



GRAND HOTEL NATIONAL LUZERN

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PRESSE - GRAND HOTEL NATIONAL LUCERNE

5-STAR HOTEL WITH A LONG-ESTABLISHED TRADITION OF HOSPITALITY

Situated adjacent to the promenade bordering Lake Lucerne, the GRAND HOTEL NATIONAL dates from 1870 and was Lucerne's first palatial Renaissance-style hotel. For almost 150 years this renowned establishment has been welcoming an international clientele travelling to Central Switzerland on business or for pleasure.

Just ten minutes' walk from the railway station and the Old Town, the 5-star GRAND HOTEL NATIONAL is one of a select number of high-class establishments offering a blend of historical architecture and fresh, contemporary comfort. A point has been made to keep the 41 rooms and suites in the east wing in the Empire style: hand-woven Stockwell floor coverings, silk tapestries and Italian marble floors in the bathrooms take the guests back to the era of Napoleon – an epoch characterised by historicity and ornamentation. The pool floor provides an outdoor terrace, a sauna, a solarium, a swimming pool and a range of wellness services

Famous founders

Festive events are held in the two large function rooms, the Ritz and the Escoffier. Also ideally suited to hosting major business events, they call to mind the splendour of the Belle Epoque at the time of the hotel's founders: hotelier César Ritz – who went on to establish the first Ritz Hotel in Paris – hailed from Switzerland's Canton Valais and took on the management of the GRAND HOTEL NATIONAL in 1877. At the same time, French master chef Auguste Escoffier was brought on board to complete the stellar line-up. Both achieved worldwide fame in the hospitality sector and beyond.

Choice of business venues

The hotel's seminar rooms offer a wealth of daylight and an extensive conferencing infrastructure; the setting is contemporary and conducive to focused work: events involving between 8 and 30 attendees are accommodated in the five business rooms Harlekin, Marmara, Atlantik, Pazifik and Méditerranée, which offer space for concentration combined with a high standard of hospitality.

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Grand Hotel National AG, Haldenstrasse 4, 6006 Luzern, Switzerland, T +41 41 419 09 09, F +41 41 419 09 10
info@grandhotel-national.com, www.grandhotel-national.com

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GRAND HOTEL NATIONAL LUZERN

Cuisine for a range of tastes

From its earliest days the GRAND HOTEL NATIONAL has set great store by the variety of its cuisine and the excellence of its views – witness its many fine restaurants – all popular meeting places – and its Lake Terrace. The National is the recipient of 15 Gault-Millau points. Keen to establish his credentials in succession to Frenchman Auguste Escoffier, the Executive Chef is highly creative in his interpretation of traditional and local dishes. The Padrino is popular with businesspeople enjoying Italian specialities served in a Mediterranean ambience. The Thai Lotus can seat 50 and specialises in authentic Royal Thai cuisine. Known for its malt whiskies, the National Bar exudes turn-of-the-century charm and is arguably the pleasantest bar in Lucerne.

Panoramic appeal

The warm weather finds guests and tourists enjoying the Lake Terrace, which seats 100 and provides magnificent views of the lake and alpine panorama. By contrast, the Café César is in the style of a French bistro. Here, gastronome Walter Gisler serves coffee, tea and artisan cakes, and much of what he sells can be taken out. The 1871 is known for its light, seasonal menus and seats 70. In terms of style the restaurant is a reminder of how things were during the era of the founders.

Excellent connections

The GRAND HOTEL NATIONAL is a member of Worldhotels (Deluxe category) and is easy to reach from abroad, being just 45 minutes' drive from Zurich International Airport: direct flights arrive here daily from all major international destinations. Switzerland's main urban centres and tourist destinations are also no distance at all, summer or winter.

The Lucerne experience

The GRAND HOTEL NATIONAL benefits greatly from its setting in Lucerne and the Lake Lucerne Region: visitors are attracted by places of worldwide interest, the KKL culture and congress centre and an array of music festivals. As an ideal setting-off point for tours in the mountains and cruises on the lake, Lucerne serves to enhance the hotel's appeal. In its guise as historical microcosm, the hotel opens the door to a pulsating world, thereby intensifying its appeal.



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The GRAND HOTEL NATIONAL at a glance

- Built in 1870 in the Renaissance style as Lucerne's first palatial hotel
- 5-star superior hotel; member of Worldhotels (Deluxe category)
- Historical establishment on the shores of Lake Lucerne with alpine panorama
- 41 rooms and suites in the Empire style
- Pool floor with outdoor terrace, sauna, solarium, relaxation and treatments
- Spacious gym with swimming pool and wellness areas opposite the hotel
- 2 function rooms – Ritz and Escoffier, named after the founders – for up to 230 guests
- 5 seminar rooms with modern infrastructure each seating 8 to 30 attendees
- 4 restaurants serving a range of cuisines, including French, Italian and Thai
- Lake Terrace on the lakeside promenade; seats 100
- Café César bistro for artisan cakes and take-away delicacies
- National Bar with snacks, whiskies and live piano
- 10 minutes' walk from the station, Lake Lucerne landing stages, KKL culture and congress centre and Old Town
- Excellent communications: direct link to the motorway network for Bern, Basel, Zurich, Geneva; Zurich International Airport is just 45 minutes' drive
- Stimulating urban context with shopping, restaurants, street markets, party boats, night life

Press officer

Philipp Lorentsen

Sales Executive

Haldenstrasse 4

CH-6006 Luzern

T +41 41 419 09 09 F +41 41 419 09 10

E-Mail: marketing@grandhotel-national.com