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Give Your Summer **Staycation Some Wit**

Bypass the random weekend hotel stay for special packages at theWit

By WENDY WOLLENBERG

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Courtesy of theWit Find yourself here on vacation this summer.

Yes, many of us are staying closer to home this summer, but that doesn't have to be a bad thing. Especially with the opening of theWit, Chicago's latest boutique hotel, which recently debuted in the Loop.

(You can't miss the bold yellow glass lightning bolt jolting down the side of the ultra-mod building at the corner of State and Lake streets.)

Wiew Slidezhow

The sleek hotel property is featuring several special packages this summer to make you feel like a tourist in your own city -- the whole point of a staycation. The themed packages include partnerships with popular city cultural attractions such as the Field Museum, Mercury Skyline Cruiseline and the Art Institute of Chicago, so you'll be traveling like a V.I.P. around your own town.

Choose from the following special packages at theWit:

Take a sneak peek inside

The "Pirates Invade Chicago" package features a yo-ho-ho offer to experience the wildly popular "Real Pirates: The Untold Story of the Whydah from Slave Ship to

Pirate Ship" exhibition currently on view at the Field Museum, as well as a cruise along the Chicago River and lakefront on Mercury's Wacky Pirates Cruise. You'll get deluxe overnight accommodations for two at theWit, four V.I.P. tickets to the Field Museum's "Real Pirates" exhibit, four tickets aboard the Wacky Pirates Cruise, a \$50 breakfast credit at State and Lake (the Wit's upscale-rustic restaurant) and comped valet parking. Rates start at \$429 per couple, and the package is available through Oct. 25.

If your tastes lean more towards the artistic, consider the Wit's "Experience Life Through the Artists" promotion. First, explore the brand-new Modern Wing of the nearby Art Institute, then contemplate the wonders of art while enjoying a 50-minute in-room massage back at the hotel. The "Experience Life Through the Artists" package includes deluxe accommodations for two, two tickets and audio tours at the Modern Wing at the Art Institute, the in-room massage, a \$50 breakfast credit at State and Lake and complimentary valet parking. You'll also have a specially designed bonus to use in the Art Institute gift shop: a free unframed exhibition poster with purchases of \$50 or more, or a 10 percent discount on purchases of \$100 or more. Rates begin at \$549 per couple for this offer, which is available through Dec. 31.

Perhaps it's romance that's on your mind this summer. Indulge in the "Sweet Romance Getaway" offer, which keeps it sweet and simple: deluxe accommodations for two at the Wit, a bottle of sparkling wine upon arrival, a full in-room breakfast, high-speed wireless Internet access (so you truly never have to leave the room) and either early check-in or late check-out upon request. The "Sweet Romance Getaway" is priced at \$214 per couple and is on offer through Dec. 31.

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