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## See inside downtown's new Hilton Garden Inn and Home2 Suites before the Tuesday opening

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Employees at downtown Birmingham's new [Hilton Garden Inn](#) and [Home2 Suites](#) are putting the finishing touches on the hotel, installing phones and cleaning up conference rooms as it prepares for Tuesday's opening.

Dothan-based [LBA Properties](#) is managing the hotel, which houses a Hilton Garden Inn, which typically caters to business and corporate clients, and Home2 Suites, a Hilton extended stay brand. Sunbelt developed the property.

While the two brands share a check-in, each has their own unique lobby and room design. The restaurant also features the Garden Grill, a restaurant that's open to hotel guests as well as the general public, serving breakfast and dinner. Home2 guests get a free continental breakfast on that side of the lobby.

"The last couple of years, with the renaissance of downtown Birmingham, you've had a lot of the full-service properties come in, or the historic properties, but this one that we've added is really the first one in several years to come to downtown Birmingham that gives you that select service property, still with the upscale feel," LBA President Beau Benton said. "You get at a price point and service level that really fits, whether it's the business traveler or the person there for leisure travel to enjoy Birmingham."

The hotels are housed in a single at Second Avenue South and 17th Street and will share most of its amenities, like the pool, gym and the laundry machines available to guests. The Hilton Garden Inn will have 104 rooms and the Home2 will have 106 rooms. The five-story hotel will also have 3,700 square feet of meeting space.

Parking will be available for an additional charge, and there's both self-parking and valet available. The Home2 rooms will be pet-friendly for a one-time charge. The Home2 rooms have kitchens stocked with dishes and flatware, and induction burners are available from the front desk at no charge.

The developer bought the property from Children's of Alabama, and LBA expects much of its business to come from the surrounding medical community. The Alabama Children's Hospital Foundation will be the hotel's primary charitable partner, and the hotel will offer a special room rate for families of Children's patients.

Sunbelt Development developed the hotel. Bradley, Schmidt & Carn Architects out of Dothan was the project's architect. Birmingham's Peggy Dye & Associates did design work for the hotel.

"When you walk in to the lobby, you really get the feel of a full service hotel in a very urban market. You're right there on the street, a lot of glass there on the street in Birmingham, but you're also immediately connected to Birmingham's past, whether it be through artwork or the reclaimed wood that's used throughout the hotel," Benton said. "If you're, for example a typical Hilton Garden Inn traveler, it's not going to look like a Hilton Garden Inn at the interstate exit, yet you're going to find everything that you expect."