



# Hotel One Hundred

Cardiff, Wales

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8/10

Telegraph expert rating

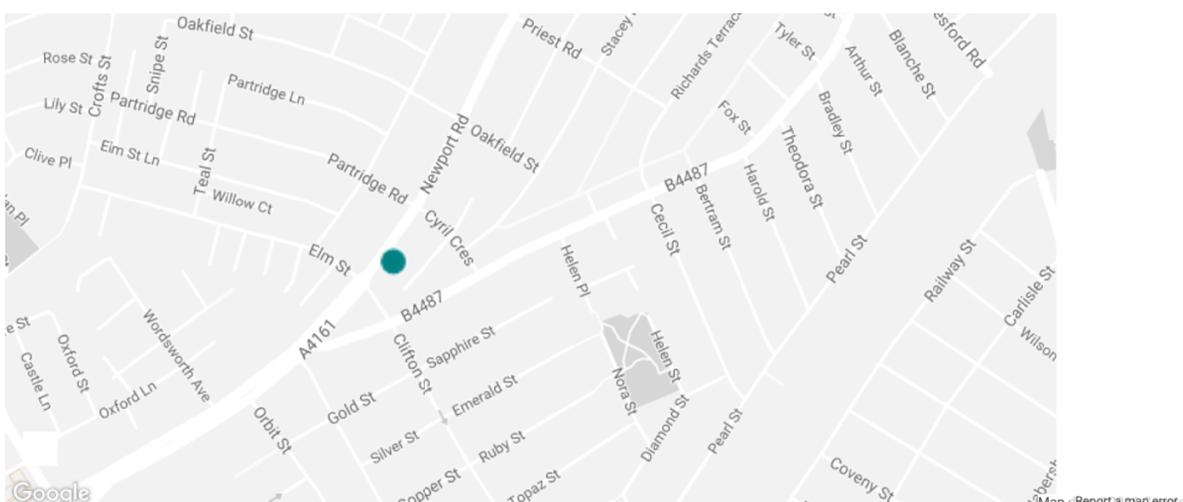
" House number 100 on Cardiff's busy Newport Road, Hotel One Hundred is a well-loved Edwardian terraced house turned into one of the city's very few boutique b&bs. While much of the period charm remains, rooms are dressed with modern colours and fabrics – and represent superb value for money.

By **Benjamin Parker**,  
TRAVEL WRITER

## Location

7/10

Newport Road, linking the centre of Cardiff with the A48, is on your doorstep; luckily, this is a slower, narrow section (the hotel's front garden also acts as a buffer). Buses run just outside, taking you to the city's pedestrianised shopping areas. Take a left from the hotel to find Clifton Street, buzzing with an edgy crowd, or head further east to find the City Road student haunts. Wellfield Road (dubbed the city's 'foodiest street' by local press) is a 15-minute walk away and home to cafés and clothes shops. The street leads to Roath Park, a classic Victorian park featuring a 30-acre lake (boats can be hired).



## Style & character

8/10

After owning the building – the most refined in a row of impressive century-old homes – for 10 years, Abi and Charlie Prothero opened it up as a hotel. It's not a listed building, which you can see from the plastic frames within a prepossessing Bath stone bay window, but attempts have been made to retain character: the tall door, set beneath a fanlight and painted in blue-black Farrow and Ball, seems much as it would have in 1910. The simple styling – neutral walls and white paint on staircases – is given a boutique sway with a pretty floral carpet (on the stairs, only a central strip) and a grandiose mirror drawing the eye as you enter.

The lounge area, an addition of stone floors dotted with tables and light from floor-to-ceiling windows, extends past the thick original walls; it lacks the period appeal so seductive across the rest of Hotel One Hundred but is fine as an informal breakfast area.



## Service & facilities

8/10

Manager Helene is a constant presence. As well as an insider edge on Cardiff, easygoing discussions can also encompass the area's architecture, to gobblets of information absorbed from the BBC's Coast programme. Other than a lounge with satellite television and a DVD library, there are no additional facilities – understandable in an uncomplicated b&b.

- ✓ Parking
- ✓ Wi-Fi

## Rooms

8/10

The seven rooms all share similar traits – mirrors framed in ornate styles, long wooden headboards, elegant patterned wallpaper on feature walls – but are dressed in varying colours and patterns: silk cushions in green and blue rest on one bed, while another has a heavy dark throw. Rooms draw on the building's charm, with original fireplaces in all and a jumble of shapes and sizes; they've been kept spacious by following the form of the Edwardian property, and not shoehorning in extra accommodation.

Beds, handmade in Leckwith, west of Cardiff, feel plush. Wi-Fi is a little erratic (depending on which room you have). Views from the back is of drab terraced houses; it's better at the front (from room 7 there's a vantage with Caerphilly in the distance). Clean bathrooms, all with showers, are pleasantly large, tiled with stone in shades from tan to russet.

## Food & drink

6/10

No restaurant, but breakfast is a simple buffet spread including pastries, cereal, yoghurts, and bread. For either a full Welsh breakfast or smoked salmon and scrambled eggs you have to pay £5 extra. For dinner, a vast amount of fast food is around the corner but better is pub grub from the The Four Elms opposite, or Persian dishes from Mowlana, a two-minute walk away.

## Value for money

9/10

Double rooms from £54. Breakfast included (£5 for a cooked breakfast). Free Wi-Fi.

## Access for guests with disabilities?

There are a number of rooms on the ground floor.

## Family-friendly?

Triples rooms are suitable for families but nothing additional is available.

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hotelonehundred.com