

Choosing the right hotel for your vacation

Whether you are vacationing for two weeks in the Caribbean or simply spending a night in New York on a business trip, selecting the right hotel can make all the difference. A good hotel can make your vacation worth it and a bad hotel can turn the vacation into a nightmare. Since every traveler has different needs when searching for a hotel, you need to ask yourself what's more important for you? Also, before you begin to search, just figure out that what type of accommodation you want and how much you can afford to spend. Here are some tips on how to select the right hotel.

The first step you can take is to visit hotel search engines for guest ratings. Reading the guest ratings and comments will give you a fair idea about what to expect from hotels located in the destination you are traveling to. Make sure you read a few comments in order to get a fair overview, give more preference to the recent ones. Another way to learn about the hotel is to call them directly and ask them a few questions. How the staff speaks to its customers can tell you a lot about the hotel itself, and whether it is the right hotel for you.

Also, gather all relevant details about the hotel's exact location. Booking a hotel in the city center or next to the beach will be more expensive, than out in the suburbs. Use MapQuest and other online tools to pinpoint the hotel's location in relation to where you want to be. If you don't check out the location you might end up not enjoying your holiday as much as you would have liked.

Hotel rates are yet another important factor when it comes to selecting a hotel. However, paying more doesn't always mean that you get better service and standards. One of the ways to maximize profit is to check whether that hotel is a part of an alliance with flights or car rental companies, which offer discounts to customers of their allies. At times, credit card companies offer their cardholders with exclusive rates on some of the hotels. Additionally, if it's possible to use your frequent flyer miles to redeem hotel discounts, this will also help you to reduce your hotel costs. Many hotel sites offer special discounts for those who book online.

Most importantly, know all the of the hotel's rules. If you are traveling with pets, be sure that the hotel allows pets. Find out how much time does the hotel require for cancellation of your reservations? If you are booking online, be sure to find out whether your credit card will be charged immediately or whether you will pay at check-in or check-out. With a little research and careful planning, you will be assured of an outstanding hotel deal!

About the Author

Cindy B is a travel writer for OneTravel.com and writes articles with special focus on finding best hotels, discount hotel rates and discount hotel reservations and affordable vacation packages online. Cindy finds great pleasures in visiting new places and learning about them.

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