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THE VIBE
Upstairs at The Plaza could not be more different from its opulent Beaux-Arts lobby. There are 282 guest rooms, all elegant and surprisingly light, and 29 newly redesigned super-suites. Grandly titled the Legacy Suites, they even come with a butler, no less.



WELLBEING
La Palestra is no ordinary gym, but a Frank Gehry-designed state-of-the-art 'wellness facility' catering for professional athletes. Be sure to book a yoga class in advance, and enjoy one of the Caudalie Spa's 'world-famous' facials in its tranquil surroundings.



HOT HOTEL

The Plaza

Where do the ELLE fashion team stay during New York Fashion Week? Why, The Plaza, of course. Because if it's grand, historic charm you're after, but with all the 21st century mod cons you might imagine, you'll want the city's most iconic hotel. Built in the style of a French Renaissance château, it stands on the corner of Central Park, just a short walk from the designer stores on Fifth and Park Avenue. Designated as an official landmark in 1969, it maintains the decadent aura immortalised in films from *The Great Gatsby* to *American Hustle* and, of course, the classic *Eloise* children's books created by Kay Thompson.

New York

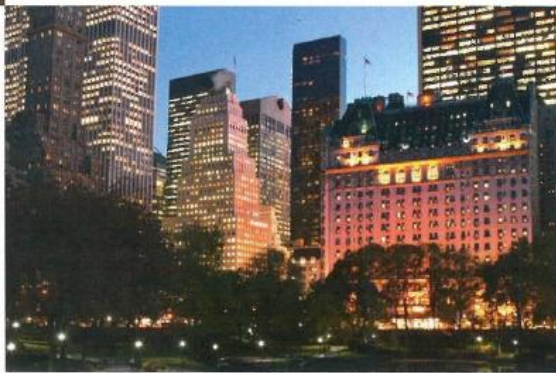


The Royal Plaza Suite's dining room



THE FOOD
Having breakfast trolled into your room (there is 24-hour room service) or taking afternoon tea (from £35) in The Palm Court is a must. A pre-dinner cocktail in the Lobby is equally satisfying. And the sprawling Plaza Food Hall downstairs features global treats, such as lobster guacamole.

ELLE ESCAPE IT Find more places to stay at elleuk.com/travel



HANDY FOR...
Aside from the unrivalled uptown shopping meccas of Barneys and Bergdorf Goodman, the Paris Theatre, an independently owned cinema, lies across the road from The Plaza and shows great independent movies.

i The Plaza, 768 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10019, +1 (212) 759 3000. Doubles from £443, room only. British Airways (ba.com) has daily return flights from London Heathrow and City to New York JFK and Newark, from £381 return.