

# Paris Best Suites

## The Ritz Paris

LOCATED ON THE ELEGANT PLACE VENDÔME, between the Opera House and the Louvre, the Ritz Paris offers guests 159 elegantly appointed rooms and suites, including junior suites, suites with one or two bedrooms, suites with hammam and Jacuzzi, and six prestige apartments. The hotel also boasts six banquet salons for private receptions, is the only palace that holds a cooking school, and offers guests a 16,000-square-foot spa and pool in a sumptuous roman bath decor.

Guests looking for the best the property has to offer can choose from one of two distinctive suites.

For those with an appreciation for the history of fashion, the Coco Chanel Suite is a tribute to Mademoiselle Chanel, who lived at the Ritz Paris for more than 35 years and who declared it her home. The apartment accentuates the luxurious comfort that was so essential to Mademoiselle. The 1,670-square-foot Coco Chanel Suite consists of two bedrooms and a living room. Coromandel lacquer, rock crystal, grand mirrors,, and oversized

sofas stitched with Chanel's signature quilting share space with original objects and different styles, Chinese furniture, and baroque mirrors, mixed with more modern pieces. The suite is equipped with the most sophisticated technology including fax, Jacuzzi, steam-bath shower, and ultra-modern walk-in closets.

Guests seeking the ultimate indulgence can request the Imperial Suite, the most expensive and most in-demand suite at the Ritz. Having welcomed prominent guests from the Shah of Iran to George Bush Sr., it is comprised of two spacious bedrooms, an elegant salon, and a dining room. Situated on the first floor of the property, the suite offers breathtaking views of the Place Vendôme, and is restored in the grand tradition of French decorative arts. The suite boasts six meter high ceilings, bas-reliefs and paneling from the era that has been classed as Historic Monuments, splendid marble fireplaces, huge mirrors in carved gilded wood frames, and monumental sculpted doors.

One of the bedrooms is the replica of Marie Antoinette's bedroom in Versailles, and the other is equally in the style of Louis XVI, with baldaquin bed and columns. The bathroom, which has been installed in a former boudoir decorated with well-crafted 18th century paneling, is equipped with a Jacuzzi bath and a steam-bath shower, and overlooks the Vendôme garden. The main salon, classed Historic Monuments for its splendid 18th Century Pompeii style bas-relief, incarnates great French taste and is majestic and warm, and a perfect place for hosting dinners.

The Imperial Suite links tradition and modern convenience offering plasma televisions in-laid in the chimney, a DVD player, high-speed Internet, and fax, as well as a kitchenette near the salon, a cosmetics fridge in the bathroom, and a small personal wine cellar filled with a selection of the finest French wines.

Discerning travelers to France need look no further than the Ritz Paris to fulfill their every need. ●



Imperial Suite's salon (left) and bedroom (above); Coco Chanel Suite (top right); Place Vendôme viewed from the Imperial Suite bedroom (center)