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## the development issue





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## Portland, Oregon

Locals like to blame sketch-comedy series Portlandia for the increase in transplants, new construction, and soaring home prices, but the change underway has more to do with a robust and expanding high-tech industry, not to mention the success of cornerstone companies such as Nike and Intel, both based in the Portland-metro area. With 8.9 million overnight trips logged in 2015, hoteliers have responded to an increasing demand with plans to add some 4,000 rooms to the 27,000 currently in stock in the next two years, according to consulting firm HVS. Proposals include a 600-room Hyatt Regency, slated for 2019, to cater to Oregon Convention Center goers, in addition to an inspired lineup of boutique and midrange design hotels.

For the city's first Autograph Collection Hotel, the Hi-Lo, San Francisco-based designer Andrea Jew brought contemporary comfort to the centennial structure's 120 guestrooms. "The emphasis of the design stemmed from being local, taking in the outdoors, music, art, and the community," says Jew. To that end, the design highlights local vendors and native materials, such as handcrafted live oak tables in the bar and front desk, and wood flooring and siding throughout the guestrooms and public space. Scheduled for an April opening at the historic Oregon Pioneer Building, the hotel will also bring a new restaurant to the area: Alto-Bajo, dishing chef Chip Barnes' modern Mexican eats.

Dossier, an upmarket hotel set along the city's central Park blocks, will mark the fourth property for Portland-based Provenance Hotels when it opens this summer. (A fifth, the adaptive reuse Woodlark, designed by R&A Design, Smith Hanes, and James Staicoff, is set for 2018.) The group's president Bashar Wali and in-house designer Ashley Stempler aim to create an ambiance akin to a private club and dress the 205 guestrooms in soft earth tones and gray and blue hues. Like its sister properties, art will be a prominent aspect in Dossier's design, featuring images by 20th-century







photographer to the stars, Slim Aarons. Having primarily worked on historic buildings, Wali is excited to approach this newer property "without having to work around tiny bathrooms, closet-sized elevators," and rooms with different floorplans.

The Grove Hotel, a 113-room independent boutique property, is due to open in the fall thanks to a partnership between Naito Development, Eagle Point Hotel Partners, and Filament Hospitality. The design, courtesy of Brooklyn, New York-based Studio Tack, combines a distinct blend of Portland past and present with Anglo-Japanese influences. The property will feature an open lobby, coffee shop, restaurant, bar, and rooftop garden bar.

Along the west side of the Willamette River, the Hilton Portland & Executive Towers-one of the largest hotels in the city with 782 rooms—is currently in the midst of a multimillion-dollar renovation. Slated for completion this spring, the Gettys Group is infusing warm, regional materials throughout with a midcentury feel in the guestrooms. Meanwhile, the Executive Tower will be transformed by Toronto-based DesignAgency into the Duniway, a new boutique hotel from Hilton. Inspired by Abigail Duniway, a women's rights pioneer and Portland native, and the city's industrial past, expect a mix of traditional and contemporary furnishings, nature-inspired elements, curated books, and bespoke touches by local artisans.

In late fall, the city will also welcome Hilton's Canopy brand (from the Buccini/Pollin Group), promising a 153-room new build in the city's chic Pearl District complete with a garden atrium area with a lounge, 24-hour café, and meeting rooms. New York's Mark Zeff Design, the firm responsible for helping to develop the brand, took inspiration from the "industrial warehouses and buildings in the area," Zeff says. The modern building features exposed beamwork inside and out; public spaces dressed in brick, wood, concrete, and metal; and rooms with organic concrete floors softened by handwoven rugs and upholstered furniture.

As cutting-edge properties mushroom in the city's downtown, some established hotels have also upped their game, including the Nines, part of Marriott's Luxury Collection, which underwent a significant remodel late last year. ForrestPerkins, which crafted the hotel's original design in 2008, was asked back by new owners Pebblebrook Hotel Trust to reimagine its meeting rooms, ballroom, lobby, and 331 guestrooms. Highlights: the transformation of a small space with no windows and low ceilings into the dynamic multifunctional area, the Barrel Room; and a 35-foot-tall bird song chandelier, which hangs above the grand staircase complete with a light show and chirps and twitters.