

# Politics aside, Trump hotels are global leaders



**ROCHELLE LASH**  
Checking In

Whatever happens in The Donald vs. Hillary debate on Monday, Sept. 26, or in the U.S. election on Nov. 8, we always will have Trump hotels — lots of 'em, and they are downright presidential.

Founded in 2007 and led by developer Donald J. Trump and his children, Donald Jr., Ivanka and Eric, the portfolio of Trump hotels is growing fast.

Among those strongest on Canadians' radar are the big-city towers in Toronto, Chicago, Las Vegas and New York as well as the sun resorts, Trump National Doral Miami and Trump Ocean Club International Hotel and Tower in Panama.

Powering on, the company's openings in 2016 are in Rio de Janeiro, Washington, D.C. and Vancouver, and in 2017 it will launch in Bali and West Java, Indonesia.

**Luxury leader:** Even if Donald Trump does not become president, his name already is a leader in the free world — at least in hospitality. A top-tier player in the luxury market, the hotels and resorts are known for their opulent interiors, top-drawer service and fine cuisine.

What makes Trump hotels different from other five-star brands?

"The Trump family has a 'never settle' philosophy," said CEO Eric Danziger via email. "As one of the fastest-growing luxury hospitality companies, we have a passion and persistence for perfection and our goal is to provide top-tier travel experiences around the world."

Signature programs include Trump Card Privileges, a loyalty program, and Trump Wellness, which lends out gear and creates health menus. Trump at Home is a collection of take-home tips and recipes so guests can recreate herbal bath blends, sizzling hamachi or perfect cocktails.

Here is a roundup of news. **New in 2016:** The thrilling Trump International Hotel and Tower Vancouver will open in November and will set new standards in a city of outstanding luxury hotels and architectural triumphs.

In addition to the spectacular architecture of a spiral glass skyscraper, the first West Coast Trump is pioneering many ven-



TRUMP INTERNATIONAL HOTEL AND TOWER VANCOUVER

The spiral-glass Trump International Hotel and Tower Vancouver, left, which will open in November, set new standards in a city of outstanding luxury hotels and architectural triumphs. The Trump International Hotel Washington D.C., right, opened this month with ornate interiors in a historic post office.



CAROL M. HIGHSMITH

tures: The Spa by Ivanka Trump, a new brand; restaurant Mott 32, the first offshoot of Hong Kong's Michelin-starred restaurant; and Draï's Vancouver, a spinoff of the Las Vegas party institution, a pool bar and an "ultra lounge" with live entertainment, unlike anything in the city.

The carioca beat goes on in Rio de Janeiro, where Trump opened a beachfront resort before the Olympics. It's built pyramid style, with balconies to maximize Rio's sun, sea air and ocean views.

With so much talk swirling about the U.S. Oval Office, the Trump International Hotel Washington D.C., already is a front-runner since opening on Pennsylvania Ave. on Sept. 12.

It is a US\$200 million reincarnation of the historic Old Post Office with 16-foot ceilings, soaring windows, carefully restored historic accents and sparkling chandeliers.

The opulent Presidential Ballroom is among the largest in town. Perhaps it will be a venue for an Inaugural Ball; we're simply not sure who will be the

## IF YOU GO

**Trump Hotels:** 855-878-6700, [trumphotels.com](http://trumphotels.com). Rates fluctuate according to date and availability. Sample prices for Oct.-Nov.: Trump International Hotel and Tower New York, US\$575 for a superior room, up to US\$3,225 for a

two-bedroom suite with a view of Central Park. Trump International Hotel & Tower Toronto rates start from C\$495 per night for a superior room and C\$3,200 per night for a two-bedroom presidential suite.

spotlight couple. Donald and Melania or Hillary and Bill.

**Forbes five-stars:** Four Trump hotels — those in New York City on Central Park, Toronto, Chicago and Waikiki — have been named to Forbes Travel Guide's prestigious 2016 five-star list.

Trump International Hotel and Tower in Chicago, near the famed Magnificent Mile, is known for Sixteen, a two-star Michelin-rated restaurant. Trump International Hotel Waikiki is the only Forbes five-star hotel on the Hawaiian island of Oahu. And Trump International Hotel and Tower Toronto has a decor theme of Champagne and caviar, expressed through sparkly Swarovski crystals and glossy black granite.

You can test Trump Attaché

at Trump International Hotel and Tower New York, which overlooks Central Park. It's a concierge service that records guests' preferences for transportation, dining, pet-walking, personal shopping or just about anything.

Would you like to be spoiled? The Attaché on Central Park has done the near-impossible: procured prime seats for Hamilton, the hottest show on Broadway; set up a backstage meeting with Tom Hanks after his performance in Lucky Guy; and hidden a \$100,000 necklace for a wedding proposal. And the hotel is home to the fabulous Jean-Georges restaurant, which sports three Michelin stars.

**Families in Florida:** Trump National Doral Miami takes family

holidays to a new level. Trump Kids offers kiddie cocktails, sightseeing maps, no-tear bath products, menus, spa treatments, books and games, in-room children's TV, deluxe cribs and, for a fee, nannies and swimming lessons.

The resort will celebrate U.S. Thanksgiving weekend in November with a sumptuous brunch, dinner and dance. If parents want to storm Saks Fifth Avenue and Nordstrom on Black Friday because of extended retail hours, children can check into Trump Kids Camp for activities as early as 5 a.m.

December will feature a build-your-own gingerbread house for the youngsters, a visit from Santa and celebratory meals through Christmas and New Year's Eve, including a Kids Night Out on Dec. 31.

A renowned golf venue notorious for its Blue Monster course, Trump Doral has named its villas for Tiger Woods, Gary Player, Jack Nicklaus and other champions.

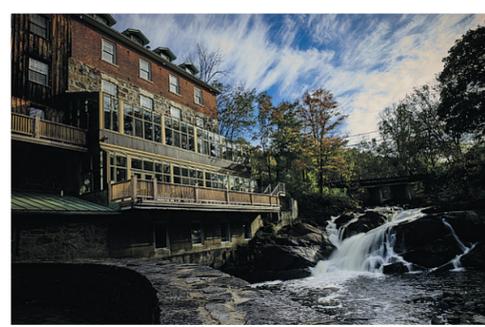
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