Cove Apple Club
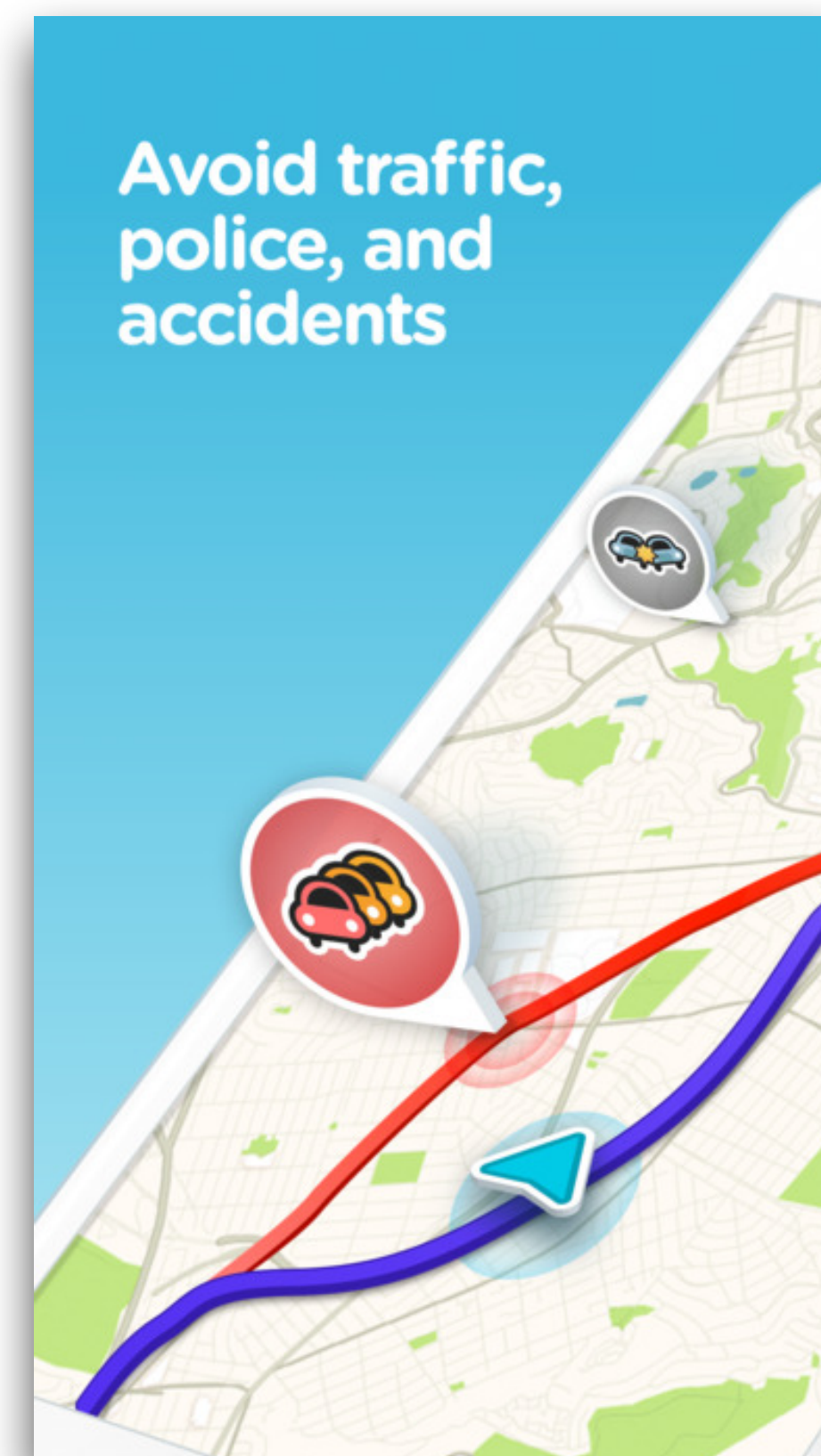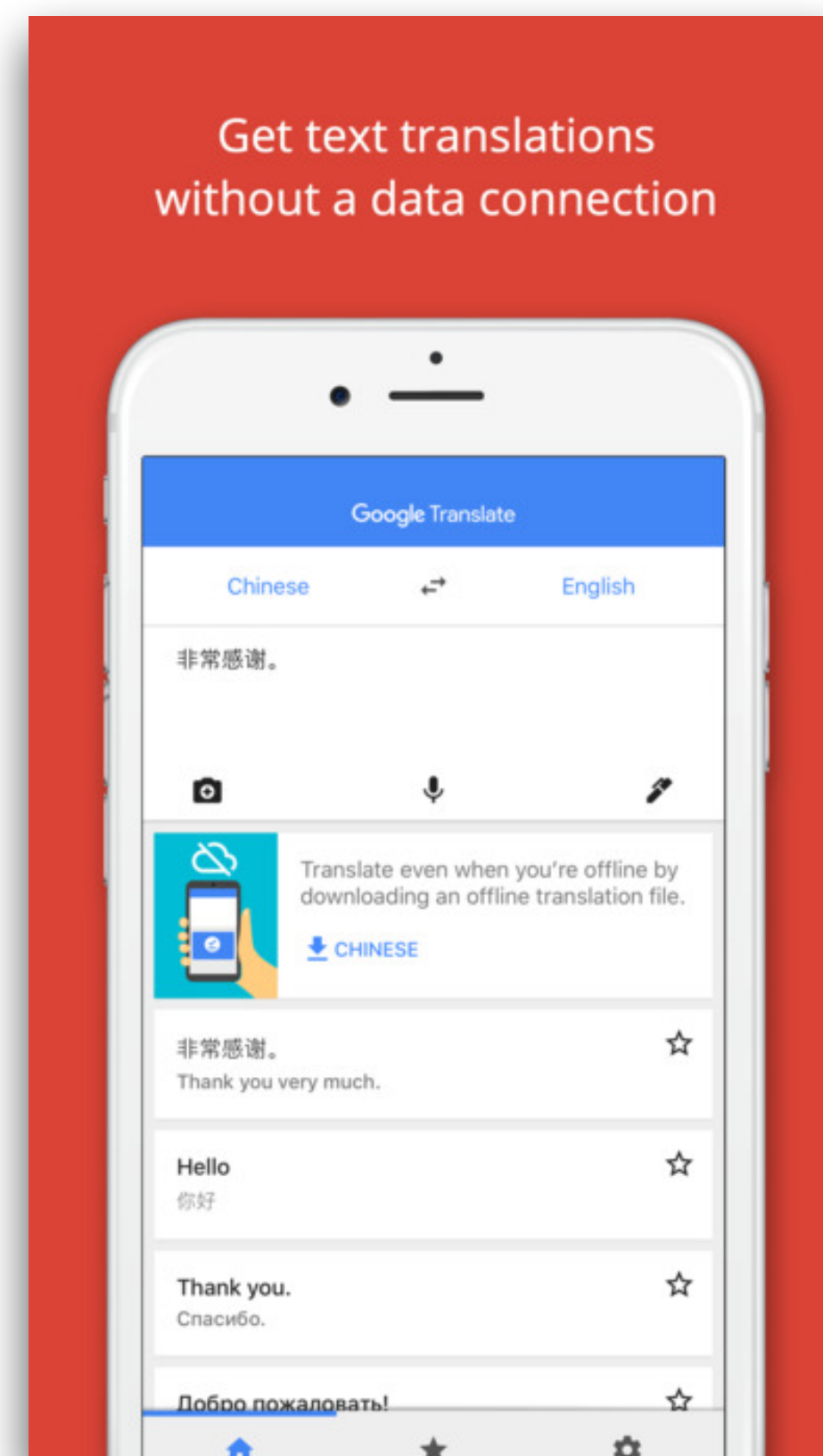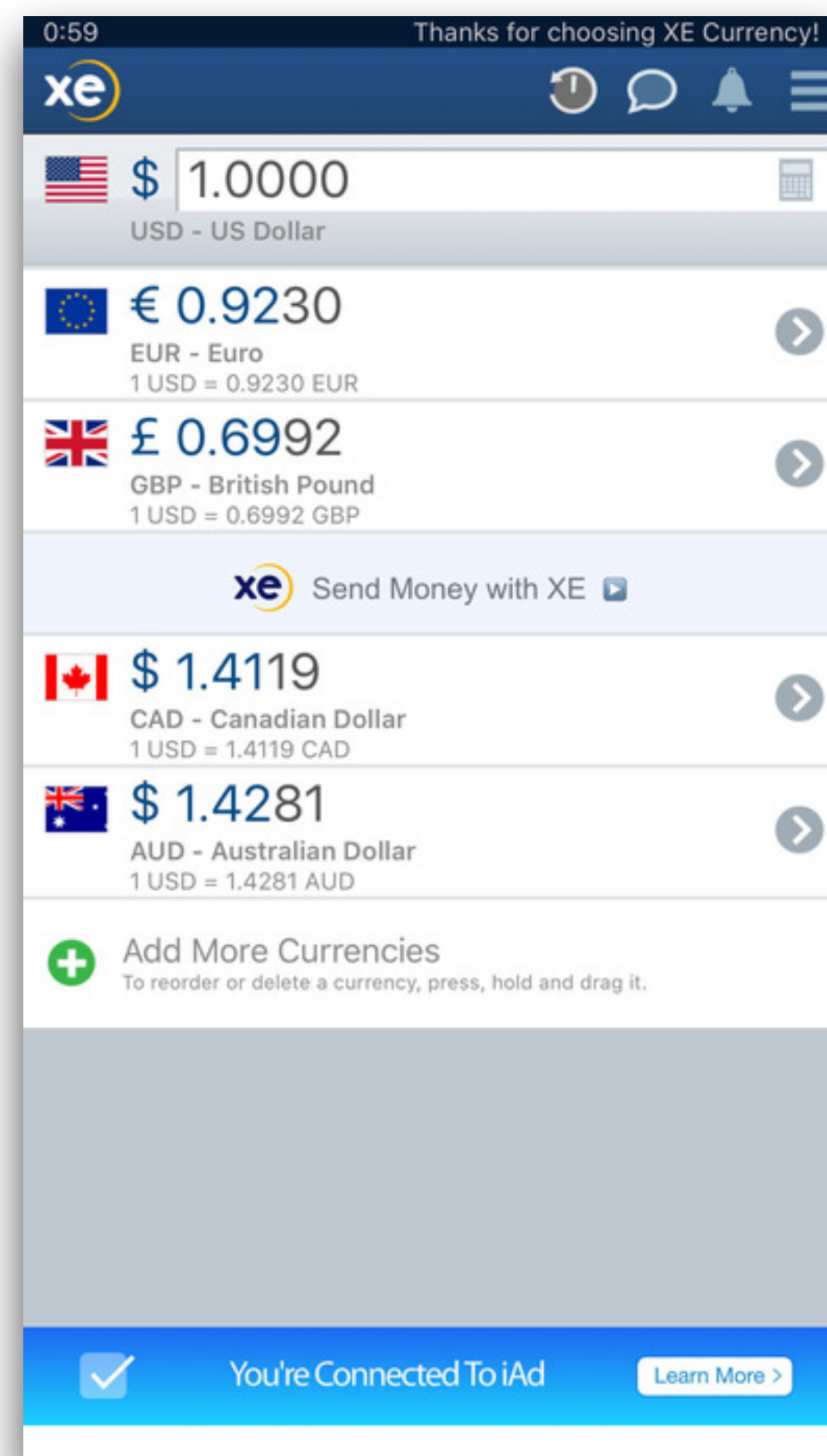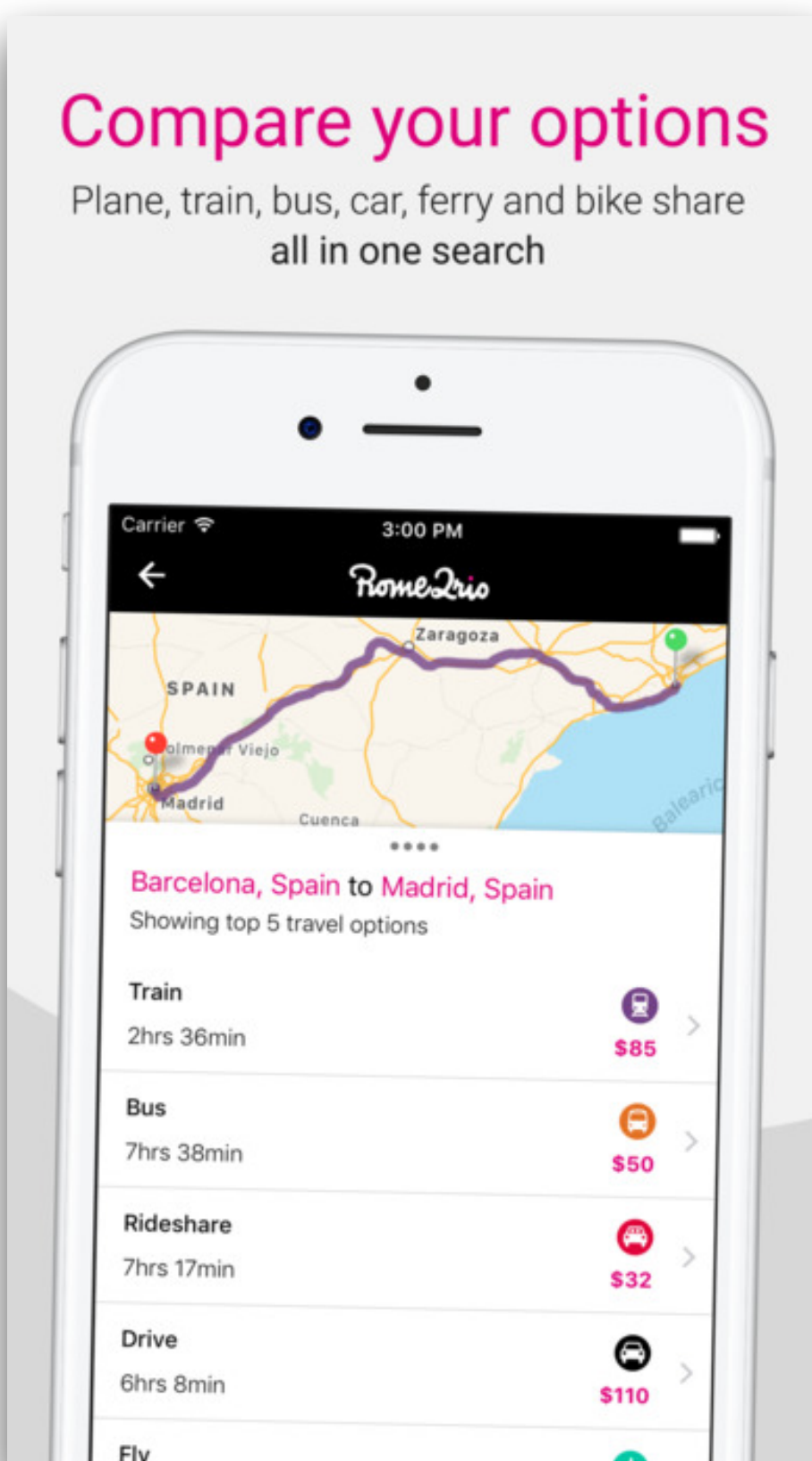
July 26, 2017

Tonight's Topics

- Must-Have Travel Apps

- Everyone's Favorite Travel Tech

- Travel Routers & Dealing with Fiddly Hotel Internet

Compare your options

Plane, train, bus, car, ferry and bike share all in one search

0:59   Thanks for choosing XE Currency!

xe

$ 1.0000
USD - US Dollar

€ 0.9230
EUR - Euro
1 USD = 0.9230 EUR

£ 0.6992
GBP - British Pound
1 USD = 0.6992 GBP

xe Send Money with XE ▶

$ 1.4119
CAD - Canadian Dollar
1 USD = 1.4119 CAD

$ 1.4281
AUD - Australian Dollar
1 USD = 1.4281 AUD

Add More Currencies
To reorder or delete a currency, press, hold and drag it.

You're Connected To iAd   Learn More ›

Carrier 🔋   3:00 PM

Rome2rio

SPAIN
Zaragoza
Madrid
Cuenca

Barcelona, Spain to Madrid, Spain
Showing top 5 travel options

Train
2hrs 36min $85

Bus
7hrs 38min $50

Rideshare
7hrs 17min $32

Drive
6hrs 8min $110

Fly

Get text translations without a data connection

Google Translate

Chinese ⇄ English

非常感谢。

Translate even when you're offline by downloading an offline translation file.

⬇ CHINESE

非常感谢。
Thank you very much. ☆

Hello
你好 ☆

Thank you.
Спасибо. ☆

Добро пожаловать! ☆

Avoid traffic, police, and accidents

Get real-time flight alerts throughout your trip

TRIPIT

THU, SEPTEMBER 7, 2017

Depart LAX
11:00 AM PDT ✈ Arrive JFK
7:29 PM EDT

TERMINAL 3   GATE 33   TERMINAL —   GATE —

DL 40 Delayed
DL 40 DELAYED. LAX dep 11:00am, JFK arr 7:29pm

Call Your Travel Agency

Search For Alternate Flights

View Details

PRO FEATURE
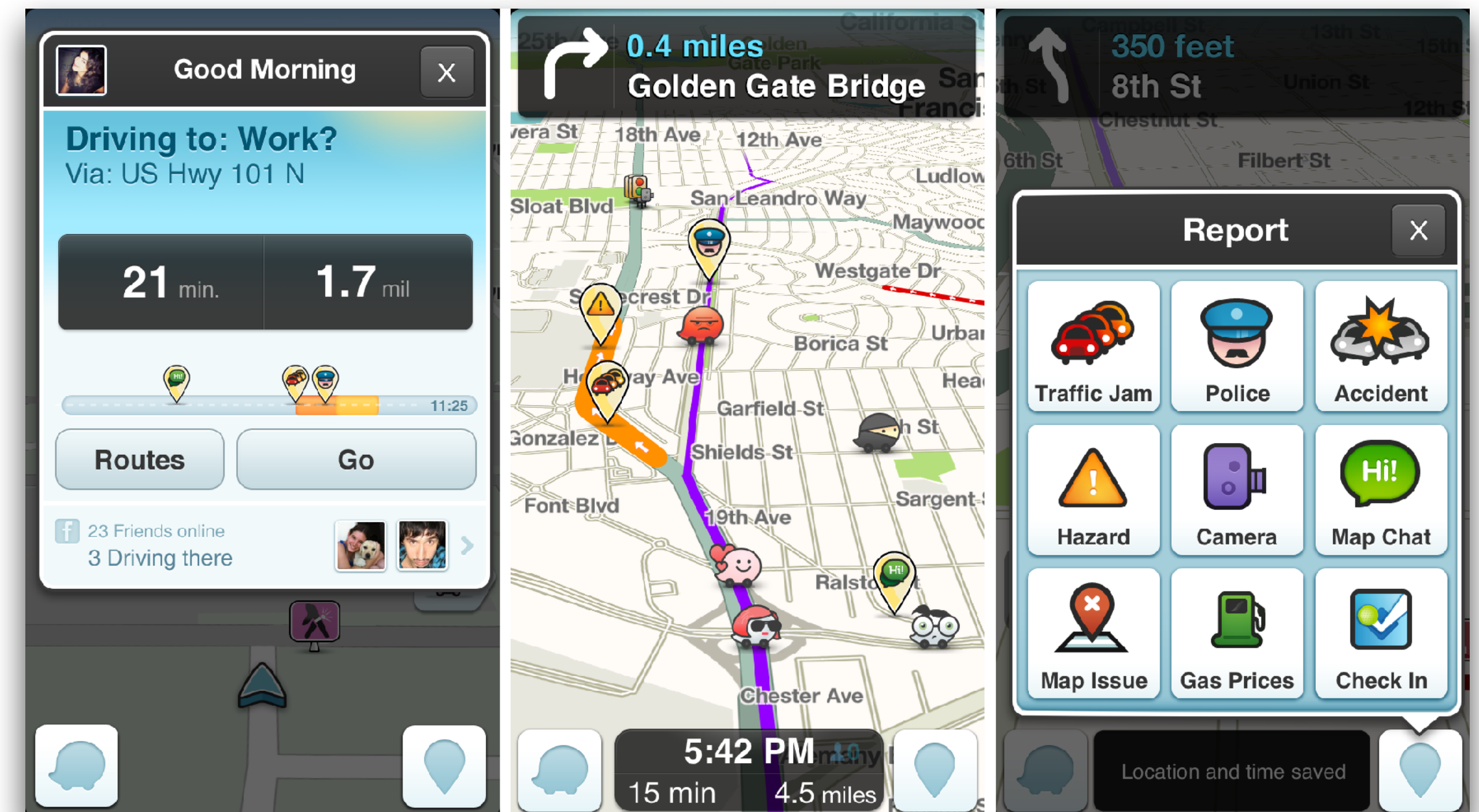
Mike's Must-Have Travel Apps
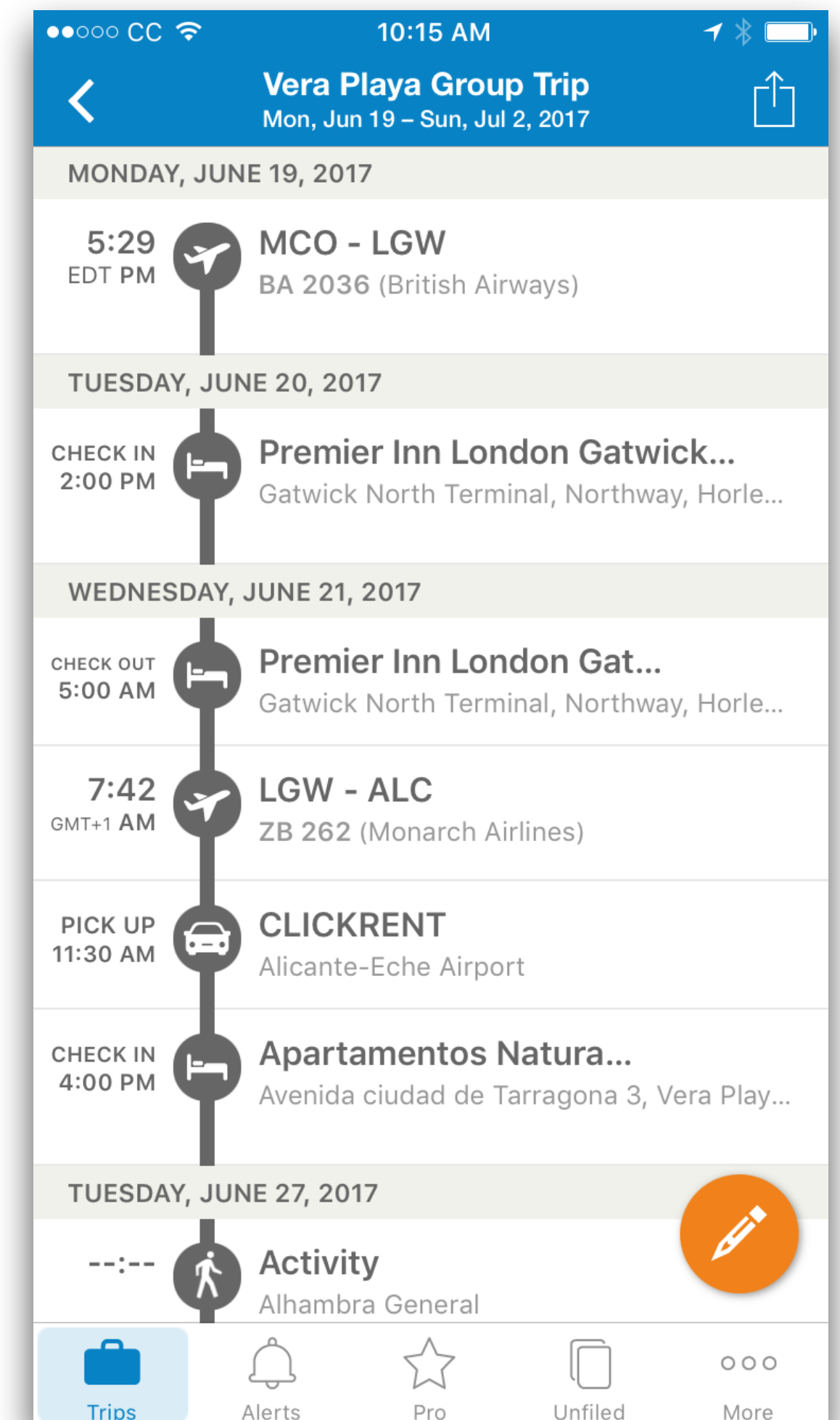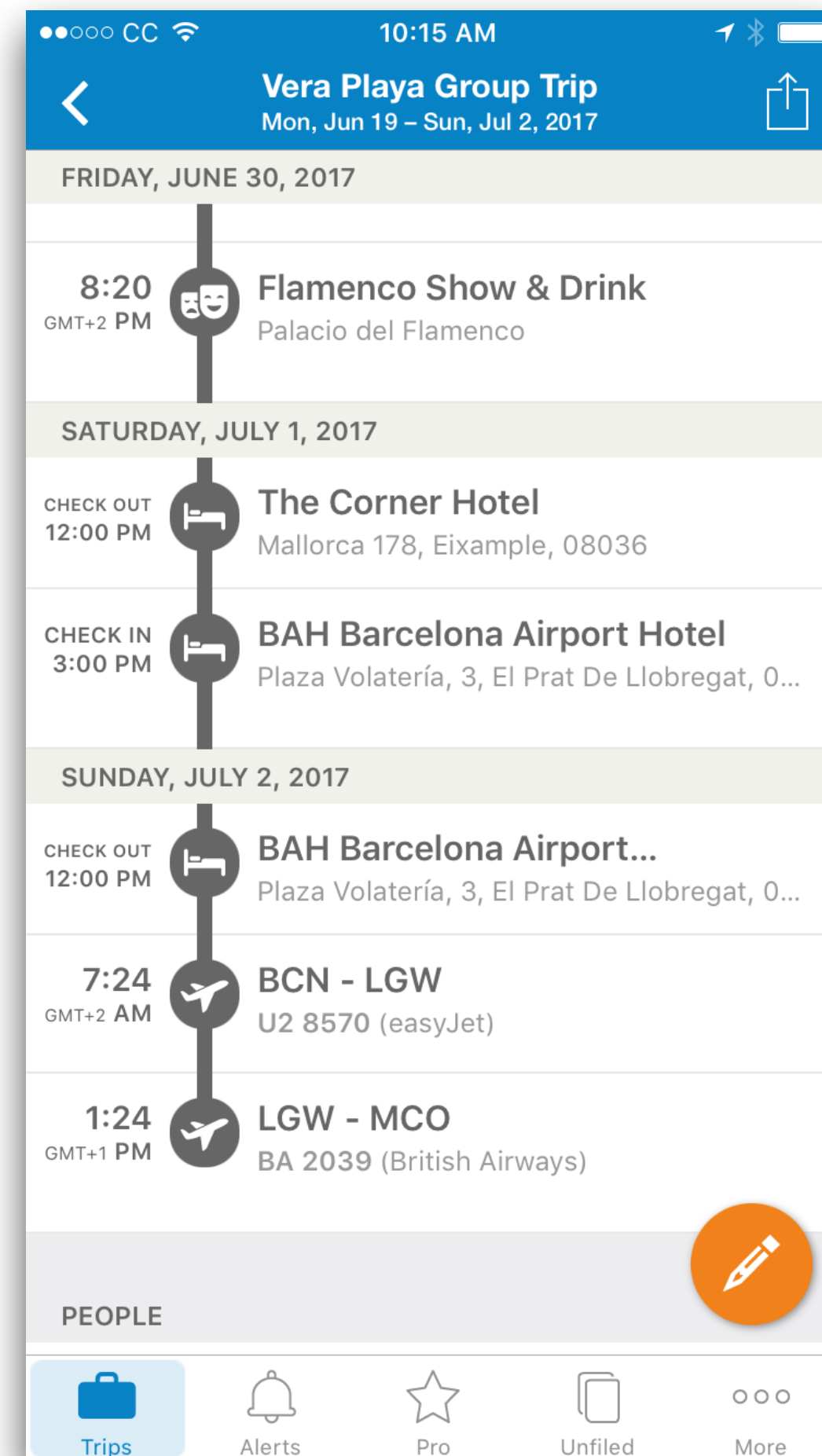
Don't Leave Home Without Them

Waze

- Crowdsourced collaborative navigation from Google

- Works — most of the time; sanity checks needed

- "Free" — as in, "Google free"

TripIt Pro

- Travel organizer and alerter

- Forward your confirmation emails to plans@tripit.com and TripIt builds your trip planner automatically

- Before and on day of travel, TripIt Pro monitors your flights and connections and sends alerts & info — gates & times, connections, alternate flights, baggage claim info

- Integrates into Calendar to show your flights, hotels, etc.

- Basic functions are free; Pro version (worth it!) is $49/year

TripIt Pro Demo: Importing a Flight

TuneIn

- Worldwide streaming tuner for terrestrial radio, music, podcasts, internet radio

- Keep up with news from home anytime, anywhere

- TuneIn.com, or mobile apps for iOS, Android, Amazon Fire

- Free! Pro version does stuff I don't want or need.
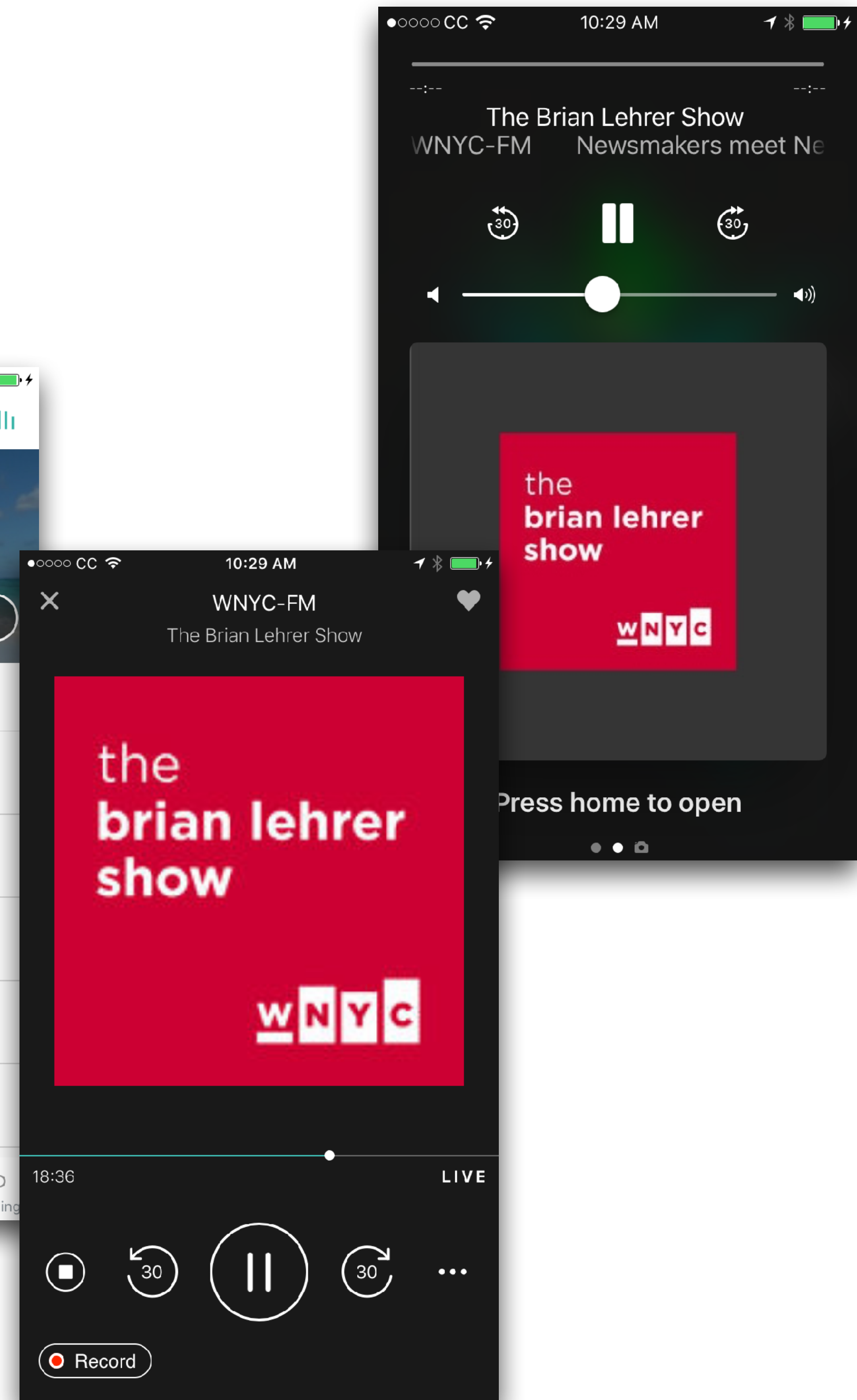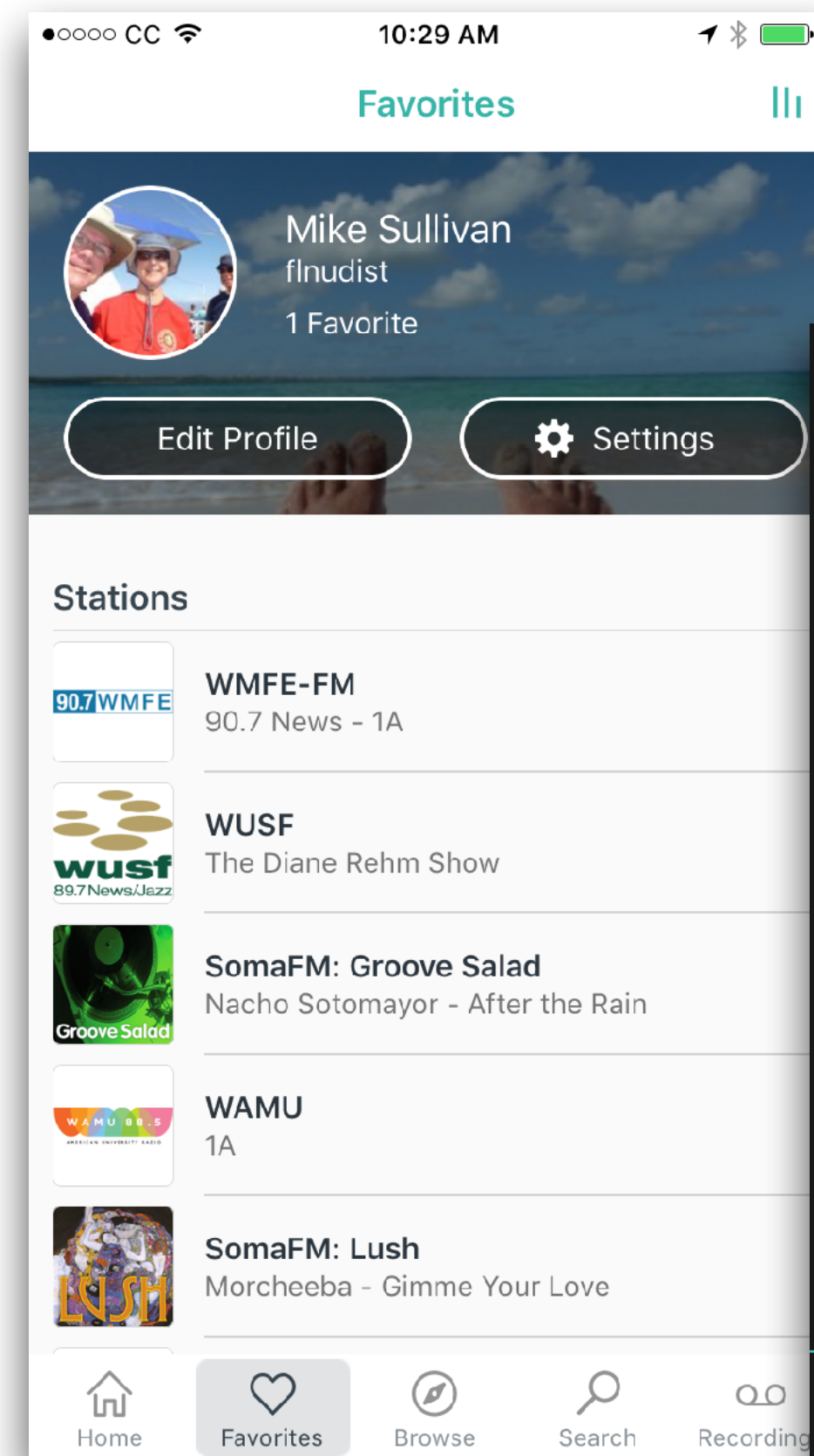
Google Translate

- Instantaneous language translator

- Works online or offline

- Instantly translates anything you can speak, write, type or photograph

- Free app on the iOS App Store

- Download augmented language packs for your destination languages before you leave!

- Pretty astounding.
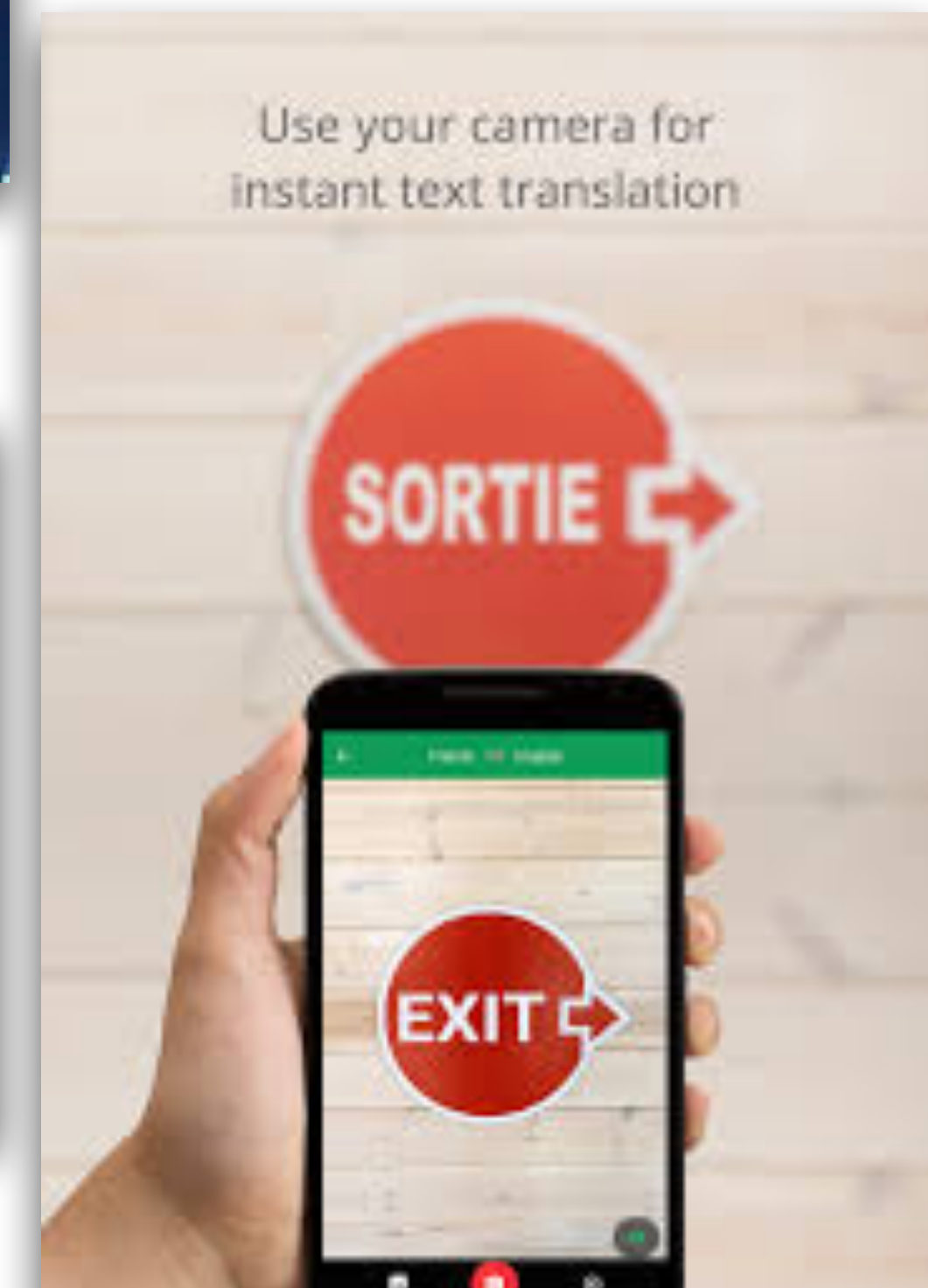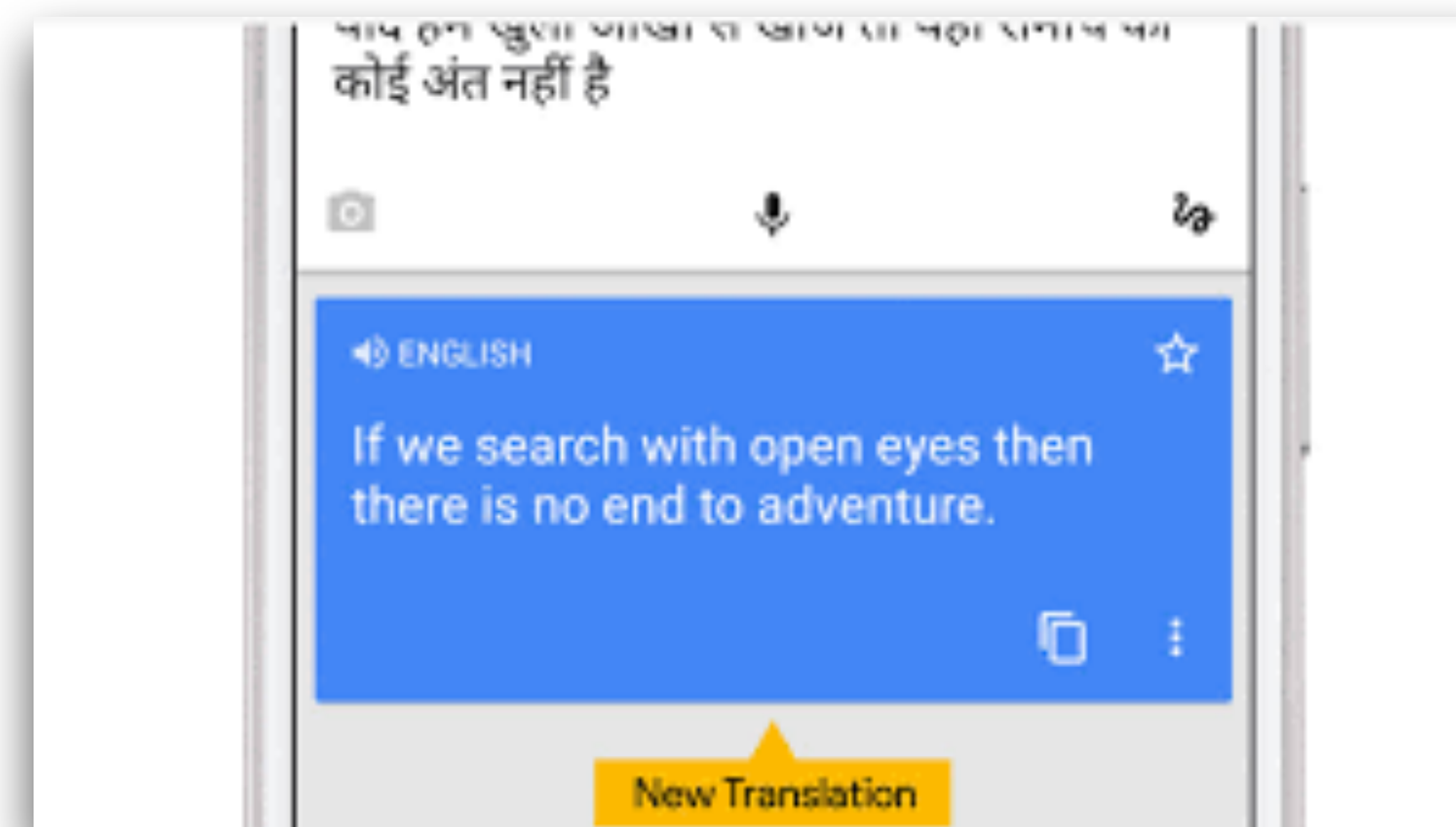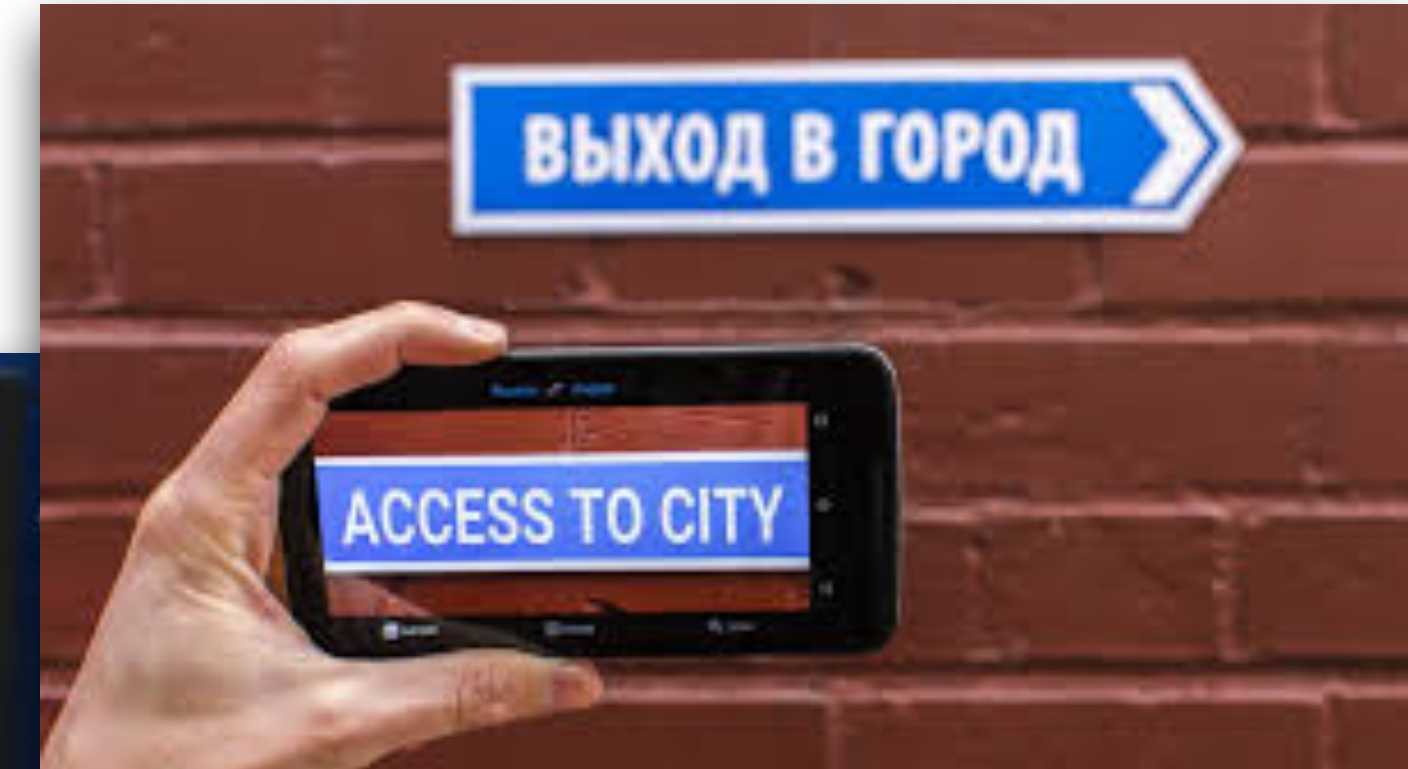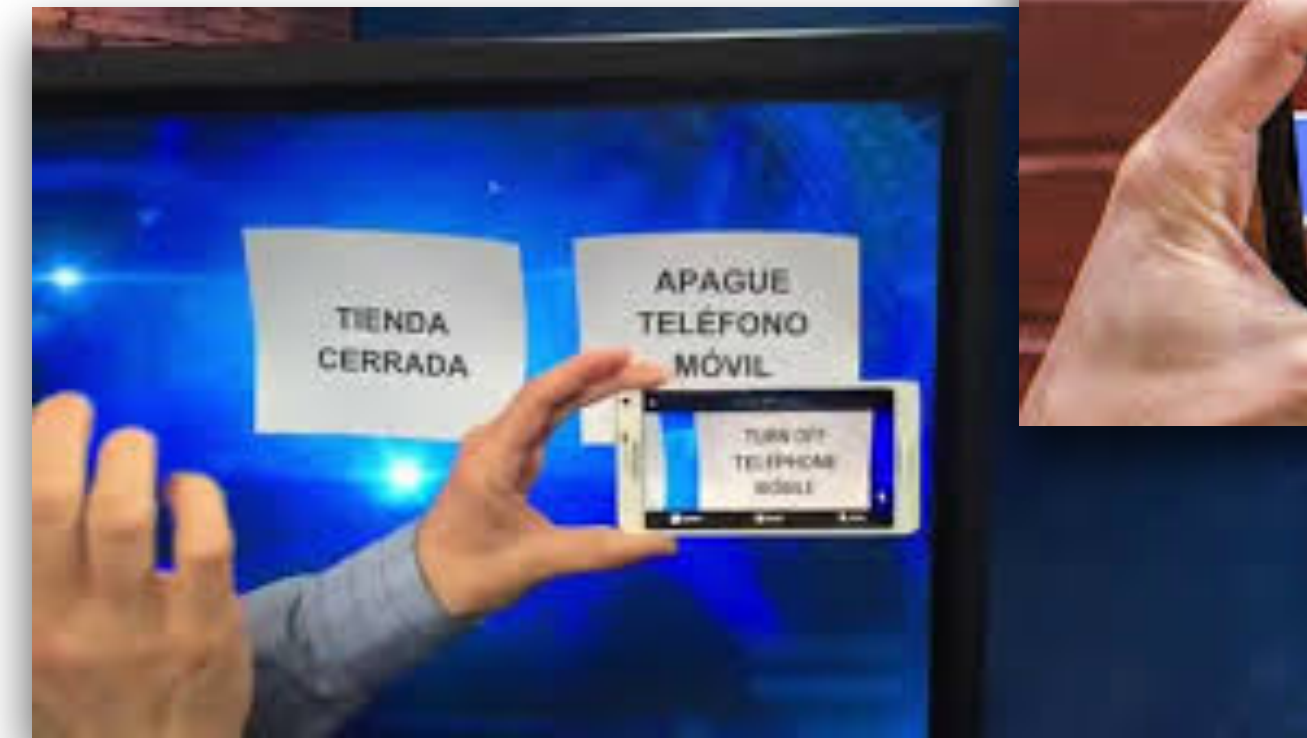
Rome2Rio

- Worldwide transit app — find train, subway, bus, taxi, Uber, ferry, car services

- Also suggests flights & hotels

- Works offline on previously-viewed routes

- Fast!

- Free app on iOS App Store
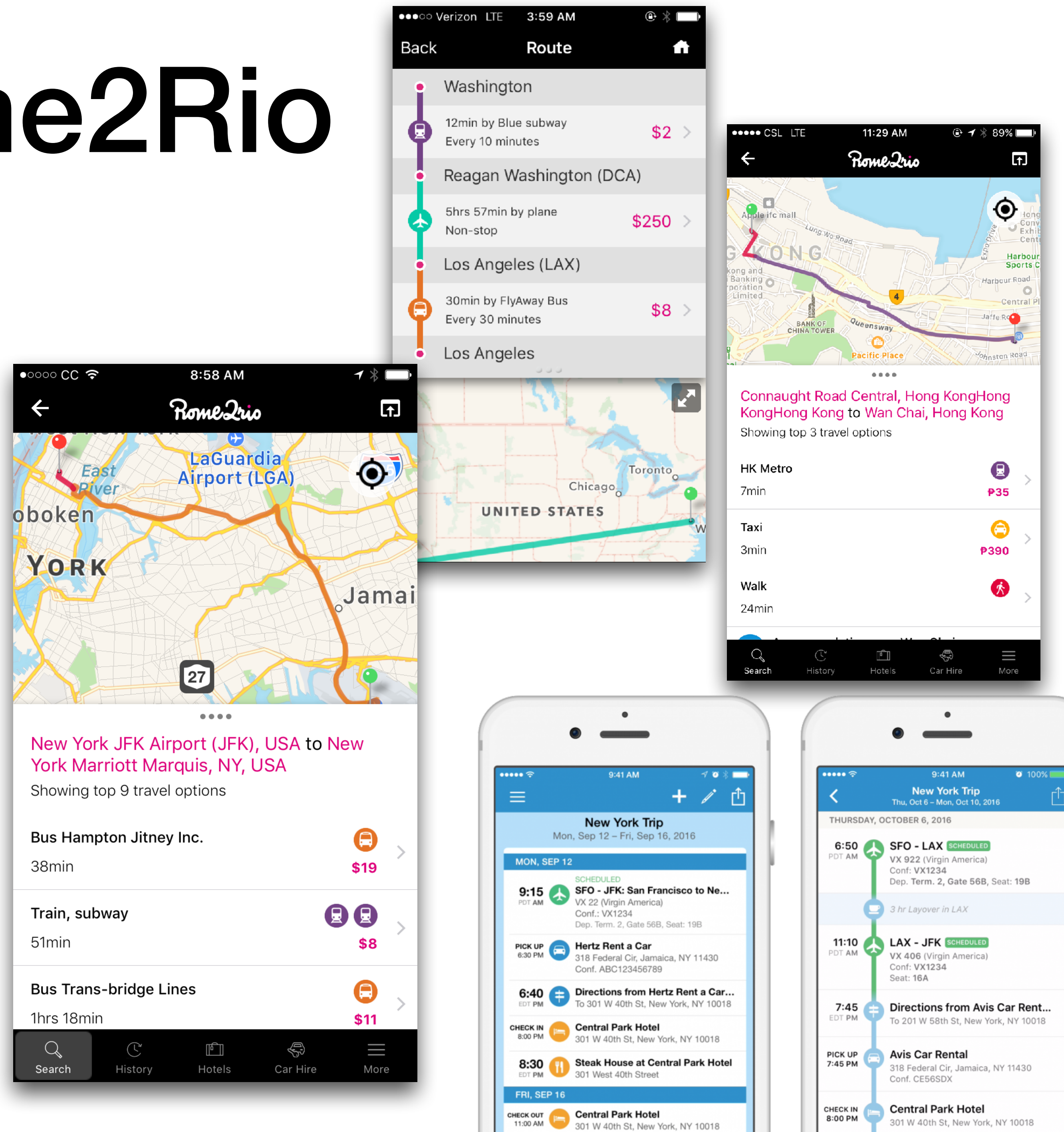
Our Favorite Travel Gear

Tools

Micro Flashlight

- NiteCore T-Series Tube infinitely variable brightness USB rechargeable micro flashlight

- Two pre-set brightness levels + variable brightness

- Weighs less than two nickels

- Up to 48-hour runtime, recharge via USB

- $12 from Amazon

Micro Multi-Tool

- Leatherman Micra Keychain Size Multi-Tool

- Only 2.5" long and 1.8 oz. - tiny, but must be placed only in checked luggage

- 10 tools including spring-action scissors, bottle opener, tweezers, nail file, pick, ruler, two screwdrivers

- 25-year warranty, made in USA (some models)

- $25 from Amazon

Super Loud Emergency Whistle

- Fox 40 Sonik Blast CMG Marine Whistle with Breakaway Lanyard

- 120db sound power — temporarily deafening at close range; can be heard up to 2 miles over water, 1 mile on land

- Works wet or dry; 4-chamber / 2 resonator pea-less design for highest reliability

- Comes with all-stainless steel split ring and breakaway lanyard

- $9 from Amazon

Mini Driver

- Picquic 06102 Teeny Turner 7-Bit Micro Driver

- Contains 2 Philips, 2 Slotted, and 3 Torx bits

- Perfect for tightening screws on eyeglasses and gaining access to hotel thermostat covers, remote control battery compartments, wall plates, and other "forbidden" areas

- $7.25 from Amazon

Connect & Power

Ethernet Connectivity

- Amazon Basics USB 3.0 to Gigabit Ethernet adapter

  - Connects Macs or PCs to Gigabit Ethernet over USB 2.0/3.0 port

  - Half the price of Thunderbolt adapters: $12 from Amazon

- Cable Matters 3' Cat6 Snagless Ethernet Patch Cables, pack of 5

  - Use to connect Mac to Ethernet adapter & travel router

  - $11 for pack of 5 from Amazon

Charge

- Anker Quick Charge multi-USB travel charging pods

- Charges 2-4 USB devices at high speed using intelligent charging ICs

- Lets you power and charge up to four devices from one AC outlet; all are world sets that will work internationally with just a plug adapter

- $18-39 from Amazon; dozens of models available

Portable Power/Charge

- Anker PowerCore 10000 portable battery pack

- 10,000mAh capacity

- Recharges your iPhone when AC power is not available; perfect for long flights

- Charges an iPhone 6 from flat to full 2-3 times on one charge

- Runs a mini travel router for four days +

- Comes with stuff bag & charge cable

- Dozens of sizes/models available

- $20-$90 from Amazon

World Plug Adapters

- Kikkerland UL03-A Universal Travel Adapter

- Smallest 100-country adapter available

- Morphs into a 2-prong adapter for all of EU, UK, Australia / NZ, India, Japan, China, many more

- $9 at Amazon
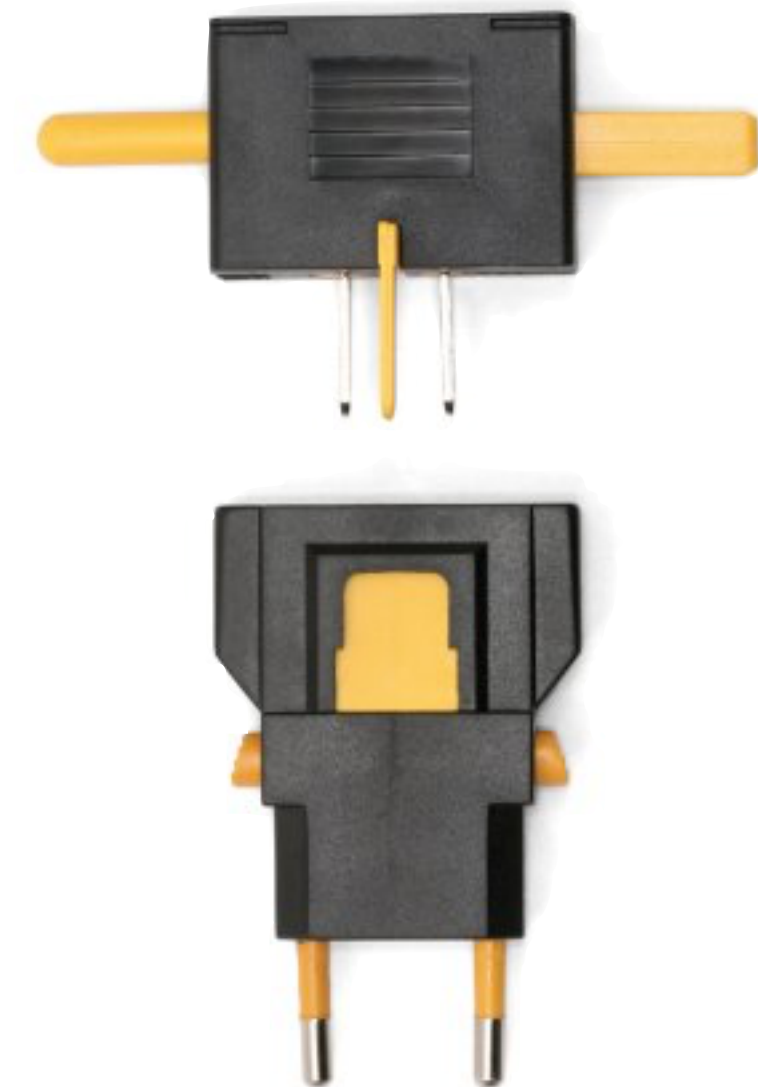
World Plug Adapters
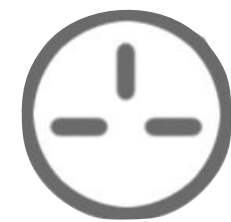
US / JP   AUS / NZ   EUROPE   UK
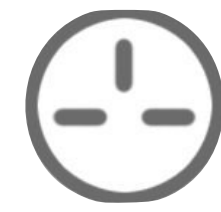
UK

- Maxah MX-UC1 Surge Protector All in One Universal Travel Wall Charger AC Power Plug Adapter

- Compatible with receptacles in 150 countries

- Hundreds of makes & models available

- $6-$19 on Amazon

**Amazon Basics Universal
Travel Case for Small Electronics
$10.49**

**Anker 4-Port
USB 3.0 Hub**

**Amazon Fire TV Stick
HD Streaming Stick
$39.99**

**Amazon Tap Alexa-Enabled
Portable Bluetooth Speaker
$129**

**Amazon Kindle Paperwhite
eReader (7th Generation)
$119**

**eBags TLS Professional
Slim Laptop Backpack
$99 at ebags.com**

**Verbatim Tuff n' Tiny
4Gb USB Flash Drive
$10**

Miscellaneous
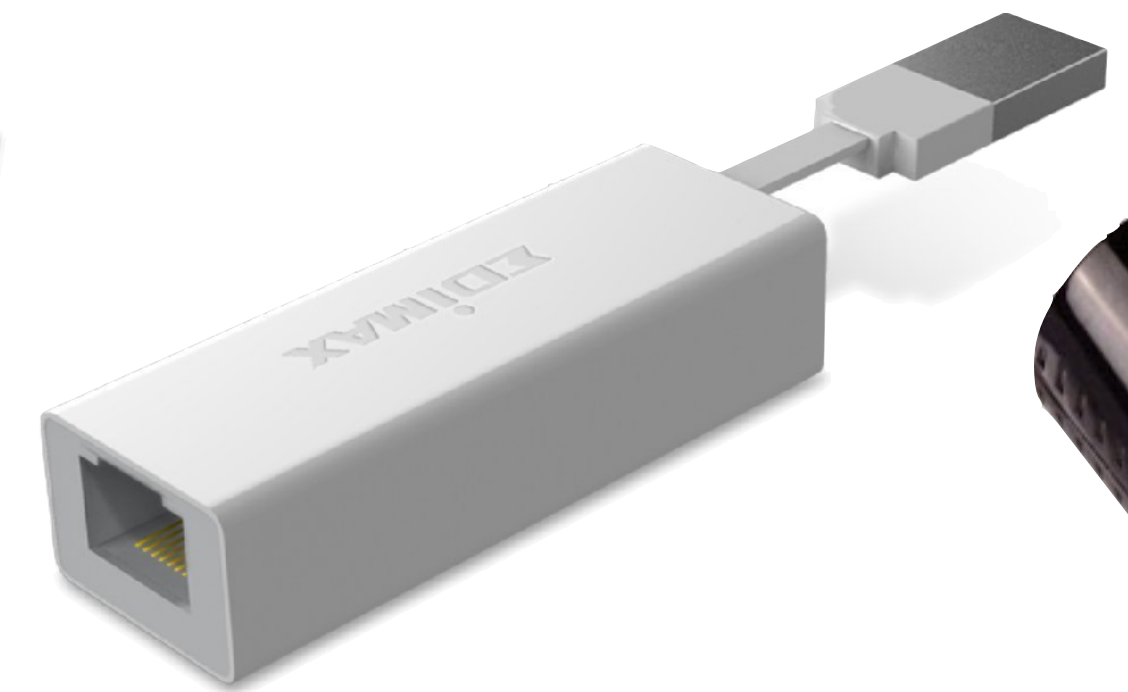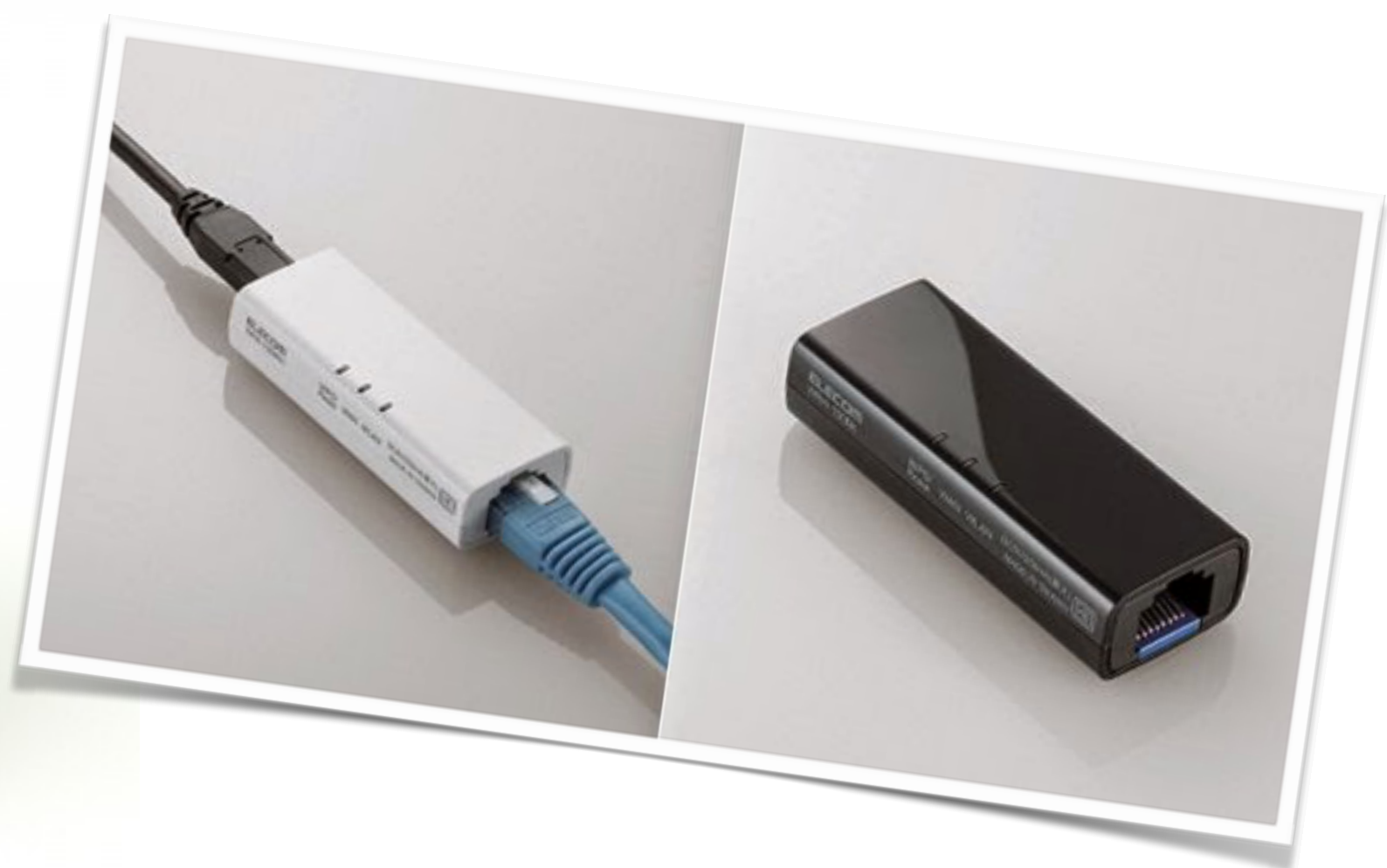
Travel Routers

The Vagaries of Hotel Wi-Fi

"Home is where the Wi-Fi connects automatically."

— Mike's Wi-Fi Maxim

The Vagaries of Hotel Wi-Fi

- The best hotels have the fiddliest Wi-Fi!

  - Login pages, device limits, per-guest passwords, 24-hour timeouts

  - Required to sign-in on each device, sign-in again each day, fiddly passwords & login screens, etc.

- The cheapest hotels have the simplest Wi-Fi!

  - Wide-open, free, and easy

  - No device limits, timeouts, stop pages or login
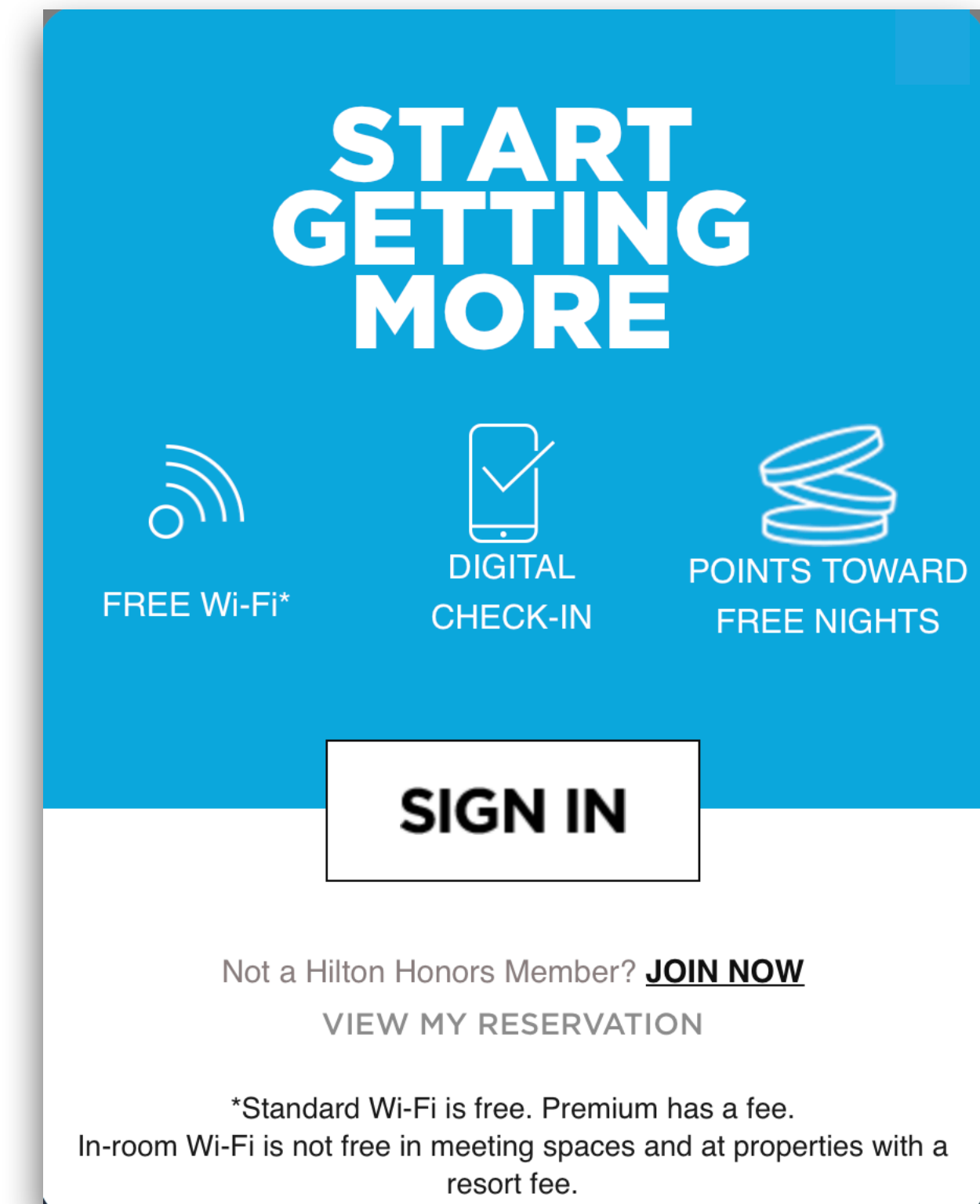
Fiddly Hotel Wi-Fi is a Hassle

- Most people have at least 2 Wi-Fi-connected gadgets with them on their trips:

  - Smartphone, laptop, tablet, smart speaker, video streaming stick

- Better hotels will limit you to 1-3 devices per guest, and many make you login to the network every day around checkin time

- And since every hotel is different, your devices aren't able to "remember" their login credentials and login automatically like they do at home
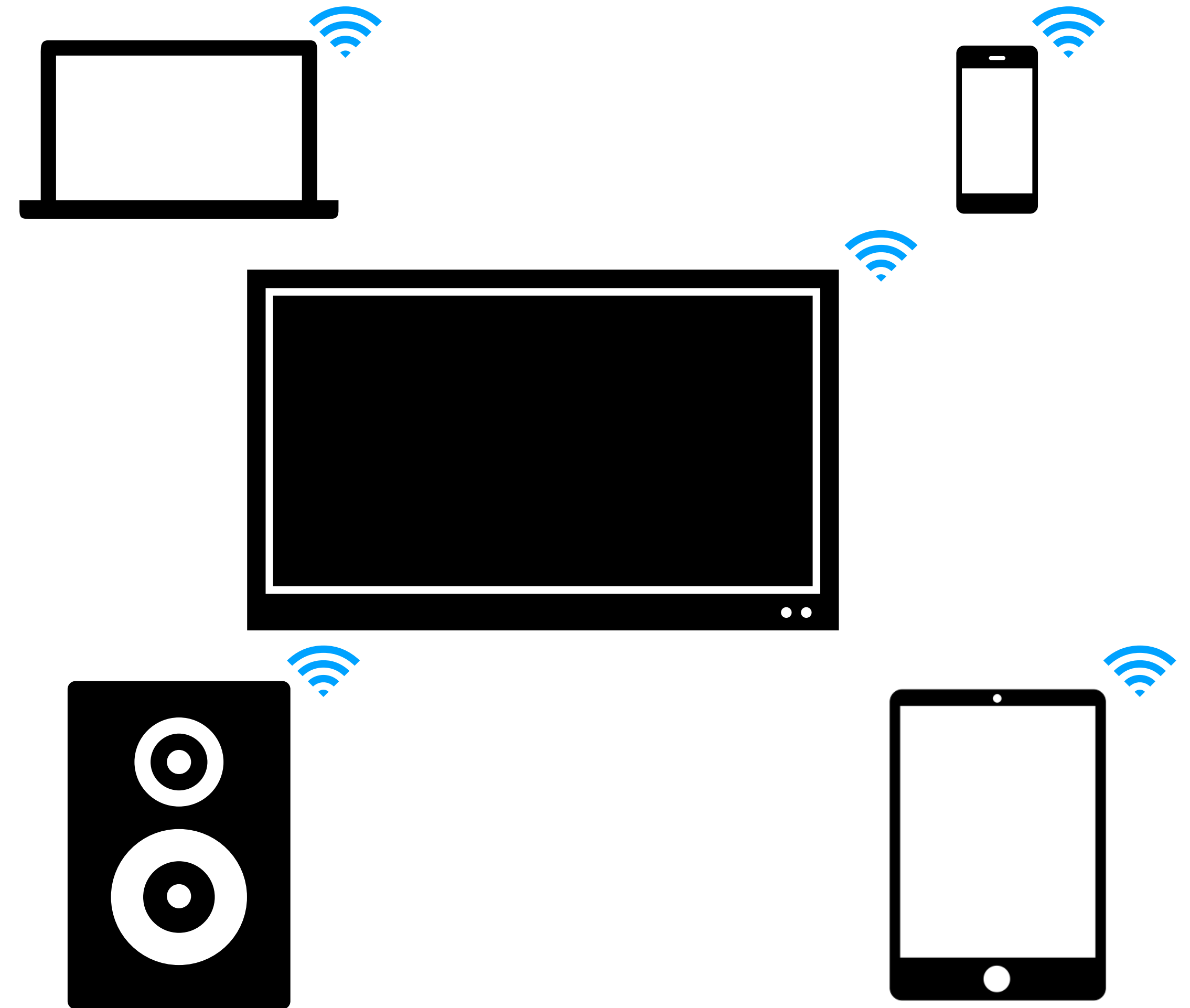
Prep Step: Before You Leave Home

Wi-Fi LAN

USB Power

Ethernet cable to home router

Hotel internet

150M Smart Router
Model: GL-AR150
Power: 5V-1A
IP: 192.168.8.1
SSID: GL-AR150-c7b
KEY: goodlife
MAC: E4.95.6E.40.DC.7B
S/N: 137689699a783c65
DDNS: ib0dc7b.gl-inet.com
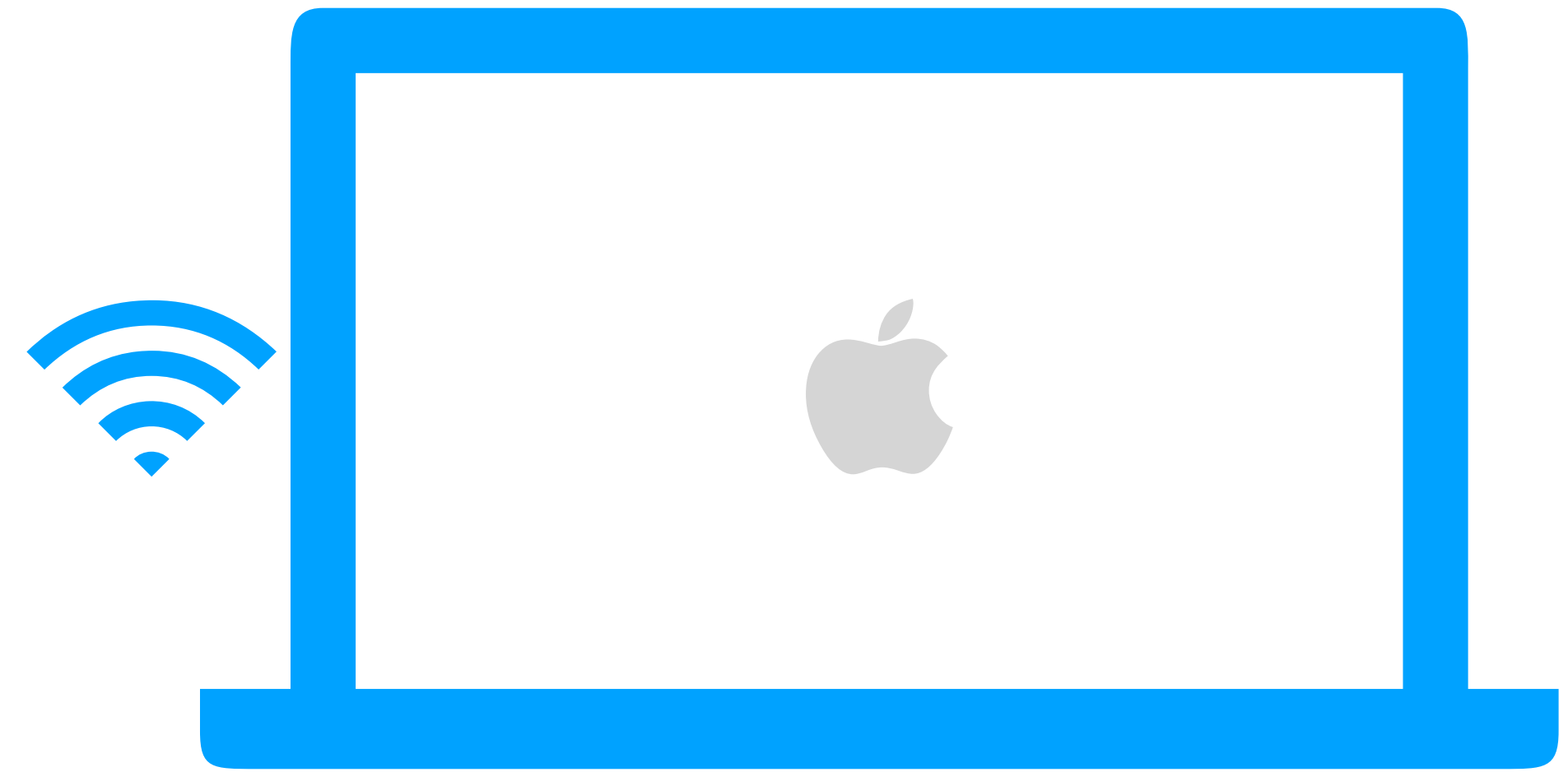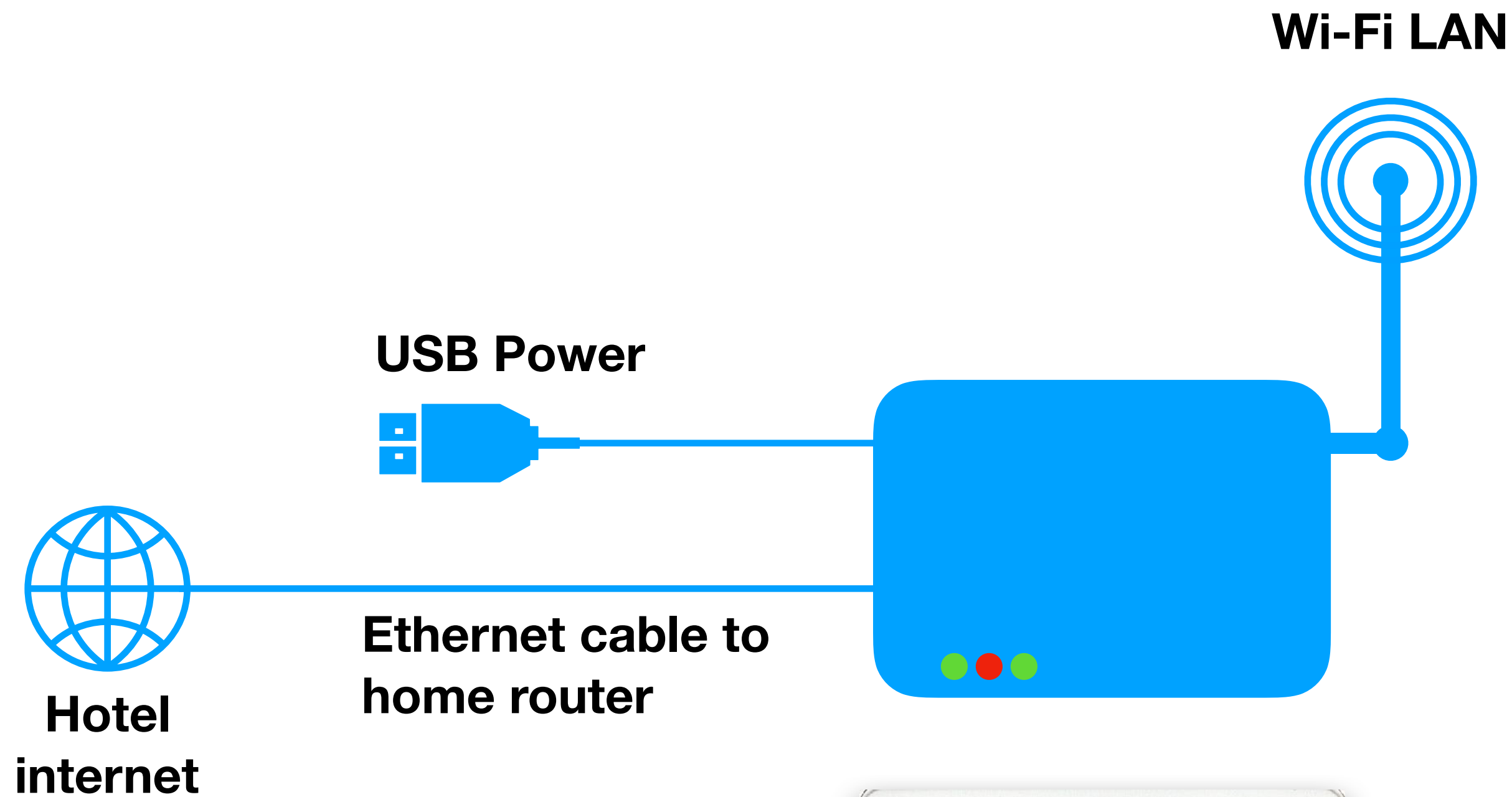
1. Follow router's instructions to connect to router over Wi-Fi using default address & password
2. Use config pages to set your own Wi-Fi preferences: network name & password, etc.
3. Connect all other travel gear to new travel router network so that they "learn" the new network credentials

Method 1: Hotel Wired Ethernet

Wi-Fi LAN

USB Power

Hotel internet

Ethernet cable from router's WAN port to Hotel LAN
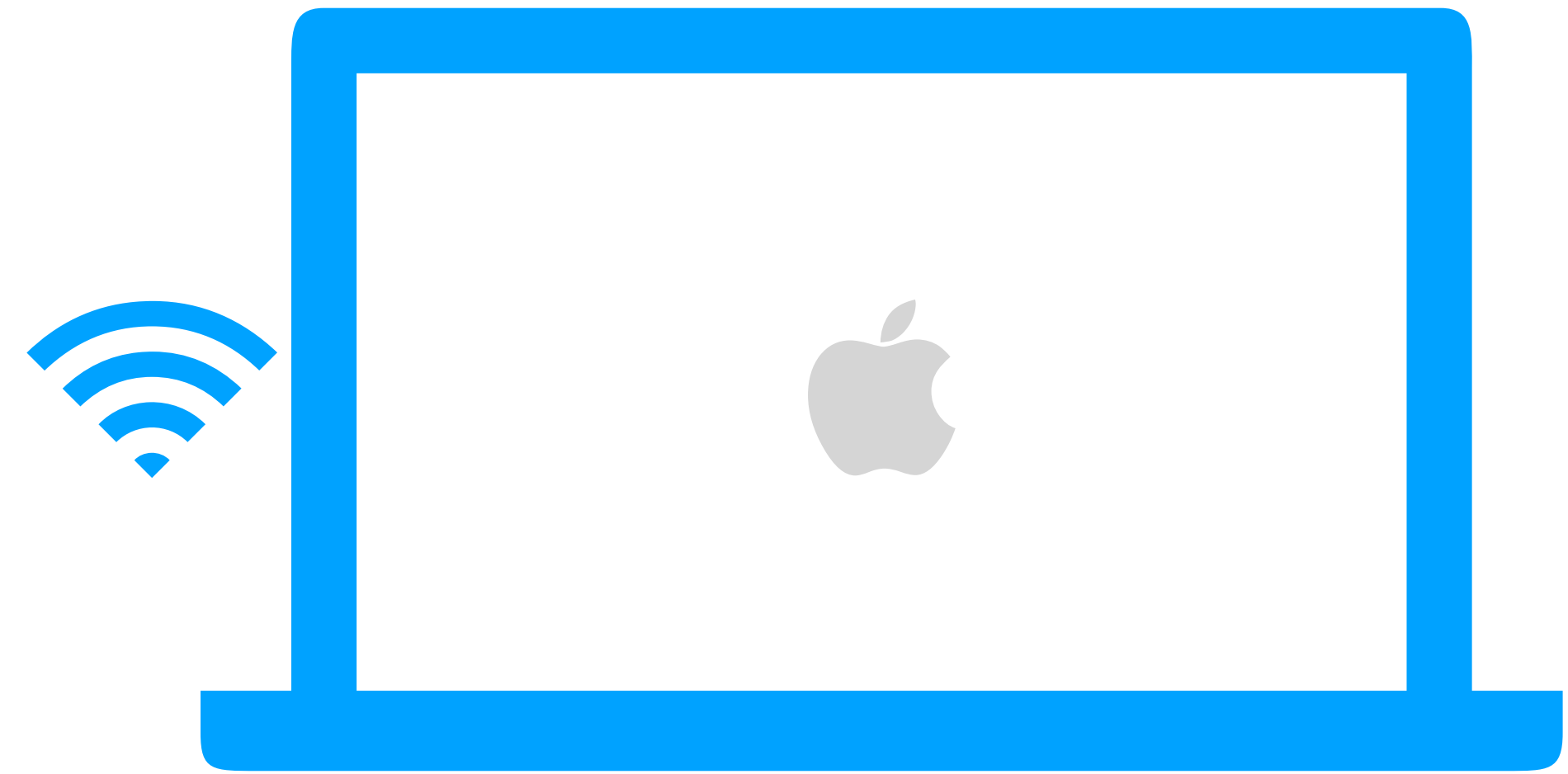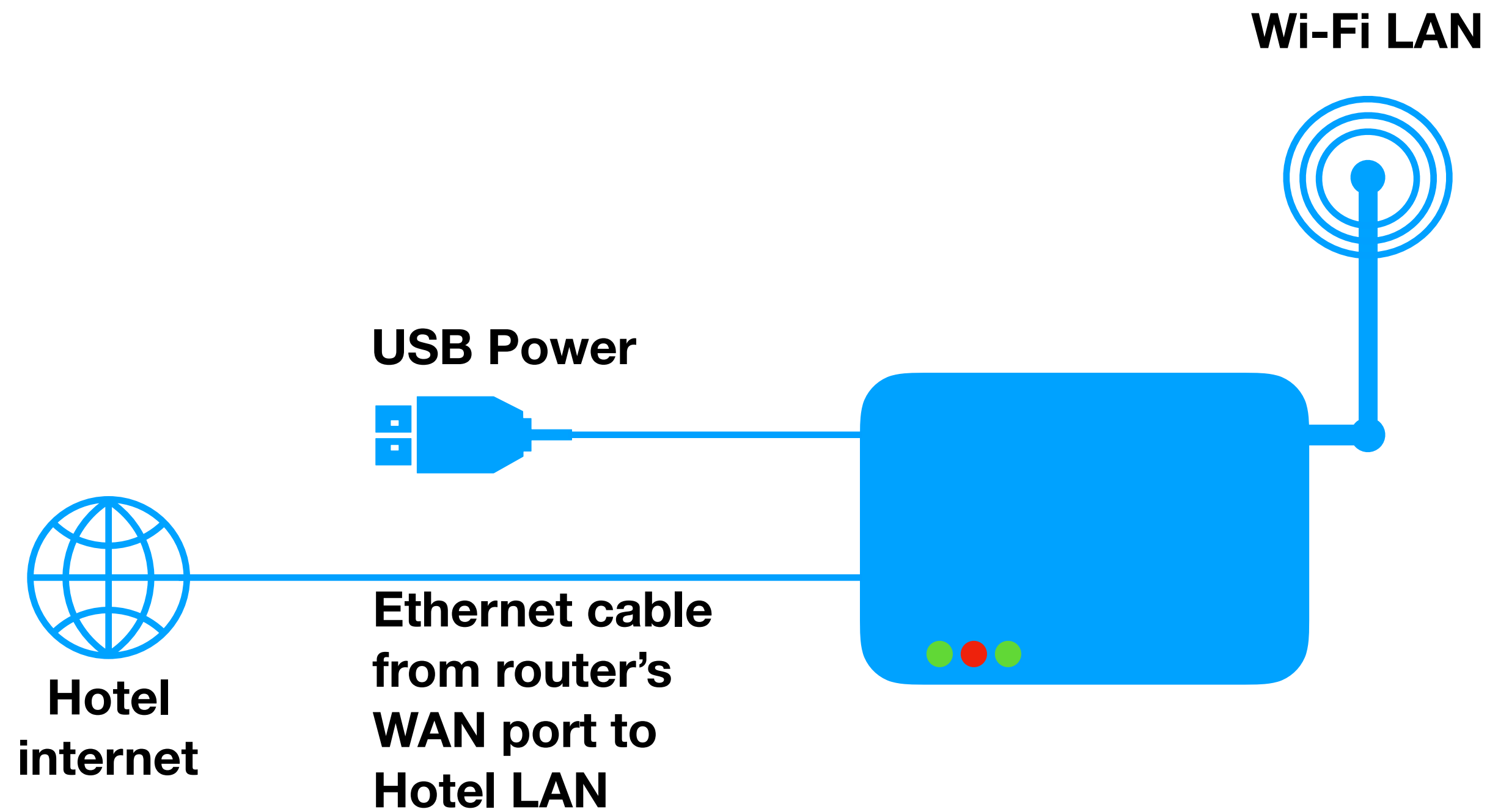
1. Open laptop & connect to travel router using previously-stored password (just like at home)
2. Surf to an arbitrary page or be taken to hotel internet login "stop" page
3. Enter hotel internet credentials ONCE. Now the router is "authorized" to talk on the hotel's LAN & internet
4. All of your other devices login automatically to your travel router using previously-stored password (just like at home)
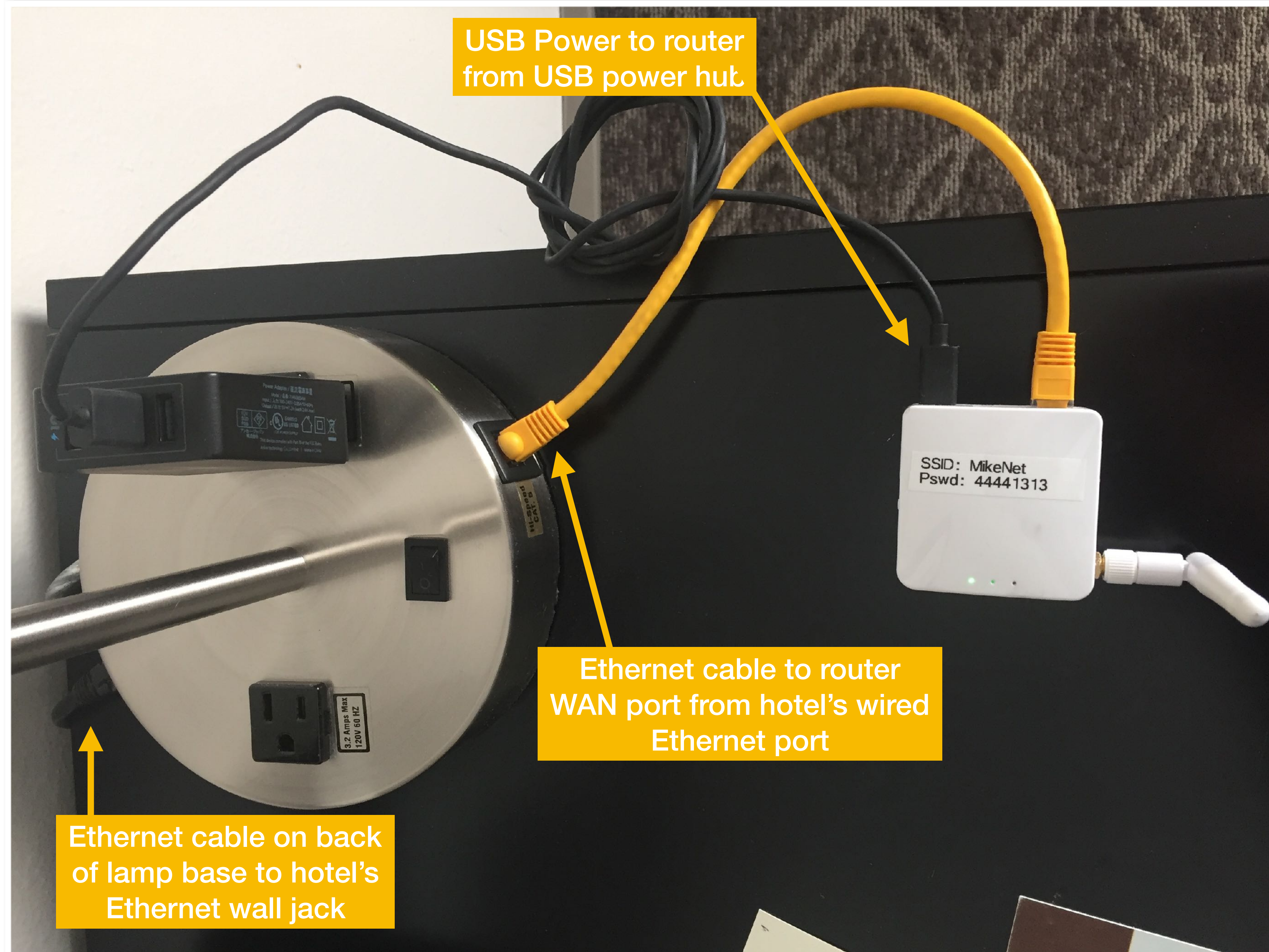
USB Power to router from USB power hub

SSID: MikeNet
Pswd: 44441313
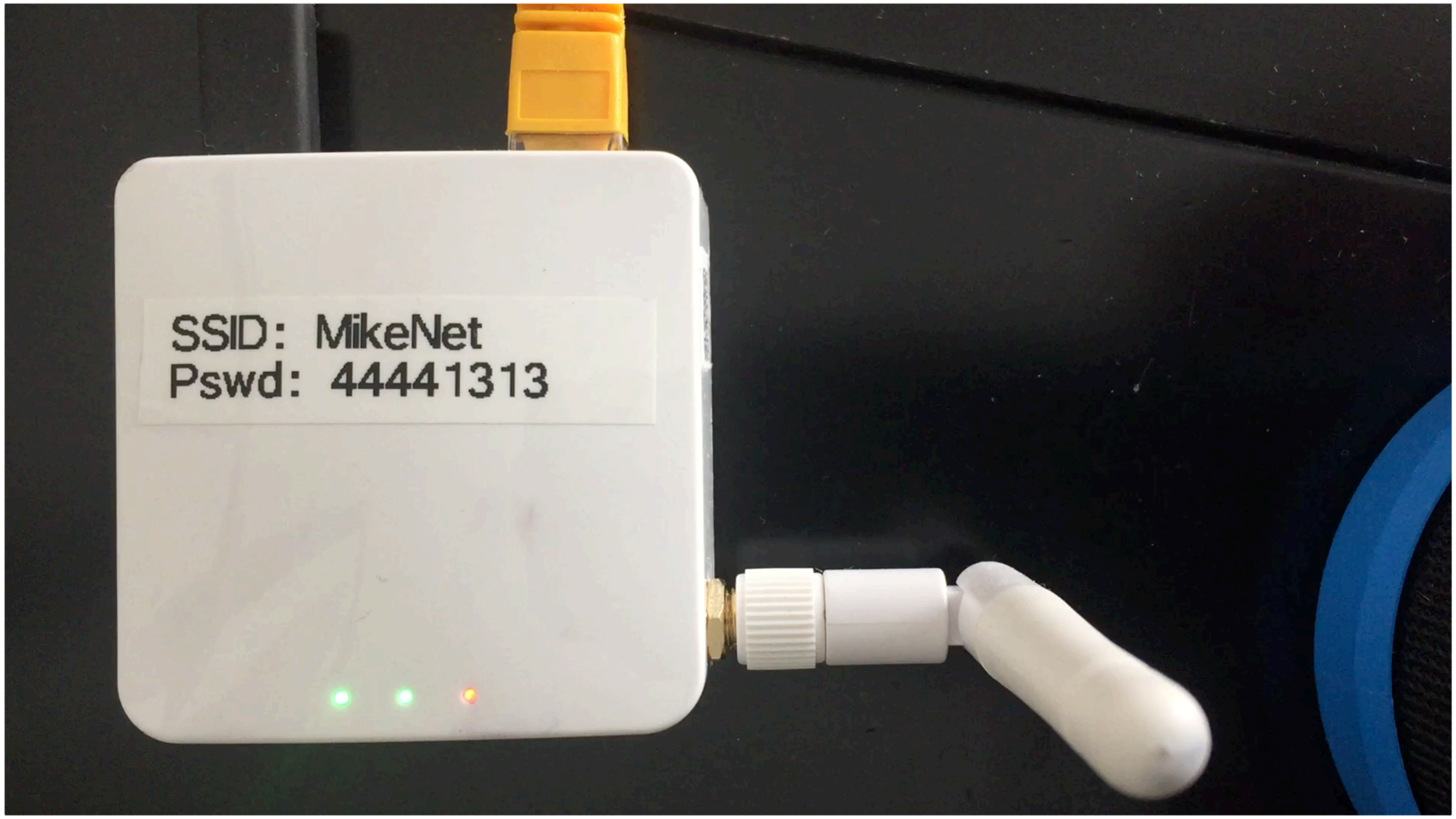
Ethernet cable to router WAN port from hotel's wired Ethernet port

Ethernet cable on back of lamp base to hotel's Ethernet wall jack

SSID: MikeNet
Pswd: 44441313

Wi-Fi Goodness

Wi-Fi LAN

USB Power

Ethernet cable to Hotel LAN

internet

All your devices connect to the travel router securely and automatically, since they previously "learned" the Wi-Fi credentials of the router at home.

Also, you won't hit any hotel device limits, since as far as the hotel knows, only your router is connected to their LAN!

Video Streaming Stick

Method 2: Hotel Wi-Fi Only

USB Power

To Hotel Wi-Fi

Wi-Fi LAN to your devices

USB-to-Ethernet cable From router WAN port to MacBook Air's USB port

1. Open laptop & connect to hotel's Wi-Fi
2. Surf to an arbitrary page or be taken to hotel internet login "stop" page
3. Enter hotel internet credentials ONCE. Now the laptop is "authorized" to talk on the hotel's LAN & internet.
4. Turn on internet sharing in System Preferences ➔ Sharing
5. Configure internet Sharing to share the connection from Wi-Fi to Ethernet port. This will provide an internet connection to the travel router.
6. All of your Wi-Fi devices connect automatically to your router, using only one "connection" to the hotel's system!

Wi-Fi Goodness

To Hotel Wi-Fi

USB Power

Wi-Fi LAN to your devices

- internet is supplied to travel router through MacBook Air's internet sharing System Preference
- Travel router puts out Wi-Fi for your other devices
- Your devices connect to your travel router Wi-Fi using previously-stored credentials
- You only authenticate against the hotel's connection ONCE, and only "use" one device connection
- Your Wi-Fi signal in the room is slammin'

USB-to-Ethernet cable From router WAN port to MacBook Air's USB port

Notes on Both Methods

- Most hotels make you login each day of your stay. If your connection goes dead at about the time you first connected during your stay, you will need to login again through the laptop browser to re-establish your credentials with the hotel system.

- You can continue to use the laptop as usual — just keep it connected to the router and AC power.

- The Mac must be left running 24/7 but the screen can be closed; it never sleeps when internet sharing is on.
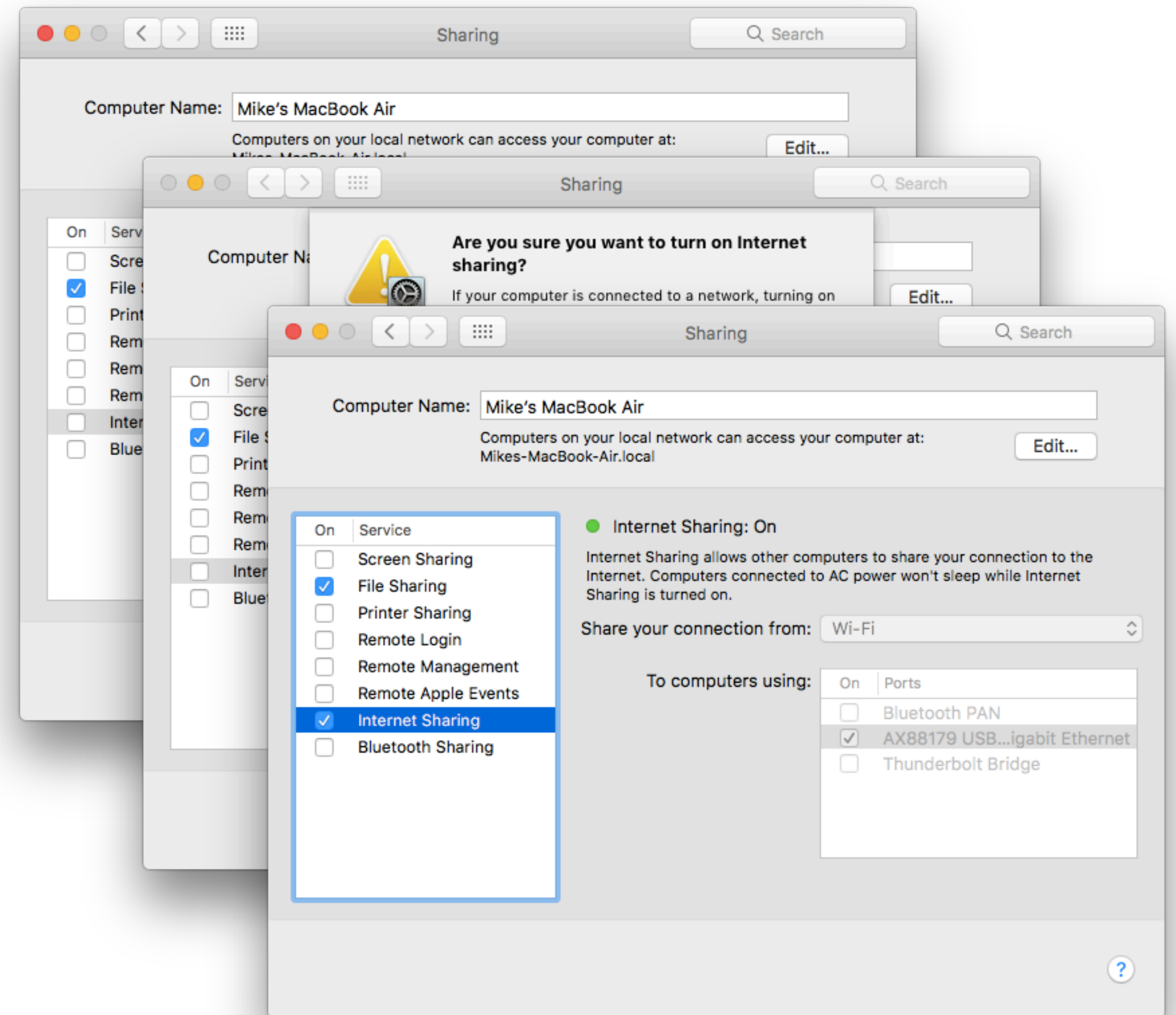
Travel Routers

- A true technical miracle of engineering and manufacturing

- Dozens of units on the market, from $200 down to $20 or less

- AirPort Express was the first of the lineage; now many, many more smaller and cheaper

- So cheap and useful, it's just silly not to have one handy — just in case!

But, what are they good for?

- Use in hotel rooms that have wired internet - connect all your devices with one login

- Use as your main router in the RV park!

- Use as a wireless repeater to bring Wi-Fi to areas in your home with low signal strength

- Carry in your technical "go-bag" for ad-hoc network troubleshooting

- Keep handy as a backup/spare router in case your main home router honks the bobo

Get around hotel stop pages / device limits

- Most hotels, even premium-brands, limit the number of devices you can connect to their network, **and** you have to log in from each device — big hassle!

- Some also prohibit connecting streaming boxes (Roku, Apple TV, Fire TV) to their networks

- And most hotel Wi-Fi networks are not encrypted, meaning your over-the-air traffic is not secure unless using HTTPS sites

- Travel routers get around all of these issues!

Other Neat Things They Can Do

- Act as a Wi-Fi "repeater," extending the range of your main Wi-Fi signal, and/or providing a secure sub-net on your home LAN (guest network)

- Act as a wireless-to-wired bridge, to bring Ethernet cable connectivity in a Wi-Fi-only environment

- Share USB/thumb drives on the LAN through the USB port

- Act as a wireless webcam bridge: plug a webcam into router's USB port, view it on the internet

- Run for days on the power from a small cellphone charge bank, or from a solar panel/battery bank

A Few Good Ones: Apple AirPort Express

- $99 new or $79 like new through Apple's refurbs page

- Super-easy setup & admin; great security; smooth integration with iOS & macOS, small and silent; uses AC power

- Plenty of power & features to cover any home in the Cove

- LAN port to connect to switch/PC/Mac Ethernet

- Guest Network, dual-band 802.11a/b/g/b 2.4Ghz & 5Ghz

- Has a dozen uses around the home, office and hotel room, or wherever good networking is needed

- ✓ Mike tested and approved!

A Few Good Ones: TP-Link TL-WR802N

- $29.99 list, $28 shipped from Amazon

- Tiny, weighs just 34g (less than six quarters!); runs from USB power

- Supports Router, Access Point, Wi-Fi Client, Repeater and WISP operation modes

- A little tricky to admin & change modes

A Few Good Ones: GL-Inet GL-AR150

- $26 shipped from Amazon with external 2dbi antenna

- Weighs 42g / 1.5 oz.; runs from USB power

- Supports Router, Access Point, Wi-Fi Client, Repeater and WISP operation modes; supports DDNS, VOIP, etc.

- USB port for webcam and thumb drive support; LAN port to connect to switch/PC/Mac Ethernet

- Runs DD-WRT firmware, perfect for tinkering and user mods

- Simple interface & quick, secure setup

- ✓ Mike tested and approved!

Demo!

(Keep your pinkies crossed!)

Support the Cove Apple Club

COVE APPLE CLUB

Now in our **SECOND DECADE** of fun!

SHARE. LEARN. LAUGH!

Join **over 200 Cypress Cove residents and members** in the Cove Apple Club, and you'll learn more and get a lot more fun and productivity out of all your Apple gear! The Cove Apple Club has been meeting **every month for over a decade**, and the fun just keeps getting better and better!

We meet twice a month, year-round. Check our upcoming meeting schedule and plan to join us at our next meeting!

If you're new to the world of Apple, an old Machead from years back, or even a frustrated Windows user, you will find something interesting and entertaining at each of our meetings. Our meetings are fun and informative, with topics presented covering the range from beginner to advanced.

Our focus is on Apple products, but we often also look at other new technologies not specific to the Apple platform, ranging from computer security to Internet telephony to changes in the industry to neat new tech gadgets of interest to everyone.

All Apple products are fair game at our meetings: iPad, iPhone, iPod and Macs of all sizes, as well as the huge world of Apple software, hardware and accessories.

Find out more about the club, our meeting schedule and how you can get in on the fun. Click the links below for details, and be sure to join our email list for all the latest updates.

Come join us and learn how to DO MORE and HAVE FUN with your Apple gear!

NOT JUST FOR NERDS!

Everyone is welcome at our club meetings. We warmly welcome curious or frustrated PC, Windows and Android users, as well as anyone interested in anything Apple-related. There's a little something for everyone at each and every Cove Apple Club meeting, so don't miss out!

JOIN US!

Click here for meeting dates and info.

MEETINGS

ARCHIVES

Cove Apple Club   Cove Apple Club   Cove Apple Club

EMAIL LIST

COVE APPLE CLUB
Now in our **SECOND DECADE** of fun!

HOME   MEETINGS   EMAIL LIST   SHOP   ARCHIVES

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SUPPORT THE COVE APPLE CLUB WHEN YOU SHOP AT AMAZON.COM

The next time you need some new Apple or other tech gear (or anything else from the 20,000,000 items in stock!), start your online shopping session with our link to Amazon.com. Your purchase will earn a little money for the Cove Apple Club, which we save up all year for a big Holiday Party for all members of the club! We update club members on the earnings every month.

So be sure to click the Amazon logo below when you need to shop for Mac products online...and "give back" to the Cove Apple Club -- without costing you an extra cent! Thanks!

THREE EASY WAYS TO USE THE AMAZON SHOPPING LINK

1. Just click here — you'll be sent to the Amazon.com homepage.
   1. Once you arrive at the Amazon homepage, **BOOKMARK** that page:
      1. In Safari on Mac, type Cmd-D
      2. In Safari on iOS, tap the Share widget, then tap Add to Favorites or Add Bookmark.

2. Drag this link: **Amazon** to your Favorites bar in your Web browser. Then it's handy anytime you want to visit Amazon.

3. Just click the Amazon banner ad below.

amazon

Shop.
Connect.
Enjoy.

All from Earth's
biggest selection

Shop now ›

Privacy

Last 30 Days

Jun 25 2017 - Jul 24 2017 / Last 30 Days ▾   Tracking ID: All ▾   Last Updated: Jul 24 2017 +00:00

Summary	Fees	Bounties	Amazon CPM Ads
$227.87	$227.87	$0.00	$0.00 $
	Launching OneLink		Get Started with CPM Ads

● Fees   ● Bounties   ● Amazon CPM Ads

$60.00

$40.00

$20.00

$0

25 Jun   28   01 Jul   04   07   10   13   16   19   22
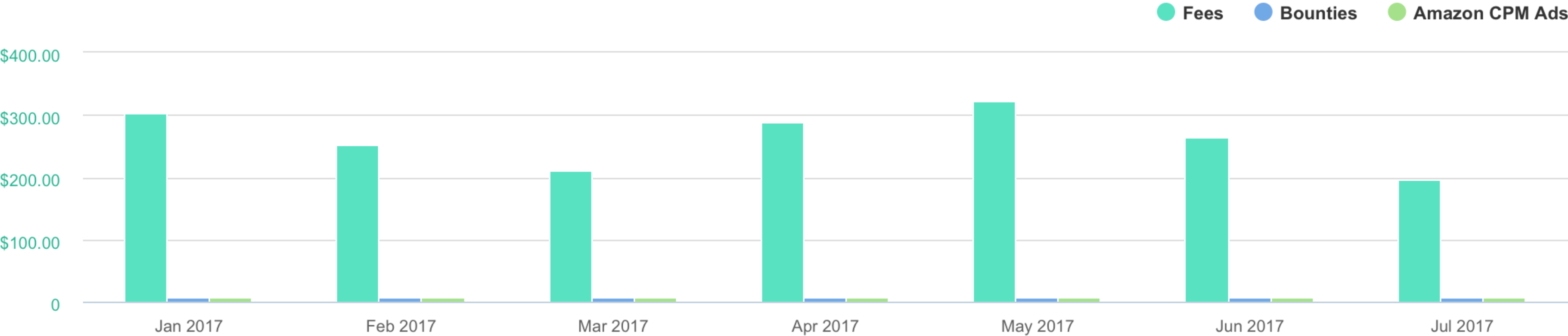
2017 YTD

Our Next Meeting

AUG

9

Cove Apple Club
7:00 PM - 8:15 PM

Let's Adjourn to Cheeks!