

H O T E L G I R A F F E

PRESS INFORMATION

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FACT SHEET

Overview

The 73-room Hotel Giraffe is a stylish asset to HKHotels' portfolio - a collection of small luxury hotels in New York City, offering travelers sophisticated, elegant accommodations, an abundance of value-added services and amenities including lavish complimentary Continental breakfast, evening wine and cheese receptions, and much more. The Hotel Giraffe is both a hip and luxurious haven in the heart of one of Manhattan's most trend-setting neighborhoods.

History

The Hotel Giraffe opened in January of 2000. During much of the construction phase, the hotel did not have a name. It wasn't until architect Stephen B. Jacobs told owner Henry Kallan about a hotel in Carcassonne named HOTEL L'ELEPHANT. Mr. Kallan appreciated the humor of naming an elegant hotel after an animal, and since the hotel represented all the attributes of Mr. Kallan's favorite, the giraffe - tall, graceful, strong, elegant, and gentle - it was determined to be the perfect name for his new property.

Location

The hotel is located at the corner of Park Avenue South and 26th Street in one of New York City's most desirable neighborhoods, with stylish establishments serving a creative business community of advertising agencies, architectural firms, internet and design firms. The neighborhood, also referred to as Rose Hill, is an enclave between midtown to the north and the Flatiron District to the south. The recently revitalized Madison Square Park just one block from the Hotel Giraffe boasts extensive playground equipment for the younger set; the ever-popular Shake Shack for burgers, shakes and even wine and beer; and is the scene of many City-sponsored musical and cultural events throughout the year. Many Zagat top-rated eateries (Eleven Madison Park, Tabla, Union Square Café, and Gramercy Tavern) are also within easy walking distance of the hotel.

Decor

The Hotel Giraffe is an icon of *European Moderne* design celebrating the glamour and sophistication of the 1920s and 30s. Under the artistic inspiration of architect Stephen B. Jacobs and his wife and business partner, interior designer Andi Pepper, the overall design is characterized by sleek lines and subdued colors to create a haven of simple elegance. The gentle curves of the hotel's trademark Juliet balconies serve as the design inspiration for the interiors - mirrored throughout in the curves of the brushed steel lamps, the working desks, the bathroom vanity, and much more.

Public Areas

Guests are welcomed into the sleek Grande Lobby with 12-foot high ceilings and magnificent floor-to-ceiling windows with sheer silver curtains - a true oasis, secluded from the hustle and bustle of the city just outside. Café tables and clusters of inviting sofas and chairs create a warm and inviting ambiance. In the morning, guests enjoy a complimentary Continental breakfast buffet in a European café atmosphere. By night, votive candles softly light the space as a selection of complimentary Italian wines and imported and domestic cheeses are served from 5 to 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday. A pianist is on hand to further complement the mood from 6 to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday. Guests may also enjoy the Roof Garden where, weather permitting, they may sip cocktails and nibble on small plates under a starry sky.

Accommodations

An intimate, residential setting is provided with only seven guestrooms per floor; four rooms are handicapped accessible. Each room has 10-foot ceilings with antique-rose velveteen upholstered chairs and ottomans, original black-and-white photographs from the '20s and '30s, and elegant eight-foot tall mahogany doors. Bathroom doors have beveled semi-opaque glass panels while closet doors feature eight-foot tall mirrors. In 51 of the rooms and suites, French doors with Merlot-red sheers lead to the Juliet balconies adorned with red geraniums in the spring and summer. a mixture of tones and textures characterize the glamorous décor with ivory diamond-quilted satin bedcovers set against chocolate leather headboards and iridescent platinum wall covering. Remote electronic blackout shades guarantee uninterrupted sleep. Brushed steel light fixtures lend a soft glow to curved anigre wood veneer armoires and desks with polished granite countertops. Stylish baths feature limestone floors, terra cotta-colored tiles, and coffered ceilings.

Guest room features

100% cotton Egyptian linens and towels; minibar stocked with *Red Bull*, *Vitamin Water*, and other alcoholic and non-alcoholic refreshments; 8-foot granite desktop (double rooms feature two desktops); ihome station featuring-AM/FM clock radio with iPod dock; signature umbrella; personal safe; iron and ironing board; stereo with CD player; a 40-inch flat panel television with 250 premium cable channels and movies on demand; DVD player; complimentary bottled water; chocolates at nightly turndown; plush terrycloth bathrobes and waffle-weave slippers; blow dryer; cordless telephones; dataports; complimentary high-speed wireless internet access; dual-line speaker phones with voicemail; Swedish *Natura* bath products; lighted make-up mirrors in the bathroom and freestanding makeup mirrors on the desks in all suites.

Suite features

Hotel Giraffe offers 21 beautifully appointed suites. Eight are referred to as Terrace Suites, each with a private Juliet balcony that overlooks Park Avenue. A Terrace suite may be combined with a deluxe double bedded room to create a two-bedroom suite. In addition to the amenities noted above for guestrooms, all suites feature a separate living room and bedroom, a pull-out sofa bed and a high 28-inch coffee table for casual in-room dining.

Guest services

HKHotels signature amenities include a Complimentary Continental breakfast buffet served in the lobby from 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Monday through Friday and 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. Complimentary cappuccino, espresso, café au lait, tea, gourmet coffee, cookies, and fresh fruit are available to guests throughout the day. A selection of Italian wines, Prosecco and imported and domestic cheeses are served Monday through Saturday from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Other services and amenities include: Valet parking, 24-hour concierge; business center services; free CD and DVD library; same-day laundry and dry cleaning; Complimentary newspapers and magazines, are available at all times.

Health Club

Hotel guests receive complimentary passes to the *New York Sports Club* located at Park Avenue South and 23rd Street. Hours are Monday to Friday from 5:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Spa services may be arranged at *the award winning Oasis Day Spa located at Park Avenue South and 31st street*. The concierge is happy to arrange private in-room massages.

Penthouse

Our retro-glamorous, 1,300-square foot Penthouse Piano Suite provides the perfect setting for spectacular meetings and social events. Spacious and airy, the Piano Suite features a 26ft vaulted barrel ceiling, dramatic views of Manhattan, wrap-around glass wall with a working stone fireplace, ebony baby grand piano, 150 square foot private terrace and an exquisite 750 square foot landscaped roof-top garden. The Piano suite with Park Avenue Terrace and the Roof Garden can each be rented separately for smaller events, or together for larger events up to 100 guests.

The Rooftop Garden at Hotel Giraffe

The Rooftop Garden at the Hotel Giraffe is the perfect spot to enjoy al fresco drinks under the summer sun or the NYC nighttime sky, in a relaxed and informal setting. The airy space provides a respite from the crowds below, and offers spacious outdoor seating and a breezy central atrium, with floor to ceiling windows overlooking Park Avenue and the Flatiron District. A seasonal menu of artisanal cocktails compliments a selection of beers and wines, available by the glass and bottle. The Rooftop Garden is located on the 12th Floor of the Hotel Giraffe on the corner of Park Avenue South and East 26th Street. The Rooftop Garden is open Monday through Saturday, from 4:00 PM to 11:30 PM.

Restaurant

Bread & Tulips is a 70-seat, Italian-inspired restaurant, located at the Hotel Giraffe. Owner Riccardo Dardha and executive chef Benjamin Lambert offer a contemporary menu that combines the flavors and culinary sensibilities of Dardha's Italian heritage, ingredients sourced locally in New York State, and Lambert's soulful cooking style. General manager Chris Hessney, formerly of Morimoto NYC and The Standard Grill, oversees front-of-house operations.

"Bread & Tulips stems from our concept of modern hospitality," says Riccardo. "For me, the name is symbolic of the pairing of a successful restaurant's two main elements. At the most basic level, we aim to provide guests with a satisfying meal, symbolized by the bread, and to do so in a warm, inviting atmosphere, represented by tulips."

Benjamin Lambert studied at the Culinary Institute of America, Hyde Park, before working in esteemed kitchens such as Union Pacific, 71 Clinton Fresh Foods, Picholine, Le Cirque 2000 and Town. From New York, Lambert moved to Washington D.C., where he spent three years as chef de cuisine at Restaurant Nora, America's first organic certified restaurant. During this tenure, Lambert became fascinated with sustainable ingredients, a knowledge he further developed in his next role as executive chef at Crabtree's Kittle House in Chappaqua. A foraging, hunting and fishing enthusiast, Lambert is passionate about seasonal produce and responsible sourcing.

In addition to Lambert's menu of inventive, Italian-inspired dishes, Bread & Tulips offers a value-orientated, extensive wine list with all of the bottles offered on the menu priced under \$100, and a creative cocktail program.

Hotel Giraffe Awards

Design Award- Society of Registered Architects

Ranked one of the most popular hotels in New York by members of TripAdvisor.com

Voted **Best Boutique Hotel** 2007-Best of Citysearch.com New York

HKHotels Signature Style of Hospitality and Value

At HKHotels guests enjoy great value, with all rates including the following amenities at no extra charge:

*Bountiful European style breakfast buffet

*Selection of coffee, tea, juices, cookies, and fruits throughout the day

*Wine & cheese reception evenings from 5pm-8 pm

*Complimentary wireless high speed Internet access

*Evening turndown service

*Complimentary passes to nearby New York Sports Club

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For reservations, call Hotel Giraffe at (212)685-7700 or visit www.hotelgiraffe.com

To arrange a press visit, or for more information on Henry Kallan or HKHotels which include the Casablanca Hotel, Library Hotel, Hotel Elysée and Hotel Giraffe, please contact Adele Gutman at adele@hkhoteles.com or 212-201-1153.

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