

TOP TEN HOSTELS IN EUROPE

by [Alex Robertson Textor](#) on Oct 25, 2010



Staying in a hostel in Europe is a rite of passage for budget-conscious travelers making their way around the continent. This is particularly the case for budget-conscious younger travelers. Here are ten hostels across Europe that either receive particularly high user-review grades or are notorious enough in one or another way to be noteworthy.

[St. Christopher's at the Winston](#), Amsterdam, Netherlands. The Winston presents itself as “an interactive museum of modern art.” However it refers to itself, it is without question one of the most dynamic budget hotels in Europe, with a few hostel-style dormitory rooms on offer. It's got a restaurant on the premises and a nearby nightclub, and is aesthetically far more exciting than your average hostel.

[Långholmen](#), Stockholm, Sweden. Ever wanted to spend the night in a prison? OK, a former prison? Långholmen is a rehabbed prison located just a stone's throw from Stockholm's supercool Södermalm nabe. Fantastic, and not as austere as you might expect.

[Good Bye Lenin](#), Krakow, Poland. Tucked away in a corner of Krakow's history-rich Kazimierz neighborhood, Good Bye Lenin replays the aesthetics of Polish socialism in a cheery, friendly space. Very atmospheric and fun.

[Balmers](#), Interlaken, Switzerland. In operation for over a century now, family-run Balmers is Switzerland's oldest hostel. Balmers offers dormitory rooms, private rooms, and tent accommodations. And lots of fresh air, obviously.

[Meininger](#), London, United Kingdom. The Meininger chain of hostels can be found mostly in big cities across Germany and Austria. The London outpost, though not particularly British in spirit, is a welcome, well-scrubbed addition to London's dreary hostel scene. [Oops! Hostel](#), Paris, France. Far more stylish than your average hostel, Oops! injects a blast of fun energy in Paris' Latin Quarter. Hotel interiors wizard [Philippe Maidenber](#) is responsible for Oops!'s fresh interior design.

[Hostel Archi Rossi](#), Florence, Italy. One of the best loved hostels in Florence, Hostel Archi Rossi offers free wi-fi, free breakfast, and complimentary walking tours of Florence. Archi Rossi is very close to the Santa Maria Novella train station, too.

[Kadir's Tree Houses](#), Olympos, Turkey. Near Antalya on Turkey's Mediterranean coast, Kadir's Tree Houses is a sprawling complex of bungalows, cabins, dormitory rooms, and campground. Kadir's provides a great range of services (laundry and a travel agency, to name but two) and also includes both breakfast and dinner in its nightly rate.

[The Pink Palace](#), Corfu, Greece. One of Europe's most notorious party hostels, the Pink Palace is a garish temple of hedonism, just possibly the best place in the world to play spin the bottle in five languages. Woohoo!

[Hotel 4 Youth](#), Berlin, Germany. There are two Hotels 4 Youth in Berlin. The branch on Schönhauser Allee gets especially high marks. 133 beds, conical pillows, and a few nice extras (seminar rooms, a pool room) make this a top Berlin hostel. Location in hip, bohemian Prenzlauer Berg is also a big plus.

(Image: [foilman](#) / Flickr)