



GRAND-HÔTEL
du Cap-Ferrat
A Four Seasons Hotel



PRESS INFORMATION



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**Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat,
A Four Seasons Hotel**

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The Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat, A Four Seasons Hotel is a rare and exquisite seaside retreat housed in a palatial mansion on the Côte d'Azur, at the tip of the peninsula of Cap-Ferrat, amidst 17 acres of lushly landscaped gardens with panoramic views of the Mediterranean.

The Hotel features 74 guestrooms including 24 suites, and a private villa, an award-winning Spa, fine and casual dining restaurants and one of the most beautiful pools in the world.

The Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat has received numerous awards and accolades throughout the past years. Le Spa has been awarded, "Best Spa in Europe" by Prix Villégiature and earned the ranking of 4 stars in the Forbes Travel Guide 2017. Forbes also granted the Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat 5 stars for its Spa (only Hotel and Spa in France outside Paris to have received these distinctions). In May 2011, the Grand-Hotel obtained the "Palace" distinction, exclusive to French Hotels that supersede the 5-star category and in 2017, the Condé Nast Traveler Reader's Choice Awards voted the Hotel as "Top Hotel in France & Monaco" (excluded Paris). The Grand-Hotel recently received the Travel & Leisure's World Best Awards 2018 granted as the Top Resort Hotel in France.

Steeped in history, this 105 years old white Palace hotel is a long-standing meeting place for diplomats, socialites, aristocrats, actors, artists, writers and those with a passion for beauty.

Fabulous gardens and the alfresco lifestyle are the hallmarks of the Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat, A Four Seasons Hotel where the pleasures and treasures of Mediterranean living mingle.



OVER A CENTURY OF DESIGN

The Hotel completed its 100th anniversary in 2009 with an extensive expansion project that celebrates the grandeur of the past and the beginning of a new era.

The original Rotunda, with its magnificent bay windows and views of the sea over the top of Aleppo pines, was designed and built by Gustave Eiffel in 1909.

The renovation project began in 2007 when the acclaimed landscape designer Jean Mus added his touch to the Grand-Hôtel's gardens: seven hectares of verdant, blossoming and flawlessly manicured seafront gardens rolling down the impeccable lawn to the dramatic coastline. Rare trees, exotic plants, and richly fragranced Provençal flora bloom in shades of soft pastels along winding walkways that lead down to the rocky sea shore.

Paris based Pierre-Yves Rochon led the design of the hotel, restaurants, guest rooms and the interior design of The Residence: a new wing designed by architect Luc Svetchine.



The original Rotunda was imagined and built by Gustave Eiffel in 1909. Situated next to the lobby, it has a magnificent view through its bay window. The soaring and breathtakingly beautiful lobby features a crystal table by Lalique and a baroque chandelier made by Tisserant (whose other lighting projects can be seen at the Palace of Versailles). Crystal doves enclosed within a silver lantern hang from the ceiling. Many elements have been custom designed for the Grand-Hôtel and art work includes an original tapestry designed by Fernand Léger entitled, “*Oiseaux dans les fleurs*.”



The most prominent design elements are intended to provide guests with the experience of living in a well appointed home rather than that of staying yet in another hotel. The use of beige Persian marble and white Calcutta cream marble throughout rooms and public spaces in addition to exquisite fabrics of white linen, natural silks in pastels and tones of beige and white maximize the effect of an abundance of sunlight, spectacular views of the sea and surrounding gardens.





PIERRE-YVES ROCHON

In 2009, the Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat, A Four Seasons Hotel, was completely renovated keeping the original architecture from the beginning of the XXth century.

On the ground floor of the hotel, a salon, Le bar and the restaurant La Véranda were created besides the Rotunda where guests can be served all day long.

On the garden level, the gastronomic restaurant "Le Cap" awarded one Michelin star is open every evening in the mid and high season. The decoration is simple and refined, following the interior design themes. The emphasis is on beige, white, natural tones. Materials are made of silk and linen.

The rooms and suites were carefully redecorated in order to follow modern palace standards: bathrooms with double basins, bathtub and independent shower, large walk-in closets.

The design is classic French reminiscent of the Riviera of the 1940's and 1950's.

Most furniture, like bedside lamps, was specially designed for the hotel and modernized to match older elements.



Gastronomic Restaurant Le Cap, with a fresco realized by Michèle Letang



Marble bathroom



Plumbing made especially for the Grand-Hôtel

Overall materials :

- ✓ Marble :
 - Beige marble Persiano
 - Black marble Absolu
 - White marble Calacatta Crema

- ✓ All fabrics are made of :
 - White linen
 - Natural silk
 - Cotton

Edited by DEDAR, LELIÈVRE, CANOVAS, PIERRE FREY, and ELITIS.

Art :

In the Salon des Pins, a tapestry of Fernand LÉGER "Oiseaux dans les fleurs".

Original contemporary paintings from selected artists like: Elisabeth STEIN (for the suites), Michèle LÉTANG (for the fresco in Le Cap restaurant), Millington DRAKE ("Autumn", "Composition in blue").

In rooms, reproductions of: PICASSO, MATISSE, BRACQUE, MODIGLIANI, MIRO, CHAGALL, VASARELY, and RODIN.

1 – THE LOBBY

A silver lantern in Regency style with crystal birds alighted, was specially designed by Pierre-Yves Rochon and created by wrought-iron craftsmen at TISSERANT - ART ET STYLE. A LALIQUE table made of crystal is called "Table chêne", it stands underneath the majestic lantern. A carpet from the French "Directoire" period, in white and beige tones, was especially woven by GALERIE DIURNE. Large wall lamp made of mirror and bronze, with alight crystal candles, was specially designed and executed by TISSERANT – ART ET STYLE. Other ancient elements include a shiny Regency commode or an Italian console table made of carved wood, old shiny gold, with Chinese lacquered red top from XVIIIth century.



Lobby



A tapestry of Fernand Léger, Salon Les Pins



*Murano glass chandelier, at
La Véranda*

2 – LA VERANDA AND LE BAR

Two substantial black lacquered Chinese cabinets are used for great wines storage. A cozy library made of natural oak wood, features an old wooden fireplace inspired by the Regency period. Two large Murano chandeliers are made by ANDROMEDA. Bronze wall lamps are from TISSERANT – ART ET STYLE. Tableware in rooms and at La Véranda is inspired by MATISSE style and made by RAYNAUD.

3 – LE CAP RESTAURANT

A large fresco was painted on site by Michèle LETANG on the wall of the restaurant, inspired from artists like COCTEAU and MATISSE.

4 – LE SPA

Le spa, with its contemporary architecture, remains in the beige and white tones with natural elements: Natural wood trunk as a presentation table, massive root (3,50 m x 2,00 m) from the Gallery JEROME ABEL SEGUIN, sculptures in white marbles Paros ("Tête en marbre", "Main monumentale") from “ L'ATELIER PROMÉTHÉE”.

Spa materials:

- Natural beige stone
- White stucco
- Rafia
- Paving glass and white linen with coral pink and celadon color



*Sculpture in white marble Paros from
l'Atelier Prométhée*



Le Bar with its Murano chandelier



*Access ramp to Le Spa made of beige
natural stone and white
stucco*

ROOMS AND SUITES

The historical building of the Hotel offers 33 rooms and 16 suites and **The Residence** has 16 rooms and 8 suites with a private swimming pool.

Guest rooms are spacious, bright and feature reproductions of art work from French artists, many of whom were local to the area and regular guests at the Grand-Hôtel, such as Picasso, Cocteau, Matisse, Chagall, Modigliani and Rodin. Ample closet space offers guests a comfortable experience for both short and extended visits.

Sea view suites in The Residence with floor-to-ceiling glass windows that open onto terraces with their own private infinity swimming pools are unique in France. These sleek and modern all white suites feature paintings by the contemporary artist Elisabeth Stein, reproductions of artwork by Matisse and white marble furniture custom-designed by Pierre-Yves Rochon.



VILLA ROSE-PIERRE: THE ULTIMATE VILLA

The Villa Rose-Pierre is the ultimate villa on the Côte d'Azur for guests wishing to have the privacy of their own villa with all of the amenities and services of a palace hotel.

An enchanted haven situated by the sea amidst 2.5 acres of Provençal pine forest with spectacular views of the Mediterranean, the Villa Rose-Pierre combines comfort, style and cutting edge technology. The Villa features a private infinity swimming pool with a pool house, a private synthetic clay tennis court, a roof-top terrace with an elevator up to the roof for dining under the stars, jacuzzis in all bathrooms and sea-view balconies in all bedrooms, a home cinema, fitness room with state of the art Technogym equipment, relaxation room and sauna, ping pong tables, bicycles for all guests, a high security alarm system and a team of 7 staff (chambermaids, butlers and gardeners).

French interior designer Alberto Pinto completed a full renovation of the Villa Rose-Pierre in 2007. The villa is decorated with the finest materials including hard woods (elm, anigre, bubinga and vavonaburr) and the bathrooms with rare marbles (pink arabescato, verde spluga and rose tea). The interior space of the villa measures nearly 6,000 square feet with 4 bedrooms and 2 additional rooms for staff. The Villa Rose-Pierre is an ideal choice for holidays and events.



MEDITERRANEAN FLAVOURS: EATING AND DRINKING AT THE GRAND-HÔTEL DU CAP-FERRAT

The Grand-Hôtel serves French Mediterranean cuisine at its best in a variety of environments. A state-of-the-art kitchen produces fresh baked goods, the finest pastries, home-made ice creams and culinary specialties cooked to perfection. From the pool side grill at the Club Dauphin, the chic French Riviera Bistro La Véranda under the cool shade of Aleppo pine trees, to Provencal and Mediterranean cuisine at its finest at the Michelin-starred restaurant Le Cap, the Grand-Hôtel offers a variety of dining options to suit any mood or occasion.



Yoric Tièche, Executive Chef

Yoric Tièche oversees all restaurants and banquets functions. He made his classes with some of the most renowned Michelin-starred French Chefs. Originally from Aix en Provence, Yoric draws his inspiration from his Provençal roots. He worked his way up at a string of exceptional restaurants across France, creating Mediterranean cuisine under Alain Llorca at the Hotel Negresco in Nice; cuisine bourgeoise under Alain Soliveres at Michelin-starred Taillevent in Paris; and classic haute cuisine during a decade-long run at Michelin-starred Restaurant le Meurice in Paris along with famous Michelin-starred Chef Yannick Alleno. Tièche earned the title “Best Chef of Tomorrow” from Gault & Millau in 2016. His cuisine is elegant and contemporary offering the best of Mediterranean and Provençal terroir. He changes menus with the seasons in keeping with the finest and freshest products from local markets and what he plucks from the Hotel’s garden.





Florent Margaillan, Executive Pastry Chef

Executive Pastry Chef of the Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat since June 2018, Florent has redesigned the dessert menus for the three restaurants: the chic French Riviera bistro La Véranda, the pool-side grill at Club Dauphin, and the Michelin-starred restaurant Le Cap. Florent has already proven himself to be one of the top talents in the French pastry industry. He has held positions in illustrious hotels such as the Ritz and Four Seasons Hotel George V in Paris, L'Apogée in Courchevel, and more recently the Royal Mansour in Marrakech, under the management of the famous Michelin-starred Chef Yannick Alleno. As his talents and responsibilities grew, so did recognitions. In 2010, he won the "Championnat de France du Dessert" in the professional category. Florent doesn't need to look far for inspiration at Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat, A Four Seasons Hotel. At the Grand-Hôtel, his main goal is for each pastry to have a unique identity and uncommon taste. A true gourmet at heart, his creations reflect his personality: There are passionate, dynamic, and creative.



Le Cap, fine dining restaurant. Michelin-starred Chef Yoric Tièche brings his unique approach to Le Cap restaurant where he offers a revisited Provençal cuisine inspired by his roots, with a contemporary twist and maritime influences. Menus change with the seasons, in keeping with the finest and freshest products from local markets as well as from the Hotel's garden. Artist Michèle Letang's mural fresco inside the restaurant is a tribute to the artistic style of Jean Cocteau, once a regular guest at the Grand-Hôtel.

La Véranda is a chic French Riviera inspired bistro, offering creative and authentic Mediterranean cuisine in a relaxed and elegant environment with views of the sea and surrounding gardens. A unique indoor experience for lunch and dinner with magnificent gardens and Mediterranean views, just above the Aleppo pines. For al fresco dining, the terrace is a tranquil sanctuary, shaded by hundred-year old Aleppo pines and offering magnificent Mediterranean views.



Le Bar is situated adjacent to La Véranda and features green Murano glass chandeliers that hang from high, palatial ceilings. The intimate library corner is an ideal place for a drink and quiet conversation at any time of the day or evening.

During summer evenings a live music band entertains the terraces of the three restaurants Le Cap, La Véranda and Le Bar.



SALON DES COLLECTIONS

The Salon des Collections holds one of the world's most spectacular wine collections including 141 vintage bottles of Château D'Yquem dating back from 1854 (1854 – 2003) and 33 bottles of Château Lafite Rothschild wines dating back from 1799 (1799 – 1899). The Salon des Collections is an ideal place for a private dinner which can accommodate up to six guests. Upon request, our Chef Sommelier can customize a wine tasting experience to share with family and friends.

Private bespoke dinner

The Salon des Collections can be booked for a private dinner experience, tailor-made and designed by Michelin-starred Chef, Yoric Tièche and Pastry Chef, Florent Margaillan, combined with a wine pairing by our Head Sommelier. For up to 4 people, upon availability.



One of the most complete collections of Chateau d'Yquem in the world. The Grand-Hôtel owns all the vintages from 1854 to 2011.



CLUB DAUPHIN: LIFE BY THE SEA

The Club Dauphin, located at the very end of the peninsula is accessible via a private funicular. The Olympic heated sea water swimming pool has an outstanding view. Built in 1939, it was a fairly new facility for that period and is still unique today. The swimming pool was designed to give the feeling that the sea is only an extension of it. Private cabanas are available above and around the swimming pool for those who wish to spend a peaceful and relaxing day in a more private environment.

Club Dauphin's pool side grill

Chef Yoric Tièche is celebrating the products of the sea with a selection of local fish and shellfish dishes, plus a variety of salads and grilled meats. The atmosphere is relaxed and casual, ideal for lunch with family or friends, while enjoying one of the most spectacular Mediterranean Sea views on the French Riviera.



“Love to share with guests this little corner of Paradise”

Johann Burgos,
Club Dauphin Director



KIDS FOR ALL SEASONS

Young guests at the Grand-Hôtel receive children's welcome amenity, child-size bathrobes, children's menus, complimentary use of video games and access to the Kids' Club: an outdoor Children's Playhouse located in the Club Dauphin garden, with views of the sea and a diverse offering of activities for children of all age groups.



"Excellence in service for adults,
but also for children.

All guests are VIP!"

Benjamin Raymond,
Guest Relations Manager



LE SPA

Le Spa is a haven of peace and tranquility, uniquely situated at the tip of the peninsula of Cap-Ferrat, overlooking the Mediterranean. Set amidst seventeen acres of fragrant Provençal gardens that complement the power of the sea and the warm rays of the sun, it is solely dedicated to quiet repose and total indulgence.

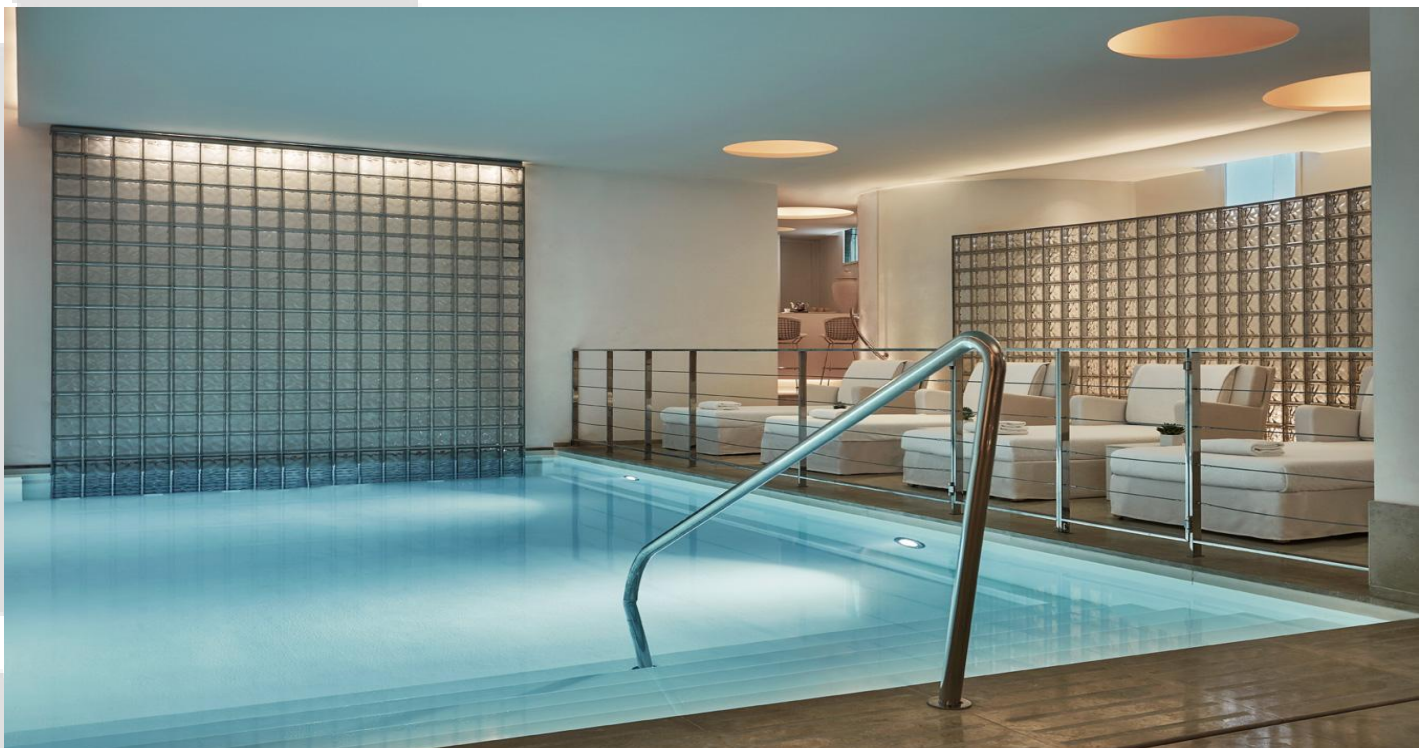
Le Spa boasts a private 13,000 square feet garden designed by Luc Svetchine, architect and Pierre-Yves Rochon, interior designer.

A large range of signature facial and body treatments by Dr. Burgener, Biologique Recherche and Sodashi are available.



“Create a memorable and unique experience for our guests in this haven, this is my leitmotiv.”

Marie-Cécile Rousset
Spa Director



Le Spa features:

- **Five treatment rooms**

- Two rooms for facial and massage treatments.
- Two rooms equipped with bathtubs for water-based treatments in addition to facial and massage treatments.
- Le Grand Salon is a 700 square foot suite equipped with a private steam room, sauna, sensorial shower, two treatment beds for couples and a large deluxe bath for water treatments.
- A crystal blue **indoor swimming pool** has a special counter-current function. In this area, guests can find a jacuzzi, a sensorial shower, an ice fountain, a steam room, and a sauna for men and women.
- An **indoor gymnasium** with state-of-the-art Cardio Fitness-Technogym equipment is staffed by qualified personal trainers.

Additional facilities include manicure and pedicure rooms, hair salon, indoor relaxation room and tea bar that serves herbal infusions and fresh juices.

A lushly landscaped 13,000 square foot **Spa Garden** with sea views features outdoor sun decks for relaxing and soaking in the sun before and after treatments. Five garden cabanas provide a space for guests to enjoy outdoor treatments accompanied by sea breeze and sunlight behind white cotton screens. An **outdoor gymnasium** and exercise area which allow guests to workout whilst enjoying views of the Mediterranean and the serenity of the surrounding gardens.





THE GRAND-HÔTEL DU CAP-FERRAT – HISTORY OF A PALACE FROM 1908 TO 2019.

By Bernard VOYENNE

"Palaces" were created to make people dream. Foremost amongst those that proliferated on our Riviera, the Grand Hotel du Cap-Ferrat opens on to the sea at the extreme tip of the peninsula of the same name.

Last century, Cap-Ferrat was a rocky and wild scrubland. The real estate industry introduced the vegetation. King Leopold II of Belgium acquired progressively, in the late nineteenth century, the only wooded area of the Cap. Then he extended his domain, buying the majority of vacant land.

Shortly before 1900, Leopold sold a portion of his property to the company founded by Mr "Péretmère", son of a northern cabman, who preserved 16,000 acres for the hotel.

The construction began in 1908 with the two open angle wings. The following year a dining loggia and a large central rotunda were added. **The building then took its final shape, remarkably simple for its time.** Today, the classicism offers a striking modernity. Later on, the Grand-Hôtel was bought by Mrs Veuve Ferras, grandmother of the famous violinist Christian Ferras.

In 1914 war broke out shortly, after the arrival of the new owner and the hotel was **transformed into a hospital.** In 1922, two hoteliers, Henry Dehouve and André Voyenne (my father), bought the majority shares of the company. They retained the ownership for over twenty years, through the Great Depression and the Second World War after which there was a total change in holiday lifestyle.



When the sun was the enemy

From its origins in the first half of the nineteenth century and into the 30's, the Riviera was almost exclusively frequented by luxury tourists. Visitors were mostly idle rich, or even royalty from northern regions: England and Russia in particular.

They only came during the winter for long stays. Queen Victoria and her court, many aristocratic families, Princess Louise, the Duke of Connaught, French President Paul Deschanel and many politicians of the 3rd Republic, the pianist Marguerite Long, the violinist Jacques Thibaud, movie stars such as Charles Boyer, Charlie Chaplin and many others, followed one another lured by clement climate.

Appearance of the summer season

Around 1930, a few eccentric persons, writers or "avant-garde" artists for the most part, ventured to come to the French Riviera during the summer. They were all looking for peace and quiet, there was little frequentation at this time. Thus, a snobbery of originality formed around these "unfashionable" holidays. On the Cap-Ferrat, the introduction of new habits came entirely fortuitously. During summer 1933, German filmmaker GW Pabst persuaded Chaliapin to film Don Quixote. Not being able to film in Spain, the director found that the moors of Cap-Ferrat would perfectly fit his movie. Consequently, the filmmaker's team, came one day and knocked on the hotel door, closed at that time. Accommodation was improvised for a few weeks. Actors and technicians were delighted to stay in such a corner of paradise. The following year, many of them wished to return by themselves. This was the timid beginning of the summer season in Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat.

Younger and more athletic than their predecessors, this new generation of vacationers was first seeking sun and water. Because of the rocky tip of the Cap, the sea was not easily accessible. A cove was created by blasting away the rocks and cliffs.



The pool and its strange Master-builder

The construction of a sea water swimming pool was therefore decided, in close proximity to the shore. It had to be of an Olympic-size, larger and more beautiful than the pool at the Eden-Roc Cap d'Antibes, its predecessor. The masonry contractors, the only constructors at that time, were reluctant to build a reinforced concrete tank of over thirty meters long and twelve wide, especially as the pool would be exposed to different temperatures and other outdoor hazards. Several of them did not dare to accept this flattering but risky order. After some research, the works were undertaken by a newly installed company in Cap-Ferrat, managed by an Italian.

This humble bricklayer had much higher technical knowledge than the size of his company might have suggested. Thus, he took the market. The new construction was named "Sun Beach" following fashionable Anglomania and opened in the early April 1939 in the presence of the departmental upper crust.

But war broke out. In June, it was a bitter defeat and the "stab in the back" of Mussolini, immediately followed by the occupation of the whole "Côte d'Azur" by the dictators' troops. Cap-Ferrat was not spared. In the emotion and the huge commotion resulting from the armistice and to the great surprise of the hotel Manager, a dashing Italian officer, demonstrating apparently innocent friendship, questioned: "Do you remember me? I am the contractor who built your pool. Glad to see it held up". For the hotel Manager, a war invalid, the reason for this strange come-back was soon to become clear. The knowledgeable contractor and the talented military engineer were one and the same. It was, without doubt, that under his superiors' instructions that the activity as a constructor was only on under-cover: he was an Italian spy! What could be a better way to locate and identify, without attracting attention, military sites and positions, than being a brick-layer on the coast?

The determination to obtain the command to build so close to such a highly strategic location, such remarkable skill and competitive prices, offered by a simple brick-layer were no longer a mystery.



A long eclipse

A few weeks after this interlude, the Grand-Hôtel barricaded itself, colored its windows in blue and shut for six endless years. On March 5, 1944, the entire peninsula was evacuated and heavily mined in anticipation of a military landing. The population had only a few hours to collect meager belongings and to flee.

What follows is indistinguishable from History, except that the hotel and the pool were not affected by any of the shells that fell nearby, or by the explosion that destroyed the lighthouse. In the 60's, after the retirement of Andre Vuyenne and the death of Mr. Flandin, the family sold the latter of their shares. The hotel changed hands several times since. First a Swiss industrialist, Mr. Rosenstein bought the hotel and then resold it to Mr. and Mrs. Saul Steinberg. The American real estate billionaire made huge investments and then sold it shortly after – for around \$23 million to the Nippon consortium “Sazalé” already owners of the famous Hollywood luxury hotel, “Bel Air Los Angeles” and they renamed the hotel as “Bel

Rebirth

Today, renamed “Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat, A Four Seasons Hotel”, it shines again at its brightest. The gardens have never been so magnificent. Here, luxury is not offensive because it is a lifestyle. The Grand-Hôtel has completed a major renovation and extension program, directed by the talented architect Luc Svetchine and the famous interior designer Pierre-Yves Rochon.

The 5 star Palace, which reopened in April 2009, now offers 74 rooms including 24 suites, 8 with private infinity pool, a 750 m² Spa and its beautiful garden overlooking the Mediterranean Sea, 3 restaurants: the gastronomic restaurant, “Le Cap”, the chic French Riviera bistro, “La Véranda” and the legendary “Club Dauphin” restaurant with its Olympic pool. It still attracts as many personalities and celebrities from around the world as well as clients seeking calm and voluptuousness.



PERSONALITIES

It is the people who bring life to a hotel. Throughout the past century, the Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat has continued to be a meeting place for people who enjoy coming back year



GRAND HOTEL DU CAP-FERRAT
JUIN 1955

[Handwritten signature] 55



[Handwritten signature: David Niven] 1967
GRAND HOTEL DU CAP-FERRAT



Avec tout mon enthousiasme
et toute ma sympathie

[Handwritten signature: Jean Paul Belmondo] 97



What a wonderful time
We all had, and what
a magnificent place
The Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat -
the ambience - everything is superb!
[Handwritten signature: Elizabeth Taylor]
and family





François-Régis Simon, General Manager

“The expectations of our guests are very simple: they want to relax and have some time with their family. Time is a luxury in their lifestyle and we need to make sure they enjoy it at every single opportunity.”

Four Seasons Tenure

- Since 2003

First Four Seasons Assignment: Assistant Director of Room Service, Four Seasons Hotel George V, Paris

Employment History

- Four Seasons Hotel Shenzhen; Four Seasons Hotel Hong Kong; Four Seasons Hotel George V, Paris; Hyatt Regency Hotel Roissy Charles de Gaulle, Paris; Park Hyatt Carlton Tower, London

Birthplace

- Brittany, France

Education

- Brevet de Technicien Supérieur, Hotel Management School of Dinard; Masters, Hotel Management School of Strasbourg/University Robert Schuman


Languages

- French, English, working knowledge of German

Never before has a hotel entered the Four Seasons portfolio in the manner of the furthestmost address on Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat. And never before has François-Régis Simon been a General Manager. Put the two together and what does a traveller get? A matchless hospitality experience destined to become even more so at the Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat, A Four Seasons Hotel.

“When you run a legendary hotel like this, you don’t want to mess with it,” says François-Régis, who took the helm of the historic palace in May 2015. “This is not a cookie-cutter property. It has been stunningly well maintained and every team member contributes to a superior guest experience. The only difference is that now, they are part of the family of dedicated Four Seasons staff around the world.”

François’ French Riviera adventure began, of all places, in a rickshaw in Tiananmen Square. Touring Beijing with his wife and young sons during a break from his previous position as Hotel Manager of Four Seasons Hotel Shenzhen, he received a call from Christian Clerc, who heads Four Seasons hotel operations for Europe, the Middle East and Africa. The company was planning to expand its French footprint with the Grand-Hôtel, Clerc said, might he be interested? “I told my family I had to take the call,” Simon recalls, chuckling.



François arrived at his new job right at the start of high season with the Hotel fully booked and the staff – more than 90 fulltime plus 250 seasonal – clicking their heels and doing what they do best.

The first enhancement made under François leadership was to plug the Grand-Hôtel into Four Seasons reservation system. And that was pretty much it. “Usually our development strategy is to take over existing properties, renovate and reassess,” he says. But the Grand-Hôtel had a complete renovation in 2009 and remains immaculate. “Everything is up and running beautifully here.”

Born and raised in a middle-class family in Brittany, François was drawn to hospitality at a young age. His mother is a very talented home cook, and both his brother and an uncle are chefs. “We would gather the family and linger over lunch and dinner talking about problems, education, world events, everything,” he recalls. “I am in this business because of my passion for food. I love having friends and family around and accommodating them.”

After earning a graduate degree in hotel management in Strasbourg, François took his first hotel job in London, the better to hone his English. He then returned to France and, after a step back from his position with another international hotel company, landed as Assistant Director of Room Service at Four Seasons Hotel George V, Paris. He rose steadily for seven-and-a-half years to Director of Food and Beverage before departing for the same position at Four Seasons Hotel Hong Kong. “I’d always had an interest in Asia because of the lifestyle. I practice karate and had hoped to work in Japan, but Hong Kong was perfect for me – at the time it was the only hotel in the world with six Michelin stars.”

Two years later, at the start of 2013, he became opening Hotel Manager of Four Seasons Hotel Shenzhen, another significant step in his career. “I had to interview everyone through a translator and learn about rooms and the front office from scratch. It was a great opportunity. The Hotel became very successful pretty fast, and I can look back at the role I played introducing Four Seasons culture into the market.”

Taken together, Simon’s Four Seasons career path prepared him remarkably well for his role at the Grand-Hôtel. The Hotel’s Executive Chef has a Michelin star, and François already knows many of the guests from his time at the George V back in the ‘00s. One is the city, one is the coast, “but both hotels have the same standards,” he says. “The kindness of the staff, their willingness to serve, and the beauty of this site is what draws our clientele from Paris to Cap-Ferrat.”

When he’s not on call as “the soul” of the Grand-Hôtel, François is “a family man, first of all.” His wife, a Four Seasons veteran, is his “first fan,” and he enjoys sports and recreation with his two boys, as well as teaching them the values he learned himself.

FACT SHEET



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|--------------------------------|---|
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| Category | Five-Star - Palace Hotel |
| Opening Date | Grand-Hôtel was opened in 1908 and the original Rotunda, designed by Gustave Eiffel, was built in 1909. |
| Most Recent Renovation | Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat celebrated its 100th anniversary with a new design and extension by Pierre-Yves Rochon in the summer of 2009. |
| Location | Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat is located 11 miles (18 kilometres) from Nice International Airport and a twenty-minute drive from Monaco (14 kilometres). |
| Activity | In 2015, Four Seasons took over the Management of Grand-Hotel du Cap-Ferrat. |
| General Manager | François-Régis Simon |
| Executive Chef | Yoric Tièche |
| Head Pastry Chef | Florent Margaillan |
| Head Sommelier | Joël Rolland |
| Interior designer | Pierre-Yves Rochon is responsible for the 2009 renovation including all public areas, restaurants and guest rooms, the Sea View Rooms and Suites with Private Plunge Pools and Terraces in the Residence as well as the interior design of Le Spa. |
| The Residence architect | Luc Svétchine |
| Landscape Designer | Jean Mus |
| Rooms and Suites | 74 in total: 49 rooms, 24 suites and a Villa |
| Room Categories | Historical Building: Superior Pinewood rooms - Palace Seaview Rooms - Four Seasons Pineview Suites - Four Seasons Sea view Suites - Roof Top Suite - Palace Sea view Suites - Villa Rose-Pierre The Residence: Four Seasons Pool Suites - Deluxe Terrace Rooms |

Villa Rose-Pierre

The Villa is 550 square meters and it is located in the Grand-Hôtel property with its own 2.5 acres of pine forest, a tennis field and a private swimming pool.

Le Cap (1* Michelin)

Located on the garden level, this fine dining restaurant offers an indoor and outdoor dining experience on the terrace with breathtaking sea views. The terrace at Le Cap is the perfect place to dine alfresco while enjoying the warm ocean breeze under the shade of Aleppo pines. At Le Cap, Chef Tièche offers a revisited Provençal cuisine inspired by his roots, with a contemporary twist and maritime influences. Menus change with the seasons in keeping with the finest and freshest products from local markets as well as from the Hotel's garden.

La Véranda

Chic French Riviera Bistro that offers a creative and authentic Mediterranean cuisine with an Italian twist served on the lobby level of the hotel with views of the sea and surrounding gardens, or on the lower terrace.

Club Dauphin pool side grill

Club Dauphin, located by the pool, serves a light menu: products of the sea with a selection of local fish and shellfish dishes, plus a variety of salads and grilled meats.

Le Bar

The Grand-Hôtel Bar is situated adjacent to La Véranda and is a spacious bar with an intimate library corner which is an ideal place for a drink and quiet conversation at any time of the day or evening (service also available on the terrace).

Club Dauphin

The Olympic-sized Grand-Hôtel pool reaches a depth of nearly 12 feet (3.5 meters) and is 108 feet long and 33 feet wide (33 meters by 10 meters). The pool is filled with sea water maintained at a temperature of 28 degrees Celsius (82.4 degrees Fahrenheit). 240 lounge chairs and 22 private cabanas overlooking the pool and sea are available.

Kids' Club

Les Petits Dauphins situated next to Club Dauphin and access to the Kids' Club, an outdoor Children's Playhouse located in the Club Dauphin gardens with views, offers diverse activities for children aged from 4 to 12 years old.

Le Spa

Le Spa is a spacious 750 m² (8,000 square foot) facility that include an indoor swimming pool and six lavishly appointed treatment rooms including a 65m² VIP suite with a private balneo, men and women private steam rooms and saunas, a sensorial shower and a gym with state-of-the-art Technogym equipment. The Spa offers a wide range of therapeutic and beauty treatments by French beauty specialist Biologique Recherche, Swiss beauty brand Dr Burgener, organic beauty brand, Sodashi.

Conferences & Meetings

The Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat has four meeting rooms. The hotel itself can also be hired privately for extraordinary events. From small to large receptions, weddings, birthdays or gala dinners, the Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat provides the expertise and excellence of an Event Team to create an unforgettable experience.

Salon Ferrat

Located at The Residence

Surface: 120m²

Capacity: 120 persons

Salon Le Cap

Located in the Historical Building

Surface: 42m² and a terrace of 15m²

Capacity : 19 persons

Salon Les Pins

Located in the Historical Building

Surface: 40m²

Capacity: 30 persons

Salon Des Collections

Located in the Historical Building

Capacity: 6 people

Affiliation

The Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat is managed by Four Seasons.

AWARDS

Forbes Travel Guide may 2019 – One of the best world's rooms

Travel & Leisure's World Best Awards 2018 – Top Resort Hotel in France

Elite Traveler 2018 – Amongst the Top 100 Suites in the World (Villa Rose Pierre)

Condé Nast Traveler - The 2018 Gold List - Best Coastal Hotel in Europe

French Gala Spa Awards 2017 – Best Seaside Spa in France

Condé Nast Traveler Reader's Choice Awards 2017 – Top Hotel in France & Monaco (excl. Paris)

Condé Nast Traveler Reader's Choice Awards 2017 – Amongst the Top 10 Hotels in Europe

Condé Nast Traveler Reader's Choice Awards 2017 – Amongst the 50 Best Hotels in the World

Connoisseur Circle magazines 2017 – Awarded Best Hospitality Grand Hôtel

Elite Traveler 2017 – Amongst the Top 100 hotels in the World

Travel & Leisure

Amongst the 17 over the top Hotel Suites in the World – Villa Rose Pierre

Five-Star Forbes Travel Guide Award 2017 + 2018 – First hotel in France to be ranked outside Paris

Four-Star Forbes Travel Award 2017 + 2018 – Le Spa, first in France to be ranked outside Paris

Conde Nast Traveler Gold list 2016 – Top 20 best hotels in France & Monaco

Riviera Magazine 2015 – Amongst the best hotel on French Riviera

USA Today 10 Best – Amongst the 10 Posh FR Luxury sleeps less than 30min from Nice

MKG Worldwide Hospitality Awards 2014, Lifetime Achievement, Iconic Employee award to Pierre Gruneberg, Swimming instructor and 63 years of service at the GHCF

Conde Nast Traveler – Readers' Travel Awards 2014 - "One of the Best Overseas Holidays Hotel in the World"

Conde Nast Traveler 2013, "Amongst the TOP 100, "World Best Overseas Hotel"

Villegiature Award 2012 – nominated for the Best Floral Decoration in Europe

Hotel & Lodge 2012 - The Best Palace in the World

The World's Best Palaces to Stay - Conde Nast Traveler Gold List 2012

Best Palace in the World 2011 – Hotel & Lodge

Villegiature Award 2011 – Best Spa in Europe

Palace Award 2011 + 2016

Five Star Diamond Award 2012

Conde Nast Traveler – The Readers' Travel Awards 2011 – Among the 25 world best Spas

Conde Nast Traveler Gold list 2012 – The World's best places to stay

Conde Nast Traveler Gold list 2011 - Bests hotels for rooms in Europe

Conde Nast Traveler's 2010 Gold List - the best properties to stay in France



GRAND-HÔTEL
du Cap-Ferrat
A Four Seasons Hotel