

# 37 Holiday accommodation

## A Luxury accommodation

When we go away, the last thing we want is to find that everywhere is **fully-booked**, no **vacancies** anywhere, ending up in a **miserable B and B** (or Airbnb), possibly in the **middle of nowhere**. Therefore, we always **book well in advance** and go for something fairly **exclusive**, preferably in a town. It doesn't have to be a **grand** or **impressive** building, but we do expect **luxury** and first-class service in order to **justify** the high prices these places charge. **Having said that**, high prices are no **guarantee** of high quality.



### SPOTLIGHT accommodation

**A B and B** (ALSO **B & B** – abbreviations of **bed and breakfast**; ALSO **guest house**) is like a fairly cheap hotel but it does not serve evening meals.

**Airbnb** is a private company in which members offer accommodation in a room, flat or house they own. This is all arranged online.

### GLOSSARY

|                                 |                                                                                                   |                         |                                                                                                                           |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>fully-booked</b>             | (of a hotel, restaurant, theatre, etc.) full; no places available                                 | <b>preferably</b>       | used to show which person or thing would be better or preferred                                                           |
| <b>vacancy</b>                  | a room in a hotel that is available: <b>no vacancies</b>                                          | <b>luxury</b>           | beautiful and expensive things <b>luxurious</b> <i>adj</i>                                                                |
| <b>miserable</b>                | unpleasant, making you feel unhappy                                                               | <b>impressive</b>       | causing a feeling of admiration because of its size, quality, importance, etc. SYN <b>grand</b> ; <b>impress</b> <i>v</i> |
| <b>in the middle of nowhere</b> | far away from other people and houses                                                             | <b>justify</b>          | give or be a good reason for sth                                                                                          |
| <b>in advance</b>               | before a particular time or event: <b>book well in advance</b> (= book a long time before you go) | <b>having said that</b> | used to introduce an opinion that makes what you have just said seem less strong                                          |
| <b>exclusive</b>                | expensive and reserved for special people                                                         | <b>guarantee</b>        | a promise that sth will be done or that sth will happen <b>guarantee</b> <i>v</i>                                         |

### 1 Underline the main stress on these words.

justify vacancy luxury in advance miserable guarantee luxurious exclusive preferably fully-booked

### 2 Good news, bad news, or could it be either? Write G, B or either.

- |                                                        |                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1 The meal was impressive. ....                        | 5 The B&B was in the middle of nowhere. .... |
| 2 The hotel was fully booked. ....                     | 6 The weather was miserable. ....            |
| 3 They gave us a guarantee a taxi would be there. .... | 7 This area is rather exclusive. ....        |
| 4 There were still vacancies at the hotel. ....        | 8 The room wasn't luxurious. ....            |

### 3 Complete the dialogues with a suitable word or phrase.

- |                                          |                                                                 |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Was the breakfast good?                | ~ Yes, very good. ...., there wasn't a lot of choice.           |
| 2 Which floor do you want?               | ~ I don't mind, but ..... overlooking the garden.               |
| 3 Have you reserved a room?              | ~ Yes, we booked well .....                                     |
| 4 Will they refund your money?           | ~ Yes, they ..... that when I rang and cancelled.               |
| 5 It's very expensive.                   | ~ I know, but they ..... that by the high quality of the rooms. |
| 6 Are there still rooms available?       | ~ No, we got the last ..... , so they're ..... now.             |
| 7 Was the building very grand?           | ~ Yes, we were .....                                            |
| 8 It's a very expensive place, isn't it? | ~ Yes, but I like a bit of ..... on my holidays.                |

### 4 ABOUT YOU Write your answers, or talk to another student.

- Do you book your holidays well in advance? .....
- Do you often stay in fairly luxurious hotels? .....
- Do you ever stay in a B&B or use Airbnb? .....
- Do you like being in the middle of nowhere for your holiday? .....
- Do you think high prices usually guarantee high quality in your country? .....
- What do you look for most in holiday accommodation? .....



### TEST YOURSELF



## B Budget accommodation

We're not **mean**, but we've generally **opted for** holidays which only require a fairly limited **budget**: occasionally in a **caravan**, but more often we go camping or stay in a **youth hostel**. The thing that **appeals** to me about camping is not just **expense** – it's cheap – but it also **enables** us to move around more freely, and we like that **flexibility**. And **given that** we generally **live in comfort**, I think it's good for the children to experience a type of holiday which is a bit different. When we **go away** we are quite **strict** about them not using their phones.



### GLOSSARY

|                       |                                                                      |                                |                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>mean</b>           | wanting to keep money and not spend it on others <b>OPP generous</b> | <b>enable sb/sth to do sth</b> | make it possible for sb/sth to do sth                                                                    |
| <b>opt for sth</b>    | choose sth                                                           | <b>flexibility</b>             | the ability to be changed easily <b>flexible adj</b><br><b>OPP inflexible</b>                            |
| <b>budget</b>         | an amount of money you are able to spend on sth                      | <b>given (that)</b>            | when you consider sth                                                                                    |
| <b>youth hostel</b>   | a cheap and simple place to stay, especially for young people        | <b>comfort</b>                 | the state of having a life with everything you need, or being physically relaxed: <b>live in comfort</b> |
| <b>appeal (to sb)</b> | be attractive or interesting to sb <b>appealing adj</b>              | <b>go away</b>                 | leave home for a period of time, especially for a holiday                                                |
| <b>expense</b>        | the money that you spend on sth:<br><b>an extra expense</b>          | <b>strict</b>                  | not allowing people to break rules or behave badly                                                       |

### 5 Complete the dialogues with a word or phrase.

- Can you choose when you travel? ~ Yes, there's lot of \_\_\_\_\_ with dates and times.
- It's a very expensive holiday. ~ Yes, especially \_\_\_\_\_ that he doesn't earn much.
- My uncle is paying for my holiday. ~ Wow, that's very \_\_\_\_\_ of him.
- Are you here this weekend? ~ No, we're \_\_\_\_\_ for a few days.
- Are you hiring a car as well? ~ No, that's an extra \_\_\_\_\_. We'll take buses.
- We need to stay somewhere really cheap. ~ OK, how about a \_\_\_\_\_ or a \_\_\_\_\_?
- Some people love camping but it doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ to me personally.
- Do you always eat together, even on holiday? ~ Yes, my parents are very \_\_\_\_\_ about that.

### 6 Rewrite the sentences using words from the box. Keep the meaning the same.

flexible budget opt for mean enable appealing expense comfort

- He never wants to spend money. \_\_\_\_\_
- If it's a cheap place, we can stay a bit longer. \_\_\_\_\_
- We have a limited amount of money to spend. \_\_\_\_\_
- The date can be changed easily. \_\_\_\_\_
- We chose something quite simple. \_\_\_\_\_
- I want to have a pleasant life and everything I need. \_\_\_\_\_
- A room with a balcony costs more money. \_\_\_\_\_
- A caravan doesn't interest me. \_\_\_\_\_

### 7 ABOUT YOU Write your answers, or talk to another student.

- Have you ever stayed in a caravan or youth hostel? If so, what were they like? \_\_\_\_\_
- Do budget holidays appeal to you, or do you prefer to stay somewhere in comfort? \_\_\_\_\_
- Do you have a limited budget when you go on holiday? \_\_\_\_\_
- Do you restrict using your phone (for work) when you're on holiday? \_\_\_\_\_
- Do you like staying in one place or the flexibility of being able to move around? \_\_\_\_\_
- Do you remember your parents being strict with you about anything on holiday? \_\_\_\_\_

