

TripAdvisor Rings in New Year with World's Best Spas To Invigorate for 2008, Here is the Top Ten for Zen

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TripAdvisor(R), the world's largest travel community, today announced the top 10 spas in the world, based on the TripAdvisor Popularity Index and traveler ratings. All 4- or 5-star properties, these spas offer relaxing and opulent spa settings and present travelers with a wonderful way to unwind, detoxify, and invigorate their minds, bodies and spirits for 2008.

1. Right at Om in Ojai: Ojai Valley Inn and Spa, Ojai, California - Average nightly rate: \$323

Forty miles south of Santa Barbara on California's Gold Coast, the mission-style Ojai Valley Inn and Spa features an incredible 31,000 square foot spa village. Engage in about a dozen varieties of massage treatments, indulge in the spa's signature Kuyam mud treatment or visit the apothecary and create personalized lotions and creams. According to one TripAdvisor traveler, "We have stayed at other first class hotels before, but this one is truly the best and is really first class all the way."

2. Feel like a Queen: Victoria-Jungfrau Grand Hotel & Spa, Interlaken, Switzerland - Average nightly rate: \$476

In the heart of Interlaken with dramatic mountainous views, Victoria- Jungfrau Grand Hotel & Spa offers tranquil and soothing treatments in a contemporary setting. Take a Swiss-style break with a Victoria-Jungfrau Time Out, consisting of a full body salt and oil scrub or sample one of the gems for two. As one TripAdvisor traveler said, "The Victoria-Jungfrau is by far one of the best hotels in Europe for relaxation, health club and spa experience, as well as lovely views."

3. Au Naturelle: The Lodge At Woodloch, Hawley, Pennsylvania - Average nightly rate: \$1,076

Surrounded by forest in Pennsylvania's lake region, just 90 miles from New York City, The Lodge at Woodloch embraces nature, with sweeping windows, covered porches and whirlpools with woodland views. Relax in the private men's and women's quarters or chat softly next to the fireplace in the coed Whisper Lounge featuring a covered porch. As one TripAdvisor traveler said, "After our three night stay, it's my opinion that Woodloch sets a new standard for destination spas."

4. Spa Connoisseur: Les Sources de Caudalie, Aquitaine, France - Average nightly rate: \$1,036

For the wine -- and spa -- enthusiast, Les Sources de Caudalie is nestled in the vineyards of Chateau Smith Haut Lafitte near Bordeaux. Toast to relaxation while indulging in a vinotherapie treatment, such as a Red Vine Bath, Merlot Wrap or Grape Marc Bath, which uniquely combines warm spring water with grape extracts. As one TripAdvisor traveler said, "If you like good wine, nature, good food, world-renowned spa pampering, professional and friendly service, peace and quiet, and few people, this is the place to go."

5. Spa Awakening: Como Shambhala, Bali, Indonesia - Average nightly rate: \$275

Situated on a riverbank in Bali, Como Shambhala, or "sacred place of bliss," encourages exploring the body, mind and spirit to find inner peace. Feel like a new person -- at least on the outside -- by trying the Como Shambhala bath, which includes an exfoliating scrub followed by a rejuvenating massage. As one TripAdvisor traveler said, "The resort offers so many pleasant activities and the ambiance -- at one with nature and luxury -- is sublime!"

6. Grand Canyon: Canyon Ranch Lenox, Lenox, Massachusetts - Average nightly rate: \$1,664

Set in the New England Berkshires, Canyon Ranch boasts a beautiful spa complex around a grandiose Italianate mansion. For the nature lover, spa aficionado, relaxation or health seeker, this spa destination features numerous outdoor activities, healthy gourmet dining and personalized programs. As one TripAdvisor traveler said, "A little piece of heaven! I go there annually for a week of pampering and relaxation."

7. Set in Stone: Casa Palmero at Pebble Beach, Pebble Beach, California - Average nightly rate: \$843

Located in the Del Monte forest, Casa Palmero at Pebble Beach is a Mediterranean-style two-story villa with trickling fountains and a neighboring exquisite spa. Get off to a rocky start by indulging in the Pebble Massage, where smooth stones are used to relax and release tension. As one TripAdvisor traveler said, "Everything is luxurious and immaculate! Service is outstanding!"

The grounds are beautifully landscaped with vibrant colors, yet it's peaceful and relaxing."

8. Spa-tacular Scenery: Lausanne Palace & Spa, Vaud, Switzerland - Average nightly rate: \$445

Built during the Belle Epoque, Lausanne Palace & Spa stands perched on a hill with views of Lake Geneva and the Swiss Alps and features a modern 8,200 square foot spa. After indulging in an ancient spa therapy treatment, continue the relaxation by unwinding on the veranda or sundeck. As one TripAdvisor traveler said, "The spa was top notch and the common areas and restaurants were beautiful."

9. Country House: Hotel Le Mirador Kempinski Genfer See, Vaud, Switzerland - Average nightly rate: \$320

Breathe in crisp country air at the Hotel Le Mirador Kempinski Genfer See, located in Swiss wine country and home to one of the famed Givenchy Spas. Take advantage of separate quarters for men and women by drifting away in the Hammam (Turkish bath), sauna, or steam room. As one TripAdvisor traveler said, "Inside the spa you can also relax with a book overlooking the magnificent views."

10. Spa-tharsis: Schlosshotel Buehlerhoehe, Buhl, Baden-Wurtemberg, Germany - Average nightly rate: \$396

Fifteen kilometers from Baden-Baden in the north Black Forest, Schlosshotel Buehlerhoehe combines self-indulgence with unbeatable scenery. Spoil yourself with the Manager's Stress Busting Day -- an all-day pampering extravaganza -- sure to extinguish even the worst of worries. As one TripAdvisor traveler said, "Full marks on the spa. It was lovely to swim in the pool and sit in the whirlpool with the sleet and snow lashing against the full-length windows around us."

"Situated in stunning environments with luxurious accommodations, these top spas offer a truly exceptional experience, enabling travelers to completely unwind and rejuvenate," said Michele Perry, director of communications for TripAdvisor. "From relaxing massages to complete detoxification, these spas offer a variety of treatments to suit all needs."

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