

PORTRAIT

## THE SWISS CAPITAL LEADING HOTEL

**For over 160 years, the Hotel Schweizerhof Bern & THE SPA has been the leading hotel in Switzerland's capital city, attracting a demanding clientele of business and event visitors, and guests from Bern itself. Situated in Bern's most central location near the train station, the five-star superior hotel blends classical grand tradition with contemporary flair, elegant design and world-class service. Today the Hotel Schweizerhof Bern & THE SPA comprises 99 stylish rooms and suites, the 800m<sup>2</sup> Bel Etage including the Salon Trianon, a legendary ballroom appropriate for events of all kinds, Jack's Brasserie with its 14 Gault-Millau points, the modern Lobby Lounge Bar, a sophisticated Cigar Lounge, THE SPA with its 500m<sup>2</sup> of luxurious wellness facilities, and the unique Sky Terrace.**

The overall ambience of the five-star superior hotel is an interplay between modern design and classical elements from the hotel's 160-year history. The 99 rooms and suites welcome guests with a mix of French charm and English understatement. Lighting from classic restored chandeliers imparts a harmonious atmosphere whilst the luxurious bathrooms, with their rain showers and Japanese bathtubs, are small wellness worlds in themselves. In the remaining areas of the room, the dominant taupe colour and elegant herringbone oak floors combine to create a warm and inviting ambience. For the interior design, the well-known designer Maria Vafiadis and her London-based agency "MKV Design" were commissioned. Their challenge was to create a contemporary luxury hotel worthy of its past grandeur.

Throughout the hotel, guests can encounter reproductions of some of the greatest works of artistic genius Paul Klee (a son of Bern himself). Combined with the other modern design elements of the hotel, they underscore the continental *grandezza*, timeless elegance and cosmopolitanism of this five-star superior hotel. Elizabeth Taylor, Peter Ustinov, Ursula Andress, Grace Kelly and Albert Schweitzer are just some of the many fascinating personalities who have been guests at the Hotel Schweizerhof Bern and enjoyed the richness of its tradition and hospitality.

### A "SLOW DOWN" STAY AT BERN'S MOST CENTRAL LOCATION

The hotel is part of the global alliance of luxury hotels "The Leading Hotels of the World" as well as the "Swiss Deluxe Hotels", the association of Switzerland's leading five-star hotels. It is located just opposite the railway station at the edge of Bern's charming Old Town, which has been named by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. In the heart of Switzerland and Europe, Bern is an ideal location for business events, and at the same time the setting for a relaxing, culturally enriching visit, too. The basement of the hotel, where once Bern's night owls



gathered at the Schweizerhof's old jazz club "Jaylin's", is now home to THE SPA, 500m<sup>2</sup> of unsurpassed luxury. Here, too, thanks to the choice of fine natural materials such as oak and dark stone, as well as modern touches like the subtle metallic wall-coverings, an atmosphere is created which is at once very modern and urban, yet very warm and inviting. Guests are welcomed into a world that is completely detached from Bern's hectic railway station, just outside. The harmonious ambience of THE SPA is the perfect setting for its state-of-the-art facilities, including an indulgence pool with bubble beds and massage jets, a Turkish bath, Finnish sauna, experience showers, relaxation room with water beds, and treatment and fitness rooms. A variety of different kinds of massage and beauty treatments are on the 'spa menu', delivered by a trained team of in-house specialists who rely on the products and treatments of the renowned cosmetics brands "PHARMOS NATUR" and "NIANCE Switzerland". For overnight guests of the hotel, admission to THE SPA (open 365 days) is free of charge.

#### **A CULINARY JOURNEY AROUND THE GLOBE**

Personal first-class service can also be found in the hotel's gastronomic offer. Whether classic brasserie fare, Mediterranean delicacies or Ramen noodles, the Hotel Schweizerhof Bern & THE SPA can take its guests on a culinary journey around the world. The main restaurant of the hotel is Jack's Brasserie, which has been awarded 14 points by Gault-Millau. In typical fin-de-siècle atmosphere, it serves market-fresh French brasserie cuisine and the great Schweizerhof classics such as Jack's Wienerschnitzel. Jack's brought home in 2018 another "Best of Award of Excellence", conferred for the seventh year in a row by the internationally known specialist magazine Wine Spectator. Gault-Millau 2015 has announced that Jack's also deserves a laurel for its excellent wine selection, recognising it as the "Best Swiss Wine List".

The Lobby-Lounge-Bar is the meeting place for hotel guests and visitors from outside the hotel – whether it's for coffee, a business lunch, bowls by Schweizerhof Bern, afternoon tea (served from early October to the end of March), or after-work-cocktails.

The Sky Terrace, the hotel's roof terrace, is an especially hot tip, with its 360-degree panoramic views over the rooftops of the capital and its mountain backdrop. During the cooler seasons, the elegant Cigar Lounge offers a choice of drinks and food as in the adjacent Lobby-Lounge-Bar. Cigar lovers can enjoy a wide range of high quality cigars from different provenances. All four outlets are also open to the public and visitors to Bern.

#### **800M<sup>2</sup> OF EVENT AND MEETING SPACE ON THE BEL ETAGE**

Both work and pleasure are the creative forces of the Bel Etage. At 800m<sup>2</sup>, the five-star-superior hotel in Bern's most central location offers 11 rooms ideal for a variety of occasions – meetings, seminars or banquets. The jewel in the crown is the 350m<sup>2</sup> Salon Trianon, a heritage-listed ballroom featuring impressive stucco ceilings, imposing marble pillars, and beautiful facsimiles of the salon's original chandeliers. Together with the three salons I to III, it lends a unique atmosphere to festivities, meetings and conferences. Equipped to meet the most cutting-edge requirements of a contemporary workplace, the meeting rooms and the private office provide individual, tailored solutions.



### **HOTEL SCHWEIZERHOF BERN & THE SPA**

The Hotel Schweizerhof Bern & THE SPA is part of the Bürgenstock Selection headquartered in Zug, Switzerland. The house offers 99 rooms and suites, an 800 m<sup>2</sup> conference centre with 11 halls and rooms, including the legendary “Trianon” ballroom, the Jack’s Brasserie restaurant, which has been awarded 14 Gault Millau points, a cigar lounge, a 500 m<sup>2</sup> spa and an unparalleled sky terrace. The company portfolio includes the Hotel Schweizerhof Bern & THE SPA, the Royal Savoy Hotel & Spa Lausanne (196 rooms) and the Bürgenstock Resort Lake Lucerne set to open in August 2017 (383 rooms). The total investment volume of the Bürgenstock Selection is one billion Swiss francs.

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