Home » Hotels and Resorts » Hotel of the week: The Woodward, Geneva, Switzerland

HOTELS AND RESORTS

HOTEL OF THE WEEK: THE WOODWARD, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

As the global hospitality industry gets back on its feet, we'll be shining a light on hotels opening and reopening their doors around the Middle East and beyond, and the changes they've made to give guests peace of mind when returning

By Alice Holtham September 13, 2021



Location

The suite-only hotel on Quai Wilson is perfectly perched right on Lake Geneva, with awe-inspiring views of the water and the majestic Mont Blanc. The storied, post-Haussmann-style building dates back to 1901, and at the direction of interior designer Pierre-Yves Rochon, along with BEA SA architects, it has undergone a detailed transformation to emerge as an elegant social hub that feels like checking-in to a luxurious and chic private home.

Rooms

The Woodward's boutique portfolio of 26 spacious suites each offers a unique personality and exclusive touches, although all share a harmonious neutral colour palette, contrasted by hues of blue, complete with opulent touches including marble fireplaces and bookcases. Of the 26 suites, 21 offer a full lake view. The jewels in the crown are the Presidential Suite, designed in elegant ivory tones and offering panoramic views from every room with a private dining room and loggia, and the Royal Suite, reached by private lift and designed to resemble a chic Parisian apartment.

Food & drink

The Woodward is serious about gastronomy, and executive chef Olivier Jean formerly of L'Atelier Robuchon in Taipei takes the culinary reigns. The hotel's culinary experiences include L'Atelier Robuchon and Le Jardinier, both recipients of Michelin stars at their New York outposts. L'Atelier Robuchon features an open kitchen concept, creating a theatrical dining experience for just 36 guests seated around a counter, as well as two semi-private dining rooms. Le Jardinier meanwhile offers guests a creative counterpart to Robuchon's gastronomy – the restaurant's first foray into Europe. Here, Chef Olivier Jean offers refined culinary creations that demonstrate the mastery of French cooking techniques with a focus on local suppliers and produce sourced no further than 150km away from the hotel's kitchens, with it taking no less than two years to select the very best ingredients.



Leisure & activities

In keeping with Oetker Collection's commitment to wellbeing, the Guerlain Spa at The Woodward is a haven of wellness, and the first Guerlain Spa in Switzerland. The spa, spread over 1,2000 square metres, has six treatment rooms, including one double room, paired with a wellness menu that offers a broad range of massages and treatments specially created for this most stylish address by the iconic French Maison. Elsewhere, guests will find a state-of-the-art fitness centre and the longest indoor swimming pool in Geneva, plus a Jacuzzi, two steam rooms, two saunas, a snow shower and two Swedish baths.

A sought-after spot for discovering the local area, The Woodward's in-the-know concierge are on-hand to arrange unforgettable experiences, from private, guided tours of Patek Philippe Museum, considered one of the world's finest horology museums to a beautiful private hot air balloon tour that allows guests to soak in the majestic mountains up close and enjoy cheese fondue in the sky.



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