

URBAN HOTEL  
HOTEL BEAU SÉJOUR  
Lucerne



The Beau Séjour calls itself “*Le petit grand hotel*”: the small big hotel. The 27-room establishment opened in its current incarnation in 2018 in an 1875 building on Lake Lucerne. There are intricate parquet floors, three-metre-high ceilings, high-quality bed linen and 1970s-era tiled bathrooms. The interiors are the creation of Swiss designer Daniel Hunziker, with contemporary art by Nina Staehli. One special touch is the collection of hand-drawn portraits by illustrator Hyo-Song Becker of every staff member over the years. “The feel of the portraits has evolved with the hotel,” says the Beau Séjour’s director, Ferry Wey. [beausejourlucerne.ch](http://beausejourlucerne.ch)

URBAN HOTEL  
HOTEL KRAFFT  
Basel

Perched on the Rhine, Hotel Krafft is a charming outpost steeped in history. Spanning five breathtaking floors, it exhibits a blend of classic and modern influences. Original 19th-century details – including the lobby tiles and staircase railing – sit alongside mid-century furniture in high-ceilinged common areas adorned with delicate stucco work. Guests are encouraged to venture out on the free-of-charge bikes provided. The intimate restaurant serves French cuisine and diners can enjoy a meal on the terrace or inside, with its large windows and original herringbone flooring. For quiet evenings, Salon Bleu is an inviting den where guests can read and have a nightcap. [krafftbasel.ch](http://krafftbasel.ch)



URBAN HOTEL  
BELLEVUE PALACE  
Berne



With sweeping views of the Bernese Alps, this institution has stories to tell. The stained-glass dome in the hall is the first feature to see, followed by historic chandeliers and neoclassical frescoes. Dubbed the guesthouse of the Swiss Confederation, the hotel neighbours the Swiss Parliament and was purchased by the state in 1976 to prevent a Soviet investor from buying it. British novelist John le Carré was a regular and set scenes in his espionage thrillers here. “Berne is very Calvinist,” says the hotel’s manager, Urs Bühler, referring to the Swiss tendency to keep a low profile. “We are not Monte Carlo. But this is where politicians, diplomats, CEOs and bankers meet.” [bellevue-palace.ch](http://bellevue-palace.ch)

