

A New Gstaad is Born



Le Grand Bellevue to open 13 December 2013

Re-branded, refurbished and revamped under a dynamic new ownership, **Le Grand Bellevue** opens its doors this December setting a new precedent in Gstaad chic.

In the heart of Gstaad village on The Promenade itself, Le Grand Bellevue was originally built in 1912 as a Cure House and Spa, and continues to hold the title of the oldest palace hotel in Gstaad. A year-long renovation sees this historic building injected with a fresh sense of vitality, redefining casual elegance in this famously traditional resort.

Family-owned, managed and designed, Le Grand Bellevue was acquired on its Centenary by a visionary couple, **Daniel and Davia Koetser**. Born in Switzerland and educated internationally, they realised global careers in hotel development and interior design respectively, before meeting and marrying in Gstaad – spending their first night in the hotel they now own. The village and hotel couldn't be closer to their hearts:

"My wife and I have a great affinity with Gstaad" says Daniel. "We love it for its traditions and age-old institutions but feel there's room for innovation and a dash of sassiness. Our dream is to create a buzzing destination in the heart of the village that captures the spirit of Gstaad but looks to its bright future too. We want the hotel to feel understated and effortless yet imaginative and spoiling."

Casual yet refined, this 57-room hotel introduces a relaxed and residential approach to hospitality and is set to become a hotspot for a new generation of luxury travellers. Stripped of the formalities and grandeur of its more traditional neighbours, Le Grand Bellevue has a neighborhood spirit and the welcoming feel of a country house hotel. Exquisite style and eclectic design combines with a lively atmosphere that is vibrant and youthful yet embraces all generations.

Bold colours, eye-catching prints and elegant furniture make up the **Lounge** where guests can indulge in afternoon tea by an open fire. Here, bespoke furniture designed by Davia includes side-tables made from antique Alpine walking sticks alongside classic pieces such as George Smith armchairs upholstered in soft velvets and smart herringbone fabrics. Guests can sink into sumptuous sofas, curl up in the Moroccan alcove with a book or chatter in gently swaying birdcage chairs.

Next door, an Art-Deco **Bar** with dramatic domed ceilings boasts a racing green zinc-topped bar and 17-metre custom-made Chesterfield. The perfect setting for cocktails, its tongue-in-cheek list includes tipples such as Bellevue Smash, Fairytale and Devil's Playground.

The hotel's signature restaurant **Leonard's** on the ground floor offers exceptional food in a relaxed and sophisticated environment. With arched windows, original parquet floors and a Michelin-starred chef, **Urs Gschwend**, delivering refined bistro-style cuisine, it is certain to draw a crowd. Signature dishes include Braised Knuckle of Veal Saffron Risotto, Bouillabaisse Marsellaise, Baba Limoncello and Basil Sorbet as well as comforting favourites such as Tagliata of Beef, Creamed Pea Soup with Mint and Bergamot and Warm Molten Chocolate Cake with Homemade Vanilla Ice Cream.

For a more rustic, intimate experience, **Le Petit Chalet** is a traditional chalet nestled in the hotel's grounds seating just 18 guests with a menu of hearty Swiss dishes.

Home to one of the finest wine cellars in Gstaad, the hotel's **'Carnozet'** houses circa 10,000 bottles and is available for private dining or tastings. A **Cigar Lounge**, **Club Room** and 18-seat **Private Cinema** will keep residents entertained late into the night. Also on the premises is the prestigious **Yacht Club**, a world-renowned exclusive members club with special access granted for guests staying in the hotel's suites.

The 2,500sqm **Bellevue Spa** is a world-class sanctuary for wellness. Working in partnership with organic English brand **Bamford** and revolutionary Swiss facial brand **Cellcosmet**, the spa invites guests to indulge in a fully comprehensive range of treatments, remedies and retreats. Extensive facilities include: eight spacious treatment rooms; an array of heat therapies including Turkish hammam, Himalayan salt inhalation grotto and outdoor Finnish sauna; a fully equipped gym; yoga & Pilates studio; beautiful relaxation areas with water beds overlooking the mountains and a 200sqm swimming pool opening up onto a lavender-clad terrace during summer months.

Le Grand Bellevue has a collection of flexible **meeting and conference spaces**. Equipped with stateof-the-art technology, the rooms include a separate breakout foyer and, most impressively, private terraces with panoramic views of the mountains.

"I have the simplest taste: I am always satisfied with the best." Oscar Wilde

Le Grand Bellevue launches on 13th December 2013

Summer Rates from £265 per room based on double occupancy on a B&B basis Winter Rates from £423 per room based on double occupancy on a half-board basis Call +41 33 748 00 00 / Email <u>info@bellevue-gstaad.ch</u> Website: <u>www.bellevue-gstaad.com</u>

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