

SUITCASE

DISCOVER WHAT MATTERS



Editor's Picks

HOTEL REVIEW

WunderLocke, Munich, Germany

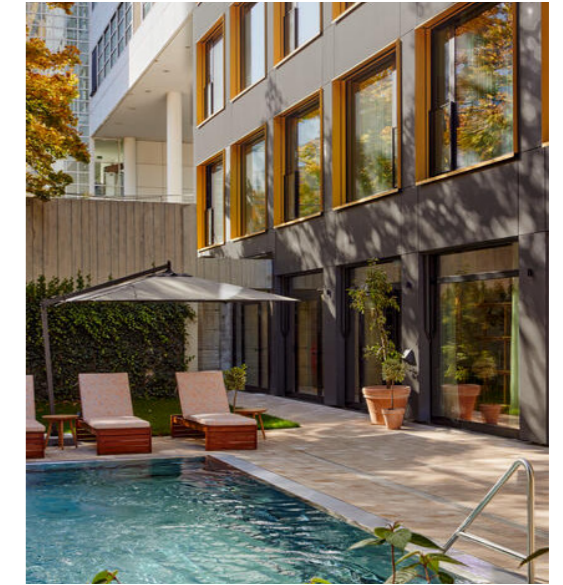
Hip hotel group Locke has opened a swanky new outpost in the Bavarian capital, where highlights include hyperlocal menus, an abundance of fitness facilities and smartly designed bedrooms – dirndls optional

11 November, 2022



The visionary Locke hospitality group has been shaking up the hotel scene since its first London property, Lemn Locke, flung open its doors in Aldgate in 2016. Less than a decade later, the company has seen a successful rollout of 11 new outposts across Europe, with further destinations in the pipeline - here's hoping, Paris, Lisbon and Berlin. The magic of these boundary-breaking stays is that not one single address looks the same; instead, each is individually designed to embody the essence of the surrounding neighbourhood.

WunderLocke - Locke's biggest launch to date - is located in the leafy suburb of Sendling. Spread across seven floors, 360 apartments, chic co-working spaces, an in-house Michelin-starred restaurant and an abundance of fitness facilities are all at guests' disposal. Interiors, which come courtesy of London-based design consultancy Holloway Li, feature renewable materials that create a sense of connection with nature. Despite its size, the core concept of WunderLocke is the same as that of its siblings: a stylish set-up that offers travellers a hub in which to work, play and relax.



A cosy corner, left, and the outdoor swimming pool.

Locke's success, according to the group's achingly cool creative director, Eric Jafari, is down to the collaborative efforts of a raft of pioneering creatives, from architects and designers to chefs and DJs. Across the board, there is a deep respect for local culture and community, seen in everything from small touches such as killer soundtracks through to stylish pop-up events.

On arrival, we're greeted by a gentleman dressed in lederhosen. Our first thought is that this must be standard attire for the Bavarian capital; our second, what an interesting, alternative choice of uniform. But then we are reminded that the annual Oktoberfest celebrations have just commenced - a period during which it is appropriate for Germans to sport the national dress. After a grand and glorious tour, we enter our bedroom to find our very own dirndl



The stylish co-working space, left, and an airy penthouse suite.

Rooms

There are 10 different room types to choose from, spanning micro-studios to a super-slinky penthouse. We stayed in a rooftop suite, where concrete ceilings, forest-green walls and wooden furnishings make for a contemporary abode. The open-plan living arrangement sees a trundle king-sized bed framed by a snug sofa corner sofa, while details such as a silk sleep mask, ribbed bed socks and cosy throws provide a soothing level of comfort for travellers. In true Locke style, the kitchen comes complete with all the essentials. Spacious matte-black-tiled bathrooms are stocked with toiletries labelled with a sensual message - we'll leave you to explore that one. Our favourite part was the enormous balcony, which showcased undisturbed views across the city and distant shadows of the dramatic Alps.

What's for breakfast?

Truth be told, the breakfast options are limited. You'll find a selection of slow-baked breads, pastries and fresh-pressed juices, but we'd suggest venturing into town for something a little more gourmet.

How about lunch and dinner?

All the action takes place in the 70-cover Mural Farmhouse, where scribbled across walls are the words „Eat Local. Drink Natural“. Natural woods, terrazzo tiling and raffia are woven throughout the space, alongside enormous potted plants, velvet banquettes and wishbone chairs. Headed up by chef Rico Birndt, a carefully curated farm-to-fork menu is packed with delicious regional fare - we feast on beef tartare with buttered potatoes and finish with an artisanal hazelnut ice cream.



Farm-to-fork plates, left, and a snapshot of Mural Farmhouse.

Is there a bar?

Yes, the rooftop bar is one of the sexiest set-ups we've ever had the pleasure of sipping a cocktail on - and that, might we add, is really saying something. It's dimly lit and decadently decorated, with enormous speakers and red leather booths drawing a crowd of city dwellers come sunset.

Prefer a more relaxed atmosphere? The ground-floor Mural Café is for you. Snag a chair at the curvaceous wood-panelled bar and steal the best local recommendations from one of the bartenders.

Amenities

With an ever-evolving events calendar, it would be borderline impossible for us to give you the inside scoop on everything that's on offer. During our visit, a pop-up barber saw guests enjoying a complimentary trim, while morning yoga sessions are also an option. A well-equipped gym, outdoor pool and spacious sauna are open year-round to keep you entertained.

How about their eco-credentials?

Green and squeaky clean. Built from the ground up using raw and recycled materials, the property stands out for its use of eco-friendly products, climate-conscious menus and a housekeeping service that only does laundry on request.



Rooftop terrace, left, and a bathroom.

What about accessibility?

All areas of the hotel are easily accessible. There are a handful of converted rooms for those with mobility issues.

What's the crowd like?

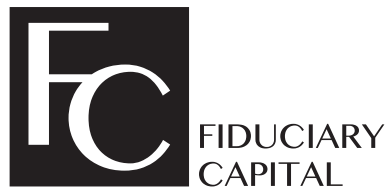
If we had to dream up the ultimate hangout for nomadic urbanites, it would be WunderLocke. We spot plenty of hipsters using the self-check-in kiosk who wouldn't look out of place on the cover of i-D. Kids are welcome, but we don't cross paths with any pushchairs during our stay.

Things I should know

There are no landlines in the bedrooms. Instead, the team is contactable through WhatsApp 24/7.

Within a short walk I can find...

Everything. You're in the Bavarian capital, after all. Peruse our city guide for the coolest bars and boutiques in town. Park Cafè makes for a great brunch spot, Die Goldene Bar is famed locally for its bellini coladas and Literatur Moths should be on every bookworm's radar.



BAUHERR & ENTWICKLER

Fiduciary Capital GmbH
Bavariafilmplatz 7
82031 Grünwald
LK München
T 089/6499-1900
F 089/6499-1901
FC@FIDCAP.DE

www.FidCap.de