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Traveler

TRAVEL INTEL · HOTELS

Would You Spend \$800 for a Last-Minute Hotel Suite Tonight?

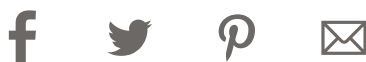
Written by Paul Brady

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Thompson Hotels

Who needs the pool when you've got a 1,200-square-foot suite to enjoy at the Thompson LES?



The last-minute booking app HotelTonight has launched a new feature that will let users book what it calls "HighRoller" suites at properties in Las Vegas, Los Angeles, and New York, with more cities to come in the future. But is it a legit way to score a deal?

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An early version of the suite sales was available on Tuesday, with [the Thompson Suite at the Thompson LES hotel](#) available for \$699 (\$808 including taxes), a discount off the usual \$2,000-a-night rate. Considering the sky-high price of New York hotel rooms during the U.N. General Assembly, currently underway in the city, the price for the 1,200-square-foot suite is actually quite competitive. (A 450-square-foot studio suite at the hotel, for example, is available for \$619 Wednesday evening.)

The question remains open on whether guests will spontaneously decide to splash out close to \$1,000 a night at the very last minute. But as consumers become more comfortable with spur-of-the-moment mobile booking, it's possible that these last-second decisions won't actually be so off the cuff: As options for night-of bookings expand, travelers may make plans to use HotelTonight—or competing apps with similar deals like Hotels.com or Blink—well in advance of their trips, leaving the actual choice of property the only real variable in the equation. The constant? Deep discounts.