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NEW YORK
WINTER 2014/2015

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WEEKEND

AN EXCELLENT WEEKEND ADVENTURE

A weekend of delights starts at the 35th floor Lobby of the Mandarin Oriental.
On order: Ambiance that is breathtaking, sumptuous, stylish, and relaxing
Spectacular City Views at the Mandarin Oriental, New York

By: Carrie Buckle
Photography By: George Apostolidis



WEEKEND





Presidential Suite

Staying at the five-star Mandarin Oriental, New York is worth it for the sweeping views alone. From the floor-to-ceiling windows on the 35th to 54th floors of the skyscraper at Columbus Circle, you can gain a whole new perspective on Manhattan. By day, you can gaze over the greenery of Central Park lined by rows of skyscrapers. By night, you will be mesmerized by the lights on the roads below, which resemble glittering rubies and emeralds. Whatever the time of day, the weather or the season, you're guaranteed a breathtaking sight.

You first get a taste of this soaring skyline when you enter the 244-room midtown hotel on the 35th floor. As

you stand at the elegant reception, you find yourself drawn to the luxurious Lobby Lounge ahead with its expansive windows providing a panorama over the city. Here you can enjoy inventive cocktails, delicious light bites, or perhaps a decadent NYC-inspired afternoon tea as the sun sets over the city. With its Art Deco-meets-Oriental decor, this is a place to see and be seen.

For a more intimate space, retreat to the 1930s-inspired MObar, that is tucked away next door. This hidden gem serves the same menu of cocktails and light bites, but has a cozier ambience. Think high-top tables, deep leather chairs and sumptuous surroundings. The compact bar is open from 4pm, Tuesday to Saturday.

You will rarely find the hotel's six suites empty, and that's for a reason. The jewel in the crown is the 2,640-square-foot Presidential, on the 53rd floor and overlooking Central Park. The decor features a rich palette of chocolate browns, gold and red, as well as custom-made furniture and handmade rugs. You can work in a wood-paneled study, and enjoy a walk-in sycamore paneled closet. The other suites include the 1,800-square-foot Oriental and the 1,210-square-foot Taipan. The remaining three suites — the Mandarin Executive, Central Park View and Premier Central Park View — are all 800 square feet.

The rooms are each categorized by



Asiate Private Dining

views and floor levels. We stayed in a Premier Central Park View Room, which lives up to its name and offers incredible views over what is often referred to as the lungs of the city. Of note are the rich Asian cherry wood furnishings and the spacious marble and granite bathrooms complete with roomy bathtubs. When we awoke in the morning and pulled back the curtains, we were truly in awe of the spectacular view from the 46th floor.

You can't bed down at the hotel without experiencing Asiate, a restaurant offering modern American fare. The whimsical dining space was revamped in August in celebration of the hotel's 10-year anniversary. The decor was refreshed but the focal

point, a Murano glass sculpture of tree branches in winter on the ceiling, has remained. You can't miss the wall of wine showcasing 1,000 bottles. Popular with guests for celebration dinners, all the seats in the restaurant have a view of the skyline. Chef de Cuisine Angie Berry went to art school and her creativity is evident on the standout menu. The restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. But for the ultimate dining experience, try the seven-course chef's tasting menu. There is also a private dining room for up to 12 guests, with a Swarovski-embellished ceiling.

For wine connoisseurs, there is a monthly dining experience in partnership with some of the world's

most renowned wineries. Most recently, Olivier Krug hosted an exclusive Krug Champagne dinner in November. The lineup for early 2015 includes Château Lynch-Bages, Gaja Winery and Bollinger.

If you have some down time, head to the luxurious six-treatment-room spa. With its Eastern-inspired decor, it really is an oasis of calm above the bustling city. Sip a warming drink in the Oriental Tea Lounge and unwind in the heat experiences, which include an amethyst crystal steam room. The latest treatment to look out for? - A rejuvenating jade facial launching in early 2015 - A perfect excuse to return to this stunning hotel perched high above the Big Apple.

