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# Insider's Guide to American Football Travel

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Travel Advisor

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American football trips deliver pure energy—the roar of 80,000 fans, the clash of shoulder pads, the blowing whistles. Whether you're lucky enough to score Super Bowl tickets or soaking in college tradition at the Rose Bowl, football travel is about more than just the game.

The best football destinations understand that game day is an experience, from tailgate barbecues to post-game celebrations. And travel advisors know just which hotels make the ideal home base for game weekends. Read on to learn where to go, what to see, and how to plan the ultimate football getaway.

## Need to know

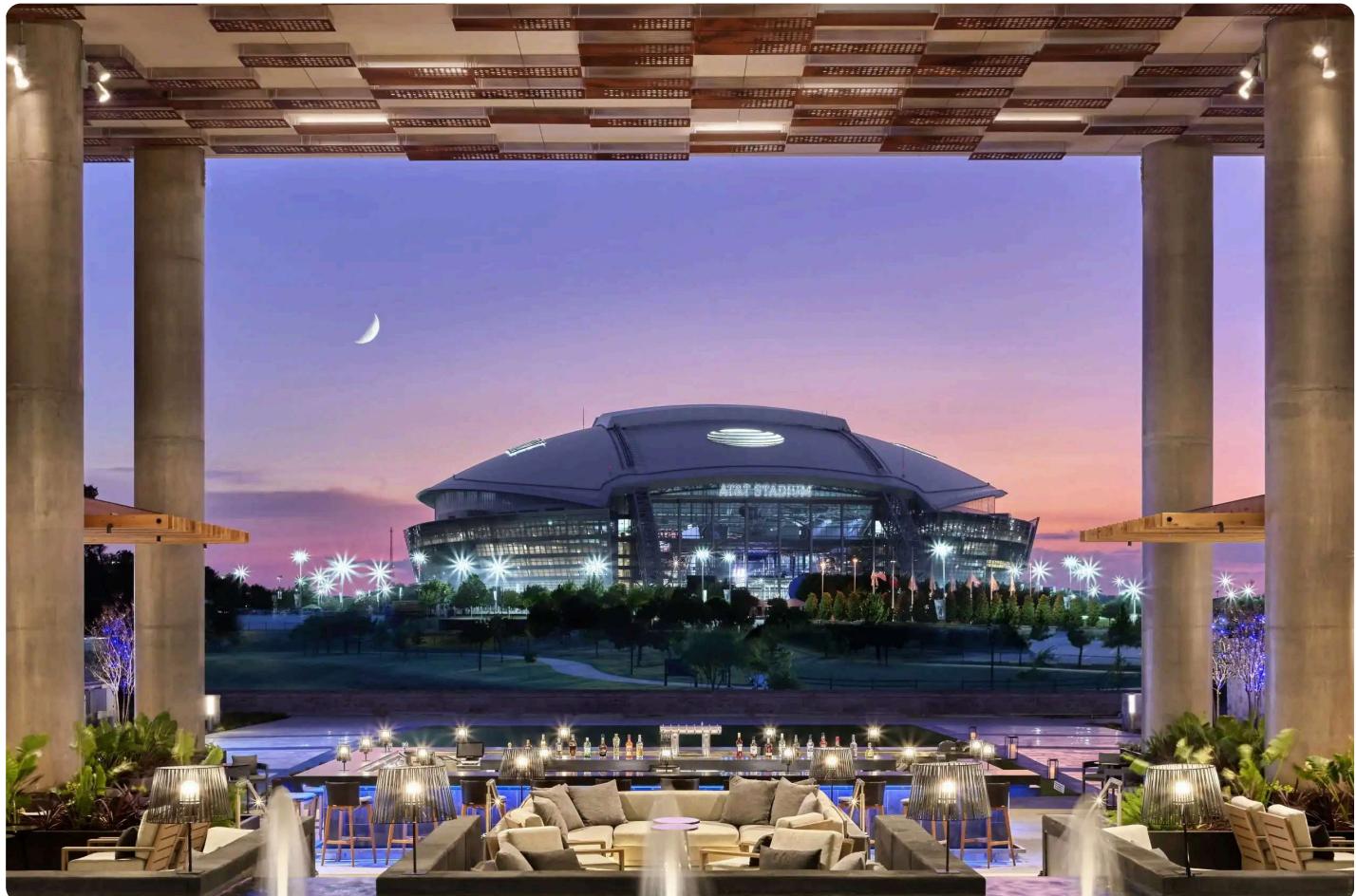


Image courtesy of Live by Loews, Arlington, TX

When planning football travel, success lies in the details, including everything from how to buy tickets to booking the right hotels to put you close to both the action and the fan experience that makes these trips unforgettable. Be sure to book early, as some hotels have minimum night stays.

**Transportation:** Factor in event traffic, limited parking availability, and long lines for trains or rideshares. Arriving early and leaving with patience is key. Check if your venue is in a city center with reliable public transit or if you'll need a car for sites outside major hubs.

**Ideal length of stay:** Weekend trips work for a single game. Three- to five-day trips are perfect for multi-game adventures or combining a destination with a sporting event.

**Signature foods:** Sports often go hand-in-hand with hot dogs and beer. Some stadiums and arenas offer regional specialties and inventive spins on these game-day classics.

- **Frito Pie:** A warm, messy favorite at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas, with chili, cheese, and jalapeños served right in the chip bag.
- **UCLA Bruin Dog:** Served at the Rose Bowl, this hot dog comes with chile de arbol aioli, pickled red habanero onions, and house-made birria.
- **Cotton Candy Burrito:** A dessert-style “burrito” made of ice cream and candy wrapped in cotton candy found at State Farm Stadium in Glendale, Arizona.
- **Cochon De Lait Po’Boy:** Alongside local creole cuisine, the Caesars Superdome in New Orleans serves this popular Louisiana sandwich featuring slow-roasted, pulled pork.
- **The Pitts-Burger:** Try this Pittsburgh favorite from Primanti Bros featuring a beef patty, coleslaw, tomatoes, fries, and melted provolone on Italian bread.

**What to wear:** Sporting events call for comfort and spirit. Think casual layers, like a T-shirt or team jersey paired with jeans or shorts. A light jacket or hoodie is great for cooler evenings. Comfortable sneakers are a must, and don’t forget a hat for sun protection during the day.

### Travel tips:

- **Planning and booking windows:** Book hotels and transport as soon as possible for local games or weekend trips. For playoffs or seasonal events, start once schedules are set. Major global events require securing rooms and tickets well in advance.
- **Tickets and experiences:** Ticket availability varies by event, and can often be bundled with hotels and experiences. Consider resale windows, stadium location, and differences in accessibility for the best event.
- **Upgraded experiences:** VIP access and hospitality suites can elevate the trip. Some venues offer day-of seat upgrades or add-ons if available and not booked in advance.
- **Pre- and post-game:** Join a tailgate, or take a behind-the-scenes tour of the locker room, dugout, and press box.
- **Local events and giveaways:** From bobbleheads to fireworks, themed promotions add extra value. Seek out bars, diners, or neighborhoods where fans gather.

# Super Bowl



Image courtesy of Park James

The Super Bowl is more than a championship—it's America's biggest stage for sports and spectacle. Halftime performances, iconic plays, and nonstop energy set the tone. The 2026 edition is being held on February 8 at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, California.

## What to do while in Santa Clara

- Book a private wine-tasting flight at an exclusive **Napa Valley** estate.
- Wander **Santana Row** for open-air shopping, dining, and people-watching.
- Tour the quirky, historic **Winchester Mystery House** in San Jose.
- Sip craft cocktails at a rooftop lounge in **San Francisco** with bay views.
- Take a short **West Coast cruise** from nearby San Francisco on Princess for a 5-day getaway, or embark on a longer 16-day Panama Canal cruise to Miami.

## Where to stay

**The Ameswell Hotel:** A modern, design-forward retreat in Mountain View with sleek interiors, a tech-savvy spirit, curated art installations, and farm-to-table cuisine.

- **Fora Perks** include a \$25 food and beverage credit, welcome amenity, an upgrade whenever possible, and guaranteed late check-out.

**Park James:** This Menlo Park boutique hotel blends California cool with modern comfort. Chic rooms and a lively courtyard bar add to the warm neighborhood feel.

- **Fora Perks** include a \$25 food and beverage credit, welcome amenity, an upgrade whenever possible, and guaranteed late check-out.

**Fairmont Heritage Place, Ghirardelli Square:** This landmark San Francisco hotel offers residential-style suites and bay views set within the historic chocolate factory.

- **Fora's Accor Preferred** partner perks include a \$100 hotel credit, daily breakfast, an upgrade, and extended check-in/out whenever possible.

**Claremont Resort & Club:** This grand hillside resort in Berkeley pairs historic charm with resort-style amenities, panoramic views, and spa, an hour from Levi's Stadium.

- **Fora Perks** include a \$100 resort credit, daily breakfast credit, an upgrade, and extended check-in/out whenever possible.

# Rose Bowl

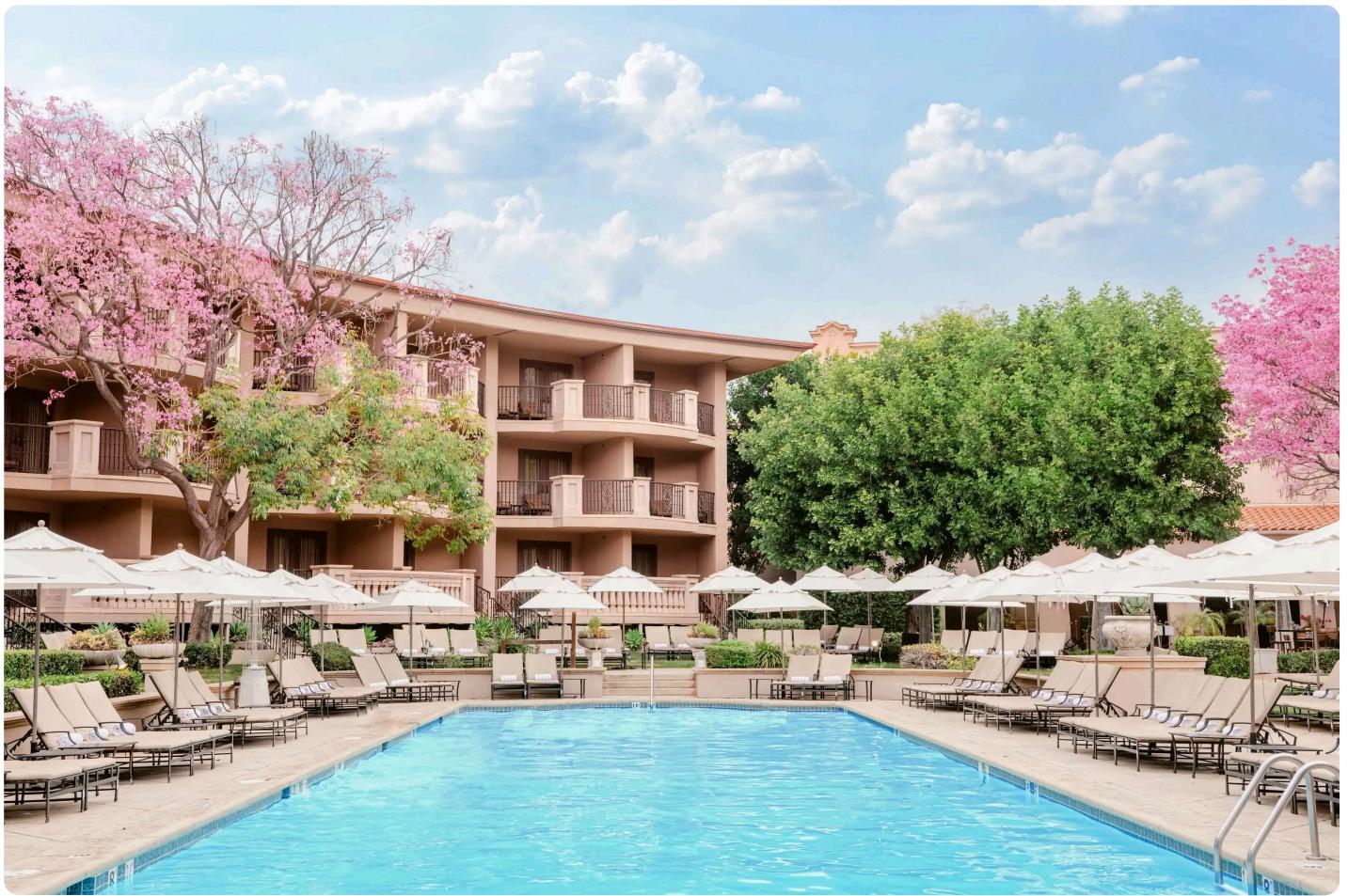


Image courtesy of Langham Huntington, Pasadena, Los Angeles

The Rose Bowl lives up to its title as “The Granddaddy of Them All.” On January 1, Pasadena comes alive with the iconic Rose Parade in the morning, followed by an afternoon of big-game action. It’s football pageantry at its finest, with plenty of time to soak up the SoCal lifestyle.

## What to do while in Pasadena

- Step inside the **Norton Simon Museum** for an afternoon of world-class art.
- Explore the **Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens**.
- Grab tacos at **El Taquito Mexicano Truck**, a local game day favorite.
- Take a leisurely drive along the **Angeles Crest Highway** for mountain views.
- Add a 3- to 5-day **Baja Mexico cruise** from nearby Long Beach on Carnival.

## Where to stay

**The Langham Huntington, Pasadena:** A Pasadena icon since 1914. Timeless elegance blends with manicured gardens, mountain views, and an outdoor pool framed by historic

architecture.

- Fora's **COUTURE by Langham** partner perks include a hotel credit, welcome amenity, daily breakfast, and an upgrade whenever possible.

**Le Méridien Pasadena Arcadia:** Sleek and contemporary with nods to mid-century design. Spacious rooms and a lively lobby bar create a stylish base for games at the Rose Bowl.

- Fora's **Marriott LUMINOUS** partner perks include a welcome amenity, daily breakfast, an upgrade, and extended check-in/out whenever possible.

**The Westin Pasadena:** Modern comfort and easy access to Old Pasadena. Bright rooms, a heated rooftop pool, and a well-equipped fitness studio cater to all types of stays.

**The Glenmark, Glendale, a Tribute Portfolio Hotel:** Bold art and modern design boutique hotel with a rooftop lounge and stylish rooms that add to the hotel's creative energy.

- Fora's **Marriott LUMINOUS** partner perks include a welcome amenity, daily breakfast, an upgrade, and extended check-in/out whenever possible.

## Fiesta Bowl



Image courtesy of Arizona Biltmore, LXR Hotels & Resorts

The Fiesta Bowl brings college football energy to the Arizona desert. Returning to State Farm Stadium in Glendale on January 8, 2026, expect spirited tailgates and plenty of sunshine. Easily paired with downtown Phoenix culture or a quick escape into the Sonoran desert.

## What to do while in Glendale

- Take a **hot air balloon ride** over the Sonoran Desert for unforgettable views.
- Stroll through **Roosevelt Row**, Phoenix's arts district packed with murals and galleries.
- Sample Southwestern food or grab casual bites at **local food trucks** near the stadium.
- Hike the desert trails at **Camelback Mountain** or **Papago Park** for city vistas.

## Where to stay

**The Wigwam:** Southwestern charm on 440 acres of palm-lined pathways and fairways. A spa rooted in desert botanicals, multiple pools, and adobe-style casitas make it a comfortable base.

- **Fora's Preferred Platinum** partner perks include a \$100 hotel credit, welcome amenity, daily breakfast, an upgrade, and extended check-in/out whenever possible.

**Renaissance Phoenix Glendale Hotel & Conference Center:** Steps from State Farm Stadium, this contemporary hotel offers spacious rooms and a lively, event-focused atmosphere.

**Arizona Biltmore, LXR Hotels & Resorts:** An architectural landmark since 1929, with glamorous pools, championship golf, and a vibrant dining scene for a timeless retreat.

- **Fora's Hilton for Luxury** partner perks include a \$100 hotel credit, daily breakfast, an upgrade whenever possible, and double Hilton Honors points.

**Grand Hyatt Scottsdale Resort:** A desert oasis combining Southwestern style with casita-style rooms, multiple pools, a lazy river, and full-service spa.

- **Fora's Hyatt Privé** partner perks include a hotel credit, welcome amenity, daily breakfast, an upgrade, and extended check-in/out whenever possible.

# Cotton Bowl



Image courtesy of Bowie House, Auberge Resorts Collection

The Cotton Bowl takes college football to the next level, lighting up AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas. Inside, it's all big plays and roaring crowds. Outside, the Dallas–Fort Worth area delivers bold flavors, vibrant nightlife, and signature Lone Star spirit.

## What to do while in Arlington

- Take a **behind-the-scenes tour** of AT&T Stadium.
- Dig into smoked ribs and brisket elote at **Hurtado Barbecue**, a local favorite.
- Stroll through the **Fort Worth Stockyards** for a taste of cowboy history.
- Sip beer, lounge on the patio, and savor country music under the stars at **The Rustic**.

## Where to stay

**Live by Loews, Arlington, TX:** A sleek urban resort steps from the Texas Rangers and AT&T Stadium. Modern rooms, luxe pool, and lively atmosphere make it ideal for sports weekends.

**Loews Arlington:** Contemporary style connected to Globe Life Field and Arlington Convention Center. Full-service convenience with two pools, five restaurants, and direct game-day access.

**Bowie House, Auberge Resorts Collection:** Texas heritage and Auberge's refined luxury. A tree-shaded pool, regional restaurant, and intimate design, a short drive from AT&T Stadium.

- **Fora Reserve perks** include a \$100 hotel credit, daily breakfast, an upgrade, and extended check-in/out whenever possible.

**Omni Las Colinas Hotel:** Set along the Mandalay Canal with an expansive pool deck. Airy rooms, multiple dining venues, and a laid-back yet upscale atmosphere make it a great choice.

- **Fora's Omni Select partner perks** include a \$50 hotel credit, welcome amenity, daily breakfast, an upgrade, and extended check-in/out whenever possible.

## Sugar Bowl

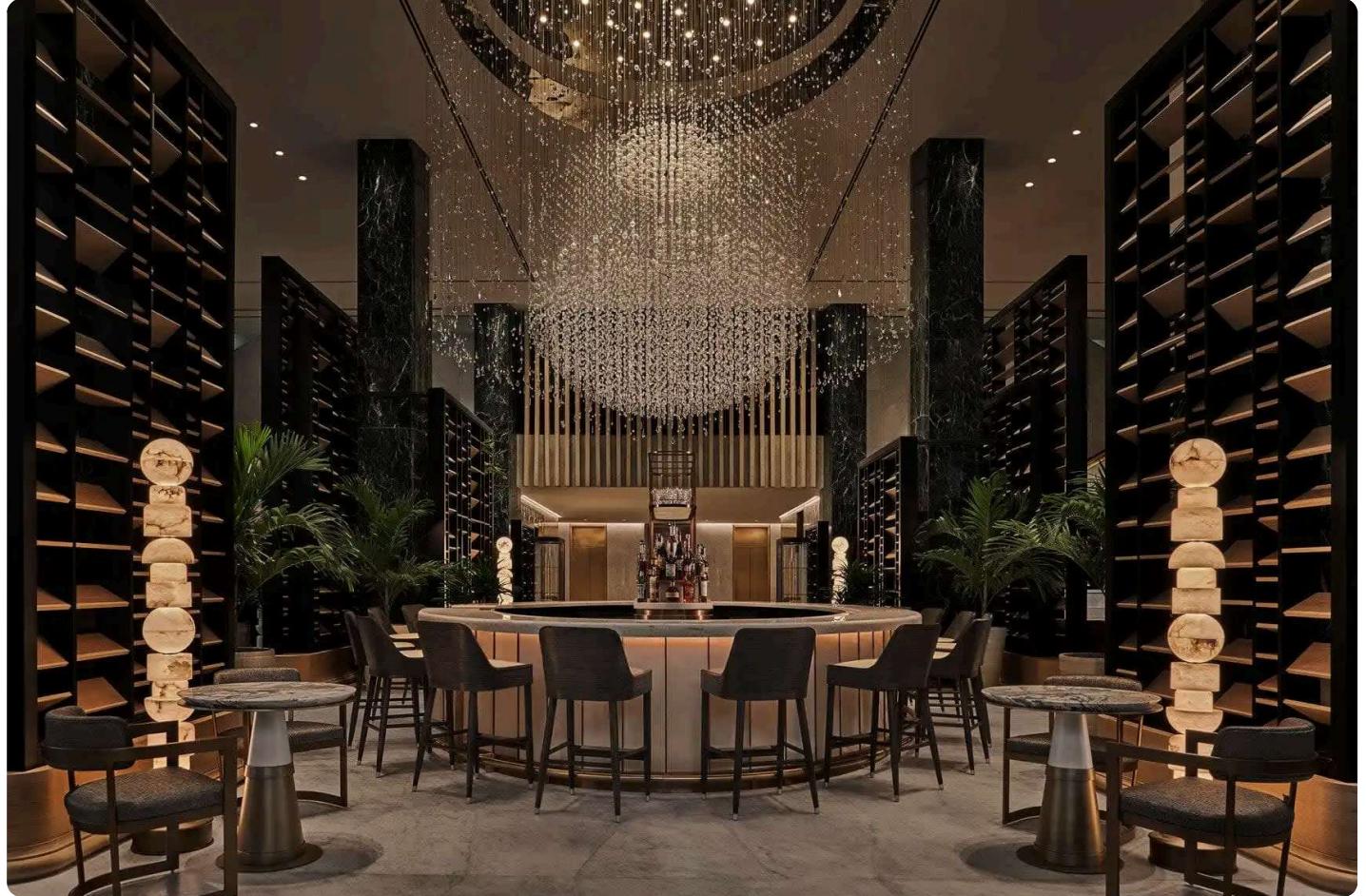


Image courtesy of Four Seasons Hotel New Orleans

The Sugar Bowl channels New Orleans' one-of-a-kind spirit. On New Year's Day in 2026, the Caesars Superdome sets the stage for roaring fans, big plays, and a city where the celebration never stops. Jazz-filled nights, iconic flavors, and a weekend as electric as football itself.

## What to do while in New Orleans

- Wander the **French Quarter** for colorful streets, live music, and iconic architecture.
- Savor jambalaya, gumbo, and fried chicken at local favorite **Coop's Place**.
- Walk along the **Moon Walk** for Mississippi River views and street performers.
- Catch a live jazz set at **Preservation Hall**, one of the city's legendary music venues.
- Add a **Western Caribbean cruise**, just 10 minutes away from the Superdome on Royal Caribbean for a quick tropical getaway.

## Where to stay

**Virgin Hotels New Orleans:** Playful, polished, and buzzy vibes in the Warehouse District. Rooms feature Virgin's signature two-chamber layout for extra comfort and privacy.

- **Fora's Preferred Platinum** partner perks include a \$100 hotel credit, welcome amenity, daily breakfast, an upgrade, and extended check-in/out whenever possible.

**Maison Métier, in the Unbound Collection by Hyatt:** This intimate boutique stay channels New Orleans through French-inspired interiors, personalized service, and vintage touches.

- **Fora's Hyatt Privé** partner perks include a hotel credit, welcome amenity, daily breakfast, an upgrade, and extended check-in/out whenever possible.

**NOPSI Hotel, New Orleans:** Housed in a restored 1920s power company building. Historic architecture pairs with contemporary luxury, blocks away from the French Quarter.

- **Fora's Preferred Platinum** partner perks include a \$100 hotel credit, welcome amenity, daily breakfast, an upgrade, and extended check-in/out whenever possible.

**Hyatt Regency New Orleans:** Steps from the Superdome, this high-rise offers sleek furnishings, a rooftop pool, and panoramic views of downtown.

**Four Seasons Hotel New Orleans:** This riverfront hotel offers refined luxury with a vibrant local touch. Spacious rooms, rooftop pool, and standout dining near the French Quarter.

- When you book Four Seasons with Fora, you'll enjoy exclusive Four Seasons Preferred Partner benefits.

## Peach Bowl



Image courtesy of The Ritz-Carlton, Atlanta

The Peach Bowl lights up Atlanta's Mercedes-Benz Stadium every January. Game day delivers packed crowds, standout plays, and that warm Georgia welcome. The city adds skyline views, legendary dining, and a weekend that blends football with Southern style.

### What to do while in Atlanta

- Take in the architecture and snap a skyline selfie on the **SkyView Atlanta Ferris wheel**.

- Dig into modern Southern seafood and craft cocktails at **The Optimist**.
- Wander through the **BeltLine's Eastside Trail**, packed with street art and breweries.
- Step inside the **College Football Hall of Fame** for interactive exhibits.

## Where to stay

**Signia By Hilton Atlanta Georgia World Congress Center:** Steps from Mercedes-Benz Stadium, this modern high-rise features stylish rooms and floor-to-ceiling windows.

- **Fora's Hilton for Luxury** partner perks include a \$100 hotel credit, daily breakfast, an upgrade whenever possible, and double Hilton Honors points.

**Reverb by Hard Rock Atlanta Downtown:** Designed for music lovers, next to Mercedes-Benz Stadium. Sleek rooms are tech-forward, while communal spaces make it a hub for game days.

**Omni Atlanta Hotel at Centennial Park:** This polished downtown escape features spacious rooms, cityscape views, and multiple restaurants, a short walk from Mercedes-Benz Stadium.

**The Ritz-Carlton, Atlanta:** In the heart of downtown, blending Southern hospitality with sophistication. Luxe rooms, a signature restaurant, and refined service make it a favorite.

- **Fora's Marriott STARS** partner perks include a \$100 hotel credit, welcome amenity, daily breakfast, an upgrade, and extended check-in/out whenever possible.

# College Football Playoff National Championship



Image courtesy of Acqualina Resort & Residences On The Beach

Miami Gardens hosts the College Football Playoff National Championship, bringing South Florida flair to college football's biggest stage. On January 19, 2026, Hard Rock Stadium will pulse with roaring fans, high-stakes plays, and an unmistakable Florida vibe.

## What to do while in Miami

- Cruise along **South Beach**'s Ocean Drive for pastel-colored Art Deco architecture.
- Feast on fresh seafood and tropical flavors at **Joe's Stone Crab**, a Miami institution.
- Explore the **Wynwood Walls** for bold murals, street art, and galleries.
- Take a stroll along **South Pointe Park Pier**, where skyline views meet the Atlantic.
- Add a **Caribbean cruise** getaway, ranging from 3-night Bahamas sailings on Norwegian to a 15-night immersion on Explora Journeys.

## Where to stay

**Acqualina Resort & Residences On The Beach:** This oceanfront haven delivers Mediterranean-inspired elegance and ultra-personalized service on a private beach setting.

- **Fora Reserve perks** include a \$100 hotel credit, daily breakfast credit, an upgrade, and extended check-in/out whenever possible.

**The Ritz-Carlton Bal Harbour, Miami:** All-suite retreat at the northern tip of Miami Beach. A waterfront pool, fine dining, and direct beach access set the tone for a refined coastal escape.

- **Fora's Marriott STARS** partner perks include a \$100 hotel credit, welcome amenity, daily breakfast, an upgrade, and extended check-in/out whenever possible.

**1 Hotel South Beach:** About 30 minutes from Hard Rock Stadium, this oceanfront retreat pairs sleek eco-conscious design with resort-style amenities in Miami's South Beach.

- **Fora Perks** include a \$100 hotel credit, daily breakfast, an upgrade, and extended check-in/out whenever possible.

**Esmé Miami Beach:** About 30 minutes from the stadium, this Michelin-key boutique hideaway on Espanola Way blends historic charm with a bohemian vibe.

- **Fora Perks** include a \$40 hotel credit, welcome amenity, an upgrade whenever possible, and guaranteed late check-out.

## International sports travel



Whether it's chasing your favorite team abroad or experiencing a home country tournament, here are some standout sporting events worth planning a journey around.

**American Football:** The NFL takes gridiron action abroad each fall. Various teams from the Denver Broncos to the New York Jets and the LA Rams face off in stadiums across cities like London, Berlin, São Paulo, Madrid, Dublin, and Melbourne.

**Soccer:** Experience iconic rivalries in home stadiums across the UK, Brazil, Spain, and more. Catch a FIFA World Cup game, coming to the US, Canada, and Mexico in 2026.

**Baseball:** Enjoy a Nippon Professional Baseball game, with 12 teams across Japan. MLB World Tour sees the Dodgers vs. Cubs in Tokyo (2025) and the Padres vs. Diamondbacks in Mexico City (2026). The World Baseball Classic brings together top baseball players from various countries.

**Tennis:** Experience a Grand Slam abroad, across hard, clay, and grass courts. Catch the Australian Open in January, French Open in May, or Wimbledon in late June/early July.

**Golf:** The Open Championship is the fourth & final golf major each season. Rotating among 10 courses in the UK, 2026 will see Royal Birkdale in Southport, England host from July 16–19.

**Basketball:** The NBA International Games take talent abroad. The Pistons and Mavericks face off in Mexico City on November 1, 2025. Berlin and London will host the Magic vs. Grizzlies in back-to-back European showdowns in January, 2026.

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Reach out for travel inspiration, hotel bookings or customized itineraries.

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\*First Name

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Please provide some details about your trip.

*You can expect a response from Gregory within 1–2 business days. You'll also be subscribed to our traveler newsletter (you can unsubscribe at any time).*

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