

GRAND HÔTEL WIESLER

HOW A HISTORIC HOTEL IS REDEFINING WHAT IT MEANS TO BE GRAND.

The Grand Hôtel Wiesler has been a source of inspiration in the centre of Graz for over 100 years. While it treasures the rich traditions of its past, it never stops setting new standards. It is this exciting blend of old and new combined with the extraordinary that defines the essence of an international Grand Hôtel in 2023. The easy elegance is evident throughout – from the interior to service and dining at Salon Marie, the restaurant at the Grand Hotel Wiesler, which opened in 2019.

The Wiesler in Graz enjoys a privileged location in a dynamic area. Set in the heart of Graz, right by the River Mur, next to the Kunsthaus and with views of the Schlossberg, it is surrounded by bars and shops of the young creative scene in the city. It's a place for tourists and business travellers, and of course for stars. Falco, Mick Jagger and Arnold Schwarzenegger are just a few of the names on its impressive guest list. The past has without a doubt made its mark on the grand hôtel and filled it with wonderful stories. But the Grand Hôtel Wiesler has always had a progressive spirit. When the Art Nouveau building opened in 1909, it was the city's first hotel to have its own lift and rooms with an en suite bathroom and telephone. Following a rough patch as a British officers' hotel from 1945 to 1954, the Wiesler was restored in its original style in 1986. The prime city location was acquired by the Weitzer hotelier family in 1999 and has been managed by Florian Weitzer since 2010. Although Weitzer dispenses with star ratings, he is constantly at work on his own definition of what it means to be a grand hôtel: a place where guests' luxury experience is historically meaningful but never stale, where it is timeless and unique. Most of all, "grand" means a cosmopolitan spirit. It matters to Weitzer "how we treat our guests and how we succeed in surprising them again and again".

Spacious rooms in a wide range of categories, event spaces, first class service, a car park, on site dining and many more amenities are a must at a grand hôtel. But beyond that, it is the countless extraordinary details that make the Wiesler special. Salon Marie, which opened in 2019, is not a traditional hotel restaurant. It is a place where locals and guests come together for a relaxed breakfast or dinner. The space also provides the perfect setting for a very special meal, the Sunday Grand Brunch at Salon Marie.

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Seating alcoves made of walnut and leather, sumptuous materials such as brass, and green plants create a beautiful setting, while the menu, which features international classics and an extensive selection of big-name wines, ensures that Salon Marie lives up to its slogan, „Back to the good life“. The signature dish of the house is the exquisite Cordon Bleu, a veal steak stuffed with real brie and prosciutto di Parma. But dishes ranging from French steak frites and grilled octopus to crema catalana have also become true Salon Marie classics. The lengthy bar, the show-piece of the new restaurant, is the perfect place to enjoy food and drink with a big-city feel.

Talking of show-pieces – one of them is, doubtless, the contemporary art installation made of painted wooden slats by Austrian artist Clemens Hollerer in the hotel lobby. The exciting symbiosis with the old walls ties in perfectly with the history of the hotel, which has always understood the value of surprise. No less spectacular is the original Art Nouveau mosaic „Spring“ by Leopold Forstner one room over, which easily finds its contemporary counterpart at Salon Marie: floor-to-ceiling street art by Josef Wurm. In addition, Room No. 500, which was furnished with Banksy replicas in the course of the Banksy exhibition in Graz in 2022, takes visitors into the pictorial and mental world of the famous art icon, who to this day operates anonymously.

What's more, the 102 refurbished rooms at Hotel Wiesler offer plenty of space for new thoughts. An authentic guitar, an easel, an old record player with marvellous discs, a typewriter, a treasure chest, a small library with works by the great unconventional thinkers of our times, a freestanding bathtub and much more besides all beg to be tried out. And then, of course, the Wiesler feelgood "oasis" is a superb place to stop, think and philosophise. Alternatively, you can find inspiration on a walk along the Mur riverbank or through the city. In order to capture the special moments at the Grand Hôtel Wiesler guests can use the instant camera at the polaroid corner in the lobby and send a letter to their loved ones at home. Souvenirs can also be purchased in the form of body lotion or keychains, among other items.

If you're looking for more than a place to crash for few nights – if you want to experience a truly special time – then you'll feel right at home here. But you'll feel equally at home if you'd simply like a good night's sleep and an exclusive meal. Either way, luxury feels easy and modern at the Grand Hôtel Wiesler – something business travellers, tourists and locals alike can appreciate.

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FACTS GRAND HÔTEL WIESLER

ADDRESS

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CATEGORY

City/business Class Hotel

LOCATION

Centre of Graz, 5 minutes' walk to the main square (Hauptplatz), very close to the Kunsthaus art building, only a few yards away from Congress Graz conference centre

ROOMS

102 rooms in the categories
Tiny Independent, Independent,
Comfort Independent,
Grand Independent, Junior Suite,
Royal Oak, Grande Suite

SEMINARS/CONFERENCES

3 seminar rooms

PARKING

75 parking spaces for cars in
the hotel garage

DINING & SPECIAL FEATURES

"Salon Marie" restaurant with bar,
sauna/outdoor area/workout
equipment/feelgood oasis, book
exchange, room in Banksy style,
yoga mat on request, Polaroid
corner, city bikes and 2 Vespas
Elettricas for hire, free wifi



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