

FOOD&WINE

The Best Dog-friendly Hotels in the U.S.

By [Nina Ruggiero](#) | July 01, 2019



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Long gone are the days when traveling with your dog meant being forced to stay at roadside motels with stained carpets and questionable odors. Today, hotels at all price points are putting the “friendly” in pet-friendly by not only *allowing* dogs, but pampering them as much as (if not even more than) their humans.

At the Bobby Hotel in Nashville and Montage Palmetto Bluff in Bluffton, South Carolina, a resident pooch oversees the lobby. At La Posada de Santa Fe in New Mexico and Baron’s Cove in Sag Harbor, New York, pups are greeted with local treats and able to frolic in private, fenced-in outdoor spaces. At the Dream Hollywood in Los Angeles, they can indulge in a box of Sprinkles Pupcakes and relax in their own mini bathrobe, and at L’Auberge de Sedona in Arizona, they can snooze by a fireplace in their plush dog bed before a day of sniffing around by the creek.

My golden retriever, Cali, spent much of her first few months of life hanging around the *Travel + Leisure* office, so when we set out on a cross-country road trip together, I decided it was time to put her to work. She may not be able to write a review, but if she could, I think she would agree with my conclusion that there are some key features that place the best dog-friendly hotels above the rest:

- Proximity to parks and dog-friendly activities
- Accessible outdoor space – bonus points if it’s enclosed and they can roam free
- Amenities that make them feel at home, be it a dog bed and water bowl or treats and a toy upon arrival
- A dog-friendly restaurant on site or nearby
- A bathtub (or better yet, an outdoor shower) for when adventuring gets messy
- A pet-loving staff

Cali tested (and, from what I can tell, highly approved of) many of the properties that made our list herself, and I learned that if you’re lucky enough to have a dog who travels well, bringing him or her along can give your vacation a huge boost. Traveling with a pet gives you a built-in excuse to talk to the locals and to spend more time outdoors exploring by foot, and it guarantees you a more enthusiastic greeting – and cuter photos – everywhere you go.

Below are Cali’s picks (and mine) for the best dog-friendly places to stay in the U.S.

Note: Some hotels charge an additional fee or deposit, block off specific rooms for guests with pets, or offer pet packages seasonally, so it’s always important to call ahead if you’re checking in with a four-legged guest. Typically, hotels do not allow pets to be left unattended, so it’s important to plan pet-friendly activities as well.

Washington School House Hotel: Park City, UT

washingtonschoolhouse
Washington School House Hotel

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The Washington School House is run by dog owners, and guests will be able to tell: the boutique hotel built in an 1889 school house provides pet beds, bowls, and is happy to help accommodate a dog's needs. Steps from Main Street, it's the perfect base for exploring Park City and its many pet-friendly shops. Although the area is known for its skiing, there are plenty of opportunities for outdoor fun in summertime too, including the ponds of Deer Valley, where you can kayak or stand-up paddleboard and then take your pup for lunch on the scenic deck at Deer Valley Grocery Café.

To book: [hotels.com](https://www.hotels.com)