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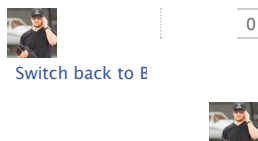
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REVIEW: What Recession? Dogs Live in Luxury at Hollywood's D Pet Hotels

BY SARA HAMMEL
Friday October 16, 2009 07:45 AM EDT



D Pet Hotels/Splash News Online



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A queen-sized bed, 48-inch flat-screen TV, a DVD player and a selection of movies – everything a weary hotel guest needs to spend the night in comfort.

And it's what dogs who check into D Pet Hotels in Hollywood can expect.

From business travelers to vacationers to reality stars to famous rockers (the hotel won't name their clientele for privacy reasons), [D Pet Hotels](#) caters to owners who want their dogs to have all the comforts of home – and then some.

"We wanted to make these suites as close to the home environment as possible," explains owner Alissa Cruz. When asked about TV's in every room – for some, after all, it might seem over the top – she points out, "Most pets are used to the sound of a TV at home."

"And some dogs are known to watch TV. There's no stress here for them."

Stress is further reduced if your pup hits the on-site spa for a bit of pampering, settles in for a Disney movie like *Hotel for Dogs* or *Beverly Hills Chihuahua* or takes in some shopping at the boutique, which stocks top-of-

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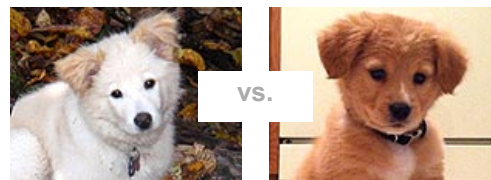
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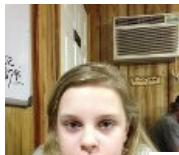
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the-line Chrome Bone-branded products.

By day the dogs get endless playtime, mixing with other canines in the indoor dog park with constant, dog-loving, certified supervisors hanging with them (dogs are separated by size). The hotel will cater to any energy level: a fit young dog can play for 12 hours, while owners of older fellas can design a play/naptime schedule that suits the dog.

"The dogs get social interaction throughout the day," Cruz tells PEOPLEPets.com. "It's amazing what they learn from each other... and they don't miss the owner as much."

The prices are a bit steep compared to standard kennels, but your dog gets a lot more for your money. The basic accommodation is the bowWOW suite, a 4x9-foot room at \$65 per night that comes with a 22-inch flat screen TV and an orthopedic dog bed. (Prices peak at \$110 per night for the Uber suite, with a queen bed and a 48-inch flat screen). Still nervous about leaving a shy, clingy or otherwise socially challenged dog behind with strangers? Cruz sends owners photos of dogs at play, relaxing or hanging with the staff every day you're away.

I checked my foster pit-bull mix, Billy, in for a night. He passed the hotel's temperament test – every dog must have an "interview" to show he can play well with staff and canines -- and loved everything about the hotel, coming home pleasantly exhausted. The downside? Billy didn't want to check out. At D Pet Hotels, you don't drag your dogs IN – you have to drag them OUT.

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kellie pickler (kelliepickler): So exited about playing the @opry tonight! Who's coming?!?
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