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Traveling with a baby? 5 hotel chains that make it easy

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Traveling with your baby can be glorious or difficult, but one part that's never fun: dragging all of your baby's stuff along. Even the most storage-heavy cars generally can't handle a stroller, travel crib, bouncer chair, and a car seat, and getting even one of these things on a plane is herculean.

Modern hotels are responding to the needs of family travelers, with rooms specially designed for families, ask-for-them free baby amenities, and family fun programs to keep kids and parents happy. Here are a few of our favorites.

Embassy Suites



We love a hotel with two separate rooms for family travel, whether we're traveling with a baby or a stays-up-late big kid. So Embassy Suites, which offers foldout couches in the living room, TVs in each room, a fridge, and a microwave, has what a family needs for nighttime. You can request a crib and/or a highchair for your room, and each property has a 24-hour pantry/store, in case you need aspirin or diapers in the middle of the night.

When you wake up, the gigantic free breakfast buffet, with cooked-to-order eggs and quality proteins, is equally kind to traveling clans. There's a free reception every night too, with snacks and beer and wine for parents, juice and milk for kids — and special napkins with games on them to keep everybody busy at their tables for a few happy minutes.