


# Travel | Destinations

[Destinations](#) | [Hotels](#) | [Offers](#) | [Holiday types](#) | [City](#) | [Beach](#) | [Tours](#) | [Cruise](#) | [Ski](#) | [Family](#) | [Advice](#) | [LuxuryMore](#) 

Home > Travel > Destinations > Europe > Italy > Liguria > Genoa > Hotels



 View gallery

## Hotel Bristol Palace

Genoa, Liguria, Italy  [View on a map](#)



**8/10**  
Telegraph expert rating

" Slip into a grande-dame suite for a taste of luxury, 1905-style. It's an Art Nouveau charmer that inspired Hitchcock (in a good way). Fully revamped, with parquet floors and Persian rugs, this favourite maiden aunt still serves mean cocktails before a spiffing dinner and bedside travel tales. "

By [Lisa Gerard-Sharp](#)


### 8/10 Location

Set on a genteel, faded avenue, the hotel promises noble Genoa, with the Ducal Palace moments away. Yet the Bristol also borders the bewildering, burrowing alleys that represent authentic Genoa, with gutsy inns leading down to Porto Antico, the revitalised port. From the aquarium to the museum-palaces, the major attractions are within easy reach.


Check availability

Rooms from **£90**


CHECK-IN

Mon 11 Sep 

CHECK-OUT

Tue 12 Sep 

OCCUPANCY

1 rooms, 2 adults, 0 children 

[Check availability](#)

Rates provided by [Booking.com](#)



## 8/10 **Style & character**

Old-school charm prevails, from the Art Deco bannisters to the antique writing desks and marble halls. The dizzy-making spiral staircase, seemingly suspended in space, supposedly inspired Alfred Hitchcock's psychological thriller, *Vertigo*. Such film-set good looks have long drawn famous guests, from Rudolph Nureyev to Michael Portillo, recently in town on a *Great Train Journey*.

Actor Colin Firth hid out here for months while filming *Genova* (2008). Not that the Bristol does name-dropping: it's far too discreet for that. Even so, after its revamp, the Bristol is back to being the best grande-dame hotel in Genoa.



< 1 of 115 >





- ✔ Bar
- ✔ Laundry
- ✔ Parking
- ✔ Restaurant
- ✔ Room service
- ✔ Wi-Fi

8/10

### Rooms

The individuality of the rooms, including some of the loveliest suites in town, makes this a hotel for splashing out. Expect a preponderance of period mirrors, parquet floors and oriental rugs, with the formality offset by canary-yellow walls and soft lighting.

Modernised, marble-veined bathrooms, including whirlpools in some suites, come with Trussardi bath products. The mellow suites best reflect the Bristol's old-school charm. Room 545, a gracious junior suite, features an antique desk ready for novel-writing and a balcony view of rooftops merging into the medieval maze beyond. A charming touch, in keeping with the retro mood, are the bedside travel classics by the likes of Mark Twain and Henry James.

9/10

### Food & drink

Giotto is Genoa's most highly-rated hotel restaurant, a showcase to Ligurian cuisine, served on the summer terrace or under a frescoed, stuccoed ceiling of cavorting cherubs. Expect Genoese minestrone soup, Ligurian-style seabass, or typical trofie al pesto pasta with aromatic basil, potato and beans.

The talented Sicilian chef also slips in southern seafood dishes, along with cannoli and pistachio desserts. Breakfast is another highlight, especially on the summer terrace, which feels more like a winter garden. Tuck into organic Genoese specialities, such as chard pie and olive-studded bread, as well as a classic cooked buffet.

7/10

### Value for money

Double rooms from €119 (£108) in low season; and from €390 (£354) in high. Breakfast included. Free Wi-Fi.

The Bristol feels like a fully-revamped five-star that elects to remain four-star, despite now being part of Preferred Hotels Luxury Collection. As such, the hotel is both underrated and good value, especially in the gourmet restaurant.

#### Access for guests with disabilities?

No adapted rooms but several do have big bathrooms so enquire beforehand.

#### Family-friendly?

This hotel is aimed at adults but interconnected rooms can be created. Child-friendly meals are available but they'll probably prefer yours.

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