



New Hotels and Restaurants Around the World

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A Custom Stay in Los Angeles

Custom Hotel. Close enough to LAX to see the runways, the Custom Hotel is a playful and practical re-do of a 12-story, mid-century, modern tower by famed LA architect Welton Beckett (of Hollywood's Capitol Records building and the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion). Playful touches include espresso at check-in, sheep-shaped chairs throughout the lobby, and a pool bar with fire-pit and DJs. Practical are the soundproofed windows, ample bedside lighting, and free LAX shuttle. Close to Marina del Rey, Venice and Manhattan Beach, with a decent public park across the street, the hotel is a welcome addition to the West side. Pros: close to LAX and beach cities; designer interiors. Cons: located at the desolate end of Lincoln Blvd. 8639 Lincoln Blvd. LAX. 310/645-0400 (ph.). www.customhotel.com. 248 rooms, 2 suites. In-room: safe, refrigerator, DVD (some), Wi-Fi. In-hotel: restaurant, room service, bar, pool, gym, laundry service, concierge, public Wi-Fi, airport shuttle, parking (fee), some pets allowed, no-smoking rooms. AE, D, DC, MC, V. Rooms start at \$149.