

Wii on vacation? Totally geeked-out, hi-tech hotels

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From Guitar Hero events to HD TVs, guests stay connected and entertained

For years, hotels have prided themselves - and marketed themselves - for their creature comforts and special services, their geographic locations and rooms with a view, all in an attempt to attract, keep and grow their market share. But now, a number of them have come to a new realization about their guests - that we don't really change our lifestyle when we change our location.

As a result, many hotels have embraced the notion of connectivity. No, it's not just providing Wi Fi access in each room. It's going way beyond that. Welcome to the totally geeked out hotels, where technology rules.

In Seattle, the Hotel Monaco, a Kimpton property, now hosts Guitar Hero III tournaments, where geeks and wannabes can rock out every Friday night during the hotel's hosted wine hour from 5PM to 6PM. It has proven to be quite popular among guests. The staff has a list of songs - and their difficulty - on a clipboard and guests take turns trying to beat their best score - or at least try to get through a heavy metal guitar solo.

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