

UP, UP, AND AWAY

Didn't your last hotel room have a helicopter in it?

Of the 18 themed cottages at Winvian, none is as unique as Helicopter.

Walk in the doorway and, boom, there it is: a real 1968 Sikorsky Sea King Pelican HH3F Coast Guard helicopter.

Climb into the cockpit to see the original controls, switches, and gauges, or step into the back, grab a beverage from the fridge, and kick back on the couch to watch TV.

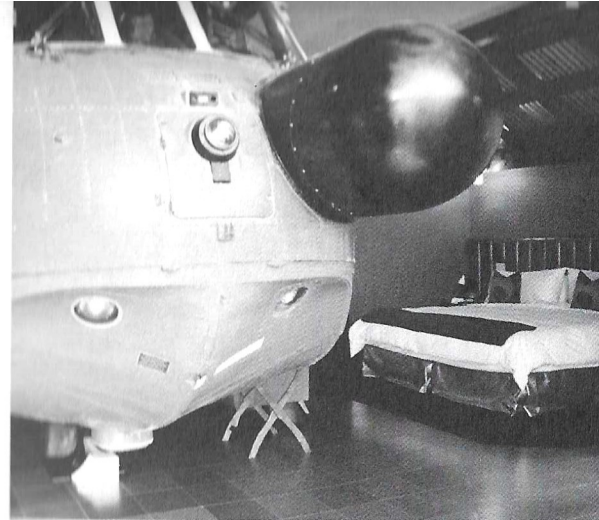
Unfortunately, no flying is allowed or even possible, as the rotor blades are fixed to the ceiling. But this baby has seen its fair share of action, and Coasties who had actually flown rescue missions on this very helicopter have stayed here as guests.

It's doubtful that the novelty of having a helicopter in your hotel room would wear off, but should you desire other diversions, the 890-square-foot cottage has a screened-in porch, woodburning fireplace, and Jacuzzi tub tucked between the bed and the copter.

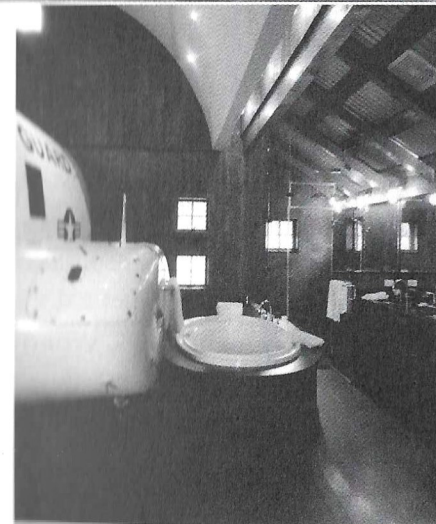
Nestled on the property's 113 acres are other cottages, such as Treehouse, perched 35 feet above the forest floor; Maritime, with a bed at the bottom of a lighthouse-like cylinder; and the medieval-themed Connecticut Yankee.

Created by a number of talented architects and designers (Malcolm Appleton was Helicopter's architect), the cabins all are different and come with bicycles for exploring. There's an outdoor pool and spa onsite, a lounge with a pool table

J. Newton Williams of Derby built a helicopter that lifted off the ground in 1909; Igor Sikorsky designed and flew the world's first practical helicopter in Stratford in 1939.



One of Winvian's 18 themed cottages has a real Coast Guard helicopter inside, and there's a living area with a TV and bar inside the helicopter. (Top image courtesy of Winvian. Bottom courtesy of Anastasia Mills Healy)



HELLO, HELICOPTER

What: A bar inside a helicopter inside a hotel room

Where: Winvian Farm, 155 Alain White Rd., Morris

Cost: \$699–\$899 per night

Pro Tip: The nearby White Memorial Foundation is an extraordinary nature preserve.

and board games, and a formal restaurant serving sophisticated international cuisine. Children are welcome during much of the year, but the cabins that easily accommodate them are limited. This rarified, whimsical playground is quite happily inhabited mostly by adults.

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ANASTASIA MILLS HEALY