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The Lodge at the Presidio Gives Guests A Historic Lodging Experience Overlooking The Golden Gate

By Meghan Dwyer • March 18, 2019



Photo by David Wakely Photography

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The Lodge at the Presidio is a hotel housed by the northernmost of five historic 19th-century former military barracks, Building 105, within San Francisco's Presidio—boasting stunning views of the Golden Gate Bridge, the San Francisco Bay, Alcatraz, and downtown San Francisco. The adaptive reuse project, completed by Architectural ResourcesGroup (ARG) at the request of The Presidio Trust, was a challenge due to the historic nature of the space and the need and desire to maintain the building's historic elements, including cast-iron columns, trim, and beams, all while dividing up the interiors into 42 individual guest rooms.

Previously, the first floor of the U-shaped building consisted of a mess hall, recreation room, and kitchen, and the upper level featured open-plan sleeping quarters. When dividing the upstairs spaces into individual rooms, ARG distinguished their interventions by painting new walls and moldings in different colors than the original ones so that guests could realize appreciate the historic features of the space and have a better understanding of what the second level looked like in its early days.

Common spaces were also carefully considered and include a reception area, a dining room, and an outdoor courtyard with views of the Golden Gate, where guests as well as the public can gather and socialize. Accommodations range from modest to larger spaces to suit a range of travelers including families or couples, as well as those on a tighter budget. Both guest rooms and public spaces are designed with the property's military past and the Presidio's beautiful landscape in mind. Photographs and watercolors of the surrounding area and artifacts from the Presidio archives are on display throughout the hotel, while external views are highlighted.

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