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**PETS & WELLNESS**

***Furry Friends and Their Impact on Human Health***

In a survey conducted by Lieberman Worldwide Research, 94 percent of travelers reported that they ask how their dog is doing when phoning home from the road. The bond between humans and pets is indisputable, making the trend toward hotels welcoming the pet set in addition to the jet set faster than you can say, “Fetch!” For travelers, the only thing more satisfying than a leisurely walk across the Golden Gate Bridge or curling up with room service after a long day of meetings is having a canine pal along for the ride.

People tend to connect with animals in deep, profound ways that positively affect their minds, bodies and souls. Pets are loyal, non-judgmental, loving and tend to be terrific listeners.

Whether at home or on the road, furry felines and canine companions can affect human well-being in several ways, including:

- Increase relaxation and decrease anxiety, which can be particularly important in today’s stressful travel climate.
- Scientific studies show that simply being in the presence of a dog or cat, or petting an animal can reduce blood pressure.
- Animals act as silent therapists. Many psychiatrists and psychologists use animals in therapy sessions to help patients feel comfortable and relaxed.
- Animals facilitate social interactions by providing human companions with a common topic of interest.

Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants recognizes and respects the unique bond that people have with their pets and the impact this special relationship can have on human health and wellness.

From relaxing with your pooch at wine hour, to touring the town with a customized walking map, Kimpton provides everything you need to enjoy stress-free fun with your loved ones.

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## **ABOUT KIMPTON**

San Francisco-based Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants, a collection of boutique hotels and chef-driven restaurants in the US and Canada, is an acknowledged industry pioneer and was the first to bring the boutique hotel concept to America. Founded in 1981 by Bill Kimpton, the company is well-known for making travelers feel welcomed and comfortable while away from home through intuitive and unscripted customer care, stylish ambience and having a certain playfulness in its approach to programs and amenities. Each hotel provides a range of exciting culinary experiences through locally-loved, top-rated, destination, chef-driven restaurants. Kimpton leads the hospitality industry in ecological practices through its innovative EarthCare programs that span all hotels and restaurants. Privately held Kimpton has consistently earned high customer satisfaction scores by the Market Metrix Hospitality Index, exceeding other hotel companies including those in luxury and upscale segments. Among the company's newest properties are Hotel Palomar Atlanta and restaurants Pacci Ristorante by Chef Keira Moritz and AltoRex lounge in Atlanta, GA, which opened in May 2009. Currently, projects are underway in New York City, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Chicago. For more information, please visit [www.KimptonHotels.com](http://www.KimptonHotels.com) or call 1-800-KIMPTON.