

THE HOMES MAGAZINE FOR MODERN LIVING

Living etc

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PRETTY COOL

48 pages of modern homes

EXCLUSIVE!

MATTHEW WILLIAMSON
'My home is my moodboard'

THE 30 BEST HIGH-STREET BUYS

THE PERFECT PAINT PALETTE

NEW SEASON WALLPAPERS AND FABRICS
Pattern goes big and bold

EXTENSIONS SPECIAL 2016

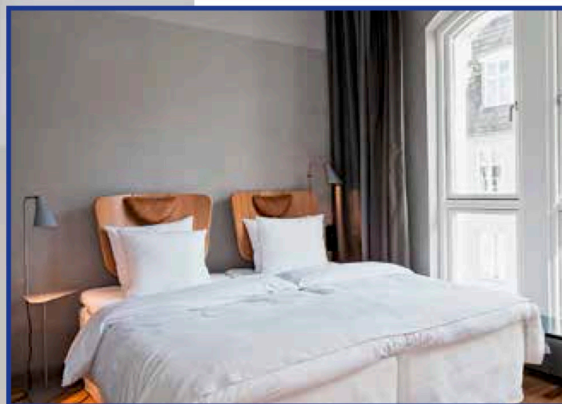
HOW TO MOVE UP,
PUSH OUT, DIG DOWN



LIVE LIKE A LOCAL

Immerse yourself in a new city with the travel trend that welcomes you in like an old friend and offers a neighbourly view of everyday life

Words/Sarah Baldwin



Forget no-frills hotels and paperless check-in – the biggest trend in travel right now is immersion.

It's no longer enough just to visit a destination, you need to find ways to dig into local life, whether that means staying in a less-hyped-up neighbourhood or simply having access to insider secrets or home-grown delicacies.

Thanks to the likes of Airbnb and Onefinestay, it's very easy to bunk up in a homestay, but if apartment life isn't for you, there are now plenty of gorgeous hotels geared towards creating the home-from-home experience. In Paris, you'll find the Henriette, an out-of-the-way haven for designistas, SP34 brings some much-needed personality to the Copenhagen hotel scene, while the new Ace in LA and Boro in New York are both single-handedly making their up-and-coming neighbourhoods the place to be...

SP34

Latin Quarter, Copenhagen

The lowdown Divine Danish design that stands out from the crowd.

Best for Lovers of clean lines and cool vibes.

Although you might expect Europe's design capital to be a melting pot of style-conscious boutique hotels, SP34 is actually the first with real clout. With a rooftop terrace looking out on the bohemian Latin Quarter, it offers understated luxury and a laid-back vibe. The front desk doubles as a bar, from which complimentary wine is served between 5 and 6pm, and there's a modernist-inspired television and library den for whiling away chilly afternoons. The 118 rooms range from smallish standards to plush suites and throughout, the décor takes a less-is-more approach, with white or grey walls, wood furniture and an emphasis on natural light. Another **Livingetc** highlight was the buffet-style organic breakfast, with fresh bread and to-die-for smoothies. With three fabulous restaurants, you won't want to leave, but should you venture out, Copenhagen's tourist haunts are less than a ten-minute stroll away – our tip would be to grab one of the bikes from the front desk and enjoy a truly local experience.

Book it Double rooms from approx £165, including breakfast, Wi-Fi and an invite to wine hour (brochner-hotels.dk).

MAIN PICTURE Copenhagen finally gets a cool crash pad with the clean lines and modernist features of SP34. INSET Greys, whites and natural light fill each of the 118 bedrooms



CLOCKWISE FROM THIS PICTURE
Wake up in the Boro with views of Midtown; fresh pastries and treats are supplied daily by the local farmers market; and the industrial warehouse feel is echoed in the concrete pillars and minimalist furniture

[City Spy]

Just a few blocks away is the only Michelin-starred Mexican in NYC, Casa Enrique. It's a low-key, family-run joint serving up the classics. Be sure to order the house-made chorizo and grilled mesquite chicken tacos. 5-48 49th Avenue, Long Island City (henriny.com)

Boro Hotel

Long Island City, New York

The lowdown An arty vibe and Manhattan views in the soon-to-be hippest NYC district.

Best for Instagrammers keen for a top shot of the Big Apple. For years, New Yorkers in the know have been lured across the East River to Long Island City in Queens for its awesome views and the convenient commute to the city. This neighbourhood's now generating the kind of hype found in Brooklyn ten years ago and the recently opened Boro is the first design-led hotel to jump on the bandwagon. In terms of interiors, exposed concrete and cinderblocks take centre stage (in keeping with the area's industrial heritage); here we have a hotel that works warehouse style, but in an undogmatic way thanks to tailored touches and pops of colour and pattern. The 108 rooms and suites sport startling views over either Midtown or pretty (who knew!) residential Queens and nearly all have bijou terraces. Just a quick train ride from Central Park, this arty part of town has more than enough to keep you busy. And with a local map attached to your room keycards, exploring couldn't be easier.

Book it Double rooms from approx £120 (borohotel.com).

