SUITE TREATS

Dining inspiration from four London hotels that are raising the bar on room service

Photography TEX BISHOP Entertaining MELINA KEAYS Interiors OLLY MASON

Opposite, Cédric Grolet's mango pavlova, made with meringue, fresh mango, and mango ginger gel and ganache, and his hazelnut Hyde Park, made with hazelnut praline, biscuit, cream and salted paste

Commodore IV wine glass, €67, by Oswald Haerdtl, for Lobmeyr. Napkin, €90, by Dior. Tablit: napkin holder, £295, by Buccellari. Graphik silver-plated tray, €365, by Christofle. Twist 186′ mature spirits glass, €306 for two, spirits decanter, €560, both by Saint-Louis. 'Folia' mini portable lamp, €390, by Noé Duchaufour-Lawrance, for Saint-Louis. 'HTS' dessert for\$6, £19, by Nedda El Asmar, for Hermes

Psicture the scene: you are brought to your hotel suite along a softly carpeted corridor to a space so beautifully appointed that you realise you just don't want to leave it that night. What about dinner? Luckily, the room service menu is at hand. Perusing it, you consider an array of enticing options. Then you begin your evening by filling the magnificent bathbud, sinking into the bubbles and contemplating the view over a couple of cocktails while you anticipate the arrival of your chosen dishes. In these Deliveroo days, dinner to your door is a familiar concept, but it's usually the kind that comes on a bike and is handed over in a paper bag. Very convenient, but the kind of service we are celebrating here is a different affair altogether. The finer details of top-notch hotel in-room dining are very satisfying. They have a stately, old-fashioned elegance that is a reassuring reminder of how civilized life can be and, in a fast-paced world, taking the time to enjoy your surroundings is a wise way to unwind. A gentle ring of the doorbell announces the arrival of dinner (or breakfast/lunch/tea/whatever). A trolley laden with cloche-covered delicacies glides into your room, equipped with a heated box that ensures your food is served at the perfect temperature. Heavy napery, shiny cutlery and sparkling crystal glasses add to the sense of occasion, as does a silver bucket containing a bottle of fice-cold champagne, At this level, the room service trolley is a chance to enjoy start turns from around the world, from Korean bibimbap and Wagyu beef burgers to a full English breakfast. Finish your feast with an exquisite piece of patisserie









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