

PERFECT 10

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Anderson .Paak: “New sheets, new pillows: You get to start over every day”

BY MARTINA SHEEHAN



“Full stop, my favorite thing about hotels is that you get to start over every day: New sheets, new pillows. You get to be a new person, meet different people” says Anderson .Paak. For the eight-time Grammy-winning artist, a daily refresh seems to be a recurring theme.



The singer/songwriter/producer/drummer's genre-hopping hits have taken turns showcasing him as a deft rapper (*Bubblin*), funk artist (*Come Down*), and soul singer (*Leave the Door Open*). He has collaborated with a diverse range of music's biggest names, too, from Bruno Mars, Talib Kweli and Smokey Robinson to Kendrick Lamar, Mac Miller and Dr. Dre.

With four studio albums behind him, a new album, *Why Lawd?*, with Knxwledge just dropped, and a recent headlining slot on the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival lineup, fans might wonder how he manages to reset when his schedule hits fever pitch. “I’m a little bougie,” he says. “It’s nice to have a big, fluffy bed with the feather pillows, and some sort of thing to let people know that I’m sleeping till 3 p.m., so don’t come in here.”

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my shoes, jump into the bed and scream into the pillow”

Anderson .Paak

Those feather pillows play a role in one of .Paak’s more unusual hotel check-in rituals, too. “First thing I do when I get into a room is I take my shoes off in the middle of the floor. I jump into the bed and then I scream into the pillow.” Why? “Sometimes it’s like a long, eight-hour flight, and I’m just excited or sometimes I’m pissed,” says the Oxnard, California, native. “I just got to let it out first and then I can figure out what I want to do after that, how I want to spend the day. That’s just me.”

Once the bedding’s been shouted into, .Paak shifts his focus to relaxation. “Usually, if I’ve worked so hard on something for a long time, that’s when I feel like I deserve a little getaway. When a crazy check clears, when I just have a few days open in my schedule, that’s when you take any excuse you can to practice some self-care and get away and treat yourself,” he says.



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For .Paak, that usually involves making the most of every available amenity. “You know you can get a massage, get the best food at any given hour, get facials, go take a dip in the pool, Jacuzzi, sleep for so long in your clothes that you have to wake up just to get ready for bed again,” he jokes. “Hotels are just a luxury, a pampered life before you have to go back to reality. I love it.”

There are times, though, when a hotel visit might mean .Paak is on the clock. While his *Bubblin* lyrics joke about taking your mama to the Marriott, his hotel of choice for big events and after-parties is the [Beverly Hilton](#). “I even did full live recordings there, which is like *old school*. They host a lot of parties. There are a lot of legends that have been in and out of there. That’s a cool one.” With his new album, upcoming collabs, and live shows, more lyrics from *Bubblin* come to mind to describe .Paak’s trajectory: “One in the hand, one in the bag... look at you go.”



Martina Sheehan
Writer



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