



Money  
**THE 20  
BEST  
PLACES  
TO GO  
IN 2019**



# The 20 Best Places to Go in 2019

We analyzed 43,706 data points to find vacations that provide the best value.

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Paying for your dream vacation doesn't need to be a nightmare — and MONEY's 2019 Best in Travel guide is proof. From dramatic beaches and ski-friendly mountains to lively cities and seaside towns, the 20 destinations that make up our annual list are mindful of both your wanderlust and your wallet.

For the fourth year, MONEY is highlighting domestic and international locations that offer the best value for you right now. Our winners, distributed around the globe, are full of activities and amenities that make vacations memorable—at price points that make them relatively affordable.

There's no favoritism here. To create the list, we employed a rigorous methodology featuring more than 43,000 data points collected from dozens of sources, including our main partner, [Kayak.com](#). We evaluated the cost and quality of nearly 750 popular destinations to find you the ultimate travel experiences. ([See full methodology.](#))

Each destination is accompanied by an estimated all-inclusive cost, taking into account the average airfare to the closest airports and hotel room price as well as meals and activities for two. For international destinations, prices are for a weeklong vacation, and domestic prices are for three days. We also evaluated hotels to make your travel process seamless: [See our list of amazing hotels in our best places to travel.](#) It's time to start plotting your next place to go.



*Ships sail the Qinhuai River in Nanjing.*

Getty Images

## 5. Nanjing, China

**Average airfare:** \$867

**Average hotel night:** \$103

**Cost of a week for two:** \$2,817

Nanjing sits between Shanghai and Beijing on the Yangtze River, and its location makes it a quick stop-by for many. Don't be fooled: Nanjing is an excellent destination, at a more affordable price. The cost to fly to Nanjing is down almost 6% as of 2018, according to Kayak, and you can get there for under \$900.

Once you arrive, [Numbeo](#) data shows the dollar can get you fairly far—a three-course meal at a decent restaurant will run you about \$22. A mile in a taxi—or a roundtrip ticket on public transportation—is less than a U.S. dollar. There are plenty of landmarks and monuments to visit, including the Nanjing Gate of China, the Ming Palace ruins, and the first Ming emperor's tomb (part of a [Unesco World Heritage site](#)). The Nanjing Museum and the Memorial Hall of the Nanjing Massacre provide a more complete historical picture.

Locals and tourists can be found dining and buying goods near the [Qinhuai River](#), and at night, a river cruise allows visitors to take in sights—and a good meal—under lanterns.