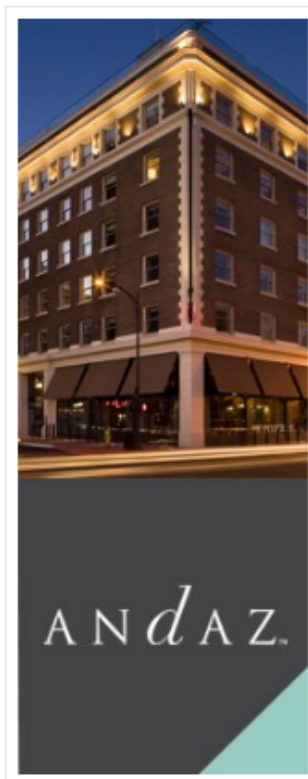




{REVIEW} ANDAZ SAN DIEGO

POSTED BY [MAIN MAMA](#) ON AUGUST 21, 2011 [2 COMMENTS](#)



This past week, my husband and I were treated to a one night's stay at the [Andaz Hotel](#) in Downtown San Diego. We had a fabulous time from the moment we arrived– packed with luxury, amazing food and extraordinary wines.

The Andaz is sleek and stylish; Modern with a grand sense of masculinity. From the warm wood flooring to the glass enclosed showers– it's a bold choice for a business person or romantic couple.

The first thing that struck me about the Andaz was that it was situated perfectly in the middle of the historic Gaslamp Quarter, San Diego's number one destination for nightlife. Everything is within walking distance. No need for cabs or for retrieving the car from the valet– it's all right there a few steps away. From the clubs and wine bars, to Horton Plaza, to the amazing Petco Park baseball field. They even had an Escalade car service instead of catching a cab.

We pulled up to the front of the hotel and were greeted warmly by the valet. They took our car and we were once again greeted at the main entrance by the hotels hosts. They were beyond helpful. They pulled up our reservation quickly, asked if we would like a complimentary beverage and then escorted us all the way to our room. On the way there, our host told us about the hotel amenities; including a pool, beautiful restaurant, fun wine bar, and even complimentary snacks and beverages in the room. That was one thing I was blown away by. It wasn't just a little coffee maker or a bottle of water, but rather sodas, granola bars, chips, spring water, sparkling water, Toblerone chocolate, Keurig Coffee. It was above and beyond what a hotel has to offer, and it made the night stay just that much nicer. Not only did they have the complimentary snacks and beverages, but they also had liquor and sensual products for purchase.



After we got settled into our room, we decided to take a walk down G Street to Horton Plaza. It took all of five minutes. On the way we passed a Starbucks (I always have to be close to one... just in case), and many bars and restaurants. We had a great time walking around the unique mall, but soon enough it would be time for dinner. We chose to go to the George's on 5th. Steaks beyond compare- delicious.

After dinner, we wanted to take advantage of what the hotel had to offer, so we decided to try out the Ivy Wine Bar. The Ivy Wine Bar doubles as a hot night club on the weekend nights and a wine bar during the week days and early evenings. We were there on a Wednesday evening, so no night club for us. That's ok— I think the wine bar was more our style anyways. Lucky for us, there was an amazing musician there to entertain us. Every Wednesday Todd Pyke takes the mic and sings everything from beautiful ballads to modern takes on classic rock. He not only performs at the Andaz Hotel every Wednesday, but he is also an accomplished instructor. You can check out his website at toddpkye.com. I would definitely recommend going on a Wednesday — for the music and for the “Happier Hour!”



The wine bar was an experience both my husband and I have never done before. We both loved it! You purchase any amount, and they give you a card to swipe with money on it. You can choose from many many wines and varietals. Take a taste (starting at \$1.00) , a half glass or full glass. If you are in love with the wine, you can even purchase a full bottle! We especially love two wines from Italy. Now if we didn't have over \$50 worth of tastings in us, we may have remembered to write down the names!

After our wine tasting at the Ivy, we went upstairs to turn in. It's not too often we have a night to ourselves without being awakened by children. The hotel room bed was comfy and luxurious. Beautiful white sheets with a high thread count- they felt amazing after a long day. The Sony flat screen tv was a nice touch to the room. It had all the right channels and some great movies to watch. We had a complimentary snack and turned in for the night. I fell asleep pretty quick (thank you wine), but my husband had a whole lot of trouble. Mostly due to the the bar across the street. It was loud and rowdy. At 1:30 am I woke up, only to not fall asleep again until 3. Last call was at 2, but the party was taken to the street. The only suggestion I have for the Andaz to help combat the noise would be to add in some ear plugs to the complimentary items. It would have been a nice touch.

All in all the hotel stay was fabulous. Comfortable, beautiful room and bathroom, great wine, attentive staff. I would definitely recommend the Andaz for businessmen and couples. I would probably shy away from bringing my family, purely because of the atmosphere.

If you would like to stay up to date on all the happenings at the Andaz, follow them on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#)!