

# COLLECTION™

THE BUYER'S GUIDE FROM THE PUBLISHERS OF ROBB REPORT

## 5 GREAT IDEAS FOR HOLIDAY TRAVEL

**ALSO:** Experts' Secrets for a Better Bed

**WINNING AUCTION BIDS:** Vintage Wine, Winchester Rifle, John Lennon's guitar...

**PROPERTIES IN:** Sun Valley, Whistler, Austin, Steamboat, Santa Fe, Palm Beach, and more



**PLUS:**  
CAMARO RESTORATION  
WOMEN'S JEWELRY  
COOL SNOWMOBILES



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BY LARRY BEAN



# SLEEP DREAMS

Hotel and resort pros share their secrets for making a better bed.

BY KAREN CAKEBREAD

**C**REATING A FIVE-STAR sleeping experience at home is simply a matter of layering. Four hospitality professionals who make the slumber-related buying decisions for their companies or individual lodgings share their advice for building a bed of your dreams. The formulas are concise, and each ingredient is essential.

## TRACY LEE

Vice president of spa development, Auberge Resorts

“When guests feel they’ve had an amazing sleeping experience, they usually think it’s because of the sheets and pillows, but it’s really the whole combination,” says Lee, whose choices can be savored in such properties as Auberge du Soleil in Napa Valley, Calif.; Esperanza in Los Cabos, Mexico; and the Inn at Palmetto Bluff in South Carolina.

► **TUFF:** Lee chooses a U.S.-made commercial mattress (and box spring) with high-quality ticking, foam layers, and a heavy-duty coil system “that won’t start wearing down after a couple of months,” she says. A tall mattress, 11 to 13 inches high, is Lee’s preference, topped by a custom-made mattress pad.

► **FLUFF:** White goose down feather beds, pillows, and duvets are custom made for Auberge Resorts by a San Francisco manufacturer. The feather bed is stitched together in a compartmentalized grid to wear well, and it is covered with a protector that can be removed easily and laundered. “Lots of pillows” go on the bed, Lee says. During the day, decorative pillows add color, and at turndown they’re replaced with a soft throw.

► **BUFF:** Lee prefers Egyptian cotton linens, manufactured in Italy. She stresses that the quality of cotton is her most important consideration when purchasing bed linens, but the 400-thread-count measurement for the sheets and pillowcases also insures a smooth surface next to the skin. The duvet cover, changed daily, is of the same Egyptian cotton, with a 300 thread count.

► **OFF THE CUFF:** “We put a king pillow in a queen case,” says Lee. “It looks and feels fluffier.”



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