



Nobu Hotel Miami Beach

Miami's Chic Japanese-inspired Beach House

Words by Vanessa Pascale

Nobu Hotel Miami Beach's lobby sets the tone for what guests can expect while staying here. It's grand, luxurious, and above all, welcoming. A collaboration between renowned Chef Nobu Matsuhisa and legendary actor Robert De Niro, the hotel masterly fuses modern-Japanese influences with coastal living.





The property is home to both Nobu Hotel and the iconic Eden Roc Miami Beach Resort, which are separated into two towers, but share the majestic lobby appointed with a newly revamped 16-seat Morris Lapidus' lobby bar below a magnificent chandelier made of alternating bronze, glass cylinders. Framed

by magnificent columns, the lounge serves up local DJs and musicians nightly, along with handcrafted cocktails and light bites.

Nestled on Collins Avenue, the David Rockwell-designed property boasts 206 rooms, suites, 1- and 2-bedroom villas, and a penthouse with gorgeous views of the

ocean and Intracoastal Waterway, thanks to its idyllic positioning between the two. Guests have a list of amenities at their fingertips, including four pools as well as an exclusive Nobu pool and lounge slated to open this year; spa and fitness facility; and restaurants Nobu Restaurant & Bar, Malibu Farm, and Playabar.



Custom art, lantern-style light fixtures, and Japanese-inspired touches are peppered throughout the hotel and hallways leading to the guest rooms. I am staying in an Umi Suite, which boasts a wraparound balcony, floor-to-ceiling windows with views of the ocean and Intracoastal Waterway, and a soothing cool color scheme of greys and blues, enhanced by the teak wood and Italian Marble flooring. The luxe suite is outfitted with a king-sized bed dressed in soft Filli D'Oro Italian bed linens and the softest pillows. There are also two 65" Smart TVs, a generous-sized dining table, one and a half bath, a walk-in closet, in-room bar, high-speed Wi-Fi, and in-room dining options by Nobu Restaurant.

The spacious master bath is stocked with Natura Bissé bath products, a soaking tub, separate rainfall shower, and dual sinks. The hotel provides a few nice extras such as a toothbrush and toothpaste, hair ties, hairdryer, bath salts, an adjustable lighted mirror, and steamer. And little treats have been set out, including Senbei rice crackers with a personal note from Chef Nobu, and a small box of chocolates, bottled waters, and house slippers – a part of their nightly turndown service. It's these unique details that make guests feel well taken care of during their stay. For a first-class experience, butler service is offered. Once you step onto the wraparound balcony, furnished with a daybed and chairs, you can't help but be mesmerized by the beautiful cerulean waters, and pool below, which bestows an even more magical sight in the evening when it's all lit up.

The view is just as nice from Malibu Farm. Touted as "Fresh. Organic. Local.", the farm-to-table eatery founded by Chef Helene Henderson offers local, healthy, sustainable fare for breakfast, lunch, and dinner in a coastal-chic, open-air milieu. We dined here on a sunny Saturday afternoon –after the bustling breakfast crowd cleared out—beneath a retractable roof. After reviewing the menu with main dishes like Soy Ginger Skirt Steak, Chicken Ricotta Burger, Slow Roast Lamb, and Vegan Coconut Tofu, we decided on the half lobster to start. It was served chilled in a half shell on a bed of charred corn and potatoes —sadly, minus the claw. It was fresh and tasty, and left my guest and I wanting more. Next, we ordered the Tomato Pizza with burrata and basil and Cauliflower Crust Pizza with mozzarella, pesto, and roasted cauliflower. The latter was not your typical cauliflower crust, but nonetheless was quite appetizing. And for dessert, we tried the Grilled Chocolate Cake with salted caramel and whipped cream and Ice Cream Sandwich with salted caramel cookies and vanilla ice cream. The sweet crunchy cookie was our favorite.





Of course, the other restaurant onsite is Miami dining staple, Nobu, which serves Japanese-fusion cuisine in their main dining room, the bar and lounge, and the 10-seat teppanyaki room. The menu is comprised of sushi rolls, sashimi, and hot dishes. Standouts include the Crispy Rice with Spicy Tuna, Black Cod with Miso, and Grilled King Crab with Yuzu Salsa. For serious foodies, they offer a multi-course tasting menu: The Nobu Signature Menu and The Omakase.

For your mind, body, and soul, Nobu Hotel has Esencia Wellness Spa, a 22,000 square-foot spa and fitness center with 18 treatment rooms, ARTIS Technogym, and personal training. Nobu Hotel guests receive complimentary access to spa facilities, including the hydrotherapy circuit with whirlpools, plunge pools, saunas, and hydro-experience showers. Find relaxation with a 50-minute massage or rejuvenate your skin with The Recovery facial. Hair and manicure services are also available. Before or after your treatment, be sure to take advantage of their relaxation lounge – a cozy sanctuary that offers tea, snacks, plenty of lounging space, a charming fireplace to relax by,

and floor-to-ceiling windows looking out onto the pool area.

Once you're rejuvenated, take a walk down to the beach —where beach chairs and towels are available and included in the resort fee— and enjoy the surf and sand or lounge by the pool in a cabana. Get some sun and exercise by taking a bicycle (rental included in the resort fee) ride along the scenic boardwalk. Kayak, jet-ski, boat, and scooter rentals are also offered onsite. And don't forget to pop by Boho Hunter Boutique to check out their fashions and trinkets.

For your added convenience, there's a Starbuck's off of the lobby, 24-hour concierge, business center, valet parking, and over 70,000 square feet of meeting and event space. A wealth of attractions, shopping, dining, and nightlife are a short drive away including, Perez Art Museum, Bal Harbour Shops, and South Beach Art Deco District, so you can easily get the most out of Miami during your stay. **ML**

For more information and reservations, call 305-531-0000 or visit www.nobuhotelmiamibeach.com.