

Hotel Review: Maison Albar Paris Céline, France

By Lyndsey Steven - May 30, 2017



MAISON ALBAR

Boutique hotels are so du jour. At this newly opened nugget, you're also strategically positioned for your haute couture fix

The epitome of Parisian panache, **Maison Albar Hotel Paris Céline** is the first in the Maison Albar hotel brand.

Located in Rue du Pont-neuf, in the first arrondissement, the property strikes the perfect balance between classical and contemporary, with an intimate atmosphere and idiosyncratic style.

Maison Albar, the brainchild of Céline Falco, is a new group of high-end boutique hotels. Mademoiselle Falco is part of the Albar family, which has spent 94 years in the hospitality industry, so it's safe to say she comes with a perfect pedigree. The hotels themselves might be bijoux, but plans for the group are big, with two other properties, Maison Albar Hotel Paris Champs-lysées and Maison Albar Hotel Paris Opéra Diamond, opening soon.

The name of this first hotel was selected due to its salubrious location, once the headquarters of leading luxury fashion brand, Céline. Its link to the world of haute couture remains strong, with several of the city's most sought-after boutiques a mere meander away on Rue de Rivoli – *bonjour*, Saint Laurent and Philipp Plein.

Art deco aficionados will adore the 1920s-inspired interiors of Maison Albar Hotel Paris Céline. The rooms – of which there are 60 – are done up in velvet, wood, leather and brass, but while the effect is sumptuous, it is also light, bright and modern thanks to cooling white and dove-blue tones. The expertly crafted marble in the bathrooms is *de rigueur*, as are all the (very) mod cons.

Cuisine at the hotel is in the capable hands of the Rostang family, which is running the show at Odette, the family's seventh restaurant in the capital.

With the emphasis on market-fresh food – using only seasonal, local produce – in a relaxed setting, here you can tuck in to wholesome dishes such as wild roasted duck with juniper berries, or a smoked anchovy pasta.

While on the subject of indulgences, you most definitely deserve to be pampered at the Céline Spa by Cinq Mondes. With a menu featuring beauty rituals from all over the globe, we highly recommend the Lifting and Plumping Face Massage treatment, inspired by the Japanese *Ko Bi* method of deep manipulation, for smoother, fuller skin. You're in Paris after all, so you need to look your naturally beautiful best.

Be sure to take advantage of all the facilities; these include an indoor pool (with a skylight overhead for swimming in natural light), a whirlpool bath to pummel you with jets, a hammam, a sensory shower and a fitness centre.

Rooms all overlook a pretty internal courtyard. Apart from our favourite, that is, room 1923, which has 180-degree views of the city – a perfect place to enjoy an aperitif *cinq à sept*, that time of the day when the golden rays of light streak the pavement just before the sun goes down.

Rooms from AED 1,338; 0033 144 889 260; [maison-albar-hotel-paris-celine.com](http://www.maison-albar-hotel-paris-celine.com) (<http://www.maison-albar-hotel-paris-celine.com/>)

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