



THE ART LOVER'S GUIDE TO  
**PARIS**

RUBY BOUKABOU

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## HOTELS

Hotels are making a comeback in Paris as fancy places to meet for a hot beverage or a cocktail. You'll find both the classic and luxurious, where you can sit back with an out-of-this-world hot chocolate (it may cost a fortune, but the experience is worth it) and the newer chic establishments that are vibrant with inventive contemporary design. Some even boast their own art concierge.

### DRAWING HOTEL

17 rue de Richelieu, 75001

+33 (0)1 73 62 11 11

[www.drawinghotel.com](http://www.drawinghotel.com)

A concept hotel by Carine Tissot, director of the Drawing Now art fair, in collaboration with NIDO architects, the Drawing Hotel offers forty-eight rooms that celebrate contemporary design with six designers given carte blanche – Lek & Sowat, Abdelkader Benchamma, Clément Bagot, Françoise Pétrovitch and Thomas Broomé. The results are intriguing. There is an Art Concierge for hotel clients for the latest on exhibitions and so forth and the D bar, open to all, has a lovely modern-chic style good for long afternoon teas or early evening cocktails.

### THE RITZ

15 place Vendôme, 75001

+33 (0)1 43 16 30 30

<https://ritzparis.com/en>

Opened in 1898 by César Ritz, this French luxury hotel has remained the epitome of elegant French style and was once



▲ *The Ritz.* Vincent Leroux

haunt of Coco Chanel, Audrey Hepburn, Marcel Proust and Ernest Hemingway. Marble, gilding, oak woodwork, wrought iron and delicate silks are part of the fine materials used in the princely frameworks.

Warhol, Yves Saint Laurent, Bono, Prince, David Bowie and Mick Jagger all partied here).

Today it has kept the majestic Haussmannian facade but inside, since 2010, is an exquisite thirty-nine room boutique hotel, restaurant, bar and club thanks to French hotelier and filmmaker Jean-Pierre Marois (whose father bought the establishment in the 60s).

The spacious design, from architect Vincent Bastie and interior designers Tristan Auer and Denis Montel, weaves antique and contemporary elements including a Salon Chinois, dimly lit rock-star corridors (with floral motif carpet inspired by Serge Gainsbourg's bathroom as seen in photos), a sound-proofed private dining room in the old reservoir and bright, beachy, chic rooms with cool, retro dial-up phones, balconies and hammams.

▼ *Hotel National.*

Have a drink on the patio to check out works of artists who were once in residence, including graffiti artists Futura and Space Invader and a jade sculpture in wood by Sambre (Sylvain Ristori).

### **HOTEL NATIONAL**

243 rue Saint-Martin, 75003

+33 (0)1 80 97 22 80

[www.hotelnational.paris/en/](http://www.hotelnational.paris/en/)

The Haussmannian facade gives grandeur to this beautiful design hotel in the Marais signed Raphael Navot. The Italian Trattoria restaurant lies under a glass atrium, a refreshingly leafy L'Herbarium bar and terrace offers innovative and divine cocktails and the rooms are made to measure contemporary design where everything is exceptionally pleasant on the eye. Italian influences abound.

