

Press Release, 18 July 2018

The Rings of Fire: On 19 July 2018, the 25hours Hotel The Circle will open in Cologne

Tomorrow, the 25hours Hotel The Circle at the heart of Cologne will open its doors. The restaurant and bar will welcome their first guests on 30 July. The spectacular rotunda used to serve as an administrative building for the Gerling Insurance Group. Today, from the 1st to 7th floors, a total of 207 rooms await guests, in varying sizes and themes. The renovation and complete redesign was carried out by the Cologne-based architecture firm, O&O BAUKUNST.



The historic building inspired the hotel's creators to grapple with the period of the German economic miracle in the '50s and '60s as well as the technical utopias conceived at that time. "After the successful opening of our new build in Düsseldorf, we are proud to have been able to breathe new life into such a legendary building in Cologne," explains 25hours CEO, Christoph Hoffmann.

In collaboration with 25hours, the Berlin creative team from Studio Aisslinger, developed an innovative design concept for the listed building in the middle of the Friesenviertel district. While the Inner Circle rooms with their open-plan bathroom layout radiate a futuristic atmosphere, the well-lit Outer Circle rooms offer a more retro setting. Here, the bathrooms are behind the beds and offer guests a view of the city from the shower. The spacious main hall, in which once upon a time policy holders of the Gerling Group paid their insurance contributions, now has a welcoming café, kiosk, bike shop, and co-working spaces for stress-free working and relaxing.

The restaurant and bar located on the 8th floor take the retro-futurism of The Circle to its limits. For this purpose, the listed building was extended to include an added recessed penthouse level. Among the trailing plants, the legendary Rhineland way of life is reinterpreted by the Molcho family. At NENI Cologne, they serve eclectic, east Mediterranean cuisine. The menu features dishes with Oriental origins, such as poached eggs with a tomato-chilli ragout or sabich with baked aubergine, hummus, and tomato salsa. Floor-to-ceiling windows and the surrounding terrace offer guests a fantastic

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view of Cologne Cathedral from every seat. In the rotunda opposite, the MONKEY BAR is the perfect place to socialise and meet friendly people. The creative mind behind the Monkey Bar is the internationally acclaimed bartender from Hamburg, Jörg Meyer. Contrary to the renowned Monkey Bar at the 25hours Hotel Bikini Berlin, they not only serve classic long drinks and cocktails, but traditional highballs are also given a new twist.

25 hours Hotel The Circle is centrally located in the Friesenviertel district, in the middle of the Gerling

Quartier, one of the largest architectural monuments at the heart of Cologne. The 207 rooms in various categories and sizes await guests, and all are furnished to the 25hours standards that urban nomads appreciate: Exquisitely comfy beds for carefree sleep, air conditioning, sustainable cosmetics, flat-screen TV, minibar, UE Boom Bluetooth speaker and free high-speed Wi-Fi. Room prices start at EUR 135 per night. There is a special opening offer available for guests staying with us before the end of August 2018, starting from EUR 89 including breakfast.

Click [here](#) for the 25hours Hotel The Circle media information.

For more information about all of the 25hours Hotels, visit www.25hours-hotels.com

Videos for the 25hours Hotels: [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

Press material and images: <https://www.25hours-hotels.com/company/presse/bilder>

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About 25hours Hotels

25hours is a young hotel idea characterised by personality and charming and relaxed service, which seeks to find contemporary answers to the demands of urban, cosmopolitan travellers. The brand focuses on individuality, authenticity and character, and designs each of its hotels in partnership with various designers and in a unique style, under the motto 'Know one, know none'. The 25hours Hotel Company was founded in 2005 by Stephan Gerhard, Ardi Goldman, Christoph Hoffmann and Kai Hollmann, and today operates 12 hotels in German-speaking countries. Other openings: 25hours Hotel Terminus Nord (2018), 25hours Hotel Firenze and 25hours Hotel Dubai (2020). The 25hours Hotel Company formed a strategic alliance with AccorHotels in 2016, and now also pursues hotel projects around the globe.

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