

THE GORE LONDON – STARHOTELS COLLEZIONE

A quintessentially British hotel since 1892



A legendary hotel

Established in 1892, **The Gore London – Starhotels Collezione** has quickly become an iconic beacon of British hospitality, with a story to tell in every room. Today, as the hotel celebrates its 125th anniversary, its history resonates stronger than ever.

Built as a serviced residence for visitors to London's 1851 Great Exhibition, under the patronage of Prince Albert, consort of Queen Victoria, it welcomed guests who wanted to stay in the heart of "the most fashionable area of the city", that is to say in the houses at 189 and 190 Queen's Gate, which hosts The Gore today.

Queen's Gate Mansions were a full-fledged hotel, with liveried staff, horse-drawn carriages and a hydraulic lift – all considerable luxuries for that period. It collected a regular clientele over the years, including many leading names from the artistic scene like Judy Garland, André Simon, Sir Malcolm Sargent, Tony Hancock, Lord Miles and Dames Nellie Melba, Dorothy Tutin and Edith Evans, who found at The Gore a tranquil refuge where they could feel inspired.

The perfect enclave to explore the heart of London

The Gore is ideally located within a short distance from the capital's many cultural and leisure hotspots: Kensington Palace is just around the corner, as are Hyde Park's flowerbeds, the Natural History Museum's collections and London's temple of music – the Royal Albert Hall. South Kensington and Knightsbridge's array of shops, bars and restaurants are also within walking distance.

Queen's Gate forms an elegant connection between the vast area of Hyde Park and the hustle and bustle of South Kensington, offering the perfect enclave from which to explore the Victoria & Albert Museum and the Science Museum.

A “Les Clefs d’Or” Concierge is at guests disposal to set up bespoke tours of the city and book tickets for events and attractions.

Quintessentially English décor: common spaces, rooms and suites

The hotel is brimming with Victorian eccentricity. In the 1890s, the façades of terrace houses on Queens Gate were redesigned with red brick and terracotta substituting painted stuccos and dark wood paneling dominating the interiors.

The same aesthetic dominates the hotel's interiors: the main staircase of the hotel leading down from the rooms blends Tudor and Victorian English mood, with red carpets, intricate cornicing, chandeliers, antique tapestries (originally installed for heating purposes, but now functioning as part of the décor), alongside 18th and 19th century classical paintings.



From antique carved beds to original artworks, each of the five floors is a treasure trove of period details and hand-picked pieces, welcoming its guests with a distinctive atmosphere poised between timeless luxury and distinguished charm.

Rooms & Suites

All of The Gore's 50 lavishly appointed rooms and suites are individually furnished, creating a distinctive atmosphere that makes each one truly unique. Many of the rooms are marked by vivid colour, heavy, roped drapes, oak-carved four-poster beds, wooden writing desks and other individual pieces of antique furniture. All furnished with sophisticated elegance and a keen eye for detail, with beautiful antiques, period photos and ornate gilded mirrors, while offering every possible comfort, discreetly integrating it with the latest technology. Bed linens, gowns and towels come from the Italian luxury linens specialist *Frette*, while bathrooms feature *Penhaligon's* toiletries.

At guests' disposal, the **Handy Smartphone** service which offers them the possibility to have a free and unlimited Internet connection and international calls, as well as useful information on means of transport, events not to be missed during their stay, and to be always in contact with the hotel.



The Tudor Suite

There is simply nothing else like The Tudor Suite in the whole of London. Occupying 75 m², with a mahogany four-poster bed, a 15th-century minstrels' gallery, stained glass windows, high oak-beamed ceilings and a majestic stone fireplace, this may be the most beautiful hotel bedroom in the capital.

Junior Suite

Recently renovated in their interiors and furnishings, the Junior Suites stand out among the sophisticated rooms of the hotel. Decorated in a style befitting the extravagant personalities of their one time occupants or their royal inspiration, they are The Gore's most stylish guestrooms.

Dame Nelly Junior Suite



The **Dame Nellie Junior Suite**, with its bronze statues of David and Venus on either side of the tub in the mirror-covered bathroom, French chaise-longue and its recessed bed nestled in an intimate alcove enclosed by silk drapings, is inspired by the divaesque personality of the renowned Australian opera singer of the early 20th century who was a frequent hotel guest, Miss Nellie Melba.

Judy Garland Junior Suite



The **Judy Garland Junior Suite**, which features the famous film star's own bed, reportedly sent from Hollywood and donated to the hotel to show her gratitude after a particularly long stay, is decorated with silk wallpaper perfectly complementing the gilded bed frame.

The room, where the Ruby Slippers from *The Wizard of Oz* are still kept, is a shrine to her talent and to the fantastic movie for which she won the Oscar: from the silk wallpaper to the vase of roses decorating the bed's headboard – a recurring motif all over the frame.

The bathroom features double marble basins and tiles hand-painted in the style of the ancient Roman baths with the illustration of a chariot pulled by winged horses.

Miss Ada Junior Suite



The **Miss Ada Junior Suite** is named after Ada Cooke, founder of the hotel in 1892 together with her sister Fanny, and among The Gore's first guests. Measuring 28m² it is decorated in pure Victorian style, without sacrificing comfort. The generous light streaming in through the large windows overlooking Queen's Gate envelops the antique furniture and four-poster bed with its crimson velvet drapings. The bathroom, with its mahogany wood paneling, is also heavily influenced by the style of the era.

Miss Fanny Junior Suite



The **Miss Fanny Junior Suite** is named after the co-founder of The Gore and her taste for antique furniture, paintings and sumptuous fabrics is reflected in every detail. The wood-paneled bathroom, the four-poster canopy bed and the generous windows overlooking Queen's Gate are a testament to what was considered the epitome of style during the Victorian period.

Lady Blessington Junior Suite



The **Lady Blessington Junior Suite** is named after Marguerite Blessington, one of the most interesting figures of the Victorian social scene and a close friend of Charles Dickens, William Thackeray and Hans Christian Andersen. The vibrant scarlet hue of the wallpaper, the antique bed's mirrored headboard, and the black marble-tiled bathroom with its freestanding cast-iron clawfoot tub all conjure the opulent atmosphere of a bygone era.

Dame Edith Evans Junior Suite



The **Dame Edith Evans Junior Suite**, named after the famous actress who was a regular guest in the 50's, is furnished with handpicked period pieces, precious paintings, and an exquisitely decorated bed. Flooded with light thanks to its large sash windows, the Junior Suite also features bed linens, robes and towels by Frette for luxury and comfort.

Queen Victoria Junior Suite



The **Queen Victoria Junior Suite** represents a tribute to Her Majesty Queen Victoria and with its delicately embossed vermilion wallpaper, adorned gilded mirrors, curtains rope tiebacks, four poster carved oak bed and wooden bureaus it is modeled after the interiors of Buckingham Palace, where the young monarch was the first to establish her residence after the coronation on June, 28th 1838.

Queen Elizabeth Junior Suite



The **Queen Elizabeth Junior Suite** is named after Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The color palette, dominated by red and gold, the moldings and period details, like the impressive carved oak canopy bed, the red velvet roped curtains and the typical Victorian chamber pot, each carefully contributed to the creation of a truly royal ambience.

Fine dining at 190 Queen's Gate by Daniel Galmiche

The Gore's location within a short stroll of the Royal Albert Hall makes its various options for food and drink perfect for pre and post-show dining.

Dishes at **190 Queen's Gate** restaurant are created under the guiding hand of dynamic French Michelin starred Chef **Daniel Galmiche**, whose classic British cuisine is delivered with a contemporary French twist and a rustic charm. Galmiche draws upon his experience and passion to marry authentic French cooking with British ingredients, where possible from organic, sustainable local producers.

Born in France, he was still very young when he was struck by the passion for cooking and he started training in some of the most prestigious restaurants in

Europe.

Galmiche was previously Executive Chef at The Vineyard at Stockcross and prior to that he worked at Le Gavroche, Cliveden House and L'Ortolan. He is a regular guest chef on BBC 1's *Saturday Kitchen*, while his first book, *The French Brasserie Cookbook*, was published in 11 countries and six different languages and the second one, *Revolutionary French Cooking*, in 2014.

190 Queen's Gate is open from breakfast till dinner. Breakfast proposes the classic bacon and eggs or yogurt and muesli, in addition to a typical continental breakfast selection with fresh fruits and cakes.

The lunch menu offers comforting classics with a twist: *mustard mayonnaise with a brioche burger*; *a fried egg with a Club sandwich*.

For dinner, guests face a range of options from drinks and bar snacks to a shorter "theatre" menu, to enjoy before or after a Royal Albert Hall show, or a full à la carte fine dining experience, that captures the imagination with simplicity and fullness of flavour. The dishes are contemporary classics, prepared and presented in a captivatingly modern way.

To make the experience even more memorable, a selection of the best international wines, carefully selected by the hotel's expert sommelier.



A traditional **Afternoon Tea** is served between 1pm and 5pm. It features a variety of teas and infusions, some of which were especially created for the hotel by one of the most prestigious tea houses of London, accompanied by freshly baked scones with Cornish clotted cream or homemade jam, macarons, éclairs, seasonal cheesecakes, fruit tartlets or chocolate brownie, either a selection of freshly prepared sandwiches for a hearty pause.

Most notable among the varieties of tea are **The Gore's** own house blend combining apricot with hints of marigold and rose; the **Lady Blessington**, Gold Taste Award winner, imbuing Earl Grey with bergamot and sweet orange; the **Miss Fanny**, named after the hotel's co-founder, blending an array of dried fruits and the **Judy Garland**, a black tea base flavored with rose petals for an added sweet note, reminiscing of Hollywood star's unmistakable voice.

Bar 190: witness to rock history

While original wooden paneling and lavish furnishings dominate the hotel, the walls of the bar at The Gore have distinctly rock'n'roll vibes. **Bar 190** is best known as the location for the launch and photoshoot for **The Rolling Stones' 1968 album Beggars Banquet**, and the decor pays tribute to this event. The young musicians were regulars of the bar which at the time already buzzed with nightlife, and chose to host here the album's launch party because of its ideal location in the city center and its informal yet, glamorous atmosphere. Iconic memorabilia from that night can still be admired, such as photos of Mick Jagger and Keith Richards, the album's gold record and the recipe for the cocktail named after the album.

Bar 190 serves an extensive range of spirits, with a notably large collection of whiskies and rums. The creative cocktail list takes full advantage of this huge variety, extending from classics – such as Martini and Negroni - to a range of Gin and Tonics based on citrus infusions.

A menu of small plates is served, from *glazed lamb ribs with chimi-churri and yogurt* to *steak haché with toasted sourdough, gherkins and chutney*, all available for pairing with the preferred cocktail under the expert guidance of the bartenders.

Bar 190 is open till 1 am from Monday to Saturday and till 10.30pm on Sunday.



The perfect location for special events

Centrally located, between Knightsbridge and Kensington, and oozing history and refined elegance, The Gore is the ideal location for special events, whether private or for business. For formal board meetings or cocktail parties, wedding receptions or gala dinners, formal lunches or fashion shoots, the 3 prestigious solutions at The Gore can accommodate up to 90 guests in a beautiful setting where 19th-century elegance and 21st-century facilities come perfectly together. Each event is supervised by an expert team to ensure the best experience possible.

The Library



A large, traditional drawing room on the hotel's ground floor, the Library is an exquisitely elegant setting for a business meeting or dinner party of up to 24 people. Spacious, elegant and cozy, with plush sofas and comfortable armchairs, it's flooded with daylight through 3 large sash windows. The grand mahogany bookcase, intriguing oil portraits and original ornate fireplace make this a unique, intimate space for any private function.

Tapestry Room



A sweeping staircase from Bar 190 leads down to the impressive Tapestry Room, where the Rolling Stones famously decided to host the party for the launch of “Beggars Banquet”. Flanked by 2 vast stone fireplaces, it is replete with paneled walls, gilded mirrors and French Verdue tapestries and features an original velvet Chesterfield sofa. It can be connected to the adjacent Mulberry Room to make room for larger events.

Mulberry Room

The warmth sophistication of the wood paneling and the natural light filtering down from above to illuminate 3 sash windows with crimson velvet curtains infuse The Mulberry Room with a distinctively opulent masculine charm. It is the perfect setting for that all-important meeting for up to 24 people, offering an impressive array of modern facilities.

The Gore “Hall of Fame”

The following are just a few of the many famous Italian and international figures who have chosen The Gore London – Starhotels Collezione:

The Rolling Stones

Judy Garland

Bjork

David Bowie

Sophie Ellis Bextor

Jeff Wooton

Liam Gallagher

Dame Nellie Melba

Paul Simon

Neil Tennant

David Hasselhoff

Eugene Cernan

Jimmy page and Donovan

Noel Gallagher

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