

"You will miss the best things if you keep your eyes shut"

—Dr. Seuss

No matter how much I travel, the lure of a foreign land always lingers. I still get butterflies at the notion of what new adventures await me. The only real difference is the desire to share that magic with my seven-year-old daughter. The look of wonderment and delight that spreads across her face is priceless.

On several occasions we have been able to experience "luxury travel" together. We have stayed at some fabulous places around the globe. However, for me there are few that go the extra mile when it comes to the "family friendly experience." It's the unexpected extras that leave an indelible impression; so much so that getting the family to pack up and check out is a challenge.

TRUMP INTERNATIONAL HOTEL, TORONTO

The word Trump is synonymous with many things; luxury branding is certainly one of them. From the time you enter the Trump Toronto, with its grand display of 10,000 pieces of Swarovski Crystal in the shape of cherry blossoms, you know this will be a memorable stay. My daughter was gifted with a pink backpack emblazoned with the "Trump Kids" logo. Inside was a baseball cap, cuddly stuffed piggy and a colouring book featuring top Toronto attractions.

The spacious suite had a kids gift basket on the coffee table waiting for her with candy, chocolate and even her own set of Trump business cards with her name on them! I downloaded some fabulous fashion magazines from the impressive free digital media library, as my little one excitedly changed into her Trump mini-robe and slippers, all wrapped up in luxury and ready to check out the salt water pool.

ROCCO FORTE VILLA KENNEDY, FRANKFURT

Frankfurt is so much more than a business hub—it's one of my favourite cities. Located in Sachsenhausen, a historic part of Frankfurt, is the Villa Kennedy. This large hotel used to be a lavish family mansion boasting high ceilings, grand terraces and water fountains in the courtyard below.

Upon checking in, my daughter was given a Rocco Forte passport, colouring book and lovely wooden pencil crayons. One of her favourite things was to embark on a treasure hunt through the hotel with the incentive being a prize from the treasure chest.

Afterwards she presented her free "mocktail" card to the bartender and he whipped her up a frothy, fruity drink. The rooms are an exquisite mix of modern charm with turn-down service complete with warm milk and a large chocolate cookie, which, I must confess, I indulged in.

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