

FASHION WEEK REPORT: 18 PAGES OF SHOWS, PARTIES + TRENDS

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(warning – it's
not pretty!)

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EXCLUSIVE

EXCLUSIVE
INTERVIEW

Cara:

AMANDA
KNOX
'TLL NEVER
BE FREE'

ON CATWALK CRAZINESS,
STRUGGLING WITH STRESS,
...AND HER TATTOO ADDICTION



Which coat

gets your
vote?

67 HOT NEW STYLES



ISSUE 442



4.0 >

This year's hottest travel trend? The rise of the chic, cheap hotel. Usually found in newly cool parts of town, this latest generation of hotels is big on giving you the feel of value-for-money luxury. Here's our list of the best for under £150 a night

WEEK IN WEEK OUT



4 GRACE HOTEL BEIJING ▶
Grace Hotels is a small boutique chain with an emphasis on wonderful service and chic, unfussy design. Its new venture is in Beijing's 798 Art district, which was previously an industrial quarter and is now a hub for design. From £80 per night (with breakfast) in low season; book at gracehotels.com/beijing.



5 HOTEL ICON HONG KONG ▶
From the on-trend vertical garden that greets you in the lobby to the rooms designed by the likes of Sir Terence Conran and fashion designer Vivienne Tam, this hotel in the up-and-coming Kowloon district fuses Asian and Western to create a super-stylish look. As a training hub for the Hong Kong Polytechnic University School of Catering, the service is incredible, surpassing five-star standards, but without five-star prices. B&B rates start at £141 per night; book at hotel-icon.com.



RISE OF THE BUDGET *boutique*



1 HOTEL ARMONI PARIS ▶
Situating in the central Arc de Triomphe district, the newly opened Hotel Armoni was designed by Oscar Ono, who are known for doing gorgeous things with wood. Its cosy and intimate rooms cost from just £84 per night (room only). Book at hotelarmoniparis.com.



2

2 AKARYN SAMUI THAILAND ▲
Get in quick! Prices at this kind of beach resort are usually stratospheric, but the brand new Akaryn Samui in Koh Samui, Thailand, is just £100 per night (including breakfast). Situated in the undeveloped north of the island, it has its own private beach and also offers complimentary yoga and Pilates classes. Book at akaryn.com.



6 LEELA PALACE CHENNAI ▲
Leela Hotels in India is one of the sub-continent's best luxury chains, combining five-star service with excellent value. And its new property, a stunning beachfront hotel in Chennai (formerly Madras), is no exception. Regal and opulent in style it may be, but not in price – it costs from just £125 per night for bed and breakfast. Book online at theleela.com.

7 DOUBLETREE TURKEY ▶
Hilton DoubleTree's new Turkish hotel is in Kusadasi, next to a marina that overlooks Kusadasi Bay and the Aegean Sea, and close to white sand beaches. Rooms have high-definition TV, high-speed Wi-Fi and air-con and start from around £75 per night (room only). Book at doubletree.com.



8 MYRIAD HOTEL LISBON ▲
At over 140m tall, the Myriad Hotel is rapidly becoming an iconic landmark in Lisbon – ask for a room with an even number for a spectacular river view. The décor is chic, while the spa is the perfect place to chill out after experiencing Lisbon's notoriously late nightlife. B&B from £90 per night; book at myriad.pt/en.



3 SAFESTAY LONDON ◀
Taking the notion of the hostel and turning it on its head, Safestay is cool, well-designed and located in on-the-rise Elephant and Castle, close to the West End. You don't have to share a dorm – there are singles and doubles with flat screens and en suites too. Private en suites cost from £66 per night (including breakfast). Book at safestay.co.uk.

9 ALTA VISTA SUITES SANTORINI ◀
Located on what is arguably the most beautiful of all the Greek Islands, the Alta Vista Suites are owned by Greek Cypriot pop star Michalis Hatzigeorgidis. But while the accommodation is suitably A-list in style, the prices are not, with rooms costing from £102 per night including champagne breakfast. Book at altavistasuites.com.



10 MOTEL ONE EDINBURGH ◀
Despite the name, it's not a motel – it's a sleek designer hotel with lobbies furnished in design classics such as Arne Jacobsen Egg chairs (covered in tartan, naturally) and Arco lamps by Achille Castiglioni. Centrally located, it's ideal for exploring the Old Town. Rooms are small but designed to maximise space. Room-only rates start at £69; book at motel-one.com/en.

10

WEEK IN WEEK OUT



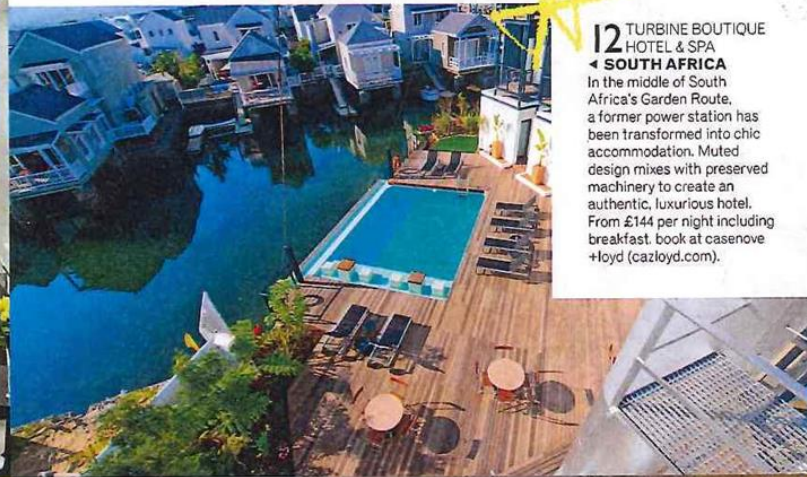
11 ALOFT, CUPERTINO ◀ CALIFORNIA

As you'd expect for a hotel located in the heart of California's Silicon Valley – and just a stone's throw from Apple's HQ – this is suitably high-tech. There's a plug and play connectivity station that charges all your electronics and links to the 42in LCD TV, free Wi-Fi, plus a cool lounge and bar area. From £123 per night (room only); book at aloftcupertino.com.



13 ORIENTAL RESIDENCE BANGKOK ▲

Thailand is still a great place to get long-haul luxe at a knock-down price. The Oriental Residence is one of the best value five-star hotels in Bangkok, with executive doubles starting at just £106 per night and one-bedroom suites from £125 per night (room only). Book at oriental-residence.com.



12 TURBINE BOUTIQUE HOTEL & SPA

◀ SOUTH AFRICA

In the middle of South Africa's Garden Route, a former power station has been transformed into chic accommodation. Muted design mixes with preserved machinery to create an authentic, luxurious hotel. From £144 per night including breakfast. Book at casenove+loyd.com.

14 Z HOTEL LIVERPOOL ▼

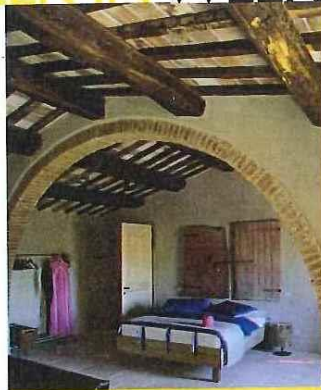
Hot on the heels of its London properties, Z Hotels has launched in Liverpool. All rooms have 40in Samsung LED high-definition TVs, power showers and free Wi-Fi. Plus there's a complimentary cheese and wine reception each evening... Lead-in rates are from £36 per night (room only); book at thezhotels.com.



15 LAGARE HOTEL VENEZIA ▲

Love Venice without blowing your budget by staying on the island of Murano, a speedy water taxi or water bus ride from the city. Built in a former glass foundry, the hotel's rooms are styled in rich creams and hot chocolates for a super-luxe feel. Executive room-only rates start at £142 per night. Book at lagarehotelvenezia.com/en.

WEEK IN WEEK OUT



17 FOLLONICO TUSCANY ▲

Resurrected from the ruins of a 19th-century Tuscan farmhouse, Follonico is a four-suite/two-room designer B&B between forests, olive groves and vineyards. There's a big jacuzzi in the garden too. Just sneaking into our list, its rooms are £150 per night. Book at follonico.com.



16 NEW HOTEL ATHENS

The super-cool Brazilian design duo the Campana Brothers have used recycled materials to amazing effect to create a chic and seriously funky hotel. It has a restaurant, spa and super-slick service. Centrally located next to the city's Syntagma Square, B&B doubles cost from £134 per night. Book at mrandmrsmith.com.



19 FELLAH HOTEL MARRAKECH ▲

The newly opened Fellah Hotel at the foot of the Atlas Mountains is all cool, calm chic, but is just 13 kilometres from the hustle and bustle of Marrakech. It has a swimming pool, two restaurants, a spa and yoga centre... Oh, and a giant cactus garden. B&B costs from £146 per night; book at fellah-hotel.com.

19

18 BRODY HOUSE BUDAPEST ▼

This boho boutique hotel oozes style – each room is a gallery showcasing local artists. It's easy walking distance to all the sights and during their stay, guests become members of its hip members club. Mr & Mrs Smith is offering doubles from £61 (room only); book at mrandmrsmith.com.



20 FRANGIPANI TREE SRI LANKA ▶

The once war-torn Sri Lanka has been stable for some years now, but hotels are still well-priced to encourage tourism, meaning there's excellent value at the top end. The Frangipani Tree is a lovely beachfront hotel in Galle with seriously stylish rooms in three villas. Room only costs from £132 per night in low season; book at fleewinter.co.uk.

