



# LES HARAS HOTEL FOCUSES ON WELLNESS

The old royal stable's of Strasbourg is a treasure of architectural that has been a beacon of the city's culture for the past five years. On the edge of the historic quarter of La Petite France, Les Haras de Strasbourg offers a unique mix of quiet, comfort and innovation with one hectare of grounds. Behind the classical facades, design and gastronomy reach bold heights. Diners flock to the Brasserie headed by two-Michelin starred Chef Marc Haerbelin. The four-star hotel sees guests hailing from 120 countries around the world.

The interior design by Patrick Jouin and Sanjit Manku is an integral part of this success. Their project brings the classified heritage building into the new century. It tames unusually vast spaces through grand architectural statements and cultivates excellence in the smallest of details.

The only thing missing for Les Haras to have been an all-round luxury destination was a spa. A spa has now been created in a new building across the street, where 60 rooms were also added, along with three meeting rooms which open onto a large patio. At the helm of this project is the dynamic duo Jouin Manku, who have planned their entire concept around the roots of wellness, inspired by ancient medical practices and spirituality. The project goes far beyond hospitality, as it forms part of a vast philanthropic programme initiated by IRCAD (Research Institute against Digestive Cancer).



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# A SENSITIVE APPROACH TO INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE

For this new undertaking, the interior design firm Jouin Manku subtly adjusted its language to the history of the building and the prominent location of the Spa. Within the walls of a former clinic, once run by Sisters of the Reformed Community of Diaconesses, the idea of care came as a self-evident choice. "This is a notion that particularly appeals to both of us, because it is an integral aspect of our practice of interior and product design. And this project called for us to be especially attentive to the physical and emotional experience of the guests," the designers explain.

Their work with space and light achieves a sense of quiet. Their choice of materials and claddings engage the senses. Visual references to Chinese medicine and herbal therapy spur the imagination. As guests step into the corridor that connects the original building with the spa, the architecture becomes enveloping, as if to prepare the body for the coming treatment experience.



# A NEW BUILDING EXPANDS INTO THE CITY

Les Haras offers an experience that spans three centuries of history, which reaches into the present. It also provides a chance to escape from the bustling city centre to a haven of serene luxury. But how could the establishment grow without disturbing this tenuous order? The conundrum was solved by the addition of new historic building which achieves a surprising sense of unity with the rest of the existing hotel across the street.

Finding a suitable connection between the two institutions to make one cohesive project was the first major challenge to tackle. In an unexpected turn of events it was the history of the site that supplied in the fix. Originally when built, the building of the to the 19th century building, which now houses the extension. The passage was rehabilitated in this renovation to connect the two properties and provide direct access to the spa, the meeting rooms and the new guest rooms from the front desk of the Haras hotel. A seamless transition for an uninterrupted experience.





## A SPACTACULAR EXPERIENCE

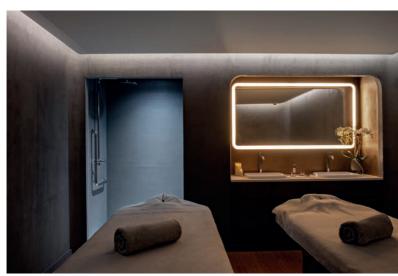
The Spa experience at Les Haras is a sensory journey. The décor illustrates the designers' work on the relationship between body and architecture — or how architecture can wrap around the exposed body to shield it from the outside. The underground passage contributes to this idea of crossing over to a place where guests can finally let go and relax.

In the hall and inside the changing rooms, the play between materials and light creates a cocoon. The oak warmth. The silver sparkle of mosaic tiles announces the aquatic realm that lies ahead. And the Corian® basins display supple asethically pleasing lines. Suddenly, the pool comes into focus as the pivotal element of the scene. A dramatic reveal like a flower in bloom. Perceptions are challenged. The 18-metre lap pool is slowly exposed to view. Daylight trickles in from an indentation carved into the garden, like a sandstone cave in the Vosges Mountains. Here, Corian® structures take on monumental proportions. Perched along the edge of the water like a towering ice cap. Inside the structures, three meticulously designed cavities respectively house an experiential shower, a Turkish bath and a sauna.

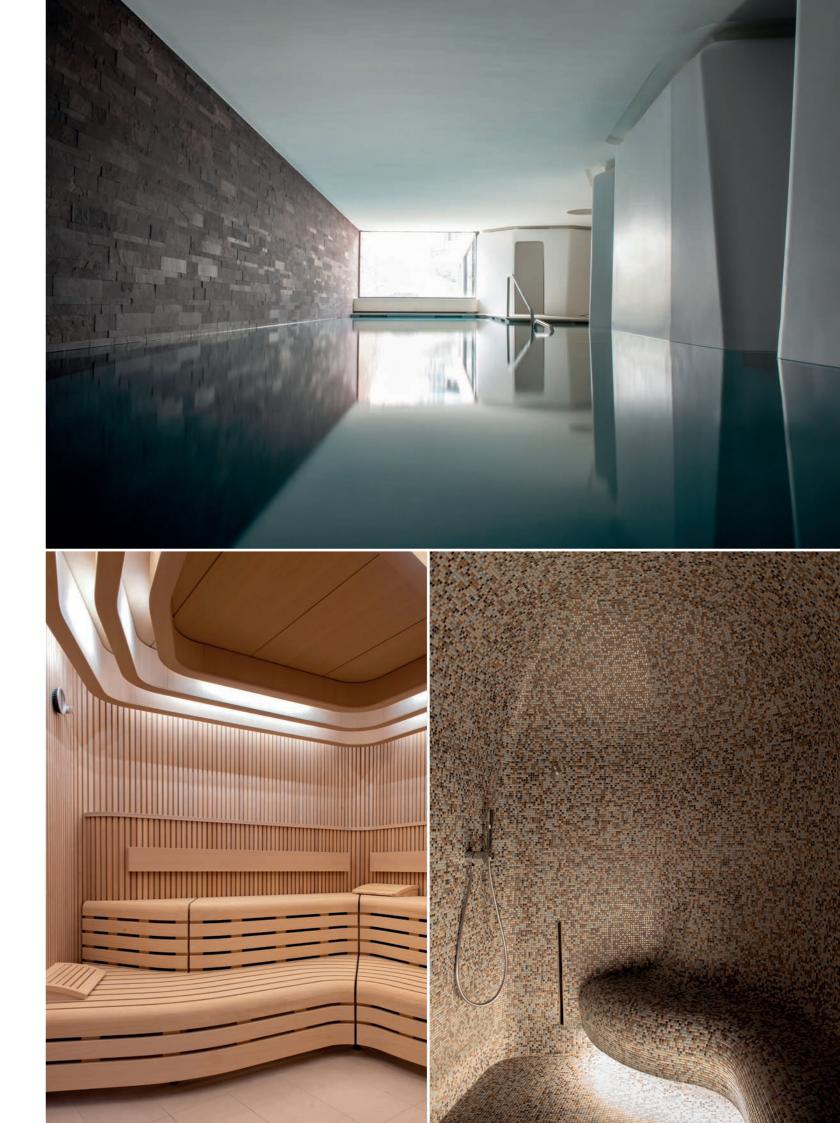
n a separate space, the resting room looks out onto the garden through a wide full-length window. The décor suggests tranquility — the perfect setting for a cup of herbal tea.

The workout room features state-of-the-art equipment.

The establishment provides the most comprehensive and exclusive wellness offering in Strasbourg.



The three treatment rooms (two singles, one double) were entrusted to the expertise of the famed French beauty brand Nuxe, with an offering of treatments specifically developed for Les Haras Hotel.







# 60 NEW ROOMS, EXPANDING A DREAM WORLD

For the guest rooms, Patrick Jouin and Sanjit Manku walk a tight line between rupture and continuity. From the original hotel, they borrowed a range of natural materials — wood, leather, linen and cotton cloth. They also use saddle stitch accents as a common thread throughout the project and found a way to recreate the reassuring effect of the curved headboards. Meanwhile, the furniture has been subtly reimagined.

Accustomed to hotel rooms, the two designers felt comfortable challenging expectations. The TV loses its prominent position to the possibility of conversation. Rather than hanging opposite the bed, it is relegated to the side, leaving room for a cosy sofa bench suggestive of a living room set. The desk is incorporated into the composition, blurring the lines between furniture and architecture. An ottoman and a side table — both

movable and versatile — complete the setting like two pieces on a chess board.

The only historically inspired feature is the light shade, whose folds mimic the headpiece worn by Sisters of the Community of Diaconesses. This historical evocation is written onto the blank page of a design that is not assertive, but open to anyone's interpretation. For Patrick Jouin and Sanjit Manku, "the point was to leave room for the subjective world that every guest brings along with him- or herself."

This pursuit of the essential is reflected by the ascetic simplicity of lines and forms. It also suffuses the elegance of the whole composition, offering guests the luxury of a moment to themselves, suspended in time — a priceless invitation to dream and repose. The bathroom displays the same pared-down décor designed as a bamboo- panelled cabin, with a distant echo of the Japanese onsen culture.

The concept is to adapt to the architecture each of the 60 new rooms distributed over four floors is different. On the top floor, the décor is gorgeously complemented by exposed beams of the roof structure and commanding views of the hotel's courtyard across the street.

The project was an opportunity for the hotel to add suites to its offering and the adjoining rooms now also provide spacious accommodation for families of up to five



## GALLERY MEETINGS, 130 METRES FACING THE GARDEN

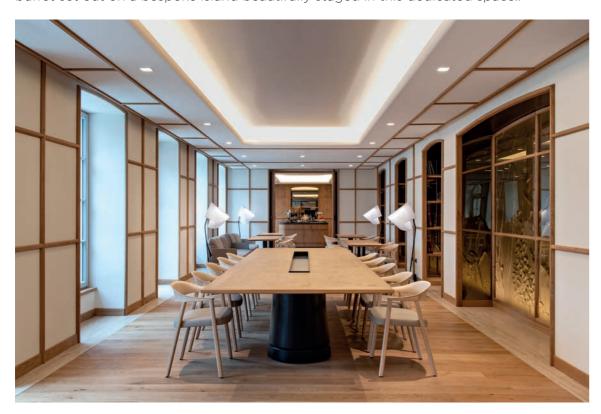
The ground floor of the new building houses a number of areas ideally suited to hold exclusive events.

A separate entrance and lobby serve the various areas, each with direct access to a broad and planted patio. Punctuated by wide full-length windows, the rooms are flooded with natural light.

#### **The Breakfast Room**

The most spectacular of the existing spaces among them was made converted into a breakfast room and lounge for guests. The space room is versatile enough to accommodate a variety of uses. A communal table stands in the centre, perfect for large parties, and sofas provide comfortable seating for reading a magazine. At the back of the room, opposite the full-length windows, the wood trimming is regularly interrupted by bookcases exposing a spectacular low-relief background by sculptor Pierre-Louis Dietschy. The carvings represent commonly used medicinal plants. Red clovers valued by Chinese medicine, speedwell flowers with their antiseptic properties and bunches of wisteria, known for its sleep-enhancing properties, all thrive on this vast botanical scene, brought to life by light and reflections off the one-way mirror panels.

At the far end of the room, a pair of partition doors swing open to reveal the breakfast buffet set out on a bespoke island beautifully staged in this dedicated space..



#### **Private Meeting Rooms**

On the other end of the building, three connecting meeting rooms are arranged along the facade opening onto the patio. Clad with contemporary wood panelling on one side, they share the same warm and elegant décor. Between each room, sliding partitions allow for the space to be reconfigured. The rooms can be used to host seminars, meetings, conferences or other private events for up to 100 participants.





# HOSPITALITY AT THE CORE OF A VAST PHILANTHROPIC PROJECT: LOOKING BACK AT AN EXCEPTIONAL PROJECT

Les Haras de Strasbourg is an unconventional figure in the world of hospitality. Nestled in a historical setting, the establishment spotlights various fields of French excellence :

#### gastronomy, hospitality and research.

This combination is the result of an outstanding rehabilitation proposal that delivered a unique solution to a problem many smaller French cities face — finding ways to highlight and ensure on going life in their architectural heritage.





The vision for this project came from **Professor Jacques Marescaux**, President of IRCAD, who was able to bring out the full potential of the unique site located between the University Hospital, home to IRCAD's headquarters, and the historical quarter of La Petite France.

"Every year, more than 6,200 surgeons hailing from 120 countries come here to receive trainings on advanced non-invasive surgery technologies involving 3D imagery. We needed a place for them to stay, as well as a more casual setting for our events. Les Haras is a rare jewel, a protected site covering more than one hectare of land. It was the perfect setting to build a home for the IRCAD Family and to give our partners a taste of the French dream. The stunning beauty of the property and the virtuosity of chef Marc Haerbelin, combined with Patrick Jouin and Sanjit Manku's talent, and **Jean-Pascal Scharf**'s expertise in hospitality management are the foundations of the establishment's success, not just with our community, but with tourists and the local population as well."

As **Médéric Brendel**, Operations Manager at the hotel, explains: "Les Haras provides a much-needed respite in the heart of the city." A quiet environment also conducive to innovation for a number of start-up businesses IRCAD supports through a biocluster housed in the former riding hall.

For **Patrick François**, Director for the Grand Est Region at Banque des Territoires: "This is a powerful and comprehensive ecosystem that formed around a historical object." A source of pride for this early partner, who praises "a rare and clever continuum that includes a research complex, advanced training equipment and the capacity to accommodate surgeons and partners from all over the world in the best possible conditions." The necessity to grow was the result of this success.



# CHRONICLE AT THE NATIONAL STUD FARM OF STRASBOURG

#### 1621

An equestrian centre is established to train young, affluent French and German students attending the University of Strasbourg.

#### 1752

The centre is converted into a city-owned horse riding academy. The great covered riding hall, the old stables and the living quarters are built based on designs by Jacques Gallay.

#### 1756

Following demands made by the Marquis d'Argenson, then administrator of the Royal Stud Farm, the institution relocates to the site.

#### 2005

The last horses of the stud farm left the site.

#### 2010

IRCAD begins restoration works with the backing of the French Ministry of Culture and under the supervision of the Regional Directorate for Cultural Affairs, the local architect in charge of Listed Buildings and the Regional Conservator of Historic Monuments.





#### 2015

The site is renovated by the architecture firm Denu & Paradon. The interior design is entrusted to the design firm Jouin Manku. Their concept "turned the property into a haven of modernity and refinement, without imitating Classical interiors or compromising on the historical legacy of the premises."

Jouin Manku is commissioned to create the design for the Brasserie headed by Michelin-starred chef Marc Haeberlin and established in the former Great Royal Stables. The two designers are also involved in the renovation of Hotel Les Haras, managed by Jean-Pascal Scharf and his team. Additionally, the project includes a bio-cluster: an incubator for biotechnology businesses housed and supported by IRCAD, which uses proceeds from the site's hospitality activities to fund part of their research.

#### 2021

Jouin Manku designs the extension for Hotel Les Haras. A Spa, several meeting rooms and 60 new rooms are created inside a 19th-century building just across the street from the old site of the Royal Stud Farm. The main challenge the two designers faced was to maintain a sense of unity going from one building to another. Their solution was to rehabilitate an old, abandoned tunnel linking the two buildings, and develop a concept of continuity and rupture. Ultimately, the new project took on a character of its own, paying tribute to the soul of the existing premises and remaining faithful to the spirit of Hotel Les Haras.

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#### **IRCAD**

In 1994, IRCAD was built on the grounds of the Strasbourg University Hospital under the responsibility of Professor Jacques Marescaux and his team.

IRCAD is a training centre that receives every year more than 6,200 surgeons from all over the world to help them improve their skills in minimally invasive surgical techniques. The Institute is a prestigious hub of scientific excellence, equipped with the latest audiovisual technology and high-definition videoconferencing systems. Its success worldwide has led to the creation of sister Institutes in Taiwan (Asia), São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), Beirut (Lebanon), Rwanda (Africa) and Wuxi (China) soon.

The institute also has partnerships with fundamental research laboratories exploring treatments for cancers of the digestive tract, as well as R&D units specialising in IT and robotics that design and develop solutions for diagnostics, planning and surgery simulation to make surgeries safer and more efficient. The institute will soon inaugurate IRCAD 3, a new building entirely dedicated to research and training in robotic surgery.



#### BANQUE DES TERRITOIRES

Established in 2018, Banque des Territoires is one of the five business lines of Caisse des Dépôts. It brings together in a single entity all of the organisation's services targeted at French territories. As a single client gateway, it offers tailor-made advisory and financing solutions in loans and investments in order to meet the needs of local authorities, social housing organisations, local public companies and legal professionals. It provides services in all territories, including rural and metropolitan areas, with the aim of tackling social inequalities and territorial divisions. Banque des Territoires is deployed in the 16 regional divisions and 35 territorial offices of Caisse des Dépôts, promoting local awareness of its services and facilitating client relationship.



#### SOGEHO

Sogeho is a leading hospitality business in Strasbourg, bringing together several affiliated hotels in Alsace, each with three to five stars. Since 2002, the family-owned business has successfully grown, driven by their passion for hospitality. Innovation, excellence and sharing are values integral to the identity of the group and its hotels. Each establishment has a distinct heritage, a distinct world and a distinct promise. Today, Sogeho is in charge of management, sales, marketing and development for 9 hotels and 3 restaurants in Strasbourg and Colmar.



#### AGENCE JOUIN MANKU

Dreamers, explorers, inventors... designers, architects. Patrick Jouin and Sanjit Manku see each new project as an adventure, an opportunity to push themselves to create spaces that are inspiring, refined and always unique. Founded in Paris in 2006, Jouin Manku flawlessly merges architecture, interior design and product design. For every new project it undertakes, the duo designs and stages every element, crafting remarkable and immersive interiors to transform ordinary life into extraordinary moments. The studio has created the décor of several high-profile restaurants around the world for renowned chefs like Alain Ducasse, as well as exhibition displays and inspiring boutiques including Van Cleef & Arpels. The duo is currently working on the redevelopment of the Paris Montparnasse train station, the revamp of the dining areas at the Marrakech palace La Mamounia, and the design for the future Air France lounge in Terminal 2F at Paris-Charles de Gaulle airport.

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