



# ACCOR HOTELS

Feel Welcome

AccorHotels.com survey  
Paris, Thursday 21, 2017

## Discovering local cuisine, the heart and soul of a trip

Cultural visits are all well and good but they make you hungry! Traveling naturally offers the opportunity to discover the history of a country and its culture, but for many, it is also the chance to enjoy local culinary specialties which are sometimes surprising.

AccorHotels.com, along with the GFK market research institute<sup>1</sup>, has taken a look into vacationers' plates, revealing all their secrets according to their nationality, age, etc. Everything went under the microscope!

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Key findings from the study in figures:

- 54%: the percentage of people surveyed who said discovering local cuisine was a must on a trip
- 48% of travelers said that breakfast is the hotel service they miss the most once their vacation is over
- Chinese travelers really enjoy discovering new flavors while traveling (66% of them) but, in contrast, 69% of them missed their own culinary customs when abroad.

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Trying out new flavors? This is a must when traveling! **54% of people surveyed said culinary discoveries were an integral part of the trip.** This eating-based approach to a stay is particularly popular with 50-65 year olds (61%) compared with 48% of 18-34 year olds. Do millennials lack curiosity?

## Unmissable France!

Bravo! **The top destination for food-loving travelers is France.** When 38% of Germans go there for the food, 20% of Chinese people enjoy **tasting what they consider to be peculiar specialties** and 14% of British people to enjoy the obligatory croissant.

Are the French a little too sure of their culinary heritage? In any case, 39% of them consider the culinary experience to be the top criterion during a trip in France, while on average respondents listed the French gastronomic experience as their third selection criterion after visiting the Eiffel Tower and historical sites.

The French are certainly still very focused on good food since, in response to the question asking what they would do if they were given €20,000 to plan their stay, 41% (vs. the average of 34%) said they would go to a Michelin-starred restaurant.

## #breakfastlovers

Among the services offered in hotels, **it is breakfast that makes travelers misty eyed: 48% of respondents across all nationalities were sad not to be able to enjoy this tasty treat when they return home.**

Here, the gender difference was significant, with 53% of women enjoying a genuine moment of relaxation at breakfast, compared with 43% of men.

## Going off the beaten track, or not

It's possible to travel with the aim of finding out about new cuisines while still missing your own when you're a long way from home. This is particularly the case for Chinese travelers, 66% of whom said they traveled to enjoy local specialties with 69% saying they missed their own culinary customs.

For European travelers, the trend reversed with 45% stating they could do without their own cuisine for the duration of the trip. The percentage is particularly high for the British, with 36% not even thinking about it, obviously 😊. As for the millennials, are culinary customs second nature to them? At any rate, 37% of them said so: yes, they missed their culinary habits when traveling! Just 21% of them said they didn't think about them at all when far from home...

The latest innovative service is "Les petits déjeuners en grand" by Novotel:

Novotel has revamped its breakfast with a new concept "Les petites déjeuners en grand" by Novotel. Innovations include:

- ✓ Baguettes by Frédéric Lalos, voted best artisan in France
- ✓ A selection of specialty breads and cakes
- ✓ Fresh fruit in segments
- ✓ Homemade flavored waters
- ✓ A large selection of Kusmi teas
- ✓ Fluffy scones
- ✓ Waffles you can toast on the spot
- ✓ Fried eggs you can cook yourself to your own taste
- ✓ Cottage cheese selection with toppings
- ✓ A regional selection showcasing local products and specialties

AccorHotels recently launched the platform **Restaurants by AccorHotels<sup>2</sup>**, which will suggest 3,600 eateries to Internet users, with the option to reserve more than 500 of them online.

The latest AccorHotels restaurants to discover include:

- ✓ Sous les Etoiles, the bistro-inspired restaurant at the ibis Paris Bastille.
- ✓ Le 16/9e, the restaurant and lounge bar at the Mercure Boulogne
- ✓ Le Blossom, the new restaurant at the Sofitel Paris le Faubourg

**>> You will find details of these key figures in the graphics attached to this email.**

<sup>1</sup>Online study conducted by AccorHotels.com with the support of the © GfK 2017 market research institute, with 5,939 men and women aged between 18 and 65 who have spent at least one night in a paying establishment (hotel, guesthouse, Bed & Breakfast, etc.) over the past 12 months. Study conducted between April 27 and May 11, 2017 in France, the UK, Germany, USA, UAE, Argentina, Brazil, China, India and Australia).

<sup>2</sup>Restaurants by AccorHotels platform: <https://restaurants.accorhotels.com>

#### ABOUT ACCORHOTELS

AccorHotels is a world-leading travel & lifestyle group and digital innovator offering unique experiences in more than 4,200 hotels, resorts and residences, as well as in over 10,000 of the finest private homes around the globe. With its dual expertise as an investor and operator, AccorHotels operates in 95 countries. Its portfolio includes internationally renowned luxury brands such as Raffles, Sofitel Legend, SO Sofitel, Sofitel, Fairmont, onefinestay, MGallery by Sofitel, Pullman and Swissôtel, the mid-range boutique hotel brands 25hours, Novotel, Mercure, Mama Shelter and Adagio, and very popular budget brands such as JO&JOE, ibis, ibis Styles and ibis budget, as well as the regional brands Grand Mercure, The Sebel and hotelF1. AccorHotels provides innovative services to travelers, throughout their entire journey, notably through the recent acquisition of John Paul, the leading concierge service worldwide.

Boasting an unrivalled range of brands and a rich history dating back some five decades, AccorHotels has a global team of more than 250,000 committed women and men investing all their energy into making "Feel Welcome" resonate as the finest hotel promise. Guests have access to one of the world's most attractive hotel loyalty programs - Le Club AccorHotels.

AccorHotels plays an active role in the local communities where it operates and is actively involved in promoting sustainable development and solidarity through PLANET 21, a comprehensive program bringing together employees, clients and partners in order to ensure sustainable growth.

Accor SA shares are listed on the Euronext Paris stock exchange (ISIN: FR000120404) and traded in the United States on the OTC market (Ticker: ACRYF).

For further information or to make a reservation, please visit [accorhotels.group](http://accorhotels.group) or [accorhotels.com](http://accorhotels.com). Or join and follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

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