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OCT **ESCAPE TO HOTEL LIBERTY**

Despite a storied past as a prison, the new Hotel Liberty set in the German city of Offenburg has been transformed into the ultimate place to escape to, not from.

Hotel Liberty's 38 rooms and suites are spread across two 19th-century buildings and joined by a contemporary glass box which houses the restaurant, lounge, gallery, and a library that boasts over 3000 tomes. The second-floor conference and meeting room appears to float in mid-air and adds a whole new meaning to "blue sky thinking".



Drastically different from the prison cells they once were, rooms and suites feature oak floors, distressed leather, and handcrafted furnishings by Knoblauch and local craftspeople, while urban gardening on the rooftop is a subtle nod to the building's history as a place of communal activity. Further referencing the building's past, the 1.2m thick walls have been left intact, and the old cell doors have been cleverly integrated into the contemporary layout.

The property is also home to the fine dining grill restaurant Wasser&Brot—a reference to the inmates' typical diet of "water and bread" in previous times. Today, this standout eatery serves contemporary French cuisine under Michelin-starred chef Jeremy Biasiol, while the Mezzanine Floor & Lounge offers locally inspired tapas and high tea.



Set just outside the city walls of Offenburg's old town, Hotel Liberty is the ideal base from which to explore the historic city, as well as the region's lush vineyards and the world-famous Black Forest. The hotel is part of the Design Hotels group.