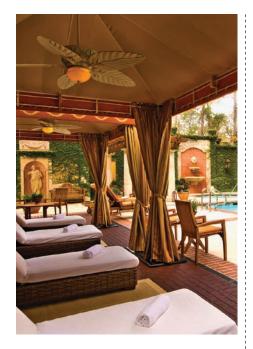


# **BUSINESS AND PLEASURE**

Centrally located and charmingly distinct, these three properties will add something special to your next business trip in Houston, Vancouver or London.



# **TUSCANY IN TEXAS**

## **HOTEL GRANDUCA HOUSTON**

#### **Houston, Texas**

Located in the city's Uptown Park, this elaborate, Italian villa-style hotel is said to have been inspired by the palazzo (palace) of a 16th-century grand duke from northern Italy. The 122-room property is ultra luxurious, with residential-style rooms that are welcoming and spacious—even the smallest rooms have a kitchenette. The hotel's warm service extends from reception to Ristorante Cavour, one of Houston's best-loved Italian restaurants. Every detail on this property, from the Renaissance sculptures to the Acqua di Parma toiletries, exudes Italian style. Four executive boardrooms are perfect for meetings, and a complimentary Maserati house car will take you anywhere you need to go within a three-mile radius. Rates from US\$215. (granducahouston.com) — Amber Gibson



# **WEST COAST FLAIR**

# **OPUS HOTEL**

#### Vancouver, B.C.

Who says business travel has to be boring and beige? At Vancouver's OPUS Hotel, it's anything but. Each guest room in this chic Yaletown boutique hotel has a distinct personality expressed in vivid hues and stylishly contemporary furniture. All that style comes with substance, too—think high-tech gadgets, an award-winning restaurant, a 24-hour fitness centre, mountain bikes and a business bundle with options such as free use of the hotel boardroom. Plus, not only does OPUS boast an unbeatable location just steps from False Creek, public transit's Canada Line and Vancouver's best restaurants, it also offers complimentary downtown drop-off service in a luxury sedan, so guests always arrive at meetings in style. Rates from \$279.

(vancouver.opushotel.com) — Joanne Sasvari



# **HIP AND HISTORIC**

# THE MONTCALM AT THE BREWERY **LONDON CITY**

### London, England

Check in under the arched brick ceiling of the lobby that was once the horse stables of this historic former brewery. Business or leisure, The Montcalm shines thanks to its central location in the heart of London's finance district, its award-winning business facilities—including four conference rooms and five private event spaces—and its on-site, game-focused gastropub, the Jugged Hare. After work, explore the elaborate maze of hallways that boast period features at every turn and enjoy luxurious guest-room touches like a pillow menu, customized room aromas such as lavender and marine fresh, and a dedicated butler service on request. Rates from £125. (themontcalmlondoncity.co.uk)

—Diane Bolt 🗲

