We’ll be staying at the Fort Collins Hilton at 425 West Prospect which forms the south boundary of the CSU campus with the Hilton being a few blocks west of College Avenue, which is the main north-south street in Fort Collins. Be aware that there is also a Hilton Gardens on East Harmony Road, when calling an Uber, Lyft or setting driving directions on your GPS. For those planning to arrive via Bustang, there are two stops in Fort Collins. The downtown and final Bustang stop is closer to the Hilton and if you like you can catch the Max line south to Prospect. It stops across the street about a block and a half from the Hilton. The Max runs north and south, which follows a dedicated transit-only guideway (its own road) and mixed-traffic streets that run parallel to the BNSF Railway between the South Transit Center (south of Harmony Road) and Downtown. It is served by 12 stations and stops from Harmony Road in the south to Historic Old Town, which is lined with local boutiques, cafes, antique shops, retail stores, and candy and confectionery shops. There are a variety of [restaurants](http://www.visitftcollins.com/things-to-do/discover-old-town/dining/) (more than 84) serving dishes for every taste. The Max runs every ten minutes from about 5:30 a.m. to midnight, even on Saturday. It’s just that the schedule is incomprehensible.

We will be using the following meeting spaces in the hotel. Salons 2 and 3 for general sessions, reception and banquet. For Breakouts we will be using Salons 1 and 5, Rams Room, Natural Resources, Aggie, Research and Vet Medicine.

As you enter the lobby of the Fort Collins Hilton, you will find the front desk check in area to the right (west). The Espresso Coffee Shoppe, which is open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, is on your left or in the northeast corner of the lobby. The Espresso Coffee Shoppe proudly brews Starbucks® coffee alongside a selection of fresh baked pastries and muffins, juices and yogurt.

The Spring Creek Grill and Lounge is also on your left, but in the southeast corner of the lobby. It features locally sourced and seasonally driven steaks, seafood and casual fare for breakfast, lunch and dinner in a relaxed atmosphere. The lounge serves Colorado microbrews and has a thoughtfully selected wine list as well as cocktails and martinis.

After checking in, and with your back to the counter, directly ahead of you (south) is the atrium where exhibitors will set up. You will go to the right (west) a very short distance and then you will take a left (south). A short distance further and you will find a set of restrooms on your right (west) and the elevators on your left (east). If you were to continue on down this hallway (south) and take a right (west), you will go down a short hallway and find the Rams Room on your left (south) and the door to the pool, hot tub and fitness area on your right (north).

Instead of taking a right (north) to the Rams Room, if you veer to the left a bit (east), go past Salons 4 and 6 on your right (south), you will find, Salons 2 and 3, where we will hold our general sessions. Registration will be set up in that hallway by the entrance Friday and Saturday mornings. East and next door to Salons 2 & 3 are Salons 1 and 5. You will need to enter Salon 5 from the front left corner (southeast) of Salons 2 and 3. Salons 1 and 5 are not beside each other with their own doors. Rather, they are sort of stacked. There is a small foyer to Salon 1 off the hallway. The actual door to Salon V is accessed by walking south through Salon 1, but to avoid distractions for the groups that will be meeting in Salon 1, we will be entering Salon V by using the far southeast corner of Salons 2 and 3. The air wall will be pulled back to allow entrance from that point.

From the entryway of Salons 2 and 3, with your back to the doors, you will find a little ramp that crosses over a fountain and goes down to the recessed atrium where the exhibits will be. The atrium is dead center of the hotel lobby and can also be accessed by sets of steps around the perimeter of the lobby.

On the second floor directly across from the elevators, are the 4 small breakout rooms; Natural Resources is on the far left (west), followed by Aggie, Research and Vet Medicine to the east of Natural Resources, in that order.

There are several restaurants within walking distance of the hotel.

Exit the hotel and take a right (east) and make your way out of the parking lot. Take a left (north) on Bay Road until you hit the main east-west sidewalk along Prospect. Go right (east) and walk another block or so and find on your right, the Mountain Iris Café, whose owner and head chef, Daniella, speaks Portuguese, English, German and French, as well as some Spanish and Italian, after having lived and traveled all over the world. Her food and drink creations are inspired by the places she's lived in and the people she's met along the way. This café opens at 7 a.m. on Thursday and Friday and 8 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday, closing at 5 p.m. on all four days. Daniella suggested trying to call in your order, (970) 413-2064, as they are a small venue and turning orders over may take time if they get hit all at once.

Continue walking east and you come to the Max bus line at the light. Cross to the east and if you want to use the Max, cross Prospect to the left (north) at the light and walk about half a block north to get to the covered bus stop. If you continue on eastward, about half a block, take a right (south) and you will come across a strip center that has several restaurants. The first one on the right is Taqueria. Next is Music City Hot Chicken, followed by Black Bottle Brewery and to the left of that is Bawarchi Biryani Point Indian Cuisine. All of these restaurants face east.

Across Prospect north of the hotel is an Italian place called Panino’s as well as a Sushi Place. To cross busy Prospect, you have 2 options. When you exit the hotel, you need to go left (west) to Center Street and take a right (north) to go to the corner. You can either cross Prospect straight ahead to the north at the light, or you can cross Center to the left (west). Once you have crossed Center to the west, you continue a short bit walking over the underpass and take a left and take the steps that will take you down to the underpass. At the bottom of the steps, take a left and that will take you north under Prospect without having to deal with the traffic of Prospect. When you have reached the end of the underpass retaining wall, you will need to make a U turn on your right and go a short distance back to the south to the corner of Prospect and Center in order to cross the street left at Center to go east. You will find Paninos on your left about half a block down. A block or so further to the east on your left is a place called Suh Sushi.

While Lorinda and I had the opportunity to wander the Hilton property and some 3 blocks to the east, we did not get a chance to experience any of the aforementioned restaurants or cafés, so we cannot offer any ringing endorsements.