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BAY AREA

In Michelin's first hotel rankings, only 11 get the top award — 4 are in the Bay Area

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Excerpt, full article follows

Seven top-ranked hotels deemed **worthy of three Michelin Keys** are in California, with the remainder in New York.

The Bay Area's list includes the SingleThread Inn in Healdsburg, which "might be one of the most luxurious experiences" in the state; **Canyon Ranch Woodside in Silicon Valley, which is "nestled among giant redwoods in a hidden hillside forest";** Meadowood Napa Valley in St. Helena, deemed "more or less beyond criticism"; and Auberge du Soleil in Rutherford, where "everyone gets a jaw-dropping, far-ranging view of this picturesque valley from the restaurant."

The Michelin Guide has unveiled its first hotel rankings, spotlighting a select few luxurious Bay Area establishments as the finest in the country.

Renowned for its coveted Michelin stars bestowed upon restaurants globally, the esteemed guidebook expanded its purview to hotels, announcing the inaugural recipients of Michelin Keys in the U.S. at a ceremony in New York on Wednesday.

Among the 124 destinations across the United States recognized by the French tire company, standouts include the SingleThread Inn in Healdsburg, the Battery in San Francisco and Stanly Ranch Auberge Resorts Collection in Napa.

For the hotel list, the guide's makers concentrated on regions with Michelin-starred restaurants, spanning Atlanta, Chicago, Colorado, Florida, New York, Washington, D.C., and San Francisco.

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“Over the last four years, our selection team of passionate, independent experts vetted, scrutinized, and ultimately determined more than 5,000 remarkable hotels for inclusion in our collection,” the company said in a statement. “Each has been selected for its remarkable quality. Out of these thousands of hotels, those offering the most outstanding stays will be awarded the special Michelin Key distinction.”

A total of 11 hotels clinched three Michelin Keys, signifying an “extraordinary stay”; 33 garnered two keys, marking an “exceptional stay”; and 80 received one, denoting a “very special stay.”

“Just like the famous Stars that indicate the best culinary experiences in the Michelin Guide restaurant selection, the Michelin Keys reveal accommodations in the Guide’s hotel selection that offer the most outstanding stays,” the company said. “They are a new benchmark for travelers, qualifying each hotel experience in broader terms than simple amenities.”

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The [Post Ranch Inn](#) in Big Sur, the [Beverly Hills Hotel](#) and the [Hotel Bel-Air](#) were also lauded among the best in California.

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Thirty-three hotels were bestowed two Michelin Keys, including [the Battery](#) in San Francisco, a private club with just 14 rooms; the [North Block](#) in Yountville, renowned for its “well-thought-out wine program and a wellness-focused approach to luxury”; and [Cavallo Point Lodge](#) in Sausalito, offering “the entire panorama of San Francisco’s skyline, almost close enough to touch.”

An additional 80 hotels received one Michelin Key, encompassing the Stanly Ranch Auberge Resorts Collection in Napa, described as “a jewel set in a 712-acre ranch rooted deep in California wine country”; and the 1 Hotel in San Francisco, “with easy access to the Financial District and the rest of the compact city center.”

Four Seasons Resort Napa Valley in Calistoga; Rancho Caymus Inn in Rutherford; Hotel Drisco in San Francisco; and the Sea Ranch Lodge in Sea Ranch round out the Bay Area entries.

So far, Michelin has awarded Keys in France and the U.S., with plans for announcements in Spain, Italy, Japan and other destinations throughout the year.