

AIN'T IT GRAND?

Grand Bohemian Orlando has art, soul, & all that jazz

WORDS BY VANESSA PASCALE





Grand Bohemian Orlando is an award-winning hotel that's popular with business travelers, out-of-towners as well as staycationers because of its central location, in Orlando's Downtown Arts District, and luxe ambiance. Large scale art in the form of sculptures, like the striking black stallion in the valet area, and paintings greet guests as soon they arrive. Stately dark columns line the ornate lobby punctuated with bright colors, gold flourishes, and striking furnishings.

The landmark hotel has 247 rooms and suites which feature jewel-toned hues, velvet trimmings, dramatic headboards, and plush Pillowtop mattresses topped with down duvets and pillows. Guest rooms are appointed with 37" flat screen TVs, movies on demand, complimentary Wi-Fi, Bose CD radios, bathrobes, mini bar, coffee maker, and

in-room Starbucks coffee. Bathrooms are stocked with a phone, bath products, hair dryer, and lighted makeup mirror. Suites have a separate living room with a sofa bed and an additional TV. Orlando's cityscape can be enjoyed from guest's rooms as well as from the rooftop, where you'll find the heated outdoor pool and whirlpool.

One of the hotel's best features is their in-room dining. Who doesn't love breakfast in bed, especially while on vacation? And they do breakfast exceptionally well. The waffles are delicious, the grits are creamy, and I could not get enough of their applewood smoked bacon. If you're feeling social, The Boheme restaurant, on the ground level, serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The AAA Four-Diamond restaurant does a breakfast buffet on Saturdays from 7–10 am for \$19 where they serve scrambled eggs, fingerling potatoes & caramelized onions, pastries like chocolate croissants, fresh fruit, Greek yogurt, among other tasty eats. On Sundays, the restaurant kicks it up a notch with a fancy Jazz Brunch from 10 am–2 pm. For \$49 per person, guests can enjoy unlimited mimosas, specialty chef stations (hello, carving station!), and brunch displays with offerings that include snow crab legs and oysters as they listen to jazz performed by Central Florida's best musicians.

The Kessler Collection property is full of accommodating amenities including a 24-hour fitness center, Bösendorfer Lounge, Grand Bohemian Art Gallery, Starbucks, and Poseidon Spa. Peace and tranquility is easily found in their luxurious spa. My masseuse was friendly and knowledgeable. She really took her time to explain the service and asked questions to ensure my experience was the very best. After a 50-minute signature massage and a complimentary glass of champagne, I left refreshed and relaxed. In addition to massages, their spa menu boasts packages and a list of treatments including facials, body treatments, nail services, makeup, and waxing.

An elegant milieu in a prime spot, the boutique hotel is frequently reserved for notable affairs –parties, events, meetings, and weddings. Dining, entertainment (Orlando's Amway Center is just steps away), and nightlife are all within walking distance, while a myriad of shopping malls, championship golf courses, beaches, and theme parks are a short drive away. Check-in to this luxurious hotel, and experience all that this soulful hotel, Orlando, and its surrounding areas have to offer. **ML**

Grand Bohemian Orlando is located at 325 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32801. For reservations, call 866-663-0024 or visit <http://www.grandbohemianhotel.com>

