



Room Request! Four Seasons Ritz Lisbon

Inside Lisbon's crown jewel property

If you want to spend a few days in Lisbon, it'd be hard to beat the service and five-star simplicity of the Four Seasons Hotel Ritz Lisbon. The property first opened in 1959, and it has preserved all the original touches of vintage refinement and architecture. A character in a Wes Anderson movie would fit right in; it often feels as if Monsieur Gustave H. (Ralph Fiennes' role in *The Grand Budapest Hotel*) will be there to greet you after a night out or a breakfast on the terrace. Nothing feels stuffy, especially thanks to a refresh in 2019 by the Portuguese studio Óttopospon. The firm redid the guest rooms and suites, and, in the process, carefully preserved the hotel's history of the new and the old, the past and the present, the classic and the cutting edge. A new outdoor swimming pool, framed stunningly by high-rises, is a particularly tranquil oasis, which on a recent Sunday afternoon hosted Gal Gadot en famille. (Though it may seem ridiculous to eat one in Portugal, we recommend a poolside club sandwich.) Like M. Gustave, the concierges here are especially kind and helpful, whether you seek a tuk-tuk ride around Lisbon, the best place to get pastéis de nata or some help greasing the wheels at Cervejaria Ramiro, a local seafood institution. You might end up having the perfect evening at the hotel's own Michelin-starred Cura, where chef Pedro Pena Bastos will serve you a meal based on his own history in Portugal.

DuJour spoke with Guilherme Costa, the hotel's general manager, to learn more about this special property.

WHAT'S THE MOST REQUESTED ROOM AT THE PROPERTY?

Our most requested room is the Premier Park room. These rooms have just been renovated and its design was inspired by the hotel's original 1950s-style accommodations, these comfortable rooms feature private terraces perfect for enjoying your morning cup of coffee. These rooms are located from the 5th to the 7th floor.

WHAT MAKES THEM SO SPECIAL?

Draped in symbolism, and with hotel's original interior design references, these rooms mirror in symbolism the hotel's history and heritage. For example, the chairs are modelled after those found in the hotel's Card Room back in 1959, and inject a luxurious vibrancy with their rich blue and canard teal hue and geometric crushed velvet fabric.

WHAT IS THE NIGHTLY RATE FOR THIS ROOM?

From \$770

WHAT'S AN INTERESTING THING ABOUT THE HOTEL THAT SPEAKS TO ITS STATUS AS AN ICON?

Influenced by locals and international guests alike, Four Seasons Hotel Ritz Lisbon's 80-year history make it the city's most iconic address. The landmark property offers a unique collection of Portuguese art, the city's only truly historic spa, a state-of-the-art rooftop fitness center, the iconic Versace restaurant as well as a variety of light-filled function spaces, a Ritz ballroom and a glorious outdoor terrace overlooking the city's largest park. Now with a partial renovation, a Michelin-starred restaurant Cura and new outdoor pool, the hotel will further consolidate its position as the city's only luxury option for historic guests, and for the group segment with a unique year-round outdoor terrace facilities.

WHAT'S YOUR PERSONAL FAVORITE ROOM AND WHY?

Alameda Negreiros Suite. It is one of our specially suites and is named after the Portuguese artist. José de Almeida Negreiros, whose name is also used in our lobby, home to artist's three tapestries. The suite boasts natural light from panoramic windows in our signature suite, where three private balconies, a spacious living area and a separate dining room invite hours of conversation, as well as space for a peaceful retreat. Encompassing the suite's dining room, an Alameda Negreiros tapestry hangs on the wall showing guests the artist's opulence.

WHAT SPECIAL PERK OR AMENITY DO YOU OFFER THAT NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT?

As a Four Seasons property, our priority is our guests and the service we provide them in person. Hence, we want that each guest feels unique and treated like a friend would be. Thus, in our hotel we personalize each stay accordingly to each guest's profile. The amenities can range from something local, such as homemade typical Portuguese custard tarts for a late dinner at Lisbon, post-amenities to guests' luxury brands to something more exquisite or particular depending on each guest. At the same time, and concierge is known for arranging three unique experiences such as providing a football fan a meeting with a star football player, taking those unique tickets, seats, restaurant bookings that no other can.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE DESIGN ELEMENT ON PROPERTY?

The fact that it is still so contemporary and versatile after more than 60 years existence. The personality of the hotel today is so profoundly seen in that born in the minds of its owners. Despite undergoing three full-scale renovations since its inauguration in 1959, which the latest was our most extensive last year, a new and some Michelin-starred restaurant Cura and the addition of a new outdoor pool, the hotel's original spirit is eternal.

HOW ABOUT ONE MORE FUN FACT ABOUT THE PROPERTY?

There's always some curiosity about the hotel's name. The truth is, by the time the hotel was built, the Ritz in Paris and Madrid were taken as references of luxurious hotels. It is also known that Charles César Ritz was invited to advise the hotel, in order to ensure that our property would have the most luxurious features and would become Portugal's most luxurious hotel. Hence, the name Ritz was forwarded against other options, not only to pay an homage to the Swiss hotelier, but also to be forever linked with luxury. Since then, people have linked our hotel with luxury, and we make delivering that luxury service a daily focus.