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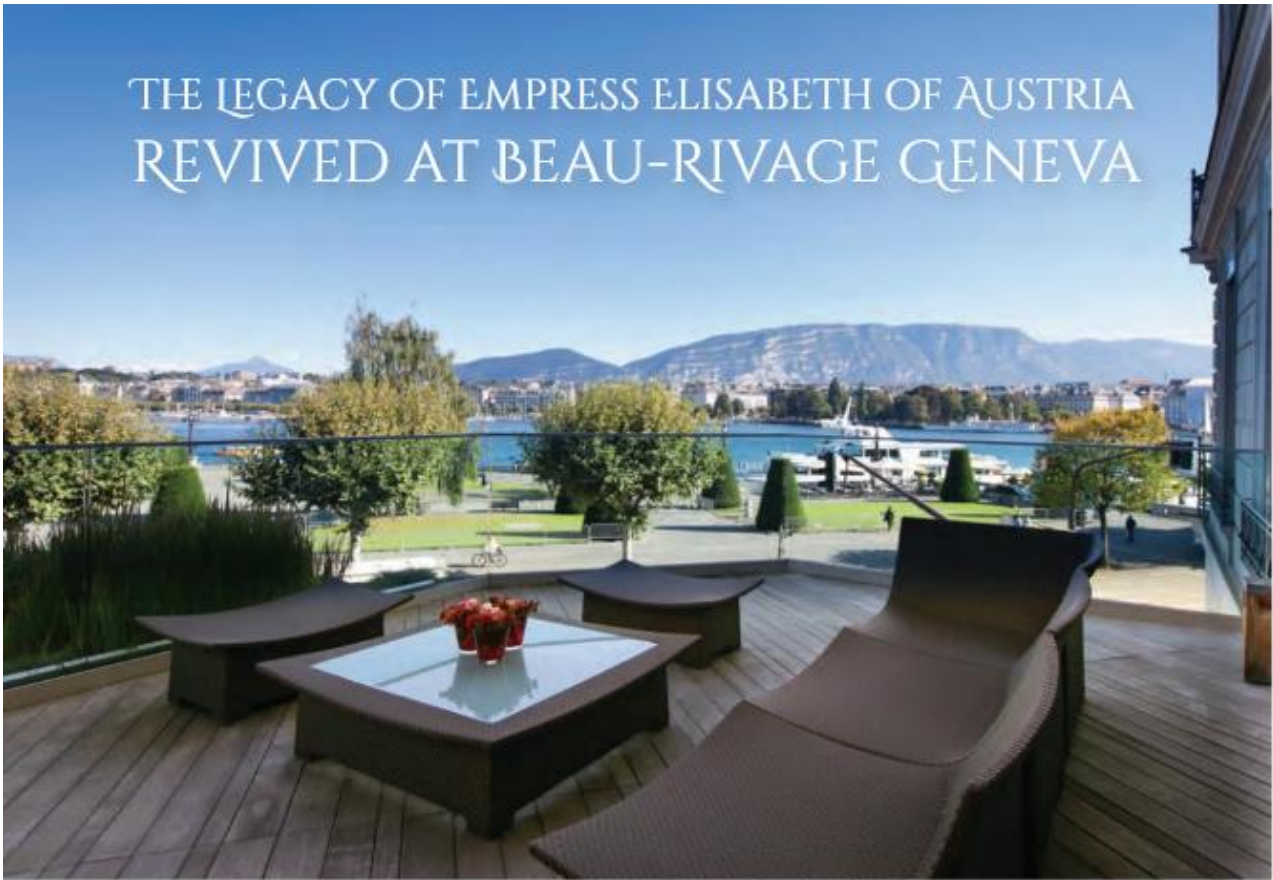
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THE LEGACY OF EMPRESS ELISABETH OF AUSTRIA REVIVED AT BEAU-RIVAGE GENEVA



Beau-Rivage, Geneva's original family-run grande dame, has revived the legacy of one of its most famous guests; Empress Elisabeth of Austria, informally known as Sissi, with a new experience inviting visitors to take a stroll back in time, staying in her favourite suite and re-tracing her footsteps through Geneva. Commemorating the life one of Europe's most glamorous and intriguing princesses and highlighting Beau-Rivage's links to her story, the new package gives first-hand access to Empress Sissi's regal hideaway in Geneva, telling her colourful tale right up to her untimely assassination, an impactful moment in European history to which the hotel's then-owner Fanny Mayer was witness.

The new Sissi Package includes:

- One night's accommodation in Sissi Terrace Suite, the Empress's favourite suite, which features a painting of Empress Sissi as well as the most historical object in the hotel; an original untouched mirror dating from the establishment of the hotel, 1865. Just outside of the Suite is a display of unique artefacts, including: a rose, given by the Empress to Fanny Mayer (grandmother of Jacques Mayer, owner of Beau-Rivage Geneva, 4th generation), a piece of purple ribbon stained with blood and belonging to Sissi, cutlery engraved with her initials as well as a pair of gloves, also embroidered with her initials. The display also showcases the last picture of the Empress, taken in Geneva.

- A two-hour guided tour through Geneva following Sissi's footsteps and visiting the Sissi statue, a memorial sign by the bridge and visit through the Old Town
- Airport transfer to and from Geneva airport in Mercedes S Class
- Commemorative book detailing the history of Beau-Rivage Geneva
- Buffet breakfast

The opulent Sissi Terrace Suite offers unrivalled views over Lake Geneva and its iconic jet d'eau fountain from its grand private terrace and boasts a sumptuous bathroom designed like a private spa, adorned with marble and superbly-appointed with amenities that include a steam room and Jacuzzi.

The story of Empress Sissi at Beau Rivage

The life of Élisabeth of Austria sounds like a romantic novel: a vivacious Bavarian princess with floor-length hair and known as a beauty queen of her time, she became Empress of Austria and Queen of Hungary by marriage to Emperor Franz Joseph I in 1854. She lived a turbulent life, from the death of her son in a murder-suicide at his hunting lodge in Mayerling to her assassination in Geneva in 1898, to which Fanny Mayer, then owner of Beau-Rivage, was witness.

Empress Sissi regularly visited Switzerland during her



later years and was a frequent visitor to Beau-Rivage where she stayed in her favourite suite, now named the Sissi Terrace Suite, under a number of pseudonyms, enjoying the hotel's utmost privacy between exploring nearby Medieval towns such as Montreux and walking in the mountains.

On 10th September 1898, the Empress left the hotel to stroll along the quay to catch a boat over Lake Geneva before being struck by Italian anarchist Luigi Luccheni with a sharpened nail file, her injury undiscovered until her collapse on board the boat. Empress Sissi was carried by the concierge back to Beau-Rivage where she passed away 20 minutes later, attended to by the hotel's owner and her husband, who were presented with a rose taken from the coffin as well as a small piece of ribbon from her dress, which remain at the hotel today in commemoration of the Empress.

Prices start from £1645, for more information or to book, visit www.beau-rivage.ch

CONCIERGE

A magical Christmas in Geneva with the ultimate new Swiss festive experience at Beau-Rivage

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CPP-LUXURY

Whether as a stop en-route to the mountains or as a sophisticated European city break, Geneva comes to life at Christmas time with magnificent lights and decorations, lakeside fireworks and traditional wooden Christmas markets heaving with mulled wine and festive delicacies.

On the edge of Lake Geneva, this year the luxurious heritage [Beau-Rivage Hotel](#) has crafted a Christmas to remember for families and couples with fairytale décor and Swarovski decorated Christmas tree; bringing the slopes to the city with fondue ski gondolas on its new La Terrasse Alpine, a chocolate experience at the Chocolate Bar, a chance for children to decorate their own tree and for adults the opportunity to build your own Swiss watch as a unique Christmas gift.

New watchmaking experience in the home of the Swiss timepiece

As Geneva is synonymous with the world of luxury watches, the birthplace of brands such as Patek Philippe and Piaget, Beau-Rivage has created an exclusive watchmaking experience in collaborating with Swiss horology specialists Initium, at the end of which guests will create their own beautiful bespoke timepiece as a perfect Christmas present for a loved one.

Celebrating the time-honoured craft of watchmaking, the experience includes a one-night stay and a one-day watchmaking course at the Initium workshop guided by a master watchmaker where guests will create their own timepiece, as well as two tickets to the Patek Philippe Museum and a commemorative book on watchmaking.

New La Terrasse Alpine: slope to city with fondue in a ski gondola (mid-November-mid-March)

November will see the launch of a unique new fondue dining experience at Beau-Rivage with eye-catching, cosy ski gondolas seating up to four people each set on the hotel's picturesque terrace overlooking Lake Geneva, serving a series of gourmet fondues using locally-produced Swiss cheese paired with excellent wines from the hotel's historic cellar. The only one of its kind in Geneva, it is the perfect way to indulge in a festive setting after a day exploring the city's Christmas markets.

Fondues start from 32CHF (approx. £26) per person for a minimum of two people.

Christmas for all the family: tree-decorating, surprises and sweet treats at the Chocolate Bar

Families staying at Beau-Rivage this Christmas and New Year can expect a fairytale atmosphere with nods to Swiss tradition, the hotel's historic hallways glittering with decorations and sparkling Swarovski-decorated tree revealed on 27th November. Rooms and suites will be similarly resplendent with festive cheer and guests will be able to decorate their own Christmas tree for their stay. The new Family Christmas package includes a two-night stay, a Christmas tree, a chocolate buffet experience at the hotel's Chocolate Bar and toy store voucher as well as sweet Christmas treats on arrival and a second room at half rate.

About Beau-Rivage Geneva

Founded in 1865 by Jean-Jacques Mayer and conveniently located on the lakeside Quai du Mont Blanc, in the heart of Geneva's business and shopping district, Beau-Rivage commands incredible views of Lake Geneva and the Alps. Behind its grand, historic façade the hotel's meticulously-restored design blends the modern day with magical echoes of the past: from the Mayer family's own original furnishings, stained glass and objets d'art scattered throughout, to suites named after notable guests who have left their mark on history here.



Beau Rivage Geneve – Suite

Beau-Rivage's glittering list of former guests includes the likes of Eleanor Roosevelt, who quietly reflected here whilst drafting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to Empress Sisi of Austria who chose Beau-Rivage as her pied-à-terre in Geneva, to legendary designer Coco Chanel and Hollywood stars including Angelina Jolie.

With 72 individually-designed rooms and 23 suites, including six Lake View Loft Suites launched last year as part of the hotel's loft renovation. Designed by French interior designer Pierre-Yves Rochon, the loft suites have a grand staircase leading up to a king or twin bed and a ceiling window for stargazing from bed. In addition, a new Bellefontaine Suite opened this month for specialised Swiss spa treatments. Plus, the exceptional cuisine from Michelin-starred Le Chat-Botté to lakeside La Terrasse, Beau-Rivage is a magnificent base for exploring the stylish city of Geneva.

Rates:

The full-day watchmaking experience at Beau-Rivage Geneva starts from CHF3,294 (approx. £2,680) based on two adults sharing a Deluxe Room on a B&B basis. There are a variety of watchmaking packages available at Initium starting from CHF1,006 (approx. £820) based on two adults sharing a Deluxe Room on a B&B basis with a 1.5 hour Introduction to Watchmaking Course.

The Beau-Rivage Family Christmas package starts from CHF1,630 (approx. £1,333) for two nights in a Deluxe Room with a second room at 50% off and including late-checkout and breakfast.

Beau-Rivage has rooms starting from CHF490 (approx. £400) per night, based on two adults sharing a Classic Room on a room-only basis. For further information on Beau-Rivage or for bookings please visit [beau-rivage.ch](#) or telephone +41 22 716 66 66.



Beau Rivage Geneve

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