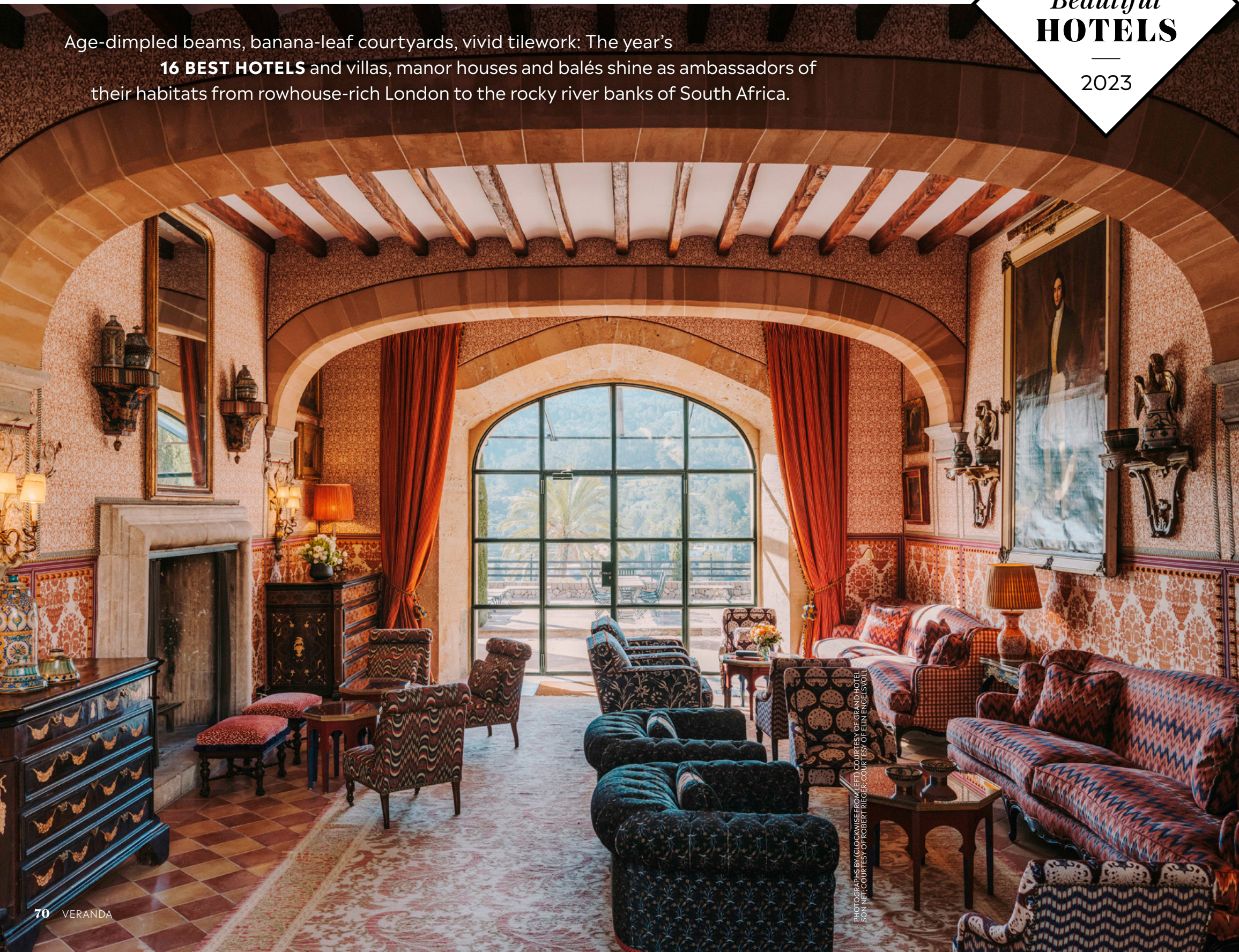


◆ STAR SOJOURNS ◆

Age-dimpled beams, banana-leaf courtyards, vivid tilework: The year's **16 BEST HOTELS** and villas, manor houses and balés shine as ambassadors of their habitats from rowhouse-rich London to the rocky river banks of South Africa.

VERANDA
World's Most
Beautiful
HOTELS
—
2023



PHOTOGRAPHS BY (CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT) COURTESY OF GRAND HOTEL SON NET; COURTESY OF ROBERT FREGAR; COURTESY OF ELIN ENGELSVOLL



Grand Hotel Son Net ◀

MAJORCA, SPAIN

What becomes a 17th-century Majorcan estate? Designer Lorenzo Castillo's historically cohesive vision for its restoration. Gathering spaces and 31 suites thrill with the decorative bravura of Mediterranean Baroque and Iberian Peninsula style. It's a whole new aristocracy.

Aman New York ▲

NEW YORK

In New York's 1921 Crown Building, transformed by architect Jean-Michel Gathy, an aura of discreet and exclusive calm pervades, from the entry's glass fireplace to the 25,000-square-foot spa complete with a 65-foot swimming pool and cryotherapy chamber. —STEELE THOMAS MARCOUX

The Bolder ▼

FORSAND, NORWAY

When Tom Bjarte Norland bought land overlooking a world-famous fjord, he imagined a set of hermit huts. Taking innovative form, these arose as a quartet of modernist cabins by Norwegian architectural firm Snøhetta that levitates reverently amid pines. Hermits welcome.





Portrait Milano ▲

MILAN

Who better to wow in Italy's fashion capital than Ferragamo? Its Lungarno Collection has restored a 16th-century seminary, bestowing a couture-worthy makeover with designer Michele Bönan's vivid colors and pattern. A true runway moment.

Villa Mabrouka ▶

TANGIER, MOROCCO

British designer Jasper Conran's elegantly restrained hand has refashioned Yves Saint Laurent's famed 1940s escapist hideaway as a seaside hotel that enchants with period fixtures, Roman busts, and *bejmat* and *zellige* tiles.



Boys Hall ◀

KENT, ENGLAND

After falling in love with a 1600s Jacobean manor in the country, Londoners Kristie and Brad Lomas sought local experts for historic restoration guidance, then dressed the rooms in fresh bucolia. The result: a relaxing rural getaway to lure city folk.

Naviva, A Four Seasons Resort ▲

PUNTA MITA, MEXICO

Biophilic design meets Mexican craft in 15 safari-style tents across the resort's 48 acres of forest, where regional artisans' imprint prevails in bespoke fabrics and furniture that feel at home in nature.

—SARAH DIMARCO



PHOTOGRAPHS BY (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT) JAMES WHITE; (TOP RIGHT) ANDREW MONTGOMERY; (BOTTOM LEFT) ANDREW MONTGOMERY; (BOTTOM RIGHT) A FOUR SEASONS RESORT; COURTESY OF MARK ANTHONY FOX.



Vermelho

MELIDES, PORTUGAL

After a long-standing affair with the Portuguese countryside, Christian Louboutin makes the relationship one for the ages with his first hotel.

Designed by architect Madalena Caiado, the interiors take virtuoso maximalist (and high craft) turns directed by the designer's friends Carolina Irving and Patricia Medina.

Wildflower Farms, Auberge Resorts Collection ▶

GARDINER, NEW YORK

This jewel of the Hudson valley hotel renaissance takes notes from its farm-to-mountain setting, channeled by New York design studio Ward + Gray's layered, collected interiors that lean into the region's deep history of craft.



Buahan, A Banyan Tree Escape ▲

BALI, INDONESIA

Overlooking terraced rice fields from its jungle redoubt, this collection of 16 open-air *balés* built with reclaimed ironwood displays Bali's superb artisanship, from hand-hammered copper bathtubs to carved headboards.

Our Habitas Alula ▶

ALULA, SAUDI ARABIA

Natural and man-made wonder meet in this Ashar valley hotel. Nestled between ancient sandstone canyons, find eco-friendly glass villas, contemporary art installations like neon rock gardens, and an infinity pool that mimics a mirage. —JAIME MILAN



Beaverbrook Town House ◀

LONDON

It's hard to imagine a softer landing in Chelsea: Two chic Georgian townhouses feature 14 cheery yet sophisticated suites by Nicola Harding and the art-filled Sir Frank's Bar, where martinis invoke historic London figures.

—STEELE THOMAS MARCOUX

Maison Proust ▼

PARIS

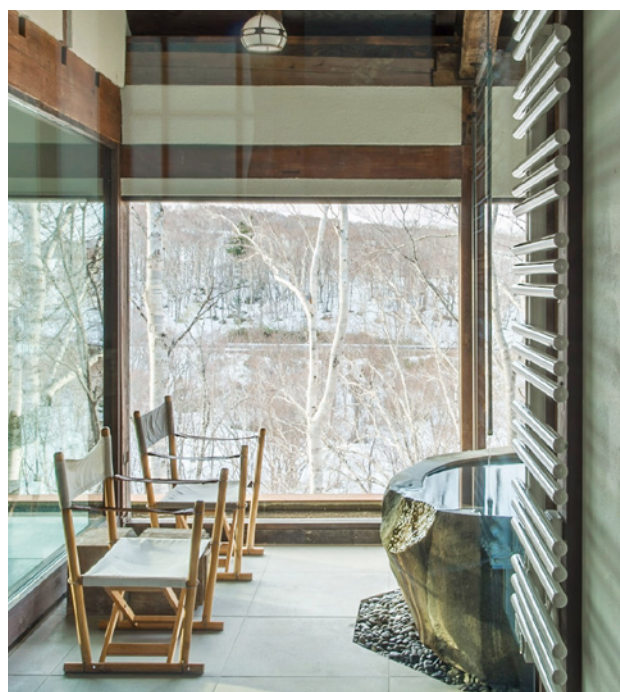
The author himself could not have appointed a finer countryman, decorator Jacques Garcia, to conjure a hotel inspired by the belle epoque salons and characters in his masterwork, *In Search of Lost Time*. Garcia's interiors are masterpieces to match.



Madwaleni River Lodge ▶

KWAZULU-NATAL, SOUTH AFRICA

Like a procession of elephants making its way along the banks of the White Umfolozi River, these 12 sweeping luxury tents exhibit a quiet grace befitting—and honoring—their rocky setting in the glorious Babanango Game Reserve.



Shiguchi ◀

HOKKAIDO, JAPAN

Named for the Japanese architectural method of joining wood to wood, owner and curator Shouya Grigg's divine ideal of a "gallery stay" is a material-forward, artistic reimagining of five 150-year-old rural farmhouses into villas.

Dornoch Station ▲

DORNOCH, SCOTLAND

Tartan wallcoverings, nautical accents, and wood paneling pay homage to this world-class golfing destination's rugged Scottish Highlands setting. Even Bar Ross is golf obsessed, saluting local course architect Donald Ross. —JAIME MILAN

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