

SquareMeal

AUTUMN 2014

VENUES & EVENTS



APPETITE FOR CONNECTION

THE FUTURE OF CONFERENCING IS IN YOUR SMARTPHONE

SITUATION STRASBOURG

Generations of cultural back and forth with the Germans have given this French border town an identity all of its own

WORDS RUSSELL COOK

STAY

You'll find the four-star **Le Bouclier d'Or** in the city's historical district. It has 22 bedrooms – many with cathedral views – and despite being quite small it is event-ready, with meeting space for 45 delegates. Visiting purely for business? **The Hilton Strasbourg**, right around the corner from the European Parliament, has conference space for up to 600. Hidden away in a medieval courtyard is the picturesque **Cour du Corbeau** (pictured below).



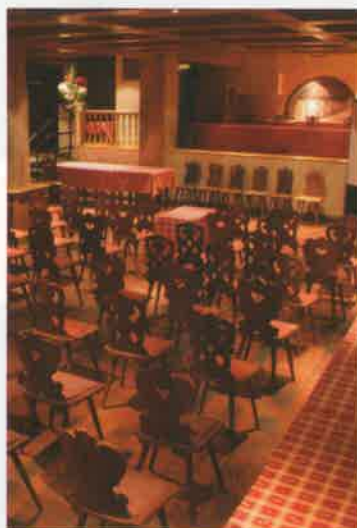
EAT

On the doorstep of Strasbourg cathedral is **Maison Kammerzell**. The restaurant embraces regional flavours and accommodates up to 150 guests across four characterful floors. **A L'Ancienne Douane** – the old customs house – has 10 spaces for bookings of up to 150 diners and meeting space (pictured below) for up to 140 delegates. Its 150-capacity terrace, overlooking the waterway, isn't too shabby either. With enough notice, you might be able to organise something really special in the Grand Hall (this picture) at the **Palais Universitaire**.

PHOTO PHILIPPE STIRNWEISS

MEET

With meeting rooms at the airport and conference space at **Strasbourg Convention & Exhibition Centre** for up to 1,300 delegates, the Alsatian capital is a hotbed of corporate events. Most of the city's hotels, including the **Hotel Mercure Strasbourg Centre** and the five-star **Sofitel Strasbourg Grand Ile**, have plenty of meeting space too but, if it's dedicated facilities you're after, the **Centre de Conférences de l'Aar** wins out. Four spaces, interlinked by high-spec AV technology, combine to accommodate around 300 delegates.



Helping hand

The Strasbourg Convention Bureau (+33 3 88 13 41 30) offers free advice for bookers

PLAY

Alsations are proud of their locally made wine and groups can sample it during a two-hour tasting at the **Cave Historique des Hospices de Strasbourg**, where there are barrels dating back as far as 1426. Want to eat local as well? Then take a daytime cooking class at **Cuisine Aptitude**. Winding down is best done on a **Batorama** boat trip round the old city. If you're looking for more of a challenge, **Flight Adventures at Strasbourg Airport** lets you captain a simulated flight. **V&E**

