

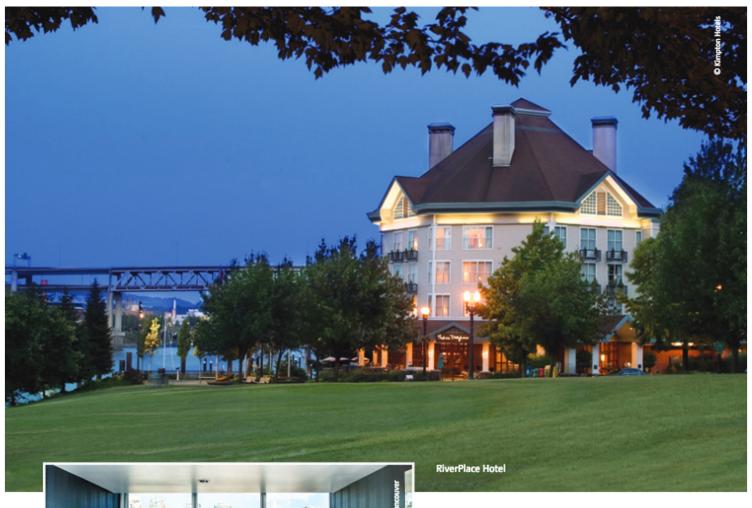
by Allen Cox

Sleek. Chic. Maybe even rustic. Each boutique hotel—whether in the city, in a small town or in the country-has its own distinct personality. And a certain touch of indulgent luxury. All have two things in common: an intimate setting with fewer than 100 guest rooms and an attention to detail that characterizes the ambiance in both public and private spaces. Toss in a staff that genuinely cares about the service each guest receives, and the recipe is complete. On your next getaway, stay at one of these hotels, each very different from the next, to get a true sense of what boutique lodging is all about.

STAY SMALL

Unique Boutique Getaways

50 | January / February 2016 | mwtravelmag.com | January / February 2016 | 51



Signature Suite at Opus Hotel

OPUS HOTEL, VANCOUVER, B.C.

Pushing the room limit (with 96 rooms) that technically defines the scale of boutique lodging, Opus Hotel delivers contemporary, high style and impeccable service. From the moment you arrive and are greeted at reception with a refreshing glass of bubbly, the experience begins. Head to your room to find a big splash of energizing color; room tones vary but generally reflect the bold hues found in retro 70s designs, or, as some prefer to imagine, the colors in a vibrant sunrise. Actually, a touch that color therapists would cheer, guest room décor can match the subtle personality traits of the

guest. For proof, check out the hotel's Virtual Lifestyle Concierge at vancouver.opushotel.com/about/lifestyle-concierge.htm. In tune with guests' tech needs, the hotel provides an iPad 2 in every room for on- and off-property use. Green initiatives abound, from features in guest spaces to behind-the-scenes operations.

Located in the fashionable Yaletown neighborhood immediately adjacent to downtown Vancouver, it's surrounded by restaurants and shops. Several parks on the shores of False Creek are within an easy walk, as are passenger ferry services to get to some of Vancouver's main attractions.

To book an Opus getaway, go online at vancouver.opushotel.com. For information about visiting Vancouver, go to tourismvancouver.com.

RIVERPLACE HOTEL, PORTLAND, OREGON

Besides its AAA Four-Diamond rating, the star at RiverPlace Hotel is its location on a Willamette River promenade in downtown Portland with the massive Governor Tom McCall Riverfront Park as its back yard. The hotel is within walking distance or a short trolley ride to all downtown attractions and dining. But why leave with Three Degrees Restaurant on site, serving satisfying comfort food elevated to the next level? Shareable small

52 | January / February 2016 | nwtravelmag.com