

DORCHESTER COLLECTION

# PRESS KIT

# DORCHESTER COLLECTION'S HOTEL EDEN, A QUIET HAVEN IN THE HEART OF ROME





# Mirko Cattini, General Manager, Hotel Eden, Dorchester Collection

'Hotel Eden's rich heritage and location in the heart of Rome has firmly established it as one of the top hotels in the world. Loved by local residents and international travellers alike, our dedicated team is unparalleled with its warm and welcoming service, elevating experiences to bring many memorable moments to both our guests and employees.'

Since its conception at the end of the 1800s, Hotel Eden has welcomed heads of state, royalty and leading personalities in the world of science, literature, art and show business. In September 2013, the hotel was acquired by luxury hotel group Dorchester Collection, known for managing hotels that reflect the distinctive culture of their destination. In keeping with the company's continuous investment in taking the luxury experience to new levels, Hotel Eden closed for an extensive restoration in November 2015 and welcomed back its employees in spring 2017, leading Hotel Eden into its exciting new chapter. In February 2022, Mirko Cattini was appointed general manager of Hotel Eden.

Hotel Eden is home to 98 expansive suites and offers guests a true Roman experience with its breath-taking views across the city, capturing a spectacular panorama, a dynamic food and drink offering courtesy of

La Libreria, Il Giardino Ristorante, Il Giardino Bar, and La Terrazza, and a contemporary, urban spa featuring three suites with pampering treatments, a spa suite for manicures and pedicures, as well as beauty and wellness offerings from Valmont and HöbePergh.

Blending contemporary features with the charm and authentic classic Roman style of the property, Hotel Eden's design was reimagined by world-renowned architect and interior designers Bruno Moinard and Claire Bétaille of Moinard Bétaille, together with Patrick Jouin and Sanjit Manku from Jouin Manku.

Moinard, who previously completed the redesign of some of the public spaces at Hôtel Plaza Athénée as well as The Grill at The Dorchester, both in 2014, alongside Bétaille, created the interior decoration of the lobby, rooms and suites as well as the meeting rooms, while Jouin Manku were behind the design of the restaurants and the spa.

# I – The Lobby

Welcoming guests into the entrance, Moinard and Bétaille display their 'Alive Art' concept, embracing and developing designs of the past, rather than imitating them. Using various furniture and architectural details crossing through numerous ages and styles, Moinard and Bétaille strike the perfect balance between old and new. The lobby features golden touches to provide a warm atmosphere, completed with fresco paintings by Giò Bressana and punctuated by red ochre and grey stucco marble. Offering a dramatic contrast to the walls and ceilings, the floors display a more contemporary feel, with black, white and grey marble, whilst the reception desk and main lobby lounge embrace an authentic Roman design with two large 'steles' as reception desks and a large fresco above the fireplace, creating a dramatic optical illusion.

#### II - Rooms & Suites

For the restoration of the 98 guestrooms and suites, Moinard and Bétaille sympathetically configured the rooms to accentuate the beauty of natural light. Sophisticated and elegant in design, the guestrooms and suites provide bright and airy spaces with high ceilings and tall windows, framing Rome's stunning skyline and utilising the hotel's central location and city views. Fine fabrics, beautiful artwork and timeless Italian furnishings from leading Italian artisans are used throughout, delicately blending modern luxuries with the charm and authentic classic Roman style of the property. The sleek bathrooms, inspired by Roman baths, are decorated in white and gold, and feature mosaics, marble vanities and many with a walk-in rain shower and separate bath. Modern luxuries include master-controlled lighting and climate control, Wi-Fi, Bang & Olufsen televisions and sound systems with Bluetooth connectivity.

For additional luxury and comfort, Classic Suites (up to 70-75m<sup>2</sup>/754ft<sup>2</sup>-807ft<sup>2</sup>) and Prestige Suites (up to 85m<sup>2</sup>/915ft<sup>2</sup>) offer a range of beautiful spaces in which to relax and unwind with spacious living areas and generous foyers.

Signature Suites, including the **Dolce Vita Suite** (94 m²/ 1011ft²), the **Aurora Terrace Suite** (86 m²/ 926ft²+ 120 m²/1292ft²), the **Villa Medici Presidential Suite** (125 m²/1345ft²) and the **Bellavista Penthouse Suite** (202m²/2174ft²) offer the most intoxicating views over the city. The Dolce Vita Suite's views, which include the church of Trinità dei Monti and Rome beyond, were said to inspire poet, playwright and former guest Gabriele D'Annunzio, whilst the Villa Medici Presidential Suite's captivating city vistas were enjoyed by John F. Kennedy Jr. The Aurora Terrace Suite, once home to actress Ingrid Bergman, offers a spacious outdoor terrace with a dining area for up to ten people.

From the Bellavista Penthouse Suite's magnificent rooftop location, there are unrivalled views of Rome from the floor-to-ceiling windows, which can be fully opened to fill the room with natural light. Accessible by a private lift, the suite combines modern elegance with touches of 1930s and 1940s style. Once the site of a famed meeting between Louis Vuitton and Bulgari, the Bellavista Penthouse Suite features a study, living room, dining room and luxurious master bedroom which connects to a marble bathroom.

### III - Food & Beverage





▲ La Terrazza

▲ Il Giardino Ristorante

#### La Terrazza

Located on the top floor, **La Terrazza** offers guests mesmerising views over Rome alongside creative and innovative seasonal Mediterranean cuisine made with high quality, fresh, locally sourced produce, presented with artistic flair.

La Terrazza opens every evening (except Sundays and Mondays) from 6.30pm to 12am (last reservation 10.30pm), and seats up to 44 people. Designed to break the barriers between kitchen and restaurant, enhancing the relationship between chef and guest, guests are able to watch the chefs at work from their seats.

Executive chef Salvatore Bianco's cooking philosophy is rooted in the interplay of contast, the reverence for local terroir, and a deep appreciation for culture, memories, and flavours that are inherent to a specific place.

The design of this fine dining restaurant draws on traditional Italian craftsmanship as inspiration, with high gloss varnished wood combined with elegant and stylish décor. With delicate lighting throughout the restaurant, Jouin Manku created a theatrical atmosphere complemented by the Philippe David's fresco glass wall, which comprises layers of specially treated glass. From frosted, lacquered, chiselled and mirrored glasswork, the wall brings depth and a sense of space to La Terrazza.

# Il Giardino Ristorante

Il Giardino Ristorante offers the best of Rome in one place. The main source of inspiration being the city itself, the concept of the restaurant was to design the perfect spot to admire Rome, with a décor that conveys relaxation. With this in mind, the restaurant features warm wooden flooring, and floor-to-ceiling windows that give unparalleled views over the city, which can also be enjoyed from the open-air terrace. Playing on the natural assets of the hotel with the view, the light and the city, Jouin Manku have designed a friendly and elegant space that complements and enhances its beautiful surroundings, rather than compete with it. The friendly and convivial atmosphere is complemented by a communal table.

Delivering an all-day dining menu from 7am to 12 midnight (last reservation 10.15pm), Il Giardino Ristorante provides guests with an innovative dining experience, offering a special children's menu for younger guests and large sharing platters for groups. Open daily; guests can savour a modern interpretation of classic Italian and Roman cuisine. Using fresh, seasonal and organic produce, it offers an array of tasty choices for breakfast, lunch and dinner, which include a selection of pasta and pizza.

#### Il Giardino Bar

Providing guests the ultimate retreat from the city's crowded streets, Il Giardino Bar is the perfect location for meetings as well as indulgent evenings watching the sun go down over Rome's skyline. Mirroring the lush greenery of the neighbouring Villa Borghese, a large abstract green wall or 'vertical garden' made of glass and metal foliage is displayed in the bar area. From 10am to 12.30am, the bar offers a sociable atmosphere, where guests can enjoy stunning panoramic views by day and city lights by night, making it the perfect place to indulge in the finest wines, signature cocktails, cicchetti (Italian-style tapas) and coffees with friends and family, or to host a business meeting.

#### La Libreria

Open daily from 9am to 6pm, La Libreria is a great space to relax, hold a meeting, or enjoy coffee and drinks in a warm, tranquil and sophisticated environment. Surrounded by Italian art and design, La Libreria is a living canvas offering regular workshops, exhibitions and a curated collection of books for guests to peruse at leisure. Thanks to Italian fashion illustrator Andrea Ferolla, guests can enjoy exclusive artworks and unique illustrated lampshades. A 'secret bar' allows guests to enjoy classic and innovative cocktails during aperitivo time, and spirits, whisky or Italian grappa after dinner.

#### IV – Meetings & Events

Historically a popular choice for meetings, conferences and events, Hotel Eden offers two fully equipped meetings rooms, all of which were completely refurbished and enhanced during the renovation. The largest, Sala Borghese, spans across  $94m^2/1012ft^2$  and can host small boardroom style meetings or private dinners accommodating up to 60 guests, or larger standing cocktail events for over 100 guests. The meeting room features a high ceiling with a modern scenographic light, while two large paintings hang from the crimson red walls. Its design fuses antiques from the hotel with contemporary elements. All furniture has been tailor-made especially for the room, incorporating contemporary and modern features. At the entrance, its private foyer provides an ideal pre-function space, perfect for serving cocktails, coffee breaks and business lunches.

Sala Ludovisi is the second largest events space measuring 39m²/414ft², with natural daylight and a permanent boardroom table. Ideal for hosting all-day executive meetings and intimate dinners, it can seat up to 12 guests.

# V – The Eden Spa

The Eden Spa has been been specially designed as an oasis of calm, offering a range of holistic wellness experiences and therapies. It features three suites with a fusion of iconic signature treatments by Valmont and HöbePergh rituals. Created in Switzerland in 1985, Valmont is known for its scientifically advanced skincare products and treatments, drawn from unspoiled natural resources of Switzerland and the latest cellular cosmetic research findings. With true 'Made in Italy' excellence, HöbePergh has reinterpreted the concept of natural cosmetics through research, experimentation and phytotherapeutic innovation.



The spa also includes a manicure and pedicure suite with OPI products. Reviving the original vaulted rooms, the spa entrance provides a soft, light atmosphere whilst the treatment rooms offer soothing dimmed lighting and warm interiors. Patrick Jouin and Sanjit Manku use vaulted ceilings in their magnificent design, all whilst maintaining a traditional spa interior and honouring typical Roman Bath architecture.

#### VI – History

Whilst visiting the affluent Ludovisi district in Rome, the Munich-born hotelier, Francesco Nistelweck, who already managed Hotel d'Inghilterra and Hotel de Russie, fell in love with a three-storey house at the corner

of Via Porta Pinciana and Via Ludovisi. In October 1889, he turned the mansion house into a hotel to welcome its first guests, with 63 bedrooms designed by his wife, Berta Hassler, daughter of the owner of Hotel Hassler.

At the turn of the century, Rome's thriving hotel industry began to move towards the city's new focus of attraction, the Termini railway station. European visitors no longer had to use their horse carriages to go to Italy, and could now use the train as a new means of transportation.

The industrial revolution transferred the centre of Roman hospitality to the Ludovisi district, which since the 16th century was located around the Spanish Steps, thanks to the proximity of the Porta del Popolo gate - the main entrance to the city for carriages arriving from Via Cassia and Via Flaminia.

Nistelweck was the first to realise that the new era of Roman hospitality was linked to the development of the train and a new, faster means of transport for visitors. As a result, Nistelweck's dream came true – and Hotel Eden was ready to welcome its first guests in 1889.

The hotel quickly made a name for itself, becoming a favourite amongst foreign visitors travelling to Rome. In 1902, another floor was added to the building as well as the iconic terrace with its breath-taking views, which was originally used to hang out the hotel's sheets, towels and finely embroidered tablecloths.

For over 130 years, Hotel Eden has been at the centre of Roman hospitality and it has a Golden Book which records many of its most memorable moments with names and images that date back from the 20<sup>th</sup> century, such as a portrait of Princess Maria of Bourbon in her wedding dress as she leaves Hotel Eden on the day of her marriage to Prince Giovanni of Asturias. The book includes signatures of the Grand Duchess Olga of Russia, King Alfonso XIII of Spain, Queen Amelia of Portugal, Umberto of Savoy and the entire family of Galitzine princes.

The war years also left their mark in Hotel Eden's Golden Book. After the liberation, the hotel became the headquarters of the English command and American general Bernard Montgomery signed the book in 1955.

During the war, Francesco Nistelweck shared the management of the hotel with Oscar Wirth, who as a shareholder managed Hotel Eden and then Hotel Hassler, together with the Nistelwecks. The two hotels were then separated. The Hassler was run by the Wirth family and Hotel Eden by Giuseppe and Gianfrancesco Ciaceri, grandsons of the original founder of the hotel. Nistelweck was renowned for his desire to invest in modernisation, whilst maintaining and respecting the highest traditional standards of service; a value that is still true today.

Its unique style, elegance and its Italian charm have made Hotel Eden an exclusive and luxurious destination in Rome, where guests can feel at home whilst appreciating impeccable service, state-of-the-art facilities and breath-taking views of the city. It is no wonder that the great maestro of the screen, film director Federico Fellini, always chose its legendary rooftop for his interviews.

#### **NOTES TO THE EDITORS**

For further information, please visit our **PHOTO LIBRARY** and **MEDIA CENTRE** or contact:

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#### **HOTEL EDEN**

Feel at home in our Roman palazzo. Laidback yet lively, reflecting the modern spirit of the city. A home from home, where your stories fuse with ours.

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