

Want more sleeping recommendations than we could ever pack into this little ol' book? Craving more detail — including extended reviews and photographs? Want to read reviews by other travellers and be able to post your own? Just make your way over to **lonelyplanet.com/hotels** and check out our thorough list of independent reviews, then reserve your room simply and securely.

SLEEPING

top picks

- Moore Hotel (p176)
- College Inn (p182)
- Edgewater (p177)
- Ace Hotel (p179)
- Sorrento Hotel (p175)

SLEEPING

As in many large cities, sleeping options are plentiful and varied in Seattle. Want to drive up to a motor inn and park your beater where you can see it through the window from your mauve-and-blue synthetic-covered bed? You can do that. Rather slink up in a limo and look down your nose as a bellhop lugs your bags to the penthouse suite? You can do that too, as well as pretty much everything in between.

The rates listed in the price guide below are what you can expect to pay in peak season – generally May through August. Be aware, though, that prices can vary wildly depending on day of the week and whether there are festivals or events going on in town. Seattle hotel rooms are also subject to a room tax of 15.6% (less for most B&Bs and historical properties) that will

be tacked on to the final bill. The rates listed here don't include tax.

Essentially all downtown hotels charge extra for parking, if they have it. It's been said half the population of Portland, Oregon, consists of people who couldn't find a place to park in Seattle and, searching in ever-widening circles, eventually wound up in Portland, where they stayed. Many hotels downtown don't offer parking but can direct you to paid lots nearby. Our reviews note whether parking is available; usual rates start around \$20 a night. If there's no picon in the review, you're on your own. Look for street meters and paid parking garages downtown, or off-street parking elsewhere.

Many hotels charge extra for high-speed wireless internet service, usually \$9 to \$15 a day, but

most also have a computer available in the lobby for guests to use free of charge.

Booking ahead is wise at any time of year but essential during summer (June to August) and around the more popular festival times (see Festivals, p16).

Check-out times vary but are usually 11am or noon, and check-in usually starts between 2pm and 4pm. Most places are flexible if notified ahead of time; definitely call ahead if you're going to arrive late.

Washington state has passed a law banning smoking in public buildings, but hotels are exempt from this; therefore, in the reviews below, the nonsmoking icon (n) means a hotel is 100%

nonsmoking. Every hotel listed offers at least some nonsmoking rooms.

Many downtown hotels participate in Seattle Super Saver Packages (%800-535-7071; www.seattlesupersaver .com), a program run by the Convention & Visitors Bureau. Room prices are generally 50% off the rack rates from November through March, with substantial discounts all year, and they come with a coupon book that offers savings on dining, shopping and attractions.

The Seattle B&B Association (%206-547-1020, 800-348-5630; www.lodginginseattle.com) has a searchable list of affiliated B&Bs. You can also visit Lonely Planet Hotels & Hostels (hotels.lonelyplanet.com) to book Lonely

Planet author-reviewed rooms.

Unless otherwise indicated, prices in this chapter are for a double room, not including tax or extra fees such as parking, breakfast or internet access. Reviews are divided by neighborhood and listed in order of price, from highest to lowest, based on the cheapest room normally available in high season (May to August).

DOWNTOWN & FIRST HILL

Some of the city's coolest, most characterful hotels are downtown, and getting from here to any other part of the city on foot or by public transport is a cinch. If you have a car, things get more complicated: driving the nest of hilly one-way streets is maddening, and you'll need to factor parking fees in to the cost of accommodations. Most of the following hotels offer some kind of parking program

with in-and-out privileges, usually starting at \$20 a day.

FAIRMONT OLYMPIC HOTEL

Map p50

Hotel \$\$\$

%206-621-1700; www.fairmont.com/seattle; 411 University St; r from \$349; paiswc
Built in 1924, the Fairmont Olympic is
listed with the National Register of Historic
Places, so it's not too surprising that it feels
like a museum of old money. Over the
years, remodels to the bathrooms and the