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Portland:

Weird, and proud of it

Where to stay

► **Heathman Hotel**, 1001 S.W. Broadway at Salmon. 1-800-551-0011, www.heathmanhotel.com. A National Historic Landmark in the downtown arts district, adjacent to the Portland Center for the Performing Arts and the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. Doubles from \$219.

► **Governor Hotel**, 614 S.W. 11th Ave. 1-800-554-3456, www.governorhotel.com. Doubles from \$199.

► **Hotel deLuxe**, 729 S.W. 15th Ave. 1-866-895-2094, www.hoteldeluxeportland.com. The hotel strikes an attitude with Hollywood golden-age glamour in portraits and architectural detail. Doubles from \$149.

► **Ace Hotel**, 1022 S.W. Stark St. 503-228-2277, www.acehotel.com/portland. The newest of Portland's boutique hotels, a few blocks from Powell's City of Books. Doubles from \$140; European-style rooms with shared bathroom from \$95.

► **Jupiter Hotel**, 800 E. Burnside St. 503-230-9200, www.jupiterhotel.com. The Jupiter is a hip transformation of an old motel. The Doug Fir Lounge is often packed for the live music. Doubles from \$109.

IF YOU GO

Getting there

Expect to pay \$400 round-trip airfare from Atlanta to Portland, Ore.

Getting around

It's easy to use light rail for the 38-mile trip from Portland International Airport into downtown. Just look for the MAX red line next to baggage claim. It's \$2 or less per person.

Once in town, bus, train and streetcar trips are free within the Fareless Square; outside, the fare depends on how many zones you travel through. All-day tickets are available. All buses, MAX trains and streetcars are accessible for those with disabilities.

Looking for a pizza parlor or the nearest bus stop downtown? Just stop a Sidewalk Ambassador wearing a green-and-black jacket and ask. The "walking concierges," armed with personal digital assistants connected to the Chamber of Commerce, will print out the answer on a slip of paper and point you in the right direction.