

AFAR

52 Places to Travel in the U.S. This Year

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The compact bar at the new Belden House & Mews, in Litchfield, Connecticut, is done up in an attention-grabbing shade of green. Courtesy of Belden House & Mews

Connecticut: Check into a historic mansion

Set in the forested hills of northwestern [Connecticut](#), Litchfield welcomed a new hotel this spring that perfectly captures its pastoral sophistication. [Belden House & Mews](#) merges an 1888 Colonial Revival mansion with an 1891 firehouse and a 1959 modernist building. The interiors are by Champalimaud Design (founder Alexandra Champalimaud is a town resident), and each of the 31 rooms offers guests a chance to celebrate area craftspeople: Items like ceramic lamps, grass-cloth wall coverings, and four-poster beds were created in studios mere minutes away. Particularly lovely is the jewel box bar, done up in a vibrant green that evokes snap peas and leafy trees on a summer morning. —ND