

Thompson Rome opens in old Communist Party headquarters

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ROME — On Via delle Botteghe Oscure, where the Italian Communist Party once ran its national headquarters, a new hotel has opened its doors. The Thompson Rome keeps the building's original atrium and staircase, so guests still walk through a piece of twentieth century political history.

A building with history

Architect Renzo Costa, who worked on the project, explained to Italy Now that the atrium was commissioned by Palmiro Togliatti, the party's post-war leader. "It expresses twentieth century neo-positivism, a passage from the rationalism of Fascist architecture to the modern movement," he said. "The place joined political thinking and culture." Neo-positivism was a faith in science and progress.

"The wall commissioned from sculptor Giò Pomodoro was not a work for its own sake, but the sculpture continues into the floor, where the lines form a star," Costa said.

Source: https://italynow.co.uk/thompson-rome-opens-in-old-communist-party-headquarters/



Hotel atrium with art work by Giò Pomodoro (*Credits: Italy Now*)

On the seventh floor, the rooftop offers a 360-degree view over Rome. “The difference is that at the rooftop we plan quicker seating for an early evening meal with drinks, and a more dynamic menu,” the hotel’s director Arturo Reguero Gomez said.

A Junior Suite, on the third floor, measures 44 square meters and overlooks Via delle Botteghe Oscure. This is where Enrico Berlinguer, the Communist Party’s leader, once spoke from a balcony.

Paintings are by Italian artists, as the Thompson wants to support the local market and emerging talent. The rooms are larger than most in Rome. Bathroom Floors are heated and all rooms have home automation technology. London design studio Linda Boronkay chose the furnishings, including alabaster lamps.

Riviera cuisine and a lifestyle edge

Executive chef Fabio Fioravanti, has worked for Hyatt in Venice and Park Hyatt in Doha, and trained with Alain Ducasse. “I bring the synergy between France and Italy to create Riviera cuisine,” he said.

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The sixth floor restaurant is the most gourmet, and a raw bar lets guests choose their seafood.

“The Thompson sits in the lifestyle segment with a touch of luxury, and could move to luxury in future,” the director said. It is the first Thompson in Italy and the third in Europe.



Thompson Rome hotel reception (*Credits: Italy Now*)

“The project is a partnership between Alessandro Rossi’s Rossfin and Andrea Girolami’s AG. For the opening, prices range from 500 to 3,000 euros for the 69 rooms and 19 junior suite,” administrative director Marco Aquaroli said. “The months before opening required incredible teamwork, but as a result we are fully booked, just after opening.”

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