

Luxury + Southern Charm

EXPERIENCE THE GRANDEUR OF
WALDORF ASTORIA ATLANTA BUCKHEAD

WORDS BY VANESSA PASCALE

aldorf Astoria Atlanta Buckhead is where sweet southern hospitality meets opulence. Upon arrival, I am warmly greeted by every hotel employee I encounter —from the valet attendants and doormen to the front desk staff. I walk into the high-ceilinged lobby and find a chic space outfitted in black, white, and greys, reflected in the marble tiling, walls, and large-scale art pieces. While I check in at the front desk, I help myself to a refreshing glass of fruit-infused water —a necessity on warm days like this. (Note: Guests are treated to delicious sweet peach tea on Saturdays.)



Soaring 42 stories high, Waldorf Astoria Atlanta Buckhead overlooks North Atlanta and all its beauty. The luxe hotel houses 127 rooms and 10 suites outfitted with classic dark woods, traditional furnishings, touches of marble, and grand windows that allow guests to enjoy the beautiful skyline. To experience the epitome of luxury, reserve the 2,340-square-foot Presidential Suite, which features a fireplace in the living room, dining table, separate seating area, and an oversized bathroom with a soaking tub.

During my stay, I occupy the Buckhead Private Terrace King Bedroom, where a thoughtful welcome note along with a few tasty treats, courtesy of the hotel, await. I open the bottle of peach tea and graze on the candied pecans and crackers served with fresh peach jam. The spacious room features a king-sized bed with plush white bedding, a desk, flatscreen TV, seating area, blackout curtains, and a private balcony outfitted with two chairs and a side table. The room is stocked with water, a coffee maker, a mini bar, and 24-hour in-room dining menu — I highly suggest taking advantage of the latter. Is there anything nicer than lounging around in a hotel robe and enjoying dessert in bed? I recommend their bread pudding and red velvet cake.

The bathroom is a pristine sanctuary with white marble, dual sinks, comfy robes, and soft white towels. Unwind in the tub, which offers a lovely view from the large window, with a book or watch your favorite show on the second television. There is also a separate shower with two showerheads. The bathroom is

stocked with luxe Salvatore Ferragamo bath products, a toothbrush/toothpaste, shaving kit, and makeup remover pads — just in case you forgot any of your toiletries.

There are a list of alluring amenities offered onsite, including the three-level Waldorf Astoria Spa. The Spa offers a list of indulgent treatments that utilize Sapelo products as well as a special suite (Magnolia Suite) for couples massages/treatments. We indulged in a couples aromatherapy massage, and left completely refreshed and relaxed. There is also a fitness center, private yoga studio, and 60-foot indoor saline water lap pool for those looking to maintain their fitness routine. The men's and women's locker rooms boast their own sauna, steam room, whirlpool, showers, and are stocked with complimentary toiletries.





MIAMI LIVING

The hotel restaurant, Café & Bar, is located on the first floor and serves an all-day menu touted as "gourmet American favorites prepared with flair." Last month, the hotel debuted their Southern-inspired brunch buffet. "We are excited to introduce brunch service to the hotel and fill a niche in the Buckhead neighborhood with our expansive buffet," says Executive Chef Christophe. "Our new brunch service is centered around providing guests with an abundance of delicious and elevated options that evoke the comforts of traditional breakfast favorites while offering a taste of classic Southern flavors. This is not your typical brunch buffet."

The exceptional brunch buffet serves traditional breakfast offerings (eggs prepared à la minute, Belgian waffles, pastries), Southern specialties (cheddar grits, Southern Bread Pudding with crème

anglaise and Chantilly, Joyce Farms Deep Fried Chicken, and Bourbon Glazed Ham), fresh seafood (oysters, King Crab, shrimp, crab claws), and sweets, including mini cakes, mini pies, peach cobblers, and Bananas Foster.

Alfresco dining is offered on the covered terrace, which overlooks a private garden with herbs used by the chefs and bartenders. Thursday-Saturday, Afternoon Tea is served from 2-4 pm. A popular pastime for guests and residents alike, I will definitely be returning to enjoy a decadent tower of scones, tea sandwiches, and the finest teas. If you prefer a stronger drink, pop by the bar for one of their delicious handcrafted cocktails (open daily from 2 until 11 pm) before dinner or for a nightcap.

The hotel is situated in an ideal location

as Buckhead boasts a long list of fantastic restaurants (Del Frisco's Grille, South City Kitchen, Dantanna's, to name a few), shopping, and entertainment closeby. For your convenience, the hotel car will take you to your desired destination — just ask. Waldorf Astoria Atlanta Buckhead has everything you need during your stay in Atlanta and serves up the best hospitality around. Whether you're stopping by for a relaxing day at the spa or catching up with friends over Afternoon Tea, or enjoying a week-long vacation here, you will undoubtedly be impressed with all that this luxe hotel has to offer. ML

Waldorf Astoria Atlanta Buckhead is located at 3376 Peachtree Road NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30326. For more information, visit www.hilton.com/en/ waldorf-astoria or call 404-995-7500.