

Perks worth the price: These hotels offer unexpected amenities with the resort fee



As far as we're concerned, we'd love to see [the end of resort fees](#). They're the daily surcharge (its other aliases might be destination fee, amenity fee, etc.) that many hotels add to your stay to cover some of the property's amenities, from the gym and the bottles of water in your room to domestic calls and use of a business center. This amount can range from \$20 to \$70 per night depending on where you're staying – and some properties charge even more. In the past, we've provided tips on [how to get out of having to pay resort fees](#) (thankfully, there are hotels out there that avoid them altogether), but for the most part, if a hotel states this fee, guests must pay.

But they're not all frustrating money grabs – and all hotel resort fees are not created equal. (In 2025, how can Wi-Fi or a gym not be part of a room rate already?) Some resort fees cover unexpected perks and amenities that you may actually want to take advantage of during

your trip. These benefits, if you choose to utilize them, could even make the fee worth the price. Now, depending on your interests and the purpose of your trip, your mileage may vary on what makes a resort-fee perk good value. But a museum as well as fitness-class passes plus free drinks and snacks at the lobby bar could be worth it to someone, right?

Andaz Maui at Wailea Resort



This design-forward 320-room hotel already sits on a pristine 15-acre beachfront estate. And sometimes, that might be all you want out of a Hawaiian vacation. But its \$50 resort fee gets you so much more: guided kayak tours and standup paddleboard lessons are there if you're feeling adventurous; while hula, coconut husking and ukulele sessions are available, too. Fitness enthusiasts will love the twice-daily group fitness classes that this fee covers, too. One of the more surprising benefits is the 45-minute photo shoot around the property with Pacific Dream Photography. The actual photos, however, you will have to purchase.