



ROYAL HAINAUT SPA & RESORT HOTEL

VALENCIENNES



PRESS KIT

## Once upon a time the Royal Hainaut

1752-2009

A place charged in history: from the General Hospital to the Royal Hainaut Spa & Resort.



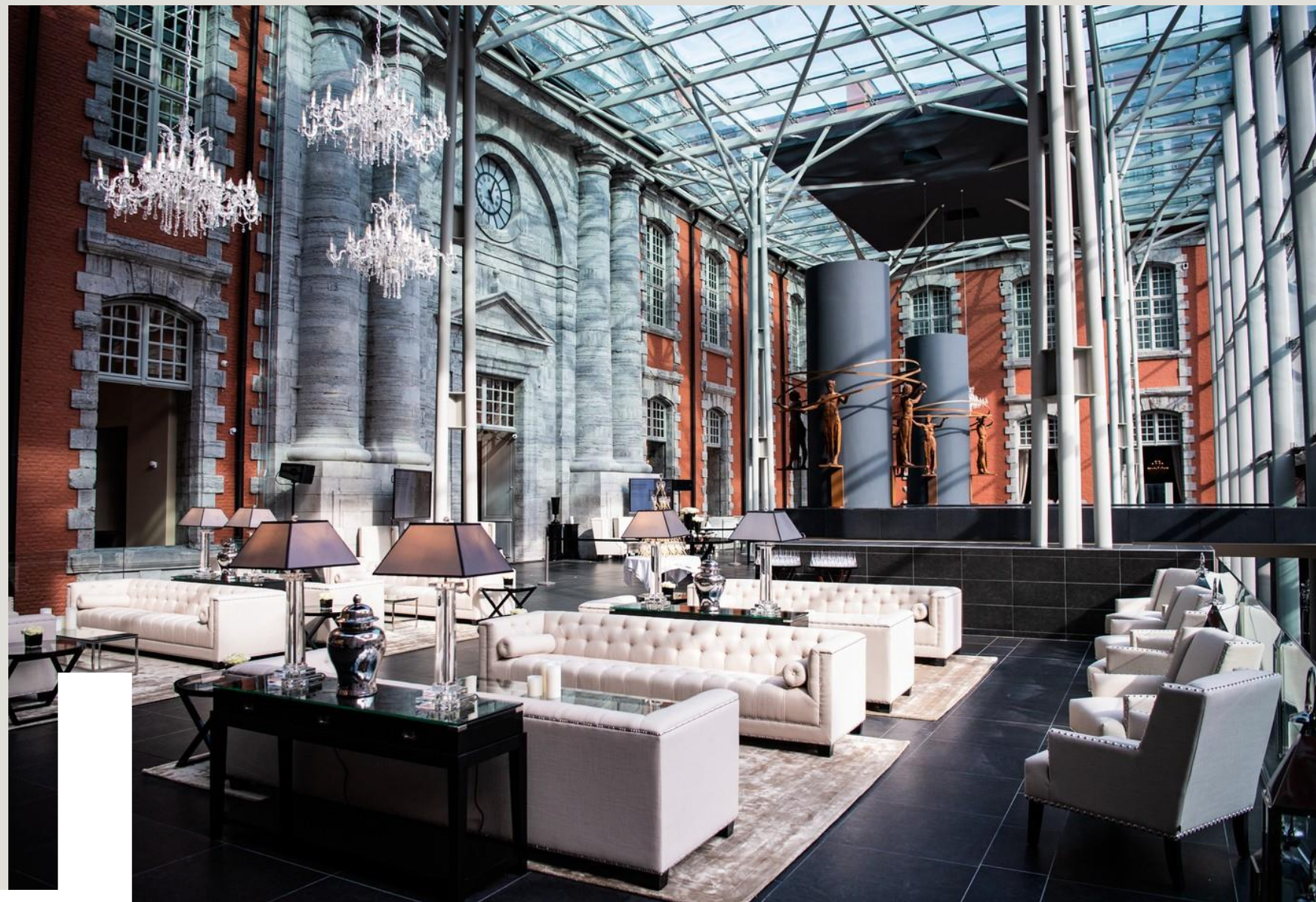
The General Hospital of Charity, also known as the Hainaut Hospital, opened its doors in 1767 during the reign of Louis XV. Intended to accommodate the sick and marginalized from the entire province, this colossal building is an integral part of the heritage of the city of Valenciennes.

Throughout its history, it has served as a military hospital, a prison during the German occupation, and later as a hospice for the elderly.

Classified as a Historical Monument in 1945, the building represents a unique architectural heritage. Thanks to this extraordinary renovation, it will become a benchmark in luxury hospitality in the region. The story of this transformation began in 2009 when the town of Valenciennes and the hospital center decided to launch a consultation. The Financière Vauban was selected to create a luxury hotel.

## Once upon a time the Royal Hainaut

2009 - 2019



### An exceptional renovation

This is the story of the largest renovation project of a privately listed historical monument in France. At the peak of the project, 250 people worked on it. Technical feats and the craftsmanship of skilled artisans enhanced 450 blue stone vaults and 300 windows, totaling more than 15,000 m<sup>2</sup>. A 13-meter-high glass canopy was erected. The roof was restored to its original state, with 11,000m<sup>2</sup> of slate, including the reinstatement of dormer windows just like in 1752!

In May 2019, the immense porch revealed an extraordinary urban hotel with a unique and unparalleled architecture. The architects managed to preserve the soul of the place while infusing it with the codes of the 21st century

Today, the Royal Hainaut remains an iconic address where elegance and refinement shine in this magnificent building. A unique destination, a prestigious 4-star hotel with 79 rooms and suites, a spa, and a pool, an Italian restaurant, a brasserie, two bars, and event spaces.

## Rooms and suites



Decorator Séverine Lucas has infused a chic baroque spirit into the interiors of the rooms and suites. With a keen eye for detail and comfort, she played with volumes, generous furniture, and natural colors to enhance each space and create harmony between them. The essence of the place is preserved, and its character is modernized in a timeless manner.

The 80-square-meter duplex suite consists of a 45-square-meter living room, a duplex bedroom, and a bathroom.

The Royal Suite, located at the heart of the hotel, resembles a luxurious apartment with an area of 120 square meters. It features a living room, a dining room, two bedrooms, a shower room, and a bathroom. It offers a breathtaking view of the Atrium and the Courtyard.

79 rooms, including 42 suites with generously proportioned sizes ranging from 30 to 120 square meters, provide extreme comfort and absolute tranquility.

## The Chef



The chef, Maxime Van-Hulle, orchestrates the cuisine of both restaurants. He has envisioned authentic culinary experiences filled with generosity and sharing. The chef creates his dishes according to the seasons, using products he selects from local producers. Each of his dishes expresses the truth of the ingredient.

With his brigade, united by the same passion and the desire to please, they convey emotions through their cuisine.

For the brasserie La Galerie restaurant, the recipes offer sincere and authentic cuisine that highlights local products. Like the famous Lucullus of Valenciennes, a true local specialty, which pairs with slow-cooked dishes like beef paleron cooked as a Flemish carbonade. For dessert, the chocolate mousse and hazelnut praline delight all gourmands.

For the Storia restaurant, he unveils a cuisine that pays homage to Italy by reimagining timeless classics. Authentic cuisine crafted with exclusive Italian products: white truffle from Piedmont, Vercelli rice, olive oil with a thousand nuances, Parma ham, and the finest wine appellations from all regions of Italy...

# Gastronomy

## La Galerie, the traditional brasserie



The brasserie La Galerie pays homage to the land of the North and the culinary heritage of Hauts-de-France.

The executive chef cooks and designs the menu according to the seasons, working in short supply chains with local producers.

For the pleasure of discovering and savoring typical dishes in the warm atmosphere of the long and magnificent portrait hall with its iconic deep red buttoned banquettes.

Open every day for lunch from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM and for dinner from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM.

## La Storia, the Italian restaurant



As soon as you cross the threshold, you are seized by the refinement and prestige of the place, delicately blending the past and the present. Majestic with its high ceilings, its Hainaut blue stone pillars, and its immense windows.

Noble with the grand portraits of beautiful prima donnas, resplendent with its chandelier pendants, 'La Storia' restaurant is an invitation to a journey.

Open from Wednesday to Thursday from 7:30 PM to 09:00 PM, from Friday to Saturday from 7:30 PM to 09:30 PM and on Sundays from 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM.

## At cocktail hour



Under the immense glass roof bathed in light, with an unobstructed view of the courtyard, comfortable sofas and armchairs await you at any time of the day. You can't resist trying a 'Waterloo' cocktail, crafted by the head bartender. Enjoy the lively musical ambiance with a DJ every Friday and Saturday night. Take a break for a snack or indulge in a sweet moment with the fabulous Liège waffle.

Open every day from 10:00 AM to midnight on weekdays and until 1:00 AM on weekends.

L'Atrium, the lounge bar

## The Royal Bar

The Royal Bar cultivates the grand tradition of hotel bars, that unique spirit that combines tranquility and relaxation in an elegant and cozy setting. Time flows to the rhythm of hushed conversations among friends comfortably seated in deep armchairs, whether for borrowed moments of reading from the extensive library or a game of billiards.

For one-night enthusiasts and lifelong devotees alike, they gather around a large screen to watch broadcasts of major sporting events.

Open from Friday to Saturday from 6:00 PM to 1:00 AM.



## The SPA, Beauty and Wellness

Experience a timeless journey in an exceptional, elegant, and delicate setting.

In a subdued atmosphere, the Royal Hainaut offers a 1200 square meter space exclusively dedicated to beauty, well-being, and relaxation.

The 9 treatment rooms invite you to unwind and take care of yourself, either individually or as a couple, under the expert hands of our practitioners.

Unforgettable moments guided by the expertise of the protocols and products from Codage and Sothys.

CODAGE  
PARIS

Codage Paris is a French house of cosmetology whose expertise, derived from the French pharmaceutical tradition, is based on decoding individual needs for well-being and beauty, a perfect understanding of the properties of active ingredients used, and the precision of every gesture. The skincare experience is therefore a personalized journey that combines effectiveness and craftsmanship, suitable for both women and men.

SOTHYS  
PARIS

Sothys, a world of sensuality and extreme refinement, is a name synonymous with excellence and prestige in spas around the world. As a highly specialized brand, Sothys has distinguished itself for 70 years through a tremendous commitment to research and innovation, establishing itself as a recognized holder of cutting-edge aesthetic expertise.





## The swimming pool

## Exceptional interludes



The pool was excavated under the foundations and interacts with the iconic blue stone columns of the Hauts-de-France.

The blue stone becomes a subject in itself as it structures the ambiance of the place, influences the diffusion of light, alters the colors of other materials, and affects the acoustic atmosphere.

This beautiful turquoise pool, measuring 22 meters in length and 10 meters in width, is heated to 29°C and its poolside area offers comfortable loungers for moments of rest and relaxation.

## The Chapel, a unique place

The chapel of the Royal Hainaut is the largest hospital chapel in France.

With its vaults, period stained glass windows, and majestic nave, it is the focal point of the hotel.

Desanctified, the chapel has been transformed into a concert venue, such as Christophe Maé's private performance, as well as a grand reception hall for weddings or private dinners, and also for corporate events. It can accommodate up to 300 people.



## Some key dates

1752: Construction decided by letters patent of King Louis XV.

1767: Inauguration and opening of the establishment.

1816 to 1818: Occupation of the North wing of the building by the army, and later by English troops.

1831 to 1894: North wing reserved for the military hospital.

1940: Destruction of the entire roof by a fire.

1945: Classification of the Valenciennes hospital as a historical monument.

1970 to 1984: Implementation of various renovation campaigns.

2013: Launch of the rehabilitation project for the Hainaut Hospital.

2019: Inauguration of the Royal Hainaut Spa & Resort Hotel.

## Some addresses

**The Mérignies Golf** : Created in 2008, the Mérignies Golf is nicknamed 'the most undulating golf course in the flat country.' It covers a total of 185 hectares of nature near Valenciennes. With its 3 sets of 9 holes, the golf course offers harmony and technical challenges for both experienced and beginner players.

**The Mormal Golf** : takes you through a hilly landscape with hedgerows, orchards, and bodies of water near the forest. The 6022-meter, par-72 course is suitable for players of all skill levels.

**Hot Air Balloon Ride** : Soar over the Valenciennes region in a hot air balloon. An original way to discover the city and the Scarpe-Escaut Regional Nature Park.

**L'Étang du Vignoble** : Engage in outdoor activities, especially at the nautical base, and enjoy the abundant nature just steps away from the city center.

**The Arenberg Mining Site** : A journey through time to understand the past of a region that marked the industrial history of France. Discover landscapes shaped by humans since the 19th century, and impressive industrial sites due to their size. Immerse yourself in the world of the 'black faces.'

**The Matisse Museum** : created by the painter himself during his lifetime. Over the years, the collections have grown, and today you can admire works by Picasso, Chagall, Giacometti...

**Treasure Hunt in Valenciennes** : Starting from the Royal Hainaut, embark on a unique 8-step journey to discover the charms, points of interest, and architecture of Valenciennes.

## Royal Hainaut in detail

15,000m<sup>2</sup> dedicated to luxury hospitality

79 rooms, including 42 suites ranging from  
30 to 120 square meters

1 Italian restaurant

1 Brasserie

2 Bars

1 swimming pool

1 chapel

1 courtyard

1 spa of 1200 square meters

1 seminar space of 1300 square meters

2 years of preparation

5 and a half years of construction

300 windows

A 13-meter-high glass canopy

450 blue stone vaults

General Manager: Emmanuel Béquet

Chef: Maxime Van-Hulle

Architects: The firm MAES Architectes  
Urbanistes, with Hubert Maes leading.

Owner: La Financière Vauban.

Press Relations : Les Expertes



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