

Health, Wellness & Modern Green Living

# organic spa

MAGAZINE

## ECO-TRAVEL ISSUE

Our Top 10 Green Spa Award Winners

Nicaragua  
The Next Costa Rica

Facials from  
Around the World

Spring Fashion Preview

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Healthy Travel Tips

Favorite Urban  
Boutique Spas

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# TOP 10 2012 GREEN SPA AWARDS organic spa MAGAZINE

These spas and resorts artfully weave sustainability and environmentally friendly practices into their properties and offerings.

By **EVELYN THEISS**



Spas and resorts throughout North America are making a difference well beyond their own walls through restorative efforts, conservation measures and education. OSM recognizes that difference, and we salute the pioneers who hold stewardship as a core value.

## **The Lodge and Spa at Callaway Gardens**

*Pine Mountain, Georgia*

Built on once-desolate over-farmed cotton fields, this resort now brims with Southern pines, native drought-resistant plants and hundreds of acres of gardens. The lodge and spa earned LEED Silver certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. [callawaygardens.com](http://callawaygardens.com)

## **Carmel Valley Ranch**

*Carmel Valley, California*

Guests at this new resort can take a beekeeping workshop at the apiary, then enjoy the bees' honey in the restaurant, and watch as the lavender harvest is distilled into fine essential oil used in organic products at the sublime Spa Aiyana. [carmelvalleyranch.com](http://carmelvalleyranch.com)

## **Rancho La Puerta**

*Tecate, Mexico*

This iconic resort laid the groundwork for the destination spa industry, and environmental stewardship is deep in its DNA. Deborah Szekely and her family have been providing healing and inspiration for decades, with a menu featuring food from the resort's organic farm and a staff highly trained in sustainable practices. [rancholapuerta.com](http://rancholapuerta.com)

## **Crystal Mountain Resort and Spa**

*Thompsonville, Michigan*

The Midwest's only U.S. Green Building Council LEED-certified spa, located at the heart of a resort with ample wooded areas and animal habitat, incorporates native plants such as pine and sage into its spa offerings. [crystallmountain.com](http://crystallmountain.com)

## **Ritz-Carlton**

*Charlotte, North Carolina*

This Uptown Charlotte hotel, which opened in 2009, was the first Ritz-Carlton and the first Charlotte hotel to obtain U.S. Green Building Council LEED Gold certification. A 13,000-square-foot penthouse spa and wellness center, which has a "living roof" planted with 18,000 sedums, offers organic treatments. [ritzcarlton.com/en/Properties/charlotte](http://ritzcarlton.com/en/Properties/charlotte)

## **The Setai**

*Miami Beach, Florida*

This Asian-inspired South Beach resort is one of six Leading Hotels of the World to achieve the Luxury Eco Certification Standards. A "Green Team" oversees sustainability efforts, such as water and energy conservation, and sets annual improvement goals. [setai.com](http://setai.com)

## **Calistoga Ranch**

*Napa Valley, California*

Tucked into a private canyon with ancient oaks and a lake, this 157-acre site has abundant vegetable and herb gardens and lets sheep take the place of gas-powered weed whackers. "Lights Out Mondays" save power in non-guest areas, in-room flowers are from the property and corks from the fine wines served here are recycled. [calistogaranch.com](http://calistogaranch.com)

## **Hotel Terra**

*Jackson Hole, Wyoming*

Hotel Terra and Chill Spa's cutting-edge eco-friendly efforts include offsetting electric and natural gas power with clean energy and collecting runoff water. The hotel is designed so that 90 percent of the interiors capture natural daylight, and Hotel Terra's staff is conscious about minimizing light pollution. [hotelterrjacksonhole.com](http://hotelterrjacksonhole.com)

## **Sonnenalp**

*Vail, Colorado*

One of this eco-certified luxury hotel's missions is to honor and maintain the pristine natural environment that surrounds it. Sonnenalp, which means "sun on the mountains," is a Gold Leader in the Colorado Environmental Leadership program. The traditional European spa uses water therapies such as Turkish steam rooms, a Finnish sauna and a cold plunge pool. [sonnenalp.com](http://sonnenalp.com)

## **Mountain View Grand Resort & Spa**

*Whitefield, New Hampshire*

With some of New England's most stunning views, the grand White Mountain resort has a golf course dating to 1900 and a working farm with horses, sheep, goats and chickens. This Historic Hotel of America is powered by wind, partly from an on-site turbine. New Hampshire designated it an Environmental Champion. [historichotels.org/hotels-resorts/mountain-view-grand-resort-spa](http://historichotels.org/hotels-resorts/mountain-view-grand-resort-spa)