

## 10 Architecturally Stunning Hotel Pools

*From Switzerland to the Caribbean, these pool views are beautiful whether you're looking in or gazing out.*

When it comes to hotel design, building architecture tends to get a lot of the glory. But even as hotels and resorts up the ante with dramatic skyscrapers, charming farmhouses, and overwater bungalows, exteriors aren't the only eye-catching structures to pay attention to.

Take, for example, the **humble hotel pool**. While in many cases, it's simply a tiled rectangle, at some hotels, they come in intricate shapes, complete with features made from materials like quartzite stone, marine-grade steel plates, and shiny black granite. Many are designed by award-winning architects, from Bill Bensley to Peter Zumthor, who draw inspiration from places as diverse as ancient ramparts, a rainwater reservoir, and **Angkor Wat temple** in Cambodia. These are the most stunning architectural hotel pools to take a dip in around the world.



Cristobal Palma/Courtesy Vik Retreats

## Playa Vik Jose Ignacio, Uruguay

This dramatic, cantilevered pool is at **Playa Vik Jose Ignacio**, 93 miles from the capital of Montevideo in Uruguay. The **boutique beach house** escape opened in 2009 and is focused around art, and the pool is a towering, swimmable sculpture designed by Carrie and Alex Vik in collaboration with Uruguayan architect Carlos Ott. The 75-foot cantilevered pool is made of Uruguayan black Absolute Nero granite and stretches out past the terrace to hover 32 feet over the beach below. The pool also features a fiber-optic light celestial map of the Southern Hemisphere's night sky, created by small optic light points set within the pool floor.