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in-city escapes

A GETAWAY DOESN'T HAVE TO MEAN "AWAY FROM THE CITY." FOR SOME, ROMANCE IS BEST SPARKED WHEN URBAN COMFORTS ARE NEARBY.



Hotel Lucia

PORTLAND, OREGON

400 SW Broadway; 503.225.1717 or 877.225.1717; hotellucia.com
\$136-\$579. Travel time by car: 3 hours. Head south on I-5 to downtown
Portland and the corner of SW Broadway and SW Stark.

If your preferred fantasy plays out against an urban backdrop, visit downtown Portland's hip new Hotel Lucia. The 127-room boutique property provides a bracing antidote to "charming chintz"-brand romance, enshrining in its place an arch modern sensibility that many couples will find more stimulating. Sleek guest rooms done in stylish neutrals with bold accents and

stunning photography are accessed from the modular, art-saturated lobby of the refigured Imperial Hotel. Choose a junior suite (\$259 per night), which features large quarters—and a touch that may abet married middle-aged romance more than the finest massage oil: separate bathrooms.

All rooms are stocked with the extras that mean something to cognoscenti—Tazo tea, Aveda potions—along with luxury details like pillow-top mattresses, 24-hour room service from the resident Thai restaurant Typhoon! and a "get it now" button on your phone that assures delivery of virtually anything you want, whenever you want it. ("Belgian ale, please—very cold," we commanded at 3 p.m. on a Saturday...then had it foaming in our glasses, for nothing more than the cost of the product, by 3:30.) There's even a pillow menu, for goodness' sake.

On the off chance you decide to roll off those pillows, Lucia's is within walking distance of a branch of Peet's Coffee; the über-browsable Pearl District, with its home-décor shops and edgy restaurants; and the fabled Powell's Books.

You know you're a true urban romantic if you just got a shiver down your spine. **KATHRYN ROBINSON**



Sleek and chic, the Hotel Lucia is perfect for the romantic modern urbanist