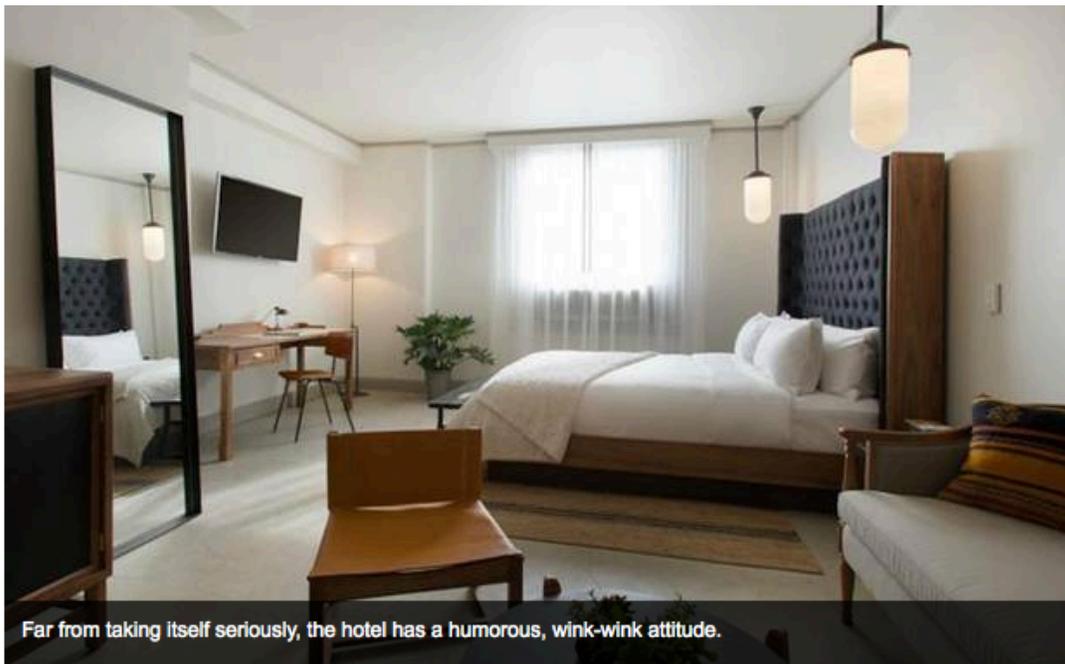


## Hotel G, San Francisco, USA: Review

August 17, 2015

By Sara Benson



Far from taking itself seriously, the hotel has a humorous, wink-wink attitude.

Completely renovated in 2014, this boutique property has transformed the 1909 Fielding Hotel into a go-to destination for trendsetters. Just one block from Union Square and within easy reach of public transport lines, it's a convenient base for exploring the city. The hotel's restaurants and cocktail bars are exceptional.

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### **Location**

**9/10**

A block west of Union Square, the Hotel G offers easy access to dozens of shops, restaurants and bars. You can hop on a Powell Street cable car and be in North Beach or the Fisherman's Wharf waterfront area in about 15 minutes. Catch buses, trains and streetcars along Market St, which is less than a 10-minute walk from the hotel.

### **Style/character**

**8/10**

Dating from 1908, the hotel's original façade has been restored, and many of the historic design elements such as wooden and tiled floors have also been gussied up. Far from

taking itself seriously, the hotel has a humorous, wink-wink attitude evident, for example, in the tongue-in-cheek writing above the elevator doors. Original artwork displayed around the hotel is all for sale, with profits benefiting a local non-profit organisation.

### **Service/facilities**

**5/10**

Check-in is handled smoothly and staff are professional. Although the hotel has few amenities besides a small fitness centre, it's located in a buzzing neighbourhood offering just about anything you might need, from day spas to nightlife. Valet parking (\$55/£35 a night).

### **Rooms**

**8/10**

The 153 rooms are spread over 12 storeys. Elemental in style, rooms mix antique elements – think vintage banker's lamps and Victorian chaise longues – with earth-toned modern design like fog-coloured walls and natural fabrics. They also sport tech conveniences like iPod docking stations and Nespresso coffee machines. Bathrooms feature walk-in showers and C.O. Bigelow products. Expect some ambient street noise.

### **Food & drink**

Take your pick of two fine restaurants and a sophisticated cocktail bar. Klyde Café & Wine Bar serves modern American bistro fare; breakfast and brunch are outstanding. Three 9 Eight Restaurant & Bar serves a European brasserie menu, ranging from escargot to burrata salads. An in-the-know hideout upstairs, Benjamin Cooper bar crafts stellar cocktails and dishes up oysters. Styled like an old-fashioned speakeasy, the bar's entrance is unmarked.

### **Value for money**

**8/10**

Double rooms from £130. Breakfast excluded (mains from \$8/£5). Free Wi-Fi.

### **Access for guests with disabilities?**

Yes. For guests with wheelchairs, ADA rooms are available (specifically request these when booking), but not all areas of the historic building are accessible.

### **Family-friendly?**

No. Rooms with two double beds might barely accommodate small families, but the hotel isn't tailored for children and most of the guests are single travellers or couples.