



**ORIGINALLY OPENED**  
1967

**LOCATION**

Just 10 minutes from downtown Iowa City, The Highlander Hotel is ideally situated off I-80, making it a popular destination for visitors and providing easy access to all the city has to offer.

**REIMAGINED**  
2023

**ADDRESS**

2525 Highlander Place  
Iowa City, IA 52245

**WEBSITE**

[www.highlanderhotel.us](http://www.highlanderhotel.us)

**RESERVATIONS**  
319.354.2000

**MANAGEMENT**

Catalyst Project Management

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## ABOUT

The Highlander Hotel is a revival of Iowa City's 1967 Highlander Inn and Supper Club, an iconic destination that counted luminaries such as Joan Baez, Mickey Mantle, and Arnold Palmer as clientele. After undergoing a multimillion-dollar renovation, it has been reimagined as an independent, hip urban resort that captures the nostalgic vibe of the era. The Highlander is a break from the ordinary with its giant indoor pool with clerestory overhead doors that open to the courtyard where bocce ball, cornhole, giant chess, and ping pong await. Boho-chic-inspired guestrooms and suites complement the lobby bar with its patio and firepit.

Also adding to the vibe is the Snack Shack serving milkshakes, cocktails, and pizza poolside and the 1967 Supper Club, now a retro cocktail arcade, with its original sunken bar restored. The Highlander also hosts intergenerational family vacations on the weekends and serves as an epic venue blending business and leisure for groups and meetings during the week. The hotel was recently inducted into Historic Hotels of America, the official program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation for recognizing and celebrating the finest historic hotels in the U.S.

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# HISTORY

The Highlander Supper Club was built in 1967. The hotel, ballroom, and pool followed in 1974. For the next 30 years, both the hotel and Supper Club experienced extraordinary success, playing host to celebrities and becoming one of the most popular entertainment, event, dining, and hotel destinations in Iowa history.

The next 20 years was a time of slow decline for The Highlander. By 2019, the icon was in serious distress, with dated decor, broken furniture, a leaking roof, and pests outnumbering guests. Iowa entrepreneur Angela Harrington purchased the hotel in December 2019, three months before the pandemic brought financial catastrophe to the industry. Through it all, The Highlander survived, and three years later, the interior renovation was completed. The property is now designated a local landmark by the Iowa City Historic Preservation Commission. It also joins Hotel Grinnell, its sister hotel, as the only woman-owned hotels in Idaho.

Reinvented as a chic boutique urban resort, The Highlander Hotel is the only independent hotel in Iowa City and the number-one traveler-ranked hotel on Trip Advisor for two years running. Considered one of the most sustainable hotels in the county, The Highlander earned its reputation through its green practices. The renovation project itself recycled and upcycled 100,000 square feet, diverting approximately 500 tons of waste from landfills. The Supper Club, shuttered for two decades, has a new life as a retro cocktail arcade.



# ACCOMMODATIONS

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The Highlander features 85 guestrooms and suites that echo the hotel's boho-chic mojo with accents such as plush velvet chairs, and all rooms and suites—many of which surround the pool or courtyard—come with a host of creature comforts including luxury bedding, Wi-Fi, in-room climate control, blackout shades, bedside charging stations, multipurpose workstations, and organic bath amenities. (They're pet-friendly, too.) Guests who want to amplify the rock-star vibes can also check out a complimentary turntable and their favorite album from the hotel's vinyl library.

+ **King and Double Queen Poolside:** With a glass sliding door that allows in plenty of natural light, these rooms with either a king or two queen beds let guests walk out to the pool area. Each room comes with its own gathering table, and the king room also has an indoor sitting area.

+ **King and Double Queen Courtyard:** These rooms open to a private patio and lounge seating area via a sliding door. Whether with a king or two queen beds, they are exceptionally quiet and are ideal for couples or solo travelers.

+ **King and Double Queen Pool Balcony:** Located on the second floor, these king and double queen rooms feature a personal balcony perched above the indoor pool with a cocktail table and chairs.

+ **Classic King and Double Queen:** With wall-to-wall windows that let in an abundance of natural light, these rooms with a king or two queen beds serve as a relaxing retreat. The king rooms also come with a sitting area.

+ **Penthouse:** The Highlander's Penthouse epitomizes over-the-top luxury: It offers a full chef's kitchen, living area with a giant television, and a king bedroom to go with the most incredible bathroom in the state.

+ **Family Suite Poolside and Poolside Balcony:** With direct access to the indoor pool on the first floor or overlooking the pool from a personal balcony on the second, these suites feature a large living area, a full-size fridge, a serving counter, and a sink in addition to a bedroom with a king bed adjoined to a bedroom with two queen beds. Both bedrooms come with their own full bath.

+ **Two-Room Courtyard:** This suite opens via a sliding door to a personal patio that connects to the courtyard and features two bedrooms, one with a king bed and the other with two queen beds.

+ **Classic Two-Room Suite:** Complete with a sitting area, this suite is bathed in natural light and comes with a king room and a connected double queen room. Both rooms feature their own full bath and workstations.

ADA rooms available upon request for King Courtyard, Classic King and Double Queen, and Classic Two-Room Suite.

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## DINING

+ The iconic **Supper Club** has been transformed into a retro arcade with classic video games and contemporary favorites. The menu features tacos, pizza, burgers, and bowls, and the original sunken bar has been restored and now serves an array of cocktails and mocktails, local craft beers, and wines and seltzers.

+ Adjacent to the pool, the **Snack Shack** is the perfect spot for a quick bite. In addition to an order station for the poolside menu, it also offers complimentary coffee, tea, and soft drinks 24/7, as well as milkshakes and snacks for purchase.

+ The **Highlander Lounge**, sporting a Pictionary wall, is a popular destination serving flatbread pizzas and tacos along with playfully named cocktails, such as The Bra-Burner, Let It All Hang Out, and Wild Child. There is also an outdoor patio and firepit.



## WELLNESS

With the largest indoor pool in the area, The Highlander invites fun year-round. The hotel also features a fitness room, accessible 24/7, with state-of-the-art equipment. Yoga is offered on Sunday mornings.

## EVENT FACILITIES

The perfect venue for gigs, gatherings, and galas, The Highlander features both small and large spaces to accommodate groups of all sizes. The 5,832-square-foot ballroom can host up to 575 for a cocktail reception and be divided for more intimate groups. The Supper Club, Legacy Room, and Dining Room are all available for events, while the Signature Room is ideal for small breakout sessions of six. From buttoned-down corporate gatherings to raucous wedding bashes, events here can blend beauty with boldness.

## EXPERIENCES

The Highlander offers a host of fun activities to experience, whether as an overnight guest or as a local. Depending on the day, guests might find live music, game show night, mixology and beverage tastings, chef samplings and pairings, and yoga and other wellness experiences. Business or leisure groups can also book private and custom experiences during their stay.

## PETS

At The Highlander Hotel, pets are considered cherished guests, too.

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## AREA ACTIVITIES

College Town Pedestrian Mall  
Museums and Art Galleries  
Live Theater and Music  
Locally Owned Downtown Boutiques  
Parks and Recreation  
Breweries and Wineries  
Dining Destinations

## TRAVELING TO THE HOTEL

The hotel is approximately 20 minutes from Eastern Iowa Airport (CID) in Cedar Rapids, located 20 miles north of Iowa City. Conveniently located at the intersection of I-80 and Dodge Street (Hwy 1), The Highlander offers ample car and bus parking.

