

## A former church in New Orleans has been turned into a beautiful hotel

A 19th century church and convent complex in New Orleans has been given a new life as a hotel.



Hotel Peter & Paul has transformed four buildings - a Catholic church, rectory, schoolhouse and convent - into 71 guest rooms. Beyond the incredible rooms, the hotel features a rotating retail space, a unique meeting and events area inside the restored church, and a bar and restaurant inside the old rectory.

Inside the converted space, the colour palettes feature shades commonly used in iconic religious paintings and tapestries that date back to the 14th-18th centuries in Europe and Africa, according to the company behind the project, ASH NYC.

For those with an interest in historic buildings, many original features of the church and other buildings were kept – like cypress wood moldings, stained glass windows, wainscoted corridors, marble fireplaces and more. The hotel also features antique chandeliers and a mural that shows a 19th century sitting room on the stage of the former school house.



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The majority of the rooms are inside the schoolhouse, but the rectory – a red brick building that used to house the clergy – is now home to five of the hotel's top rooms, complete with canopy beds and antique fireplaces. The convent, where Marianite nuns once lived, is home to seven rooms, some containing cast iron claw-foot tubs.

The bar and restaurant is from the team behind the James Beard-award nominated New Orleans wine bar and restaurant, Bacchanal. The ground floor of the former rectory now houses the Elysian Bar, a public space that serves up wine, speciality cocktails and small plates made with local ingredients. The old chapel is now home to a café, which serves coffee and freshly squeezed juices.

The hotel is located in Faubourg Marigny, a neighbourhood known for its beautful and colourful homes. Find out more about Hotel Peter & Paul on their website. – ALEX BUTLER