

July 14, 2008**Inside the Nu Hotel**

We checked out the Nu Hotel on Friday afternoon and, we gotta say, we were very positively surprised. Billed as Brooklyn's first boutique hotel, the Nu had its soft opening a week ago and we saw one (screamingly unhip) tourist couple checking in during our visit. Decide for yourself from the photos, but in our opinion they went about this the right way. They didn't try to get too cute with the design, keeping it light and modern, made the room sizes decent (helped by the fact that the building was originally designed as a condo) and priced it right; it's also in the best location of any hotel in the borough that we can think of, with Smith Street at its doorstep. For now, the introductory rates are also pretty compelling—\$199 on weeknights and \$149 on weekends—though that's bound to creep up as occupancy rises.