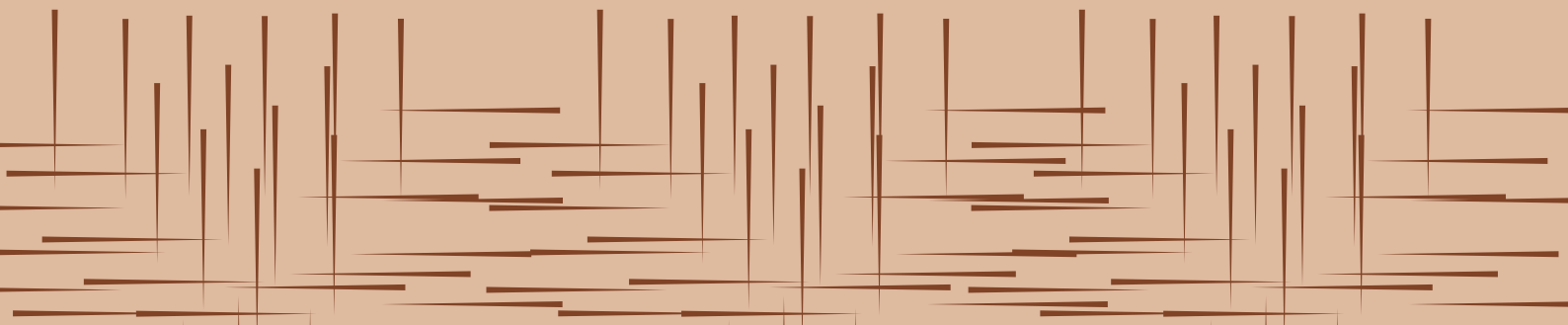


# HOW TO MAKE YOUR HOME COMFORTABLE AND INVITING FOR GUESTS



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## ABSTRACT

Creating a comfortable and inviting home for guests is all about making them feel welcome and at ease. A few simple touches, like soft lighting, pleasant scents, and a tidy environment, can go a long way in setting a warm atmosphere. Ensuring that your home is clean and well-maintained, with fresh linens and an organized space, can also help guests feel comfortable. Thoughtful personal touches, such as offering drinks, snacks, or even a small bouquet of flowers, can make a significant difference in creating a welcoming space.



In addition to the visual and physical elements of your home, providing a comfortable temperature, cozy seating, and areas for relaxation is key to enhancing your guests' experience. A clean and inviting guest room, along with the availability of entertainment and safety features, will ensure their stay is hassle-free. By offering these small but meaningful details, you can transform your home into a place where guests feel relaxed, valued, and truly at home.

## **LET'S GET STARTED**

Making your home comfortable and inviting for guests starts with creating a warm, welcoming atmosphere. Simple touches like soft lighting, pleasant scents, and a clean, organized environment can set the tone for a relaxed visit. Offering thoughtful amenities, such as fresh towels, cozy seating, and drinks or snacks, shows guests you've put care into their comfort. These small efforts help make your home feel like a sanctuary where guests can unwind and enjoy their time.

Beyond just the look and feel, the overall experience matters too. Ensuring that your home maintains a comfortable temperature, with areas for relaxation and entertainment, can enhance your guests' stay. A well-prepared guest room, safety features, and attentive hospitality all contribute to a memorable visit. By focusing on both the practical and personal aspects of your space, you can create an environment that makes guests feel truly at home.

## **THINGS HOUSEGUESTS ALWAYS NOTICE WHEN THEY VISIT YOUR PLACE**

It might have seemed like a good idea at the time, but inviting people over can be stressful. Is the house tidy? Is there a funny smell? Are there dishes in the sink? Have the kids' toys been put away?

To prevent the all-too-familiar 'having guests over freak-out', it's important to prioritise the little things that houseguests always notice. Rest assured, they're relatively quick and easy to fix.

When houseguests visit, there are several things they tend to notice, some of which may be subtle but can have a significant impact on their overall experience. Here's a detailed list of common observations:

### **1. Cleanliness and Tidiness**

Guests are quick to notice whether your home is clean and well-kept. Cluttered spaces, dirty floors, or dusty surfaces can make your home feel less inviting. Clean bathrooms, fresh linens, and organized living areas leave a positive impression and make guests feel comfortable.

## **2. Odour**

A fresh-smelling home is essential. Guests will notice if there's any lingering bad smell, such as from the trash can, pet odour, or food. Using air fresheners, scented candles, or essential oils can help create a pleasant atmosphere. A clean, fresh scent enhances the feeling of hospitality.

## **3. Comfort of Furniture and Seating**

The comfort of your seating arrangements is noticed immediately. Sofas and chairs should be comfortable for guests to relax in. If the furniture is worn out or uncomfortable, it can make guests feel uneasy. Soft cushions, throws, and properly arranged seating enhance the overall comfort.



## **4. Lighting**

Proper lighting is a key element guests observe. Too dim or too bright lighting can affect the mood of the space. A combination of natural light, soft lamps, and ambient lighting creates a welcoming and comfortable environment. Poor lighting can make spaces feel cold or uninviting.

## **5. Bathroom Cleanliness and Supplies**

Guests will certainly notice the cleanliness of your bathroom. This includes clean towels, toilet paper, and a tidy sink and shower area. If your guest bathroom is poorly stocked or not well-kept, it can leave guests feeling uncomfortable. Having fresh towels, extra toiletries, and a clean environment is a must.

## **6. Personal Touches and Decor**

Guests often appreciate when a home is decorated with personality. Personal touches like family photos, artwork, or a unique design style make the space feel lived-in and welcoming. Too much minimalism can feel cold, while too much clutter can be overwhelming. Balance is key.

## **7. Temperature and Air Quality**

A comfortable temperature is important for guests. If your home is too hot or too cold, it can affect their overall comfort. Air quality also plays a role—stale air can be unpleasant, while good ventilation and a comfortable climate enhance the environment.

## **8. Noise Levels**

Guests are sensitive to the noise levels in your home. Whether it's the hum of an air conditioner, traffic sounds from outside, or loud TV noise, all can impact a guest's comfort. Quiet, peaceful spaces encourage relaxation, while excessive noise can be distracting.

## **9. Availability of Essentials**

Houseguests will notice if you've made sure to provide essential items for their comfort, such as extra blankets, pillows, and toiletries. Having accessible Wi-Fi passwords, a few snacks, and clear directions for using appliances or systems is something they will appreciate.

## **10. Hospitality and Attention to Detail**

Finally, the way you interact with your guests will be noticed. Simple gestures like offering a drink, asking if they need anything, or providing clear directions to



the bathroom make them feel cared for. A welcoming attitude and attention to detail in hospitality can make a lasting impression.

By paying attention to these small yet important details, you ensure that your guests feel comfortable, relaxed, and valued, leaving them with a positive experience in your home.

### **HOW OFTEN SHOULD YOU DEEP CLEAN YOUR HOME BEFORE GUEST ARRIVAL?**

Deep cleaning your home before guests arrive is essential for ensuring your home is welcoming, hygienic, and comfortable. However, how often you should do this depends on several factors, including the frequency of guest visits, the size of your home, and the level of cleanliness you maintain regularly. Here's a detailed guide on how often to deep clean your home before hosting guests and the steps involved.



## **1. For Occasional Guests (A Few Times a Year)**

If you're hosting guests a few times a year, you may need to do a deep clean each time they visit. This could include relatives or friends coming for holidays or special occasions. In this case:

- Frequency: Deep clean your home 1-2 days before their arrival.
- Focus Areas: Pay extra attention to high-traffic areas like the living room, bathroom, and kitchen. Vacuum carpets, wipe down surfaces, and sanitize areas like the bathroom and kitchen sinks. Ensure there are no visible dust, grime, or pet hair.
- Special Tasks: Wash and change bed linens, fluff pillows, and add extra toiletries in the bathroom. Freshen up the guest bedroom by vacuuming and tidying up. Clean your windows and dust light fixtures for a polished look.

## **2. For Regular Guests (Family, Friends, or Business Visitors)**

If you have guests who visit more frequently—such as family or friends visiting regularly for short stays, or business colleagues—deep cleaning will need to be a bit more frequent. You might want to clean more often to maintain a consistently high standard.

- Frequency: Clean your home once a month in preparation for these guests, with a deep clean 1-2 days before each arrival.
- Focus Areas: Focus on maintaining cleanliness throughout the entire home, especially guest bedrooms and bathrooms. Every few visits, perform a more thorough clean of the living room and kitchen areas, such as sanitizing countertops, washing floors, cleaning behind furniture, and organizing.
- Special Tasks: Change bed linens regularly, clean any seasonal items like rugs or curtains, and tackle areas like under the couch cushions or inside kitchen cabinets.

## **3. For Frequent or Overnight Guests (Short-Term Stays)**

For guests staying over for a night or two—whether family, friends, or even Airbnb guests—you'll want to ensure that your home is always in good shape.

While you don't need a complete overhaul each time, certain deep-cleaning tasks can help make your guests feel comfortable.

- Frequency: Perform deep cleaning every 2-3 months with an extra focus on the guest areas just before their arrival.

- Focus Areas: Deep clean the guest bathroom and bedroom before their arrival, ensuring fresh sheets, clean towels, and no dust. Also, make sure to wipe down all surfaces in the living and dining areas and vacuum carpets.

- Special Tasks: Clean or refresh any items guests might use like extra blankets, pillows, and seating areas. If your guests stay for multiple nights, take care to tidy up during their visit by making the bed and sanitizing high-touch areas like door handles and light switches.

#### **4. For Hosting Large Events or Multiple Guests**

If you're hosting a big event like a party, reunion, or family gathering, a more intense deep clean will be needed. A large group of people will likely make your space dirtier, and you want to make sure your home is spotless and ready.

- Frequency: You should deep clean your entire home a week before the event, followed by a quick touch-up cleaning 1-2 days before the arrival of guests.

- Focus Areas: Ensure the kitchen, living room, and dining areas are especially clean. These are the most frequently used spaces during events. Clean carpets, disinfect restrooms, clean windows, and wipe down any furniture that will be used.

- Special Tasks: Consider cleaning your outdoor spaces if you have guests arriving for a barbecue or outdoor gathering. Check your backyard or porch and prepare outdoor seating areas.

#### **5. For Airbnb Hosts**

If you're running an Airbnb or similar short-term rental, cleanliness is especially important to maintain a positive reputation and reviews. This will require regular deep cleaning between guest stays.



- Frequency: After every check-out, deep clean the entire space. Additionally, perform a thorough cleaning once a month to address areas that don't get as much attention during regular turnovers (like deep cleaning carpets, behind appliances, and checking for hidden dust in corners).

- Focus Areas: Clean the guest rooms, bathrooms, living spaces, and kitchen. Pay special attention to high-touch surfaces such as light switches, doorknobs, and remote controls. You'll also need to refresh linens, and towels, and ensure everything is sanitary.

- Special Tasks: Keep a checklist to ensure no corners are missed. This includes cleaning vents, washing windows, and checking if furniture or décor needs to be replaced or freshened up.

### **Key Areas to Always Include in Deep Cleaning:**

Regardless of how often you deep clean, these areas should always be addressed before any guest arrives:

- Kitchen: Wipe down countertops, clean the stove, fridge, and microwave, wash dishes, and sanitize all handles and doorways.

- Bathroom: Scrub the sink, shower, and toilet, change towels, and restock toiletries.

- Guest Bedrooms: Fresh sheets, a tidy space, and extra pillows and blankets.

- Living Room: Vacuum and dust furniture, clean light fixtures, and check for any clutter or crumbs.

- Floors: Sweep, mop, or vacuum all floors, including under furniture.

The frequency of deep cleaning depends on the type of guests and the size of your household. Regular, light upkeep will help maintain a welcoming environment, but ensuring a deep clean before the arrival of guests guarantees a fresh and hygienic space. Whether it's a large gathering, overnight stays, or frequent visitors, planning ahead and cleaning effectively will make your guests feel comfortable and appreciated.

## **HOW TO CLEAN A TRASH CAN TO BANISH PESKY ODOURS**

A fresh-smelling home often promotes a pleasant living experience. So, eliminating bad odours and ensuring the living space smells good should be a priority. However, during regular house cleaning, most people tend to overlook the trash can. In fact, it would be at the top of the list of neglected items. Remember that not cleaning trash cans, particularly the ones in the kitchen, will significantly increase the chances of germs and bacteria spreading. Dirty outdoor cans can give invitations to animals, and they might show up.

It is obvious that trash cans need frequent cleaning, regardless of whether they are designed for outdoor use or not. Fortunately, it is very simple to clean and maintain an odour-free bin. Most people already have the things they will need for cleaning. It is just about putting in some effort. Here is how to clean a trash can to banish pesky odours. Maintain the bins in excellent condition by following these steps.



## **1. Take Trash Out and Remove Debris**

Before proceeding with cleaning the trash can, ensure that it is entirely empty. So, remove the bag and wipe out any loose debris. End of lease cleaning Melbourne experts recommend using disinfectant wipes to wipe both the inside and outside of the bins. This will ensure the removal of food particles.

## **2. Rinse the Cans**

In case it is possible, take the trash cans outside and rinse them out with a hose. If that is not a possibility, simply place them in the shower or bathtub. Next, use the showerhead or faucet for a thorough rinse. In some cases, it might be better to dampen a microfibre cloth with a mixture of dish soap and water before rinsing.

## **3. Use a DIY Cleaning Solution**

Now, it is time to spray an effective and budget-friendly cleaning solution on both the inside and outside of the trash can. Usually, a DIY cleaner prepared by mixing vinegar, water, and essential oils will do the job. In case the can is really smelly, professionals who do the best end of lease cleaning Melbourne recommend sprinkling some baking soda, also.

This is because baking soda is considered a natural deodoriser, helping eliminate the bad odour. Just half a cup will do the job. Allow the solution to do its work for around five to ten minutes before proceeding to the next step.

## **4. Scrub the Trash Bins**

Scrub the interior of the trash can with a long-handled bristled brush or a soft cloth to get rid of dirt and grime. The size of the can will determine whether a cloth is better or the brush. The strong combination of the scrubbing action and cleaning solution will effectively clean the bin. When it comes to cleaning the outside, it is best to use a microfibre cloth, especially if it is a material that can get easily scratched.

## **5. Rinse and Dry**

After completing the cleaning procedure, rinse the trash cans once more. Either use a showerhead or a hose to completely spray the outside and inside of the bin

without neglecting the lid. This will help eliminate any persistent residue easily. Follow up by letting the bins air-dry.

In case they are required for immediate use, consider wiping them down completely with paper towels. Ensure they are entirely dry before placing a new bag to minimise the chances of moisture getting trapped and possibly resulting in mould and mildew growth. This entire procedure can also be used for cheap end of lease cleaning Melbourne.

## **6. How Frequently to Clean Trash Cans?**

After knowing the importance of cleaning trash cans, most people would want to know the ideal frequency for the same. In most cases, it will depend on the usage of the bin. As a general rule, monthly cleaning will be ideal.

However, individuals might need to do it more often if they notice unpleasant odours or stains. These things indicate that there is a buildup of germs and bacteria. They can create odours that will spread throughout the entire residence. Taking immediate action in such situations is advisable, particularly for people who are preparing for a house party or expecting guests.

## **7. How to Maintain Odour-Free Trash Cans?**

There is no better way to maintain odour-free trash bins than to keep them clean at all times. It might sound simple, but remember that this task is not part of most people's cleaning routine, which means it gets neglected a lot. To avoid this mistake, it is important to make it a habit by finding a routine that works well and fits well into your schedule. Finally, end of lease cleaning Melbourne professionals recommend avoiding overstuffing the cans and instead taking the trash to the bulk bin or the curb regularly.

To ensure your home always smells fresh, it is paramount to clean trash cans using the right method. Doing so on a regular basis will reduce the chances of germs and bacteria spreading. Follow the steps and tips from this guide to easily get rid of pesky odours from trash bins.

## **GUEST BEDROOM IDEAS FOR A COZY, INVITING SPACE**

Creating a cozy and inviting guest bedroom requires thoughtful planning to make your guests feel comfortable, relaxed, and at home. A welcoming space can leave a lasting impression and ensure that your guests have a positive experience. Below are detailed ideas for designing a guest bedroom that feels warm, cozy, and truly inviting.

### **1. Choose Soft, Calming Colors**

The color scheme of the room sets the tone for the entire space. Soft, neutral shades like light greys, pastels, and off-whites promote a calming atmosphere, perfect for relaxation. Consider adding accents of deeper tones like navy, sage green, or muted blues for contrast, which can evoke a sense of comfort and warmth. Avoid overly bright or intense colors, as they can make the space feel less restful.

### **2. Invest in a Comfortable Bed and Bedding**

The bed is the centerpiece of any guest bedroom, and comfort should be a priority. Opt for a high-quality mattress that provides both support and softness. If you're not sure what type to buy, a medium-firm mattress works well for most guests. For the bedding, choose soft, breathable fabrics like cotton or linen, which keep the bed feeling fresh and comfortable. Add a mix of cozy layers, such as a soft duvet, pillows of various sizes, and a stylish throw blanket at the foot of the bed.

### **3. Add Plenty of Pillows and Throws**

Nothing says comfort like a generous amount of pillows. Guests will appreciate having multiple options to get comfortable. Use a variety of pillow sizes—standard, queen, and decorative throw pillows—for a layered, inviting look. Choose pillows that are soft to the touch, such as down or hypoallergenic options. Complement the bedding with a plush throw blanket, perfect for guests who may want to curl up and relax.

### **4. Provide Adequate Storage Space**

Your guests will need somewhere to store their belongings, so it's important to have enough storage. A dresser, wardrobe, or closet space is ideal for longer stays.

If your guest bedroom lacks a built-in closet, consider adding a stylish clothing rack or offering a few hooks for hanging coats or bags. A nightstand with drawers is also a great way to provide additional space for smaller personal items. Ensure that guests have enough space to unpack and settle in without feeling cramped.

### **5. Create Ambience with Lighting**

Lighting plays a huge role in creating a cozy atmosphere. Provide multiple light sources in the guest bedroom, including a soft overhead light (with a dimmer switch, if possible), bedside lamps for reading, and accent lighting like fairy lights or LED strips to create a relaxing ambience. Consider warm-toned light bulbs to avoid harsh, cold lighting. Offering easy-to-reach lighting options on both sides of the bed is also practical for guests who want to control the lighting without getting out of bed.

### **6. Ensure a Comfortable Temperature**

A comfortable room temperature is essential for a restful night's sleep. If the room tends to get too hot or cold, provide extra bedding like a light blanket or quilt, as well as a fan or portable heater. Offering guests the ability to control the room temperature is key—if you can, include a thermostat they can adjust. Additionally, be mindful of airflow in the room to avoid stuffiness.

### **7. Add Personal Touches**

Personal touches can make the space feel more inviting and unique. Fresh flowers in a vase, a bowl of fruit, or a small stack of books are thoughtful details that enhance the room's warmth. If your guests are staying for an extended period, leave a note welcoming them, or even include a small framed photo that gives the space personality. Soft, textured rugs or a statement piece of art on the wall also add a personal touch and make the space feel lived-in and welcoming.

### **8. Provide Essential Amenities**

Your guests will appreciate having everything they need at their fingertips. Make sure you have fresh towels available, as well as toiletries like shampoo, conditioner, body wash, and hand soap. It's also a thoughtful touch to leave extras, like a toothbrush, toothpaste, or even a small bottle of lotion. A bedside table with



a lamp, water glasses, and a clock can make the space feel like a hotel room with the added benefit of a personal touch.

### **9. Create a Functional Nightstand**

A nightstand is a practical and essential piece of furniture in a guest bedroom. It's the perfect place for guests to place their phones, glasses, or books. Include a drawer or shelf for additional storage and a lamp that provides soft, warm light for nighttime reading. You might also consider a charging station for phones and devices, along with an outlet or USB charging ports nearby.

### **10. Use Natural Elements**

Incorporating natural materials and elements into the design of the guest bedroom can enhance the sense of warmth and coziness. Wooden furniture, wicker baskets, or a jute rug can give the room a grounded, rustic feel. Houseplants are also a great addition, not only for aesthetic reasons but also for air quality. Low-maintenance plants like succulents, ferns, or peace lilies can add a fresh touch to the room without requiring too much attention.

### **11. Offer Entertainment Options**

Guests will feel more at home if they have access to entertainment options, especially for longer stays. Consider providing access to a television, streaming services, or even a few board games or books. If your guest room is a place of rest, offering options for relaxation, such as a calming playlist or a few meditation guides, can make their stay even more enjoyable.

### **12. Maintain Privacy**

Privacy is essential for making guests feel comfortable. Ensure that the room has a lock on the door, especially if the guest will be staying for an extended period. You can also provide curtains or blinds that block out light for guests who prefer a dark room for sleeping. This attention to privacy helps guests feel respected and at ease during their stay.

### **13. Create a Welcoming Atmosphere**

Finally, the overall vibe of the room should be warm, welcoming, and inviting. Keep the space uncluttered and organized, and avoid overcrowding the room with too much furniture. Focus on making the space feel serene and restful by adding cozy elements like soft cushions, a warm rug, and inviting décor.

A cozy, inviting guest bedroom is all about creating a comfortable, welcoming environment where your guests can relax and feel at home. By focusing on comfort, aesthetics, functionality, and thoughtful details, you can transform any space into a serene retreat. Whether it's fresh bedding, soft lighting, or personal touches, making your guests feel welcome in their own space will enhance their stay and make them feel truly appreciated.

### **TIPS TO MAKE YOUR GUEST ROOM FEEL LIKE HOME**

Creating a cozy and inviting guest room is all about ensuring comfort and warmth for your visitors. Here are some key tips to make the space feel like home:

#### **1. Comfortable Bedding**

Opt for soft, breathable sheets, fluffy pillows, and a cozy duvet or comforter. A throw blanket adds extra warmth and style.

#### **2. Personal Touches**

Add small personal items like fresh flowers, framed photos, or a welcome note to make the room feel more inviting.

#### **3. Storage Space**

Provide enough storage for guests to unpack, like a closet, dresser, or hooks for bags and jackets.

#### **4. Essential Amenities**

Stock the room with towels, toiletries, and extra linens, ensuring your guests have everything they need.



### **5. Lighting and Temperature Control**

Use soft lighting for a cozy atmosphere and offer temperature control options for comfort.

### **6. Entertainment**

Provide books, magazines, or a TV with streaming options to keep guests entertained.

### **7. Clean and Organized**

Keep the room tidy, with fresh linens and a clean, welcoming atmosphere.

### **8. Privacy**

Ensure the room has curtains or blinds for privacy, making your guests feel comfortable.

### **9. Thoughtful Extras**

Leave small snacks, bottled water, or a charging station for added comfort.

By paying attention to these details, your guest room will feel warm and welcoming, ensuring your visitors have a pleasant and restful stay.

## **MISTAKES TO AVOID PEOPLE MAKE WHEN GUEST ARRIVED AT HOME**

When hosting guests, it's essential to avoid certain mistakes to ensure a pleasant experience for everyone. Here are some common pitfalls to watch out for:

- 1. Bringing Uninvited Guests:** Always respect the host's invitation. If you wish to bring someone else, ask for permission beforehand.
- 2. Arriving Empty-Handed:** Show appreciation by bringing a small gift, such as a bottle of wine or a box of chocolates.
- 3. Ignoring House Rules:** Be mindful of the host's routines and preferences, whether it's meal times or household customs.



- 4. Not Offering to Help:** After meals, offer to assist with cleaning up. Even if declined, the gesture is appreciated.

**5. Overstaying Your Welcome:** Adhere to the agreed-upon duration of your stay to avoid inconveniencing your host.

**6. Being Inconsiderate of Noise Levels:** Keep noise to a minimum, especially during early mornings or late nights, to respect the host's household.

**7. Leaving Belongings Around:** Keep your personal items organized and avoid leaving them in shared spaces.

**8. Not Communicating Dietary Restrictions:** Inform your host of any dietary needs in advance to help them prepare appropriately.

**9. Bringing Pets Without Permission:** Always ask before bringing pets to someone else's home.

**10. Failing to Send a Thank-You Note:** After your stay, send a thank-you note or message to express gratitude for the host's hospitality.

By being mindful of these points, you can ensure a harmonious and enjoyable visit for both you and your host.

## **CONCLUSION**

Creating a comfortable and inviting home for guests is all about attention to detail and making sure your visitors feel at ease. By focusing on key aspects like cozy furniture, personal touches, and a welcoming atmosphere, you can turn any space into a place where your guests can relax and unwind. It's not just about the physical elements but also the thoughtfulness behind them – providing essentials, offering privacy, and showing consideration for their needs.

Ultimately, a home that is both welcoming and comfortable reflects your care and hospitality. By implementing simple changes, from fresh linens to a warm ambiance, you can ensure that your guests have a memorable experience and feel truly at home. Whether it's a quick visit or an extended stay, these touches will leave a lasting impression and make your guests feel valued and appreciated.

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