



Hotel 48LEX New York, United States

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7/₁₀

Telegraph expert
rating

"This sleek high-rise hotel is in the heart of Manhattan, a stone's throw from Grand Central Station. Higher floors afford tons of light and city views, and somewhat offset the worn furnishings and corporate feel. A vibrant brasserie featuring flavourful American cuisine is a destination in its own right."

Telegraph Review



By **Tracy Kaler**, TRAVEL WRITER

8/₁₀

Location

The hotel is situated in the heart of the East Side, four blocks from Grand Central Station, a transit hub with five subway lines. Though the immediate area isn't exactly a trove of restaurants and nightlife, you'll stumble upon a handful of reputable dining spots nearby, and the lively Theatre District is a 12-minute walk away.

The property is steps from the eateries and taverns that line Third Avenue, and Second Avenue houses more dining and drinking spots. The Museum of Modern Art, Times Square and the United Nations are about a 15-minute walk, and Central Park is roughly 20 minutes.

7/10

Style & character

The small lobby lacks character and a seating vignette, and assumes the feel of a modern apartment building. The second-floor bar is where the design sense is strongest and undeniably the heart and soul of this hotel. Comfy upholstery, a starburst chandelier, and two walls displaying modern art enhance the floor-to-ceiling windows. A small bar is tucked in the corner and a large bar-height dining table is for groups.

7/10

Service & facilities

The bar on the second floor is exclusive for hotel guests. The ground-floor brasserie and tavern, 24-hour fitness centre and a small business centre are nice perks. Room service is available through the restaurant, but it's not open 24 hours. The hotel staff were polite and mostly hands-off during my stay.

Complimentary wine is available in the second-floor lounge between 5pm and 6pm, as well as coffee around the clock, but please note that this property adds a \$40 (£31) hotel charge on top of the room rate.

- ✓ Bar
- ✓ Laundry
- ✓ Restaurant
- ✓ Wi-Fi
- ✓ Fitness centre
- ✓ Parking
- ✓ Room service

7/10

Rooms

Hotel 48LEX provides many of the comforts of an apartment. Rooms include kitchenettes with a sink, dishwasher, fridge, and microwave, as well as a curated wine selection and gourmet snacks in the minibar. Beds are comfortable, dressed in luxurious linens. Despite the busy locale, rooms are pin-drop quiet, so consider sleeping in.

Be prepared to depart by 11am rather than the usual noon check-out time. Check-in is at 4pm, an hour later than the standard in New York City.

Guest quarters range from small salons less than 300 square feet (still adequate by New York standards) to a sprawling penthouse.

Upgraded King rooms come with a separate seating area and second television, as well as an executive desk and armoire with plenty of storage. The wood furnishings in the room had a fair amount of wear and tear, sadly, enough to detract from what could have been a gorgeous space. The bright-white bath, however, felt spa-like, with an oversized vanity unit, sumptuous shower, and Beekman 1802 toiletries. Other amenities include a safe, iron and ironing board and bath robes.

8/₁₀

Food & drink

Lexington Brass offers breakfast, lunch, dinner and cocktails and boasts a menu that would satisfy even the most persnickety eater. Starters like smashed avocado toast, tuna tartare tacos, and chicken soup with Israeli couscous will leave you hankering for more.

The menu features a diverse list of salads, sandwiches and other small plates, as well as a dry-aged burger, a wild mushroom pasta, and a hanger steak with decadent parmesan truffle fries. Wines are pricey by the glass but the list is well curated and the pours, generous. You'll find several gluten-free, dairy-free and vegetarian choices, too.

While the restaurant serves a full breakfast, think omelettes, cinnamon roll pancakes, breakfast bowls, fruit and granola, the breakfast that's included in the room rate is sparse. The meagre spread includes small portions of charcuterie, cheese, hard-boiled eggs and yoghurt alongside several types of bread with butter and jam (no toaster), juice and coffee.

6/₁₀

Value for money

Double rooms from \$209 (£163) in low season; and from \$499 (£389) in high. Breakfast included. Free Wi-Fi. In addition to the room rate, this property charges a hotel fee of \$40 (£31) per day, which includes taxes.

Access for guests with disabilities?

The hotel offers 13 accessible rooms.

Family-friendly?

Rooms are spacious, but this business hotel doesn't feel like a good fit for young travellers.

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