

150 Years of Engadine Hotel Tradition

The legendary Hotel Saratz in Pontresina is a place like no other. In the inspirational setting of a grand Fin-de-Siècle hotel, modern lifestyle and four-star-superior quality meet and are celebrated in a surprisingly relaxed atmosphere. This is in no small part down to the managing directors: husband-and-wife team Yvonne Urban and Martin Scherer embrace and personify the hotel's core values. Situated in a 35,000-square-metre park, the establishment radiates Art Nouveau elegance and the warmth of the hosts. Most of the 93 rooms, family rooms and junior suites boast wonderful views into Val Roseg. The focal point of the spa and wellness area is the oriental Sarazenen Bath, a modern interpretation of the hammam. The extensive spa facilities also include an indoor swimming pool, a sauna and steam bath, and guests can enjoy a range of massage and beauty treatments. At the Saratz, lovers of fine cuisine have two excellent restaurants to choose from: the classic Art Nouveau Restaurant and the first genuinely, almost entirely vegetarian restaurant Giodi.

Savoir vivre e mangiare bene

The Art Nouveau Restaurant is the culinary heart of the hotel – a place to celebrate and enjoy, select local produce from the beautifully arranged breakfast buffet and, come evening, treat oneself to market-fresh à-la-carte dishes prepared by Kari Walker and her kitchen team.

Fans of traditional fare will feel perfectly at home in La Cuort, a cosy and intimate fondue and raclette locale which seats 16 and is located in the hotel's oldest vaults.

Right next to it you will find the trendy “Giodi Vegetarian & Co.”. Vegi and flexi lovers have been meeting here since December 2020 and can be pampered in the stylish restaurant or on the sheltered sun terrace in summer. Enjoyment comes first. Whether with an Engadine beer, with a fine glass of wine or cooked by top chef Kari Walker. “Food is life”, she says and conjures up almost entirely vegetarian menus with meat or fish as “side vegetables” if desired.

After dinner, it's time to change location to the crackling fireplace at the hotel bar. In the comfortable armchairs and sofas at the bar you can stand between the Engadine sun and the romance of the fireplace.

From the Sarazenen Bath to the summer pool

The oriental Sarazenen Bath is situated in the hotel's old vaulted cellar. This modern interpretation of the classic hammam superbly combines a sociable atmosphere with wellbeing, rejuvenation and health. The wellness facilities at the Saratz will satisfy the most discerning of spa-goers and include an indoor swimming pool, whirlpool, relaxation lounge, traditional wooden sauna and a natural stone steam bath. Guests can also enjoy an indulgent rhasoul bath based on oriental traditions. This pampering ritual involves applying a poultice containing three kinds of healing mud, followed by a steam bath. Multi-sensory showers, an ice fountain, a quiet lounge, gym and massage and beauty treatment facilities complete the spa offer.

The hotel park is home to the Bagnera, the largest and highest-altitude outdoor swimming pool in the Engadine. It is heated to a pleasant 27°C from June to October. During the peak season, snacks, grilled meats and salads are served poolside by the Café Bagnera staff.

35,000 square metres of holiday fun

Space and time are true luxuries. There's no lack of space at the Saratz, and the spacious hotel park beckons with recreation options galore: there's a tennis court, natural running track, table tennis, chess, bocchia and much more.

Meanwhile, the children can expend energy in the Robinson playground with its trampoline, tepee and sandpit. Or whiz over the flow trail on a mountain bike, have fun on the cross minigolf course or explore the nature park with its gorge, historical bridge and old pavilion. The grown-ups will probably prefer a proper round of golf at one of the region's golf courses at Samedan and Zuoz (18 holes) or St Moritz (9 holes). Saratz guests receive a 20 percent green fee discount.

Those who favour mountain biking over golf can borrow one of the hotel's complimentary Cannondale bikes to explore the lovely Engadine landscape.

Corviglia, Corvatsch or Diavolezza/Lagalb – in winter, our guests are spoilt for choice when it comes to superb skiing and other winter sports activities. The hotel shuttle bus runs free of charge between the hotel and the Corviglia ski region in Celerina. Sledding pros can enjoy an exhilarating run on the sled trails at Muottas Muragl and Preda/Bergün. Cross-country skiers strap on their skis in the hotel and then turn onto perfectly groomed dream trails directly in Saratz Park.

Children welcome!

Crafting, pizza making, fabric painting, treasure hunting, putting on an Olympiad, campfire building, painting competitions and, last but by no means least, eating together at the kids' table. The Saratz has a long tradition of welcoming families. Our younger guests are cared for by trained staff and we offer activities to suit all age groups. Small children (from 3 years of age) can let off steam in our bright and inviting Play Paradise (open daily from 9:00 to 18.30 hrs). Our hotel mascot, the lively marmot Saratzin, is a firm favourite with the little ones. The Play Paradise concept was created by Swiss radio presenter and communications consultant Sandra Schiess. And since 9-year-olds and upwards are no longer kiddies, the hotel also has a dedicated area for teenagers. In 2020 the hotel was awarded first place by the Connoisseur Circle as the best family hotel!

Climate conscious and environmentally aware since 2010

Temperatures are rising and the glaciers are melting. At the Hotel Saratz, this is happening literally on our doorstep. But we can do something about it: by increasing our use of sustainable energy and achieving a massive drop in carbon emissions. To this end, the Hotel Saratz has installed its own geothermal energy production system. Geothermal energy is extracted from a borehole sunk to a depth of 1347 metres below the hotel park – almost the altitude of Zurich. This is a Swiss record.

The generated thermal energy is not only used to heat the indoor pool and the spa and wellness area: it also covers around 60 percent of the hotel complex's entire heating requirements, thus saving approximately 70,000 litres of heating oil per year, which corresponds with 180 tonnes of carbon emissions.