

Salon Marie

RESTAURANT & BAR

BACK TO THE GOOD LIFE: A WORLD OF DELIGHTS IN THE RESTAURANT AT THE GRAND HÔTEL WIESLER

The Grand Hôtel Wiesler by Florian Weitzer is synonymous with timeless elegance, cosmopolitan flair and true indulgence. Its restaurant Salon Marie, which opened in autumn 2019, is no different. The evocative name sums up the restaurant's new focus: pure culinary enjoyment in a chic yet comfortable atmosphere. Complete with lots of green, sumptuous materials ranging from leather to brass, and a new, one-of-a-kind bar.

Salon Marie, the Grand Hôtel Wiesler's follow-up to its restaurant Speisesaal, was the crowning achievement of the project to renovate all of the hotel's 102 rooms. It is the perfect fit for a grand hôtel with an international focus. The menu features classics, like French steak frites and Crema Catalanana. Chef Aleš Rascan celebrates the return of cordon bleu, the signature dish at Salon Marie: veal steak stuffed with real brie and prosciutto di Parma. The distinction could also easily have gone to the once forgotten Holstein schnitzel. Or, on the vegan side, the home-made spring rolls.

Transition spaces between the lobby and restaurant have been eliminated to expand the dining area. Raised floor levels create cosy alcoves and lounge areas with curved, shell-shaped walnut booths and leather Chesterfield benches in warm tones. Florian Weitzer was the mind behind the space's complete redesign. As usual, he chose not to follow a particular style but has created a vibrant and beautiful look for the interior of the new restaurant. A few of the

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elements hark back to the building's Art Nouveau past: curves, floral decorations, bronze and lots of green in the form of large potted plants as well as mesh-draped plants suspended from the ceiling.

The restaurant's show-piece is its bar in the middle of the casually elegant interior. Not only does the zinc counter top - unique in a dining setting - stand out. The sides of the bar are upholstered with a floral fabric and decorated with diamond-shaped brass latticework, combining good taste and refinement - characteristics that could easily describe the big-name wines from national and international winemakers that are served. Along with prime cocktails and an unusually large selection of Champagne, they help make up the delightful world embodied by Salon Marie and its slogan "Back to the good life". The bar has the distinction of being a "Perrier-Jouët bar," serving bottles by the legendary Champagne producer that combines quality and aesthetics. Even its famous anemone emblem, which was designed over 100 years ago, looks as if it could have been made just for the Grand Hôtel. The Perrier Jouët can now be ordered conveniently from the table at the touch of a button saying "Press for Champagne" - and without calling the staff.

The Grand Hôtel Wiesler in Graz has been something special ever since it was established in 1909. It has always been more than just a good place to spend the night. A Weitzer Hotel since 1999, it has been filled with trend-setting ideas by Florian Weitzer for nearly a decade without losing its rich past. Salon Marie is simply the next milestone, which fits seamlessly into the history of the international grand hôtel - a history that continues into the present day.

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