

## What is your ideal Staycation?

Staycations have become increasingly popular as airports become more difficult to deal with, gas prices increase, and getting away for a week at a time can be difficult. Staycations are ideal for a weekend get-away in a not-so-far-away neighborhood.

For me, a staycation must include a few necessary details:

1. **Amazing Food.** I am always looking for the hot new restaurants with innovative menus. I like to experience new cuisines and different takes on traditional menu items.
2. **Pool.** Growing up with a pool, I took the accessibility of having an easy way to cool off and relax for granted. Now, I love finding a clean, cool pool where I can take a quick dip or swim a few laps.
3. **Night Life.** I'm usually a home-body so the opportunity to get out and put on my dancing shoes instantly turns a regular night into a vacation. I enjoy a fun bar with great drinks and a killer DJ.
4. **Pet Friendly.** As nice as it is to leave all responsibilities behind when you go on vacation, I hate to leave my beloved dog behind. Boarding my pooch is never an option so if I can bring her with me, all the better!

After experiencing a weekend get away at the W Los Angeles - Westwood, I am now a believer in staycations! The W Hotel not only satisfied the items on my checklist, but surpassed them! This all-suite luxury boutique hotel has the comfortable suites you crave without all the hassle of some other LA hotels.

The first thing I noticed at the W was the incredibly helpful staff. From the moment I drove up to the parking garage, a team of people happily greeted me and assisted me with my luggage. Being that I had my dog with me, I didn't have extra hands to deal with my luggage and gear so it was nice to have such a friendly team helping me with my bags.

Checking in was a breeze. I had all my confirmation paperwork and correspondences handy since sometimes reservations can get lost. This was a non-issue and the W hotel seemed to be eagerly awaiting my arrival. I was relieved when I was asked if I would like someone to bring up dog bowls and a bed for my furry friend. So nice to have fresh new dishes for my dog and the fluffiest dog bed I'd ever seen. Now my dog could really enjoy the vacation, as well!

After kicking off my shoes and changing out of my work clothes, we headed straight for the pool. I was relieved to find that there wasn't a crowd of people in the pool. Being that it was later at night, we had the pool all to ourselves. The pool was slightly heated... cool enough to get some relief from the hot summer day, but comfortable enough not to get chilled in the night air. After basking in the pool for awhile, we had a nice al fresco dinner at The Backyard, the W's outdoor restaurant and pool lounge. The menu had several mouth-watering options leaving me wanting to come back to try everything. I was very impressed that the staff was so accommodating being that the restaurant was due to

stop serving within a few minutes, but they were happy to take our order and they never made us feel rushed. The bartender even made me a custom drink that I had remembered from the hotel's bar years ago (blackberry mojito... highly recommended!!).

Another perk of the W hotel is the incredible Bliss products they use. I stepped out of the shower feeling refreshed and energized. Next up... The Whiskey Blue bar! There was an amazing DJ spinning when we arrived playing our favorite tunes. The bar was lively, but not crowded which was much appreciated. The cocktail menu is amazing! I tried a couple of different cocktails that blew my mind! Innovative and delicious!

I slept incredibly well at night. The beds are heavenly! It was difficult getting up in the morning having slept better than I had in a long, long time. However, the call of breakfast was the motivation I needed to get going. We decided to check out the breakfast in the NineThirty Restaurant. Again, we experienced a variety of scrumptious options and loved our fresh, flavorful breakfasts complete with fresh squeezed juice. Rushed for time? There is also a breakfast bar where you can grab a muffin, yogurt parfait or a piece of fruit.

I finished off my stay at the W Los Angeles - Westwood by relaxing with my book pool-side. The friendly pool staff were on hand to make sure I had sunscreen, water and anything else I could possibly want. I felt completely pampered and comforted.

Even upon my final departure, the garage attendant handed me two bottles of ice-cold water for my drive home... it's the small details that make such a big difference!

I cannot recommend the W Hotel in Westwood enough. Whether you're looking for a perfect staycation, need meeting spaces or recommending the hotel for out of town visitors, this hotel has everything to insure a relaxing and pampered stay.

Ready to book your next staycation?

W Los Angeles - Westwood

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