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Inside the Hotel Suites Where the Stars Get Ready for the Met Gala

By Rachel Wallace



*The 12,000-square-foot penthouse suite at **The Mark** boasts a fireplace, private elevator, and living room with 26-foot-high ceilings. Photo: Scott Frances*

The first Monday in May is upon us again! All day long, celebrities have been sharing their Met Gala throwbacks on Instagram, and a few have given fans sneak peeks of themselves getting glamorous for this year's "camp"-themed affair. Gala co-chair (the others include Lady Gaga, Alessandro Michele, Harry Styles, and Anna Wintour), Serena Williams, documented her day of preparation on her Instagram story. She started by playing some tennis, then retreated to what appears to be a lavish hotel suite, where she ate a healthy meal "so I can make sure I fit in my dress and still look fabulous," she said, and let her makeup artist Renny Vasquez get to work.

Williams isn't the only one holed up in a swanky suite while she gets ready to hit the red carpet. Year after year, stars flock to the five-star hotels near the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and in recent days, celebrities including Gwyneth Paltrow, Lily-Rose Depp, Saoirse Ronan, Bella Hadid, and more have been caught by paparazzi coming in and out of the Mark Hotel, the Met Gala hot spot where Donatella Versace hosted an after-party last year. The property is home to some absolutely epic suites, including a Jacques Grange–designed penthouse that boasts five bedrooms, four fireplaces, and a private elevator and goes for \$75,000 per night. Just before the 2019 red carpet, the hotel shared a video of Anna Wintour leaving for the gala.





*This bathroom, with **the Mark's** signature black-and-white striped floor, is one of six in the penthouse suite.*

Photo: Scott Frances



The penthouse includes a library, in case you'd like to do some reading before the gala.

Photo: Scott Frances

The other go-to spot for A-listers is the Carlyle, one of the oldest hotels in New York City, where Cardi B and Jeremy Scott, George and Amal Clooney, Kate Bosworth, Kendall Jenner, Virgil Abloh, and others prepped for last year's Heavenly Bodies extravaganza. The largest suite on the premises is the Thierry Despont–designed, two-story Empire Suite, and several other luxe rooms boast baby grand pianos. This year, Lena Dunham got ready at the Carlyle while indulging in a plate of bacon.