

EXCLUSIVE! 50 HOTEL DEALS JUST FOR YOU

TRAVEL + LEISURE

JUNE 2007

T+L EDITORS' GUIDE TO THE BEST NEW HOTELS

THE IT LIST

Hundreds of hotels open their doors each year, but how many open your eyes? After anonymously road-testing countless contenders, we narrowed the field to an elite group of promising newcomers: 25 hotels that are redefining service, design—even where you'll be going next. And so that you know what (and what *not*) to expect, T+L has sussed out the finer points of each. Scoring the coveted reservation? We'll leave that to you.

★ *Hotel Fauchère, Milford, Pennsylvania*

This weekend getaway for New York's rich and powerful throughout the late 19th century has been reincarnated as a civilized 21st-century hideaway.

Location The town of Milford, Pennsylvania, on the edge of the Delaware Water Gap, 75 miles northwest of New York City.

Pedigree The 1880 hotel—opened by Louis Fauchère, the master chef at Delmonico's in Manhattan—hosted everyone from prominent philanthropists (the Carnegies) to sports stars (Babe Ruth) to entertainers (Charlie Chaplin).

Style + Design The Italianate building has been painstakingly restored: chestnut floors, a walnut-and-mahogany banister, and a bead-board ceiling are all original. By contrast, the 16 rooms are contemporary retreats, with luxe touches—rain showers, radiant-heat floors, Frette sheets and towels.

Service + Amenities Food is a focus. The Delmonico Room has a \$50 three-course prix fixe menu of old-fashioned dishes (frog's legs, steak and potatoes). Bar Louis is more sleek, with photographs by Warhol protégé Christopher Makos, classic cocktails, and sophisticated bar food.

Needs Work The staff is a bit young and undertrained.

Value for Money Free Aqua Panna water, Chilean Merlot, and local chocolates are certainly generous, but even the lowest-priced rooms are still costly for blue-collar Milford.

401 Broad St.; 570/409-1212; www.hotelfauchere.com; doubles from \$275.



Suite No. 2 at Hotel Fauchère.