



## **THE PALACE LUZERN IN THE HEART OF SWITZERLAND**

### **WELCOME TO 5-STAR LUXURY ON LAKE LUCERNE**

For over 100 years the PALACE LUZERN has been one of the legendary landmarks of Lucerne in the heart of scenic Switzerland. Standing like a stately sentinel on the shores of Lake Lucerne, this prestigious property offers its guests a wealth of old-world charm – but combined with the most modern comforts.

Over the past six years the PALACE LUZERN has invested nearly 23 million Swiss francs in extensive modernization. The ambitious programme included the creation of the exclusive PALACE SPA (inaugurated in 2005) – which alone cost 13 million Swiss francs – and renovation of guest accommodation.

Behind the hotel's imposing neo-classic façade, stylish suites and rooms radiate an aesthetic elegance, with the finest furnishings and fabrics and décor of distinction. All rooms and suites reflect the same superior standards of refined sophistication – but each can claim its own unique character. Contemporary interior design is combined with light and airy spaciousness. The colour concept was influenced by the hotel's close proximity to lovely Lake Lucerne and the distant snow-capped peaks.

The chic and the charm of the PALACE LUZERN are ever present. Amid all the hustle-and-bustle of Central Switzerland's captivating "capital", the hotel is a haven of rest and relaxation.

### **FEWER ROOMS, MORE COMFORT**

The six floors of the PALACE LUZERN comprise 136 rooms and suites – 79 spacious single and double rooms (up to 30 square metres), 31 Junior Suites and Deluxe Junior Suites (40-50 square metres), four Corner Suites (52 square metres), the Palace Suite (80-110 square metres)



and the exclusive Suite of Arts (105 square metres). The rooms and suites are either classical or contemporary in style. All are equipped with modern facilities such as Wireless LAN, ISDN telephone and Voice Mail. Many rooms have their own terrace or balcony, with fine views extending over Lake Lucerne to the city and the Central Swiss Alps.

The recent modernization of the PALACE LUZERN embraced a completely new accommodation concept, which involved reducing the number of rooms and suites from 168 to 136. "Luxury", explains General Manager Hans E. Koch: "means more than having time – it also means having enough space to enjoy it in. Our suites are very generously dimensioned and offer guests ample room for rest and relaxation."

Architect Max Schmid from Bern and Geneva-based interior designer Dominique Couture paid particular attention to achieving harmony between the hues and high-grade woods used in the hotel's rooms and suites. Based on Couture's designs, the furnishings were made from tulip wood (green), palisander (red) and olive ash (green-blue) – types of timber which were popular during the Belle Epoque period when the hotel was built and which are now enjoying a revival. Couture's colours were inspired by the green-and-blue shadings of Lake Lucerne, the anthracite-white hues of the surrounding summits, and the nuanced serenity of sunrise and sunset.

Of particular interest are the lamps specially created for the PALACE LUZERN. Based on the designs of Dominique Couture, they were handcrafted in bronze and then silver-plated by a master lamp-maker in France (Lyons). The walls are hung with modern oil paintings by Latin American artist Ruby Estrada and Patrick McCarthy from the USA. The fine fabrics used for bed covers, curtains and seating groups include wool, cotton, silk, alacantara and leather. The centre of each carpet features a discrete pattern in colours which match that particular room.

The bathrooms – in the elegant, clear colours of ecru and anthracite – reflect the style and design of the 1930s. In some the bath is separated from the bedroom by a ceiling-high glass partition, affording a view of the distant peaks. If required, the glass partition can be concealed by a screen.



## **EXCLUSIVE SUITE OF ARTS**

One of the most impressive new attractions at the PALACE LUZERN is the unique Suite of Arts converted from the previous Corner Suite. "My aim", says Dominique Couture, "was to introduce a completely new dimension in design and décor. I envisaged a cosy yet colour-intensive interior, in keeping with both the expressive art of Kandinsky and Miró as well as the magic of Marc Chagall. The kind of mood conveyed, for example, by Pop Art."

For Couture, however, this meant more than merely copying the creations of the 1960s and 1970s. Instead, he cooperated closely with specialists from that epoch to develop an entirely new design. The result is a highly individual interior which respects the original style while embracing a more modern identity and interpretation. For the lamps, for example, traditional Murano glass in clear puristic design; and for cupboards, rare macassar wood intensively dark and light grained. There's an easy chair reminiscent of Dali's surrealist creation inspired by the lips of the voluptuous Mae West. Copies of exclusive carpets from the Guggenheim Museum in New York add another exclusive touch. And a decorative oval cabinet houses a flat-screen TV.

Thanks to its close association with the renowned Rosengart Foundation in Lucerne, the hotel has been able to acquire for the Suite of Arts reproductions of three exceptional paintings – "Study for the Circus Horse" (Joan Miró, 1926), "Multiple Forms" (Wassily Kandinsky, 1936) and "Evening at the Window" (Marc Chagall, 1950). The original works are on display at the Rosengart Museum, which is only a 10-minute stroll from the hotel.

## **WELCOME TO SPARADISE**

Since 2005, another exclusive attraction has been awaiting guests at the PALACE LUZERN – a state-of-the-art world of wellness, created in close cooperation with the London-based ESPA International consultancy of Susan Harmsworth.



The PALACE SPA extends over two floors and 800 square metres. It comprises six attractive rooms; two separate Spa zones (for men and women) each with a sauna, steam room, lifestyle shower, ice fountain, rest area and changing facilities; and a 40 square-metre fitness room. Focal point is the 72 square metre Private Spa for two, a facility of exclusive elegance which enjoys a privileged location in the fourth floor tower. Outstanding features here include a petal pool, treatment tables and easy chairs, a sauna and steam room – and fine views extending over Lake Lucerne to the distant Alps.

The design and architectural approach to the PALACE SPA was influenced in particular by the hotel's location on the shores of Lake Lucerne. Contemporary creativity contrasts attractively with the neo-classic façade of the building. Natural daylight, top quality materials and natural earthy colours – they all contribute to the distinctive design. Smoked oak, Jura chalk and Brazilian granite combine to create an ambience of harmony and meditative magic. The wet zones of the Spa feature attractive glass mosaics in soft green and glazed pebble floor covering in beige. Small Japanese style gardens enhance the indirectly-lit corridors on both Spa floors. The first floor of the Spa (on the third floor of the hotel) comprises the reception, fitness room and the Spa zone for men. Stairs lead up to the next floor, with its six treatment rooms (each of 18 square metres), the Private Spa and the entire wellness area for women.

The PALACE SPA (open daily from 09.00 hrs. until 20.00 hrs.) offers a remarkable range of treatment combinations, based on an all-embracing concept of contentment. When a guest enters the Spa, he or she embarks on a journey through a world of wellness. You sense the welcoming warmth as you are escorted through the rest area to the various treatment rooms. Ayurvedic principles and practices are applied in defining your personalized programme. The aim of each and every treatment is to enhance personal well-being, harmonize inherent energies and create inner balance. Throughout a stay at the Spa, the guest is cared for by Spa specialists trained by ESPA International of London.

The choice of therapies ranges from wraps, facial and body treatments to special therapies with hot stones and Ayurvedic-inspired applications. Also on offer is a unique range of Rituals (such



as the Ultimate Ritual, Pure Relaxation Ritual and Private Spa Ritual), which can be booked as a full-day or half-day programme.

### **CREATIVE CUISINE FOR ALL THE SENSES**

When it comes to dining and wining, the PALACE LUZERN enjoys renown far beyond the borders of Central Switzerland. In addition to a wide range of culinary creations, the various venues also offer an ambience to match every mood.

Top favourite among gourmets is the Restaurant "Jasper" (16 points GaultMillau and 1 Michelin star) under Chef Ulf Brauert, who joined the PALACE LUZERN in 2005 after other top posts in Switzerland, Germany and the United States. He describes his cuisine as "creative but uncomplicated, with more than a touch of Mediterranean magic. An essential element is the balanced blend of various aromas – taste-intensive, but not to excess." The restaurant's name is derived from the semi-precious stone used extensively in the manufacture of high-quality porcelain. The oak-panelled parquet flooring is in captivating contrast to the cream-white walls, and the wine cupboards are aesthetically integrated into a wall of French limestone. Large suspended lamps of opal glass provide soft, soothing lighting. Surfaces, table insets and decorations are of onyx, horn and slate. An attractive seating concept enhances the appeal of the "Jasper".

"Les Artistes" is a beautiful restaurant in Belle Epoque style. It can seat up to 80 guests and re-opened in 2001 after complete renovation costing 2 million Swiss francs. The restoration was carried out on the basis of photographs dating from the opening of the hotel almost a century earlier. Specialist craftsmen remodelled the stucco ceiling and a replica of the original chandelier to their original glory. Fine fabrics from France harmonize with the marble floor, and stylish furnishings radiate a warm nostalgic glow. Under chef Ulrich Baumann, this restaurant is renowned for its southern-style cuisine, delicious fish specialities and seasonal dishes.



In addition to the specialities served by the "Jasper" and "Les Artistes" with their attractive terraces situated directly on the picturesque promenade overlooking Lake Lucerne, guests can also select from "PALACE Spa Food" and "PALACE Mood Food" specialities – Mediterranean-inspired dishes which represent the latest in lifestyle cuisine. "PALACE Spa Food" embraces the purest natural products, selected with care and prepared to perfection. "Palace Mood Food" is a fulfilling feast for the feelings and a celebration for the soul, often working wonders when spirits are low.

Another popular meeting point is the cosy PALACE Bar (located next to the hotel lobby). Here guests are assured a warm welcome by Benoît and his team, and can enjoy a delicious drink to the accompaniment of live piano music.

## **CULTURAL AND CULINARY HIGHLIGHTS**

Lucerne is renowned for its very varied cultural scene and the PALACE LUZERN for its special attractions and arrangements (including overnight accommodation). Highlights on the cultural calendar range from the "PIANO Off-Stage!" bar piano festival, and the internationally-acclaimed "Lucerne Festival" of classical music combined with culinary offerings at the hotel before or after the concerts. Another popular event every summer is the Lake Lucerne Festival of music and entertainment, climaxed by a spectacular fireworks display.

## **EXCLUSIVE AMBIENCE FOR EVENTS OF EXCELLENCE**

When it comes to important events such as conferences, presentations, banquets and workshops, it's the inspiring ambience which often makes a major contribution to the success of the occasion. The PALACE LUZERN offers a choice of 13 fully air-conditioned and sub-dividable rooms with natural daylight and equipped with the most advanced technical facilities.



Particularly popular are the three seminar rooms named after distinguished orchestral conductors who all performed at the Lucerne Festival – Herbert von Karajan, Leonard Bernstein and Georg Solti. The rooms feature the most elegant furnishings and fabrics and reflect the timeless tradition of the PALACE LUZERN. Conference and other event organizers are assured state-of-the-art infrastructure and the professional commitment of the highly-skilled staff.

### **LEISURE-AND-PLEASURE ATTRACTIONS**

Whatever their personal preferences, every vacation visitor wants to make the most of their visit to Lucerne. But at the same time, holidaymakers do not want to have everything precision-planned down to the smallest detail even before they arrive. So the PALACE LUZERN offers its guests the services for all kinds of advice and assistance – concerning concert tickets, restaurant reservations, visits to cultural events and attractions, excursion trips, sports activities, shopping, nightlife tips and trends, and much much more besides. The concierge-team can help guests create a made-to-measure holiday programme, suited to their individual interests

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