

HOTEL ESSEX

HOTEL ESSEX IS NOW OPEN IN CHICAGO'S SOUTH LOOP

Oxford Hotels & Resorts, LLC announces official opening of its 13th hotel project in the city



Lobby at Hotel Essex (Credit: Kailley Lindman)

Hi-res images can be downloaded [here](#).

(CHICAGO, IL; April 1, 2019)—[Oxford Hotels & Resorts, LLC](#), the Chicago-based hotel management affiliate of Oxford Capital Group, LLC, proudly announces today's opening of [Hotel Essex](#) its latest luxury lifestyle hotel located on Michigan Avenue adjacent to Grant Park. Formerly The Essex Inn, the landmark property underwent a multi-million-dollar transformation, giving new life to the iconic Michigan Avenue building.

"The Essex Inn has been an iconic building on Michigan Avenue since its opening in 1961," says John W. Rutledge, founder, president, and chief executive officer of Oxford Hotels & Resorts, LLC and its parent company, Oxford Capital Group, LLC. "With the property's new identity as Hotel Essex, we pay homage to the building's history with a fresh look inspired by its original era and new amenities that both locals and visitors can enjoy."

Oxford worked closely with its joint venture partners at Quadrum Global to implement the strategic repositioning of the hotel, which closed in summer 2018 for renovations.

Hotel Essex's comprehensive redevelopment included the preservation and restoration of the building's glass and steel structure and iconic rooftop "Essex

Inn" sign, the replacement of all the major building systems, and the transformation of all guestrooms, public spaces and interiors, bringing the property's original midcentury modern aesthetic into the 21st century. Working closely with the development team, [The Gettys Group](#) led the hotel's interior design, drawing on the building's roots in the 1960s during the midst of the midcentury modern design movement.



Lobby at Hotel Essex (Credit: Kailley Lindman)

The updated interiors at Hotel Essex convey a sophisticated yet comfortable style, with classic midcentury details inspired by the innovation of the time period. Authentic materials and unexpected pops of color are incorporated into the spaces, leveraging the floor-to-ceiling windows to maintain focal points of Grant Park, Lake Michigan, and the cityscape.

The gut renovation of the hotel spans across all spaces, including the refurbished lobby, guestrooms, meeting space, fitness center, ground-floor restaurant Grant Park Bistro, and the adjacent hotel-operated SX Sky Bar, a bi-level food, beverage, and nightlife destination opening in mid-April.



Lobby design details at Hotel Essex (Credit: Kailley Lindman)

GUEST AMENITIES

Throughout a stay at Hotel Essex, guests are invited to make the hotel a home base for city exploring, whether staying for one night or one week. The property offers a central location on Michigan Avenue adjacent to Grant Park for those visiting for business or leisure, just steps away from Millennium Park, The Art Institute, Museum Campus, Soldier Field, and Chicago's downtown business district.

Each of the 274 king and double guestrooms includes a work station, 55-inch smart TVs, SmartFridges, Lavazza espresso machines, 300-count luxury linens, hand-held garment steamers, and Frette robes and Trussardi bath products made exclusively for Hotel Essex. Guests keep connected at Hotel Essex with high-speed WiFi and Bluetooth-enabled bathroom mirrors with hidden speakers.

Guests' dining needs, from breakfast to late-night, are fulfilled by Grant Park Bistro and SX Sky Bar. The ground-floor Grant Park Bistro is a modern French grill open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, serving a menu focused on grilled meats and vegetables and French wines.

Hotel Essex guests can also enjoy a meal, a cocktail, or a night out at [SX Sky Bar](#), the bi-level restaurant and lounge at 808 S. Michigan Ave. With culinary efforts led by Chef de Cuisine Christopher Suzuki, SX Sky Bar offers a menu of shareable small plates and sushi with Californian and Asian flavors, along with thoughtful craft cocktails. SX Sky Bar provides a luxe atmosphere for an intimate dinner in the lounge, a drink with friends, or an evening of dancing.

The two-story venue houses expansive space for meetings and events, including sectioned lounge areas and a spacious private dining room. SX Sky Bar will also provide catering at the hotel's second-floor meeting space, which offers flexible AV capabilities and floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking Grant Park.

The hotel's onsite, state-of-the-art fitness center houses top-tier workout equipment by Peloton, Star Trac, Life Fitness, and Powermill. Guests can enjoy connections to Hulu and Netflix on all cardio equipment.

Additional amenities include luggage storage, laundry, dry-cleaning, and valet services with in-and-out privileges.

To learn more about Hotel Essex or to make a reservation, call 312.939.2800 or visit www.hotelessexchicago.com.

About Hotel Essex

Formerly The Essex Inn, Hotel Essex is a reimagined and transformed mid-century landmark along Chicago's Cultural Mile, overlooking Michigan Avenue and Grant Park. The historic hotel is a part of an Oxford Capital Group led mixed-use lifestyle development, including the 479-unit Essex on the Park luxury apartment tower, bi-level, indoor-outdoor lounge SX Sky Bar, and ground floor, chef-driven French restaurant Grant Park Bistro. Hotel Essex offers 274 sophisticatedly designed rooms, upscale guest amenities, a state-of-the-art fitness center, and unparalleled views of the city and its lakefront. In the South Loop and adjacent to some of Chicago's major attractions—Buckingham Fountain, the Art Institute of Chicago, Museum Campus, the "Bean," and

the Magnificent Mile shopping district—Hotel Essex serves as a gateway for the city's exploration.

About Oxford Capital Group, LLC and Oxford Hotels & Resorts, LLC

Oxford Capital Group, LLC is an international real estate investment, development and management firm specializing in high value-added acquisitions, developments and redevelopments, with an emphasis on hospitality, mixed-use, senior housing and other operationally intensive real estate. Oxford Hotels & Resorts, LLC is Oxford's wholly owned hotel management company specializing in operating, managing, and branding distinctive high-design lifestyle hotels. Oxford is focused on the nation's top 50 MSA's and other select urban and resort markets with unique attributes. Oxford's national developments have included Hotel Lexington NYC, Metropolitan Hotel NYC, National Conference Center in Northern Virginia, and the Godfrey Hotel's Boston, Tampa and Hollywood. Oxford's Chicago hotel projects include Hotel Essex, The Langham, LondonHouse, Godfrey Hotel, Hotel Julian, Claridge House, Hotel Felix, Hyatt Magnificent Mile (formerly the Wyndham Chicago), Hotel Cass, Renaissance North Shore, Doubletree North Shore, Hyatt House Northwest, and Hotel Versey. For more information, visit www.oxford-capital.com & www.ohrllc.com.

About The Gettys Group

The Gettys Group operates at the intersection of strategy, design, and implementation, providing innovative and authentic solutions and unparalleled value to the hospitality industry through a unique combination of interior design, development, branding, and procurement services. Serving clients from offices in the Americas, Middle East, and Asia Pacific, each with its own point of view and understanding of global trends and local culture, The Gettys Group creates differentiated and desirable hospitality brands and meaningful and memorable guest experiences. The Gettys Group's influence on hospitality is pervasive. For nearly 30 years, The Gettys Group has delivered more than 1,000 hospitality projects in 32 countries across 16 time zones. For more information, visit gettys.com.

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