

Tribeca Grand Hotel

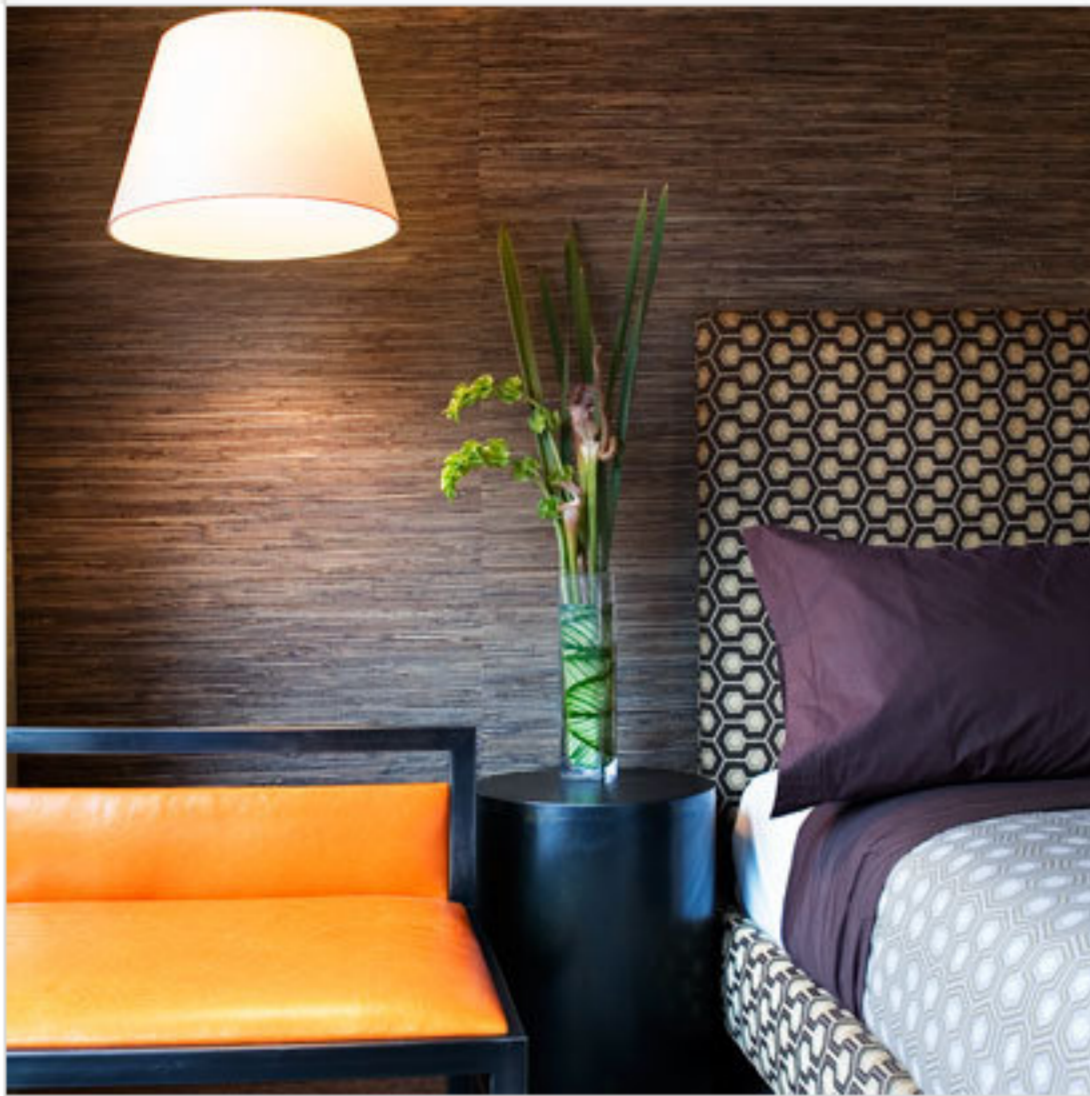
Why go? For a super-stylish place to stay in fashionable Tribeca...

2 Avenue of the Americas, Tribeca, New York City, NY 10013

From **£250** Per room, Per night

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INSIDE TRACK: THE TRIBECA GRAND HOTEL

Best room: The Penthouse suite with its rooftop terrace and panoramic views of downtown NY

Best dish: A classic steak

Insider

fact: Unsurprisingly given its Tribeca setting, the list of A-list celebrity fans is a long one: Susan Sarandon, Julianne Moore, Clive Owen, Heather Graham, Phillip Seymour Hoffman, Woody Allen and Scarlett Johansson have all been spotted at the hotel.

WHAT THE RED PANEL SAYS...



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By Rowena Carr-Allinson

Part sleek corporate meeting space, part hip hangout, the Tribeca Grand Hotel, is where business folk and trendsetters mingle in a retro designer setting with plenty of New York City attitude. The lobby bar is dark and cosy (no mean feat given the eight-floor triangular atrium that is at the hotel's heart) and the cosy beige sofas, flickering candles and a great big copper-plated fireplace make you want to settle in for the night.

Up in the rooms, the retro look is ratcheted up a notch or two. The orange desk chairs and lamps, honeycomb graphic prints and bamboo-style wallpaper are all a clear nod to the 70s, while the pod-like bathrooms, with their all-in-one stainless steel sinks and vanity units have an old-fashioned train cabin meets futuristic fantasy feel to them.

The iStudio Rooms are a technophile's dream come true. On the desk, glaringly modern in its retro environment, you get a glossy new fully-loaded iMac G5 computer kitted out with film, photo and sound editing software. The rest of the equipment, like the minibar and flat-screen TV are neatly encased in wall units.

But the best thing about a stay at the Tribeca Grand? No doubt about it - the panoramic views. From the almost floor-to-ceiling windows you get unobstructed views of the New York skyline with its cramped skyscrapers, higgledy-piggledy rooftop terraces, constant air traffic, precarious water towers balancing on 10-storey buildings and even a glimpse of the Hudson River. Stunning.

Highs:

- The location
- The views
- The iStudio Rooms - perfect for media professionals (and techno-geeks)
- The iPod loaner and DVD loaner concepts - giving you access to great music on the move and movies when you're back in your room
- Getting out and about in the neighbourhood on one the hotel's complimentary Bowery Lane Bicycles

Lows:

- The 8th floor lift ride for vertigo sufferers
- The tiny bathroom pods

Facilities & Important Info at the Tribeca Grand Hotel

Number of rooms: 201

Check-in/check-out times: 3pm and 12noon

Room service: Yes

Swimming pool: No

Spa: No. But you can nip across to sister hotel, the Soho Grand, and check in at the beauty salon of celebrity stylist Laurent Dufourg. There's also a 24-hour fitness centre/gym.

Child-friendly: Yes. Although there's little space in the room for extra beds/cots, the hotel provides families with a kids' guide of recommendations on local shopping, attractions, and activities.

Dogs welcome: Yes. And if you want a goldfish in your room you can just ask for one

Restaurant & bar: The Church lounge has a sophisticated hotel bar feel to it, and offers a "nouveau American" menu. They run a very appealing (and popular with the locals) buffet-style Grand Sunday Brunch followed by a movie classics screening.

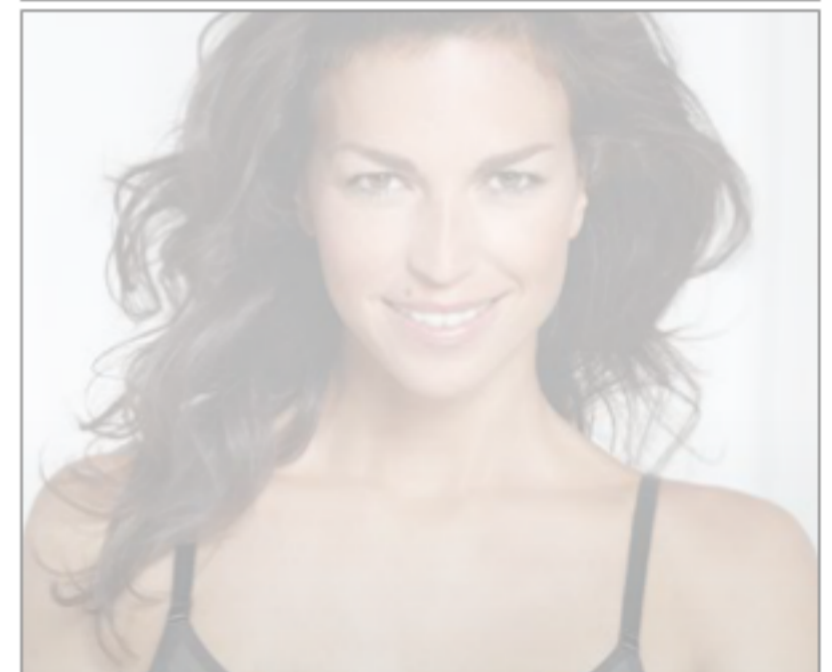
Location: The hotel is a hop and a skip away from Soho, and the very cool Spring and Mercer streets.

Getting there: The hotel is around half an hour from JFK by cab (depending on traffic)

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