



Photos courtesy of Partridge Inn

DESTINATION: LUXURY

The wonder of 144 guest rooms, each individually reflecting the quiet, by-gone elegance of southern resorts known as “clubs,” is unfolding in Augusta, just as the world’s greatest golfers gather in Georgia for the fabled Masters Tournament.

THEY ARE THE FORTUNATE FIRSTS TO EXPERIENCE the completely renovated Partridge Inn, a foundation of comfortable sophistication for travelers since 1892. Corporate visitors and leisure vacationers will begin arriving, as spring blooms along with the second phase of renovations.

“First, the guest rooms, expansive verandah and the exterior,” noted Libby Patrick, CEO of the Atlanta-based architecture and interior design firm Sims Patrick Studio. “Second,

more of the signature public spaces for gracious gatherings.”

Visitors escaping the frozen North, much as The Partridge Inn guests a century ago, will follow closely on the heels of 2015 spring and summer travelers seeking what designer Patrick calls “Old world glamour merging with modern southern charm.”

Through every era and iteration of The Partridge Inn—including a multitude of additions and renovations—the verandah and balconies provided a signature look. “Today, that look continues with a bit of a new twist,” says Patrick, who likes to call them porches.

“The porches are interactive, and are a living room for the city folks. Here, the hotel connects to the community in seamless, welcoming ways,” Patrick explains.

The Partridge Inn’s quarter-mile verandah accommodates fine dining and high tea, casual conversations and craft cocktails. As the first image a visitor receives, these welcoming spaces set the tone as an equally elegant, eclectic and casual

The textures used in the décor reflect decades of history in The Partridge Inn.

“Anticipate eclectic charm with a mix of leather and rich wood finishes, both rough-sawn and smooth, metals and burnishing, porcelain and marble. Fabric tailoring is inspired by eras of golf in Augusta, including subtle houndstooth...plaids and stripes...Oxford shoes.”

~ Libby Patrick

Modern lodging may offer precision in dimensions, but this historic building began as

destination.

“All new lighting and seating was developed for the verandah,” notes Greg Winey, president and principal of North-Pointe Hospitality Management, LLC, which oversees the \$6 million phase one of the renovation, and launch of phase two.

All new describes each guest room too—expect at least 90 different shapes and configurations

among the 144 rooms. Modern lodging may offer precision in dimensions, but this historic building began as

a house, then a two-story resort, and later, a six-story hotel with 60 more rooms.

Patrick says that the 2015 Grand Opening calls for custom-designs everywhere, as indicated by the Roman shades accommodating hundreds of windows of varying shapes, and the specifically-selected furniture to match the theme of each room.

Night stands, tables and desks feature built-in electrical outlets, convenient for the modern traveler with many electronic devices, and who prefer a hotel of history and elegance.

Guestroom doors open to the feel of a personal foyer, with hardwood inside the entrance. Unusual for a historic property, each room has a closet. Following the style of a century ago, the majority have substantial luggage benches—furniture not foldable.

As a AAA, four-diamond hotel, Winey and Patrick agree—The Partridge Inn pillows, thread counts and bathroom ame-



nities are plush and luxurious. “Every encounter from hello to goodbye will surpass expectation,” Winey says. It will be apparent in the details—from the impeccable doorman to the Mercedes Sprinter van awaiting guest transportation.

Setting a fresh but classic tone for 2015 visitors, is a “soft, warm, friendly shade of white,” Patrick says of the newly-painted exterior. “Consider a bit of ecru...the welcoming charm of a southern mansion with an abundance of relief in the extensive trim features.”

Fancy and formal do not seem to be the moods reflected in the new designs, yet a multitude of textures and subtle patterns are indeed reminiscent of the dazzling prosperity of the resort club era. That being said, do expect touches of formal when dining in the P. I. Bar and Grill with Executive Chef Dominic Simpson, and during High Tea—and event which

General Manager Bill Mish considers to be a significant reflection of Partridge history.

Mish drives this new iteration of history and hospitality in Augusta, which reflects a lifetime career in hoteliery with respect deep in his soul for heritage tied to architecture, and to place.

Perhaps that is why The Partridge Inn is also part of the launch of Hilton Hotel’s new Curio brand. Fewer than a dozen have been selected, of which this one is a part.

Of this enticing new brand, Hilton says, “Curio is a collection of unique four and five star hotels for travelers seeking local discovery and authentic experiences.

“Each Curio Hotel will be different from the next, with individuality being a common thread.”

DB Written by Christine Tibbetts

Meet the Partridge Inn design team:

Sims Patrick Studio INC.



Libby Patrick, CEO

Libby Patrick is the CEO of Sims Patrick Studio, an Atlanta-based interior architecture and design firm which she founded in 1999. With over twenty-five years of experience balancing artistic design with business strategy, she has built a team focused on experiential design as well as core values of service and trust. She earned a Bachelor of Interior Design from Auburn University’s School of Architecture. Libby is LEED Accredited, serves on the Auburn School of Architecture advisory board and is a former associate professor at the Atlanta College of Art.

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Jenny Rutledge, VP Design & Construction

As Vice President of Design and Construction, Jenny Rutledge is responsible for managing the day-to-day development of design concepts and three-dimensional identity for hotel and hospitality projects.

She is in charge of project schedules and as an expert in scale and proportion, maintains quality control for all interior architectural drawings and the documentation for large hotel and hospitality projects. Jenny’s detail-oriented approach to every task ensures that projects run on time and within budget. Her innate ability to mentor and to bring out the best in others inspires the SPS staff to reach their potential in these 3-D areas of practice.



Melissa Wylie, LEED-AP Design & Operations

As Vice President of Design and Operations, Melissa Wylie is responsible for the design and management of multiple projects, as well as the day-to-day administrative operations of the firm. Her strong work ethic and management skills make her an excellent quality controller for the technical specifications of the furniture, furnishings and artwork (FF&A) as well as the construction documentation. Her communication style, specialization in LEED projects, and her experience on very large and complex projects serve her well as a leader and mentor within the firm.

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