Marktgasse Hotel Zurich, Switzerland

PRINCIPALISED DEFINISHES MATER



HIP MEETS HISTORY

One of Zurich's oldest inns was recently transformed into the chic new Marktgasse Hotel, a tasteful mix of contemporary design and historic, protected elements like stucco work, wall paneling, century-old columns, and vintage blue and white tile stoves, Located on the cobbles of Zurich's old town, the 39-room boutique hotel is a blend of two listed buildings that originally date back to 1291. Tastefully mixing the old and the new - Scandi-inspired minimalist furnishings and influences from Japanese purism - the Marktgasse is full of charm and personality. The second floor lobby offers 24-hour coffee/tea service, and the inter-connecting Salon and Library are relaxing spaces with a living room atmosphere and a large selection of books relating to art, culture, cuisine, and travel. Each floor also has its own "drinlovasser" (drinking water fountain).

FOOD AND WINE

Zurich is famous for its lovely restaurants and distinctive cuisine -Geschnetzeltes (yeal in cream sause), Rösti (grated potato cake), and Pfarrhaustorte (marzipan apple tart) to name a few - but Marktgasse breaks the mold again with three on-site eateries: the brasserie style restaurant Baltho Küche offers fresh interpretations of classic dishes, including vegan and vegetarian offerings; adjoining Baltho Bar specializes in local craft beers and hip cocktails with home-grown infusions; and Delish, a deli/café, serves breakfast, lunch, and all-day nibbles. Both the bar and deli have outdoor seating that creates a buzzy neighborhood feel.

THE LAKE AND LIMMAT

The Marktgasse is only a stone's throw from the Limmat River, Lake Zurich, and the city's imposing Fraumunster (with windows by Chagall and Giacometti), Grossmünster (landmark center of the Reformation), and Cabaret Voltaire (birthplace of the Dada movement). Some of Zurich's lovely old guild houses, many now restaurants, are nearby, as is the mile-long Bahnhofstrasse, noted for its high-end shopping. For more down-to-earth deals, stick to the winding lanes and cobbled streets of Old Town that lead directly from the hotel.

-MARGARET M. JOHNSON

Marktgasse Hotel

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Intermezzo Intermezzo 27