METHODOLOGY

BEST BANG FOR YOUR BUCK
(VALUE)

Hotwire enables more trips with their mystery Hot Rate deals which save you up to half off listed rates, or even more when you book last minute! And this year, the Quickie Index lists cities where you’ll find 4- and 5-star hotels that offer more amenities and more bang for your buck, based on the following factors:

- **Lowest average 4- and 5-star hotel daily rate** (based on overall average daily rates of Hotwire Hot Rates in 2020)
- **High 4- and 5-star hotel demand** (based on total number of Hot Rate room nights booked on Hotwire in 2020)
- **Biggest last-minute savings on 4- and 5-star hotels** (based on difference in average hotel daily rate of Hotwire Hot Rates in 2020 booked 8 days or more from arrival vs within 7 days)

EASE OF ARRIVAL
( DRIVEABILITY)

For a true quickie getaway, minimizing the time needed to actually get to your destination is paramount to maximizing the fun! With more travelers looking to stay local, the Quickie Index factored in:

- **The shortest drive time for the most people** (We looked at the total population within a 250 mile radius of the destination to find those cities that are within driving distance for the greatest number of people)

THINGS TO DO
(LEISURE)

Having a quickie is all about having a little fun. The Quickie Index ranks destinations offering a wide variety of entertainment options that cater to all traveler types to ensure a great time, such as:

- **Greatest number of restaurants** (based on Tripadvisor)
- **Most things to do** (sites and attractions based on Tripadvisor)
- **Fewest number of rainy days per year** (based on NOAA data)
SCORING

To create the third annual “America’s Best Cities for a Quickie” Index, Hotwire analyzed over 10,000 internal and external data points and more than 350 cities based on value, driveability, and leisure. For 2021, Hotwire focused specifically on 4- and 5-star properties - those with the most-wanted amenities for a truly leveled-up experience.

Each destination received a maximum of 15 points in each of the three categories (and seven subcategories). From this, an average weighted score was calculated, and the cities categorized by size and ranked by score.

The average score was weighted as follows:

**VALUE - 40%**
**DRIVEABILITY - 20%**
**LEISURE - 40%**

Known for their mystery Hot Rate deals, Hotwire wants to make it easy and affordable for anyone to take an unexpected trip, which is why the experts in last-minute travel ranked the best US cities to make it a quickie … getaway, that is!