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12 Over-The-Top Pools



One of the best amenities a hotel can have is an amazing pool, whether it's a sky-high pool with a fantastic view or a sleek-looking infinity-edged option that's ideal for relaxing. But some properties go above and beyond with outrageous pools that are destinations unto themselves. In time for pool season, our Forbes Travel Guide editors scoured the globe to come up with a list of 12 of the best places to take a dip. From one of the world's largest wave pools in Macau to a luxurious swimming spot that puts you amid the rainforest in Bali, you'll want to add these hotels to your itinerary as the weather starts to heat up.

Win a free stay at one of the luxury hotels with an over-the-top pool by entering our Five-Star California Escape sweepstakes.

Dive into some of the hottest pools in Asia. Forbes Travel Guide Five-Star <u>The Ritz-Carlton</u>, <u>Hong Kong</u>'s pool, the world's highest, sits more than 1,600 feet in the air. Take in unparalleled views of Victoria Harbour and Victoria Peak from the pool area's floor-to-ceiling windows. In Tibet, The St. Regis Lhasa Resort goes for glam with a pool whose waters have a golden glow. The trick: The pool is lined with 24-karat gold leaves.

You'll find plenty of stunning pools stateside, too. Daredevils will love the one at Four-Star The Joule in Dallas. The 10th-floor pool juts out eight feet beyond the hotel building. At the end, a Plexiglas window gives the illusion that you're swimming right off the edge. Among Five-Star Four Seasons Resort Hualalai's seven pools, the Ocean Pool stands out—it's carved out from lava rock and home to turtles. But even more impressive is the Hawaii resort's King's Pond. The aquarium-like swimming hole lets you paddle alongside more than 3,500 fish. Flip through the above slideshow for the rest of our outrageous pool picks.



The Raleigh, Miami

This pool debuted when the Miami hotel opened in 1940, but its modernist and Art Deco design is timeless. The one-of-a-kind scalloped-edged pool is so chic, it's served as a venue for runway shows for Chanel, Escada and Donna Karan. While we love the design, it has other perks, too: The 160-by-90-foot pool is more than seven feet deep (most hotel pools are pretty shallow), and you can order a poolside meal from James Beard Award-winning chef Michael Schwartz's namesake restaurant.