

Cognoscenti magazine

Because life is short

Hotel d'Angleterre Geneva, Switzerland

Offering its visitors a lovely combination of big-city cosmopolitanism with the sedateness of a medium-sized town, Geneva is a city worth getting to know. The center is compact enough to explore on foot—and the **Hotel d'Angleterre**, beautifully located along Quai du Mont-Blanc, makes a splendid base from which to do so.

With only 45 rooms, Hotel d'Angleterre looks and feels like the boutique hotel it is. “We have a personalized approach here,” Manager Jacques Favre told visiting **Cognoscenti Magazine** editors. “Our rooms are each a little different, and our service is careful and attentive.”

An exotic note was struck in our deluxe category room through the use of African motifs. Bedspread, drapes and wall fabrics were all covered with impressions of antique African postage stamps. The colors—brown, beige, and ivory—were also appropriately safari-like. Furnishings were of high quality, with a reassuring sense of Swiss solidity about them, and the glass-topped desk made a good work area. Thick carpeting and dimmer-adjustable track lights embedded in the high overhead ceiling enhanced the sense of luxury.

Well-fitted double windows made this lake-facing room very quiet in spite of the traffic passing on the

Quai below. Thick down pillows, bathrobes, slippers and evening turndown service completed the pampered effect, while air-conditioning, mini-bar, and mini-safe are standard throughout the hotel. (We also liked the en-suite coffeemaker!) The marble-highlighted bathroom was equipped with dual sinks and a

c o m b i n a t i o n shower/bath and featured the Penhaligon line of toiletries.

Junior suites at this Red Carnation hotel are about 60 square meters in size and offer a meeting alcove and sofa area along with a separate shower and bath. The Presidential

suite, decorated in royal blue, is twice that size. When as many as 3 adjoining bedrooms are opened up to this suite, this already abundant space is enlarged still further.

Guests able to tear themselves away from the seductive delights of the guest rooms long enough to explore the rest of the hotel will find quality touches throughout. The hallways—an area that's often neglected by hotel designers—are here kept delightfully English, with dark green wallpaper and cherry wood paneling. There's a fitness center with Technogym



An exotic note in the luxurious room

equipment as well as a dry sauna, while business travelers will appreciate the two natural-daylight meeting & banquet rooms.

The **Leopard Room** is a very stylish bar, with leather, polished brass, warm golden lighting, and—naturally—plenty of leopard-patterned decorative accents. The menu includes a nice selection of old whiskeys and premium cigars, and live jazz is performed here most evenings.

The hotel's **Windows Restaurant** features forest green décor with browns and beige tones, plenty of mirrors and a row of namesake windows overlooking glittering Lake Geneva. On a busy weekend night, service was a bit perfunctory and rushed.

Cannelloni with leeks, clams and a delicate crab stuffing made a very good cold starter. Roasted venison with green cabbage and juniper was cooked with ginger bread and peppered sauce, the sour puree contributing a nice piquancy. Pan-fried scallops with truffles weren't terribly exciting, but in this dish, too, we liked the heartiness of the seasonal vegetables accompaniments—in this case, potato slices with beetroot vinaigrette. "American" cheesecake and poached pear were followed by a large bowl of crystallized ginger that served as a pleasant (and unusual) wrap to our dining experience.

This article was written by contributing editors to *Cognoscenti Magazine*.

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