

The Best of Paris: Luxury Hotels and Dining

With a timeless opulence on permanent display, it's hard to argue against Paris being the ancestral home of luxuriousness. The radiant florals that permeate the air combine with curvaceous Neoclassical architecture and ornate Gothic arches at every turn, making for a bustling European city that seems as if it's hardly ever been touched by modern times. Add to this feast for the eyes a dash of art, some high fashion, and an updated take on classical French cuisine, and a quick visit to Paris the perfect escape into the lap of luxury. In that spirit, we have assembled the following selection of some of its finest hotels and restaurants so that you may better enjoy its unwavering majesty.

Le Narcisse Blanc



For a more intimate stay, nestled in between the Eiffel Tower and Les Invalides you'll find the ineffable Le Narcisse Blanc hotel-spa, a 37-room gem that embodies the true essence of what a Paris luxury hotel should be with its wit and bold design. For those travelers wishing to seek that certain "je ne sais quoi" during their temporary tenure as a Parisian, the chic nature of Le Narcisse Blanc's charming enclave is surely where you'll wish to be. The recently inaugurated five-star hotel and spa features all the modern comforts and amenities desired for an international getaway, but also provides an unabashedly unique atmosphere which separates itself more distinctively from its surrounding counterparts. After breezing past the storied banks of the river Seine, the warm welcome guests receive at reception upon arrival is the first clue that this hotel has ditched the stereotypical notion of hauteur often associated with Paris' aristocratie. The staff at the hotel finds a way to effortlessly infuse the guest rooms with a sense of airiness, an effect that's replicated into the secluded dome of the hotel's lobby. Throughout every element of the hotel, there's also the unique recurring artistic theme of Cléo de Mérode, the photographic It Girl of the Twentieth Century whom composer Reynaldo Hahn loved to call his "pretty little narcissus", hence the coined name of "Le Narcisse Blanc" Like Mérode, the hotel doesn't so much rub luxury in your face as it quietly seduces you with it.

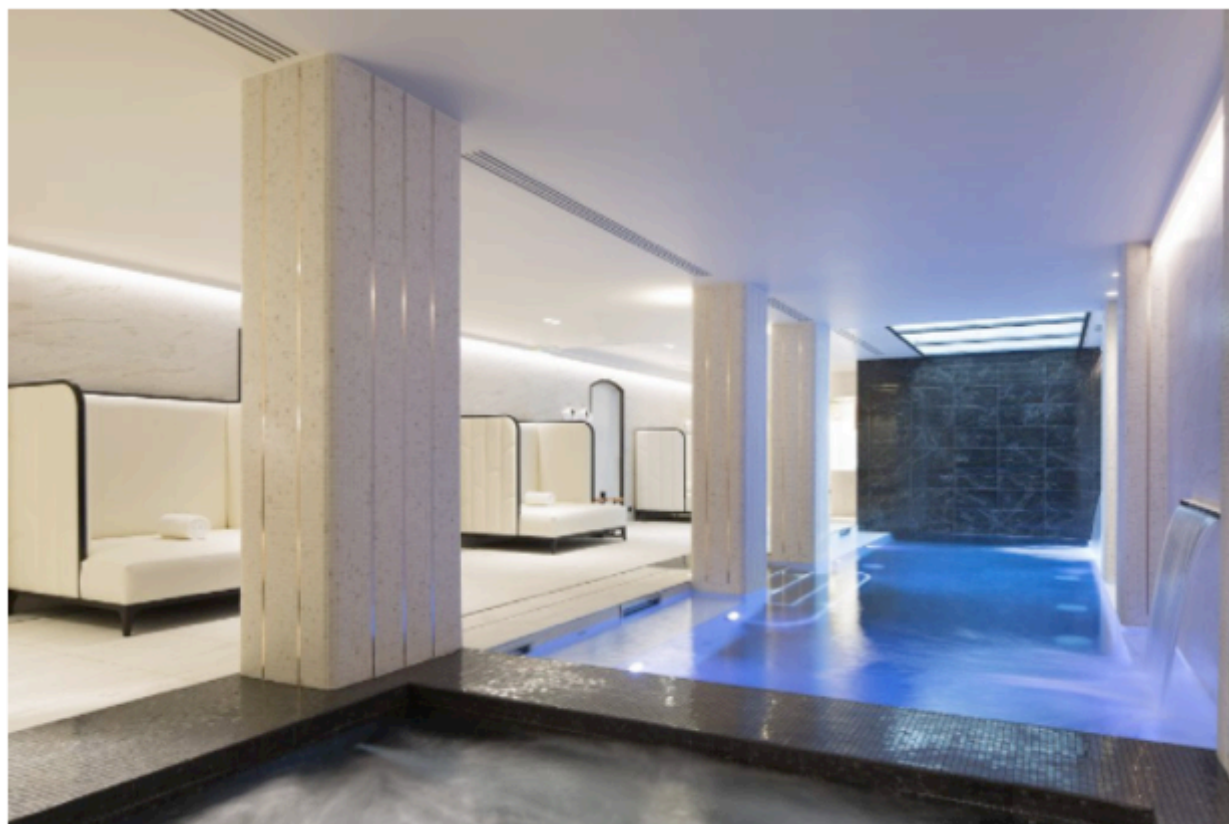


The individual rooms all exemplify Cléo's theme in a palette of light colors and bright accents, emitting an aura vibrant with the history of Paris. They manage to seamlessly integrate Nouveau, Deco, and modern art themes with a beautifully constructed mélange of nest fabrics: Tweed, velvet, duchesse satin, burnout, silk faille, and dappled rugs, all subtly combined in a couture mix of restful grey-beige, cream, champagne, sand, ash, and powdered rose, contributing to the subtly lush atmosphere. The hotel has positioned itself with its inclusive, discreet and secure environment by offering 37 spacious bedrooms, including seven suites, some with replaces, others giving on to their own terrace garden, or offering the rare pleasure of breathtaking views of the City of Light.

Located on the main floor is Cléo, a light and airy restaurant that further adheres toward the theme of the elegant hotel and spa, and acts as an inviting centerpiece catering to your culinary desires. For a dining experience that will appease both your palate and your too-tired traveler legs, Chef Zachary Gaviller from Canada proposes a tasty, refined, and unusual cuisine, composed exclusively from organic products that are rigorously selected. Concocted dishes like lamb from Pyrénées with gratin dauphinois bring a refreshing Parisian take on the ever-popular farm-to-table experience.



Last but not least, one cannot visit Le Narcisse Blanc and miss the opportunity to submerge in their premier, world-class spa, where you will become blissfully invigorated by its tranquil nature during your stay. The spa continually stays true to the hotel's theme, providing an invigorating atmosphere which features numerous exquisite architectural details throughout the facility. Prepare for the ultimate in Parisian renewal by plunging into the oasis of the 13-metre, swim-in-place pool, complete with hydrotherapy massage jets and elegant ivory poolside loungers for soaking up the spa's charismatic sensuousness and well-being. After a day of endless sightseeing, one must round out immense relaxation inside the spa's sauna, complete with a unique hydrotherapy experience that includes an in-house ice fountain and hammam steam room.



Simply put, Le Narcisse Blanc sets forth an irresistible Parisian experience for well-seasoned travelers who long for those unique personal touches and luxe nuances throughout in a refreshingly subdued way while abroad. The combination of a premier location, world-class amenities, chic style, and inclusivity are just a few reasons amongst countless others that make this hotel and spa so impeccably charming. If we do say so ourselves, Le Narcisse Blanc is the très chic way to do Paris right.

www.lenarcisseblanc.com