

STAY

A city of such grandeur is full of extraordinary hotels, and the breadth of this selection is even more appreciable since the legendary Ritz closed for renovation. We have adopted but a few of the most alluring hotels, ones in which the design is so distinctive and the service is so impeccable that they simply command our affection. The following accommodations – some of which boast the new Palatial classification – have the unusual capacity to both awaken and comfort.



*Le Bristol
Terrace Suite*



*Les Amis d'Hippolyte
Just for Kids*

Le Bristol

112, rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré

location: 8th Arrondissement

t: +33 (0) 1 53 43 43 00

www.lebristolparis.com

161 rooms and suites

The beautifully preserved Le Bristol retains its spirit of affluent 1920s optimism as well as the warm, protective welcome it extended to American citizens based in Paris during the German Occupation of World War II. The hotel opened in 1925, founded by Hippolyte Jammer (whose spirit lingers in many Le Bristol decor details). Since then, tasteful, periodic renovations and expansions have seen it grow in size and status as a palatial hotel of the highest class and refinement. It was voted no less than the 'Best Hotel in the World' by one trade magazine in 2008. The spacious rooms are replete with exquisite, 18th century era furniture and Carrara marble bathrooms, and the suites extend from the Louis XVI style Junior to the vast and resplendent Royal, which offers the exclusivity of a 'private mansion'. Outside, the hotel's celebrated formal French garden, affording stunning views for diners, banqueters, and guests in the luxury rooms, is a must-visit even for the only faintly romantic.

Restaurants

Epicure's decor and cuisine change with the seasons: in summer, view the French garden over dishes such as Pertuis asparagus and Bresse farm hen; winter sees the room become a theater of oak, bringing wood pigeon and sea bass to the table. Lighter meals and original cocktails can be found in *The Bar* — home to unique *Fashion High Teas* combining teas, pastries, and designer cake with collections from famous fashion houses.

Spa and Fitness

Opening onto a large solarium and adjacent to a modern, fully-equipped gym, the enclosed, sixth-floor swimming pool has floor-to-ceiling windows with stunning views of Parisian rooftops. The elegant sand-and-stone *Spa Le Bristol* offers facials, massages, and other specific treatments, including one for jet lag and mother-to-be therapies.

Families and Children

Children are welcomed with a Hippolyte rabbit cuddly toy and the Hippolyte treasure hunt — and they'll be mesmerized by Fa-roan, the resident white beauty whose purrs make every child feel at home. There are also welcome packs, cookies and bath toys for little ones. *Family Programme* offers connecting rooms or suites with a 50% discount on the second room.



PHOTO CREDIT: GUILLAUME DE LAUBIER

Le Burgundy

6-8, rue Duphot

location: 1st Arrondissement

t: +33 (0) 1 42 60 34 12

www.leburgundy.com

59 rooms and suites

Le Burgundy encapsulates the proverbial Paris light; even the hotel's darker, earthier elements feel spacious and bright. From the marble floor accented in brass (actually a Guy de Rougemont puzzle) to paintings, lithographs and black-and-white photographs, omnipresent art quietly commands attention. Clean lines and contemporary furniture are mixed with eclectic fabrics, marble statues, and frescoed ceilings, at times demonstrating the classic high/low paradox of fashion in which designer pieces are unexpectedly paired with more unusual items of untraceable origin. Guest rooms embrace this concept, with beige walls brought to life by fuchsia throw blankets, polka dotted armchairs, or textured curtains of green floral patterns; even the bathrooms blend earthy stone with chrome and black marble. Many suites luxuriate in the hotel's superb location in Paris' Golden Triangle; the *Saint-Honoré Suite*'s balcony overlooks Paris rooftops and the Church of the Madeleine.

Restaurants

The hotel's Michelin-starred restaurant – *Le Baudelaire* – serves lighter versions of classic French dishes: scallops with black truffles, Bresse chicken stuffed with sweetbreads, finished with a pistachio and raspberry tart. With gold accents and a frescoed ceiling by Marco del Re, the bar is a continuation of the restaurant's understated elegance. Guests can wake up to the thought of delightful home-made pastries served every morning in the peaceful winter garden.

Spa and Fitness

Just the sight of this immaculate swimming pool – which reflects different hues and shades depending on the time of day – is enough to invoke a deep sense of calm. Guests can arrange a massage, work out in the fitness room, or unwind in the Jacuzzi, Turkish hammam, or sauna.

Families and Children

Children ages two and under stay at the hotel free of charge, and are welcomed with a sweets package upon arrival. Cribs are available (no more than one per room), as are DVDs and game consoles. Many suites and rooms can be joined with others for larger families; the entire 6th floor can be reserved for longer stays. Baby-sitting services can also be arranged.