

RESORTS

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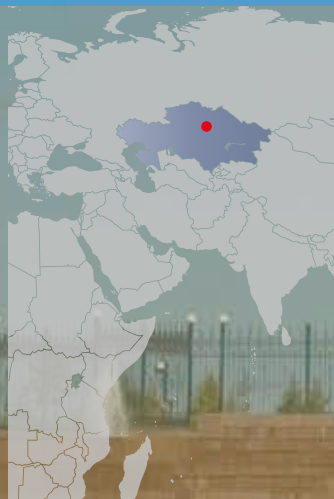


Buddha-Bar Hotel, Paris



Astana

a new "ideal city"



The Presidential Palace is as large as St. Peter's in Rome (and looks like it too). Today, 17 years after its re-establishment, the new capital surprises Kazakhs and foreigners. And it wants to be the country's image.



The styles are mixed, ranging from Oriental to Western. Very green and colorful expanses of flowers of every kind that paint the squares and avenues.



With the City Tours guide we went to explore the new capital. Fully designed, the result of an ambitious thirty-year urban development plan, it reflects the image of a country projected into the future.



Radisson Hotel, Astana

an Italian in Astana

In a tower of steel and glass, the first five-star of the new Kazakh capital is renewed with a great Italian restaurant, ready for the new challenges of an increasingly monumental capital.



We arrive at dawn with clear skies and a light breeze. The absence of traffic reduces travel time, and in a moment we are at the hotel. Because of our jetlag, we are not sleepy in the least so we decide to try the gym, which is located in the adjacent tower and reached by way of a tunnel. Definitely one of the largest and best-equipped we have ever used during the trip. In fact, it is a public gym open to hotel guests. Whatever the case, it is a strong point among the services offered.

The rooms are well soundproofed so rest is assured. Wifi is free as in all of Kazakhstan. The décor of the public areas is classic while that of the rooms is contemporary in the style of a business hotel. Breakfast is good with everything international European guests expect. For dinner, the formal Italian restaurant, Capri, surprises us. We tried two classics: lasagna and linguine with pesto alla genovese. Both dishes were a pleasant revelation, very close to the Italian tradition (local ingredients permitting). For fans there is a brief but carefully-assembled Wine List.

The hotel extends upward so the view, while varying - depending on the category of the rooms - is always exceptional. Recently, new properties have been added to the list of five-star hotels available to demanding guests in the capital, but the Radisson is a classic and always very popular.



INFO HOTEL

RADISSON HOTEL, ASTANA
 Astana, Kazakhstan
www.radissonblu.com

Rooms 170 - **Suites** 11
Villas 0 - **Restaurants** 2
Spa yes
Children yes

Chain Radisson
Affiliation none

Activities
 sightseeing

Score	75
Environment	70
Design	72
Service	75
Cuisine	81
Health	80
Spa	70
Rooms	78

