



## Shangri-La Hotel, at The Shard, London – a hotel in the clouds

**It's all about the view from the tallest building in the EU – one of its most talked about architectural designs in the world.**

The first wow when entering London's five-star Shangri-La Hotel, housed in the 72-storey London Shard, is the enormous chandelier at the ground floor entrance, which weighs 4.6-tons. You're relieved of your luggage and scanned through security, then up to Level 35 in a super-fast elevator delivering you to reception and the second wow. Not wanting to detract from the jaw-dropping views across the Thames, St Pauls, the Gherkin and Tower Bridge, the hotel's marbled sky lobby and reception is minimalist with floor-to-ceiling vistas. This perpetuates from here to every other room in the hotel.



### London, out at your feet

The Hong Kong based hotel group, which occupies Levels 34 to 52 of this magnificent glass structure, has 202 rooms (including 17 suites), all with unparalleled views. The interiors of this spire-shaped glass shard are contemporary with a shimmering oriental twist, soothing colours and mood lighting throughout. It's a highly functional yet understated environment where the views are obviously the showstopper.

Located on Level 39, is the prestigious Shangri-La Suite (188m<sup>2</sup>). It comes with all the technology and gadgets required of 21st century living, plus everything on a busy executive's wish list – including a 24-hour personal butler, a private chauffeur, a sumptuous living areas, including a study and kitchen, plus 180-degree views of the capital. As one would expect, the Shangri-La Suite is beyond exquisite; it's equipped with custom-made furnishings and high-grade silk wallpaper in a soft colour-palette of champagne, citrine and bronze; a grand marble-clad bathroom with an integrated television, mirror screens and a heated floor; a vast walk-in dressing room; a well-equipped private pantry (allowing for a Shangri-La's Dine by Design experience), and when the sun gets too much, activate the automatic shields to protect against the glare. Of course, the views are nothing less than mind-blowing – especially when seen through the in-room spotting scope or binoculars. Chefs tasting menu at Ting (Level 35) is another highlight mixed in with magical views and an elegant ambiance. As the sun sets on a backdrop of unrivalled city magic, feast on the finest European-Asian fusion food you've ever sampled – British artisan and locally sourced produce from Borough Market, with an added Asian twist: Green Harissa Velouté sauce (thickened with egg yolks, butter and cream), adorned with a thick wedge of goat's cheese and, on the side, a courgette flower, basted in tempura batter, lightly fried, and perfectly paired with a 2015 Paul





Jaboulet Grenache-Viognier blend. This is followed by a succulent Halibut resting in a shellfish broth, with multi-coloured chard and Japanese shimeji mushrooms, matched with a 2014 Cambria Tepusquet vineyard Viognier. Talk about pedigree on a plate!

After a breakfast of Eggs Benedict and Honey Waffles (plus an option of a hundred other tasty morsels) and before descending into the crush of the day, take time out to enjoy the infinity pool – a serene oasis in the sky looking down on the commotion of the city. You may well be tempted to conduct your meetings from here. <sup>AC</sup>

### **Ting Restaurant**

Level 35, Shangri-La Hotel,  
At The Shard, London  
[www.ting-shangri-la.com](http://www.ting-shangri-la.com)

For your next day out in the capital it may please you to know that here a 3-course lunch would set you back just £35.

Shangri-La Hotel At The Shard  
31 St Thomas Street, London  
[www.the-shard.com/shangri-la](http://www.the-shard.com/shangri-la)

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Written by Cindy-Lou Dale



### **Interesting facts about The Shard**

- Completed in 2012, The Shard stands at 309.6 metres, making it Western Europe's tallest building.
- The Shard occupies over 30-acres of space, developed on 1-acre of land (approximately 120,000m<sup>2</sup>).
- The construction of the 4-metre thick basement raft was an operation of heroic proportions: at the time, it was the largest concrete pour ever carried out in Britain. In a space of 36-hours, 700 truckloads of concrete were delivered – a military-style operation.
- Glazing: 56,000m<sup>2</sup> – that's the equivalent to eight football pitches. 11,000 individual panels.
- Total length of wiring: 320 km/200 miles – the distance from London to Paris
- Total length of pipework: 60 km/38 miles double-decker.
- The 72-storey Shard has a mix of uses – residential, offices and retail, which creates a building that's in use 24/7. The slender and pyramidal design of the tower was determined by its suitability to this mix: large floor plates at the bottom for offices; in the middle are restaurants, public spaces and the hotel; at the top are private apartments. The final floors accommodate a public viewing gallery, 240m above street level.