

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL MOST INSPIRATIONAL MODERN HOMES MAGAZINE

MARCH 2003 £3.00

# ELLE DECORATION

HOT  
TRENDS  
COOL  
ORIENTAL  
SWEET  
NATURE  
SHINY  
METALLIC

## THE SMALL SPACES ISSUE

63 PAGES OF  
BIG IDEAS

### SEXY ROOM DIVIDERS

CLEVER USES  
FOR FORGOTTEN  
SPACES

### NEW WAYS WITH STORAGE

CHIC COLLAPSIBLE  
FURNITURE

### STYLISH LAP-TOP DINING

THE 8 MOST  
ANNOYING  
CLUTTER CULPRITS  
ZAPPED

*all fired up...*

## THE HOTTEST NEW ITALIAN LOOKS

**+WIN!** £6,000 OF GORGEOUS ITALIAN DESIGN PIECES FOR EVERY ROOM IN YOUR HOME B&B ITALIA, MINOTTI, CAVALLI & MORE

FABULOUS SMALL  
HOMES INCLUDING  
HABITAT STYLE DIRECTOR  
GEORGINA GODLEY





### THE STANDARD DOWNTOWN, LOS ANGELES (left)

This time, it's the former headquarters of the Superior Oil Company that gets the makeover treatment. Located in downtown LA—an area that's more well known for gaudy jewellery stores and banking than hotels—it's The Standard Downtown's classy and irreverent feel that'll get people flocking here at weekends.

**Who's responsible?** André Balazs, the hotelier behind the original The Standard and the legendary Chateau Marmont, both in Hollywood, and New York's The Mercer.

**The look:** takes a lead from the corporate modernism of its 50s-era shell. Think imposing escalators to the upper floors, and much pattern in marble, wood and stainless steel. 'It's an urban resort that is convenient, sexy and interesting,' says Balazs. The bedrooms are softer and luxuriously large—open-planning means that both beds and baths loom large. Whimsy reigns here, too, with a giant black Gaetano Pesce rubber foot in one room and vibrating water beds on the roof terrace.

**The details:** 550 South Flower Street, Los Angeles, California 90071, USA (00 1 213 892 8080; [www.standardhotel.com](http://www.standardhotel.com)).

**The price:** from \$95 (approx £59) per night for a double room with two sharing (breakfast not included).

### MYHOTEL CHELSEA, LONDON (below)

'You're unique, you're an individual' is the philosophy behind this one. Guests receive a 'my preferences form' on booking, in order to determine their bedding requirements (sleeping mask or hypoallergenic pillows?), music tastes, or desire for chocs on arrival. There's an in-house spa offering waxes, manuka honey wraps and Aveda facials. It has all been feng shui-ed, and is only a short hop from Harvey Nichols.

**Who's responsible?** It's hotel number two from Andy Thrasyvoulou of Myhotel Bloomsbury fame.

**The look:** 'It's *Sex in the City* contemporary glamour, with the feel of an English bohemian country house,' trills the PR. 'Antique meets modern meets technology' is the loose formula, courtesy of Project Orange architect James Soane. Think chalky whites, subtle patterns, pinks, English florals and flat-screen TVs—you'd never believe it used to be a police station!

**The details:** 35 Lxworth Place, Chelsea, SW3 (020 7225 7500; [www.myhotels.com](http://www.myhotels.com)).

**The price:** from £217 per night for a double room with two sharing (breakfast not included).

PHOTOGRAPHY: JAMES MERRELL (CHATEAU DE MASSILLAN); GURLY CRAWFORD (STRELLA); TIM STREET PORTER (THE STANDARD)



### ESTRELLA, PALM SPRINGS (left and far left)

Recapture the glamour of Hollywood's golden age, when the desert area of Palm Springs was the favoured weekend destination. This former old-people's home is now a complex of bijoux villas with patios and motel-style two-storey blocks, all set around perfectly formed pools and courtyards. The complex is located at the foot of the San Jacinto mountains, about two-and-a-half hours' drive from LA.

**Who's responsible?** Hotelier Brad Korzen. He also owns Beverly Hills hotels Maison 140 and The Avalon, as well as The Viceroy in Santa Monica.

**The look:** 'Modern Hollywood Regency,' says interior designer Kelly Wearstler, who has worked with Korzen on all his hotels. The colour scheme is strictly black, white and yellow, and the vibe is 'theatre meets super-chic resort' (imagine Portmeirion goes Butlins). Nice touches include colour-co-ordinated paintings daubed straight onto the walls, bold geometric upholstery, graphic black and white wallpaper and serene china greyhounds placed on guard outside your door.

**The details:** 415 South Belardo Road, Palm Springs, California 92262, USA (00 1 760 320 4117; [www.estrellapalmsprings.com](http://www.estrellapalmsprings.com)).

**The price:** from \$155 (approx £96) per night for a double room with two sharing (breakfast not included); from \$310 (approx £193) per night for a villa that sleeps two.