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## Art: It's what's beyond the bed and bath

Just about everyone's stayed in a hotel where a Monet print behind plexiglass is expected to pass for fine art. Art is too often an afterthought, but now some hotels are putting impressive collections on display in an effort to lure art lovers on the road. — HOPE HAMASHIGE

	On Display	The Downside	The Details
Old guard: <b>Sagebrush Inn</b> <i>Taos, N.M.</i>	Much of this collection came from the artists who have stayed here since 1930, including such notable New Mexicans as R.C. Gorman, Joseph Imhof and Robert Daughters. Georgia O'Keeffe lived here in the 1930s but left nothing behind.	Techno-savvy travelers look elsewhere. Rooms have kiva fireplaces and antique wood furniture but no high-speed Internet access or flat-screen TVs.	Rooms range from \$85 to \$165 a night, breakfast included. (800) 428-3626, <a href="http://www.sagebrushinn.com">www.sagebrushinn.com</a> .
New entrant: <b>Hotel des Arts</b> <i>San Francisco</i>	Each of the 51 rooms is stylish, but 36 are unique artistic universes. Emerging local artists painted the walls, doors, even furniture — giving the hotel a decidedly downtown aesthetic.	The art, and perhaps the location on Union Square, is the central attraction. There is no restaurant, bar or gym, and rooms have microwaves instead of mini-bars.	Doubles with a shared bath start at \$89. Doubles with private baths, \$99-\$150. Suites, \$109-\$150. (800) 956-4322, <a href="http://www.sfhotedesarts.com">www.sfhotedesarts.com</a> .
Opening Saturday: <b>Hotel Max</b> <i>Seattle</i>	Prints by Seattle photographers, including Charles Peterson's images of the grunge music scene, cover guest room doors. Surprising pieces are everywhere — even the elevators will be adorned by artist Tony Evanko.	Rooms are a tight squeeze. At 163 square feet, they are a little like visiting New York, but in Seattle.	Through December, rates begin at \$129 a night. In January, prices jump, starting at \$249 a night. (866) 833-6299, <a href="http://www.hotelmaxseattle.com">www.hotelmaxseattle.com</a> .
Gearing up: <b>Hotel Solamar</b> <i>San Diego</i>	Its first major work, a piece by Rafael Lopez, was recently installed in the lobby. By January, the hotel plans to have two galleries up and running.	The pool-deck bar draws huge crowds and may not appeal to serenity-seekers.	\$209 to \$349 a night. (877) 230-0300, <a href="http://www.hotelsolamar.com">www.hotelsolamar.com</a> .