

TRAVEL+ LEISURE

Travel + Leisure Readers' 5 Favorite Resorts in South America of 2023

Readers honored resorts in South America that celebrate native wildlife, modern art, and a sense of place in our annual "World's Best Awards" survey for 2023.

By [Samantha Falewée](#) | Published on July 11, 2023

The Winner

Playa Vik José Ignacio: José Ignacio, Uruguay



PHOTO: COURTESY OF VIK RETREATS

To stay at this architectural marvel on Mansa Beach (located near the tony, once-fishing town of José Ignacio) means you'll have, as one guest put it, a front-row seat at "the best sunset" in Uruguay. Guests can either stay in the central Sculpture building or one of six house-like casas, each with a fireplace and private garden. Days here are spent swimming in the 75-foot pool with views of the ocean, meeting other travelers at the family-style meals of Uruguayan dining, horseback riding, or simply lounging on the ebony terrace.

The Full List

1. [Playa Vik José Ignacio](#): José Ignacio, Uruguay

Reader Score: 98.67

2. [Vik Chile](#): San Vicente, Chile

Reader Score: 95.33

4. [Bahia Vik José Ignacio](#): José Ignacio, Uruguay

Reader Score: 94.19

What Readers Loved

The best resorts in South America are actively developing programs to contribute to local communities and wildlife — factors that are increasingly important to T+L readers. “There’s a magical regeneration project going on here,” observed one voter, during a stay at No. 5 [Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel](#). “They have impressive biodiversity and local design throughout the property.”

Vik Retreats, the family-run brand behind three of the winners below, merges sophisticated design with environmentally conscious practices. That combination is deeply felt at No. 2 property [Vik Chile](#), set within a reserve stretching nearly 11,000 acres. “It is an almost surreal hotel, full of art, with high-end wines and luxurious cuisine,” mused one reader. Another reader was equally enthusiastic about Vik’s winery, calling it “one of South America’s best.”