Hotel de Paris, Trouville, built 1910.

HISTORIC
GRAND HOTELS
A MACHINE FOR LIVING IN
PART ONE: EUROPE AND ASIA

BRIAN ROBERTS
PAY THE BILL

Plaza Athenée, Paris, built 1913, enlarged 1919.
Bill is made out to Mr & Mrs Rudolph Valentino.
"Chambermaids in front of a call-board in a German luxury hotel, 1930".

Information and illustrations have been taken from many sources including the Heritage Group Archives, but in particular from "Grand Hotel: The Golden Age of Palace Hotels", Jean D'Ormesson, David Watkin et al, Chartwell Books, New Jersey, USA, 1984.

THE GRAND TOUR: HOTELS
Shepheards Cairo & Oriental Bangkok: 4, Raffles Singapore & Peninsula Hong Kong: 5

LONDON GRAND HOTELS
Ritz & Midland Grand: 6, Grosvenor & Langham: 7

EUROPEAN GRAND HOTELS: BY LOCATION
Trouville: 1, Paris: 2,11, Stockholm & Amsterdam: 8, Milan & Seville: 9, Salzburg & Cannes: 10, Ostend & Marienbad: 12, Nice & San Remo: 13

GRAND HOTEL FACILITIES

I have stayed in or visited hotels named in bold.
BMR, Budleigh Salterton 2021.
Shepheard's Hotel, in Cairo, Egypt, 1841. Destroyed by fire of 1952. "One of the most famous hotels in the world". Famous for its grandeur.

Oriental Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand. Opened in 1887 (Country was then Siam). Its famous Author's House stayed in by Joseph Conrad, Noel Coward and Somerset Maugham.

The Peninsula Hotel, Hongkong, opened 1928. "Finest Hotel East of Suez". Famous for its fleet of Rolls-Royces and once a haunt of Hollywood Film Stars.
Ritz Hotel, opened 1906, famous for its Palm Court and "Tea at the Ritz". One of the earliest steel-framed London structures.

Midland Grand Hotel, completed 1876 for the Midland Railway Company. Fronts St Pancras Railway Station.
Grosvenor Hotel, opened in 1929. First London Hotel to have a bathroom for every bedroom. Once famous for its Great Room, originally an ice-rink.

The Langham Hotel of 1865, with 100 water-closets and 36 bathrooms. Said to have England's first hydraulic passenger lift.
The Grand Hotel, Stockholm, opened 1874. 300 rooms.

Principe e Savoia Hotel, Milan. Opened 1927. 301 rooms. Famous guests include Queen Elizabeth and The Duke of Edinburgh.

EUROPEAN GRAND HOTELS

Grand Hotel of Europe, Salzburg, 1866.
Advertised private Baths and a 45 hp Mercedes.

The Grand Hotel in Cannes opened in 1864.
Demolished and rebuilt 1958.
Hotel Bristol, Paris, built 1720, hotel from 1878. (Edward VII at the window). Famous Hollywood guests include Charlie Chaplin and Rita Hayworth.
EUROPEAN GRAND HOTELS

The Hotel Continental and Hotel of the Ocean, on the Sea Wall, Ostend (both built 1890).

Hotel Weimar, Marienbad, Czechoslovakia. Built 1904. A Spa Hotel.
EUROPEAN GRAND HOTELS

Grand Hotel Excelsior Regina, Nice, Built 1897.

Hotel San Remo, Italy, built 1872.
Hotel de Crillon, Paris, built 1765, became hotel 1909, with fireplace.

Hotel Meurice, Paris, founded 1817, enlarged 1830 & 1907.
Hotel Adlon, Berlin, 1907, 305 bedrooms

Hotel Esplanade, Berlin, built 1908, with fireplace.
GRAND HOTEL BATHROOMS

Hotel Majestic, Paris, 1908.

Hotel Majestic, Paris, 1908, but with a bath from a former residence of Queen Isabel of Spain.
GRAND HOTEL BATHROOMS

Palace Hotel, Madrid, 1910.

Hotel Esplanade, Berlin, 1908.
The Herzog Teleseme (multiple telegraph) in the Elysee Hotel, Paris (built in 1898).
Hotel Adlon, Berlin, built 1907, monumental chimney piece with fire. Hotel destroyed in the war.
Hotel Metropole in Brussels, Reception Room Chimney piece, enclosing radiator (?). Built 1894. At some date fitted with steam heating, electric lighting, lift and telephones.
HEATING IN A GRAND HOTEL

Danieli Hotel, Venice. A 14th century palazzo converted to hotel 1822. Sitting room with radiator fitted in fireplace.
LIGHTING THE GRAND DINING ROOM

Original building converted to hotel 1909: Crillon Hotel, Paris, Dining Room.
1862: Grand Hotel, Paris, Dining Room (continued on next page).
LIGHTING THE GRAND DINING ROOM

1862: Grand Hotel, Paris, Dining Room (continued from previous page).
KITCHENS IN GRAND HOTELS

Kitchens in the Astoria Hotel, Brussels (Built in 1900).

Photo titled "A Team of Cooks" (Hotel and date unknown).
KITCHENS IN GRAND HOTELS

Kitchens in Grand Hotel du Louvre, Paris (Built 1855).

Kitchens of the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool c.1914 (Built 1840, rebuilt 1861 & 1914).
GRAND HOTEL STORE ROOMS

In the Main Stores of the Ciga Hotel Chain in Venice.
GRAND HOTEL WINE SUPPLIES

The Bottling Plant and Wine Cellars of the Ciga Company (Hotel Chain, Venice).
SERVICES FOR HOTEL GUESTS

Page boy, cooks and wine-waiter at the Paris Ritz. (Built in 1704, converted to Hotel 1898).
SERVICES FOR HOTEL GUESTS

Laundry with Washing Machines & Steam Boilers, Hotel Adlon, Berlin (Hotel built 1907).

Barbers Saloon at the Hotel Cecil in London, 1911 (note the plumbing).
Guests arriving by Hotel carriage at the Vittel Palace in France, c.1900.
Arriving by Benz automobile Hotel de Paris in Monte Carlo in 1910.
GRAND HOTEL TRANSPORT


Hotel Riche-Mont omnibus (possibly Geneva, built 1875).
The Grand Hotel in Geneva in 1872 (built 1865).

Dinner at the Paris Ritz, date unknown (the Hotel opened in 1898).
NOZZE
BODO - CAMPREDON D'ALBARETTO
5 Settembre 1908.

Potage reine de Poulet
Truite du Moncenis 3° Cardinal
Filet de Bœuf au Printemps
Petits Pois au jambon
Faisan à la broche Cardés
Salade minuette
Glace à la crème
Gâteau Marguerite
Friandises - Dessert
Demi tasse Moka

Capri blanca
Grignolino en caraffe
Parbaresso Calabrese
Méthet et Chardon fraîché

Grand Hôtel Turin
Dining Room of Hotel des Reservoirs, Versailles, France (photo of 1897).
Dining room of Ceres Pavilion (rebuilt 1905), later in Grand Hotel in Vittel, France (built 1912).
Swimming pool at the Hotel Gellert in Budapest, opened in 1918.
The King of Sweden (2nd left) and Guests at tennis, Hotel Beau Site in Cannes where it is said the first hard courts were developed in about 1881.

Luggage label for this Grand Resort Hotel, built in 1925.
Guest Lift and Attendant at the Hotel Le Meurice, Paris (the hotel dates from 1835).
A GRAND HOTEL ELEVATORS

Guest Lift with Attendant and Passengers in the Hotel Le Meurice, Paris.
On leaving a Grand Hotel a departing guest could be surrounded by staff for the tradition and expectations of receiving tips (pourboire).