Written by Christina Tetreault



There are new properties popping up everywhere for vacationers. Everything from luxurious resorts, to boutique hotels, to no-frills. With no shortage of places to stay, resorts have become creative in order to set themselves apart. One area where resorts are aiming to be different is in the area of guest freebies.

- Happy/Social Hours: Many properties are now dishing out complimentary drinks and small bites during specific morning or evening social hours. Kimpton, for example, features nightly wine receptions from 5 6pm, as well as morning coffee and tea service. In addition, at many Marriott properties around the country, Rewards members have free lounge access offering breakfast, light snacks and beverages for the member and one guest during select hours.
- Fitness Classes and Spa Access: In addition to the traditional fitness room, many resorts have gone far beyond treadmills and ellipticals, offering the latest in fitness equipment and even group classes. Some resorts include access to the fitness or spa facility and classes as part of the daily resort fee, while others allow complimentary access for guests. At the AAA Four Diamond Westin Kierland Resort & Spa, guests may participate in scheduled walking, running and hiking activities for free or attend yoga or other scheduled wellness classes.
- Pet Perks: Resorts are realizing at an increasing rate that guests enjoy bringing their family on trips—including their four-legged
 members. While many properties allow dogs to stay in the guest's room for a small fee, a few resorts allow them to stay for free. The
 AAA Four Diamond Hotel Valley Ho in Scottsdale not only welcomes dogs to stay at no additional charge, they also include a pet
 welcome package upon arrival, which includes food and water bowls, dog treats, and pet clean-up bags.
- "Oops— I Forgot Something:" Shower caps and shampoo are for amateurs. Resorts looking to differentiate themselves from the competition are going a step further in ensuring guest comfort. At Kimpton resorts, for example, travelers who forgot to pack essential toiletries and personal items don't need to sweat it. The resort will happily provide basic items upon request, and usually at no additional fee.

Story By: Kelly Potts

Of course, these are just a few favorite freebies available for guests and should always check to see what's available when booking a hotel. All of these resort freebies are provided by local AAA Diamond properties. For additional tips on AAA Arizona Diamond properties, visit highroads.az.aaa.com/blog.