



A LAMBEAU LEAP

The heartfelt hospitality and sophisticated meeting environment of Green Bay, Wis.

MY LAST VISIT TO GREEN BAY, WIS., was for a Cowboys-Packers football game with Troy Aikman and Brett Favre at the quarterback positions, decades ago. I returned to Lambeau Field in September as part of a press tour hosted by the Green Bay CVB. My how things have changed.

The stadium has grown, while retaining its original flavor. Plus, within that space there are so many incredible facilities and meeting locations. My visit began with the stadium tour, complete with a run through the tunnel onto the field with the crowd cheering. Then it was on to the Packers Hall of Fame, featuring some jerseys, trophies, Super Bowl rings and the deep history of the legendary team.

Lambeau meeting spaces range from the atrium floor, seating up to 1,000 people, to the four Legends Club rooms seating 80 each or, when opened up, allowing

400. MVP Box 4039 handles up to 50, and the Lombardi Boardroom overlooks a giant Super Bowl trophy.

And it doesn't stop there. The Johnsonville Tailgate Village, a short walk across the parking lot, is a 13,000-square-foot open-concept bar and kitchen that includes an outdoor party deck.

The base for our trip was Lodge Kohler, located across the street from Lambeau Field in the heart of the rapidly growing Titledown plaza.

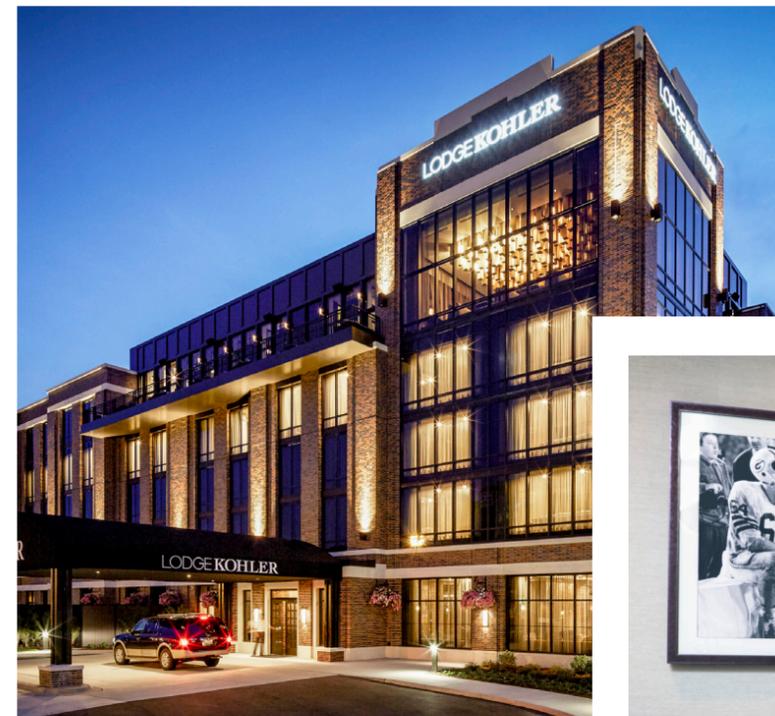
The lodge had opened only six weeks prior to our visit but everything was running like clockwork—just as you would expect from anything developed by Kohler Corp., which specializes in gracious living, from kitchen, bath and decorative products to golf and resort destinations.

The lodge celebrates Wisconsin's Northwoods in its decor but also has

photos throughout of legendary Packers players and moments. It has 144 elegantly appointed guest rooms, with the highlight their custom-design Kohler bathrooms and temperature-controlled showers.

Taverne in the Sky, on the top floor, offers lunch and dinner as well as a panoramic bar with a balcony overlooking Lambeau Field. Leaps & Bounds Cafe, located on the ground level, offers breakfast and beverages. There are also two private meeting rooms accommodating up to 20 guests. The outside terrace and courtyard are also available for private events.

Here's where my tour became even more interesting. I'm a guy, and an old one at that. So it has not been a part of my experience to even enter spas let alone allow them to actually touch me. So it came as something of a challenge that



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when I arrived I was presented with a scheduled transformational facial in the Kohler Waters Spa.

At first I begged off, worried that somehow my man card might be revoked, or at least suspended. But, taking my reputation in my hands, I bravely ventured forward to the spa.

I can summarize my experience in just one word: WOW! The preparation area led into the pool area with water jets in all the right places to relax your muscles. The pool walking area provided jets high and low to really work over your legs. They also have a steam room, a

sauna and a cold-plunge tank.

Then they called me for my facial. At my request, the aesthetician went over all the steps before and during to help me better understand exactly what was taking place. She was superbly skilled and provided plenty of insight into what to expect from the glycolic peel.

Once my facial transformation was completed, I was ushered into the relaxation area with these simply wonderful lounge couches with warm blankets. I dozed for a short while, easily giving up my tension from the flight into Green Bay.

At the end I jokingly asked the front

desk attendant, "Now what just happened to me?" I already knew. I was pampered to a very high degree and I can readily recommend it to man or woman.

There was so much more to our tour, covering the full range of meeting facilities this marvelous city has to offer along with a sampling of the dining. Overall, I was impressed with the small town, Midwestern, heartfelt hospitality. They really were glad to see us. Plus, Green Bay may have the feel of a small town, but it is huge in supporting meetings of every size and doing so in style.

— JIM WILSON

