

# DEPARTURES

## Hotels with Local Followings

WEB EXCLUSIVE



© Courtesy of Atelier Ace by Spencer Lowell

By Sasha Levine  
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From bustling rooftop bars to chic lobby shops, hotels are creating vibrant public spaces to attract homegrown attention.

A hotel's main mission may be to house transient visitors from far and wide, but these days—arguably more than ever—they're also directing some of their efforts into making good with the city's locals.

Whether it's providing quality coffee in the morning at the High Line Hotel in New York, comfortable space for high-powered business meetings at Jumeirah Emirates Towers in Dubai, a mix of boutique shopping experiences at The Joule in Dallas or a daytime gathering over beers at Ace Hotel's terrace bar in Los Angeles, hotels are carving out spaces—often in their lobbies—for visitors and their local counterparts to interact.

"A hotel's lobby is its heart and soul," says [Sean MacPherson](#), the mind behind the Jane, Bowery and Marilton hotels. "Ultimately, the only way to give a building life is to animate it with interesting people. Attracting locals to one's hotel brings part of the city inside."

Here, we explore eight hotels that create communities even a city's natives can call their own.



© Courtesy of The High Line Hotel

## The High Line Hotel, New York

At this recently opened hotel in Chelsea (first constructed as student housing for the General Theological Seminary next door), the guest check-in area takes up all of a few square feet of space. The rest of the charming Roman & Williams–designed lobby is dedicated to **Intelligentsia Coffee**’s first East Coast outpost by day and a bar serving wine and beer by night. And while the handsome nook is a popular spot for regulars in search of a caffeine boost, it’s the hotel’s two outdoor spaces that

have been calling locals during their after-work hours. Just this summer, the hotel turned its substantial front courtyard and garden into Champagne Charlie’s—an outdoor lounge and restaurant serving small plates (oysters, crudos, salads), spirits, beer and a selection of premium Champagnes and wines. For a quieter, more contemplative atmosphere, neighbors know to retreat through the lobby to the back courtyard for peace and quiet not often found in Manhattan. It’s there, with a weekend newspaper in hand, that the pleasures of a cloistered community truly set in. *180 Tenth Ave.*; 212-929-3888; [thehighlinehotel.com](http://thehighlinehotel.com).

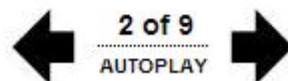


© Courtesy of Rosewood Hotels

## Rosewood Sand Hill, Palo Alto, California

There may be no better place in Silicon Valley to witness the next big digital development in the making than at the Rosewood Sand Hill, thanks to its prime location on what’s been affectionately dubbed “VC Lane.” (Sand Hill Road houses most of the area’s major venture capital firms and tech start-ups. It’s also conveniently located right off of 280, the major highway that funnels people to and from headquarters.) Day or night, find these tech-savvy locals—along with California’s

version of “ladies who lunch”—at the Michelin-starred restaurant and bar, Madera, whose year-round terrace affords views of the Santa Cruz Mountains (and a welcome break from computer screens). For a swankier setting indoors, pick a couch in the Library, a handsomely upholstered lounge that feeds into both the bar and patio areas. *2825 Sand Hill Rd.*; 650-561-1500; [rosewoodhotels.com](http://rosewoodhotels.com).





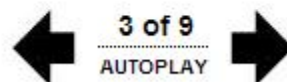


© Courtesy of Jonathan Zizzo

Kitsuné, 3.1 Phillip Lim, Suno) and Traffic LA (Alexander McQueen, Gareth Pugh, Margiela); evening cocktails from the lobby bar; and dinner at the much-acclaimed Texas brasserie CBD Provisions. 1530 Main St.; 214-748-1300; [thejouledallas.com](http://thejouledallas.com).

## The Joule, Dallas

This recently expanded boutique hotel has outfitted its lobby with plenty to distract locals. Now extending the length of an entire city block (from Commerce Street to Main Street), The Joule houses enough retail and dining opportunities for an entire day's worth of activities. That includes snacking on house-made pastries and freshly brewed pour-overs at Weekend Coffee; browsing glossy hardcover books at the sleek Taschen Library; shopping at men's and women's contemporary designer boutiques TenOverSix (Maison

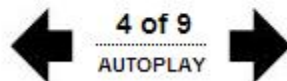


© Courtesy of Annie Schlechter

communal table, settling into the couches for a midday lunch meeting (meals are facilitated by Margaux in the back), working remotely from their laptops at a low table or posted up at the red leather bar for an early evening drink. 5 W. Eighth St.; 212-321-0100; [marltonhotel.com](http://marltonhotel.com).

## The Marlton, New York

Everything that hotelier Sean MacPherson touches instantly turns to gold (consider the success of both the Jane and Bowery hotels among visitors and New Yorkers alike). His latest project, The Marlton in **Greenwich Village**, is no exception, with locals clamoring for a spot at the tiny espresso bar (brewing Ferndell) and in well-appointed living areas. Find the downtown set occupying the petite, though exceedingly charming, space morning till night—sorting through the morning papers at the

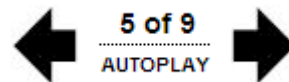




© Courtesy of Jumeirah International

## Jumeirah Emirates Towers, Dubai

In the heart of Dubai's commercial business district, the lobby of the five-star Jumeirah Emirates Towers never stops bustling. There—among granite and marble flooring, leather sofas and suede chairs—the city's international power set congregates over lunch (Caesar salad, croque monsieur, vegetarian tapas) or tea. And while the pair of knife-like skyscrapers may host 400 accommodations for transitory visitors and businesspeople alike, no guest can arrive at the glass elevators before passing through the hub of activity happening on the ground floor. 312th Rd. (Sheikh Zayed Rd.); 971-4/330-0000; [jumeirah.com](http://jumeirah.com).





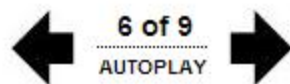


© Courtesy of St. Regis Hotels

## The St. Regis, Washington, D.C.

The bar at the St. Regis in Washington, D.C., has long been attracting people off the Hill once the day is done, but with a recent update to the bar's swanky interior, including new archway doors that open into the elegant lobby space, there's even more reason for established politicians and youthful aspirants to flock to the hotel for a pricey cocktail. That includes, of course, the **Thornwillow Library**, installed in 2011 in partnership with the limited-edition publisher,

bespoke stationer and custom bookbinder Thornwillow Press. The grand space now blends a curated collection of handcrafted leather books, Thornwillow publications, art, library accessories and fine stationery with comfortable, elegant seating—meaning locals can enjoy a spot of tea, espresso or fine whiskey in the comfort of sophisticated one-of-kind items. 923 16th St. NW; 202-638-2626; [stregiswashingtondc.com](http://stregiswashingtondc.com).





© Courtesy of Atelier Ace by Spencer Lowell

## Ace Hotel, Los Angeles

Wherever Ace Hotel lays its foundation, the locals quickly come flocking. That's as true for its new downtown Los Angeles location (situated in the old United Artists Theatre building) as it is for any other. The hotel's rooftop in particular has no shortage of pull when it comes to PYTs looking for a hip place to catch up with friends. Luckily, the footprint of this indoor/outdoor space is quite large—and includes a concrete, Donald Judd-inspired swimming pool—so views of the city below as well as the building's gorgeous Spanish Gothic architecture above require little competition. The hotel is so committed to Los Angelenos that it has even launched Lunch Beers, an event in collaboration with Innovative Leisure that blends beer and vinyl tunes on the last Friday of every month (2 p.m.–7 p.m.). 929 S. Broadway; 213-623-3233; [acehotel.com/losangeles](http://acehotel.com/losangeles).





© Courtesy of Mandarin Oriental

employees (the headquarters of Time Warner, ABC and CNN are all a stone's throw away) taking business meetings on the plush couches and unwinding with a cocktail after work. *80 Columbus Cir.*; 212-805-8809; [mandarinoriental.com](http://www.mandarinoriental.com).

## Mandarin Oriental, New York

Set in Manhattan's bustling Columbus Circle, the Mandarin Oriental hotel is known by travelers for the choice vistas of the Hudson River, Central Park and city skyline that its guest rooms afford. For New Yorkers, however, the lobby lounge—set 35 floors above the bustling streets below—provides an equally covetable view, day or night. With a full menu for breakfast, lunch and dinner (and afternoon tea service in between), it bustles all day long with nearby media-industry



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# DEPARTURES

March 23, 2016

## Top Ultra-Quiet Hotels

By Adam H. Graham, Nikkitha Bakshani

**The very best properties for a good night's rest.**



Jesse David Harris

In big cities, a room of one's own may be easy to find, but peace and quiet is rarely a guarantee. Thankfully, hotels from New York to Bangalore, Mexico City to Paris have gone the extra mile to keep urban sounds out and serenity in, just when guests need the silence most.

For some properties, location is everything, and a quiet corner in a bustling locale can make all the difference. But in places where calm is a rarity and extra measures are required, properties turn to clever architectural and decorating tricks, which double as plush design details—think: sound-absorbing fabrics (velvet, leather, cotton), extra-thick doors and windows, and bedside buttons that de-activate the phone and doorbell.

Whether you're looking for a quiet place to recharge or simply seeking a good night's sleep after a day of sightseeing, you can leave those earplugs at home—you won't need them in these sanctuaries.



# The High Line Hotel, New York



Jesse David Harris

Formerly the student living quarters at the still-operating General Theological Seminary in New York's Chelsea neighborhood, The High Line Hotel retains the quiet peacefulness of its origins—even with a retrofitted 1963 Citroën H-Van dishing out Intelligentsia coffee from the spacious courtyard out front. It's a small hotel, with only 60 rooms (each equipped with handsome furniture and dark velvet curtains), but those looking for extra serenity should request a room facing the hotel's tranquil, Sycamore-filled back garden, which borders the existing seminary. In the warmer months, the hotel's romantic, seasonal Alta Linea bar and restaurant keeps to a low chatter, even at full capacity, and their small lobby bar closes down at 11 p.m. In a city with robust nightlife everywhere you look, these are welcome details for those seeking R & R. *Rooms, from \$510; 180 Tenth Ave.; 212-929-3888; [thehighlinehotel.com](http://thehighlinehotel.com).* —NB

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