



The W Atlanta Downtown



Atlanta

When you think about Atlanta you think about a city steeped in historic American culture. Atlanta has seen it all — from land thievery of the Cherokee Nation nearly 200 years ago through the civil war and *Gone With The Wind* to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. From the civil rights movement to Jimmy Carter to the Olympics, Atlanta is about as American as you can get. But what is modern day Atlanta? It still has the busiest airport in the world, a ton of corporate headquarters and a lot of land but what is the soul of Atlanta all about? We went to explore.

Tourist Attractions

World of Coke

One big experiential advertisement for Coca-Cola and if you were not buying it before then you will be at the end. Cola-Cola is a major part of American history and it's roots and operations are in Atlanta. The World of Coke is a Coke museum where you can learn all about the history of Coke, their charitable contributions, the secret formula and sample various flavors that are marketed around the world. At the end of the tour, you exit through a Coke memorabilia store where you'll be eager to buy a shirt to show your newfound Coke pride.

Georgia Aquarium

Right next door to World of Coke is the Georgia Aquarium which is by far the most talked about tourist attraction in Atlanta and it's really cool and reminded us a lot of the Long Beach Aquarium but perhaps a bit newer and shinier. The Georgia Aquarium is the world's largest aquarium with more than eight million gallons of water and more aquatic life than any other aquarium. The five distinct galleries within the Georgia Aquarium depict five different habitats, ranging from arctic to tropical. Unlike most aquariums, the Georgia Aquarium does not follow a linear layout, instead allowing guests to decide their own path and the order in which they visit each gallery. The whole family will love it and every body will learn something new. A pleasant surprise at the Aquarium was the on-site eatery by Wolfgang Puck Catering.

Hotels

W Atlanta Downtown

Located in the heart of downtown, near the Olympic Village is the W Atlanta Downtown, which is in a big modern sky rise. It's swanky and the best part of the hotel is the hip drinking establishment, DRINKSHOP. Energized by W style music and it's modern

decor, your eyes will travel along the really long table that runs nearly the entire length of the room. The drinks are what make the place special. They use the best ingredients and make their mixes from scratch. The ice that they use is just a single sphere of ice that fits in the glass, there is less surface area and therefore less water drainage into the cocktail. The rooms are typical W style with super comfortable beds and Bliss amenities.

Hotel Indigo

Dog friendly, this establishment embraces all with warm hospitality from every member of the gracious staff. Located in midtown, it was an old gentleman's club in 1923 so the building is remarkable. In 2004 they gutted it, redecorated and created the first Hotel Indigo. The consultants they hired to help develop the concept had a retail background instead of a hospitality background so you'll notice the lobby is more like a shop than a typical hotel lobby. The set up encourages guest interaction. The dog service at this hotel is unparalleled. They offer dog beds, dog treats, vegan and diabetic dog food options and canine cocktails. They are so pet-friendly, even Dr. Jane Goodall stays there.

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