

# CONDÉ NAST

---

# Traveler

## The 19 Best Places to Go in 2019

19 PHOTOS

by CNT EDITORS  
December 4, 2018

✕

*From Bhutan to Belize—with a stop in Egypt along the way.*

▼

There's a phrase we like to use at *Traveler* to describe certain destinations: "It's having a moment." It comes up a lot—that near-impossible-to-pin-down, can't-put-our-thumb-on-it logic as to why you should visit somewhere, now. We feel an urgent need to get to Namibia; to visit Japan before the crowds do in 2020; to return to Egypt, finally. Travel can be a meaningful way to be an ambassador. So do your part: These 19 editor-endorsed destinations—vetted by editors from both *Traveler* U.S. and *Traveller* U.K.—are the best places to go in 2019.



Getty

### Istanbul and Bodrum, Turkey

We've heard it from our **readers**, and we happen to agree: It's time to go back to Turkey. Istanbul's new airport—expected to be the world's largest when it's finished—**has opened its first phase** and can start receiving 90 million passengers annually. On top of that, major cruise lines have announced they'll return to Turkey after hitting pause on visiting the country over the last three years; welcoming them back is a new cruise port planned on the city's Galata waterfront, also expected to open next year. The Galata waterfront is part of a larger development that will house the new **Istanbul Modern museum** as well as a new luxury hotel, from what we hear.

Down on the coast, meanwhile, a smattering of recently opened hotels are injecting new life into Bodrum—the glitzy resort spot long popular with vacationing Europeans for its sweeping views of the Aegean, luxurious hammams, old stone buildings, and drooping bougainvillea. Following the arrival of Six Senses Kaplankaya and a full renovation of the Mandarin Oriental earlier in the year, **Ian Schrager's Bodrum EDITION** arrived this past summer, complete with three buzzy restaurants, rotating pop-up shops, visiting DJs, and one of the most impressive infinity pools in town. Bonus: You can tack on a few days in Greece, too, as Kos is just a 45-minute ferry ride away. —*Corina Quinn and Lale Arikoglu*