

# GUEST *of a* GUEST

## At Nashville's Chicest Hotel, Fender Is Turning Guests Into Rock Stars

by Stephanie Maida · October 23, 2019



The best part of any luxe hotel stay (and the reason I will always try to avoid booking an Airbnb when I travel) is, arguably, the room service. There's just something so magical about getting a knock on the door and having whatever you want presented to you on a silver platter. But not even champagne, caviar, or one of those fancy, fruity breakfast spreads you get in France beats what the [Hutton Hotel](#) in Nashville is serving up in-room: the chance to become a *literal* rock star. More specifically, a gorgeous Fender guitar (or bass, or ukulele) along with personal, digital lessons courtesy of [Fender Play](#), the iconic company's complete online learning program.



And that's really just the cherry on top of this sweet stay. Factor in the plush, modern-meets-vintage decor (the one you conjure in your head when you think of today's Nashville aesthetic), private writing-and-recording studios for certified artists, upscale comfort food eatery, Mane & Rye Dinerant, and actual on-site concert venue, it's no wonder the Hutton Hotel is every A-lister's first choice when it comes to kicking back in Music City. This place is made for musicians, and with their new Fender Play package, that includes you - even if you've never picked up a guitar before.

Click through for everything you need to know before embarking on your own *A Star Is Born* adventure in Nashville (happier ending guaranteed).

*[Photos courtesy Hutton Hotel]*

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## The Hotel



A staple on Nashville's hospitality scene for 10 years, the recently revamped Hutton Hotel sits in the lively West End area of the city, steps away from Music Row (the historic recording hub of country music) and a quick Uber ride from Broadway (a.k.a. honky-tonk central). The lobby lounge is modern and sophisticated, but filled with vintage touches like record players and old school vinyl. An open format cafe and bar make it ideal for hanging around with your laptop during the day.

Rooms and suites are bright and sleek with touches of bold primary colors, each boasting granite bathrooms

with glass-encased rainfall showers you won't ever want to leave. But the jewel in the crown of this place is most definitely its celebrity-frequented Hutton Suite. The 4,660 square foot two-level "penthouse" boasts a floor-to-ceiling marble fireplace, an expansive modern kitchen (for one's personal chef, natch), a piano, a writing room (complete with typewriter), and fur throws everywhere. It's seriously like walking into an episode of *MTV Cribs*.



[Photo via @huttonhotel, Hutton Hotel]

## The Fender Play Experience



My favorite feature of any of the rooms is the string instrument you get when you book the [Fender Play in-room experience](#). Along with the personal amp, headphones (so the hotel isn't reverberating with novice strums), and iPad pre-loaded with Fender Play.

I'll admit, I've fancied myself a rock star since I was about three years old, despite having absolutely no musical inclinations. When I first picked up the gorgeous electric guitar sitting in the corner of my room during a recent trip to the Hutton (customized with my own brand-new Fender guitar strap found in a swag bag included with the package), I

realized after five minutes that I was holding the poor guy upside down. So, that's as much as you need to know about how very inexperienced I was when I got started. I wasn't even sure how to use a guitar pick.



But, soon enough, I was holding the guitar the right way, and even knew where to put my fingers. I created a Fender Play account (which will be complimentary for three months so I can continue my studies), picked the instrument I was using (electric guitar), and tapped on the type of music I wanted to learn how to play (rock n' roll, baby!). Then I was able to begin at my experience level with bite-sized, easy-to-follow videos instructed by Fender pros. I'm not joking - after an hour or so I was creating sounds that could almost pass as music. In three months, I'll have my own band - just you wait.



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## Writers Studios



Speaking of becoming a musician, let's talk about the Hutton's [Writers Studios](#). Seriously one of the coolest hotel amenities I've ever heard of, let alone seen in person. Here's the deal: if you're not in Nashville to ride one of those bike bars as part of a bachelorette party (proud to say I have yet to be forced to in *any* city), then you're there to bask in the glory of country music and perhaps even record your own.

Joining the ranks of some of the city's legendary studios

on Music Row are the Hutton's two on-site writing and recording studios, creative spaces available to the loads of profesh musicians that check in on the daily. They're both bohemian oases, coming complete with a selection of guitars and state-of-the-art recording equipment, but each brings its own vibe; one was designed by Dierks Bentley, the other by Ryan Tedder of OneRepublic. Casual.



## Analog

If the Fender Play experience and in-house recording studios haven't proven just how serious the hotel is about music, [Analog](#) most definitely will. The 5,000-square-foot concert venue, bar, and lounge opened in 2017 and is renowned in the area for its excellent acoustics, Bose sound system, and intimate living room vibes, which provide a truly unique way to enjoy the performers on stage. From album releases and listening parties to new artist showcases, the swanky spot, filled with plush sofas and one very epic chandelier, is a go-to for musicians seeking to give very special shows. We wouldn't be surprised if a few record studio execs had a running reservation here.



## Mane & Rye Dinerant

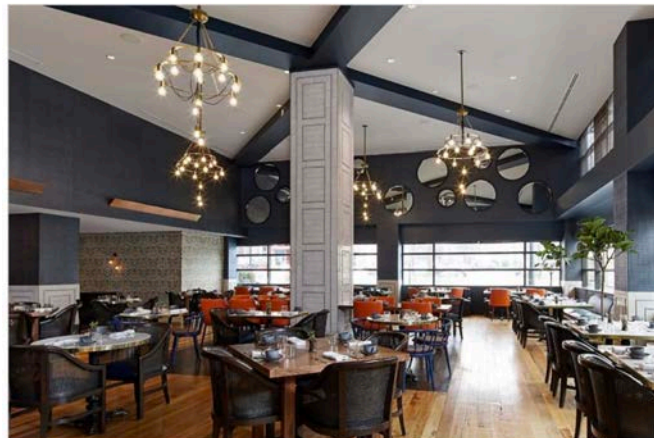


Of course, even rock stars and country singers need to eat. And for that, there's the very fun [Mane & Rye Dinerant](#), the Hutton's version of an upscale diner (you know, if diners served craft cocktails and boozy milkshakes).

You'll find all sorts of Southern comfort food faves, including an all-day breakfast selection of biscuits and gravy, chicken-fried steak and eggs, and short rib hash. But suppertime cannot be missed. I'm talking shrimp and grits, buttermilk catfish, and epic sandwiches like the fried chicken and, my favorite, the gooey-good turkey Reuben, topped with an apple-pear kraut and

havarti cheese. No Nashville meal is complete without cornbread and hush puppies, and no "diner" dinner should be without loaded fries - lucky for us, they do all three (the gravy fries are piled high with a fried egg, cheese curds, and chunky whole grain mustard - yum).

Wash it all down with an over-the-top, Insta-worthy boozy milkshake while playing a few rounds on a pinball machine. There's the Fat Elvis (Tahitian Vanilla Bean Ice Cream, Peanut Butter, Banana, Jack Daniels, Fluff), the Vlad (Malted Vanilla Ice Cream, Stolichnaya Vodka, Kahlua Syrup, Malt Balls), or the Bad Hombre (Mexican Chocolate Ice Cream, Cazadores Tequila, Dulce de Leche). In-sane. But, to be fair, after all that hard work learning how to play guitar, working up quite the appetite is to be expected, so no shame if you order all three while you're here.



[Photos via @maneandrye]