

Grand Hotel Tremezzo  
The Daily Telegraph - Ultratravel  
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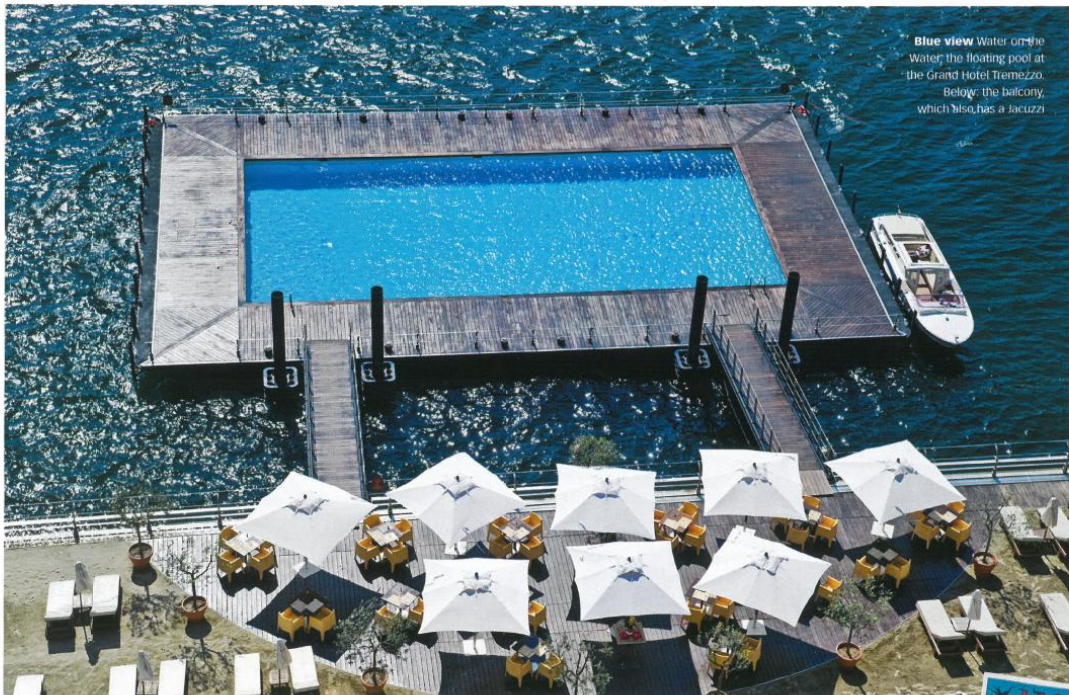
**LA**

SUITE DREAMS

# A SKYLINE OF ONE'S OWN

Private spa, private bar, fancy furnishings and iPad controls? Between them, these six new suites have all the mod cons – but the superlative views they offer are the real draw





**Blue view** Water on the water; the floating pool at the Grand Hotel Tremezzo. Below: the balcony, which also has a Jacuzzi



### Belagio Rooftop Front Suite GRAND HOTEL TREMEZZO, LAKE COMO

0039 0344 42491, [grandhoteltremezzo.com](http://grandhoteltremezzo.com)

**Price** From £1,010

**Suite size** 650sq ft, plus 300sq ft private terrace

**Opened** May 2012

**USP** This rooftop eyrie may be five floors up from the shimmering surface of Lake Como, but guests feel intimately connected with the lake and its glamorous retro lifestyle. From the private terrace, you can watch seaplanes land, see the *battello* (vintage ferry) ply the waters between here and Bellagio – the village that gives the suite its name – or look down on Ru, the hotel's varnished 1961 launch, cute as a bath toy and in every respect the opposite of a stretch limo. From up here, the view is just water, mountains and sky. As the sun sets, the majestic Grigne peaks glow pastel pink then fade to granite grey, colours brought inside by Venelli Kramer, the interior designer, who has melded old-world grandeur (chaises longues,

mirrors in gilt frames) with fruity contemporary colours (cherry, plum, fuchsia) and stark white furniture straight out of the Salone Internazionale del Mobile in Milan. It's exactly what you might expect of a new suite grafted on to a timeless grand hotel.

**The details** One of eight suites on the top floor, the Bellagio can be combined with a corner suite – or all eight can be rented as one. It comprises a bedroom with walk-in wardrobe, a living room with floor-to-ceiling windows, and a marble bathroom with double sinks, a Jacuzzi with myriad water-jet settings and a roomy shower with simple, chunky controls. Everything works perfectly, from the Loewe sound system to the flatscreen televisions and the Jacuzzi on the terrace, shielded from the wind by glass panels. Here, prosecco in hand, you can hydrotherapise, catch rays and admire that view. A butler is posted outside, should the plumbing fail.

**Andrew Purvis**



### Presidential Suite WALDORF ASTORIA BERLIN

0049 308 140000,  
[waldorfastoriaberlin.com](http://waldorfastoriaberlin.com)

**Price** From £4,215

**Suite size** 3,000sq ft

**Opened** January 2013

**USP** The area around the Zoologischer Garten may be a mix of Sixties office blocks and neon-fronted shops, but this district is on the up. The opening of the Waldorf Astoria is testament to that, and its Presidential Suite, at the peak of the city's fourth-tallest building, provides an illuminating 360-degree panorama. From the living room, the nearby KaDeWe department store peeps from behind the jagged

spire of the bombed Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church; beyond, the wooded expanse of Tiergarten gives way to a volley of weighty landmarks, from the Siegessäule Victory Column, crowned by a glistening golden angel, to the Brandenburg Gate, behind a canopy of trees. The most surprising view is much closer; one of the baths overlooks the zoo, where the amble of lumbering elephants and graceful giraffes provides a calming contrast to the distractions of this 24-hour city.

**The details** Taking up the whole of the hotel's 31st floor, the Waldorf Astoria's two-bedroom Presidential Suite is a demurely decorated space, soothingly finished in creams, golds and browns. At one end of the

elongated sitting room, a dining table and grand piano are on hand for dinner guests; at the other, couches surround a gas fire and a large-screen television made unobtrusive by a mirrored panel. Light and uncluttered, the main bedroom leads to a walk-in wardrobe and a sprawling bathroom with a private balcony positioned to catch the sunset.

During my stay, soon after the suite opened, I encountered problems with the gadgetry and, worse, a faulty fire alarm that screamed into urgent action in the middle of the night. I have since been assured that these teething problems were swiftly dealt with. German efficiency triumphs again.

**John O'Ceallaigh**



WALDORF ASTORIA BERLIN: PHILIPPE HENRI/STOCK