

DESTINATIONS

Hotel We Love: Woodlark, Portland, OR

3/11/2019 — By Maya Stanton



In the heart of downtown Portland, two historic buildings combine to make one contemporary, stylish hotel.

Rose City's hotel industry is booming—per the tourism board, some 9,000 rooms were available in 2018 and another 1,500 or so are estimated for 2020—and [Woodlark](#) is the latest entrant in an increasingly crowded field. But with a buzzy lobby scene, cozy minimalist rooms, and a convenient downtown address pulling in an attractive, youthful crowd, it more than stands out from the pack.

The Story

Woodlark comprises two character-filled buildings, the circa-1908 French Renaissance-style Cornelius Hotel and the 1912 Woodlark Building, a beaux arts–inspired former drugstore, both

of which are on the National Register of Historic Places. Provenance Hotels acquired the properties in 2015, hiring architecture and design firms to rehab and combine the two distinctive buildings into one cohesive unit. The hotel opened its doors in December 2018.

The Quarters

The accommodations span both buildings, and you'll find botanical prints from noted photographer Imogen Cunningham, custom wallpaper adorned with plants native to the city, industrial-luxe brass-pipe clothing rods, marble-topped consoles, plush velvet chairs, and handmade artisan wool rugs throughout the 150 rooms. At 230 square feet for a standard king to 665 square feet for a suite, Woodlark's spaces are on the smaller side, though they still allow plenty of room to maneuver. Chances are you didn't come to Portland to hang out in your hotel room, but the amenities are there when you need them: LCD flat-panel TVs, honor bars stocked with a host of local favorites, like Union Wine and Greenleaf trail mix, Bluetooth speakers, and incredibly comfortable down comforter-topped mattresses, not to mention [pints of Salt & Straw ice cream](#) on demand.

The Neighborhood

Centrally located right downtown, Woodlark is a short walk from attractions like the Portland Art Museum, Oregon Historical Society, Lan Su Chinese Garden, and Powell's City of Books, the local chain's flagship location, which covers a full block and holds some one million [new and used books](#). The Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall ([portland5.com](#)) is just a few blocks over, and that's where you'll catch everything from stand-up comedy to the symphony; for something a bit more rowdy, try the Star Theater ([startheaterportland.com](#)) or the Crystal Ballroom ([crystalballroompdx.com](#)), both of which book a good mix of contemporary acts. Shows aside, the downtown area gets a bit quiet at night, but you're a quick light-rail, bus, or Lyft ride away from more exciting environs across the Willamette.

The Food

There are three dining options on the premises: Bullard ([bullardpdx.com](#)), a meat-centric eatery with an internationally tinged menu from Texas transplant and *Top Chef* alum Doug Adams; Abigail Hall ([abigailhallpdx.com](#)), a cocktail den with upscale bar bites (think: chips and smoked-salmon dip garnished with trout roe); and Good Coffee ([goodwith.us](#)), the bustling lobby café slinging espresso drinks, fancy lattes (matcha-lavender or maple and smoked orange, anyone?), breakfast plates, and [kolaches inspired by Adams's home state](#). On the next block is the Alder Street Food Cart Pod ([foodcartsportland.com](#)), a collection of vendors hawking a diverse array of dishes, and a few blocks north, Maurice ([mauricepdx.com](#)) serves pretty, Instagram-ready French-Nordic "luncheonette cuisine," from quiche and clafoutis to smørrebrød and Norwegian meatballs. Some of our favorite happy-hour spots are also within walking distance: Try Little Bird Bistro ([littlebirdbistro.com](#)) for discounted drinks and [a spectacular double-patty burger loaded with brie](#), or wrangle a few friends and make for Luc Lac Vietnamese Kitchen ([luclackitchen.com](#)), where the pro move is to order every \$3 small plate on the menu and wash it down with a dealer's-choice cocktail.

All the Rest

Woodlark features the Provenance chain's signature amenities, including a pillow menu, a lending library of spiritual tomes, and fitness kits with yoga mats, weights, and iPads programmed with exercise videos. There's also a gym on-site, with interactive workout mirrors and Peloton bikes in addition to the standard array of treadmills and ellipticals. The property is pet-friendly, and furry friends receive a warm welcome—treats included—when they check in.

Rates and Deets

Starting at \$155.

Woodlark

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