



# THE FEDROOMS®

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## ✓ Check-in

### HELP DESK

**Hours:** M-F, 7-3:30 CST

**Contact:** 1-800-226-1741

[hotels@fedrooms.com](mailto:hotels@fedrooms.com)

### EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Want to learn more about FedRooms, the official government-wide lodging program? Attend the upcoming [FedRooms® 101](#) training webinar (it's free!)

- **Tuesday, December 15, 2009 at 2pm central time.**

The webinar is a 1/2 hour overview of the FedRooms program (who can use the program, how to access the FedRooms Rate, etc.), followed by optional Q&A and discussion 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.

### QUOTE OF THE QUARTER

"Initially, I called the hotel, and they stated no government room rates were available.

Selecting the same hotel thru FedRooms.com, I made the reservation and received the per diem rate!"

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

### GIFTS, GOODIES, AND HOLIDAY TRAVEL

The Holiday season is upon us, and it is inevitably filled with gifts, goodies, and air travel-related questions. In light of security restrictions for liquids in carry-on baggage, the TSA released a list of examples of items that should be placed in checked bags, shipped ahead, or simply left at home:

- Cranberry sauce
- Jams/Jellies
- Cologne/perfume
- Lotions
- Creamy dips and spreads
- Maple syrup
- Gift baskets with food items (salsa, jams, etc.)
- Oils/vinegars
- Gravy
- Snowglobes
- Wine, liquor, and beer



Pies, cakes, and other baked goodies can be carried through security checkpoints, but may be subject to additional searches.

Additionally, travelers should wait to wrap gift items until they reach their destination. Security officers may need to unwrap any wrapped items to take a closer look at contents. If travelers plan to wrap gifts upon arrival, it is important to remember that scissors and other sharp objects are not allowed in carry-on luggage. Try carrying a supply of folded gift bags and tissue paper for a quick and easy way to wrap gifts upon arrival.

**Source:** [TSA.gov](#)

### COFFEE TALK: YOUR FEEDBACK FOR A CUPPA JOE



Are you a seasoned FedRooms user? Or perhaps a newbie just getting a feel for how to book the FedRooms Rate? Either way, we'd like to hear how your experiences have been. If you respond to our [brief survey](#) (less than 5 minutes) by December 15, you'll be entered into a drawing to win one of 20 Starbucks gift cards (\$5 value).



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## BAYMONT INN & SUITES WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB

Welcome to the **new** Baymont Inn & Suites-Wright Patterson AFB. When traveling to the **Dayton/Fairborn**, Ohio area no hotel is closer to **Wright Patterson AFB** than the new, award winning Baymont Inn & Suites. For business and government travelers the Baymont Inn & Suites delivers the highest level of comfort, convenience and service.

Close to many local and national restaurants, we are located at I675 and Xenia Road just minutes from Wright Patterson and the local offices of Boeing, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, Computer Science Corporation, Science Applications International Corporation and other government contractors.

### Hotel Amenities

- Earn Wyndham Reward points
- Complimentary hot breakfast buffet
- Complimentary High Speed Internet
- Complimentary Business Center
- Complimentary USA Today
- Complimentary parking
- Complimentary local calls and Fitness Center



## FEDROOMS HAS SAVINGS YOU CAN COUNT ON

In FY10, Federal agencies are looking at ways to travel more for the same amount of money or maintain FY09 travel levels for less money. FedRooms can help. Agencies can achieve measurable savings by encouraging travelers to book the FedRooms Rate at participating hotels when traveling for official business. FedRooms Rates are available in all ETS on-line booking tools, at [fedrooms.com](http://fedrooms.com), and through your travel agent.

FedRooms recently conducted an audit of the top 20 destinations that FedRooms customers travel to most frequently and came up with the following average savings.

- FedRooms Rates were **\$10.78 lower** than a hotel's advertised Government rate
- FedRooms Rates were **\$20.31 lower** than a city's per diem rate cap\*\*
- FedRooms Rates were **\$37.57 lower** than a hotel's advertised Best Available rate

Getting travelers to ask for the FedRooms Rate by name may result in significant savings for your agency. If you or your agency travel manager would like a free electronic tool kit (support GREEN—go electronic) to help cascade the FedRooms message out to your employees, [e-mail us](mailto:info@fedrooms.com).

*\*\*Some numbers were impacted by per diem increases where GOV was increased to new per diem and FedRooms was not. Audited Oct 1, 2009 for travel dates of Oct 12 - 2nights.*

## MORE OF FEDROOMS TO LOVE!

For calendar year 2009, FedRooms accepted nearly 9,000 hotels into the program—all offering FedRooms Rates at or below federal per diem. As of November 24, 2009, nearly 12,000 hotels have submitted requests to participate in the 2010 program, and we receive more requests every day. To date, we have evaluated and accepted more than 5,000 requests—with 2010 participation expected to exceed 2009 numbers.

## FEDROOMS® FAQs

- Q:** I would love to make hotel reservations through FedRooms.com, but how can I be sure it is a secure site?
- A:** Any pages on FedRooms.com that collect personal data, such as credit card information, are hosted on a secure server. While many browsers have ad-ons to identify these secure servers (such as icons, windows directing you to a secure site, etc.), one way you can always be sure you're on a secure server is to look at the web address. Any time the address has an "s" at the end of the "http," you are on a secure server. Here is an example of the FedRooms booking page:

Address <http://www.fedrooms.com/>

- Q:** Why are the drop-down searches on FedRooms.com so slow?
- A:** FedRooms is working with our development team to change the default search criteria on the home page faster and more user friendly. In an upcoming release (scheduled for early 2010), we will roll out a new search function that will capture city and state (typed in by the traveler), which will remove the drop-down search and speed up the process significantly.