

Crafting a Modern Luxury Experience with Pantheon Flair

When Studio Marco Piva was assigned to complete the architectural and interior design of the Marriott's Pantheon Iconic Rome Hotel, Autograph Collection, there were several challenges. The project required the renovation of a building that had already lived many lives as the Hotel Bologna and a government office. The goal was to bring modernity to the five-star hotel culture and creatively pay homage to the history without becoming another cliché. There was also an incredibly truncated timeframe—the hotel planning, design and construction had to be completed in 11 months.

In revamping the building, the design team sought to make a few of the original architectural elements the heroes of the new hotel's design. They decided to lean into the arches outlining the central corridor, so Piva added more arches to the main wall passages and made them points of visual interest. Now the lobby welcomes guests with an intriguing perspective of bronze arches, thoughtfully illuminated, and white gypsum vaults.

The Pantheon, which is just steps away from the hotel, was also selected as a dominant influence. Bronze appears throughout the project as a reference to the large hinges on the Pantheon entrance door and the distinctive central hole in its renowned dome, the oculus, is recalled several times throughout the hotel's distinctive design. For example, the ceiling in the lobby has an LED-illuminated feature that evokes the Pantheon's large, central opening and the circular shape is incorporated regularly throughout the décor.



▲ HISTORICAL INSPIRATION

The Pantheon and the original architectural elements of the hotel were major influences.



STUDIO MARCO PIVA USES LIGHT TO SHOWCASE AND RECALL SPECIAL ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES ON THE ICONIC ROMAN HOTEL.

Intriguing Use of Light

"The use of light was decisive for this hotel," says Piva, who used lighting to create visual accents that reinforce the presence of the arches and oculus-like moments throughout the property. "It underlines the geometries and its architecture," he stresses.

Given the fast-track timetable to carry out the designs for the project's exterior and interior public spaces and guest rooms, Piva enlisted the expertise of two lighting brands with which he had close working relationships, Artemide and Puraluce. With representatives of the two suppliers, Piva developed the critical timeline for the lighting program and began to execute his creative vision.

△ Revitalized Exterior

For the restored exterior, a staccato rhythm was established with Artemide's uplighting fixtures between the window openings and the rondelles where the building curves. The underside of the ledge between the fifth floor and the roof top restaurant is expressed by closely spaced illuminated rods. A control system modifies the light output depending on the seasons and the time of day, creating changing light scenographies.

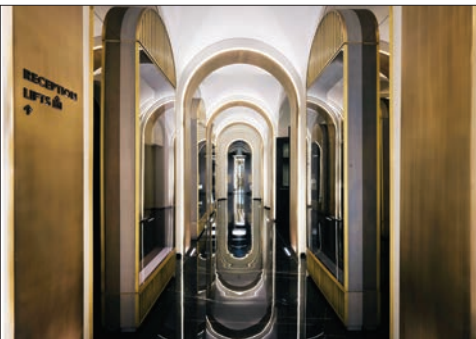
The Studio Marco Piva crafted a hotel that effectively marries modern luxury with thoughtful nods to the local history and architectural features of the Pantheon—and delivered the design in an incredibly short timeframe. Light was a critical tool in achieving this next-level experience.



▽ **Rooftop Divinity Restaurant**

The Divinity Terrace Lounge Bar is named for and decorated to celebrate the seven planetary gods to whom the Pantheon is consecrated. The materials that were so prominent throughout the rest of the hotel—marble, bronze and incredible lighting elements—are found here as well. Piva's design is composed of threaded bars, plus a rectangular panel with a brushed bronze finish. Dimmable 3000K LED lighting elements are integrated into the structure. Total power used is 105W. Indirect decorative light along the perimeter is furnished by a 3000K white light LED strip.

Above, a waterfall of steel cables transmits light from 3000K dimmable LED lamps. Lengths vary from 23 to 26 in. Total power is 75W.



△ **Ground Floor**

On the ground floor, the gallery's arched elements are illuminated by a special LED lighting system that was produced by Puraluce from Piva's drawings. The overhead circular fixtures that echo the oculus are incorporated above the reception station, in the lobby and in the lobby bar. There are also several elegant chandeliers that contribute toward the elegant ambience in the restaurant and lounge bar.



◁ **Guest Rooms**

Of the total of 79 guest rooms, 18 are suites. The central ceiling light is circular and another element reminiscent of the oculus in the Pantheon. Artemide's custom circular fixture theme is carried through in the wall lamp. Its curved shade has a brush bronze finish. Each 5W, 3000K, diffused side light is fitted with a DALI controller plus a 2W reading lamp that is adjustable to a narrow beam. Cove lighting accents the ceiling line and above the room's panel. ▶



CUSTOM LIGHTING PRODUCTS

Exterior uplights, custom cluster ceiling lamp, custom wall and table lamps from **Artemide**
www.artemide.com

Custom arched linear lighting from **Puraluce**
www.puraluce.us

DALI controller
www.dali-alliance.org