



saint james
PARIS



ROMANTIC
By NATURE
PARISIAN
By excellence



part - CHâteau, part - family estate

CHIC COUNTRY Life at the HEART of PARIS

Witness the renaissance of a legendary address, tucked away from prying eyes. A rare venue that cultivates the quintessential Parisian art de vivre. The Saint James has always defined itself by its singularity. In 2021, the only hotel in Paris still surrounded by gardens has reinvented itself gently, like a much-loved family home with all its little quirks.

The neoclassical building has bared its soul as it embraces modern times, reconciling paradoxes with elegance and a feather-light touch. Grandiose and intimate. Romantic and exclusive. At the heart of Paris and the midst of nature. Upholding culture and resolutely hedonistic. Symbol of classicism and gleefully unconventional. This subtle brew is measured and mixed with talent by one of the style's reigning alchemists, interior decorator Laura Gonzalez.



a venue of FRENCH CULTURE... AND PARISIAN LIFE

The majestic residence on the Place Adenauer began its life as home to the Thiers Foundation, created in 1892 by the widow of former French President, Adolphe Thiers. An ardent philanthropist, she decided to support brilliant young students by attributing scholarships and comfortable living conditions. Thanks to the generosity of this remarkable woman, the building served as a boarding house for elite groups of French students, foreshadowing its future as a hotel. At the time, the 16th arrondissement of Paris had a country feel to it. Parisians of the Belle Époque marvelled at exoticism in the Jardin d'Acclimatation, while hot air balloons were launched from the capital's first aerodrome, in a field just across from the Saint James. Setting our sights ever higher, always a step ahead...

The years went by, and the building became home to the Saint James Club: an ambiance of wood panelling and velvet in the great tradition of London gentlemen's clubs. The library and former study room became iconic venues, symbols of French cultural and intellectual life.

Transformed into a hotel in the 1990s, the Saint James was acquired by the Bertrand family in 2008 and joined Relais & Châteaux in 2011. Embracing the city more than ever, it has a special place in the hearts of Parisians, a confidential refuge where friends meet for coffee, discuss world issues in the Club or enjoy lunch in the cool garden shade. Throughout the year, travellers from around the globe, neighbours from down the street and inveterate Club members rub shoulders and strike up conversations. They form the "Saint James society", an informal community that espouses a mindset all its own.



a women's place

Always on the move and ahead of its time, the Saint James was created through a woman's efforts and has always given key roles to women. In fact, the hotel's General Manager, Laure Pertusier, has been running the establishment for many years. In the 1990s, the day's design icon, Andrée Putman, was asked to redo the interiors.

The reins were then handed over to the fanciful designer Bambi Sloan who added her extravagant touch in 2011. Ten years later, another woman designer stepped up to express her contemporary vision of luxury: interior decorator Laura Gonzalez. She has returned the Saint James to its former glory, making it an iconic address for French art de vivre, version 2021.

"As we open this new chapter of its history, the Saint James embodies more than ever the quintessential Parisian art de vivre. Romantic, magical, illustrious and deliciously intimate... Dedicated to Parisians themselves and our guests from around the globe."

Laure Pertusier, General Manager





a manOR HOUSE IN THE MIDST OF A GARDEN IN THE MIDDLE OF PARIS.

Or should we say, a dream come true. In Paris, the only manor houses— *hôtels particuliers*— surrounded by gardens are museums. Except for the Saint James, ensconced entirely in greenery, like an island in a city. So rare, it is unique. Stepping into the Saint James gardens, you enter an oasis of calm and tranquillity, far from the madding crowds, and yet Avenue Foch is right there, on the other side.

Architect Laura Gonzalez and landscape architect Xavier de Chirac wanted nature to reign supreme over their metamorphosis of the Saint James. Meeting a need for fresh air, a longing to breathe, to reconnect with natural elements, even in the city. Especially in the city. Welcome to our post-2020 world.



a BUCOLIC PARADIS

BY XAVIER DE CHIRAC

5000 square meters of gardens in the middle of Paris. What more could a landscape architect ask for? Xavier de Chirac could let his imagination run wild, working his magic on the outdoor space all around the Saint James. Behind the monumental entrance gate, a wide old-fashioned gravel path leads to the courtyard and circles the sculptural fountain. The opening credits of a classic film...

On every side, plants, shrubs, flowers fill the space, forming a garden that draws us into its depths. Admire the rhododendron bushes beneath arches of clematis and roses. Explore the alcoves trimmed with tree ferns. Daydream on a bench nestled behind one of the thickets. Visit the bee hives and greenhouses filled with the gardener's hard work. Everywhere you look, a charming blend of sophistication and bohemian fancy create a poetic ambiance, a privileged moment where time stands still. Paris is magnificent in every season. So are the Saint James gardens, thanks to the savoir-faire of Xavier de Chirac who has fashioned a promenade offering myriad colour and scents year-round.



"I wanted to recreate the atmosphere of classic gardens and immerse visitors in an abundance of scents, colour and soothing plant life. There are flowers that bloom in every season: an exuberant garden from the first days of spring to the end of summer, which becomes a cocoon cloaked in changing tones in autumn and surprises you with deliciously sweet-smelling sarcococca that flower in winter"

Xavier de Chirac





saint james « GRAND HÔTEL »

Sumptuous yet oh-so romantic. As soon as you step into the spectacular lobby, the tone is set, classic and deliciously unconventional. The time-honoured Grand Hôtel codes have been scrupulously respected: vintage keys dangle on wall hooks from their leather key chains, the reception desk sits beneath an impressive six-meters tree of life made of staff, ceiling frescoes designed by the decorator and painted by artists from the Atelier Roma, plaster bas-reliefs, mosaic tiling on the floor...

The lobby is the heart of Saint James. It trumpets its grandiose decor without ever taking itself too seriously. Chic and poetic, the lobby hums at all hours with a joyous energy, with its sofas, its chess table, its piano waiting patiently for a guest to sit down and play...

Laura Gonzalez, a VIRTUOSO at MIXING ecLECTIC INSPIRATIONS

Our interior decorator juggles different styles and periods with well-practiced ease. For her, the Saint James embodies the iconic Parisian hôtel particulier. Her ambition was to enhance the building's neoclassic architecture, adding light and subtracting surplus to spotlight the incredible volumes, mouldings and myriad ornamental details. Highlights, such as the magnificent tiling on the ground floor, were left untouched, while she brightened the atmosphere by using light, soft tones ranging from butter to shades of green, yellow, pink and blue... This elegant backdrop gave Laura Gonzalez free rein to play with colours and patterns.



“We have brought the building’s neoclassic architecture to the fore, while adding a gentle, feminine touch. The idea is to make Saint James a timeless Parisian classic which truly reflects French art de vivre”





PARISIAN Neoclassicm

The new Saint James invites guests on an amazing journey through time, into a seamlessly stitched patchwork of styles from 19th century Chinese curios to art deco details, from floral art nouveau patterns to Greco-Roman geometric details. Everywhere you look, the ultra-classic architectural bases are tweaked by unexpected eclectic inspirations. A precarious exercise whose success depended on a host of talented French artisans, craftspeople and companies: *Maison Pierre Frey, Le Manach, Sofrastyl, Atelier Roma, Manufacture Pinton, Patrice Dangel, Jean Roger Paris, Atelier Escabelle...*

“At the Saint James, time stands still, but never in the past. Our aim was to transpose the different periods that embody Parisian style: the 19th century with its Chinese curios, neoclassic mouldings, art deco details. Mastering the art of mixing and matching styles is, for me, what epitomizes the Parisian hôtel particulier”

Laura Gonzalez



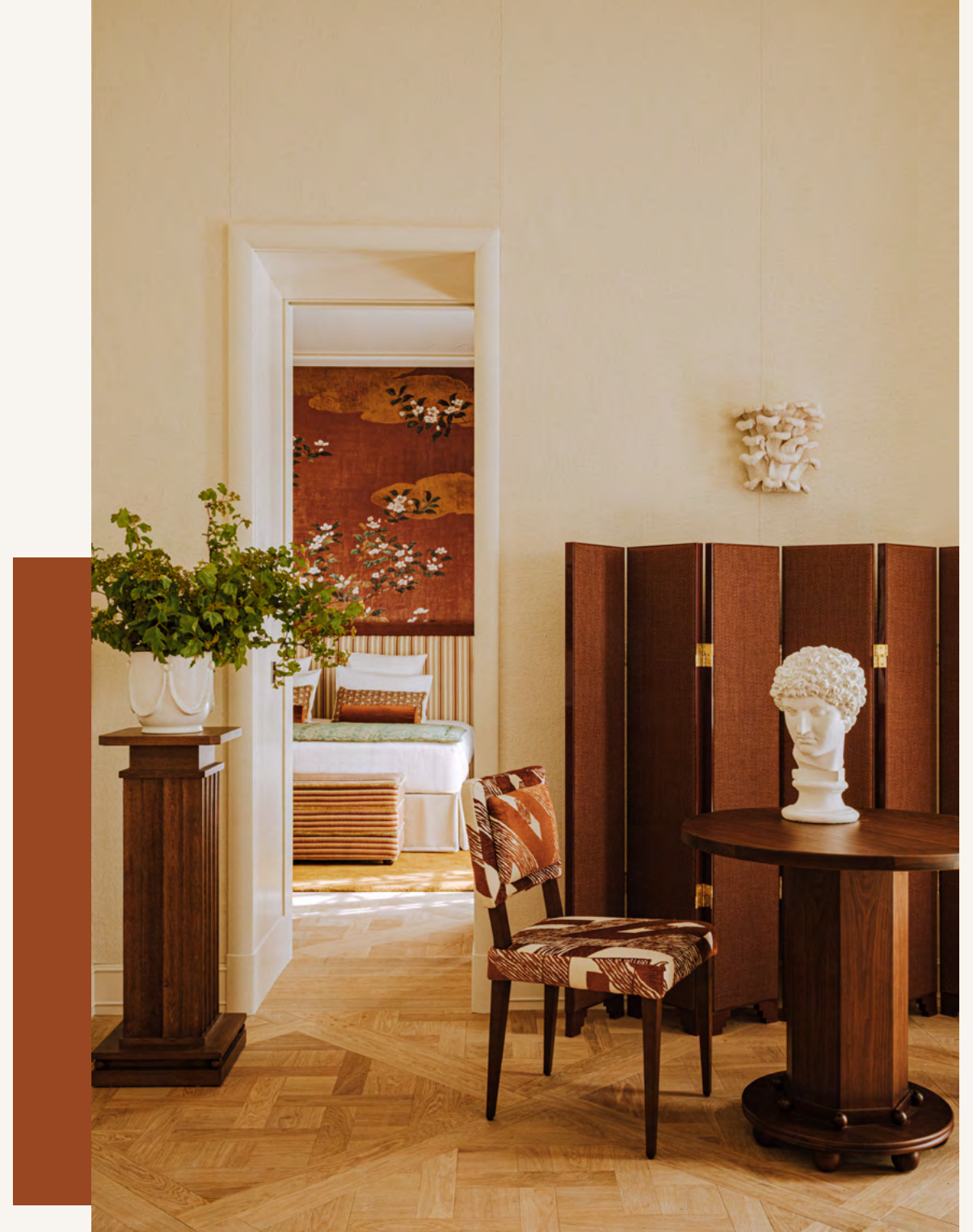


the private home of a collector

Laura Gonzalez imagined the Saint James as a gracious and luminous private residence, one where the garden invites itself indoors. Each of the 56 rooms, suites and apartments — including some duplex and two ground floor suites with a terrace — are unique. All have remarkable volumes and ceiling height as well as a masterful medley of art deco spirit and contemporary details. Geometric patterns flirt with 18th century flowers while luxuriant, velvety textures are perfectly paired with Versailles parquets and antique details, all part of four delightful colour schemes.

Japanese-style panoramic wallpaper by the English brand Iksel serve as headboards, asymmetrical bedside tables cleverly named Laurel and Hardy, white plaster lamps moulded into mysterious organic shapes, custom-made furniture designed by Laura Gonzalez... the Saint James exudes a modern and timeless Parisian chic. But also the soul of a real home, through an extraordinary accumulation of sundry objects, old books, sculptures and paintings gleaned with care by the designer. Each one tells a story, like a treasure brought back from distant shores by a collector with exquisite taste, randomly culled souvenirs from a lifetime of adventures.

You are welcomed and ushered into a guest room with a comfortable lived-in feel. This same warm, intimate spirit is embodied by the kind and generous service: impeccable at all times but always discreet, waiting in the wings, like in all great houses.





“We treated the rooms and suites as if we were decorating a home, rather than applying a hotel mindset. By steering clear of the latest trends and fashions, the decor will never be out-dated because it is in harmony with the venue.”

Laura Gonzalez



WINTER GARDEN, SUMMER GARDEN: THE BELLEFEUILLE* FINE DINING RESTAURANT

Offering aristocratic grandeur and a fresh romantic feel, the Bellefeuille restaurant embraces nature in its decor and in its menu.

A winter-garden ambiance blurs the indoor-outdoor line: delicately drawn panoramas, mouldings, woodwork, marble, a period fireplace beneath an ancient mirror that reflects the greenery of the outdoor garden, Madeleine pottery vases planted with palms and other trees, a bird or two flitting by ... A lively place for brunch with friends or a family lunch, where guests hail from far-off lands or live down the street. A pretty open kitchen is set up in the vast dining room, allowing Chef Julien Dumas to add the finishing touch to plates in front of guests, like a host preparing food in his home. After only 6 months of opening, chef Julien Dumas has just won a star in the Michelin Guide on March 2022

In the summer, the restaurant overflows into the adjacent garden with a superb pergola complete with kiosk bar straight out of the 19th century. One of the capital's most sought-after spots. The terrace is arranged so that guests can admire the architecture of the Saint James, a memorable sight at any hour of the day, or at night when lights play over the facade to create a magical atmosphere. It is impossible to imagine a more exclusive place for a dinner date or summer lunch in the shade of the foliage.



JULIEN DUMAS AND HIS DYNAMIC GASTRONOMY, INSPIRED BY NATURE

If nature was the main inspiration for the Saint James decor, the same can be said for the cuisine of Julien Dumas.

From breakfast to room service, from the fine dining restaurant to the library bar menu, his original approach brings a breath of fresh air to Saint James gastronomy, while safeguarding its singular identity.

Working on the premise that noble products are the result of the talent and dedication of their producers, the Chef is on a continual quest for the finest sources. Highly committed to an eco-responsible cuisine, he has cultivated special, long-term relationships with carefully selected artisans whose authentic methods respect the environment. Market gardeners, fish farmers and fishmongers, all possess exceptional savoir-faire and share his high standards of excellence. Not to mention the Chef's exclusive access to Saint James garden's fresh-grown organic fruits and vegetables.





Known for a cuisine featuring vegetables and seafood, Julien Dumas plays above all with the diversity and intensity of flavours, setting the bar at impeccable freshness. He forges unforgettable emotions with products ranging from the most basic to the most prestigious: roasted white asparagus, acacias and smoked sardine, lobster & cuttlefish and shoulder of veal confit with nasturtium leaves, to name a few. His elegant, precise plating borrows from the Japanese art of kaiseki ryōri, where several extremely refined dishes are arranged to form a visual and taste composition of rare harmony. This experience is enhanced further by the Chef's expert food and wine pairing.



“The Saint James opens the door to a world of possibilities. While respecting its singular identity, I try to guide it towards nature, falling in step with all of nature’s rhythms, beyond the 4 seasons. I have a special relationship with Brittany and seafood in general, but my priority is working with local products, changing recipes depending on what’s available for a dynamic cuisine, not one set in stone.”

Julien Dumas



BRUSHING UP THE ICONIC LIBRARY BAR

They are all still there, the old leather-bound books, the winding staircase and the venerable coffered ceiling of the library that once belonged to Foundation Thiers students, as is the muted, typically British atmosphere. But there is something else, something modern. Laura Gonzalez has preserved the iconic elements of the décor—wood panelling, cosy velvets and time-worn leathers—but has softened the edges with a gentle touch.

The bar counter stands out against a background of omnipresent greenery while patterns and prints blend seamlessly into the decor, from thick Iranian-patterned rugs to Indian cashmeres. It is the ideal setting for a quick lunch or a personalised cocktail, shaken to perfection by the master mixologists of the Saint James.





welcome to the most PARISIAN of PRIVATE CLUBS

The best networks have always been cultivated within the walls of the Saint James Club. But the gentlemen's club of yore is a thing of the past. Today, the private Club includes art lovers, intellectuals and personalities who share a variety of common interests, a certain Parisian art de vivre and emphatic open-mindedness. But, above all, the desire to gather in an exclusive venue where they feel at home and which belongs to them. This doesn't, however, stop them from forming valuable business relationships ...

The Salon Club Room hosts a variety of members-only events and can be privatized upon request. Yes, being a member of the Saint James Club has its privileges, with exclusive access to Concierge services, the spa, fitness room, library bar and hotel restaurant, but also unique experiences: wine tastings, literary encounters, events in partnership with other private clubs around the world ...



GUERLAIN SPA AND POOL WITH A VIEW OF THE PARIS SKY

A total transformation. The spa, fitness and well-being area now stretches over 400 square meters and two floors of the hotel, with three handsome treatment booths (including one double), a fitness room, a hammam, a sauna, a Jacuzzi and a sublime surprise in the depths of the manor house: an immense 15 x 4-meters swimming pool bathed in natural light pouring in through a glass ceiling. Where else in Paris can you perfect your backstroke while gazing up at the sky? A rare and exhilarating experience.

The majestic Burgundy stone staircase, large vaulted spaces, Greco-Roman details and a 15-meters long bas-relief by François Mascarello alongside the pool transport you to a luxurious and peaceful universe. Relax beneath elegant palm trees while admiring the sculptures selected by Laura Gonzalez.





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