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BEST FOR ART DECO LOVERS

The Surrey Hotel, New York

Tucked away on the Upper East Side, one of the first things you notice in the lobby of the Surrey Hotel in New York is a six-foot tapestry of Kate Moss by artist Chuck Close. It's one of several artworks adorning the Beaux-Arts property after Lauren Rotter's overhaul in November 2009. The design is modern with an art deco twist, and a calming palette of silver, grey and black. *Bazaar's* fave design detail? Bar Pleiades which nods to Chanel with its padded leather walls. We also love the spa offering Darphin facials and the room service from Café Boulud. It's a stone's throw away from Christian Louboutin, Michael Kors and Larry Gagosian's Other Criteria. Our idea of hotel heaven. *From Dhs2,950 per night; TheSurrey.com*

Design VOYAGER

Whether you're a minimalist or a follower of full-on jet-set glamour, *Bazaar's* pick of the best dozen design hotels are sure to make a style statement

Words by CARRIE BUCKLE



BEST FOR OLD- SCHOOL OPULENCE

Island Shangri-La, Hong Kong

Make a grand statement by staying in the shimmering tower of Island Shangri-La, an architectural landmark soaring over Hong Kong. With spectacular views over Victoria Harbour, the 56-storey hotel boasts the world's largest Chinese silk painting, spanning an amazing 16 floors in the breathtaking atrium. The plush Asian-inspired interior design includes 771 chandeliers and the new Horizon Club is the highest in the city. If all this leaves you feeling like splurging when you venture outside of the hotel, there's a fleet of limousines, including a Rolls-Royce Phantom, at your service. It's no surprise that it's the hotel of choice with just about every A-lister, member of royalty and head of state who visits Hong Kong. The star-studded guest list includes Queen Rania, Angelina Jolie and Vivienne Westwood. *From Dhs1,450 per night; Shangri-la.com*



BEST FOR MINIMALISM

Le Sereno, St Barths

It's the A-list hub of the Caribbean and the coolest place to stay on St Barths is minimalist haven Le Sereno. Designed by famed Parisian designer Christian Liaigre (who has worked on houses for the likes of Karl Lagerfeld), the style is understated with the natural world brought inside. The all-star design team included illustrious lighting designer Arnold Chan and landscape architect Enrique Blanco. The 37 suites and three four-bedroom villas are a hit with celebs such as Uma Thurman, Beyoncé and Michael Kors. Pop into the boutique and peruse bespoke Anya Hindmarch pieces, such as jewellery boxes and travel bags. *Bazaar* can't wait until the beachfront Ligne St Barth spa opens at the resort this autumn. *From Dhs2,500 per night; Lesereno.com*

BEST FOR RUSTIC CHARM

Babylonstoren, South Africa

Is this the chicest farm ever? Re-imagined by former style editor Karen Roos, Babylonstoren is a historic Dutch farm dating back to the 1690s. Yet the interiors of the 500-acre resort, which opened in South Africa in December 2010, definitely have a modern edge. The 12 luxury cottages blend rustic and modern, with airy interiors using creams and whites. There are glass-walled kitchens and a mix of antique and designer *objets d'art*. Surrounded by fruit groves and vegetable gardens, you can pick your own organic produce. Or, dine at Babel, a restaurant offering seasonal fare in a converted cowshed. For wine connoisseurs, the hotel is in the heart of the Cape Winelands, 45 minutes from Cape Town Airport. *From Dhs2,150 per night; Babylonstoren.com*



BEST FOR TURKISH TRADITION

The Istanbul Edition, Turkey

If you've been hankering after a Turkish getaway, be the first of your friends to check out the new Istanbul EDITION. The brainchild of Studio 54 visionary Ian Schrager, the eagerly-anticipated 77-room hotel debuted in April. With an East-meets-West design, the interiors are adorned with Byzantine-esque mosaic tiles and rich hues of bronze and white gold. You'll find traditional hanging lamps in your guest room, as well as a bathroom with ancient marble from the Turkish island of Marmara. The ESPA spa wouldn't be complete without a traditional hammam for full-on relaxation. *From Dhs1,650 per night; Editionhotels.com* >