



Mystery Inspector's Insider Tip

Pseudonym: **Tramore Boy**

Date of inspection: **3rd & 4th December 2011**

Top 3 reasons to stay at the hotel:

1) The Spa & Wellness Facilities

Whether the sun is shining or not there is always something to do at the Alpenhof. Starting with the excellent Yavanna Spa and Wellness facilities which consists of a large, wooden outdoor kelo-sauna with shower and relaxation facilities, an indoor color-light-sauna, a herbal spa, Amethyst steam bath, infrared lit and health cabins, ice fountains, foot baths and a relaxation area. The Spa offers a wide selection of treatments for both men and women. For those who would like more action there are the indoor and outdoor pools and the very well equipped gym and exercise room. Bikes can also be hired directly from the hotel.

2) The Location and Surrounding area

There is no excuse to be bored at the Alpenhof. There is an endless list of possible activities and all of these are described at length in the visitor's information folder which is present in every room. For skiers there are some small runs in the vicinity or the larger resort of Garmisch-Partenkirchen about 30 minutes away. For cyclists, hikers or horse-back riders there is the Murnauer Moor or Lake Staffel. Golfers can visit any one of the 11 courses that are available within a 40km radius. If you prefer just a short walk there is the town of Murnau just 15 minutes away. For those seeking a more cultural experience, there are two of "mad" King Ludwig's Castles at Linderhof and Neuschwanstein. Every ten years there is also the passion play in Oberammergau to look forward to. Finally, all these can be enjoyed under the permanent and fantastic alpine backdrop.

3) The hotel Staff and warm atmosphere

The hotel staff was friendly, helpful and very professional. They made us feel extremely comfortable at all times. The house-keeping was excellent and the small touches such as the generous fruit bowl, good quality chocolates, extensive selection of toiletries for both men and women and the complimentary minibar make you feel appreciated as a guest.

Overview (A brief explanation of the hotel and facilities as experienced):

We arrived shortly after midday and received a warm welcome at the reception. No other guests were checking in or out at the time and therefore we were addressed immediately. We had been recognized as SLH members before our arrival and received a complimentary upgrade to a large suite. While we were being shown to our room by one of the receptionists, the porter unloaded the car and parked it in the garage for us. We were offered a welcome drink but when we declined they gave us the option to have it in the evening instead. The receptionist took her time to explain the generously sized maisonette suite and hotel facilities in detail. Our room had two large Flat-screen TVs, one on each level, a large bed (two singles pushed together), and a comfortable and well-lit bathroom where we found a large selection of complimentary toiletries. After completing the room introduction and receiving our luggage (which arrived within 10 minutes), we toured the hotel and spa facilities. We booked a treatment and then returned to the room to get changed. For the next four hours we enjoyed all there was on offer, relaxed, read and enjoyed complimentary teas and mulled wine (Christmas time!)

Before dinner we spent time in the lounge/bar area where we received our welcome drink. We had a very pleasant dinner in the Hoffman's Restaurant which served Bavaria style dishes.

The following morning we had breakfast from the buffet which had a very generous selection of items to meet everyone's tastes. The fact that the hotel was not full also made this a relaxed and pleasurable experience.

We look forward to returning again and staying more than one night!