

Snug hotel rooms offer high style for much, much less

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Weary travelers have a new option for easing the pain of a long layover in one of the world's worst airports: Yotel, a low-cost, high-concept "pod hotel" inspired by first-class airline cabins, opens today in Terminal 4 of London's Heathrow.

Yotel, which launched its first property in London's Gatwick Airport this summer, charges from about \$52 for four hours in a standard single "cabin" and \$115 for an overnight stay, a double cabin starts at about \$82 for four hours and \$169 a night.

It's the latest example of a new breed of budget hotels, offshoots of Japan's coffinlike "capsule hotels," that combine snug spaces (rooms are typically 75 to 100 square feet) with tech-conscious design (many feature self-service check-ins, iPod docking stations and free wireless, wall-mounted, flat-screen TVs and adjustable mood lighting).

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