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Room With a View: The Best Hotel Views Around the World



From cufflinks to cattle, hotels have got you covered.



It used to be that **yoga mats** and, maybe, **a bike** were the only things on offer from the hotel reception, beyond forgotten toiletries. But these days hotels are a little more generous. Many are looking to elevate your on-property experience by letting you borrow all sorts of things; some of them are quite useful, but there are others you probably didn't know your vacation even needed. Here, some of the more out-of-the-ordinary offerings from hotels' loaner departments.

Fresh threads

If you're a man on the go faced with a fashion emergency, you're in luck. A surprisingly large number of hotels are equipped with at-the-ready wardrobes for your very own rent-the-runway experience. The recently opened **Detroit Foundation Hotel**, for example, partnered with local tailors **1701 Bespoke** to offer guests made-to-measure suits and shirts. But if you're interested in something more temporary (maybe a meeting popped up out of nowhere), there's also a selection of pin-stripe shirts and classic navy blazers that you can borrow for free during your stay. In **Washington D.C.**, **The Darcy** has a similar collaboration with **Read Wall** for an on-site haberdashery, except what's on-loan is limited to seasonal accessories (ties, cufflinks, and pocket squares, for example).

Across the street at **Kimpton Mason & Rook Hotel**, there's a dedicated watch concierge who can help both men and women pick a free loaner from its collection of timepieces from Detroit-based heritage label Shinola. There are eight

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Tech to handle every worry (or whim)

You shouldn't need to be told when to put more **sunscreen** on, but when you're in full relaxation mode on an **island**, it's admittedly an easy task to forget. Thankfully for you and your skin, the **W Retreat & Spa, Vieques Island** loans its guests the clever Netatmo June, a stylish bracelet that measures UV rays and monitors sun exposure as you're laying out by the pool or beach. When you connect the Fitbit-like device to its app, you'll receive a phone notification when it's time to reapply the SPF.

Meanwhile, far from the beach in Denver, **HALCYON – a Hotel in Cherry Creek** has something called a Gear Garage, which is packed with enticing goodies free for guests to borrow while they're checked in: grab a **Vespa**, tandem bike, a GoPro (so you can chronicle that bike ride), kites, fly fishing rods, or even a Bocce ball set, because you never know when you'll get that craving for a pickup game.

A cow. Yes, we're serious.

For those who think there are no more surprises to be had in rules-gripped Switzerland, get this: **Gstaad Palace**, in the Alps, will loan its guests milking cows. Through a partnership with a nearby family-owned organic farm, staying at the Palace will now afford you the opportunity to rent a cow for the entire summer (or even longer). What, pray, do you need a cow for? During your stay, you can visit the farm and get to know your cow, and it might even be possible for you to partake in milking activities, but what you're really getting out of this program is fabulous cheese. Unlike the rest of the perks mentioned above, this one isn't free: 200 Swiss Francs (\$207) will get you over 22 pounds of Alpine cheese from your borrowed bovine. ✦

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