



# THE FEDROOMS®

Traveler Volume 3 | Issue 3 | August 2008



## HELP DESK

**Hours:** M-F, 7-3:30 CDT  
**Contact:** 1-800-226-1741  
[hotels@fedrooms.com](mailto:hotels@fedrooms.com)

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Attend the upcoming **FedRooms® 101** training webinar (it's free!)

- **Wednesday, September 10, 2008 at 2pm central time.**

Visit the [FedRooms 101](#) link on the traveler page at [FedRooms.com](#) for additional information. FedRooms® will also host private sessions for groups of 15 or more. Contact [krista@fedrooms.com](mailto:krista@fedrooms.com) for details.

## DO HOTELS' "GREEN" INITIATIVES IMPACT YOUR TRAVEL DECISIONS?

Take a moment to give us your feedback with a quick three-question survey!



## QUOTE OF THE QUARTER

"Your website keeps getting better and better!"

-**Federal traveler**, via [FedRooms.com website usability survey](#)

## LOYALTY PROGRAMS FLOURISH IN TIGHT ECONOMY

Wikipedia defines "Loyalty Programs" as structured marketing efforts that reward, and therefore encourage loyal buying behavior. It's no surprise that in today's tight economy, loyalty programs are thriving, and encouraging loyal buyer behavior more than ever before. Travelers are very interested in the perks and benefits that loyalty programs have to offer, and hotel programs are seeing significant increases tied directly to these "loyal" travelers.

FedRooms recognizes this trend, and has made it easier for travelers to join the loyalty programs that are most representative of FedRooms participating properties.



Simply click on the "Loyalty Programs" link on FedRooms.com, link to the loyalty program of your choice, and sign up to start earning points today! From time to time, hoteliers advertise special offers for travelers who register for their program through FedRooms.com. For example, Hilton is currently "fast-tracking" travelers who register for HHonors through FedRooms.com, and Choice is currently offering gas card incentives through Choice Privileges.

## ONLINE IN FLIGHT?

Ever dream of working online from the comfort of your airplane seat? For some travelers, this dream is becoming a reality. That's because airlines are beginning to test and even offer mobile broadband services on select flights. American Airlines launched this service on select flights on August 20, with a fee of \$12.95 per flight. Several other airlines are in the process of testing this service.

Source: [bizjournals.com](#)



## FREE BREAKFAST, HIGH-SPEED INTERNET, AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

Click on posted advertisements from hoteliers and other travel suppliers on [FedRooms.com](#) to learn about special offers and discounts.



Newsletter sponsored by...

CHOICE HOTELS INTERNATIONAL



## EARN DOUBLE POINTS WITH CHOICE PRIVILEGES

Soon you can elect to earn double points.

Join [Choice Privileges](#)® (if you are not already a member) and book a stay at a Choice Hotel®. Earn double points, starting with your second stay, at MainStay Suites®, Suburban Extended Stay®, Econo Lodge® or Rodeway Inn® hotels.

Redeem points for free nights at over 5,500 Choice hotels worldwide, Airline Rewards, gas cards, gift cards and more. This offer is valid between September 1<sup>ST</sup> and November 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2008. Restrictions apply.



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## TIPS FOR TIPPING—HOUSEKEEPING

Frequent travelers know it's wise to keep small bills on hand for customary tips to cab drivers, curbside assistants, concierges, and bellhops. But should this list also include the person who keeps towels stocked, makes the bed, and straightens the room? The answer is yes, and here are some simple guidelines:

- There is no standard, but \$3 to \$5 a night is appropriate. The nicer the hotel, the larger the tip, but use discretion and tip only if the service received warrants it.
- Housekeepers worry about accusations of stealing loose cash, so leave the tip on the pillow with a note that clearly indicates what it is, such as, "For the housekeeper" or simply, "Thanks."
- Consider tipping the housekeeper in person to ensure the right person is receiving the gratuity.

Source: CWT Traveler

## DID YOU KNOW?

You can rate your hotel experiences directly through FedRooms.com! Simply click the "Review Hotel" button after your stay is complete, and fill out the brief survey.

## FEDROOMS® FAQs

- Q:** Can I book rooms for 2009 on FedRooms.com?  
**A:** FedRooms is currently in the process of accepting hotels into the program for 2009. As these hotels are added into the system, 2009 rates will be available through FedRooms.com.
- Q:** Is the FedRooms Rate available for leisure travel?  
**A:** Yes. The FedRooms Rate is available to government employees on leisure travel at approximately 60% of the more than 6,000 participating properties. To access the FedRooms Rate, simply visit [www.fedrooms.com](http://www.fedrooms.com), enter your search criteria, and select "leisure" in the "Filter Search Results" section.

## PROGRAM DETAILS

- There are currently more than 6,500 hotels in the FedRooms® program from around the world.
- Travelers can recommend specific hotels for inclusion in the FedRooms program through the "[Nominate a Hotel](#)" link on FedRooms.com.
- FedRooms® is the official government-wide lodging program managed by the U.S. General Services Administration. (GSA).