

ACE HOTEL TORONTO

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CHEF PATRICK KRISS' RESTAURANT, ALDER, OPENS FOR DINNER AUGUST 9



Ace Hotel Toronto Lobby; credit: William Jess Laird

JULY 26, 2022: Ace Hotel Toronto — the brand's inaugural home in Canada — opens its doors today. The 123-room ground-up project was designed by revered Toronto firm **Shim-Sutcliffe Architects**, led by Brigitte Shim and Howard Sutcliffe, recipients of numerous awards including the 2021 Royal Architectural Institute of Canada's Gold Medal, the nation's highest honour for architecture. Anchoring the building is Alder, a seasonal wood-fired restaurant from critically acclaimed chef **Patrick Kriss**, which will open for dinner service on August 9. Chef Patrick also helms the menus for The Lobby, as well as the hotel's rooftop bar and lounge, Evangeline, opening later this year.

Ace Hotel Toronto stands in the city's historic Garment District, a neighbourhood ignited by innovation and industry at the start of the 20th century, once a manufacturing centre that grew into an influential artistic hub. At a nexus of neighbourhoods including Queen West, Downtown and Chinatown, and within walking distance of famed music venues, galleries, bars and restaurants, the hotel joins an area long defined by many of the independently minded and community-focused institutions that form the city's cultural backbone.

“Long a leading global light for its forward-thinking approach to city-making and design, Toronto is a city that embraces originality and is rooted in the same open-to-all philosophy that founded Ace. We could not be more proud to open Ace Hotel Toronto — the architectural magnificence of Shim-Sutcliffe Architects’ work has created a bona fide wonder. They have built an inherently civic space that respects the neighbourhood’s storied past while nurturing its future. Likewise, Chef Patrick Kriss has worked in tandem with our team to create something exceptional at Alder, a restaurant with an honest reverence of seasons and quality. It is with great gratitude to the gifts of friends near and far that we welcome all to finally fill this remarkable space.”

– Brad Wilson, CEO, Atelier Ace / Ace Hotel Group

Ace Hotel Toronto features:

- Guestrooms and public spaces designed by **Shim-Sutcliffe Architects** and **Atelier Ace**
- Food and beverage offerings from **Chef-Partner Patrick Kriss**
- **The Lobby** with a menu of drinks and small plates, and open-to-all arts, culture and music programming
- Wood-fired restaurant, **Alder**
- Rooftop bar and lounge, **Evangeline**, opening soon
- Original artworks by primarily Canadian artists, including **tahsine al hassane, Nadia Gohar, Dennis Lin, Guillermo Trejo, Claudia Gutierrez, Victoria Sequeira, Meera Sethi, Jennifer Alicia, Dahae Song** and many more
- An in-room vinyl collection curated by storied independent Toronto record label **Arts & Crafts**
- Three multifunctional event spaces

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

Although a new building, the robust, solid architecture of Ace Hotel Toronto was designed to convey timelessness, and feels effortlessly at home amongst its surroundings. Shim-Sutcliffe Architects’ work — imbued with modesty, honesty, and an appreciation of place, as exemplified by the studio’s famed Integral House — evokes a particularly Canadian spirit and feeling. The building’s red brick facade recalls the important role bricks pressed from Don Valley clay played in forming the city’s visual identity, and guests entering the lobby catch a glimpse of *Horizon Line*, a three-story site-specific art installation abstractly representing Lake Ontario’s glittering waters, designed by A. Howard Sutcliffe. A rhythmic series of soaring, poured-in-place, concrete structural arches rise from the semi-subterranean restaurant to a level above. The Lobby, clad in red oak lining and inspired in form by a wooden tray, is suspended by slender steel rods from these massive supports and offers guests a variety of viewpoints and scales within the impressive space. With a sun-dappled seating area replete with vintage and custom Atelier Ace furnishings, and views overlooking the neighbourhood green space St. Andrew’s Playground Park, The Lobby is rich with texture and warmth, offering space for life to take place.

At its heart, Ace Toronto is a civic space built for gathering and trading in words, intimacies and bright ideas. A meeting of rough-hewn textures and sleek comforts, the hotel’s interiors, designed by Atelier Ace, take their cues from the city’s legacy of manufacturing and textiles as well as Ontario’s landscape of dense forests and looping riverways. Ace Toronto’s original art program features pieces by nearly 40 artists, the majority of whom share ties to the city. The far-reaching works enrich the hotel’s public and private spaces and glow of humanity. Guest suites are conceived as restful urban cabins, with Douglas fir panelling, copper accents, custom Shim-Sutcliffe lighting and side tables, and deep-set window benches built into the structure offering connection to the city’s shifting seasons and light. Considered material, constructed time, tremendous shifts of scale and sensitivity to place coalesce at Ace Hotel Toronto, bringing a future-facing structure and unprecedented creative centre to the city.



Alder; credit: William Jess Laird.

FOOD & BEVERAGE

Chef-Partner Patrick Kriss oversees all dining menus at Ace Hotel Toronto, working with Executive Chef Devin Murphy, who runs daily kitchen operations, and Pastry Chef Victoria Ammendolia. Widely regarded as one of the world's top culinary talents, Chef Patrick holds the distinction of being awarded the title of "Outstanding Chef" by Canada's 100 Best Restaurants consecutively from 2017-2020. His flagship Toronto restaurant, [Alo](#), holds a rare four-star rating from *The Globe & Mail*, and in addition to Alo, Chef Patrick and his Alo Food Group own the popular and critically acclaimed local restaurants, [Aloette](#), [Salon](#) and [Alobar Yorkville](#).

Alder aims to be an all-day hangout for Toronto, a welcoming, relaxed respite for both neighbours and far-flung visitors. At the heart of the restaurant is its signature wood-fired hearth and grill, from which seasonal ingredients are gently transformed by open flame and smoke. For the menu, Chef Patrick draws inspiration from the gastronomic traditions and techniques long-practised in and around the Mediterranean. Highlights from the dinner menu include Half Grilled Chicken with harissa jus; Grilled Red Pepper Carpaccio with garlic, olive, anchovy and paprika; and for dessert, gluten-free Coconut Cream Pie and Dark Chocolate and Peanut Mille-Feuille. Alder also features a full bar program pouring classically inspired cocktails — such as the Tyrian with absinthe verte, browned yoghurt, pineapple and roasted coffee cream — local craft beers, and an eclectic selection of wines spanning a range of styles, varietals and both established and up-and-coming vintners. Alder's house red and white wines are specially blended and bottled for the restaurant by famed Canadian winery Pearl Morissette. Beverage Manager James Park oversees the bar program, and Sommelier Arashasp Shroff curates the wines. Alder opens for dinner August 9 with breakfast, lunch and brunch to come. Dinner reservations are now open, and can be booked via Alder's [Tock](#) page.

Continuing a long-standing Ace tradition of open community spaces, The Lobby is a stunning meeting spot offering a menu of pastries and locally roasted Sam James Coffee in the morning, followed by craft cocktails, wines by the glass, beers, snacks and shareable small plates later on. Menu highlights include *Tuna Tartare* with

caper, parsley and crispy shallot; *Alder Burger* with griddled smoked havarti, bomba mayo and pickles; *Potato Flatbread* with lardo, rosemary and chili; an *Everything Bagel Croissant*; a *Miso, Sesame and Ginger Cookie*; and for drinks, the *Ace Martini* with local gin or vodka, vermouth blend, mastica and tarragon brine; and the non-alcoholic *Good Vibes Only* with spirit-free tequila, fermented pineapple, citrus and chili. The Lobby also features a robust calendar of music, arts and cultural programming. It's open daily from 7AM–11PM, walk-in service only, with private space rental available.

Located 14 stories high, rooftop bar and lounge Evangeline offers sweeping views of the surrounding cityscape. The 80-seat lounge is spread across a cosy indoor area and an open-air patio, with DJs taking to Evangeline's decks every weekend. A site of light-hearted fun and eats, Evangeline will serve snackable finger foods and small plates, along with beer, cocktails and wines by the glass. Evangeline will officially open later this year and will be open late night year-round.

Reservations are available for booking at acehotel.com/toronto, with rates starting at \$399 CAD / \$305 USD.

Ace Hotel Toronto is developed in partnership with Zinc Developments and Alterra Group.

Address: 51 Camden Street, Toronto, ON, M5V 1V2

Website: www.acehotel.com/toronto

Rooms: 123

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ABOUT ACE HOTEL

Ace Hotel reimagines urban spaces for people who make cities interesting. Our approach to all our projects is simple — we seek to genuinely embrace local culture in the areas we inhabit. We bring together narratives, artists and materials that speak to the building, to the site and to the city. From there, we welcome in the alchemy that's created.

Our worlds are vast and dynamic. We build relationships with a wide range of people — makers, thinkers, creative do-it-yourselfers in the fields of art, technology, music, fashion, media and gastronomy. We are curious about the history and geography of the buildings and neighbourhoods we inhabit, and let these guide us to someplace new. By honouring the architectural, social history of a site, with an eye for the future that envisions respectful and nuanced dedication to a community, we create inspired spaces full of local art, intentional design and curious possibilities.

Ace was founded in Belltown, Seattle in 1999, with current locations in Seattle, Portland, New York, Palm Springs, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Kyoto, Brooklyn, Sydney and Toronto.