

Palace of Westminster

With its sumptuous décor and exquisite dining, the Hôtel Westminster embodies everyone's dream of Paris.

THE LOCATION says it all. Rue de la Paix is surrounded by the most elegant landmarks of Paris—l'Opéra, Place Vendôme, Madeleine, Jardin des Tuileries and the Louvre. Here, in the world's premier fashion and jewellery district, is a hotel that lightens the spirits, pampers the senses and fires the imagination. Hôtel Westminster is a fantasy of Parisian splendour—it is what all of Paris yearns to be.

The building became a hotel in the early-19th century, taking its name and coat of arms from an early patron, the Duke of Westminster. The present Duke continues the family tradition, staying here when he visits Paris. Over the past 150 years, countless other dignitaries and celebrities have made this their home in the City of Lights.

The Westminster is a wonderful exposition of classical style, from its fairy-tale baroque façade to every detail of its palatial interior. Each stately reception room is a delicate dance of crystal, marble, brocade and gilt antiques. Throughout the salons of the royal chambers there are inlaid consoles from the reigns of Louis XV and Louis XVI, and treasures from the Napoleonic and Regency eras. The elegance of old has been reawakened by interior decorator Pierre-Yves Rochon, and the rooms and suites reflect an aspect of the Westminster's historic glory.

Le Céladon is the hotel's Michelin-starred restaurant. Here, among the Oriental-influenced décor, dining becomes a feast for every sense. Executive Chef Christophe Moisan is a culinary magician who regards meals as a celebration. "The experience of dining must always be fresh and exciting," he says. Also, he insists, it is important to listen to the seasons. In winter he might recommend Saint-Jacques scallops with lentils and chestnuts, in spring pork cooked with sage, and in summer lobster roasted in its shell with Cuban pepper. Richard Rahard, the chief sommelier, is an expert in French wines, which can also be savoured in the elegant Duke's Bar, famous for its cocktails and relaxing piano music.

Amid the exceptional décor, the hotel boasts every modern convenience, including a fitness centre, and extensive business and conference facilities. Every guest room is equipped with high-speed internet access and there is wireless internet access in the bar, lobby and meeting rooms.

Hôtel Westminster is one of those rare hotels that lives up to every dream. Never has such uncompromising elegance felt so relaxing. The fantasy world is enhanced by changing seasonal decoration that heralds occasions such as Christmas, St. Valentine's Day and the arrival of summer. This summer, renowned decorator Julien Septanil has festooned the entrance in a cascade of coral and palm trees. The hotel's interior is equally spectacular, with red coral and bleu fish, palm trees, sands and shells. For an added touch of romance, the hotel's Honeymoon Suite is adorned with roses—the perfect hideaway for the hotel's La Vie en Rose romantic break.



The four-star Hôtel Westminster is a deluxe fantasy of Parisian splendour from its elegant entrance, decorated to reflect the seasons, above, to its stately suites, below left. The hotel boasts a state-of-the-art fitness centre with steam room, sauna, exercise room and Orlane beauty cabin. The Michelin-starred restaurant, Le Céladon, provides a truly majestic setting for a superb dining experience, and the Duke's Bar, an elegant piano lounge, is perfect for sumptuous cocktails.

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