

London's Best Suites.....

OVERLOOKING HYDE PARK AND CLOSE TO PRESTIGIOUS shops and the theaters of London's West End, The Dorchester (www.thedorchester.com) boasts luxuriously opulent decor, an exceptionally high level of service, and food and wine offerings that cater to the most discerning diner. The hotel underwent a multi-million pound refurbishment in 2002, with a full renovation of guest rooms and suites, including the addition of a custom-built, high-tech entertainment and business console in each guest room and an impressively advanced telecommunications system.

For those guests looking for a uniquely decadent overnight option, The Dorchester offers three Alexandra Champalimaud-refurbished contemporary Roof Suites, known as such for their lofty position on the top floor of the hotel. The one-bedroom Audley Suite consists of a sitting room, cocktail bar, study, dressing room, en suite master bathroom, and an outside terrace. The living room boasts an original working fireplace flanked by a concealed custom French walnut-paneled wet bar and a high-tech Bang & Olufson flat-screen television. The master bedroom offers a Christian Liaigre-designed modern four poster bed and, off the bedroom, French walnut doors open to reveal a sycamore-paneled dressing room featuring a pumpkin-colored dressing table upholstered in shagreen. This leads into a bathroom with a heated floor of Trani Bronzetto marble, a decadent Tea-For-Two bath, Aquavision TV, and a Big Rain shower. From the large balcony, guests can see right across London to Westminster, the dome of St Paul's, and beyond to Canary Wharf.

For those looking for additional unique features, the one-bedroom Terrace Suite is composed of a master bedroom with an en suite bathroom and dressing room, a dining room, living room, bar, and oversized outdoor terrace, but also offers a bathroom that links directly to the terrace, a master bedroom that extends into a private conservatory, and a high-ceilinged octagonal dressing room. The living room features a working fireplace made of Calacatta Oro marble, and the master bedroom boasts a private wardrobe fully paneled in figured sycamore, and luxurious furnishings such as cut-velvet curtains, crisp natural linen sheets by Frette, and a lacquered chest of drawers made of ebonized oak. The master bathroom features a Kohler Chromatherapy Riverbath tub set in black moonstone, and Privatelite windows in the bathroom can be made either opaque or clear for privacy or views onto the private terrace. The terrace, overlooking Hyde Park towards Knightsbridge, features a Zen stone water feature with Koi Carp, dramatic topiary, and atmospheric lighting in the evening.

The largest of the three rooftop suites is the Harlequin Suite, composed of a master bedroom with an en suite bathroom and dressing room, a dining room that seats eight, living room, bar, and large outside terrace overlooking Hyde Park. The rooms are arranged enfilade with American walnut floors throughout. The living room has chaises upholstered in buttery leather, emerald-parchment clad case pieces, and a bespoke wool and silk rug specially woven in Nepal. Emerald and apple-colored drapes and roman shades dress the master bedroom's window, and the master dressing room is lined in sycamore panels and has ample closet space with two walnut semainiers and an emerald shagreen-upholstered dressing table. The luxurious master bathroom features black Nero Marquina floors with under-floor heating, walls of book-matched white Arabescato Oro marble slabs, white onyx vanities, and a large freestanding bath with polished chrome contemporary tap ware and a state-of-the-art shower toilet by Geberit. The Harlequin Suite is available as a two-bedroom suite.

In addition, the three rooftop suites can be combined to create one of the most luxurious three-bedroom suites in London, an option sure to appeal to the most indulgent of travelers. ●

The Dorchester



The Audley Suite



The Terrace Suite



The Harlequin Suite