



MAISON ALBAR HOTELS LE MONUMENTAL PALACE

The prestigious French hotel chain Maison Albar Hotels (MAH), owned by the Paris Inn Group investment fund, inaugurated the brand's first unit in Portugal, right in the heart of the city of Porto. The new five-star hotel, Le Monumental Palace, opened its doors in November 2018 on the Avenida dos Aliados, the city's centre stage.



The French group's new hotel is giving a new lease of life to one of the city's most emblematic and historic buildings, designed by Italian architect Michelangelo Soá in 1923, which had been abandoned for several decades.

After three years of rehabilitation work, carried out by Mystic Invest (owned by entrepreneur Mário Ferreira), the hotel was acquired by the Paris Inn Group, now integrating the Maison Albar Hotels brand, which operates under the LHW (The Leading Hotels of the World) label.

Behind its monumental gothic facade, it still boasts some of the building's original elements and features, such as the staircase handrail, which was restored, and the grandiosity of the high ceilings, which gives it the monumentality of yesteryear. Along with the structural refurbishment, Oitoemponto duo Artur Miranda and Jacques Bec, elegantly recreated the iconic Art Deco and Art Nouveau's spirit and atmosphere of the 1930's.

Nothing was left to chance, the grandiose mirrors, the luxurious chandeliers, the use of imposing Portuguese marbles and carpets with unique designs, were carefully chosen, as well as every detail and every object, such as those in wrought iron, discovered in antique shops. Together these elements recreate the glamorous ambience of the 1930s, an era during which the luxurious Monumental Café was famous throughout the Iberian Peninsula. Adding to this theme, the corridors leading to the rooms remind us of the carriages of the iconic Orient Express.

HOTEL

The hotel has a total of 76 rooms - 40 Superior and 23 City View Superior, along with 13 suites – 5 Audacieuse suites, 5 Insensée, and also suites Affolante, Excessive and Monumentale. Common to all are the noble materials used, the predominant natural light, and the elegance of French style. The dimensions of the various types of rooms range from 29 to 87m² and the suites boast a fantastic view of the city, as do the balconies.

Enabling guests to enjoy a thoroughly “monumental” experience, there are several spaces that contribute to a truly unforgettable stay. The library, the lounge and the gym are just some of the options. Well-being and gastronomy are celebrated at the Le Monumental Nuxe SPA and in three areas dedicated to the culinary art: the Bar Américain, the Café Monumental and Le Monument restaurant, highlighting the best of French cuisine with Chef Julien Montbabut’s signature, who came from Paris (where he won a Michelin star at Le Restaurant) to embrace this project.



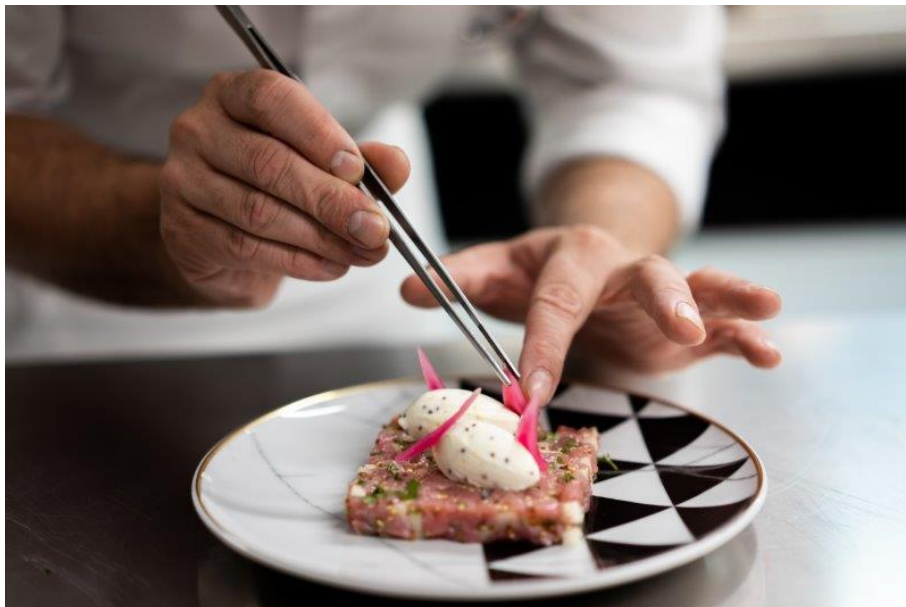
Le Monumental Nuxe Spa

The first unit of the French brand in Portugal, Le Monumental Palace is the only spa hotel in downtown Porto. It is also the only hotel that offers parking in this area of the city. With a heated indoor pool, sauna, Turkish bath, two treatment rooms and a Vichy shower, this 350m² relaxation nook proposes signature treatments, at the hands of experts, providing sheer moments of pleasure in a sophisticated and welcoming environment, every day from 9:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

GASTRONOMY

The **Bar Américain**, specialised in classic and signature cocktails, also offers a selection of Port wines to accompany selected snacks to share, ideal for a late afternoon treat.

The **Monumental Café** is a Parisian style brasserie, which brings to life the story of the old and prestigious café that once functioned between its walls. Today it welcomes guests, residents and tourists to come in for a coffee, lunch, snack or dinner, throughout the day. The cuisine is traditionally French, from the patisserie to the most famous delicacies, such as *foie gras*, which is imported weekly from France. To finish on a high note, the classic dessert cart comes around to tempt diners with its sweet delights.



At **Le Monument**, renowned French chef Julien Montbabut (with a strong Michelin-based career built in his home country) offers a "gourmande" contemporary haute cuisine, reinterpreting French classics to which he adds his personal touch. Flavour and *savoir-faire* have their highest form of expression at Le Monument. French gastronomy has definitely found a new stage in northern Portugal, in one of Porto's most exquisite saloons.

This luxurious project by Maison Albar Hotels brings a unique concept to the "unconquered" city, which perfectly combines the architectural monumentality and

history of the city, with French elegance in a cosmopolitan contemporary style, giving birth to a brand new era.

IMAGENS

Opening hours:

Le Monument – Tuesday to Saturday from 7.30 pm till 11.30pm

Monumental Café – Monday to Sunday from 9am till midnight.

Bar Américain – Sunday to Wednesday from 11am till 1am, from Thursday to Saturday from 11am till 2am.

Contact:

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