



FAIRMONT LE  
MONTREUX PALACE  

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SWITZERLAND





*Nestled between Lake Geneva and the Alps, the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace has enchanted visitors for over a century with its Belle Époque architecture, 236 rooms and suites, and an impeccable hotel reputation that dates back to its foundation in 1906.*

*Presiding over the Avenue Claude Nobs and the lakeside promenade, its location is exceptional. It allows guests to enjoy all the famous tourist sites of the region (the vineyards of Lavaux, the Château de Chillon, Glacier 3000 with its famous "Peak Walk" and the Charlie Chaplin Museum) and events that punctuate the seasons such as the legendary Montreux Jazz Festival in summer and the Montreux Christmas Market in winter.*

*The 6 restaurants and bars of the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace make it a must-see gastronomic destination. The Fairmont Spa, a true haven of peace, embodies the tranquility and purity of the Swiss Alps on more than 2'000 m2 drenched in light. With its 15 meeting and conference rooms, it is the largest five-star hotel on the Swiss Riviera.*

### A mythical palace



Since its inauguration in March 1906, The Fairmont Le Montreux Palace has embodied elegance and cozy luxury. Also known as the "Pearl of the Swiss Riviera", this jewel of the Belle Époque stands majestically on the shores of Lake Geneva, offering a breathtaking view of the lake and the Alps. Its unique atmosphere, both intimate and sparkling, was immediately appreciated by celebrities from all over the world, artists, crowned heads and writers, among them the writer Vladimir Nabokov, who lived here for more than 15 years, or Freddy Mercury, Quincy Jones, Prince, the Deep Purple group and many others who had their way there. If these personalities contributed to write the myth in the pages of the history of the establishment, the Montreux Palace never remained frozen in the past.

Although more than a century has passed, preserving the character of the hotel has always been a priority. The spirit of the founder of the Montreux Palace, Alexandre Emery, and the architect Eugène Jost are still present. Today, the palace offers both the luxurious charm of its Belle Époque decor and the comfort and technology that meet the highest standards of contemporary luxury hotels.

## Montreux or the "Dolce Riviera"

Mountains, music and the magic – they all come together in beautiful harmony in Montreux and its postcard landscape. Surrounded by the high Alpine peaks and situated on the shores of the shimmering waters of Lake Geneva, Montreux has been delighting visitors for over a century with an inimitable blend of natural splendor, elegance and leisure. And in the heart of it all, lies the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace, a jewel of Belle Époque architecture, ideally located.

In Montreux, the natural splendor of the surrounding Alps blends with the charm of a human-scale town where it feels good to live all year round. It offers a multitude of outdoor and cultural activities depending on the seasons. The climax of the festivities takes place every year for two weeks in July with the internationally renowned Montreux Jazz Festival. The luxury and cozy atmosphere of the hotel gives way to a certain effervescence. Impossible to name all the artists who have been received at the palace, from Miles Davis to the most famous Brazilian singers, including Ray Charles, Al Jarreau, Carlos Santana and so many others.

Far from the hustle and bustle of a big city, the distances between the various activities offered in Montreux and the region are very short. It is therefore easy to move from one activity to another in complete tranquility: museums, art galleries, typical tourist sites, walks to explore the rich history of the Swiss Riviera, and shopping.



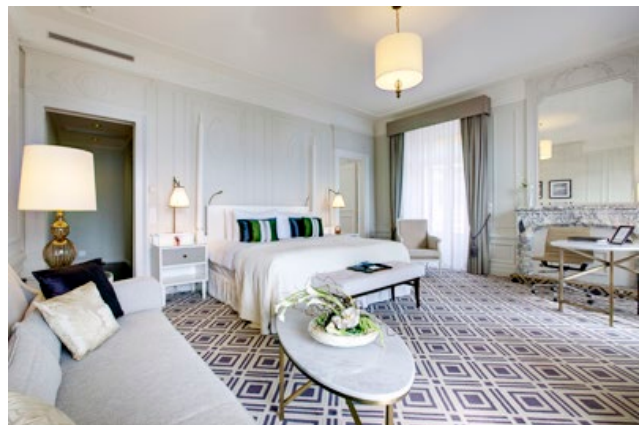
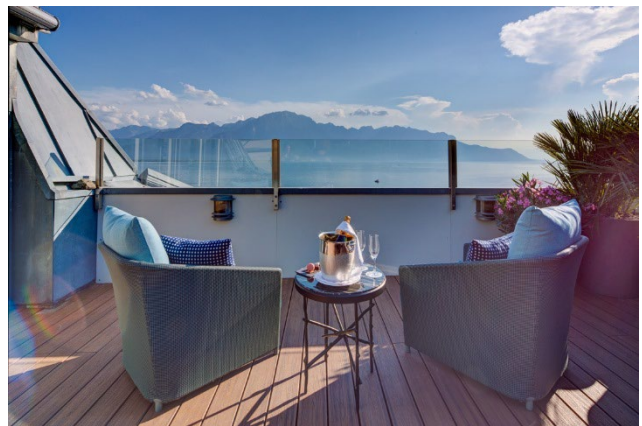
## Guest Rooms & Suites

Combining tradition and elegance, the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace offers 236 rooms and suites in a classic European style, harmoniously blended with contemporary elements. Featuring luxurious furnishings and sumptuous bedding, the rooms and suites meet the requirements of the most discerning travelers. From the balconies and terraces, you can gaze out over the azure waters of Lake Geneva.

Among the hotel's exceptional suites is the **Presidential Suite**. With a total surface area of 139 m<sup>2</sup>, it can be connected to a communicating room with private bathroom for a total space of 178 m<sup>2</sup>. It marvels by its magnificent views of Lake Geneva and the Alps. The suite elegantly reflects the history and values of the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace. A reference to the Belle Époque. It includes a large living room, a large bedroom with a dressing room and a second communicating bedroom, both with large windows overlooking the lake. The generously sized bathroom is an ode to relaxation.

Completely renovated in 2020, the new Penthouse Suite is located on the 7th floor of the wing adjoining the main building of the palace formerly known as the Swan Hotel. 160 m<sup>2</sup> of emotion and history, luxury and elegance. This Suite is the expression of "timeless chic" that combines noble materials and soothing colors with Mediterranean accents. It offers three spacious bedrooms including a master suite with a separate dressing room, a generous living room with fireplace opening onto a lounge and a fully equipped kitchen. From its splendid terrace of 12 m<sup>2</sup>, the 360° view on Lake Geneva and the Alps is breathtaking. Worthy of an artist's canvas, it gives the impression of sailing on the waves of the lake.

Some suites pay tribute with great affection to artists / writers who have contributed to making Montreux a world-famous city. Vladimir Nabokov, Freddie Mercury, Quincy Jones are just a few figures whose lives and careers are inextricably linked to the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace. Music lovers might opt for the "Freddie Mercury Suite" or the "Quincy Jones Suite", where he has stayed many times during the Montreux Jazz Festival.



For Freddy Mercury, Montreux was more than just the venue for the famous Montreux Jazz Festival. The artist recorded "Jazz", "Hot Space" and "A Kind of Magic" there between 1978 and 1985. During those productive days, he stayed several times at the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace. Michael Jackson, meanwhile, moved into the hotel's Tower Suite for two weeks while recording a new song in the Mountain Studios in 1997.

Every guest, famous or anonymous, will forever remember the exceptional view of Lake Geneva admired from their balcony!

## A gourmet destination

Gastronomy is another reason to visit the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace! To seduce every taste, the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace offers a choice of 6 venues bringing together local and world flavors, as well as a 24-hour room service.

### LA PALMERAIE

Excellent breakfast buffets served daily with a wide variety of international and local breakfast classics while enjoying the beautiful view over Lake Geneva and the Alps. Each Sunday, hotel guests and external guests can enjoy the Sunday Brunch with delicious breakfast dishes among classics and themed stations, not mentioning the lavish dessert buffet. The Kids Corner offering a multitude of activities for children aged 4 to 12 years old is open during school vacations and for the Sunday Brunch.

### MONTREUX JAZZ CAFÉ



Gourmets will appreciate its generous cuisine combined with a selection of the region's best wines and irresistibly named aperitifs. Decorated with souvenirs and objects that belonged to Claude Nobs, founder of the Montreux Jazz Festival, it is the ideal place to share an informal moment while being lulled by the festival's unique atmosphere.

### THE LOUNGE BAR

It feels like home in the Lounge. Its cozy lounge atmosphere lends itself to an early morning coffee, a light lunch, a glass of champagne or even a late evening snack. Around the fireplace, conversation is easily engaged between local guests and visitors from all over the world.

### MP'S BAR & GRILL



One of the best gourmet restaurants in the region. It offers a refined and relaxed space, a superb outdoor terrace, and a cocktail bar where time has stood still. The menu is built around top-quality meat dishes, the freshest fish and seafood as well as local ingredients. (Temporarily closed)

### LA TERRASSE DU PETIT PALAIS

With its incomparable open-air setting over the lake and Alps, La Terrasse serves a seasonal cuisine in Mediterranean style for lunch and dinner, complemented by a colorful and indulgent line-up of ice-creams and refreshments in the afternoon. (in summer).

### FUNKY CLAUDE'S BAR

For night owls, the ideal place to enjoy live music and a wide selection of delicious cocktails. Its cuisine is original and casual. Formerly known as Harry's Bar, the Funky Claude's Bar now pays tribute to Claude Nobs, founder of the Montreux Jazz Festival. Fiery jam sessions have been held there, which makes this bar so emblematic.

## Serenity and energy at the Fairmont Spa

Renovated in 2021, the Fairmont Spa (formerly known as the Willow Stream Spa) has become a new oasis of relaxation, highlighting the natural elements that nourish the very essence of its identity and the treatments it provides, while bringing in new features and state-of-the-art infrastructure. It covers more than 2,000 square meters bathed in light thanks to its large windows facing the lake. The facilities include an indoor and outdoor swimming pool, seven treatment rooms, a mixed zone with sauna, infrared beds, relaxation area, wellness areas with jacuzzi, hammam, and tropical shower. A true haven of peace that embodies the tranquility and purity of the Swiss Alps. The wellness and relaxation treatments also contribute greatly to the reputation of the place. The Fairmont Spa is open to hotel residents and outside guests. The following facilities and services are available to them:

- Indoor pool of 23 m
- Heated outdoor pool
- 7 treatment rooms
- Wet zones for men and women, with jacuzzi, sauna, hammam and tropical shower
- Fitness center with cardio and weight training machines and equipment
- Relaxation area
- Pureaty Café
- Private gardens with lounge chairs facing the lake
- Personal training
- Private and group classes

To revitalize body and mind, our therapists have created signature facial and body treatments using natural ingredients and massage methods. Faithful to an approach characterized by luxury, our partner brands chosen for the treatments have been selected for their high quality, their efficiency, their ability to personalize a treatment, their concern for their sustainable development and the guarantee of optimal training of our therapists: Biologique Recherche and Niance.

After an effort or a treatment, the Pureaty Café by the pool offers healthy snacks and light dishes made with local and seasonal products.



[Treatment and Massage Menu](#) [Fairmont Spa Brochure](#) [Fairmont Spa Price List](#)

## Extraordinary events and weddings

The magic of the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace goes far beyond its idyllic location! With more than 3,800 m<sup>2</sup> dedicated to 15 conference rooms and ballrooms, the hotel positions itself as one of the top venues for the organization of extraordinary events. From elegant and modern meeting spaces to prestigious ballrooms dating back to 1906, up to 1200 people can be invited. The high ceilings and Belle Époque splendor of the Congress Hall, or the sparkling chandeliers and sumptuous decor of the Salle des Fêtes will be the perfect setting for an exceptional event. The team dedicated to the organization of events, whether it is a large fairy tale wedding, a gala evening, private meetings or intimate family gatherings, creates unforgettable emotions.



After a century spent welcoming the greats of this world, our event teams have refined their mastery of all the details required for an exceptional wedding: floral combinations whose colors perfectly enhance the wedding gown, cutlery and a sumptuous reception decor, a set piece that is as tasty as it is magnificent. This is why a personal wedding planner is offered to the future bride and groom as well as a team of experts who will take care of all the details. The ultimate romance? The exchange of vows in the hotel's gardens with an incomparable view of Lake Geneva and the Alps, with the hotel itself serving as the setting for this unique moment.

The romantic setting of the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace is often chosen for extraordinary weddings. An [article in the magazine Bilan of July 29, 2018](#) recounts one of them: "Two elephants carved into a bush of pink flowers, dream creatures draped in pearl-covered saris, ribbons of multicolored flowers, an altar erected facing Lake Geneva to welcome the bride and groom... Nothing was too beautiful or too expensive in mid-June to celebrate the union of the granddaughter of the founder of a consortium of luxury brands based in Dubai. The groom's parents - Indian exporters based in London - had also invited hundreds of their friends, including some of the sub-continent's biggest fortunes.

Four days of celebration transformed the peaceful town of Montreux into the backdrop for the Thousand and One Nights. But for Michael Smithuis, director of the Fairmont chain's palace, the organization was far from moonlight: "We had to mobilize all our energies. But our strength is that we can organize each event in a different part of the hotel: the lobby, the large restaurant, the garden, the terrace, the gala room, etc. We have to be able to organize each event in a different part of the hotel. You need variety. The Indian guests arrived with their teams of decorators, their staff and about ten cooks from the Fairmont Hotel in Jaipur, who worked with our chefs. This is the fourth year that we have hosted an Indian wedding and its 400 to 500 guests".

[A Bollywood feeling, video of the Indian wedding](#)

## Committed to the environment

To promote sustainable solutions, Fairmont Le Montreux Palace teams up with its employees, involves its customers, innovates with its partners and works with local communities. In recent years, priorities have been set to develop eco-responsible practices.

### **An original air conditioning system**

The Fairmont Le Montreux Palace uses an original air-conditioning system that works with lake water. Compared to a standard air conditioning system, pumping lake water saves more than 60% of the annual electricity consumption (340'000 kWh/year). The cold water from Lake Geneva is collected at a depth of about 80 m through a pipe about 310 meters long and is redistributed to the air conditioning systems of the rooms and then released back into the lake, as clear and clean as it was.

### **SapoCycle Initiative**

SapoCycle is a non-profit association that collects used soaps from European hotels, re-processes them and redistributes them in recycled form to families in need to improve children's health conditions. Disabled people are employed to recycle the soaps, allowing them to work in a stable environment. In 2018, we collected 99.8 kg of soap! Since the beginning of our involvement in this initiative, on October 1, 2015, to date, we have collected more than 343.8 kg!

### **BeeHomes Initiative**

Fairmont Le Montreux Palace has installed two bee houses with two bee colonies in its gardens to promote biodiversity and support the local pollination process. The second step will be the installation of beehives. We also buy local honey which is used in our restaurants and offered at the breakfast buffet.

### **Plastic Free Initiative**

Fairmont Le Montreux Palace has removed all plastic items from the daily operations of the F&B department (straws, cocktail sticks, plastic cups, coffee mugs to go, etc.). These items have been replaced in order to reduce our impact on the environment and offer our guests more environmentally friendly options, while maintaining the 5-star service that defines us.

### **Too good to go Initiative**

Every year, one third of all food produced in the world is thrown away. Fairmont Le Montreux Palace is proud to participate in the Too Good To Go initiative to fight food waste in our restaurants. The application allows you to buy at reduced prices dishes of the day made by Fairmont Le Montreux Palace chefs at the Montreux Jazz Café that were not sold the same day, while taking action to preserve our planet.





## Michael Smithuis, General Manager



Michael Smithuis began his career at Intercontinental Hotels in London where he held various positions in the Food & Beverage department. He then moved into Front Office positions as Night Manager and Assistant Manager. After gaining experience in London, he took on a new challenge in the Sultanate of Oman and became Deputy Director of the Front Office at the famous Al Bustan Palace Hotel. He held this position for two years, gaining valuable management knowledge.

His return to Europe followed a transfer as Front Office Manager to the Stuttgart InterContinental Hotel in Germany. In order to continue his career, Michael Smithuis felt the need to familiarize himself with other operational practices. In 1996, he had the opportunity to join the Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group. He moved to Indonesia as Executive Assistant Manager in Jakarta.

In 1998, a new opportunity presented itself: to join Raffles Hotels and Resorts and help rebrand the famous Hotel Vier Jahreszeiten in Hamburg, Germany. This is followed by a position as General Manager at the head office in Singapore.

After an exciting period in Asia, Michael Smithuis returns to his home country, the Netherlands, where he runs Swissôtel in Amsterdam for one year.

In 2003, he was offered a new opportunity in Montreux, Switzerland, where he was appointed Managing Director of the famous Fairmont Le

Montreux Palace. Since 2018, he has taken on the role of Regional Vice President in addition to his current position as Managing Director of the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace, overseeing other luxury establishments of the Accor Group in Europe with the aim of bringing them the benefit of his 33 years of experience in the luxury segment.

"Being Managing Director of the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace involves a lot of responsibility and work with our teams, but it is also an honor and a pleasure to work with our staff throughout the year. As Director, my main interest is the sustainability of the hotel while respecting the history of this prestigious establishment that has made its reputation for more than a century. Of course, we want to continue to be among the best hotels in Europe and the world with the quality service and attention to detail that characterizes us." explains Michael Smithuis.

## Awards & Accolades

### 2021 Awards

- Our hotel received the 2021 World Luxury Hotel Award in the Luxury Palace Hotel category in Switzerland.
- Fairmont Le Montreux Palace was among Connoisseur Circle's best lakeside hotels in Switzerland
- The Fairmont Spa at Fairmont Le Montreux Palace was named Best Unique Spa Experience in Switzerland 2021 by the World Luxury Spa Awards
- The Fairmont Spa at Fairmont Le Montreux Palace received 5 awards at the Haute Grandeur Global Excellence Awards 2021 as Best Luxury Spa in the World, Best Day Spa in Europe, Best Fitness Spa in Europe, Best Destination Spa in Switzerland and Best Signature Spa Treatment in Switzerland

### 2020 Awards

- Our Willow Stream Spa received 2 awards from the Haute Grandeur Global Excellence Awards 2020 as Best Spa Destination Worldwide and Best Fitness Spa in Switzerland.
- The Montreux Jazz Café Restaurant was named Best Fine Dining Restaurant in Switzerland 2020 by the World Luxury Restaurant Award
- Willow Stream Spa was named Best Unique Spa Experience in Switzerland 2020 by the World Luxury Spa Awards
- Fairmont Le Montreux Palace was ranked 4th in BILANZ Magazine's Best City Hotels in Switzerland
- Christophe Pinto has been elected among the best Bar Managers 2020 in Switzerland by BILANZ

### 2019 Awards

- Our Willow Stream Spa received 3 awards at the Haute Grandeur Global Excellence Awards 2019 as Best Spa Destination in Switzerland, Best Hideaway Spa in Switzerland and Best Hotel Spa in Switzerland.
- Fairmont Le Montreux Palace is in the top 5 best city hotels in Switzerland, elected by BILANZ.
- Our hotel was elected Best Luxury Hotel 2019 in Switzerland by the Hotel of the Year Award, and is ranked 12th among the 100 best hotels in the world.
- Funky Claude's Bar was awarded "Best Longseller Bar 2019" by the Swiss Bar Awards
- Our hotel was ranked among the top 5 best lakeside hotels in Switzerland by the renowned Connoisseur Circle. This prize was awarded to the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace for its unique position on the shores of Lake Geneva, its atmosphere, its friendliness and the excellence of its service. <https://www.die-besten-hotels.ch/die-besten-hotels/die-besten-hotels-am-see/>
- Our restaurant MP's Bar & Grill has been selected for the Gault Millau 2020 edition. <https://www.gaultmillau.ch/fr/restaurants/fairmont-le-montreux-palace-18133>

### 2018 Awards

- Our Hotel has been awarded as Best Luxury Hotel 2017/2018 in Switzerland by Hotel of the Year Awards, and is ranked No 12 in the top 100 Hotels Worldwide.
- Our restaurant "Montreux Jazz Café" has been awarded the best Luxury Hotel Restaurant in Switzerland by World Luxury Restaurant Awards 2018
- The Willow Stream Spa at Fairmont le Montreux Palace has been awarded the best Luxury Hotel Spa in Western Europe by the World Luxury Spa Awards 2018
- Fairmont Le Montreux Palace is in the the Top 3 best city hotels in Switzerland. Awarded by BILANZ
- Our Hotel has been awarded the 2018 World Luxury Hotel Award
- Fairmont Le Montreux Palace is a finalist nominee for the 2018 Historic Hotels Award of Excellence
- Fairmont Le Montreux Palace has been awarded Luxury Hotel Best Scenic Environment 2018 in Europe by Luxury Hotel Awards

### 2017 Awards

- Our Hotel has been awarded three distinctions as Best Luxury Wedding Destination, Luxury Hotel Best Scenic Environment, and Best General Manager 2017
- Our restaurant "MP's Bar & Grill" has been awarded the best "Luxury Steakhouse/Grill" in Switzerland by World Luxury Restaurant Awards 2017
- Willow Stream Spa at Fairmont le Montreux Palace has been awarded the best "Luxury Hotel Spa" in Western Europe by World Luxury Spa Awards 2017
- Fairmont Le Montreux Palace is the 2nd best city hotel in Switzerland. Awarded by BILANZ.

### 2016 Awards

- Connoisseur Circle nominated Fairmont Le Montreux Palace as 4th best Hotel by the Lake in Switzerland for 2016
- Our restaurant "Montreux Jazz Café" won the "Certificate of Excellence" from Trip Advisor for the year 2016.
- Willow Stream Spa at Fairmont le Montreux Palace is the country winner of the "Luxury Hotel Spa Award" in Switzerland by World Luxury Spa Awards 2016



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### **About Fairmont Le Montreux Palace**

Surrounded by the Alps and nestled on the shores of Lake Geneva, the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace has been enchanting visitors for over a century with its Belle Époque architecture, boasting 236 rooms and suites with an impeccable hotel reputation dating back to its foundation in 1906. The hotel offers 6 restaurants and bars, plus 24-hour room service and a luxurious 2000sqm spa. The hotel is also renowned for its exceptional environment and easy access to the best sightseeing sites in the region including Chillon Castle, Glacier 3000 with its peak walk, the Charlie Chaplin Museum and many other breathtaking activities.

### **About Fairmont Hotels & Resorts**

Fairmont Hotels & Resorts is where occasions are celebrated and history is made. Landmark hotels with unrivalled presence, authentic experiences and unforgettable moments have attracted visitors to Fairmont and its destinations since 1907. The Plaza in New York City, The Savoy in London, Fairmont San Francisco, Fairmont Banff Springs and Fairmont Peace Hotel in Shanghai are but a few of these iconic luxury hotels, forever linked to the special places where they reside. Famous for its engaging service, grand public spaces, locally inspired cuisine and celebrated bars and lounges, Fairmont promises a special brand of thoughtful luxury that will be remembered long after any visit. With a worldwide portfolio of more than 75 hotels, Fairmont also takes great pride in its deep community roots and leadership in sustainability. Fairmont is part of Accor, a world-leading augmented hospitality group offering unique experiences in 5,000 hotels and residences across 110 countries.

[fairmont.com](https://www.fairmont.com) | [group.accor.com](https://www.group.accor.com)

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