

# January 2013 Life in the Bike Lane



The Mark Hotel's appropriately chic custom bicycles in NYC's Central Park

One of the best ways to explore a new city, not to mention bask in the pride of being ecoconscious, is to hop on a bike and start pedaling. These hotels will set you up with everything you need for a smooth ride — from comfortable cruisers to curated bike maps to gourmet picnics.

#### ANDAZ WALL STREET, NEW YORK

Admittedly, Wall Street and cruiser bikes are not the most obvious match, especially when the bikes come replete with leather saddles and cute wooden boxes for carrying a picnic. But Andaz isn't your typical Wall Street business hotel, and it turns out that, outside trading hours, the streets clear out for some low-traffic riding.

Book it →

#### THE BURRARD, VANCOUVER

Vancouver's retro-mod Burrard hotel is more pied à terre than pleasure palace, which is fine given its central location amidst downtown's dining, drinking and shopping options. And what better way to explore it all — or to breeze along the city's seawall — than on one of the Burrard's bikes?

Book it  $\rightarrow$ 

#### THE DUPONT CIRCLE HOTEL, WASHINGTON, D.C.

As the only hotel on Dupont Circle, in the heart of a neighborhood better known for bars and restaurants than monuments and museums, the Dupont Circle Hotel has an unusually local feel for the capital. It's also one of a handful of hotels participating in D.C.'s extensive Capital Bike Share program, with bike-stations (and bikes) at the hotel and throughout the city. Book it  $\rightarrow$ 

# THE MARK HOTEL, NEW YORK

Not to be outdone by all those guests whisking away in their town cars, bikers at this posh Upper East Side classic can wheel into Central Park on a designer Republic bike made specially for the hotel. Expect Deco-style black-and-white accents, monogrammed bells, and a gourmet picnic basket with food by Jean-Georges. The concierge has even customized an illustrated bike map of Central Park.

Book it  $\rightarrow$ 

#### HOTEL LINCOLN, CHICAGO

The "Lincoln" in the name here is Lincoln Park, an invitingly leafy expanse that stretches along the shore of Lake Michigan. It's the perfect place to take one of the hotel's two-wheeled loaners for a leisurely spin, away from the traffic of the city, though there's plenty of urban exploring to do, too.

Book it →

# THE DYLAN, AMSTERDAM

The Dutch just might be the most bike-happy people in the world, and nowhere more so than in Amsterdam. The Dylan, in the heart of the city's canal district, keeps an armada of black bicycles parked outside, free for guests to ride to any number of nearby museums, restaurants and shopping districts.

Book it  $\rightarrow$ 

# THE HEYWOOD HOTEL, AUSTIN

Bikes at the seven-room Heywood come in all sorts and sizes, fixies to four-gear city bikes, little to large, and the flat, leafy neighborhood is the perfect place to ride in an already bike-friendly town. The Lady Bird Lake hike- and bike-trail is blocks away, and in addition to the bikes, the hotel provides helmets, locks, and a selection of bike maps. Kathy, the owner and manager, is even working on a bike-friendly scavenger hunt so guests can see her favorite Austin sights. Book it  $\rightarrow$ 

# HOTEL PALOMAR, PHILADELPHIA

They're on a bit of a wellness kick at Philadelphia's Hotel Palomar, with jogging maps, weekly yoga classes and bike rentals all free of charge. It's easy to get nearly anywhere on two wheels from the hotel's Center City location, but for a scenic ride away from the buildings and cars, the hotel's director of finance Rachel McGown loves the nearby eight-mile Kelly Drive loop around the Schuykill River.

Book it  $\rightarrow$