

HOTELS

Madrid's New Royal Suite

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No, Westin Palace Madrid's Royal Suite has an oval-shaped sitting room that overlooks the Neptune Fountain and the Paseo del Prado.

The Westin Palace has been a luxury icon in Madrid since its historic debut, in 1912, as the first hotel with en-suite bathrooms and in-room telephones. The recent launch of its redecorated Royal Suite, a more than 1,700-square-foot space on the fourth floor, is part of a renovation project of all 419 rooms and 51 suites, which is more than two-thirds completed.

Distinguished guests enter the one-bedroom suite from the ultra-wide corridor into a large marble entry foyer, which leads to a unique, oval-shaped sitting room that overlooks the Neptune Fountain and the prestigious Paseo del Prado. As part of the entertaining space, there's a grand dining room / board room with a table and striking chairs, plus a video conferencing system with a 50-inch screen that can be accessed or hidden, at will. The library boasts a sculptural armoire that opens to an outfitted bar unit. And, the oversized master bedroom enjoys the view and features a bathroom in regal black and gold. Connecting bedrooms and a chef's kitchen complete the suite.



In fact, part of the package that German Jimenez, the hotel's lifestyle expert and experience creator, has designed for Royal Suite guests includes a sumptuous en-suite meal prepared by executive chef José Luque. Jimenez curated a special 48-hour experiential package called "Iconic Madrid." Royal Suite guests receive daily breakfasts, a private personal trainer and an "Ava and Hemingway" night out (after a massage, makeup and hair session). Even better, guests of the Royal Suite can travel from European capitals to Madrid aboard a private Falcon 2000LX or similar aircraft via Gestair, a prestigious airline; be chauffeured in a Mercedes Benz Maybach limousine; enjoy a private visit with an expert guide to Museo del Prado or Reina Sofia to see Picasso's "Guernica;" take advantage of private visits to exclusive boutiques with a personal shopper and lunch at a Michelin two-star restaurant.

As for design, Areen Hospitality, a London-based design studio, restored the original marble and handcrafted wood work and added an elegant, albeit contemporary, ambiance. Furnishings are rounded, lighting is natural and the color palette is neutral, enhanced by splashes of color on chairs, on paintings, in whimsical chandeliers and on a few fabrics. Each print reflects the culture of the city or the flora and fauna in neighboring Retiro Park. If you're sending an A-list client who requires special attention during their stay, contact sales director Sophie Clauzé (Sophie.clauze@marriott.com).