

Why Boutique Hotels Will Be Top of Mind for Event Pros in 2021

With smaller gatherings still the norm, these 18 boutique hotel properties are primed for socially distant meetings.

Want to host your next meeting in a Victorian-era mansion in New Orleans? Or how about a corporate retreat in an art-filled farmhouse in Vermont, or a wedding in a citrus grove outside San Diego? If you answered “um, yes, please” to any of the above, you might be looking for a boutique hotel.

These smaller, personality-filled properties—which typically have 100 or fewer guest rooms—may historically have been overlooked in the event world in favor of amenity-rich chains with large ballrooms and flexible breakout rooms. But with reduced guest counts during the pandemic, boutique hotels are increasingly becoming a go-to option for small, safe and socially distant gatherings of all types.

Keep scrolling for a look at 18 standout boutique hotels across the United States and Canada to consider for your next small gathering.

(Note: Unless otherwise indicated, listed capacities may not reflect current distancing regulations. Contact the venues directly for the most up-to-date information.)



The Rockaway Hotel in Queens, N.Y.

Open since September is [The Rockaway Hotel](#) in Queens, N.Y. The luxury, beachside property has 53 guest rooms, including eight extended-stay suites. There's 25,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor event space, including the 5,000-square-foot Harbor Room with floor-to-ceiling windows and the 3,140-square-foot Sun Deck, which seats 350 or holds 500 for receptions. Additional spaces include a prefunction room that holds 90, a rooftop area that holds 300 and a terrace with space for 100. *(Photo: Courtesy of The Rockaway Hotel)*