

## Art and cultural packages, from \$169 per night

Find the inner artist in you in cities like Philadelphia, San Francisco, Paris

**Sherman's Travel**

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### The deal

With the fall cultural calendar in high gear, city hotels are pairing art and cultural experiences with overnights, enticing visitors to stimulate their artsy side. Even if you didn't study the masters, it's hard not to get excited by the cities, like San Francisco and Paris (a city that's practically a work of art itself), where influential collections are held. Our favorite offers combine exhibitions like King Tut, Renoir, and a Princess Diana homage with first-class stays at hotels like Fairmont, Park Hyatt, and Concorde. Rates start from \$169/night.

### Philadelphia, Pa.: Princess Diana Package from \$169/Night

Princess Diana made quite an impact in our world during her short 36 years of life by spearheading and increasing global awareness of many pertinent issues such as HIV/AIDS and landmines. Visit **Philadelphia** to not only celebrate her lifelong achievements, but to also see some of her most prized possessions, including her royal wedding gown, diamond tiara, some 28 dresses, and home movies of her childhood. From now through December 30, the Park Hyatt Philadelphia is offering a fantastic deal, from \$169/night, which includes two VIP tickets to the Diana: A Celebration exhibit — a special opportunity for guests to pay homage to the great Princess of Wales at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia.

### San Francisco, Calif.: King Tut Package from \$249/Night

King Tutankhamun, the young famous Egyptian pharaoh who reigned for just nine years before dying unexpectedly, left a legacy that is still alive and well today — three thousand years later. For a limited time only, the de Young Museum in charming **San Francisco** is showcasing the Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs exhibit — a magnificent collection of over 130 artifacts and works of art taken right out of the boy-king's tomb. Ancient Egyptian gurus who don't have the time or money to jet off to Africa, might want to consider the excellent King Tut: Mummy and Me package currently being offered by the sumptuous Fairmount San Francisco. For \$249/night, guests will receive overnight accommodations at the landmark hotel, two VIP tickets to the King Tut exhibition (a \$65 value) which can be used any time — even on dates sold out to the public, as well as two Egyptian Sunrise cocktails in the hotel's Laurel Court Restaurant and Lounge. This offer expires on March 28, 2010.

### Paris, France: Renoir in the 20th Century Package from \$282/Night

Visit **Paris** to revel in Pierre-Auguste Renoir's captivating artwork. From now through December 21, Concorde Hotels & Resorts is offering a unique deal that will have guests marveling at more than 100 of the famous French artist's Impressionist-style paintings, drawings, and sculptures. At a special price of \$282/night, this package includes accommodations in a double guestroom in any Concorde Hotel & Resorts property in Paris, daily buffet breakfast for two, as well as two tickets with priority access to the Renoir exhibition (a \$35 value) at the Grand Palais. An added bonus: Guests can also make use of the early check-in and check-out times.

### Zürich, Switzerland: Cultural Package from \$206/Night

The classic European city of **Zürich** has quite an artistic flare, with more than 100 art galleries and museums. Although visiting individual museums can be considerably expensive, the Hotel Opera is offering a tempting package until December 31 that will allow guests to save a good chunk of change. The deal starts from \$206/night (including service, VAT, and city tax), and includes accommodations in one of the hotel's 62 rooms, complimentary breakfast, a guided backstage tour of Zürich's Opera House, a three-course dinner at the hotel's restaurant, as well as a 24-hour ZürichCARD, which allows guests to use the city's public transportation and visit over 37 museums and attractions, all free of charge. The card also grants guests a free welcome drink in over 18 restaurants, a 50 percent discount on a guided walking tour of the old town, and reduced fees at the city's zoo, Asia spa, and car rentals.

### Tacoma, Wash.: Artsy fartsy package from \$219/night

Located 32 miles southwest of Seattle near the base of Mount Rainier sits the city of **Tacoma** — a place chock-full of artistic ingenuity. The stylish boutique Hotel Murano is currently promoting an exceptional art package to visitors who simply cannot get enough of the city's museums. The hotel, which is essentially a museum in itself, showcases exquisite glass artwork in all public spaces as well as its 320 tastefully decorated rooms. Hotel Murano's Artsy Fartsy package starts at \$219/night and includes two tickets to three museums: the Museum of Glass, Tacoma Art Museum, and the Washington State History Museum — a \$58 value — for free. This offer is valid until December 30.

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