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Suite Stay: The Mark Hotel

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It may be called the City that Never Sleeps, but after an 18-hour journey to New York and a nine-hour time difference, the only thing on my mind *wassleep*. As such, I have never been more thankful for a speedy check-in than on October 28, 2013, standing in the lobby of the incredibly swanky, recently renovated **The Mark Hotel** in New York's Upper East Side.

In spite of my weariness, I couldn't help but explore my spacious Madison King Guest Room. The space, which was occupied by a plush king-sized bed, was furnished in pale colors with chrome accents and boasted a plasma flat screen and a state-of-the-art Bang & Olufsen audio system. The bathroom was similarly a mix of old-world style and modern technology. Black-and-white striped marble led to a luxurious standing shower, a deep soaking tub, double sinks, and, my favorite feature of all, a mirror television, which meant I could go through my beauty routine in the morning all the while watching TV from the mirror itself.

It's a bad habit and a guilty pleasure of mine to always inspect the mini bar whenever I arrive in a hotel, and this one shot straight to the top of my best-of list. Instead of a standard mini fridge, The Mark Hotel's mini bar was comprised of Sub-Zero refrigerated drawers, which could be filled with anything your heart desired. In my case, they were lined with Evian bottles and beautifully packaged snacks.

This outstanding dedication not only to personalized service but more specifically to personalized service at a five-star level is one of the hotel's most remarkable aspects and the founding principle of all of its facilities and services. From the dapper concierge to the in-house John Lobb shoeshine kiosk and the world-famous Frederic Fekkai salon, you couldn't be in better hands in New York City. Did I mention that The Mark Hotel has a 24/7 direct hotline to Bergdorf Goodman? Regardless of the time of day (or night, for that matter), guests of the hotel

can consult personal shoppers and have items delivered to their room. And should hunger strike you at equally strange hours, you can enjoy 24-hour room service courtesy of Michelin-starred chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten.

The Mark Hotel is indeed classic, Upper East Side elegance at its finest.

