

Travel + Leisure

Charleston's Best New Hotels

By Laura Itzkowitz January 20, 2016

There's no wrong time for a trip to Charleston, which makes sense given the city has taken top honors in T+L's World's Best Awards for the past three years. Even in January—considered the low season—the weather was temperate, humidity was low, and there were plenty of fun things to do. Plus, a spate of new hotels has diversified the city's accommodations. While Charleston is home to plenty of classic grand dames, like Planter's Inn and Wentworth Mansion, the more recent arrivals bring some much-needed youthful energy to the heart of the historic district. In the past year alone, five new hotels have opened and several more have undergone major renovations, with even more planned for 2016. These four new or recently refreshed properties stand out:



Justin Falk

The Vendue

Though not exactly new, this [art hotel in an 18th-century warehouse](#) has undergone a complete renovation that brought it up to date and expanded its offerings. It [received a spot on our World's Best list](#) for the first time in 2015. The last phase—completed in December—transformed the accommodations across the street at 26 Vendue (formerly the Anchorage). Rooms vary from classic Charleston style (exposed brick, original wood floors, oil paintings, and toile fabric) to more modern (leather headboard, dual-sided fireplace connecting the bedroom and bathroom). Art curated by Robert Lange Studios is displayed in the public spaces and is for sale. Be sure to check out the multi-leveled rooftop bar and stay for a meal at the Drawing Room—the chef's plates are as artful as anything decorating the walls and far more delicious. We loved the Carolina shrimp and cornbread that arrived in a cute cast iron pan and the deconstructed carrot cake.