

VIVE LE ROI! GEORGE V IN PARIS TAKES TOP HONORS IN INSTITUTIONAL
INVESTOR MAGAZINE'S SURVEY OF THE WORLD'S BEST HOTELS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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November 12, 2004

New York - When Saudi prince Al-Walid bin Talal bin Abdul Aziz bought the George V in Paris, in 1996, he declared that it was "simply the best hotel in the world." Eight years later, the refurbished hotel, managed by Four Seasons Hotels under a 99-year contract, is the top choice of a high-powered panel of senior corporate and financial executives surveyed by Institutional Investor magazine for its 24th annual ranking of the World's Best Hotels. The Four Seasons George V, which features a restaurant with three Michelin Guide stars and charges \$850 per night for a room, rises from 11th in last year's ranking.

Taking second place in this year's ranking is Bangkok's Sukhothai, which offers a restaurant set in a water garden and "seems to float on a lotus pool," as one recent guest put it. At the third-ranked Bel-Air of Los Angeles, the hotel's Presidential Suite is tucked away behind a lush, 12-acre garden.

Here are the top hotels in the world, as ranked by respondents to Institutional Investor's World's Best Hotels Survey.

The top 80 hotels

Rank - Hotel - City

- 1 Four Seasons George V - Paris
- 2 Sukhothai - Bangkok
- 3 Bel-Air - Los Angeles
- 4 Four Seasons - Singapore
- 5 Four Seasons Marunouchi - Tokyo
- 6 Peninsula - Hong Kong
- 7* Four Seasons - Istanbul
- 8* Mandarin Oriental - San Francisco
- 9 Ciragan Palace Kempinski - Istanbul
- 10 Park Hyatt-Vendôme - Paris
- 11* Mansion on Turtle Creek - Dallas
- 12* St. Regis - New York
- 13 Four Seasons Chinzan-So - Tokyo
- 14 Bristol - Paris
- 15 Regent Beverly Wilshire - Los Angeles
- 16* Claridge's - London
- 17* Grand Hyatt - Seoul
- 18 Four Seasons Ritz - Lisbon
- 19 Ararat Park Hyatt - Moscow
- 20 Hassler Villa Medici - Rome
- 21 Villa Real - Madrid
- 22* David InterContinental - Tel Aviv
- 23* Four Seasons - Philadelphia
- 24 Peninsula - Bangkok
- 25* Oriental - Bangkok
- 26* Four Seasons - Los Angeles

27 Baur au Lac - Zurich
28** Conrad - Hong Kong
28** Richemond - Geneva
30 Arizona Biltmore - Phoenix
31 Grand Hyatt - Shanghai
32 Grand Hyatt - Hong Kong
33 Park Hyatt Villa Magna - Madrid
34 Four Seasons - Boston
35 Copacabana Palace - Rio de Janeiro
36 Beverly Hills - Los Angeles
37 Mandarin Oriental - Hong Kong
38* Sacher - Vienna
39* Fullerton - Singapore
40 Park Hyatt - Sydney
41* Ritz - Paris
42* Berkeley - London
43* Ritz-Carlton Millenia - Singapore
44* Lanesborough - London
45 Hay-Adams - Washington
46* Four Seasons - New York
47* Four Seasons - Milan
48* Raffles - Singapore
49* Bayerischer Hof - Munich
50 Plaza Athénée - Paris
51 Balmoral - Edinburgh
52 Meurice - Paris
53 Four Seasons - Washington
54 Shangri-La - Singapore
55 Dorchester - London
56* Carlyle - New York
57* Oberoi - Bombay
58 Hyatt Regency Madeleine - Paris
59 Dolder Grand - Zurich
60 Grosvenor House - London
61* Arabella Sheraton Grand - Frankfurt
62* Des Bergues - Geneva
63 Island Shangri-La - Hong Kong
64 Taj Mahal Palace & Tower - Bombay
65* Ritz-Carlton - Boston
66* De l'Europe - Amsterdam
67* Four Seasons - Toronto
68 Baltshug Kempinski - Moscow
69 Millenium Hilton - New York
70* Four Seasons - Chicago
71* Swissôtel-Bosphorus - Istanbul
72 Fairmont - San Francisco
73 Imperial - Tokyo
74 Okura - Tokyo
75 Amigo - Brussels
76 Shutters on the Beach Santa Monica - Los Angeles
77 Crillon - Paris
78 Peninsula - New York
79* New York Palace - New York
80* Grand Hyatt - Melbourne

*Order determined by actual results before rounding.

** Actual tie.

This year's panel of senior corporate and financial executives ranked 80 hotels in 37 cities. The voters are seasoned travelers who spent an average of 52 nights in hotels over the past year. Respondents rated hotels they had visited recently on a scale of 1 to 100.

For the complete article and more details on the ranking, please visit <http://www.institutionalinvestor.com/pressrelease>.

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