

# Best Board Games for Hospitality

Creating Unforgettable Family  
Experiences in Short-Term Rentals



# Board Games Transform Guest Experience

## Driving Positive Reviews & Repeat Bookings



### Weather-Proof Entertainment

Provides fun during bad weather or when local activities are limited.



### Digital Detox & Bonding

Encourages families to unplug and create lasting memories together.



### Relaxed Evenings

Low-energy activity perfect for unwinding after busy exploration days.



### Cost-Effective Amenity

Budget-friendly and space-efficient compared to large game tables.



### Homey Atmosphere

Thoughtful touches that make rentals stand out from sterile hotels.



*"Family game nights create immeasurable rewards through shared laughter and lessons, making memories that guests associate with your property."*



# Strategic Selection Criteria

## Ensuring Maximum Guest Engagement



### Simplicity First

Pick games that are easy to learn or familiar classics that most guests already know.



### Quick Setup

Prefer games with fast setup and short play sessions for immediate fun.



### Durability Matters

Select high-quality versions with fewer small pieces to minimize loss and damage.



### Age Diversity

Include games spanning multiple age ranges from preschoolers (3+) to adults.



### Variety is Key

Offer a mix of treasured classics and modern popular games for different preferences.

## Essential Basics



Playing Cards



Chess



Checkers



Backgammon



Poker Set

# Treasured Classics

## Universal Appeal Across Generations

### Monopoly

 8+  2-8

Quintessential family game everyone knows; create real estate empires while avoiding bankruptcy.

### The Game of Life

 9+  2-4

Journey through life stages from college to retirement; TripAdvisor Edition adds vacation theme.

### Sorry!

 6+  2-4

Simple race game with satisfying bump-and-slide mechanics; compact Rivals Edition perfect for couples.

### Clue

 8+  3-6

Classic mystery whodunit engages problem-solving skills; Clue Junior available for younger children.



### Travel Tip

Monopoly Deal card game offers the classic experience in just 15 minutes with minimal space requirements.

# Modern Popular Games

Fresh Excitement for Family Game Night

## Codenames

 10+  4+  15-30m

Word association game requiring creative thinking. Teams compete to contact all their agents first. Any number of players can join mid-game, making it perfect for flexible groups.

## Ticket to Ride

 8+  2-5  30-60m

Build train routes across continents in this modern classic. It offers the perfect balance of strategy and luck, easy enough for kids but engaging for adults.

## Azul

 8+  2-4  30-45m

A beautiful tile-drafting game where players artfully decorate palace walls to impress the king. Visually stunning components and simple rules with deep strategy.

## Pandemic Legacy

 13+  2-4  60m

An immersive cooperative experience where players work together as a team of specialists to cure global diseases and save humanity. High stakes and high engagement.

# Games for Young Children

## Prevent Boredom & Create Positive Memories

### Candy Land

3+

2-4

No reading required. A colorful quest through a sweet fantasy world that captivates imagination.

### Chutes & Ladders

3+

2-4

Simple race based on luck with minimal counting skills needed. Keeps kids giggling with ups and downs.

### Spot It

4+

2-8

Fast-paced visual matching game. Portable, quick to play, and fun for mixed age groups.

### Exploding Kittens

7+

2-5

Quirky card game with humorous illustrations. Strategic yet simple enough for older kids.



### ♥ Parent Appeal

These games require no reading and minimal setup, allowing parents to relax while children stay engaged and entertained.



# Quick Card and Party Games

Maximize Entertainment with Minimal Space

## Card Games (3-5 Players)

- **Uno:** Universal appeal, simple rules, endless replayability
- **Phase 10:** Rummy-style game with progressive challenges
- **Sushi Go!:** Fast-paced card drafting, 15-min games

## Party Games (Larger Groups)

- **Pictionary:** Drawing and guessing encourages creativity
- **Taboo:** Word-guessing game creating hilarious moments
- **Jenga:** Physical dexterity game with universal appeal
- **Charades:** No materials needed, works for all ages



## Space Advantage

Card games take up minimal bookshelf space while offering limitless gaming potential for guests. Perfect for compact rentals!

# Strategic and Cooperative Games

Engaging Options for Serious Gamers & Families

## Gateway Strategy

### Settlers of Catan

10+ | 3-4p

Resource management and trading. The modern classic that introduced millions to strategic gaming.

### Splendor

10+ | 2-4p

Elegant gem-collecting game. Minimal components but offers deep strategic decision-making.

### Kingdomino

8+ | 2-4p

Tile-laying kingdom building. Easy to teach but offers meaningful decisions every turn.

## Cooperative Games

### Pandemic

8+ | 2-4p

Work together as a specialized team to treat infections and find cures to save humanity.

### Forbidden Island

10+ | 2-4p

A cooperative treasure hunt with rising water tension. Capture the treasure before the island sinks!



# Puzzle and Brain Teaser Games

## Quiet Entertainment for Relaxing Moments



### Jigsaw Puzzles

Large puzzles (500-1000 pieces) engage groups working together. Choose scenic or vacation-themed images.



### Escape Room Kits

Tabletop escape room experiences create exciting collaborative challenges for families.



### Brain Teasers

Rubik's Cubes and individual logic puzzles provide focused entertainment without requiring multiple players.

### 📍 PLACEMENT

Keep puzzles in common areas where guests can work on them casually throughout their stay.

### ✅ DURABILITY

Check puzzles regularly to ensure all pieces are present. Use storage systems to prevent loss.

# Space Considerations

Tailoring Selection to Property Size



# Practical Tips for Maintenance

## Ensuring a Premium Guest Experience



### Organization

- Store games in clear, labeled bins or on dedicated shelves.
- Create a simple inventory list with age ranges and player counts.
- Check games between guests to ensure all pieces are present.
- Replace damaged or incomplete games immediately.



### Communication

- Highlight game availability in your listing and welcome book.
- Provide brief descriptions for less familiar games.
- Consider laminated instruction summaries for complex games.



### Quality Control

- Choose durable editions designed for repeated use.
- Avoid games with tiny pieces that easily get lost.
- Select games with sturdy boxes that withstand frequent handling.



**Presentation Matters:** Display games attractively as a featured amenity rather than hiding them away. This signals to guests that you've thoughtfully curated their entertainment options.

# Investment Returns

Small Cost, Significant Impact

## The Investment

Initial Setup **\$150-300**

Annual Upkeep **\$20-50**

*\*Based on a comprehensive 10-15 game collection*

## The Returns



### Competitive Advantage

Stand out in crowded markets by offering "family-friendly" amenities.



### Higher Value Perception

Justify higher nightly rates with thoughtful entertainment options.



### Guest Loyalty

Create loyal guests who return for the complete experience.

# Recommended Starter Collection

## Essential 10-Game Set for New Hosts

### The Essentials Checklist

#### ★ Classics (4)

- Monopoly or Monopoly Deal
- Uno
- Playing Cards (2 decks)
- Chess/Checkers Combo

#### 👤 Kids (2)

- Candy Land
- Spot It

#### 🧠 Modern Family (3)

- Ticket to Ride
- Azul
- Codenames

#### 🧩 Puzzle (1)

- 500-piece Jigsaw (Scenic)



TOTAL INVESTMENT

**\$200 – \$250**

Approximate Cost

#### 📈 Expansion Strategy

Add 2-3 games annually based on guest demographics and feedback to keep the collection fresh.