



## FEATURED HOTELS

### The Bungalow Hotel, Long Branch, NJ - Review

#### Redefining "Bungalow"

by Patricia Mack



Luxurious guest room of The Bungalow Hotel

Once upon a time a "bungalow" at the Jersey Shore meant a little cottage with a white wicker rocking chair on the porch. Not anymore. Welcome to The Bungalow, a 24-room luxury [boutique](#) hotel renowned for its ultra modern décor punctuated with antiques and unique artwork.

Forget the usual rush to get to your room—you'll want to linger in the lobby with all of its theatrical elements both whimsical and historic. Order one of [The Bungalow Hotel's](#) clever cocktails at the handsome bar—created by craftsman John Houshmand—so you can savor the atmosphere: The white-plumed feather chandelier above a 1920s pool table and the six-foot-high mural of a stamp depicting Queen Elizabeth II by British artist Ann Carrington made entirely out of pearl buttons—really, pearl buttons. There's also an endless assortment of games for guests to enjoy, including backgammon and chess. And, hanging on the walls, is an amazing collection of surfer pictures by some of the best photographers in the field. How nice to enjoy it as you inhale the salt air from the Atlantic Ocean just steps away.



The modern lobby



The cozy fireplace

When you do get to your room, you may be unhappy at the advice to delay since here, in these oversized quarters, are fine art, elegant appointments and excellent interior design, not to mention the pure comfort and pleasure of a king-size bed, flat screen TV, iPod docking station, kitchenette, café table, expansive window walls, and an electronic fireplace. Did we mention the free Wi-Fi?

Guest benefits also include access (for a small fee) to the nearby members-only Le Club, a well-appointed beach club with both pool and sandy shore, as well as Gold's Gym just a block away. Aquamedicspa, which offers massages, facials, pedicures, manicures and haircuts, is just around the corner.

There is no [restaurant](#) in-house, but that does not signal a lack of great things to eat. Pier Village's lively [dining](#) scene includes [The Avenue](#), a highly touted boardwalk restaurant that is affiliated with The Bungalow. Right next door to the hotel is the charming little bakery/coffee shop, Cake Bake & Roll, with a limited but appealing breakfast [menu](#), fresh-made pastries and gourmet coffees and teas. Walk toward the ocean and along the way find The Wine Loft, an elegant wine bar and a perfect place to sit and sip. When it comes to [nightlife](#), head back to Le Club, which, when the sun goes down, becomes a sophisticated, edgy and culty indoor/outdoor nightclub. ♦

becomes a sophisticated, edgy and sexy indoor/outdoor hotspot. =

**The Bungalow Hotel**

50 Laird St.  
Long Branch, NJ 07740  
732 229-3700  
[www.bungalowhotel.net](http://www.bungalowhotel.net)

