

A stay at Catalina's Pavilion Hotel lands guests in the lap of luxury

By Devon Warren

AVALON — One of Avalon's most luxurious lodging destinations, the Pavilion Hotel, has been described in a variety of ways by guests, but it's important to point out it consistently ranks in the 4.7 out of 5 area on just about every booking site. A chic boutique hotel with a European design, it reflects the upscale island vibe that makes Catalina Island so appealing to tourists.

In Avalon, proximity to everything is usually measured in steps to show just how close you are to some of the wonderful amenities. Pavilion Hotel is a mere 14 steps to the sand and a short stroll to Green Pleasure Pier.

Pavilion Hotel sends a bellboy to take your luggage whenever you arrive on the island via ferry (such as Catalina Express). Check-in is normally at 3 p.m., so this can be nice if you would like to check out the island right away.

Shortly after check-in, guests can enjoy an evening wine and cheese reception and get the chance to mingle among some of the other guests.

The Pavilion offers suites with French doors that open onto a patio to lounge and relax. The fire pits in the common area were always occupied at night with visitors gathering together to share stories or just enjoy Catalina's romantic evenings.

All of the toiletries, such as complimentary shampoos, conditioners, soaps and lotions, are from Catalina's Island Spa and, as one might expect, the fragrance is a pleasant tropical fruit medley of some kind.

The Pavilion goes above and beyond when it comes to offering delicious meals and room service. Avalon Grille, one of the premier restaurants in town, also provides room service at dinner while Ben's Bakery offers in-room lunch deliveries. Each morning, there is a hot breakfast service with a build-



Devon Warren photo

Designed with a European flair that tourists cannot miss, Pavilion Hotel is only 14 steps to the beach.

your-own omelet bar.

A linen closet was located inside the room with a variety of towels including oversized beach towels for a dip in the ocean.

Guests can also enjoy a variety of complimentary services and activities such as use of Island Spa Catalina's wellness studio, access to Descanso Beach Club, Avalon Scenic Tour, Discover the Casino Tour, miniature golf at Gold Gardens, Seal Rocks Safari and bicycle rentals.

Since check-out is at 11 a.m. (unless you can secure a late check-out), guests who travel by ferry will likely have a few hours to burn until the departing vessel arrives. Pavilion Hotel has a comfortable outdoor lobby area where guests are allowed to relax. The luggage check-in system is especially convenient because guests can safely leave their luggage for a few hours and return to pick it up shortly before leav-

ing the island.

Running from around \$275 to \$850 per night depending on the room choice and season, Pavilion is perfect for those who enjoy a ritzy choice where they can be pampered.

Catalina Island is naturally a tourist-friendly destination with many of the local hangouts and hotels making it comfortable for guests, and the Pavilion is no exception with friendly service and staff that helps to make a stay here memorable.

More information about rates and reservations at the Pavilion is available online at visitcatalina.com/hotels-packages/avalon/pavilion-hotel.