Presidential properties make for luxurious event spaces
by Kelsey Farabee

With President’s Day occurring this month, it’s fun to think about all the hotels where United States Presidents have slept, convened and dined along the course of the nation’s history. Presidents do have good taste, after all, and typically stay at high-end properties with enough meeting space to accommodate their entourage and accompanying media. Here’s a look at five properties that have welcomed U.S. Presidents in the past:

The lavish 185-room Gramercy Park Hotel in New York City is filled with 20th century artwork and pieces of handcrafted furniture. The hotel opened in 1925, and in addition to President John F. Kennedy, has also hosted Babe Ruth, Madonna, U2 and other celebrities. Event spaces at the boutique property include the famous Gramercy Terrace overlooking the Park, various suites and the hotel’s penthouse.

The land where the Omni Bedford Springs now sits in Pennsylvania’s Allegheny Mountains has been an important destination for more than 200 years, since 1796 when mineral springs were discovered bubbling on the property. Following the opening of the Stone Inn in 1806, the hotel quickly became a wildly popular destination among dignitaries, hosting 10 U.S. Presidents. Nowadays, Omni Bedford Springs offers modern meeting amenities and more than 20,000 square feet of conference space.

The Omni Grove Park Inn in Asheville, N.C., celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2003. At the mansion's opening ceremony Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan delivered the keynote address, declaring that the hotel was “built for the ages.” The list of Presidents that have visited the Grove Park is long, and includes William Howard Taft, Woodrow Wilson, Calvin Coolidge, Herbert Hoover, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Richard M. Nixon, George H. W. Bush, William J. Clinton and Barack Obama, who golfed there in 2010. The property offers 55,000 square feet of event space.

New Hampshire’s Omni Mount Washington originally opened in 1902, and was constructed by a team of more than 200 master craftsmen. The Presidential Wing opened in 2009 with 30,000 square feet of meeting space and a 25,000-square-foot spa. The hotel has hosted three U.S. Presidents, as well as Thomas Edison, and in 1944 was home to the conference that established the International Monetary Fund. The Gold Room, where the documents were signed, is now preserved as a historical space.

The 3,600-acre Westin Lake Las Vegas resort in Henderson, Nev., can accommodate up to 2,100 guests and has more than 50,000 square feet of exterior event space, such as gardens and terraces. In 2012, President Obama and his team spent several days at the resort during his re-election campaign.
CMM Planners Turn Up Heat on MPI

Howard Feldman, CMM — Congratulations to the CMM group...ya done good!

New Delhi Airport Adds Meetings-Friendly Hotel

Fintan Corrigan — Congratulations on the New Delhi hotel opening. I think it will be a big winner with guests.

Spectacular New Catskills Resort Announced

MickeyMey7 — I’ll believe it when I see it.

David Goldstein — Nice work John - I wanted to win the Golden Tate football!

Preventing Guest Information Theft in Meeting Contracts

Joshua Grimes

Hotels and other meeting industry vendors process millions of credit card charges daily. They are also entrusted with tons of guests’ personal information, including driver’s licenses...

How to Effectively Work With a Revenue Manager

Molly Blaisdell

Revenue managers work in tandem with the hotel’s sales department to ensure the best partnership possible is created between the property and a customer. While the sales department holds the pri...

Taking a Stand for People in Hospitality

Joan Eisenstodt

This blog, as do all the blogs I write, does not necessarily reflect the views or positions of Stamats, the parent company of Meetings Focus, or of Meetings Focus magazine. If you follow the news at...

Meetings Focus Webinar Wrap – monthly wrap-up of Meetings Focus Webinars

Meetings Focus Hot Topic – meeting industry’s hot topics of the month

Meetings Focus New & Renovated – monthly highlights of facilities in various stages of renovation

Meetings In A Minute – bimonthly videos with meeting industry tips

Submit Cancel