TRAVEL+ LEISURE



Raffles Boston



PHOTO: COURTESY OF RAFFLES BOSTON

The 137-year-old Raffles hotel brand is finally making a splash in North America — and in Boston, of all places. Opened in September and set in a 35-story tower in the well-heeled Back Bay neighborhood, it is as smashing as you'd expect. On arrival, I was whisked to the 17th-floor Sky Lobby, which has wraparound views of the skyline. My room was sumptuous, with sophisticated gold and black touches that gesture to the brand's Asian roots. Butler service was discreet and attentive — after check-in, I found a chilled cranberry cocktail called the "Boston Sling" (a nod to the Singapore Sling, which was created at the flagship property in 1915) waiting in the room's glass-fronted wooden bar. From \$700/night. Accessible hotel. — Elizabeth Cantrell