Where nonchalance meets elegance. Welcome to Parkhotel Mondschein

In central Bolzano, the dreamy alpine capital, there's a historic property that invites you to leave the day-to-day behind, to listen to the sound of the mountains, and to dedicate your time to the sunny side of life. Reopening May 2022 following an extensive renovation, Parkhotel Mondschein is the perfect place for a quick escape. And Bolzano, urban yet concise, is ideal for a change of scenery, whether for business or leisure.

In recent years, city trips have grown in popularity. With its nostalgic and authentic atmosphere, Mondschein manages to tap into the zeitgeist of today. But this hotel doesn't just apply mid-century accents to follow a certain trend; the entire hotel is bathed in the luminous warmth of the early sixties, reminiscent of cinematic moments from the golden age of Italian film. "In the redesign, beautiful materials, good quality, and intelligent design were top priorities. We wanted to create a place where people could come to rest and take time out. It doesn't take much to do that, but what's there needs to be top-notch," says Moritz Dissertori, Host at Parkhotel Mondschein.

A slice of history

The striking building, which impresses already at first glance with its iconic, white shutters and elegant stucco decorations, is a listed property built in 1330 as Bolzano's first guest house. In 1890, the building expanded with additions in Belle Époque style, to give guests more room to relax. Both parts remain carefully preserved to this day, which is why the historic property, surrounded by a large park, is well-known across the city. Guests especially value the building's historic features – broad hallways, high ceilings, and stucco, even in the guest rooms – architectural treasures that today can only be found in well-preserved old buildings.

Interiors fit for a film

In collaboration with Merano-based interior architects at Studio Biquadra, spearheaded by Christiana Biasi-von Berg, the redesign of the 76 rooms focused on coherence, minimalism, and subtle elegance. Depending on the space, these themes are expressed to different degrees, from 15-square metre Petite or Single rooms to 45-square metre Suites. The colour palette takes after the property's history and location, bathing rooms in soft green, grey, and brown tones to mirror the mountainous landscape and making them instantly comfortable and welcoming upon entering. Furnishings focus on clear lines and high-end dark wood, with comfy upholstered beds and classic white lampshades. While the original herringbone parquet flooring was preserved and refurbished, the bathrooms were completely redone. Here, too, less is more: elegant white tiles, frameless mirrors, and retro, silver fixtures seamlessly match the property's overall design.

Taking the time to recharge

Few activities have helped people around the world relax and find their centre as much as yoga. In the in-house studio for body and mind, Arise, – a novelty in Bolzano – it's not only guests that can practice the millennia-old philosophy, as the studio is open to the public. Located in the ancient walls of Mondschein, the studio specialises in relaxing and regenerating body and soul. Here, the hotel collaborates with different practitioners to offer a variety of yoga and Tai Chi classes. In addition, Arise plans to organise regular workshops, rituals, and events such as the one called 'Inner Gardens'.

Besides the body and mind studio there's also a fully equipped gym, giving guests the opportunity to maintain their workout routine while on vacation. The in-house sauna doesn't only promote relaxation but also works wonders for the skin. Is there anything better that soaking up the crisp mountain air of the Dolomites after a sauna session, and then sitting back with a good book in the relaxation room?

An urban oasis

The adjacent park is a true oasis in the heart of the city, shielding the hotel from the centre's lively buzz. The forest of old trees invites guests to spend time in nature and to truly unwind. During summer months, the park serves as a perfect escape to recharge and cool off in the shade.

For sun worshippers, on the other hand, the lawn with its comfy sun loungers and large parasols is the place to be: The outdoor bar complete with a kiosk serves refreshing drinks, excellent snacks and classic Italian granita – perfect for balmy temperatures. And should the reading material ever run out: A first-class selection of papers and magazines is available at the lobby shop.

The hotel also regularly hosts entertainment and cultural events, taking advantage of the park's wonderful atmosphere. Talks on the art of living, book shows, live music by young talents, DJ sets, wine tastings with regional vintners, and more, make up a running programme and cover a wide range of interests – much to the liking of culturally inclined guests.

To your health!

Even a hotel called Mondschein knows that breakfast is the most important meal of the day. In the iconic Luna Bar, a popular hotspot with locals, a la carte breakfast is served daily from 7-11 AM. To guarantee a perfect start to the day, a delightful array of delicacies for every palate is served alongside the finest Italian coffee. Hearty eggs benedict, yoghurt bowls with colourful fresh fruit, and classic brioche pastries are all on the menu. Forgoing buffets, the hotel owners prefer to instead focus on outstanding personal service. Both to meet modern hygiene demands and to counter food waste, which is especially high with buffets. "We prefer a well-curated breakfast menu with dishes that are easy on the eyes. This also lets us greet guests with a smile in the morning and accompany their start to the day," says Host Moritz Dissertori.

For small bites, Luna Bar offers a snack menu with regional appetisers from noon. The drinks menu includes classic coffee specialities, healthy smoothies and juices, homemade sodas, as well as select wines and classic cocktails that have made the bar a fixture in Bolzano's nightlife.

One with art

To ensure that the art adorning the hotel matches the rest of the design, two artists in residence were invited to spend the summer in the existing house to find inspiration.

Irene Fernández Arcas is an interdisciplinary artist who fuses drawings, paintings, photography, text, and performative rituals. Her painterly works are characterised by bright colours and abstract forms, detached from conventions and norms.

Similarly free and fearless is the photography of Karla Hiraldo Voleau, whose work captures her subject's unadulterated beauty. Physicality and interpersonal interactions come into their own, as do natural scenes and unusual still life. The mix of analogue photography and paintings by the two convention-breaking artists dress all rooms and public spaces and will be installed by them personally at the opening.

In the middle of the action

The hotel, which will retain its name post-opening out of respect for its history and tradition, is located in the historic centre of the Alpine capital – an important hub for the German and Italian-speaking cultural and economic area. Accessible via one of the city's oldest arcades and surrounded by a large park, only a seven-minute walk separates the urban oasis from Bolzano's train station, which can be easily and sustainably reached by international EuroCity trains. The hotel is also only 10 minutes by car from the airport.

Activities and environment

Parkhotel Mondschein has curated a city guide for its guests. Here is a little teaser:

Museion

Piazza Piero Siena, 1

One of Bolzano's crown jewels inside and out: The renowned contemporary art museum sports an imposing architectural presence while hosting exhibitions that compete with the foremost institutions worldwide.

TonHaus

Via della Roggia, 28

True works of art crafted in clay: thrown, moulded, pinched and pressed. Here, one-of-a-kind treasures take on all colours, sizes and forms. Christine has carefully curated a tasteful selection of handmade pieces. It is nearly impossible to leave the shop empty-handed.

Mya Boutique

Via Dr. Streiter 20

Japanese silk gloves, virgin wool scarves, cotton socks, fine jewellery, baggy trousers, statement totes: Every piece at Mya Boutique is sourced and selected from the most refined artisanal brands worldwide, with particular regard to textiles and materials.

Lido di Bolzano

Viale Trieste, 21

Indulge in some poolside relaxation, surrounded by Ettore Sottsass Senior's astonishing 1920s architecture. Here is where locals escape the summer heat, eat gelato and dive into the bright blue pools. The complex also offers a simple yet cosy sauna, a restaurant and a modern indoor pool. You're in for a lot of fun.

<u>Colle</u>

After a pleasant cableway ride, feel free to explore Kohlern/Colle: Take a look at the view from the top of the wooden tower, savour a plate of Kaiserschmarrn torn pancake at the local guesthouse and fill your eyes with the unique beauty of Villa Bittner, which is also known by local kids as "the witch's house".

Factsheet

#the Parkhotel

70 rooms and 6 suites / Park / Kiosk / Library / Luna Bar / Private Dining Room/arise Body and Mind Studio / Bicycle rental.

Parkhotel Mondschein is a Member of Design Hotels. Dogs are welcome for an extra charge.

#rooms & suites

Body care products by Susanne Kaufmann / air conditioning / room safe / minibar / bathrobes / yoga mat / WLAN

#location

The Parkhotel Mondschein is located in the center of Bolzano. Parking is available in the parking garage next door at an extra charge. Bolzano train station is a 5-minute walk away. Bolzano Airport can be reached in 10 minutes by car. Other airports are located in Innsbruck, Verona, Bergamo or Milan.

#address Via Piave 15 39100 Bolzano South Tyrol / Italy

#prices

The price for a double room starts at 240 euros per room/per night including breakfast. Prices vary depending on the booking period.

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