

# Wallpaper\*

## Travel

### ARTFUL LODGER

A revamped grande dame in London, a harbourside high in Hong Kong and an artistically minded guest house in Beirut



5 Months it took Lasvit to create the flower-shaped glass chandelier that hangs in the Mandarin Oriental's lobby

140: Hours it took to build the ornate wall in the spa's new Oriental Suite. Created using liquid metal by Sterling Art and designed by Adam D Tihany, it takes inspiration from chinoiserie paintings

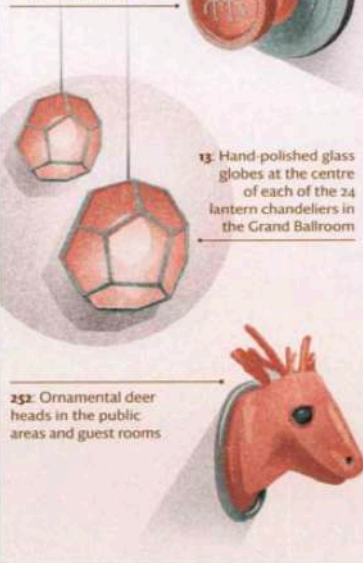
2,000: Sequins hand-embroidered on layered organza leaves to create the signature Mandarin Oriental fan, designed by Jenny Packham and displayed in the lobby

### On the waterfront

#### ROSEWOOD, HONG KONG

Just when you thought that there was no more prime real estate to be had on the frontage of Hong Kong's fabled Victoria Harbour, along comes the Rosewood to prove otherwise. Occupying 43 floors of Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates' shiny new 65-storey tower, the 413-room and 186-residence hotel makes the most of its perch on Tsim Sha Tsui's Victoria Dockside, looking back on Hong Kong's bristling silhouette of neon-charged skyscrapers. If there was a budget, we suspect no one told the New York-based designer Tony Chi (also behind the brand's London outpost), who swathed the spaces – the bathrooms in particular – in acres of marble and bevelled mirrors, textured wallpaper and discreetly patterned furnishings. Should the appeal of the hotel's eight food and beverage outlets and two-level wellness spa begin to wane, the concierges can organise insider visits to fashion ateliers and neighbourhood tours in a long-wheelbase supercharged Range Rover. **Daven Wu** Victoria Dockside, 18 Salisbury Road, Kowloon, tel: 852.3891 8888, [rosewoodhotels.com](http://rosewoodhotels.com). Rates: from HK\$4,800 (£463)

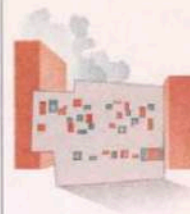
18: Brass knobs, detailed with the seal of Rosewood Hong Kong, fitted on the doors of the event floors



13: Hand-polished glass globes at the centre of each of the 24 lantern chandeliers in the Grand Ballroom

252: Ornamental deer heads in the public areas and guest rooms

120: Hours it took artist Duvier del Dago to design, produce and install the 5m floor-to-ceiling light installation at the centre of the five arcades in the Arthaus Gemmayze's lounge area



37: Individual windows in the façade of the only new building on site, designed by Habib Debs. Each frame was made-to-measure and holds handmade coloured glass panels

1,000: Weight in kilograms of the scrap metal used in the installation *Neglected Thoughts* by artist Nadim Karam, located in the garden's 'thinking area'



### Park life

#### MANDARIN ORIENTAL HYDE PARK, LONDON

A London landmark, the Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park has finally swung open its doors after the biggest top-to-toe revamp in its 115-year history, delayed by a fire last summer. Hong Kong- and London-based interior designer Joyce Wang layered the 181 rooms and suites with her signature modern-luxe aesthetic, taking her cues from the hotel's parkside location. Art deco-inspired custom furnishings, hand-etched mirrors and gilded silk wall coverings are highlighted with details such as acorn-inspired light fittings, carpets that nod to fallen leaves, bark-effect wall coverings and horsehair light sconces. The bar and two restaurants – Bar Boulud and Dinner by Heston Blumenthal – have had a light refurbishment courtesy of Adam D Tihany, who also designed the new spa. Its Chinese-inspired décor is the perfect complement to an updated, wellness-focused treatment menu that includes Chinese medicine consultations. **Lauren Ho** 66 Knightsbridge, tel: 44.20 7235 2000, [mandarinoriental.com](http://mandarinoriental.com). Rates: from £600

### Local colour

#### ARTHAUS GEMMAYZE, BEIRUT

With Beirut's architectural heritage being rapidly erased, Nabil and Zoe Debs' guest house, occupying four renovated homes in the capital's bustling Gemmayze district, marks a timely intervention. Located close to the galleries, nightlife and design studios of Beirut's Creative Quarter, the Marfa'-Mar Mikhael axis, **Arthaus Gemmayze** reflects its owners' love of culture. In addition to displays of local design and walls hung with pieces by leading Lebanese artists, they plan to offer guests insider access to the city's creators and creative events. This is not the couple's first foray into hospitality: after cutting their teeth with Maidenhead's River Arts Club, they opened similar projects in Megève and Saint-Tropez. The 19-room Beirut property features a seasonal menu devised by restaurant Centrale, veteran of the local dining scene, and boasts an after-hours bar, a screening room, a gym, a hammam and a sauna, plus a lap pool in the courtyard for topping up tans. **Warren Singh-Bartlett Zoqaq Debs, Gouraud Street**, tel: 961.71 719 101, [arthaus.international](http://arthaus.international). Rates: from \$270