

| TRAVEL |

# The Big Sleep Awards 2019

Exceptional service? Menus to die for? Whatever it is that truly makes a hotel special, we're celebrating it in our annual awards, where we reward the best new tastemakers, trendsetters and game-changers in the business. | Tuesday, July 30, 2019



Aviator Room, Stamba Hotel.

PHOTO BY NIKOLOZ PANIASHVILI

**INTRODUCING THE WINNERS OF THE BIG SLEEP AWARDS 2019**

## Wellness wonder

Plenty of places offer R&R, but some do it better than others. We want to dissolve our worries in the Jacuzzi, have those knots in our necks massaged away and come back feeling like a new person

### The Retreat at Blue Lagoon, Iceland

OUR PANEL SAID: Who knew hot water could be so cool? Last year, Iceland's steaming Blue Lagoon completed a significant expansion, opening The Retreat at Blue Lagoon — a minimalist sanctuary of wellness right on the edge of the country's most famous landmark. The star of the show is, of course, its subterranean spa, built into the jet-black, 800-year-old lava flows, where the Lagoon's salt, silica and algae take a starring role in the treatment offerings. In addition, there's a restaurant that reimagines Iceland's culinary traditions as well as 62 suites encircled by those pearly, mineral-rich waters.

## Runners-up

### Euphoria Retreat, Mystras, Greece

This pretty, pine-scented getaway in the Peloponnese does Hellenic-inspired wellness par excellence. Nutrition takes a leading role here, with a lengthy list of first-class facilities, too: a Himalayan salt room and a traditional hammam to name a few.

