

SCENE SETTERS

What's shaping our tastes and topping our to-do lists—from sunny Portugal to downtown Manhattan.

BY INGRID ABRAMOVITCH AND SEAN SANTIAGO



LEFT: A view of Lake Como from the pool terrace at the Italian boutique hotel Passalacqua.

FAR LEFT: The Jacques Grange-designed Cavalariça Évora restaurant in Portugal, with artworks by South African artist Esther Mahlangu.

BELOW: The lobby bar at Nine Orchard hotel in Manhattan.



yellow, and white motif, while the floor is covered in a zig-zag mosaic—all overlooking an Andalusian-style courtyard by Louis Benech. Nearby, the palace recently unveiled its restoration of its private chapel, whose azulejo-covered interior is the stunning backdrop for Love YSL, an exhibition (until October 31) of Yves Saint Laurent clothing inspired by Morocco. palaciocadaval.com cavalariça.com

CHILL OPERATIC GLORY

Vincenzo Bellini slept here—and now so can you. With the opening of the hotel and spa Passalacqua on Italy's Lake Como, an 18th-century county's residence—once home to an opera legend—has been transformed into a 24-room hotel worthy of a Visconti movie set. Hotelier Valentina de Santis, whose family also owns the legendary Grand Hotel Tremezzo, oversaw the restoration of the villa's Baroque frescoes and brought in Italian makers like Rubelli, Fortuny, and Barbini to outfit the historic rooms. She also refreshed the terraced gardens and tapped Milan-based It girl brand La Double J to bring its sunny patterns to the poolside terrace. passalacqua.it



RESTORE GREEN JUICED

The world's first high-concept fitness club, Heimat, has opened its doors in—where else?—Los Angeles. Clocking in at a cool 75,000 square feet, RSG Group's hybrid fitness and lifestyle space encompasses top-tier training facilities, a spa, a clubhouse, a pool, and a rooftop restaurant, called Mother Tongue, from designer Martin Brudnizki. With plans to expand to Paris, Berlin, and San Francisco, Heimat's burgeoning empire is a globe-trotting fitness buff's dream. heimat.com

STAY HISTORY BUFFED

Presiding over the intersection of New York's Chinatown and Lower East Side neighborhoods is the elegant new Nine Orchard hotel. Originally built in 1912 as a bank, the 83,000-square-foot Beaux Arts building now boasts 116 rooms over 14 floors. Meticulously restored arched windows and vaulted ceilings envelop guests in old-world glamour and downtown cool, while the hotel's three dining spaces are helmed by the buzzy chef Ignacio Mattos of Lodi and Estela fame. nineorchard.com

VISIT

PATTERN PALACE

The Portuguese town of Évora, a UNESCO world heritage site, is known for its tilework and the Roman temple of Diana. But the capital of the Alentejo region now has another spectacular feature: colorful geometric murals by the South African artist Esther Mahlangu. First commissioned for an exhibition in 2018 at the

Cadaval Palace, a 14th-century residence of the Duke of Cadaval, the abstract artworks now embellish Cavalariça Évora, a dazzling new restaurant designed by Jacques Grange. The French interior designer complemented Mahlangu's murals in the Ndebele tradition with a vibrant design: The ceiling is hand-painted in a black,

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: FRANCISCO NOGUEIRA; RICKY MONTE; STEPHEN KENT JOHNSON