

TRAVEL

The iconic Algonquin Hotel in New York City

NEW YORK -

I absolutely love the historic Algonquin Hotel (www.algonquinhotel.com).

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It is always our first choice when visiting New York City.
Located on 44th Street near 6th Avenue, walk out the front door and you are a block and a half away from Times Square.

The Algonquin first opened its doors in 1902. Today, it is part of the Marriott chain's Autograph Collection, an evolving ensemble of strikingly independent hotels. Each destination has been selected for its quality, bold originality, rich character, and uncommon details. The result is an array of properties that is nothing less than unique. The Algonquin Hotel was the first New York City property to become a part of the collection.

For well more than 100 years, the Algonquin has been greeting and lodging the country's most prominent writers and literary personalities, as well as the leading figures of the American stage. The hotel is best known, perhaps, for the members of the Round Table, a group of luminaries who had in common both the ability to fire blazing witticisms and to withstand being on the receiving end of them.

This year marks the centennial of the Round Table and as a result special programming took place all summer long. We were there to take in some of the festivities.

Comfortable accommodations

Each of the 181 rooms and 25 suites features a comfortable well-lit work desk, as well as complimentary Wi-Fi. We stayed in a very comfortable one-bedroom Heywood Broun Suite, named for the noted American journalist, sportswriter and newspaper columnist in New York City who founded the American Newspaper Guild.

By Mike Cohen

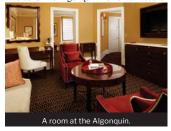
The layout was ideally suited for us. It included a roomy entrance with a master bedroom to the left featuring a nice-sized bathroom. The spacious living room has a pullout couch, a large desk which was perfect for me to write my stories and good drawer and cupboard space. You can get a fridge and a microwave, depending upon availability and on request.

When you enter the hotel, you come faceto-face with the casual Lobby Lounge, along with The Round Table Restaurant. Just to the left is the hotel's trendy and aptly named Blue Bar.



The Algonquin Cat

As a cat lover, I was of course excited to see Hamlet VIII, the three-year-old orange cat who calls The Algonquin his home. Accord-





ing to hotel executive assistant Alice De Almeida, he was originally a feral cat found in Long Island and brought to the Bide-a-wee shelter (the oldest shelter in the Big Apple), where the Algonquin then adopted him as their own. He came to the hotel in July 2017 after their former cat, Matilda III, retired.

"He is so friendly and loveable that people who never liked cats love him," De Almeida says proudly. "He has great purrsonality!" The Algonquin, its bar and restaurant, have easy access for wheelchairs from the street. There is valet parking. The hotel has six ADA rooms and one ADA suite. There are two elevators. Staff are very helpful and friendly.

The Algonquin Hotel is located at 59 W 44th Street, New York, New York 10036. www.algonquinhotel.com.

For information call 212-840-6800.

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