

# 7 TIPS FOR SAVING CASH ON HOTEL ROOM STAYS

POSTED BY GUEST POST ON NOV 24, 2013 IN TRAVEL | 0 COMMENTS

(Guest post from [Getaroom.com](http://Getaroom.com), co-Founder, Bob Diener)

While going on a trip is exhilarating, searching to find the best hotel room and best rate can be exhausting. Finding the right room means booking early and using all of the tools at your disposal to locate those great hotels that offer clean rooms, good service, and amenities, all without destroying your travel budget.



We present seven tips for travelers looking to book like a pro:

1. **Book well before your departure date for the best deals on your hotel stay.** Rates are lower if booked at least seven or 21 days in advance, and you also are more likely to get a room at your preferred hotel before it fills up. The same guidelines apply to airfare which are typically lower priced if booked early.
2. **Shop the right way for your room.** Not all online booking sites are the same. Some, such as [Getaroom.com](http://Getaroom.com), offer unpublished rates that are up to 60% off the regular rate for select hotels. You should also look at alternative dates for your trip to see what days of the week are typically on sale. This can be especially important for markets such as Las Vegas, where prices are lower from Monday to Thursday, compared to Friday to Sunday.

3. **Look beyond just the national hotel chain brands.** Consider all of your options because independent hotels have to try harder to grab your business, with lower rates, better amenities, and enhanced service. Choosing an independent hotel might also help you miss the dreaded “resort fees” which can tack on an extra \$25 to \$40 a night on top of your current rate.
4. **Traveling with kids?** Seek out hotels that feature “kids stay free” rates to save some extra cash. It might also pay to book a larger suite with a sofa bed or cots instead of an adjoining room, especially when you have to manage littler kids. Free continental breakfasts can also be good values and take off some of the pressure of eating in a more formal setting.
5. **Don’t ignore patterns of bad reviews.** While some travelers are unfairly harsh in their hotel reviews, you shouldn’t ignore complaints that appear in multiple reviews. If you see several comments about cleanliness or noise issues, then you should probably look elsewhere. Sometimes four or even three-star reviews are better than a mix of fives and ones, especially when you just need a clean place to shower and rest your head.
6. **Traveling internationally?** Look at countries and cities that aren’t doing too well financially or have an attractive exchange rate that will help your dollar go much farther. You can find some great deals at such locales.
7. **Avoid the crowds at all costs by choosing to travel during your destination’s off season.** Go to Las Vegas right after New Year’s, or visit Chicago in March. Check your destination for the presence of big conventions which might be in town which will artificially drive up rates. Staying at a hotel can be an exciting part of getting away. It provides a chance to relax somewhere new and order room service. Finding the perfect room and rate shouldn’t be a challenge; it just takes some know-how and diligence to do the research before booking.