

Heritage Charm

Le Mount Stephen
MONTREAL

A reworked Montreal mansion radiates the storied grandeur of an earlier time

by Doug Wallace



Opened in May 2017, Le Mount Stephen is a modern 11-storey, 90-room hotel built behind and anchored to historic George Stephen House, a Renaissance Revival mansion built in 1883 in Montreal's Golden Square Mile. First a residence for this prominent businessman (once president of the Bank of Montreal and of the Canadian Pacific Railway), the mansion served as a men's social club for most of the 20th century. Now, its private rooms are primed and ready to host your next off-site get-together.

Cultural Character

Part of the city's heritage, the building is a bit of Victorian magic, the original aesthetic of the interior design having been breathtakingly preserved—Cuban mahogany, Austrian stained glass, Italian marble, Hungarian light fixtures and all. The craftsmanship of the woodwork up the walls and across the coffered ceilings is beyond stunning. Visitors enter through the stone entranceway and into a grand foyer, with hotel guests then passing through to the hotel lobby in the new part: contemporary and airy, bright and white with dashes of old-style glamour infused into the modern look.

Elegant Events

Le Mount Stephen sports more than 6,500 sq. ft. of event space, including a few large private rooms that you can mix and match to suit. In the

new building, the opulent 5,000-sq.-ft. Elizabeth Ballroom, with its vaulted ceiling, dramatic cube lighting and swirling black-and-white carpeting, can accommodate 500 people theatre-style or 280 in a banquet setting. This room can also be split in half.

In the mansion, three rooms on the first floor—what were once Mr. Stephen's offices and a winter greenhouse—seat from eight to 12 people for private events or meals. These areas are perfect for breakfast meetings. Upstairs, four more rooms seat from eight to 40 people in what were the Stephen's private chambers. The Strathcona Room is particularly elaborate with its lemongrass wood paneling, ornithological stained-glass windows and Italian marble fireplace replete with original tiling. Two outdoor terraces provide a breath of fresh air and room to cocktail-party.

Full Facilities

On the main floor, British-inspired Bar George is managed by Oliver & Bonacini, with Chef Anthony Walsh turning out updated English fare with a definite Quebec influence—Baked Sea Bass, Beef Wellington and Rabbit Leg Confit. For those staying overnight, a 24-hour fitness centre can help you work that all off, and an efficient, two-treatment-room spa takes care of the wellness side of things.

lemountstephen.com 🔥