

## Travel

# Warm regards for 'Borat,' ice skating

USA TODAY's **Kitty Bean Yancey** writes about the new and notable on the hotel scene in her **Hotel Hotsheet** every day at [blogs.usatoday.com/hotelhotsheet](http://blogs.usatoday.com/hotelhotsheet). Highlights from current postings:

### The *Borat* B&B owners tell all

First came the question: Was that a real B&B that comedian Sacha Baron Cohen (in his *Borat-the-Kazakhstan-journalist* persona) fled in the hit movie, thinking the Jewish owners had transformed themselves into cockroaches and were menacing him?

The answer is yes, it's the Four Seasons B&B in Newton, Mass., just outside Boston.

I called and got co-owner Joseph Behar, who says Cohen and the film crew never broke character and never told him or wife Miriam that they were going to be in a movie comedy. Cohen did in fact run out in the middle of the night.

Behar found Cohen "very nice and polite." And he's not offended by the movie. "He's making fun of everybody. . . . I think it's like *Candid Camera*."

However, the Behars are upset about one

thing in the film. "We don't have any cockroaches here. We don't!" Joseph says. "My wife keeps the house spotless."

The B&B has no website, and Joseph isn't interested in USA TODAY printing its phone number. "We don't need the extra advertising."

Meanwhile, one lodging in *Borat* is promoting its connection with the movie. Manhattan's Hotel Wellington ([wellingtonhotel.com](http://wellingtonhotel.com)), where *Borat* complains about being charged \$117 for a room, has come up with a "Borat Slept Here — NOT!!!" package for January. For \$117.13 a person, double occupancy, you get room, full American breakfast for two, metro card and discounts on shopping and sightseeing. There's a two-night minimum stay.

### Bikinis on ice

You can't roller skate in a buffalo herd. But this holiday season, you can take to the ice at hotels in hot-weather destinations.

I just visited the legendary Hotel del Coronado in San Diego ([hoteldel.com](http://hoteldel.com)), where an oceanfront winter ice rink is a big hit. You'll see Easterners in shorts gliding around, totally blissed out.

Did you know that some Royal Caribbean Cruise Line ships ([royalcaribbean.com](http://royalcaribbean.com)) also have ice rinks? Not something I've ever looked

for in a Caribbean vacation, but sounds like fun.

And the Lake Las Vegas Resort ([lakelasvegas.com](http://lakelasvegas.com)), about 17 miles from the Strip, has an ice rink that floats on the lake. You can go for a dip afterward.

### \$16 milk and cookies

That's what you'll pay when you order up the soothing snack on the new "traveler's renewal" room-service menu at a Westin hotel.

In theory, the idea is a good one. Travelers are stressed out, tired and susceptible to colds or feeling run down. So Westin, after consulting with health experts at *Prevention* magazine, is offering a menu of items to revive and soothe guests.

I like the idea of Westin stocking free fruit and water in lobbies and sending up a free heating pad, humidifier or ice pack. I like its healthier room-service choices — from smoothies to green tea to a honeysuckle-and-lemon elixir.

But the prices! Enough to raise blood pressure. \$10 oatmeal cookies and warm milk will tack on about \$16 to your bill after the 18% service charge, \$4 delivery fee and 8.375% tax are added. Chicken broth? I get mine for under \$1 a can at home; at Westin, the watery brew can cost \$12 and change when all the charges are tacked on.



Hotel del Coronado

**Hit the beach, or strap on skates:** The oceanfront winter ice rink is a big hit for the Hotel del Coronado in San Diego.