



Where to Stay in Washington

The new center of Washington

Massachusetts Avenue to K Street between 15th and 20th Streets, N.W.

The Madison, 15th and M Sts., N.W., (202) 862-1600. Unabashed luxury is the Madison's claim to fame. Chinese ebony cabinets inlaid with jade and ivory adorn the lobby. Crewel bedspreads from India, bronze lamps, and Chinese silk flowers lend elegance to the rooms. Baths have heated towel racks, scales, marble vanities, and telephones, and some have bidets. Guests are given keys to their own fully stocked miniature bars (you have to pay for what you take, however).

Singles are \$96-\$115; doubles \$116-\$165; suites start at \$210. A third person (including children) in any room is \$20; parking is \$7.50 a night. The clientele consists mostly of corporate executives and foreign dignitaries; some suites are rented by corporations on a permanent basis. The upper lobby offers eight tasteful meeting rooms designed for group functions, but not conventions.

Among the hotel's restaurants, **Le Montpelier** has a reputation for graciousness. Lunch and dinner (or Sunday brunch) there will definitely cost you, but the atmosphere is pure elegance. **The Retreat**, a less formal English pub, is priced, well, a bit lower. **Le Provence** is billed as a "coffee house," but in this colorful French-style cafe only breakfast and lunch are reasonably priced.

The Madison has 372 rooms. For those who prefer a more intimate arrangement, the same management runs the **Dolley Madison**, half a block away. With only 44 rooms, its atmosphere and furnishings are reminiscent of a hospitable French *auberge*. Prices are the same as the main hotel. There's a small dining room if you don't feel like venturing out.

The Jefferson, 1200 16th St., N.W., (202) 347-4704. The emphasis here is on the personal touch. From hand-washed laundry to complimentary shoe-shine,

the Jefferson is perfect for those who appreciate the privacy of a small hotel but still like to be fussed over. Almost all of Ronald Reagan's cabinet secretaries lived there while seeking permanent housing.

Most of the 100 rooms feature traditional hotel decor, although you'll find some Chinese furniture, canopied beds, and French-door windows here and there. Singles start at \$85, doubles at \$95; suites with kitchenette begin at \$175. It's possible to get a single with kitchen for \$100-\$110. On weekends all rooms except suites are \$75-\$85 and there is a reduced rate for businessmen staying over the weekend. The hotel also offers a weekend package with accommodations for two nights, a Friday evening snack, Saturday breakfast, a two-hour limo ride through Washington, and Sunday brunch for \$200 per couple. Parking is \$7.50 a night (but free for restaurant patrons).

Another endearing feature of the Jefferson is the assurance that you'll never be mowed down by a mob of nametag-sporting conventioners, since there is only one meeting room. Another charm is the **Hunt Club** dining room, with lots of intimate little nooks and Chippendale chairs. The special Jeffersonian dinner features seasonal game, for those so inclined, while the white chocolate mousse is not to be missed.

The Mayflower, 1127 Connecticut Ave., N.W., (202) 347-3000. This has to be Washington's most conveniently located hotel, surrounded by fine restaurants and shops and with a Metro stop by its front doors and the longest line of cabs in town. All this, coupled with meeting rooms for 20 to 1,000, makes it a businessman's dream. Some of the old-time Washington charm has been diminished by lighted signs over the meeting room entrances and a lobby bar that borders on tacky, but the rooms, thankfully, are tasteful.

The hotel has a series of recently renovated suites, the "35-36 series": a pleasant parlor that could serve as a small meeting room, and a bedroom and bath. Price: \$185. Renovation of the rest of the Mayflower's 700 rooms will be completed during a \$60 million restoration project scheduled to begin soon. Meanwhile singles are \$60-\$113; doubles, \$87-\$133. The lower-priced rooms are not renovated, and they are usually not rented unless the hotel is booked. There are two deluxe suites, the Presidential (\$450) and the Mayflower (\$350). Children under 18 stay with their parents free; parking is \$4.75 a night. There are two- and three-night sightseeing packages (\$99 and \$149 per person, double occupancy) which include breakfast, dinner and all-day passes for the Tourmobile.

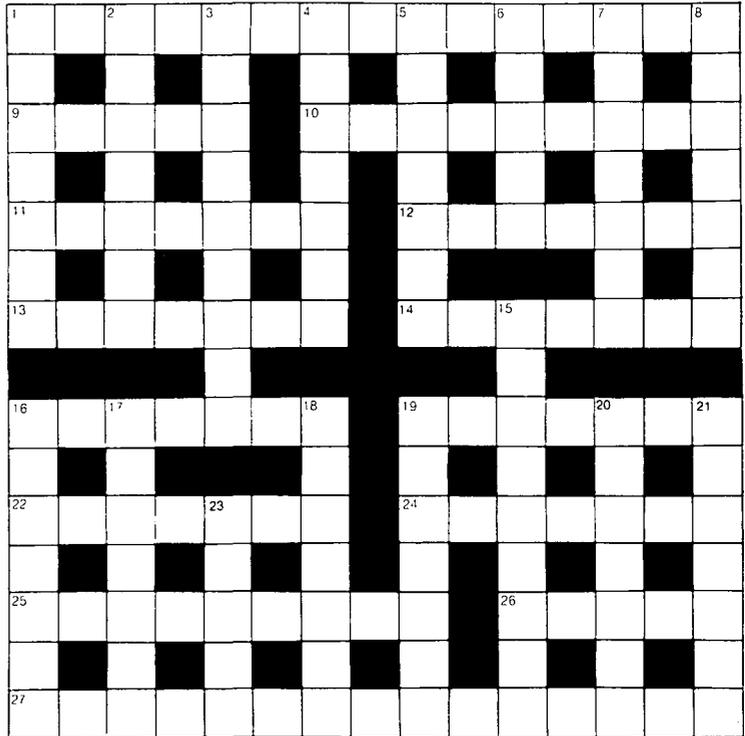
The Carvery, the main dining room, serves all three meals, offering dinner entrees starting at \$10.50 and a different Scarsdale lunch daily. The Carvery used to be J. Edgar Hoover's favorite lunch spot, and his regular seat is marked with a commemorative plaque. **The Town and Country**, less formal but more reasonably priced, serves a continental breakfast and lunch on weekdays. There are drinks and a piano bar at night.

—Donna Fenn

the political puzzle

by John Barclay

The numbers indicate the number of letters and words, e.g., (2,3) means a two-letter word followed by a three-letter word. Groups of letters, e.g., USA, are treated as one word.



ACROSS

1. Crazy Aleut aired igloo and caused price increase. (3,12)
9. Blackball the G.I. in back. (5)
10. Wore a true wrinkled overcoat. (9)
11. Oration made by a lake. (7)
12. State article back from country. (7)
13. Make riot pay for trimming trees. (7)
14. After snail held dam up? (7)
16. Sort of cinch or enduring. (7)
19. Turn down outrageous fur sale. (7)
22. Fire self-starter? (7)
24. Talk about track event using pole. (7)
25. Teachers sometimes and impresarios always? (9)
26. Punishment after boil gets one lion angry. (2,3)
27. Washington topic: raises for linemen? (7,8)

DOWN

1. Wrinkled top one you unfold. (4,3)
2. Plug hit roughly to display at night. (5,2)
3. Contemplate what some sorts of intent are. (9)

4. Cut-back puts little company in money crunch. (7)
5. Novel future lawsuits? (7)
6. Disclosed a dire arrangement. (5)
7. Repeat Eastern attire combination. (7)
8. Standards to beat the President up! (7)
15. No fair! He's mussed. Do it again! (9)
16. Namath fouled by a hairdresser? (7)
17. Skips for fun's play. (4,3)
18. Train brought in to escort, e.g., Emerson. (7)
19. Material which shifts uncomfortably used wrong way in rip. (5,2)
20. Post Office minus melting dessert. (7)
21. Final stage gets all confused. (4,3)
23. A pain turns North. (5)

Answers to last month's puzzle:

