

DESIGN



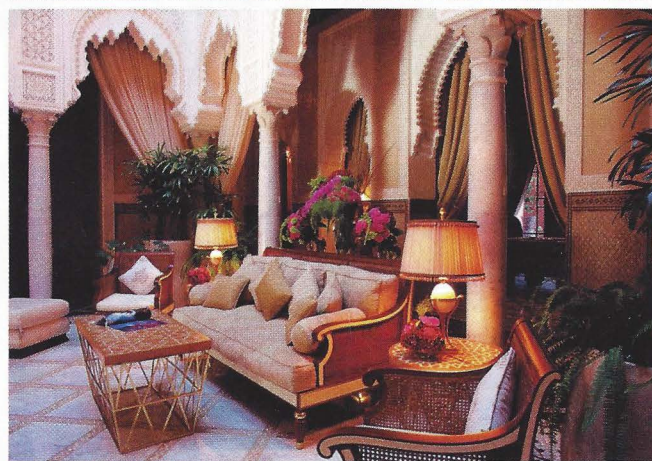
The Suite Life

BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED PRESIDENTIAL SUITES AT HOTELS IN THE U.S., EUROPE, AND ASIA—COMPLETE WITH OVER-THE-TOP AMENITIES AND SERVICES

BY NUBIA DUVAL WILSON

Design-conscious travelers are getting spoiled when it comes to searching for a hotel that fits their stylish needs. Whether its over-the-top glam or understated luxury in expansive or intimate accommodations, five-star hotels across the world are all competing for presidential suite bragging rights.

What follows is a look at some of the world's most beautifully designed luxury suites, from New York City to Shanghai. In addition to private outdoor spaces, pools, and 24-hour butler service, these accommodations all feature exceptional interior décor, unique amenities, and lots and lots of elbow room.



Royal Mansour

Marrakech, Morocco / royalmansour.com \$\$\$\$

FOR THE FASTIDIOUS ADVENTURER: If you're going to Marrakech, you might as well go all out by staying at the hotel owned by the king of Morocco. The Royal Mansour offers guests their own three-story *riad* (a traditional Moroccan living space) with an interior courtyard and pool. The crown jewel is the 19,000-square-foot four-bedroom Grand Riad that comes with an interior wrought iron elevator, office, dining room, Moroccan lounge bar, and a living room overlooking the private swimming pool in the garden. A private chef will manage your meals from the professional kitchen. Fancy a spa treatment? Do so in your own private *hammam*, or Turkish bath. A modern retractable glass roof and a bi-level roof terrace enables guests to enjoy the sun while soaking in the views of the Atlas Mountains and famous Koutoubia Mosque. Up here, guests also have their own gym, cinema, relaxation room, and dining room. The majority of the property is covered in intricate tile work and detailed textiles, and this palatial accommodation includes 24-hour butler service, a cook, and housekeeper. Rates start at \$38,616 per night.

Hotel amenities include: La Grand Tabla, the Chimney Lounge, hammam spa, fitness center, and a kids club.



Excelsior Hotel Gallia

Milan, Italy

excelsiorhotelgallia.com \$\$\$\$

FOR THE GLAMOUR GAL (OR GUY): Excelsior Gallia has claimed the coveted title of “hotel with the largest presidential suite in Italy.” Its new four-bedroom Katara Suite sits atop the recently renovated luxury hotel with more than 10,700 square feet of living space. Custom-designed furnishings and lighting throughout represent some of the best names in Italian design: Murano chandeliers, B&B Italia leather furniture, Fendi sofas, Febo armchairs by Maxalto, and elaborate light fixtures by Altreforme and De Majo. Guests also have their own private spa with a large hot tub positioned beneath the building’s historic tiled cupola.

A pair of terraces offer lounge chairs, barbecues, dining tables, and views of the historic Central Station. Sports aficionados will have fun hosting matches on the tabletop football (aka soccer) game outside. Rates start at \$21,500 per night.

Hotel amenities include: Terrazza Gallia rooftop restaurant, Gallia restaurant, the Wine Cellar, Gallia Lounge & Bar, and Shiseido Spa Milan with Turkish bath, solarium, and sauna.





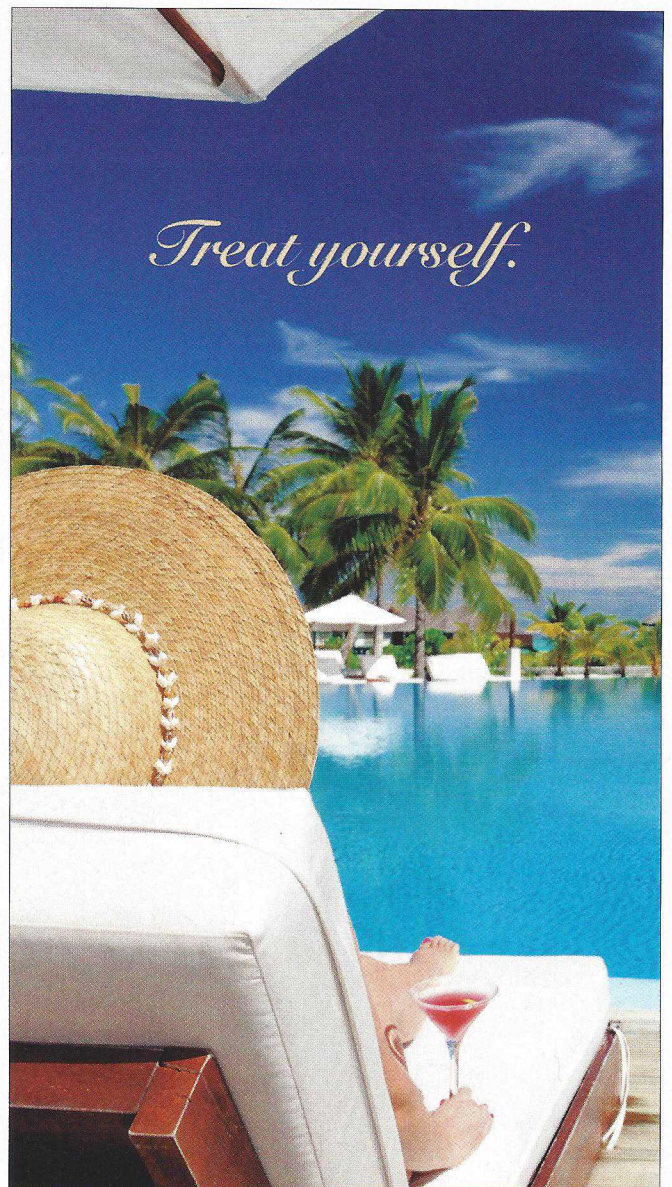
The Mark Hotel

New York, NY
 themarkhotel.com \$\$\$\$\$

THE ULTIMATE PIED-À-TERRE: The Mark Hotel on Manhattan's Upper East Side has long been known as one of the city's most stylish options. Now it can add "world's most expensive hotel suite" to its list of accolades with the new Grand Penthouse, truly a castle in the sky. At more than 12,000 square feet, it's currently the largest penthouse in the U.S. The ultra-exclusive, two-floor suite is decorated with custom-made furniture by the legendary Jacques Grange. His signature elements of old grandeur, color, artistry, and intimacy create stunning yet comforting interiors. It features a conservatory, library lounge, five bedrooms, dining room that caters to 24, two wet bars, and a living room with 26-foot ceilings that can be transformed into a full-sized ballroom. A private elevator takes guests to the upper level, which boasts a sky-lit pavilion and a 2,500-square-foot rooftop terrace with views of The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Central Park. Rates start at \$75,000 per night.

Hotel amenities include: The Mark Restaurant by Jean George, the Mark Bar, fitness center, and Frédéric Fekkai salon.



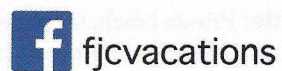


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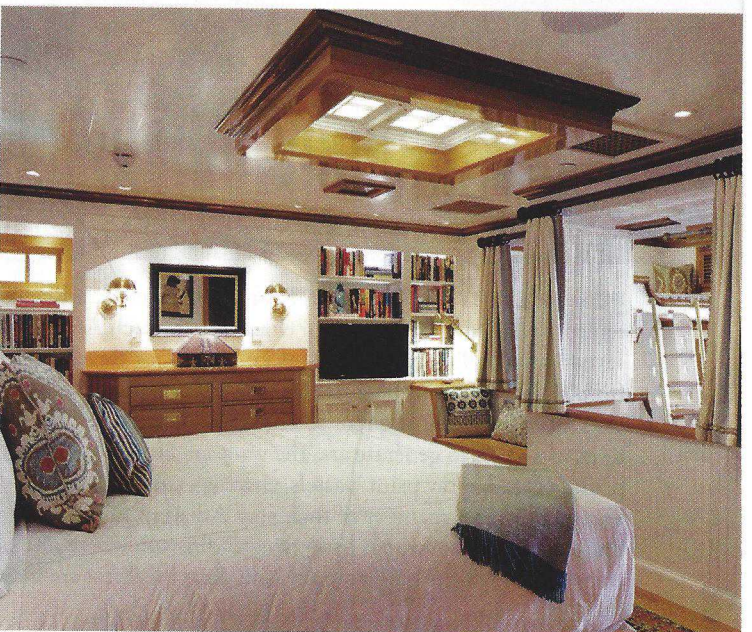


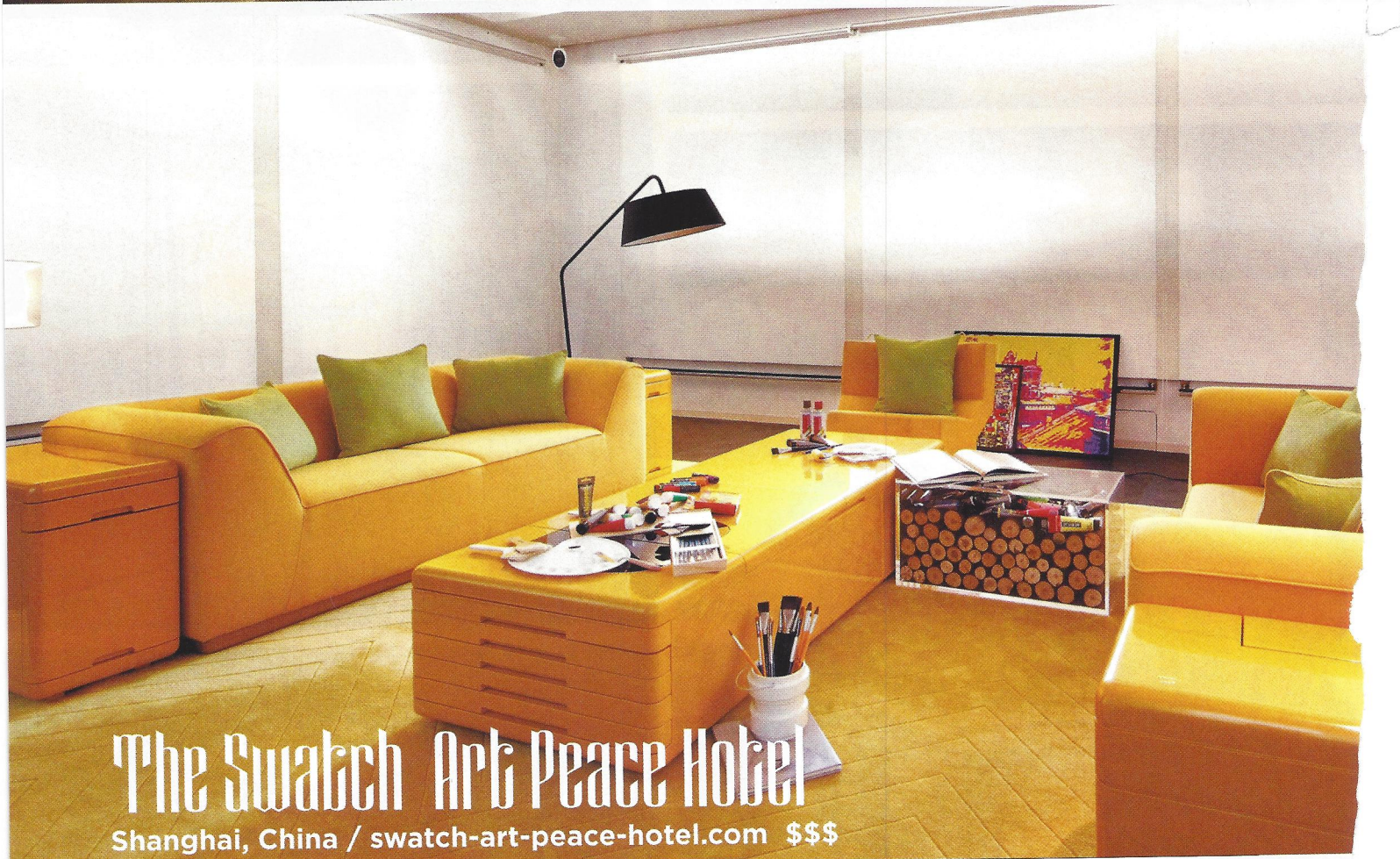
Ocean House

Watch Hill, RI / oceanhouseri.com \$\$\$

FOR THE GRAND FAMILY GETAWAY: The Ocean House is one of only eight hotels in the world to earn three Forbes five-star awards for its accommodations, restaurant, and spa. It also holds a AAA Five Diamond designation. The new Morgan Suite is 4,000 square feet and sleeps up to 10 people. With two floors connected by a special Italian-made glass staircase, the residence, designed by Iliana Moore, evokes a nautical theme with teak and pine interiors modeled after a wooden yacht. Upstairs is a master bedroom suite, a queen guest room with bed and furnishings built to look like a ship's berth, as well as two bunk beds perfect for siblings (built into the wall of the living area). Downstairs is a second full master bedroom and a media room with a pullout sofa. Two kitchens, a dining area, four full bathrooms, and a powder room make it suitable for entertaining up to 30 guests. (One of the kitchens features a custom high-end La Cornue oven and stove top.) Other perks include a complimentary bar with top-shelf spirits and mixers, a dedicated VIP manager, and access to the members-only Club Room restaurant. Rates start at \$3,500 per night.

Hotel amenities include: Private beach, indoor saltwater pool, OH! Spa, the Bistro restaurant, Center for Wine & Culinary Arts, the Verandah restaurant, Mercedes Benz partnership program.





The Swatch Art Peace Hotel

Shanghai, China / swatch-art-peace-hotel.com \$\$\$

FOR THE ARTIST AT HEART: From the Victorian Renaissance façade built in 1906 to the bold art-focused interiors with silk screens splashed with watercolor characters, Swatch Art Peace is both hotel and home to 18 workshops for artists-in-residence. The seven individually designed rooms and suites for travelers blend elements of Chinese culture with Shanghai edginess. They range from simple white lofts with elm ceilings and gray brick walls repurposed from Shanghai streets to quirky design themes. The Prosperity Suite features four rooms and a large balcony that overlooks Nanjing Road. The living room is egg-yolk yellow and functions as a space to generate art. The walls are lined with canvas rolls and there's a table with a number of artistic materials including paint brushes, spray paint, pastels, charcoal, and acrylic paints. When guests leave the suite, their work will be removed and sent to them as a lasting memory of their stay. Adjacent to the living room is a bar in a mirrored room that contains a collection of wines. The large white bathroom has a freestanding tub where one can bathe while reading a book from the incorporated library. Airport transfers, a 24-hour butler service, and daily breakfast are included. Rates start at \$4,300 per night.

Hotel amenities include: Shook! Restaurant, Terrace bar, Swatch Boutique, art gallery.



Eventi Hotel

New York, NY

eventihotel.com \$\$\$

FOR THE GREGARIOUS BOOKWORM:

Eventi Hotel, which touts a redesigned first floor by Brooklyn-based Crème Design, is one of the first luxury hotels to open in Manhattan's Chelsea neighborhood. The 1,400-square-foot Eventi suite, designed by Colum McCartan, is perfect for the avid book reader who wants to entertain. Its private library features a collection of literary classics, art books and New York-centric reads. Artwork adorning the walls is a curated collection of pieces from vintage and antique stores in and around the city. In addition to a 450-square-foot private terrace, there's a 2,900-square-foot veranda adjacent to the suite ideal for large parties. The accommodation also includes a king bedroom, living room, dining room that seats eight, bar, and a bathroom with a Jacuzzi. Want to host a private showing of your favorite movie? Book the screening room next door that seats 22 and features a 10-foot-wide screen and 3,000-square-foot private balcony. Rates start at \$2,500 per night.

Hotel amenities include: Business bar, Spa @ Eventi, L'Amico restaurant, the Vine Lounge, and parking garage with valet. •