

April 16, 2013

Hollywood Reporter Names 10 Most Popular NYC Hotels for Entertainment Biz

By Shira Levine



No. 1: Crosby Street Hotel

In THR's survey of industry execs, more than a few WME and CAA agents wrote back, "Crosby Street ... hands down!" The 86-room, chicly homey property in SoHo — a Brit import from the company behind London's Soho Hotel — has a 99-seat screening room and rooftop veggie garden. "This is your affluent younger crowd who don't want over-the top-showy," says Elie Seidman, CEO of travel review site Oyster.com. Fans of the hotel include Shine America's Rich Ross, manager Craig Dorfman, A-list stylist Christina Ehrlich and producerMorgan Marling. Rooms from \$675, 79 Crosby St.



No. 2: The Trump SoHo

"My clients love the Trump, but it's sort of paparazzi hell," says a top manager. But get past the flashbulbs and the 46-story, 391-room hotel is a winner, according to a slew of industry-ites whomTHR talked to, who cite the stunning views and the fact that it's very accommodating — with good rates for entertainment companies — to their VIP clients. "The spot is Donald-approved with Fendi Casa furniture, deep-soaking tubs and wet bars in every room," says Shallcross. Producer Michael Shamberg, Everybody Loves Raymond creatorPhil Rosenthal, Sandbar Picures' Lizzie Friedman and Erin Davis, son of Miles Davisand head of the late musician's estate, is also a big fan.



No. 3: The Greenwich Hotel

It's not just owner Robert De Niro who draws Hollywood players — such as Steven Spielbergand Danny Boyle— to this 88-room boutique in Tribeca; it's also the elevated craftsmanship of the interiors, from hand-loomed Tibetan rugs to the 250-year-old Japanese farmhouse beams in the serene spa. Privacy extends to the guests-only courtyard garden, and later this year, the hotel will debut a penthouse suite taking up an entire floor. Other fans include producer Dana Brunetti, Maker Studios' Benni Leigh and Good Universe'sNathan Kahane, who says, "The service is great and rooms are really beautifully done, plus it has a great gym and spa."

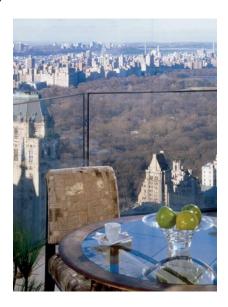
Rooms from \$525, 377 Greenwich St.



No. 4: The Bowery Hotel

Call it the Chateau Marmont of NYC. At this 135-room hotel, a too-cool-for-school crowd fills the lobby, furnished with worn club chairs, and outdoor lounge. The seven terraced suites are the most desired. "Room 1403 is the only corner room, with a terrace bigger than the room," says Alist Destination Happiness travel agent Melissa Schwartz (201-314-3633). Sightings includeVincent Gallo, Ryan Gosling, Robert Pattinson and The Bourne Ultimatum screenwriterScott Z. Burns.

Rooms from \$425, 335 Bowery.



No. 5: The Four Seasons

With rates that match the Mandarin Oriental's (the Four Seasons's Ty Warner Penthouse goes for \$42,000 a night), guests of the 364-room hotel expect and get unabashed luxury and stellar service, and a caviar lounge to boot. Irving Azoff, Casey Wasserman and George Clooney have stayed, and one A-list producer tells THR that he and his wife take a pass when studios offer to put them up elsewhere: "We love it and we pay to stay!" It's also a spot where Paramount talent often stays as well as Sony television execs during upfront season.

Rooms from \$695, 57 E. 57th St.



No. 6: Mandarin Oriental

Located in the Time Warner Center, the Mandarin offers an underground paparazzi-free entrance and will soon bow a 3,300-square-foot suite for \$28,000 a night. Insiders, including WB execs, know to book the 00-series rooms (38th floor and above) to score 180-degree views, and image-obsessed stars ask for special attention from sous chef Nick Detz. "He creates the perfect menus for people's diets," says Schwartz.

Rooms from \$695, 80 Columbus Circle



No. 7: The London NYC

Only in Manhattan is a \$349-a-night room considered a steal. Thankfully, the cool vibe of the London passes muster, as WME (with NYC offices half a block away) and companies such as HBO, Discovery and DreamWorks Animation rely on its by-comparison cheaper prices. All of the 562 rooms are suites. It's "practical luxury," says HotelChatter editor Juliana Shallcross. "Most rooms have French doors to divide off the bedroom, making it great for impromptu meetings." Its close proximity to the Ziegfield Theatre makes it ideal for catching premieres.

Rooms from \$349, 151 W. 54th St.



No. 8: The NoMad Hotel

Once hipster nerds graduate from the Flatiron District's Ace Hotel, they turn the corner for the sexier and more decadent NoMad. The distinctive design — evoking a bohemian Parisian apartment — makes it the coolest place of the moment … until it's not. Katy Perry and Selena Gomez have been sighted at the Beaux-Arts 1903 building, opened as a hotel a year ago with interiors by Hotel Costes architect Jacques Garcia. Mad Men costume designer Janie Bryant and Vuguru's Kristin Jones also prefer the NoMad along with DreamWorks Animation chief creative officer Bill Damaschke.

Rooms from \$395, 1170 Broadway at 28th St.



No. 9: The Mercer

The six-story, 75-room hotel is the sister property to Hollywood's Chateau Marmont and the Standard Hotels. The loft-like rooms boast large windows, high ceilings and have been furnished by interior designer Christian Liaigre. The 200-seat Mercer Kitchen is overseen by chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten and has served the likes of Jude Law, Adam Levine and Christina Aguilera. Fans of the hotel include Company Films' Richard Goldstein and producers Keri Selig, Celine Rattray and Alan Poul. Says Selig: "The best location, you always run into people you know in the lobby and the beds are super comfortable!"

Rooms from \$495, 147 Mercer St.



No. 10: The Mark

The Upper East Side remains a haven of luxury:Oprah Winfrey swears by the Surrey and Angelina Jolie loves the Carlyle, but The Mark "is the hotspot," says Royal Pains star Mark Feuerstein. "All the mensches and yentas who grew up here can come back in style and the restaurant is not only as scene-y as it gets, but it's also delicious." The 1927 landmark had a \$150 million makeover by famed designer JacquesGrangein 2009, complete with an Op-Art lobby, and Jean-Georges Vongerichten helms the restaurant. It sees such guests as Javier Bardem,Robert Iger and Willow Bay.

Rooms from \$625, 25 E. 77th St.



Honorable Mentions: Ace Hotel (pictured), St. Regis, Gramercy, Palace, Dream Downtown

In the heart of midtown is the ultra-hip Ace Hotel (rooms from \$299, 20 W. 29th Street). The 12-story, 269-room boutique hotel is "very hipster and super cool" says actress Perrey Reeves. Silk walls, antiques and a butler service highlight the accommodations in the St. Regis (rooms from \$795, 2 East 55th St.) with 164 rooms and 65 suites. The Gramercy Park Hotel (rooms from \$525, 2 Lexington Ave.) received a facelift a few years back from Oscar-nominated director and artist Julian Schnabel. It's also lauded in Hollywood history --Humphrey Bogart got married there.

Honorable Mentions: The Ritz-Carlton (pictured), Lowell, Carlyle, Trump Internat'l, Essex House



An Upper East Side 1927 landmark building houses the 25-room and 47-suite Lowell Hotel (28 E. 63rd St.) which is a favorite of author and producerCandy Spelling. The Carlyle (rooms from \$495, 35 E. 76th St.) originally debuted in 1930, has 188 rooms and suites and is loved by the likes ofAngelina Jolie, ICM agent Chuck James and writer Carol Wolper. Situated nearby Central Park is the 259-room, 47-suite Ritz Carlton (rooms from \$795, 50 Central Park S.), which insiders say is most best when booking an exterior room with a view. "We always book the same suite above the park with its jaw-dropping views," says Episodes' showrunner Jeffrey Klarik.