

Hotel Sookie

Paris, France

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8/10

Telegraph expert rating

" This bijou bolthole blends historic charm with design-led rooms, imagined by Dorothée Delaye. Bespoke furniture, layers of tactile fabrics and a muted colour palette give a restful feel, while locals pop in for fresh coffee and co-working in the retro-chic salon downstairs. "

9/10 Location

Situated in the Marais neighbourhood, the hotel has a prime location in one of Paris's most historic quarters, and arguably the most fashionable. Hip restaurants, craft cocktail bars, and vintage and designer boutiques surround the hotel – and you can expect to find the area packed during Fashion Week. The Marais also has a strong cultural offering, with the Picasso Museum, the Pompidou Centre, the Musée Carnavalet, and the quirky Musée de la Chasse et de la Nature all less than 15 minutes away on foot.

The nearest Métro station is Saint-Sébastien-Froissart on line 8, which is a three-minute walk away. Line 3 can be found 10 minutes away at Temple.

8/10 Style and Character

Paris-based designer Dorothée Delaye has a knack for transforming three-star addresses into designer boltholes, and has worked her magic once again with Hotel Sookie. Known for her vintage style, the designer has put her stamp on the 19th-century building with her signature earthy colour palette and keen attention to detail. The hotel is layered with textures: from the chunky wooden coffee tables in the downstairs lounge, to the linen curtains and corduroy-covered sofas in the bedrooms. Behind the reception, stacks of books, artwork and curios jostle for space on wooden shelves. Named after the song 'Sookie Sookie' by Grant Green, the hotel's jazz influence can be seen in the stacks of vinyls in the salon, and heard in the ultra-cool soundtrack that plays over breakfast in the café.

8/10 Service and Facilities

The small team are all smiles, and offer a warm and friendly welcome. Despite arriving after the check-in time I had to wait 45 minutes until my room was ready, but staff were apologetic and I was offered a complimentary drink in the bar while I waited. Like most boutique hotels in Paris there aren't many facilities to speak of, but the café and lounge make a stylish spot for breakfast, coffee and co-working. There are plans to start offering lunch (though not dinner), but the neighbourhood is full of hip restaurants and cocktail bars, and the staff have some excellent recommendations.

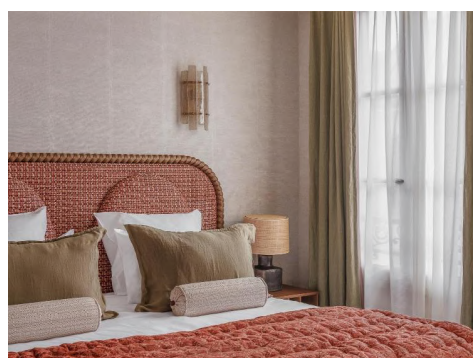
There is no parking, but the hotel can suggest several nearby spots; expect to pay around €20 (£17) for 24 hours.



8/10 Rooms

The original staircase leads up to 31 bedrooms, which are full of historic charm with sloped ceilings and rustic beams. Delaye has dressed each in her usual shades of muted green, brown and burnt red, creating a homely and suitably retro vibe. The rich mix of textures (think soft velvet sofas, ceramic lamps and tactile headboards finished in rope-edged wood) feels luxurious for a three-star address. Abstract art and photographs hang on the walls, alongside frosted glass light fittings and mirrors. Lower category rooms are snug – normal for a building of this age – but they feel cosy rather than cramped, and there's a surprising amount of storage space behind the bespoke wardrobes. For a view of Paris's iconic zinc rooftops, book a room on the fifth floor or above.

Bathrooms feature rain showers, textured tiles, raffia-edged mirrors and small design details such as hammered gold hooks. Luxurious extras come in the form of fluffy bathrobes and big bottles of coffee-based beauty products by Terre de Mars, developed especially for the hotel. In each room you'll also find a TV, Nespresso machine, kettle and a small minibar.



8/10 Food and Drink

The hotel has eschewed the usual breakfast buffet for an à la carte menu. Homemade granola and yogurt are served with a generous sprinkling of fresh blueberries (€8 (£7)), the organic coffee comes from a local Parisian roaster, and the juice is freshly squeezed. Skip the stodgy pastries though, and go direct to a boulangerie (such as Tout Autour du Pain, a five-minute walk away).

Snacks including avocado on toast (€8) and smoked trout with dill, cucumber and cream cheese on whole wheat bread (€8) are available all day, alongside a selection of cold meats and cheese. Gluten-free options are available.



8/10 Value for Money

Simply rooms for solo travellers from €150 (£128); Cosy rooms sleeping two from €180 (£153). Breakfast around €16 (£14) for one dish and a hot drink. Free Wi-Fi.

Access for guests with disabilities?

Owing to the age of the building, there are no rooms suitable for wheelchair users.



Family-Friendly?

Yes. There is no interconnecting accommodation, but Deluxe rooms and Spacy rooms feature a sofa bed. Cots, bottle warmers, changing tables and high chairs are all available on request.

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