

3 New Hotel Openings: Tampa's Epicurean Hotel, New York's Hotel Boutique and the Grand Residences Riviera Cancun

by [Zach Everson](#) 

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Epicurean Hotel

Tampa, Florida's food-centric Epicurean Hotel, the Hotel Boutique at Grand Central in New York City and the Grand Residences Riviera Cancun highlight the world's recent hotel openings.

Tampa Florida: Epicurean Hotel

While its grand opening extravaganza isn't until Jan. 17-19, [this 137-room food-centric boutique hotel](#) (pictured in the illustration at top) opens this Wednesday. Its culinary commitment extends beyond Élevage, its New American restaurant headed by 2012 James Beard Best Chef South semifinalist Chad Johnson, and Edge Social Drinkery on the hotel's roof – guests also can take classes in subjects like sustainable winemaking, tea blending and Super Bowl party preparation at the hotel's Epicurean Theater. Rooms start at \$179.

New York City: Hotel Boutique at Grand Central

This [100-room full-service](#) (stop giggling, that phrase probably doesn't mean what you think it does) hotel opened earlier this month across the street from New York City's Grand Central Terminal. According to a press release, its 100 or so rooms are "specifically designed to cater to the needs of the frequent business traveler, millennial traveler or the tourist desiring to be in the heart of Midtown." So, pretty much everyone.

Many rooms feature dining/living/work space with wrap-around sectional seating, a desk chair and swiveling table. Many rooms also offer floor-to-ceiling outer glass with views south to the Chrysler Building, east to Grand Central or north to the East Side's skyline. Rates start at \$155.

Mexico: Grand Residences Riviera Cancun

Located between Cancun and Playa del Carme, the all-suite [Grand Residences Riviera Cancun](#) opened on Dec. 7, [Hotel Chatter reports](#). Inspired by Mexico's *haciendas* (plantations), the beachfront resort offers four pools, with some of the two- and three-bedroom suites having access to a terrace pool. The resort is also close to the world's second largest barrier reef and a nature reserve. Rooms start at \$289.

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