



Courtesy of: Michaela Haberer, Wonderers Travel  
331 High St.  
Winston-Salem NC  
✉ [MHaberer@NTMLLC.com](mailto:MHaberer@NTMLLC.com) ☎ 336-714-3154 Office



## The G Hotel

**Especially Prepared for: Wiggins Family**

**Suggested Retail Price: \$9.95**

**Your travel agent says:**

Thank you for your business!

## The G, Galway, Ireland

Wellpark  
Galway, Ireland

Check in Time: 3:00 PM  
Check out Time: 12:00 PM  
Number of Floors: 3  
Total Number of Rooms: 98  
General Manager: Damian O'Oirdan

STAR Rating: ★★★★★

Amenity Rating: 🍷🍷🍷🍷🍷



Located a 10-minute drive from the city center, just off the main Dublin Road (N59), this striking design hotel is Galway's king of the catwalk, a vibrant boutique hotel that makes all of Galway's other hotels look positively quaint. (Except perhaps its sibling, the Meyrick.)

In spite of all the eye candy, its location is quite drab, connected as it is to a cut-rate shopping center along a busy highway leading into Galway, a long 20-minute walk away.

The three-story glassy exterior with a giant overhanging eave cut with circular openings has the anonymous design of an airport terminal, and its entryway, marked by a 6-ft font of a lowercase G, is easy to miss. Once inside, most guests thrill to the boldly contrasting

interiors created by hat designer Philip Treacy, which blend classic, traditional elements with amplified, modern ones. When guests first walk through the revolving glass doors of the lobby, the black-and-white marble floor, dark walls, inset lights, active aquarium and chrome accents scream 21st century.

The reception staffers don signature uniforms: black jackets with mandarin collars and matching pants. Nearby, a larger-than-life white sculpture resembling a flat piece of curved clay stands on edge. On one wall, a built-in, narrow fish tank with exotic Connemara seahorses entertains guests as they wait to check in.

A Bazooka-pink carpet links a trio of colorfully eclectic salons, which share space with the outlandish modern bar and the restaurant, Gigi's. Oval-backed armchairs in various gumdrop hues are set to deep purple oversized banquettes, a whimsicality countered by the respectable New Irish menu, which is more serious than the decor suggests. Attentive service, an impressive wine list and enviable social cache add the dining experience. Real foodies can engage in two-, three- or four-course tasting menus to sample multiple dishes at half the price.

The hotel's built-for-buzz decor alters the jaws of most arrivals, and the Grand Salon is no exception. Here, more than 300 reflective globes hang from the ceiling like funhouse mirrors. Nearby is the equally impressive Pink Lounge with hot-pink walls, a dizzying black-and-white spiral carpet, pink furniture and glass-topped tables—for some, the effect is more unsettling than soothing, especially after a couple of cocktails. Another lounge pairs blue walls with scarlet chairs.

The delightful ESPA spa has a toned-down Japanese ambience with a Zen-like feel. The bi-level facility with eight treatment rooms is also open to the public as a day spa, for a steep fee. The upstairs relaxation area overlooks a bamboo meditation garden that guests can enjoy through floor-to-ceiling windows. A fitness center offers decent workout and weight equipment.

Downstairs, the artfully designed "vitality" pool in a darkened setting features green neon lighting. Using high-end, natural ESPA products, this sanctuary features an extensive lineup of treatments from hot-stone massage to detoxifying algae wraps. The well-trained staff won't hurry guests out of the spa after their treatment. Instead, guests are encouraged to relax and take in the scenery. Six meeting rooms are capable of accommodating up to 100 people, and limited business services are offered. Parking is complimentary; expect to pay US\$13 for the valet option, however.

Black hallways with spotlights channel guests to their bright, well-lighted monochrome-appointed accommodations designed by Treacy.



Unlike the public areas' in-your-face-design, the guest quarters are realized in restful, muted platinum hues (oyster, perhaps to match the sea, and rich magenta hues). Custom pillows shaped to resemble nautilus carry through the more subtle nautical shapes seen throughout the public areas. White bedside lamps look like clamshells, and coral sculptures and furniture also echo the ocean theme.



Technophiles will love the gadgetry here. Wall-mounted plasma-screen TVs feature hidden colored lights for mood lighting, DVD and CD players provide additional entertainment and travelers have their choice of European or American outlets, as well as complimentary wireless Internet access. Bedside lighting on either side of the padded headboard allows for unobtrusive late-night reading. For privacy at the flip of a switch, a button near the door controls a red light telling the outside world, "Do not disturb." Luxury rooms are almost twice as large as the standard Superior category and slightly bigger Deluxe units. They are also similar in size to junior suites, but lack the latter's premium views and baths.

Baths in junior suites come with stone flooring, two above-counter white-bowl wash basins, dual showerheads and egg-shaped tubs. Plush white robes with the monogram "g" hang from the door, and the signature "g" is also on slippers, coasters and bath products. Above-counter bowl sinks and stone-lined walls mark most baths. Ironing boards have clever, faux cowhide covers. All of the rooms are handsomely appointed, but the entry-level digs are downright small and should be avoided, except by single guests. Views here are negligible. Rooms on the backside look out on the shopping mall, while those facing front look out on a busy road.

Room service never stops. Pets are not permitted. Two pairs of connecting and wheelchair-accessible rooms are in the mix. Children are treated to goodies such as milk, cookies, coloring books and a library of DVDs to keep them busy.

The clientele here are mainly leisure and business travelers tired of the "same old, same old" routine. This hotel puts on a great show, though rates at peak times cross over into expensive territory. It is more stylish and hip than the Radisson Blu, which for so many years was the de facto business hotel in town.

Latest Revision: May 2014

## Basic Information

**Number of Floors:** 3  
**Number of Rooms:** 98

## Rates & Policies

**Meals:** No Meals Included

## Location

In the centre of Galway at Wellpark.

### Nearest Airports:

Shannon- 1.25 hr drive  
Dublin- 3 hr drive

## Restaurants On-Site

**Dining:** 1 restaurant and 1 bar  
On Site

Matz (Italian/International cuisine)  
The Place Bar (Cocktail lounge)

## Room Amenities

---

(Amenities are in all rooms unless noted otherwise)

Air Conditioning

Mini-Bar

Rooms for Non-smokers

Safe (In Room)

Television

DVD/VCR

## Recreation

---

### NEARBY

Golf Course

### ON-SITE

Health Club

Health Spa/Massage

Pool (Outdoor Pool)

## Hotel Facilities

---

### GENERAL SERVICES

Crib/Rollaway Bed

Free Onsite Parking

Room Service

Wheelchair Access to Common/Public Areas

## Meetings Facilities

---

6 Meeting Rooms holding 100 people.

### Ballroom

121 sq m (15x7 m)

Capacity: Theater- 120, Classroom- 34, U-Shape- 30, Banquet- 80

### Executive Boardroom

63 sq m (8x7 m)

Capacity: , Banquet- 21