

LUXURY WITHOUT COMPROMISE

Robb Report



**THE
BESPOKE
LIST**

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OF ALL THINGS
CUSTOM-MADE

OCTOBER 2017

CAPE TOWN

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2017

Time Well Spent



MATTHIEU FORICHON

Time Well Spent

CAPE TOWN

In the shadows of Table Mountain, Africa's stunning southern city has solidified its place as a world capital of culture and cool.

By Sarah Khan



Cape Town could have been a passing fad.

The Western Cape capital was thrust into the tourist spotlight in 2010 when South Africa was selected as the host country for the World Cup, bringing a new stadium, hotels, and more. But the lively event with the vuvuzela soundtrack was just the beginning for this beach-fringed city at the base of Table Mountain, which has since blossomed into one of the most alluring destinations on the African continent. This fall, all eyes are once again on the Mother City, with the arrival of yet another sweeping cultural sensation: the Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (zeitzmocaa.museum).

"I love Ellerman House in Bantry Bay for the extensive collection of contemporary South African art."

JENNIFER REYNOLDS

The Thomas Heatherwick-designed institution—whose German founder, former Puma CEO Jochen Zeitz, has contributed hundreds of works from his private collection—has been rousing global art patrons since long before its September 22 grand opening. Four years in the making, the 70,000-square-foot museum has bolstered the transformation of the once-somber V&A Waterfront, where new flagships from creative heavy hitters like art-and-design collective Southern Guild (southernguild.co.za) and couture designer Kat van Duinen (katvanduinen.com) have debuted. Dubbed the Silo Precinct for the museum's location in an





early-20th-century grain silo (shown on the opposite page, at center), the area around Zeitz MOCAA is also home to Cape Town's most buzzed-about new hotel, located just upstairs from the museum and aptly named the Silo.

The waterfront isn't the only neighborhood humming with fresh energy. The Central Business District has been scrubbed down and spruced up with new galleries, restaurants, and boutiques. The city outskirts are booming too, with winemaking regions like Constantia and Franschoek emerging as culinary hotbeds. And in between the new must-sees, old standbys like Clifton Beach and Table Mountain are as captivating as ever.

"Publik has a cool curated wine list. Ask the boys behind the counter what they can recommend."

BERTUS BASSON

LOCAL FAVORITES

	STAY	EAT	DRINK	SHOP	DO
 <p>KELLY WITHEY OWNER, MAISON MARA</p>	<p>[The exclusive-use] La Petite Maison in Tamboerskloof is a cute Victorian house that belongs to artist Thomas Boog. The home is beautifully decorated. It's worth a stay just for the chance to see Thomas's art and cornices up close. perfecthideaways.co.za</p>	<p>My favorite spot to eat is Mulberry & Prince 1. The food is quirky, and you never leave feeling overstuffed. The chefs Cynthia and Cornel not only have great taste in food but also have an amazing eye for decor. Make sure you taste their homemade stracciatella. mulberryandprince.co.za</p>	<p>My ideal night out with friends is enjoying a souvlaki and a glass of wine at Love Thy Neighbour, then hopping over to Hank's to listen to whichever cool DJ is mixing that night. hanks.co.za</p>	<p>Bastille Le Cap, a menswear boutique, is my favorite store. I buy my oversize sweaters and white T-shirts from Armor Lux when I feel like a more androgynous style. Check out their latest collaboration with local brand Sol-Sol. bastille-store.com</p>	<p>Take a stroll around the pavilion next to the Silo hotel and visit Southern Guild's new space, a combination of a museum store, a studio, and a gallery. You'll find a beautiful curation of objects, art, and design from all over Africa. I have my eye on a Xandre Kriel chair. theguildgroup.co.za</p>
 <p>TINASHE NYAMUDOKA SOMMELIER, THE TEST KITCHEN</p>	<p>In the Winelands, I suggest Majeka House 2 for its great ambience and top-class restaurant. It's in the vicinity of the best Stellenbosch estates for wine tasting. majekahouse.co.za</p>	<p>I like the tapas-style food at Chef's Warehouse at Beau Constantia. Head chef Ivor Jones is bold with his flavors. beauconstantia.com</p>	<p>Open Wine on Wale Street is a trendy bar to visit. They offer great local wines for tastings paired with Italian food. They also bring in winemakers for tutored wine tastings. openwineza.co.za</p>	<p>You'll get lesser-known labels from young and up-and-coming winemakers and producers at Wine at the Mill boutique wine store at the Old Biscuit Mill. Try the Semillon or Cabernet Franc from Garajeest by Callan Williams, a young winemaker in the Elgin region. wineatthemill.com</p>	<p>Explore the Saturday or Sunday food-and-craft markets in and around Cape Town. I like the Oranjezicht City Farm Market at the V&A Waterfront as well as the Lourensford Market in Somerset West. ozcf.co.za; lfm.co.za</p>
 <p>BERTUS BASSON CHEF AND RESTAURATEUR</p>	<p>The Belmond Mount Nelson Hotel is an oasis in the city. We love going to the Planet Bar, and the high tea is spectacular. belmond.com</p>	<p>I ask Ed at South China Dim Sum Bar to bring a selection, but we always make sure we have the pork buns and sticky beef. Be sure to book ahead. +27.78.846.3656</p>	<p>Publik 3 has a cool curated wine list. Ask the boys behind the counter what they can recommend. publik.co.za</p>	<p>I like Vamp for vintage furniture and collectibles, and for new furniture. Pedersen + Lennard. Their designs are functional but unique and very practical while aesthetically pleasing. vampfurniture.blogspot.com; pedersenlennard.co.za</p>	<p>Take a trip out to the Winelands. At Spek & Bone, I created a restaurant with the food I like to eat, the wine I like to drink, and the music I like to listen to. The burgers we serve at the Deck at Hidden Valley are the best in Stellenbosch. spekenbone.com; www.hiddenvalleywines.co.za</p>
 <p>JENNIFER REYNOLDS OWNER, STATE OF THE ART GALLERY</p>	<p>I love Ellerman House 4 in Bantry Bay for the extensive collection of contemporary South African art, which is on display throughout the boutique hotel, including the bedrooms and in a gallery in the garden. ellerman.co.za</p>	<p>Café Paradiso is a favorite of Cape Town locals. Book a table in the outside terrace area to take in the dramatic views of Table Mountain. cafeparadiso.co.za</p>	<p>Outrage of Modesty has delicious cocktails and tapas. It's an intimate venue, so you'll need to book in advance. anoutrage.com</p>	<p>For local South African design, you can't beat Stable. You can find small gifts as well as beautiful furniture and decor. stable.org.za</p>	<p>On the first Thursday of every month, the central city art galleries stay open for First Thursdays until 9 pm. Afterward, check out jazz at the Crypt or enjoy a fabulous cabaret show at Gate69. firstthursdays.co.za; thecryptjazz.com; gate69.co.za</p>

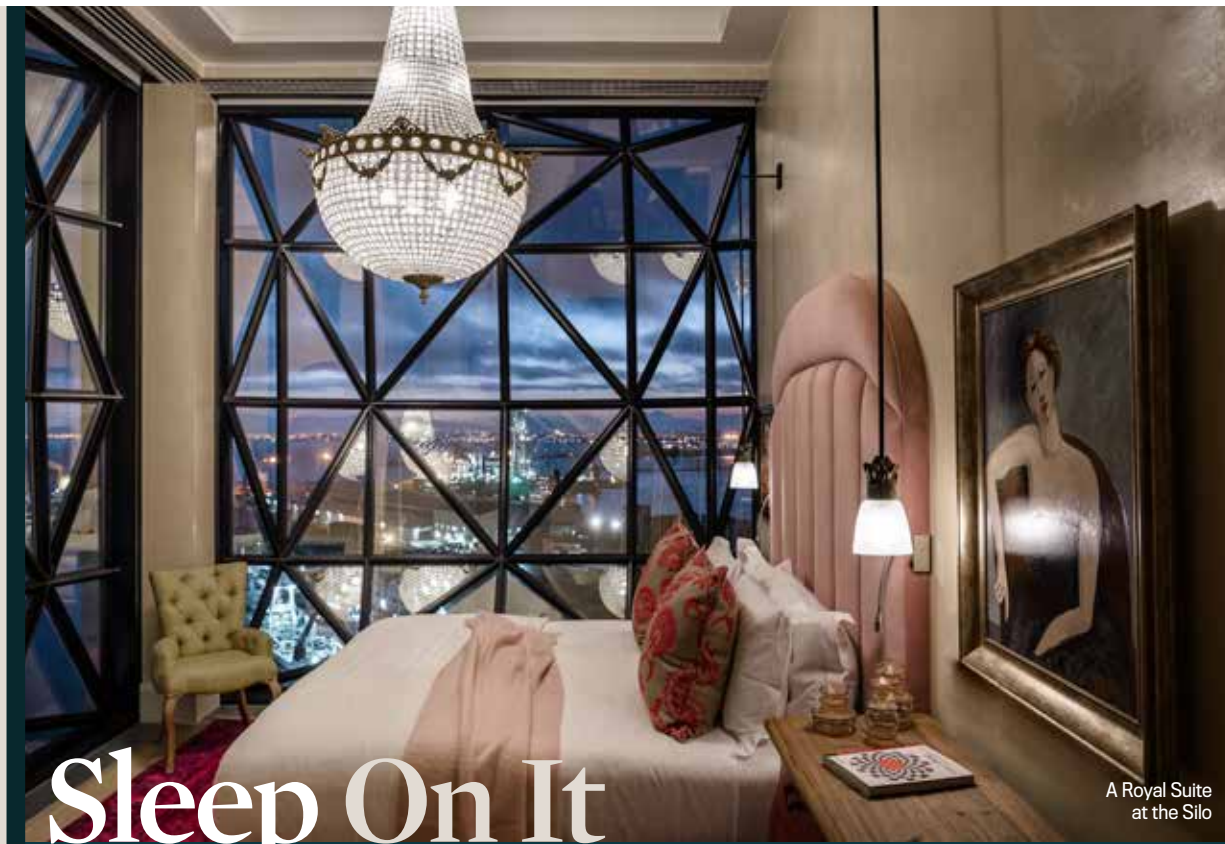
ILLUSTRATIONS: GARY WILLIAM MUSGRAVE; OPPOSITE PAGE, MIDDLE (THE SILO): IWAN BAAN

Time Well Spent
CAPE TOWN



Vine Dining

AS CAPE TOWN'S dynamic culinary scene verges on saturation, the city's celebrity chefs are making a break for the wine country. Follow their freshly laid tracks for a weekend of dining among the vines. Just outside the city, in the historic Constantia Valley, Liam Tomlin has opened an outpost of his highly acclaimed **Chef's Warehouse** (beauconstantia.com), bringing his trademark contemporary tapas to the Beau Constantia wine farm. Thirty-five miles due east in Stellenbosch, Bertus Basson of *Overture* fame has opened **Spek & Bone** (bertusbasson.com), a casual wine bar on charming Dorp Street. And in Franschhoek, celebrated chefs Reuben Riffel and Scot Kirton have staked out new territory of their own. The former debuted the bistro-style **Reuben's at Racine** (reubens.co.za) in June at the Chamonix wine estate. The latter, meanwhile, has big shoes to fill with **La Petite Colombe** (lapetitecolombe.com), a fine-dining restaurant set in the former location of the wine country's beloved—and recently shuttered—Tasting Room at Le Quartier Français.



Sleep On It

A Royal Suite at the Silo

THE SCULPTURAL PILLOWED-GLASS windows that crown the new Zeitz MOCAA have already become icons in Cape Town. But what you'll find behind them, above the museum's world-class exhibitions, is equally extraordinary. Opened in March, the **Silo hotel** (theroyalportfolio.com) has been an instant hit with locals and tourists alike, thanks to features like a stunning rooftop terrace and what must surely be Cape Town's most dramatic bathtubs. The brainchild of South African hotelier extraordinaire Liz

Biden, the 28-room property is a study in eclecticism, with polished concrete walls covered in ornate gilded mirrors; pockmarked pillars and lime-green ostrich-leather desks and bedside tables; and the rusting remnants of an erstwhile grain elevator nudging against leather chesterfield swings. Art is everywhere, too, from local artist Frances Goodman's shimmering installation composed entirely of sequins in the lobby to Kenyan photographer Cyrus Kabiru's otherworldly portraits in the suites.



Whatiftheworld

Gallery Crawl

WITH ART DOMINATING the Cape Town conversation of late, the city's well-established gallery scene is only getting bigger and better. For a crash course in contemporary African art, head straight from the Zeitz MOCAA to the Woodstock district, where South Africa's best-known blue-chip galleries, like **Stevenson** (stevenson.info) and **Goodman** (goodman-gallery.com)—as well as formidable establishments like **Whatiftheworld** (whatiftheworld.com)—are located just a stone's throw away from artists' and designers' studios. The Central Business District is home to another stretch of art influencers, most notably a sprawling outpost of Johannesburg's **Gallery Momo** (gallerymomo.com), which represents a stable of big names including Mary Sibande and Khaya Witbooi. From there, discover promising newcomers at **99 Loop** (99loop.co.za), a multipurpose art space that showcases emerging talent in its galleries and serves creative cuisine in its courtyard restaurant. **R**

TOP LEFT: SANDRA TASSO