

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

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

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| 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.

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| 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

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

