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The Spin on New York's Mark Hotel



New York is a world-class city with many fine hotels. I have tried quite a few, but the Mark Hotel has been my top pick for the past several years. First, as much as I love playing Chelsea gal, I am an Upper East Side gal and have learned to embrace it. The Mark is in my former residential neighborhood and is within two blocks of several of the most important Upper East Side institutions: Zitomer, Steven Russell Jewelers, Gagosian Gallery, Core Fusion, Three Guys Diner and San Ambroeus. Second, the rooms are spacious, well lit, contemporary and clean. Third, they place Ladurée macarons by the bedside at turndown. Last but, not least, I am wild about those Mark bikes! Mind you, I am terrified of riding a bike in the City. Though I am a crazy indoor cyclist, my mum wouldn't permit me to ride on the streets as a child. Hence, I still cannot bring myself to do it. If I were a real cyclist, I wouldn't be able to resist these awesome bikes.

The Mark has a fleet of chic Republic Bikes designed by Jacques Grange to coordinate with the hotel. As a hotel guest, you have exclusive access to these bikes as well as a custom designed Mark Hotel helmet and black and white striped basket. The concierge can provide you with a Central Park bike trail map if you are interested in pedaling in the park. To add to your indulgent day, in-house chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten will prepare a picnic lunch for you to take along. I am determined to improve my cycling skills for the sole purpose of utilizing one of these bikes in the near future. Did I mention it has an "M" monogrammed bell? Seriously...



