



# HISTORIC HOTELS of AMERICA

National Trust *for* Historic Preservation®

## FRENCH LICK RESORT NAMED “BEST HISTORIC RESORT” IN HISTORIC HOTELS OF AMERICA® AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

**FRENCH LICK, Indiana (January 21, 2026)**— French Lick Resort is pleased to announce it is the recipient of the Historic Hotels of America® Best Historic Resort, an honor announced at the Historic Hotels Annual Awards of Excellence Ceremony and Gala. The designation of 2025 Historic Hotels of America Awards of Excellence Winner is conferred to the resort by Historic Hotels of America, an official program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

French Lick Resort is one of more than 300 hotels and resorts in the United States recognized by Historic Hotels of America for preserving and maintaining its historic integrity, architecture and ambiance.

Each year, Historic Hotels of America honors and celebrates the most exemplary historic hotels, hoteliers, and leadership practices through this exclusive awards program. The [Historic Hotels of America Awards of Excellence](#) are presented to historic hotels and hoteliers demonstrating innovative leadership, stewardship and contribution to furthering the recognition, preservation, and celebration of these preeminent historic hotels and their histories. Fifteen historic hotels received this recognition from Historic Hotels of America in 2025.

“We are delighted to honor French Lick Resort with this prestigious award. It was chosen from an exclusive group of nominees and considered for several categories. It stands among the finest hotels and hoteliers in the world,” said Lawrence Horwitz, Executive Vice President, Historic Hotels of America and Historic Hotels Worldwide. “We applaud the dedication and passion of the individuals working at these iconic and legendary historic hotels, the people who keep the stories alive from the past and make staying or celebrating special occasions at these historic hotels memorable experiences.”

The “Best Historic Resort” honor is presented to a property that best celebrates its history in the guest experience and provides exceptional customer hospitality and service.

“We thank our guests for sharing in this outstanding honor from Historic Hotels of America, because their loyalty has helped French Lick Resort stand the test of time,” said Chuck Franz, French Lick Resort’s Chief Executive Officer. “It’s remarkable to walk around and see guests enjoying the resort the same way they did more than 100 years ago — rocking on the French Lick Springs Hotel veranda or relaxing under the West Baden Springs Hotel dome. History is such an important part of our story, and we take pride in integrating that legacy into the guest experience today.”

This year, French Lick Springs Hotel (established 1845) is also marking 20 years since the completion of its grand restoration in 2006. West Baden Springs Hotel (established 1855) was also brought back to life as part of the same preservation initiative, reopening in 2007 after being closed to guests for 75 years.

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#### **ABOUT FRENCH LICK RESORT**

French Lick Resort is a \$600 million historic restoration and casino development project that includes West Baden Springs Hotel, French Lick Springs Hotel, Valley Tower Hotel and French Lick Casino. This Midwest premier resort destination features 756 guest rooms and suites; 24/7 gaming at French Lick Casino; 54 holes of golf including the fully restored 1917-designed Donald Ross Course at French Lick and the 18-hole Pete Dye Course at French Lick; two full-service spas with a combined 36 treatment rooms totaling 42,000 square feet; meeting and event space totaling more than 170,000 square feet; and an array of dining and entertainment options.

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#### **ABOUT HISTORIC HOTELS OF AMERICA®**

Historic Hotels of America is the official program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation for recognizing and celebrating the finest historic hotels across the United States of America. The National Trust for Historic Preservation was chartered by U.S. Congress in 1949 and is a private 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The National Trust for Historic Preservation is leading the movement to save the places where our history

happened. To be nominated and selected for membership in this prestigious program, a hotel must be at least 50 years old; designated by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior as a National Historic Landmark or listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places; and recognized as having historical significance. Of the more than 300 historic hotels inducted into Historic Hotels of America from 41 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico, all historic hotels faithfully preserve their authenticity, sense of place, and architectural integrity. For more information, visit [HistoricHotels.org](http://HistoricHotels.org).

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