

HOTEL
REVIEWS

Hôtel Félicien by Elegancia

Paris | Boutique | From €133

YOU'D IMAGINE WHEN THE design sketches for the Elegancia's latest property purchase were retrieved from Olivier Lapidus, they were a jumble of vibrant scribbles.

That's no bad thing. The brilliance behind the French couture designer lies within his off-the-wall, avant-garde creations, and the same is true at this, his first hotel. In remarkable contrast to the quaint, flower-boxed borough of Paris's 16th arrondissement, Hôtel Félicien propels guests into the abstract swirls of Lapidus' mind with an interior that at times resembles a Hollywood-esque space station.

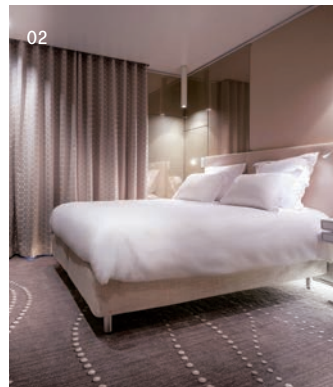
Coloured lights bring a futuristic feel to dimmed reception rooms and sleekly illuminate the oh-so-cool spa. Spindly, alien-like wall prints of Lapidus's original fashion sketches peer down into the breakfast lounge, as you sit at pod-like chairs and tables. It seems all that's missing is an automatic sliding door and retina-scanning panel.

For a change of scene, just two minutes' walk from the hotel brings you to the pretty River Seine with views of the Eiffel Tower. It all acts as a reminder that Paris is itself a mix of iconic design and fanciful whimsy.

Book at hotels.easyjet.com

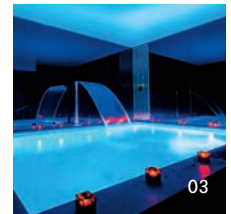


01



02

- 01 Relax on the hotel's roof terrace
- 02 One of its Creation Collection bedrooms
- 03 The on-site spa has a pool and sauna



03



Sofitel Hamburg Alter Wall

Hamburg | Luxury | From €134

WHEN YOU'RE TRAVELLING for work, accommodation can often be a staid affair. Not so at this waterside hotel in Germany's handsome northern city. Informed by Sofitel's '*art de vivre*' philosophy – an explicit focus on design, gastronomy and culture – it's got five-star luxury and personality to boot.

The décor, a mix of glass, marble and steel, and enormous conference rooms

might attract big business, but there's plenty for the non-corporate guest too.

Overlooking the city's central canal, Ticino restaurant serves international cuisine, while a few minutes' walk away is the luxury shopping strip, Jungfernstieg. The adventurous can even cruise off from the hotel's private boat dock. It's fair to say a stay here isn't hard work at all.

Book at hotels.easyjet.com