

# HOUSE AND LEISURE

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# SMALL SPACES

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ON THE COVER

A compact Joburg pad that's big on style





# LEISURE

## modern manor

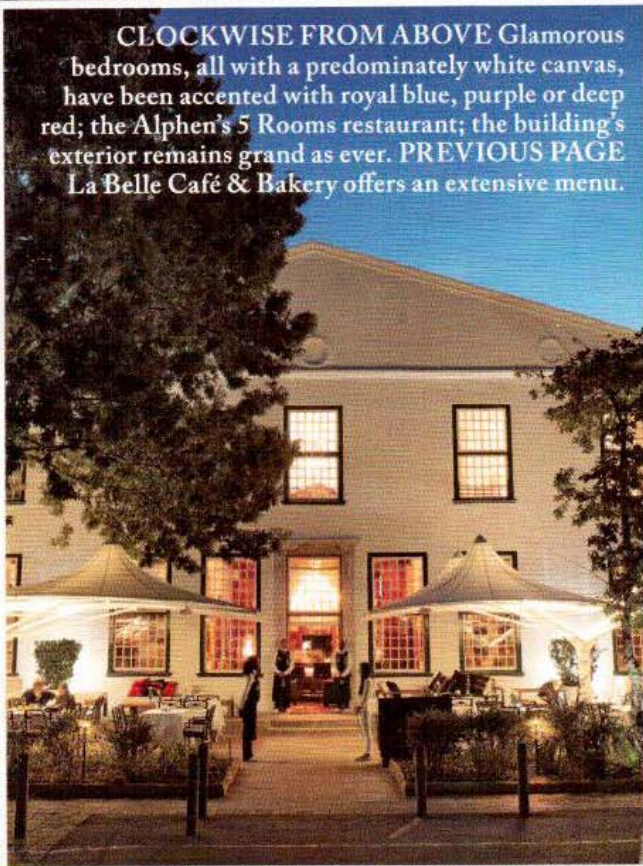
*Cape Town's Alphen Boutique Hotel has had a dramatic overhaul that includes superb new dining spots*

Text **Raphaella Frame** Photographs **Micky Hoyle**

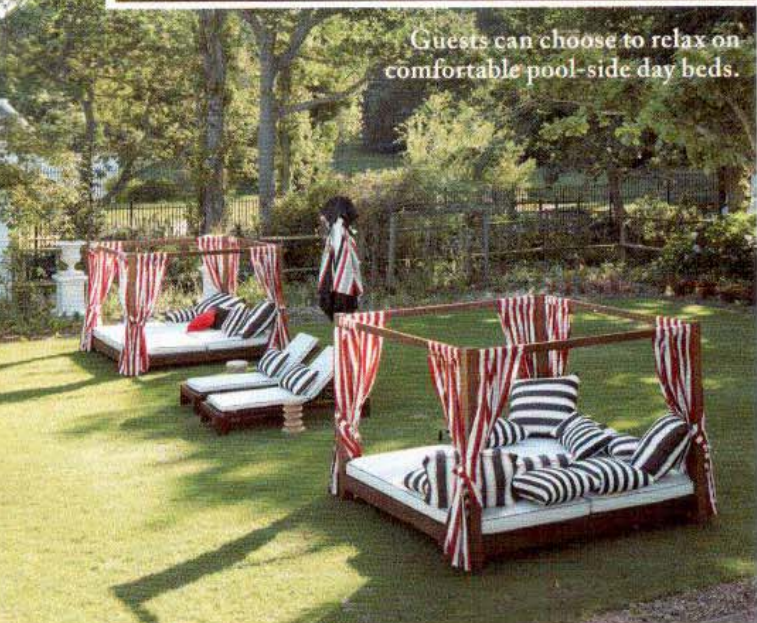




CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE Glamorous bedrooms, all with a predominately white canvas, have been accented with royal blue, purple or deep red; the Alphen's 5 Rooms restaurant; the building's exterior remains grand as ever. PREVIOUS PAGE La Belle Café & Bakery offers an extensive menu.



Guests can choose to relax on comfortable pool-side day beds.



The Alphen Boutique Hotel, a national monument in Cape Town's vineyard-scattered Constantia, has been given a new lease on life. Having recently undergone a dramatic interior overhaul, the property has been transformed with new dynamic, contemporary accommodations.

The estate has been part of the area's patron family, the Cloetes, for the past 150 years, but it was hospitality entrepreneur Paul Kovensky's vision for a more modern offering in the area that brought about the refurbishment. With the expertise of interior designers Jon Case of Antoni Associates and Adam Court of OKHA in tow, the beautiful historical manor now sports an elegant new look, complete with 11,5 acres of landscaped gardens.

The actual lodgings are composed of 21 suites, each suggesting a sense of luxury with a tongue-in-cheek playfulness. Bold, contemporary artworks adorn the walls, mixed with pieces that form part of the Cloete family's collection of classical works. The theme of opposites attracting runs through the interiors, as antiques already belonging to the estate perch alongside furniture pieces such as Fabio Novembre's quirky Him & Her chair.

The multifaceted dining options on the property leave little to be desired. La Belle Café & Bakery specialises in tasty light meals, baked goods and has a deli section, not to mention a decent wine list. The eatery next to the 5 Rooms, comprises five dining rooms as its name suggests, each decorated in a lavish fashion. The Rose Bar, with its outdoor terrace, overlooks the manicured gardens and a tranquil swimming pool.

The ideal location for a party, dinner, conference or simply a weekend escape, the Alphen Boutique Hotel is likely to be a draw card for business and leisure travellers for a long time to come. **The Alphen Boutique Hotel**, Alphen Drive, Constantia, Cape Town, 021-795-6300, [alphen.co.za](http://alphen.co.za)