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MONACO ALEXANDRIA, A KIMPTON HOTEL IN ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA COMPLETES MULTIMILLION-DOLLAR REDESIGN

Old Town Alexandria, Virginia boutique hotel unveils new modern guestroom and living room design, plus addition of a signature suite

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants is excited to announce the completion of a multimillion-dollar redesign of Hotel Monaco Alexandria located in the heart of Old Town Alexandria, Virginia. Defined by exquisite details, vibrant colors, and plush textures throughout and unrivaled customer care, Hotel Monaco Alexandria offers guests a finely tuned blend of then and now, sophistication and comfort. Hotel Monaco’s extensive redesign includes all 241 guestrooms and suites, hallway corridors, the living room style lobby, as well as the addition of a one-of-a-kind Eleanor Suite – a beautiful new space designed for primping and priming, whether getting ready for a wedding or a night on the town.

Kimpton entrusted designer David Hill of DH Design in Los Angeles to re-awaken the legacy of Hotel Monaco by evoking a sense of playfulness and sophistication with subtle nods to the hotel’s Alexandria location and storied Civil War past.

Living Room

From the moment guests walk off King Street and into the living room, Hotel Monaco’s signature whimsy is present. Working with the dramatic Adriatic blue paneling Hotel Monaco’s living room is well known for, DH Design reorganized the floor plan to open up in the center, revealing a stunning new

fireplace design fashioned with decoupage turn of the century skeleton key images playfully wrapped around the curves and knots of the existing mantel.

Guests can kick back at the hotel's nightly evening wine hour while sitting in new Swedish midcentury style seating pieces with a round turquoise crushed velvet tufted settee at the center. Combined with existing Eastern Indian elements, woven textures, and Chinoiserie fabric patterned chairs, the new design compliments Hotel Monaco's feeling of walking into a seasoned traveler's eclectic and worldly home. Custom designed sconces provide intimate pools of light in every corner of the room, creating dramatic rhythm and visual depth to the space. A bold oval rug design punctuates and anchors the lobby, fashioned for the hotel by DH Design. An oversized rug featuring dogwood petals cascades the length of the studded red front desk and lends a subtle reference to nature in the state of Virginia.

Hallways

As guests explore the hotel, they'll find that the corridors draw the bold blue-green color from the living room throughout the hotel and embrace both masculine and feminine expressions of the Civil War period. Lit by modern lantern-style sconces, the hallways feature carpet design specifically for the hotel, which reference military buttons from the Civil War embellished with golden thread embroidery typically found on uniform sleeves. The bold graphic wallpaper design is tailor-made from a textile pattern from a lady's evening dress from the late 1800s found by the designer.

Guestrooms

Newly redesigned guestrooms and suites at Hotel Monaco, including the premier space of the Majestic Suite, play up juxtapositions of colors, details, and patterns subtly inspired by their surroundings. The freshened rooms brim with bespoke finishes such as a feature wall with an artistic graphic collage of flickering gas lamps the designer found around Old Town Alexandria, a dramatic and romantic pattern that serves as a backdrop to the bed's studded cream colored headboard. In addition, the hotel's existing chairs and chase sofas were reupholstered with sultry pewter fabric designed specifically for the hotel and patterned with bright red cardinal birds perched upon white dogwood blossoms, a nod to the iconic state bird and flower of Virginia. Geometric carpet and bright accent pillows add to the style of the room, while new teal ergonomic desk chairs settle up comfortably to spacious desks with a custom piece of artwork above, a modern, whimsical take on fashionable silhouette portraits of the Civil War

era with vibrant and playful pops of color.

Eleanor Suite

As one of the most popular places in Alexandria for weddings and celebrations, Hotel Monaco wanted to create a signature space where guests can revel in their festivities. During the redesign, the hotel added the brand new, one of a kind Eleanor Suite named and inspired by one of Virginia's most notable brides and socialites and beloved granddaughter of Martha Washington, Eleanor "Nelly" Custis. Nelly resided nearby at Mount Vernon and later at Woodlawn Plantation on a piece of land given to her and her beau as a wedding present by George Washington himself. The new 629-square-foot suite inspired by her is truly a unique luxurious space designed to be the perfect place for friends and family to congregate before celebrations.

The sumptuous two-room Eleanor Suite is designed to be light and airy and adorned in thoughtfully detailed amenities that can make any day feel special. In the separate parlor attached to a king bedroom, sweeping romantic black and white murals on the walls mimic the hand-etched pastoral scenes of early Americana offering a striking backdrop to the space. Gorgeous custom oval shaped decorative mirrors with layered white scallops offer a fanciful take on traditional bridal gowns and hang just above a three-seat vanity with bespoke adjustable salon-style ghost chairs. Based off of feedback from local stylists, event planners, and photographers that frequent the hotel with bridal parties, power outlets were built into the vanity wall to ensure that everyone can be plugged in, charged up, and styled for the day's celebrations. The suite is also stocked with high-end beauty appliances such as ionic hairdryers and ceramic curling and flat irons for groups to use.

Additional seating like a comfortable chartreuse settee with whimsical pillows that feature Nelly's portrait and a tufted crushed velvet ottoman in the middle of the room that can be separated into three seats allows the whole party to relax in style. Guests can stash their outfits in custom mirrored cabinetry along the wall which opens to reveal a three-way mirror in the center for 180 degree views of any outfit. With a wet bar buffet featuring a sink and separate mini fridge, a 48-inch TV to watch while getting ready, and a private balcony overlooking the hotel's interior courtyard, the Eleanor Suite makes for a fully equipped elegant place to start any celebration. A custom in-room dining menu with lighter southern fare will be available to guests that book the suite from Chef Brian McPherson of the hotel's acclaimed restaurant, Jackson 20.

To learn more about Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants, please visit Kimpton's Life is Suite blog - www.lifeissuite.com - or www.kimptonhotels.com, www.facebook.com/kimpton and www.twitter.com/kimpton.

ABOUT MONACO ALEXANDRIA, A KIMPTON HOTEL

Monaco Alexandria, a Kimpton Hotel, is Alexandria, Virginia's premier four-star boutique hotel. Located in the city's Old Town neighborhood on King Street, it's where rich American history meets high style and genuine hospitality. The hotel boasts 241 suites and guestrooms, including unique two-level loft suites and 28 terrace rooms with balconies, and has 5,000 square feet of elegant event space as well as 3,000 square feet of seasonal event space in the outdoor courtyard. Kimpton's Monaco Alexandria is located at 480 King Street, Alexandria, Va. 22314. For more information and to make reservations, please call 703-549-6080 or visit www.monaco-alexandria.com

ABOUT KIMPTON HOTELS & RESTAURANTS

San Francisco-based Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants is a leading collection of boutique hotels and restaurants and the acknowledged industry pioneer that first introduced the boutique hotel concept to the United States. In 1981, Bill Kimpton founded the company that today is renowned for making travelers feel genuinely cared for through thoughtful perks and amenities, bold, playful design and a sincerely personal style of guest service. Out to help people live full, balanced lives, Kimpton aims to inspire with touches like yoga mats in every room, complimentary coffee and tea to start the day, hosted evening Wine Hour, in-room fitness programming and complimentary bike rentals. The award-winning restaurants and bars are led by talented chefs and bartenders that offer guests a chance to dine like a local. Kimpton is consistently ranked as one of the top companies in the Market Metrix Hospitality Index, Upper Upscale Segment, for Customer Satisfaction. The company is highly-regarded for its innovative employee culture and benefits and has been named a *FORTUNE* magazine "Best Place to Work" six times since 2009. Kimpton is continuously growing and currently operates over 60 hotels and 70 plus restaurants, bars and lounges in 30 U.S. cities. *For more information, visit www.kimptonhotels.com.*

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