recognize the most exemplary historic hotels, hoteliers, and leadership practices. From around the world, nominations are submitted by historic hoteliers, preservation supporters, community leaders, and leadership from Historic Hotels of America. Nominee finalists are announced in summer and winners are announced at the Historic Hotels Awards of Excellence Ceremony & Gala in fall. The Omni Homestead Resort (1766) in Hot Springs, Virginia, will host the 2024 Historic Hotels Awards of Excellence Ceremony & Gala, where winners will be announced before an audience of industry leaders on Thursday, November 21, 2024.

TOP 25 HISTORIC HOTELS LISTS

The Top 25 Historic Hotels Lists Program celebrates iconic hotels throughout the year for their magnificent art and architecture, stunning gardens, culinary heritage, thrilling local legends, and historic golf courses.

MEDIA CONTACT

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