



THE HISTORY OF HOTEL D'EUROPE

The home was built in 1580 by the Marques of Graveson. The Graveson and Forbin Families lived in this luxurious building looking out over the most beautiful square of Avignon until the French Revolution of 1789. Miss Pierron then created the hotel with her friend Napoléon Bonaparte pushing her. She named it "HOTEL D'EUROPE", name is still carries today.

The location in the center of Avignon close to the Rhone River is easily understood when one realizes that in the beginning of the 19th century the most comfortable way to travel was by boat, more secure, without the dust of the uneven roads of that time. Today the guest still enjoys the unique location in the heart of the city.

Palace of the Popes, the Saint Benezet Bridge (famous Pont d'Avignon) and the shopping area are just around the corner. The entrance through the city wall is just a 100 meters area from the front door of the hotel which makes arrivals and departures by car very easy.

Famous guests and Hôtel d'Europe

Well known people like queen as from Spain in 1832, Victor Hugo in 1839, Charles Dickens, John Stuart Mill (English philosopher economist) stayed there during the 19th century in the first edition of the famous Michelin Guide in 1900, Hotel d'Europe is the only Hotel mentioned in Avignon. The Hotel since has been mentioned in every year edition.

In the beginning of the 20th century, the Italian aristocrats' family of the Count of Guida acquires Hotel d'Europe. The kitchen Chef present those days received tips in the form of Golden Louis coins. Too greedy to spend the money he hid the coins in his hollow cane; one therefore could hear him come when he walked in the streets. Due to the sound of the coins made.

Artists, actors, heads of state enriched the history of the home. Picasso and Salvador Dali were among the loyal guests after the Second World War. Jacqueline Kennedy chose to stay therefore her last visit to her ancestor's home town, Pont Saint Esprit in 1993. The Presidents of India, Italy, France were able to enjoy the luxury and comfort of the suites on the top floor. In 1996, during the French-German summit, Mister Chirac, Mister Kohl and Mister Jospin (prime minister) spent the night in the hotel which never had carried its name so well. Mister Kohl was impressed by the enormous plane tree covering the court yard giving shade to all guests having drinks and meals in a peaceful atmosphere.

May guests were able to discover or to rediscover the plays of the famous Avignon Theater Festival during their stay.