



01

BEIRUT

014 World view
017 24 hours
018 Neighbourhood
020 Architour
025 Urban life
028 The list
030 Sport
032 Shopping strike

Shelling out used to mean something very different in Beirut during the wars. Now it's simply shorthand for the massive investment that is helping bring impressive new buildings, bars, boutiques and even bodies to the resurgent Levantine capital.

02

BUENOS AIRES

034 World view
037 24 hours
039 Neighbourhood
040 Architour
044 Urban life
049 The list
052 Sport
054 Shopping strike

You might not want to rush to buy any government bonds just yet, but as its financial travails ease, BA is certainly getting its groove back. You can hardly move for hip hotels, the nightlife is unbelievable and the people are as beautiful as advertised. It's the new Miami.

03

HAMBURG

056 World view
059 24 hours
060 Neighbourhood
062 Architour
065 Sport
066 Urban life
068 The list
071 Shopping strike

A neglected Euro classic that has much more to offer than its sex, sailors and saveloys reputation might suggest. Hamburg is Germany's creative capital, a winsome port that has shrugged off its Hanseatic hauteur and made like a modern city should.

04

MANCHESTER

072 World view
074 24 hours
076 Architour
080 Urban life
082 The list
084 Sport
087 Shopping strike

Like the lady might have said, when it's good, it's very, very good and when it's bad, it's better. Manchester has always been a party city and the home of 24-hour party people, but these days the bash is likely to be held somewhere that looks every bit as good as you'll feel.

05

MONTREAL

088 World view
091 24 hours
092 Neighbourhood
094 Sport
095 Architour
098 Urban life
100 The list
102 Shopping strike

There was a time when Montreal was happy just being the third largest Francophone city in the world - but who really wants to come after Kinshasa? Not since its pre-1976 Olympic euphoria has the city had such confidence. Visit before the word gets out.

06

STOCKHOLM

104 World view
107 24 hours
111 Neighbourhood
113 Architour
116 Urban life
120 Sport
121 The list
122 Shopping strike

Our desert island design destination is now worthy of much more than a weekend shopping trip. There are great hotels, bars and restaurants, a hot new neighbourhood and stunning locals. One thing hasn't changed, though: this is strictly a summer city.

07

VALENCIA

124 World view
127 24 hours
128 Neighbourhood
130 Architour
134 Sport
135 Urban life
138 The list
140 Shopping strike

It might have missed out when Barcelona and the Balearics were having their day in the sun, but Valencia's transformation has been in many ways even more remarkable. It can't go on being Spain's best-kept secret for ever, so we advise you to book your *pensión* pronto.

01

BEIRUT

014 World view
017 24 hours
018 Neighbourhood
020 Architour
025 Urban life
028 The list
030 Sport
032 Shopping strike

Shelling out used to mean something very different in Beirut during the wars. Now it's simply shorthand for the massive investment that is helping bring impressive new buildings, bars, boutiques and even bodies to the resurgent Levantine capital.

02

BUENOS AIRES

034 World view
037 24 hours
039 Neighbourhood
040 Architour
044 Urban life
049 The list
052 Sport
054 Shopping strike

You might not want to rush to buy any government bonds just yet, but as its financial travails ease, BA is certainly getting its groove back. You can hardly move for hip hotels, the nightlife is unbelievable and the people are as beautiful as advertised. It's the new Miami.

03

HAMBURG

056 World view
059 24 hours
060 Neighbourhood
062 Architour
065 Sport
066 Urban life
068 The list
071 Shopping strike

A neglected Euro classic that has much more to offer than its sex, sailors and saveloys reputation might suggest. Hamburg is Germany's creative capital, a winsome port that has shrugged off its Hanseatic hauteur and made like a modern city should.

04

MANCHESTER

072 World view
074 24 hours
076 Architour
080 Urban life
082 The list
084 Sport
087 Shopping strike

Like the lady might have said, when it's good, it's very, very good and when it's bad, it's better. Manchester has always been a party city and the home of 24-hour party people, but these days the bash is likely to be held somewhere that looks every bit as good as you'll feel.

05

MONTREAL

088 World view
091 24 hours
092 Neighbourhood
094 Sport
095 Architour
098 Urban life
100 The list
102 Shopping strike

There was a time when Montreal was happy just being the third largest Francophone city in the world - but who really wants to come after Kinshasa? Not since its pre-1976 Olympic euphoria has the city had such confidence. Visit before the word gets out.

06

STOCKHOLM

104 World view
107 24 hours
111 Neighbourhood
113 Architour
116 Urban life
120 Sport
121 The list
122 Shopping strike

Our desert island design destination is now worthy of much more than a weekend shopping trip. There are great hotels, bars and restaurants, a hot new neighbourhood and stunning locals. One thing hasn't changed, though: this is strictly a summer city.

07

VALENCIA

124 World view
127 24 hours
128 Neighbourhood
130 Architour
134 Sport
135 Urban life
138 The list
140 Shopping strike

It might have missed out when Barcelona and the Balearics were having their day in the sun, but Valencia's transformation has been in many ways even more remarkable. It can't go on being Spain's best-kept secret for ever, so we advise you to book your pensid pronto.

WALLPAPER NAVIGATOR* ISSUE 3

Sometimes, especially when travelling, it's the little things that matter. It might be something as simple as knowing where to locate a sanctuary of earth tones and luxurious De Sede seating among the overblown riot of colour and high-spirited holiday-makers at the airport departure lounge. It could be a little tip from the celebrated chef Fernando Trucco that steers you in the direction of exactly the right cut of meat in Buenos Aires' many excellent steak restaurants (*ojo de bife*, since you ask). But it's these little things that are always the hardest to find. That's why we've made it our mission to make travel simple again.

We want only to offer information that will transform the way you experience the seven most interesting cities in the world right now. We won't list every last museum, motel and *mercado* in the greater metropolitan area: only those places we enjoyed and which we think you will enjoy too. We'll offer tips on what to order, when to go and who to ask for. And, because not all hotel rooms are created equal, we'll advise you which offer the best combination of style and value. What we won't do is outstay our welcome. These are the cities we think you should be visiting right now and the places to be seen this season. In August, we will publish another batch of must-see destinations. Until then, we look forward to reading your suggestions and comments on contact@wallpaper.com. Bon voyage

EDITOR'S LETTER				
	<p>WALLPAPER NAVIGATOR* ISSUE 3</p> <p>Sometimes, especially when travelling, it's the little things that matter. It might be something as simple as knowing where to locate a sanctuary of earth tones and luxurious De Sede seating among the overblown riot of colour and high-spirited holiday-makers at the airport departure lounge. It could be a little tip from the celebrated chef Fernando Trucco that steers you in the direction of exactly the right cut of meat in Buenos Aires' many excellent steak restaurants (<i>ojo de bife</i>, since you ask). But it's these little things that are always the hardest to find. That's why we've made it our mission to make travel simple again. We want only to offer information that will transform the way you experience the seven most interesting cities in the world right now. We won't list every last museum, motel and <i>mercado</i> in the greater metropolitan area: only those places we enjoyed and which we think you will enjoy too. We'll offer tips on what to order, when to go and who to ask for. And, because not all hotel rooms are created equal, we'll advise you which offer the best combination of style and value. What we won't do is outstay our welcome. These are the cities we think you should be visiting right now and the places to be seen this season. In August, we will publish another batch of must-see destinations. Until then, we look forward to reading your suggestions and comments on contact@wallpaper.com. Bon voyage.</p>			

SUBSCRIPTIONS

T 44.845 676 7778
F 44.3444 445 999
E ipcsubs@ipc-uk.com
Order online at:
www.wallpaper.com

WORLD HEADQUARTERS

Brettenham House
Lancaster Place
London WC2E 7TL
United Kingdom
T 44.20 7322 1177
F 44.20 7322 1171
E contact@wallpaper.com

EDITORIAL

Editor
Richard Cook

Associate Editor (Retail)
Emma Moore

Associate Editors
Jeroen Bergmans
Nick Compton
Sara Hennrichs

Executive Managing Editor
Jessica Firmin

Contributing Editors
Alex Bagner
Albert Hill
Robert Johnston
Mariana Rapoport
Warren Singh Bartlett

ART

Art Director
Loran Stoskopf

Senior Designer
Meirion Pritchard

Junior Designer
Nicola Neophytou

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography Editor
Claudia Perin

Deputy Photography Editor
James Reid

Assistant Photography Editor
Simen Mehmet

PRODUCTION

Chief Sub Editor
Bridget Downing

Deputy Chief Sub Editor
Gordon Knight

Sub Editors
Katie Bosher, Steven East,
Anna Metcalfe, Rufus Purdy

WALLPAPER R* GROUP

Editor-in-Chief
Wallpaper* Group
Jeremy Langmead

Creative Director
Wallpaper* Group
Torry Chambers

Managing Director
Wallpaper* Group
Sandy Whetton

PUBLISHING & MARKETING

Publishing Director
Richard Johnstone

Executive Publisher and Marketing Director
Andrew Black

Associate Publisher
Neil Sumner

Marketing Executive
Rachel Webb

Syndication Manager
Efi Vasiliou

ADVERTISING

Advertising Director
Tara Purcell

Acting Advertising Director
Paula Cain

Senior Account Manager (Fashion)
Tom Bailey

Account Manager
Malcolm Young

Senior Account Executive
Ben Cotton

Advertising Coordinator
Olivia Plunkett

Production Controller
Nick Percival

CIRCULATION

Group Circulation Manager
Rob Everett

International Circulation Manager
Scott Goward

Senior Circulation Executive
Richard Salisbury

International Circulation Executive
Daniel Bennetts

Subscriptions Marketing Manager
Lauren Higgins

ADVERTISING OFFICES

USA
Cathy Kruchko
T 1.212 533 9672
F 1.212 533 9768
(West Coast)
Greg Montana
T 1.415 392 1402
F 1.415 392 1502

Italy
Paolo Cesana
Paolo Mongeri
T 39.02 844 0441
F 39.02 848 10287

Germany
Peter Wolfram
T 49.89 9392 6711
F 49.89 9392 6712

France
Sylvie Durlach
T 33.1 44 18 06 62
F 33.1 44 18 06 65

Switzerland
Mark and John Van Thuyne
T 41.21 721 2070

Brazil
Chico Lowndes
T 55.11 3068 7300
F 55.11 3088 0802

Asia
Rebecca Chan
T 852.2866 7885
F 852.2866 9664

Australia
Francesca Romano
Time Inc South Pacific
T 61.2 9925 2554

Anna Dynan (Victoria)
Time Inc South Pacific
T 61.3 9825 3210

FINANCE
Financial Controller
Tony Falco

COVER
Illustrator
Chris Kasch

MAPS
Illustrator
Russell Bell

PICTOGRAMS
Illustrator
Agnès Decourchelle

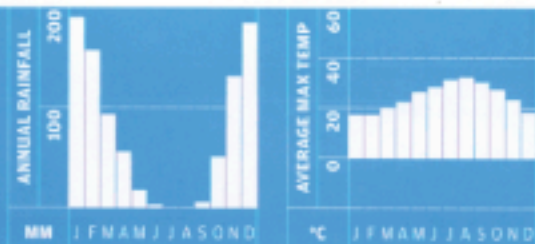
Wallpaper* is published six times a year by The Wallpaper* Group, a division of IPC Media Ltd, c 2009 Wallpaper* IPC Media Ltd ISSN 1364-4478. An IPC Media Company periodical postage is paid at Rahway, NJ. POSTMASTER: send address corrections to Wallpaper*, c/o The International Express, Attention: Distribution, PO Box 908, Jersey, NY 12353, T 1.800.348.4325, F 1.800.348.8073.

Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is strictly prohibited. All prices and credits are accurate at time of going to press, but are subject to change. Manuscripts, photos, drawings and other materials submitted must be accompanied by a copyright, self-addressed envelope. Wallpaper* cannot be held responsible for any unsolicited material. Basic subscription for Wallpaper* for one year (six issues) is £95. USA direct entry \$122, rest of North America \$124, Europe \$105, South America \$170, rest of the world \$180. For subscriptions contact:

Wallpaper* Subscriptions, IPC Media, Brettenham House, 15 Perrymount Road, Newport News, West Sussex PO16 3PS, T 44.845 676 7778, F 44.3444 445 999, E ipcsubs@ipc-uk.com. Photographic reproduction by Electronic Systems, London. Printed by the same publishers and to help reduce CO₂ emissions by Walsby & Co Ltd, Unit 10, Kingsley Works, South Street, London SE1 1UL, T 44.20 7322 1177.

NAVIGATOR MASTHEAD	SUBSCRIPTIONS T 44.845 676 7778 F 44.1444 445 999 E ipcsubs@ipc-uk.com Order online at: www.wallpaper.com	WORLD HEADQUARTERS Brettenham House Lancaster Place London WC2E 7TL United Kingdom T 44.20 7322 1177 F 44.20 7322 1171 E contact@wallpaper.com								
	EDITORIAL Editor Richard Cook Associate Editor (Retail) Emma Moore Associate Editors Joen Bergmans Nick Compton Sara Hennichs Executive Managing Editor Jessica Firmin	PUBLISHING & MARKETING Publishing Director Richard Johnstone Executive Publisher and Marketing Director Andrew Black Associate Publisher Neil Sumner Marketing Executive Rachel Welsh Syndication Manager Eli Vasilou	ADVERTISING OFFICES USA Cathy Kruchko T 1.212 533 9672 F 1.212 533 9768 (West Coast) Greg Montana T 1.415 392 1402 F 1.415 392 1502 Italy Paolo Cesana Paolo Mongeri T 39.02 844 0441 F 39.02 848 10287	Germany Peter Wolfram T 49.89 9392 6711 F 49.89 9392 6712 France Sylvie Durlach T 33.1 44 18 06 62 F 33.1 44 18 06 66 Switzerland Mark and John Van Thuyne T 41.21 721 2070 Brazil Chico Lourenco T 55.11 3068 7300 Asia Rebecca Chan T 852.2866 7885 F 852.2866 9664 Australia Francesca Romano Time Inc South Pacific T 61.2 9925 2554 Anna Dynan (Victorial) Time Inc South Pacific T 61.3 9825 3210	FINANCE Financial Controller Tony Falco	COVER Illustrator Chris Kasch	MAPS Illustrator Russell Bell	PICTOGRAMS Illustrator James Desmarcelle		
ART Art Director Oran Stoskopf Senior Designer Jackson Prichard Junior Designer Nicola Neophytou	ADVERTISING Advertising Director Tara Purcell Acting Advertising Director Paula Cain Senior Account Manager (Fashion) Tom Bailey Account Manager Malcolm Young Senior Account Executive Ben Cotton Advertising Coordinator Olivia Plunkett Production Controller Nick Percival	CIRCULATION Group Circulation Manager Rob Everett International Circulation Manager Scott Goward Senior Circulation Executive Richard Salisbury International Circulation Executive Daniel Bennetts Subscriptions Marketing Manager Lauren Higgins								
PHOTOGRAPHY Photography Editor Claudia Perin Deputy Photography Editor James Reid Assistant Photography Editor Simon Marshall										
PRODUCTION Chief Sub Editor Bridget Downing Deputy Chief Sub Editor Gordon Knight Sub Editors Katie Bosher, Steven East, Anna Metcalfe, Rufus Purdy										
WALLPAPER* GROUP Editor-in-Chief Wallpaper* Group Jeremy Langmead Creative Director Wallpaper* Group Terry Chambers Managing Director Wallpaper* Group Sandy Whetton										

POPULATION	1.6 million
AREA	67 sq km
CURRENCY: LEBANESE POUND	LL100 = €0.05 = \$0.06 = £0.03
TELEPHONE CODES	Lebanon: 96L, Beirut: (0)1
TIME	GMT + 2



WORLD VIEW

NAVIGATOR* GUIDES YOU THROUGH THE CITY

EDITOR WARREN SINGH BARTLETT. PHOTOGRAPHER DOUGLAS FRIEDMAN

Ironically, it took one terrible tragedy to make the world forget another. Beirut is a city that has been struggling for years to convince people it is no longer a no-go area and, as such, it may be the sole beneficiary of the events of 11 September 2001.

When those from Arab countries suddenly found themselves less than welcome in Europe and the US,

they started to come back to Lebanon in droves. Investment and tourists poured in and, last year, arrivals exceeded the 1.4 million who came to the country in 1974 – the year before the wars began.

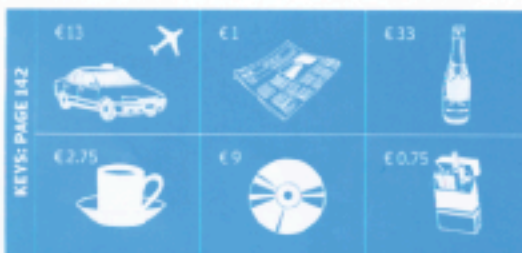
If 2002 was the year Arabs rediscovered Lebanon, 2004 was the year the rest of the world succumbed to Beirut's glorious (r)evolution. With its combination

of fine dining, dance-till-you-drop nightlife, a vibrant arts scene, a cluster of summer cultural festivals that attract big-name artists and an avalanche of smaller events, Beirut is blossoming.

The wildly different perspectives its inhabitants have on how to live life – for influences, check Tehran, Riyadh, the Left Bank and the West Coast – provide the

friction that gives the city its ferocious energy. Context and contradiction make it everything you didn't think it would be, and more than you ever expected.

Historically the region's neutral zone, the place the Middle East came to be free, Beirut is now a thoroughly modern city where everything is possible, even if it isn't always necessarily permitted.



POPULATION

1.5 million

AREA

67 sq km

CURRENCY: LEBANESE POUND

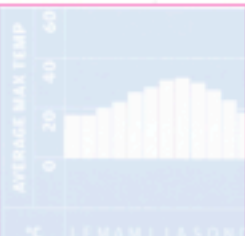
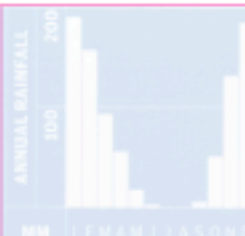
L100 = €0.05 = \$0.05 = £0.03

TELEPHONE CODES

Lebanon, 961, Beirut, (00)

TIME

GMT + 2



VIEW OF BEIRUT

MARTYR'S SQUARE

GEMAYZE NEIGHBOURHOOD

BIEL CONVENTION CENTER

MRS. ROOBELA CHURCH

KAMPSAR'S BAK SILO

FINE DINING

WORLD VIEW

NAVIGATOR* GUIDES YOU THROUGH THE CITY

EDITOR WARREN SINGH BARTLETT. PHOTOGRAPHER DOUGLAS FRIEDMAN

Ironically, it took one terrible tragedy to make the world forget another. Beirut is a city that has been struggling for years to convince people it is no longer a no-go area and, as such, it may be the sole beneficiary of the events of 11 September 2001.

When those from Arab countries suddenly found themselves less than welcome in Europe and the US,

they started to come back to Lebanon in droves. Investment and tourists poured in and, last year, arrivals exceeded the 1.4 million who came to the country in 1974 – the year before the wars began.

If 2002 was the year Arabs rediscovered Lebanon, 2004 was the year the rest of the world succumbed to Beirut's glorious (r)evolution. With its combination

of fine dining, dance-till-you-drop nightlife, a vibrant arts scene, a cluster of summer cultural festivals that attract big-name artists and an avalanche of smaller events, Beirut is blossoming.

The wildly different perspectives its inhabitants have on how to live life – for influences, check Tehran, Riyadh, the Left Bank and the West Coast – provide the

friction that gives the city its ferocious energy. Context and contradiction make it everything you didn't think it would be, and more than you ever expected.

Historically the region's neutral zone, the place the Middle East came to be free, Beirut is now a thoroughly modern city where everything is possible, even if it isn't always necessarily permitted.

KEYS: PAGE 142





A / FADI MOGABAB

This art deco-inspired apartment block on rue Goraud also houses the gallery of Fadi Mogabab (T 03 734 520) - who specialises in contemporary art from all over the world and has an eye for the unusual - as well as Kahwet El-Ezer (see page 027), one of the last traditional Lebanese cafés still running.



**GEMMAYZE
THE CITY'S MOST
UP-AND-COMING AREA**

In the narrow streets around rue Goraud, just east of the sparkling new Downtown, the last architectural outpost of old Beirut has discovered a fresh reason to live. An influx of designers, artists, couturiers and media types has caused the neighbourhood's median age to plummet, and the restaurants, bars, galleries and boutiques that followed them are beginning to turn rue Goraud into a destination the whole city can enjoy.

Aged Gemmayzeites find it all terribly amusing. In the early 1970s, their neighbourhood was declared unsuited to modern life. People wanted parking spaces rather than wrought-iron balconies. The whole area was in danger of being torn down and turned into high-rises. Those 'unsuitable' properties are now changing hands for significant sums of money.

Several new developments are in the works, but enough remains of old Gemmayze to dilute their influence. Having survived the wars and the wreckers' ball, this quarter isn't about to surrender to Mammon.



B / STREET POSTERS

These serve as a reminder of the ongoing political situation in Beirut. While conflict ended in 1990, Syria still retains 14,000 troops in the country. This poster is in support of 2004's UN resolution 1559, calling on Syria to end its occupation, and includes a message of freedom and independence.

LE BALCON DES CREATEURS

Stop by for a browse at this lushly designed boutique, situated on the first floor of an old French Mandate building, and you'll find women's clothing and accessories by Lebanese designers. Unsurprisingly, the emphasis is on glitz and glamour, perfect for a Beirut night out. rue Goraud, T 01 565 636

LE CHEF

An oddie but a goodie; Charbel and his kitchen crew crank out solid Lebanese fare for low prices - try the moukheeh or the moughrabieh. The clientele ranges from local eccentrics and Daily Star journalists to French tourists and West Beirut film-makers. An institution. rue Goraud, T 01 446 769

ESPACE SD

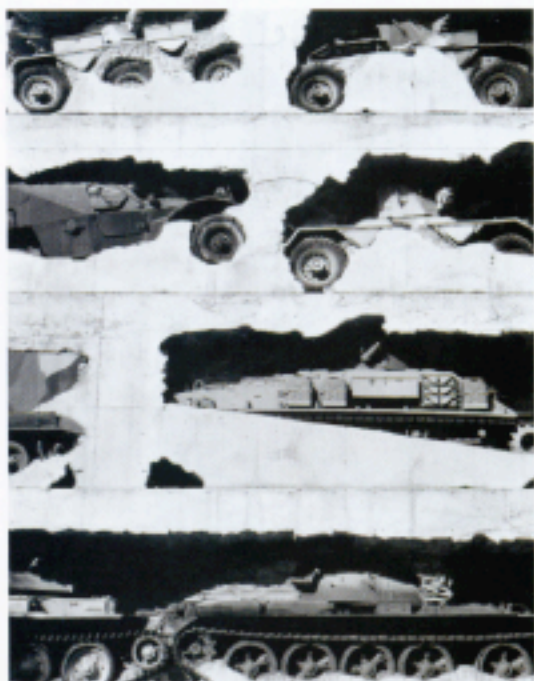
An exhibition space, design shop and cinémathèque all in a gritty setting overlooking Beirut's port and a major expressway. The complex has been known to host small film festivals and events, and you'll find a pleasant café on the shop floor. Dagher Building, Avenue Charles Héou, T 01 563 214

SURSOCK MUSEUM

This museum, a Venetian-style mansion built in 1912, houses the country's finest collection of Lebanese art and a few good archaeological exhibits. Outside, check out the St Nicholas steps, linking rue Sorsock and rue Goraud, which also occasionally host exhibitions. rue Sorsock, T 02 334 233

A / WAR MEMORIAL

Jump into a cab and head for the Ministry of Defence in Yarze - the Hope of Peace monument is worth the trip alone. This giant tower of anti-aircraft guns and tanks encased in concrete is the work of French sculptor Arman, and was unveiled in 1995 to some controversy. To understand why, note that the guns point east.



**SIGHTSEER
THE BEST OF THE CITY
IN JUST ONE DAY**

It is impossible to visit Beirut and not come across remnants of the wars. They are a constant subtext in most conversations and have left scars of both the psychological and structural variety all over town. While only breathless Christiane Amanpour-wannabes can come here these days and still portray Lebanon as some kind of Heart of Darkness, and only post-war junkies can visit and overlook the incredible, vibrant city Beirut has become, the country's decades of conflict are understandably of interest to most visitors.

For those needing detail, photography books and war histories abound (Robert Fisk's *Pity the Nation* is a good starting point). But for those with a desire to learn a little in a short time, a trip along the old Green Line, which once physically divided the city into east and west - Christian and Muslim - is a good way both to get a sense of Beirut's recent past and to appreciate the monumental efforts the Lebanese have made to overcome the wars they refer to as 'the events'.



NATIONAL MUSEUM

B / NATIONAL MUSEUM

Built in the 1930s, the museum was a crossing point during the wars. It was shelled, looted and torched several times. The president director saved his exhibits by encasing them in concrete before things got really nasty. It is packed with artefacts National Museum Square. www.beirutnationalmuseum.com

SODECO SQUARE

During the wars, the square was known for its snipers, and the Barakat Building, ironically on the crossroads of Damascus and Independence roads, still has an intact snipers' nest inside. If heritage activists get their way, it will soon be a war museum. Have a delicious sa'j (a Lebanese pizza) from Nazareth bakery.

DAMASCUS ROAD

As you pass by the campus of the Université Saint-Joseph, check out the new French Embassy, which opened in 1998. Cross the road and then stop for a café au lait or maybe even a vin rouge at the Mission Culturel Français next to the embassy, and peruse a copy of L'Agenda Culturel, Beirut's finest events guide.

GREEN LINE

Follow the main road south from Martyrs' Square - for a while, this was the infamous Green Line. Today, it's a madly busy main road that marks the edge of Monot, Beirut's party quarter. Some of Monot's more elegant overspill, such as über-design restaurants Yabari and Element, is actually on the old Line itself.

MARTYRS' SQUARE

Nothing upsets old-time Beirutis more than this square - for what looks just like a giant motorway interchange today was once the vibrant, beating heart of the city. Eventually, it will be a garden of remembrance, and a museum displaying the Phoenician, Greek, Roman and Byzantine remains found in post-war excavations.

القرار 1559 =
سيادة حرية استقلال



التيار الوطني الحر

A / YADI MOGABAB

This art deco-inspired apartment block on rue Gouraud also houses the gallery of Yadi Mogabab (11 23 734 520) – who specialises in contemporary art from all over the world and has an eye for the unusual – as well as Khaled El Essi (see page 027), one of the last traditional Lebanese coffee shops.



GEMMAYZE
THE CITY'S MOST
UP-AND-COMING AREA

In the narrow streets around rue Gouraud, just east of the sparkling new Downtown, the last architectural outpost of old Beirut has discovered a fresh reason to live. An influx of designers, artists, couturiers and media types has caused the neighbourhood's median age to plummet, and the restaurants, bars, galleries and boutiques that followed them are beginning to turn rue Gouraud into a destination the whole city can enjoy.

Aged Gemmayzeites find it all terribly amusing. In the early 1970s, their neighbourhood was declared unsuitable to modern life. People wanted parking spaces rather than wrought-iron balconies. The whole area was in danger of being torn down and turned into high-rises. Those 'unsuitable' properties are now changing hands for significant sums of money.

Several new developments are in the works, but enough remains of old Gemmayze to dilute their influence. Having survived the wars and the wreckers' ball, this quarter isn't about to surrender to Mammon.



B / STREET POSTERS

These serve as a reminder of the ongoing political situation in Beirut. While conflict ended in 1990, Syria still retains 14,000 troops in the country. This poster is in support of 2004's UN resolution 1559, calling on Syria to end its occupation, and includes a message of freedom and independence.

C / LE BALCON DES CREATEURS

Stop by for a browse at this stylishly designed boutique, situated on the first floor of an old French Mandate building, and you'll find women's clothing and accessories by Lebanese designers. Unsurprisingly, the emphasis is on glitz and glamour, perfect for a Beirut sight-see.

D / LE CHEF

An edible but a goodie. Charbel and his kitchen crew crank out solid Lebanese fare for low prices – try the moussaka or the moussaka. The clientele ranges from local expats and Daily Star journalists to French tourists and well-behaved Beiruters. An institution.

E / ESPACE 50

An exhibition space, design shop and chéminthèque all in a gritty setting overlooking Beirut's port and a major expressway. The complex has been known to host small film festivals and events, and you'll find a pleasant café on the shop floor.

F / SURSOCK MUSEUM

This museum, a Venetian-style mansion built in 1912, houses the country's finest collection of Lebanese art and a few good archaeological exhibits. Outside, check out the St Nicholas steps, linking rue Sursock and rue Gouraud, which also occasionally host exhibitions.

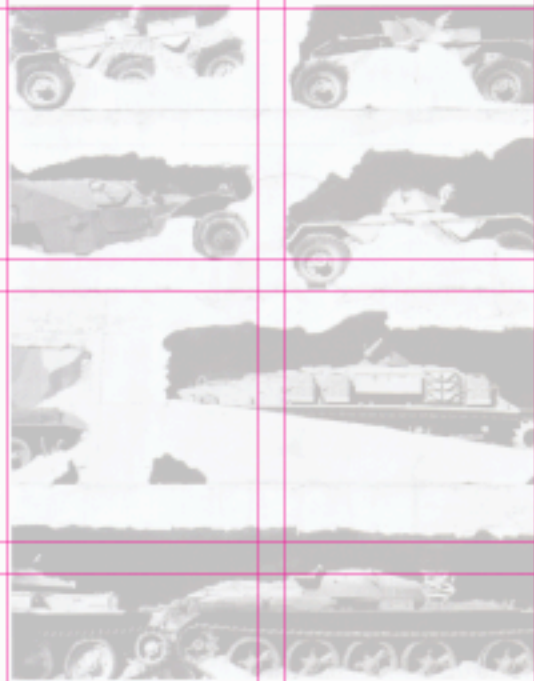
G / WAH! MEMORIAL

Jump into a cab and head for the Ministry of Defence in Karze – the Hope of Peace monument is worth the trip alone. This giant tower of anti-aircraft guns and tanks encased in concrete is the work of French sculptor Arman, and was unveiled in 1995 to some controversy. To understand why, note that the guns point east.

SIGHTSEER
THE BEST OF THE CITY
IN JUST ONE DAY

It is impossible to visit Beirut and not come across remnants of the wars. They are a constant subtext in most conversations and have left scars of both the psychological and structural variety all over town. While only breathless Christiane Anagnou-wannabes can come here these days and still portray Lebanon as some kind of Heart of Darkness, and only post-war junkies can visit and overlook the incredible, vibrant city Beirut has become, the country's decades of conflict are understandably of interest to most visitors.

For those needing detail, photography books and war histories abound (Robert Fisk's *Pity the Nation* is a good starting point). But for those with a desire to learn a little in a short time, a trip along the old Green Line, which once physically divided the city into east and west – Christian and Muslim – is a good way both to get a sense of Beirut's recent past and to appreciate the monumental efforts the Lebanese have made to overcome the wars they refer to as 'the events'.



H / NATIONAL MUSEUM

Built in the 1930s, the museum was a crossing point during the wars. It was shelled, looted and torched several times. The president director saved his exhibits by encasing them in concrete before things got really nasty. It is packed with artifacts from National Museum Square.



NATIONAL MUSEUM

I / SOLEIL SQUARE

During the wars, the square was known for its snipers, and the Bankat Building, ironically on the crossroads of Damascus and Independence roads, still has an intact sniper's nest inside. If heritage activists get their way, it will soon be a war museum. Have a delicious sa' (a Lebanese plural) from Fouziah bakery.

J / MARTYR'S SQUARE

Nothing upsets old-time Beirutis more than this square – for what looks just like a giant motorway interchange today was once the vibrant, beating heart of the city. Eventually, it will be a garden of remembrance, and a museum displaying the Phoenician, Greek, Roman and Byzantine remains found in post-war excavations.

K / DAMASCUS ROAD

As you pass by the campus of the Université Saint-Joseph, check out the new French Embassy, which opened in 1998. Cross the road and then stop for a café or a meal or maybe even a *via rouge* at the Mission Culturelle Française next to the embassy, and peruse a copy of *L'Agenda Culturel*, Beirut's finest events guide.

L / GREEN LINE

Follow the main road south from Martyr's Square – for a while, this was the infamous Green Line, Turkey. It's a really busy main road that marks the edge of Mount Beirut's party quarter. Some of Mount's more elegant overalls, such as uber-design restaurants Yabari and Clemens, is actually on the old Line itself.

A / THE BUBBLE

The curious structure is all that's left of Joseph Philippe Karam's Beirut City Center Complex, which was the largest shopping centre in the Middle East when it opened. The Bubble is now to be renovated by local architect Bernard Khoury, who plans to turn it into a cultural centre. Corner of Martyrs' Square

B / ELECTRICITE DU LIBAN

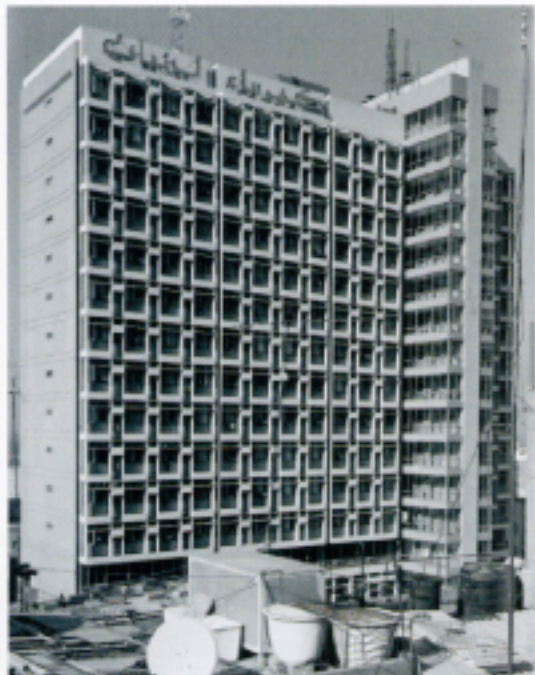
Pierre Neema, the man behind the Maison de l'Artisan on the Corniche (now bastardised beyond recognition) and the Beirut Chamber of Commerce building, created a masterpiece of proportion for Lebanon's electricity provider, EDL, in 1966. A beacon of light by night. rue du Fleuve, Mar Mikhael

AMERICAN LIFE BUILDING

Designed by Anthony Irving and Victor Tarazi in 1972, this long box with a wafer-thin roof on the old airport road is embellished to add Middle Eastern flair to its robust International Style. The bronze honeycomb sunscreens and soaring arches provide the glamour of a concert hall. Karet Hreik/Dzai

KHASHOGGI MOSQUE

With its stylised crowns, slender cupola, low-slung prayer hall and masterful meld of concrete and sandstone, Assem Salam's breathtakingly graceful, somehow abstract, 1968 mosque is a reminder of a time when modernity and religion were not considered incompatible. Boulevard Hamid Frangie



GREY AREA
BEIRUT'S MODERNISM
IS SET IN CONCRETE

When a book called *Concrete Republic* appeared a couple of years back, its lament of the loss of Lebanon's forests and coastline to a wave of ready-mix was taken up by a phalanx of assorted activists, especially of the dinner-party variety. It was, they said, an indictment of all that was wrong, a *cri de coeur* for a ravaged land.

They rather missed the point. Concrete is far less environmentally destructive than sandstone, the current craze for which is causing large holes to be dug into Lebanon's pristine mountains. The problem, from an environmental and aesthetic perspective, is not the building industry's use of concrete, it is the building industry's unregulated building of buildings.

Architects including Gregoire Serof, Pierre Neema, Assem Salam and Pierre El-Khoury used concrete to stunning effect and introduced Lebanon to modernism. If, despite three decades of unregulated construction, pick 'n' mix Beirut has an underlying sense of architectural unity, it is due to these lovers of liquid stone.

17 THE BUBBLE

The curious structure is all that's left of Joseph Philippe Karam's Beirut City Center Complex, which was the largest shopping centre in the Middle East when it opened. The Bubble is now to be renovated by local architect Bernard Khoury, who plans to turn it into a cultural centre, home of Marwan's Square.

17 ELECTRICITE DU LIBAN

Pierre Neema, the man behind the Maison de l'Artisan on the Corniche (now abandoned) and the Beirut Chamber of Commerce building, created a masterpiece of proportion for Lebanon's electricity provider, EDL, in 1966. A beacon of light by night, on du'Allah, Mar Michael.

AMERICAN LIFE BUILDING

Designed by Anthony Irving and Victor Taran in 1972, this long six with a water-tile roof on the 1st airport road is embellished with Midde Eastern flair to its 1960s International Style. The bronze-honeycomb sunscreens and soaring arches provide the glamour of a concert hall. (see 100k/100k)

AL-MAJLIS AL-IBRAHIMI

With its stylised crowns, slender spires, low-slung prayer hall and masterful meld of concrete and sandstone, Assem Salam's breathtakingly graceful, somehow abstract, 1968 mosque is a reminder of a time when modernity and religion were not considered incompatible. (see 100k/100k)

AL-MAJLIS AL-IBRAHIMI

With its stylised crowns, slender spires, low-slung prayer hall and masterful meld of concrete and sandstone, Assem Salam's breathtakingly graceful, somehow abstract, 1968 mosque is a reminder of a time when modernity and religion were not considered incompatible. (see 100k/100k)

AL-MAJLIS AL-IBRAHIMI

With its stylised crowns, slender spires, low-slung prayer hall and masterful meld of concrete and sandstone, Assem Salam's breathtakingly graceful, somehow abstract, 1968 mosque is a reminder of a time when modernity and religion were not considered incompatible. (see 100k/100k)

AL-MAJLIS AL-IBRAHIMI

With its stylised crowns, slender spires, low-slung prayer hall and masterful meld of concrete and sandstone, Assem Salam's breathtakingly graceful, somehow abstract, 1968 mosque is a reminder of a time when modernity and religion were not considered incompatible. (see 100k/100k)

AL-MAJLIS AL-IBRAHIMI

With its stylised crowns, slender spires, low-slung prayer hall and masterful meld of concrete and sandstone, Assem Salam's breathtakingly graceful, somehow abstract, 1968 mosque is a reminder of a time when modernity and religion were not considered incompatible. (see 100k/100k)

AL-MAJLIS AL-IBRAHIMI

With its stylised crowns, slender spires, low-slung prayer hall and masterful meld of concrete and sandstone, Assem Salam's breathtakingly graceful, somehow abstract, 1968 mosque is a reminder of a time when modernity and religion were not considered incompatible. (see 100k/100k)

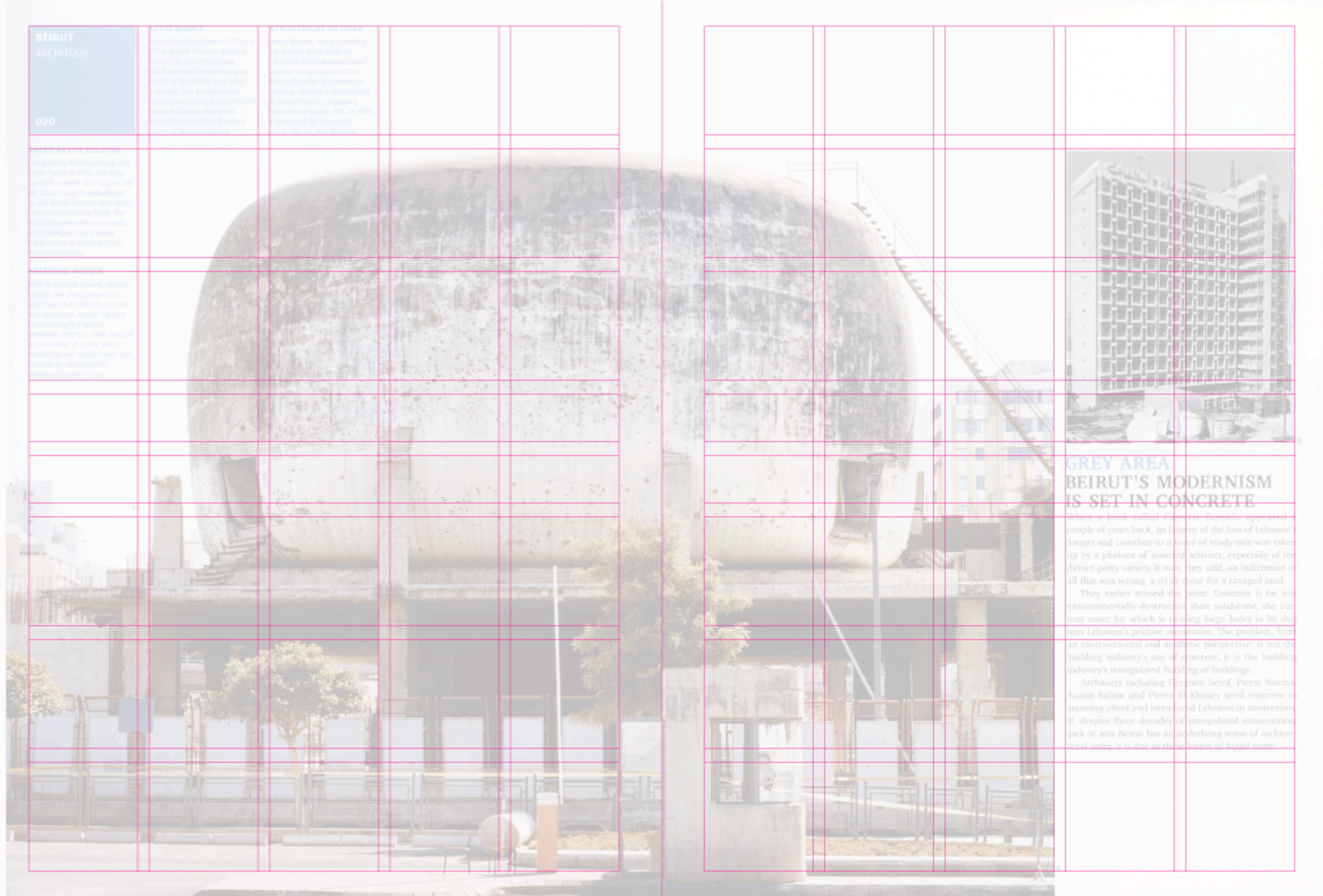


GREY AREA
BEIRUT'S MODERNISM
IS SET IN CONCRETE

When a book called *Concrete Republic* appeared a couple of years back, its lament of the loss of Lebanon's forests and coastline to a wave of ready mix was taken up by a phalanx of assorted activists, especially of the dinner-party variety. It was, they said, an indictment of all that was wrong, a *cri de coeur* for a ravaged land.

They rather missed the point. Concrete is far less environmentally destructive than sandstone, the current craze for which is causing large holes to be dug into Lebanon's pristine mountains. The problem, from an environmental and aesthetic perspective, is not the building industry's use of concrete, it is the building industry's unregulated building of buildings.

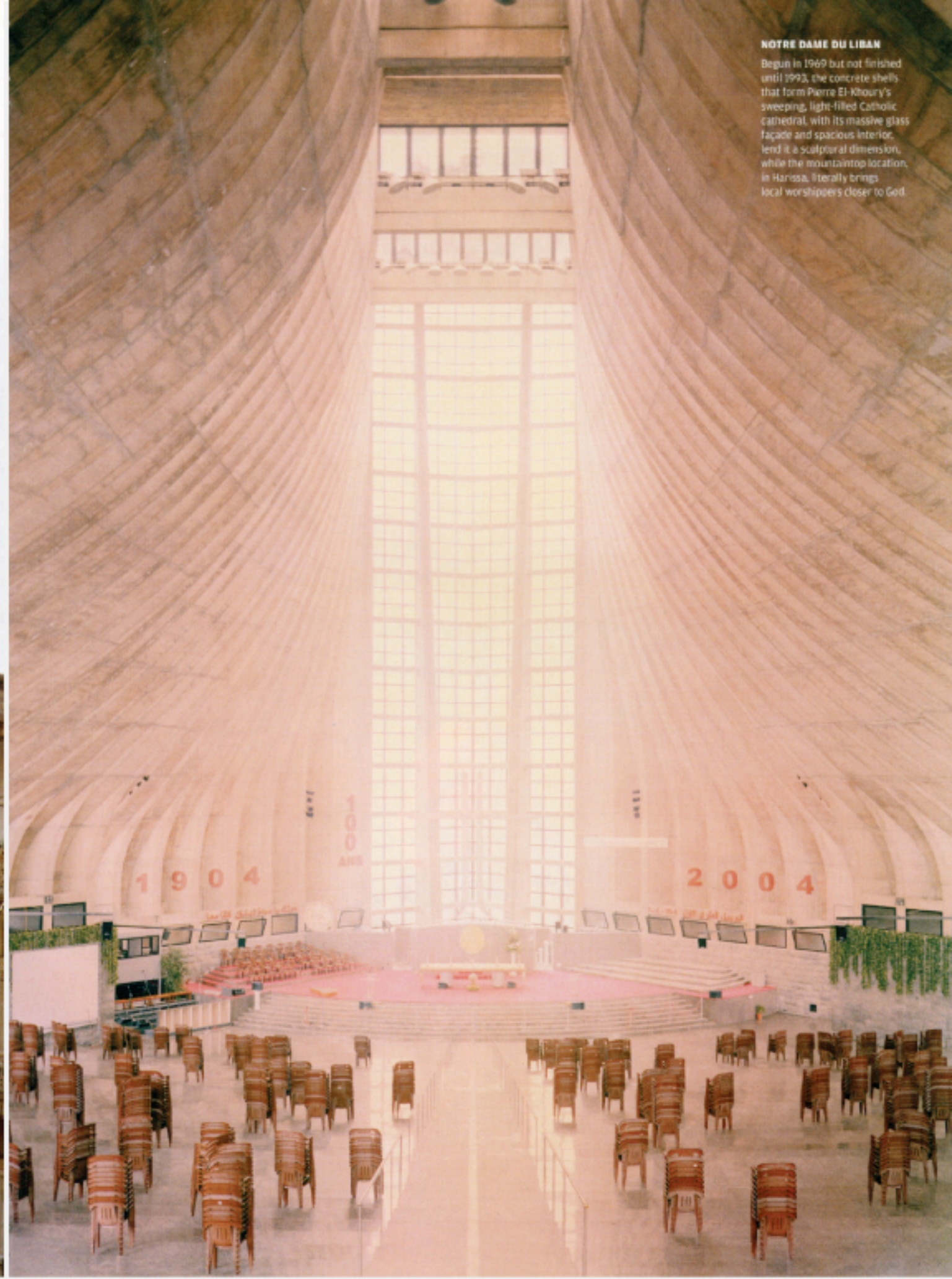
Architects including Gregoire Serof, Pierre Neema, Assem Salam and Pierre El-Khoury used concrete to stunning effect and introduced Lebanon to modernism. If, despite three decades of unregulated construction, pick 'n' mix Beirut has an underlying sense of architectural unity, it is due to these lovers of liquid stone.





INTERDESIGN BUILDING

More like a Transformer toy than a retail space, the Interdesign Building, built by brothers Khalil and Georges Khoury in 1997, houses the Hamra branch of the eponymous furniture chain. It looks as if it has just landed. Or is it just waiting for the rest of the city to follow its lead? Hamra, rue du Rome

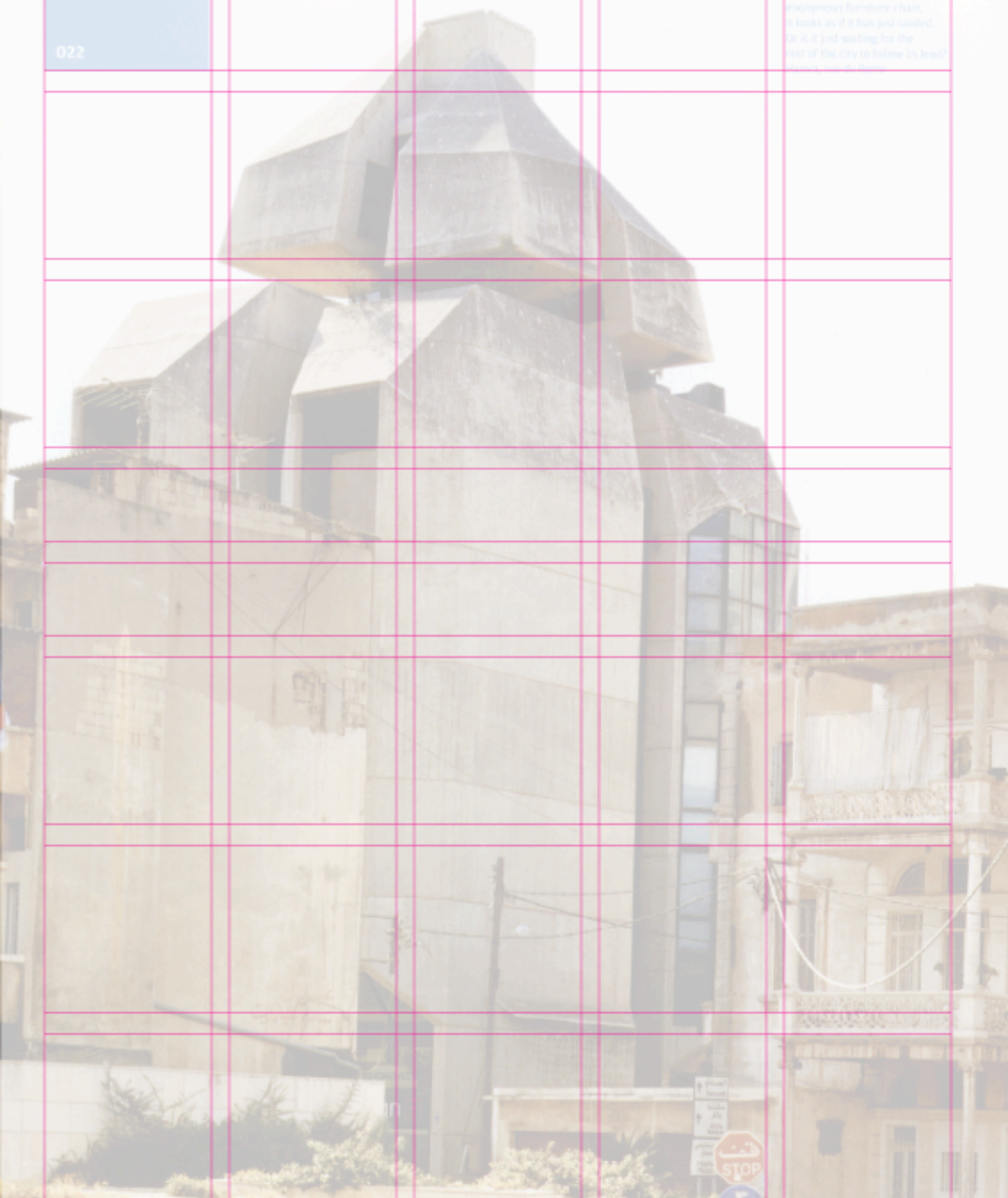


NOTRE DAME DU LIBAN

Begun in 1969 but not finished until 1993, the concrete shells that form Pierre El-Khoury's sweeping, light-filled Catholic cathedral, with its massive glass façade and spacious interior, lend it a sculptural dimension, while the mountaintop location, in Harissa, literally brings local worshippers closer to God.

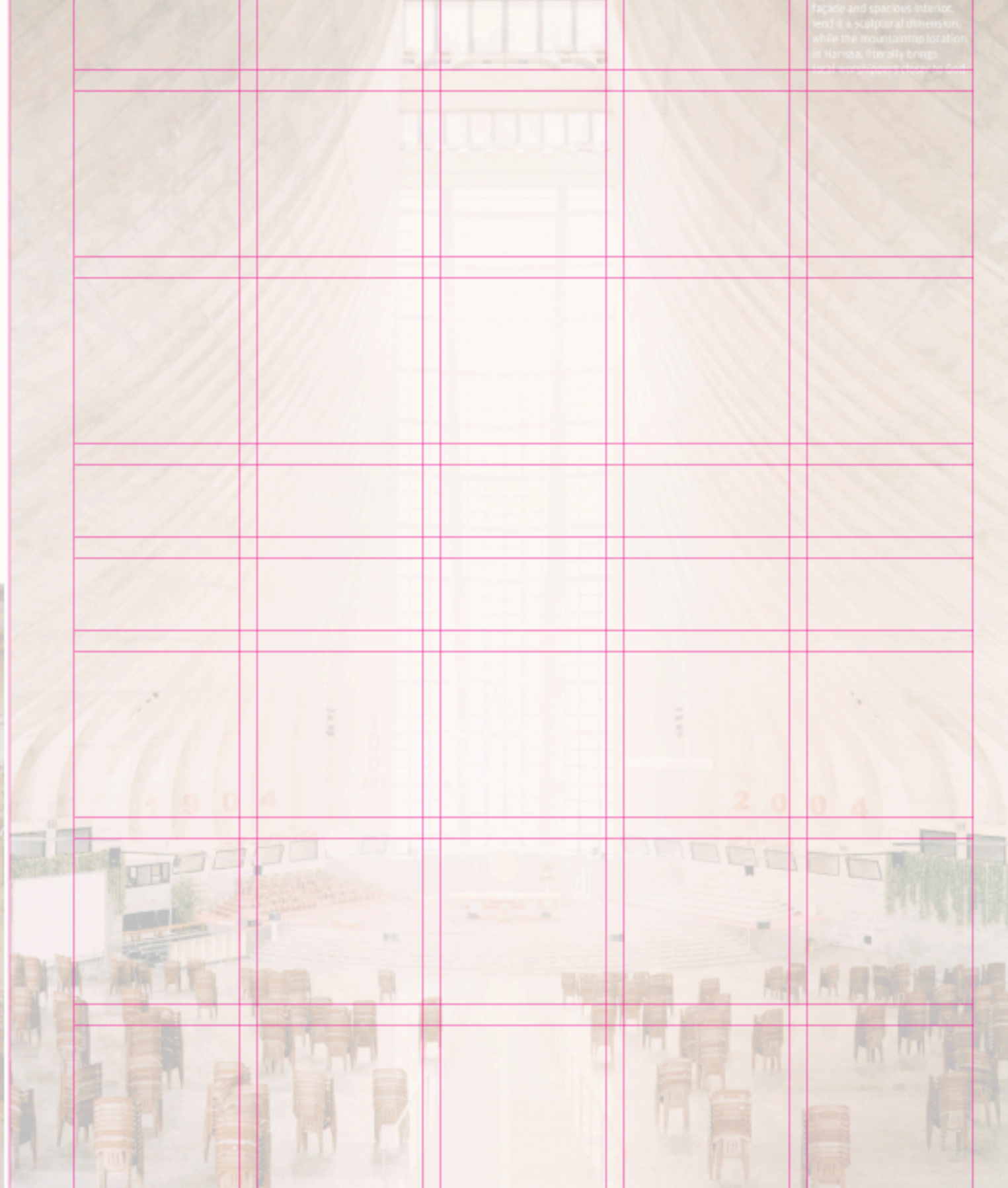
INTERDESIGN BUILDING

More like a transformer toy than a retail space, the Interdesign Building, built by brothers Khalil and Georges Khoury in 1992, houses the Hamra branch of the eponymous furniture chain. It looks as if it has just landed. Or is it just waiting for the rest of the city to follow its lead? [View on ArchDaily](#)



NOTRE DAME DU LIBAN

Begun in 1969 but not finished until 1993, the concrete shells that form Pierre El-Khoury's sweeping, light-filled Catholic cathedral, with its massive glass facade and spacious interior, lend it a sculptural dimension, while the mountaintop location, in Harissa, literally brings local worshippers closer to God.



D / SKY BAR

You can eat here but that's not really the point. Sky Bar, open from May to September, is about the outdoors. Arrive before dusk, order a Mojito and grab a table by the pool, then watch the sun set over the Mediterranean as the beautiful people flirt around you. Top floor, Palm Beach Hotel, Ain El-Mreisseh, T 01 372 000



THE POOL AT SKY BAR



MIJANA

Great in summer, when you can sit out in the garden, Mijana, decorated in an Oriental style, attracts an older, more bourgeois crowd. It's one of the best places in town for Lebanese cuisine, and the expert waiters are happy to explain the intricacies of the food. rue Abdel Wahab El-Ingiliz, Ashrafiyeh, T 01 328 062

VAROIJ

Kitsch rather than classy, the small and invariably packed Varouj is not somewhere that people come for decor. The draw here is the Armenian-Anatolian specialities such as manta (fried ravioli in a yoghurt sauce) and *buurek* (baked cheese pastries). rue Arax, New Marrache, Bourj Hammoud, T 03 882 933



PEOPLE RESTAURANT



**INSIDER'S GUIDE
RANA ALAMEDDINE**

Actress Rana Alameddine, who divides her time between Lebanon and Los Angeles, has recently returned to Beirut after spending a year in Montreal while her husband, Elie Karam, wrote a book. 'What can I say?' she laughs. 'I came back because there are so many things that need to be done here.'

When it comes to eating out, Alameddine's preferred lunch spot is **KAHWET EL-EZZEZ** (rue Goraud, Gemmayze, T 01 580 817), and at breakfast she likes **MKHAYREL** (rue Monot), for its good bulgar wheat dishes and kitsch décor. Dinner at **SOLEA** (rue Monot, T 01 330 119) is as much about chatting with Jesus, the eccentric flamenco-dancing owner, as it is about the tapas. At **LE COMPTOIR** (rue Abdel Wahab Al-Ingiliz 150, T 01 322 841), the fine selection of wines is complemented by a sleek interior.

To relax, Alameddine likes the archaeological park behind Bank Street in downtown; and, for a coffee by the sea at sunset, she enjoys the slightly seedy **RAWDA CAFE** (Ras Beirut, T 01 743 348).

E / PEOPLE

Remodelled with an extensive new modern French menu to boot, Alshi's rooftop restaurant takes department-store dining to giddy heights. Light and airy, with two outdoor terraces, it is the ideal place to grab lunch after touring the downtown. Fifth Floor, Alshi, rue El Moutran, downtown, T 01 994 994

F / TORINO EXPRESS

Laid-back by day, this miniscule café/bar, housed in a single sandstone vault, becomes a party venue at night. Macchiatos and cornatos (espresso with grappa) give way to shots and cocktails, and when it gets too packed inside, the hip crowd spills out onto the pavement. rue Goraud, Gemmayze

BEIRUT
URBAN LIFE

026

07 / SKY BAR

You can eat here but that's not really the point. Sky Bar, open from May to September, is about the outdoors. Arrive before dusk, order a Mojito and grab a table by the pool, then watch the sun set over the Mediterranean as the beautiful people flirt around you. **10th floor, Palm Beach Hotel, 101 El-Madinet, T 01 332 2000**



THE POOL AT SKY BAR



MILANA

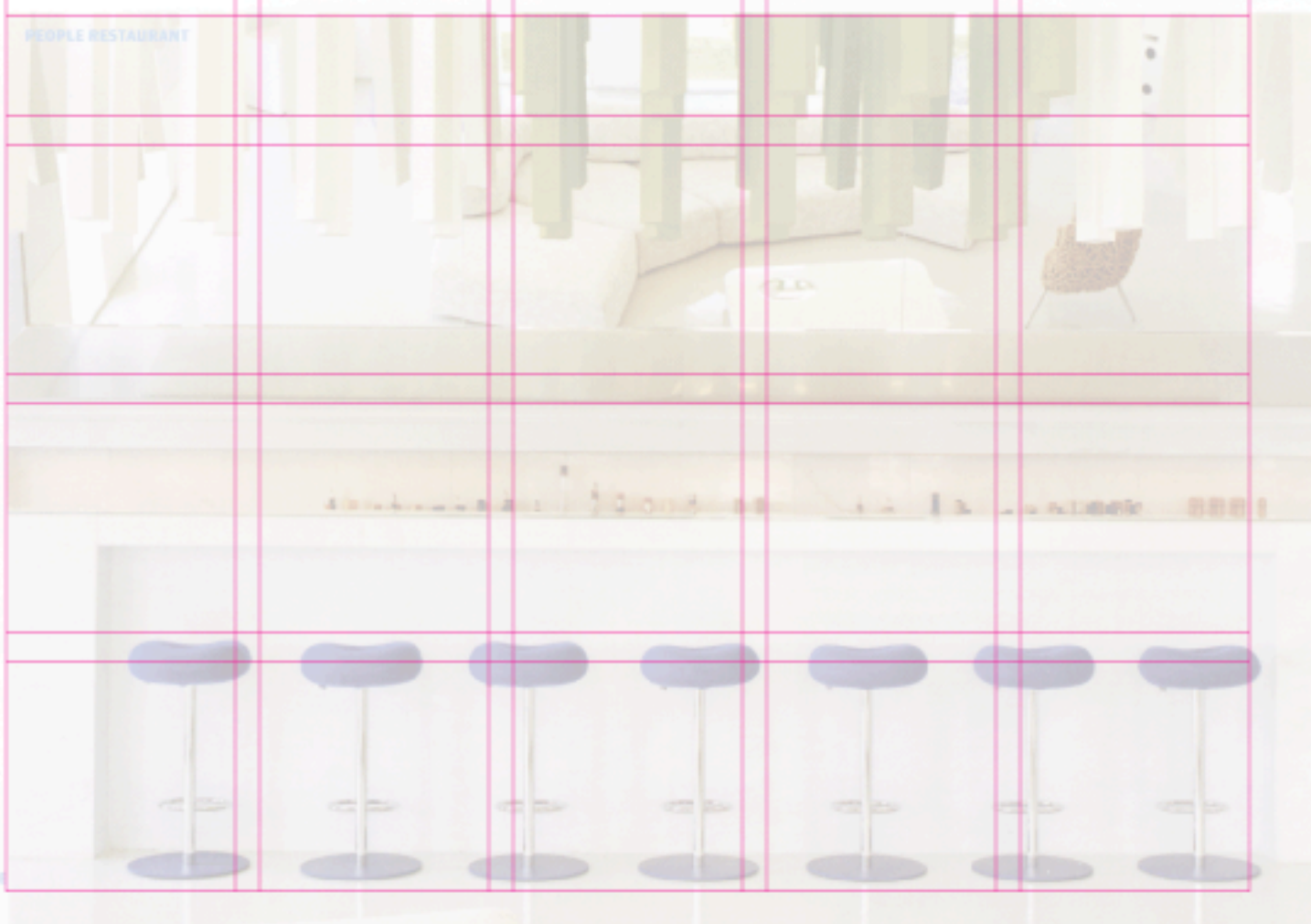
Great in summer, when you can sit out in the garden, Milana, decorated in an Oriental style, attracts an older, more bourgeois crowd. It's one of the best places in town for Lebanese cuisine, and the expert waiters are happy to explain the intricacies of the food. **101 Abdel Wahab El-Ingiliz, 10th floor, T 01 332 2000**

VAROJ

Witty rather than classy, the small and invariably packed Varoj is not somewhere that people come for decor. The draw here is the Armenian-Azerbaijani specialties such as *injira* (fried ravioli in a yogurt sauce) and *tsukey* (baked cheese pastries). **101 Arak, New Marache, Beirut, 10th floor, T 01 332 2000**



PEOPLE RESTAURANT



**INSIDER'S GUIDE
RANA ALAMEDDINE**

Actress Rana Alameddine, who divides her time between Lebanon and Los Angeles, has recently returned to Beirut after spending a year in Montreal while her husband, Elie Karame, wrote a book. "What can I say?" she laughs. "I came back because there are so many things that need to be done here."

When it comes to eating out, Alameddine's preferred lunch spot is **KAIWAT EL-DZEEZ** (rue Geraud, Gemmayze, T 01 580 817), and at breakfast she likes **MKHAYEL** (rue Monot) for its good bulgar wheat dishes and kitsch décor. Dinner at **SOLSA** (rue Monot, T 01 330 119) is as much about chatting with Jesus, the eccentric flamenco-dancing owner, as it is about the tapas. At **LE COMPROMIS** (rue Abdel Wahab Al-Ingilizi 150, T 01 322 841), the fine selection of wines is complemented by a sleek interior.

To relax, Alameddine likes the archaeological park behind Bank Street in downtown; and, for a coffee by the sea at sunset, she enjoys the slightly seedy **RAMDA CAFE** (Ras Beirut, T 01 743 348).

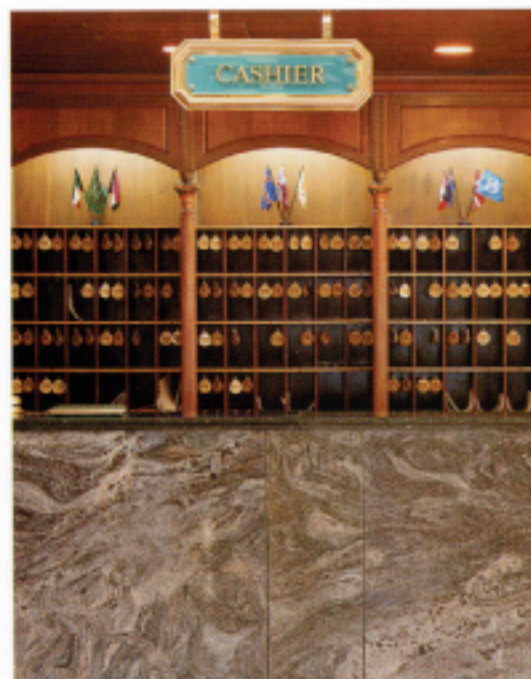


E / PEOPLE

Revered with an extensive new modern French menu to boot, **Alto's** rooftop restaurant, takes department-store dining to dizzy heights. Light and airy, with two outdoor terraces, it is the ideal place to grab lunch after touring the downtown. **11th floor, 45/46, rue El-Mustafa, downtown, T 01 594 994**

F / MORNING EXPRESS

Let it back by day, this minuscule café/flat, housed in a single ornate stone vault, becomes a party venue at night. Macchiatos and *corvettes* (lepresso) with grapes give way to shots and cocktails, and when it gets too packed inside, the hip crowd spills out onto the pavement. **101 Geraud, Gemmayze**

**A / AL BUSTAN**

Not many hotels have their own music festivals, but for a month each winter the Bustan is home to divas from all over the world. Located in the hills above Beirut, each room enjoys stunning views, but the corner suites - rooms 14, 15 and 16 on each floor - are like sleeping on a flight deck. www.albustan-lb.com



WHERE TO STAY OUR PICK OF THE TOP HOTELS

Beirut's most famous hotel is a ruin. For the best part of the 20th century, the legendary St Georges was home to monarchs, billionaires, spies and Hollywood stars, but now, locked in a conflict with the government, it languishes in a development limbo, even as its former competitor, the Phoenicia, has been resurrected.

With the few quality hotels that do exist often booked to bursting point and tourist figures set to rise further, Lebanon has gone into overdrive. Hilton, Grand Hyatt and Four Seasons are all coming to town, but it is the city's boutique potential that is most interesting. As hotels such as the Albergo show, Beirut is at its most seductive when it keeps things small. No surprise then that there are at least four boutique hotels currently planned, including one in the Wadi Abou Jamil neighbourhood. This project, a collaboration between architect Bernard Khoury and designer Philippe Starck is due to open in a couple of years. By which time it should be easy to find somewhere sexy to stay.

B / ALBERGO

The classiest hotel in town, this neo-Orientalist gem is ideal for indulging any Lawrence of Arabia fantasies - each room is lavishly decorated with a different Middle Eastern theme. Whether you stay here or not, breakfast in the rooftop garden terrace is a treat that really should not be missed. www.reisachateaux.com

C / PHOENICIA

Known among locals as Riyadh-sur-Med, this former modernist marvel has emerged from its post-war Saudi-fication with just a soupçon of its pre-war charm intact. An indoor and outdoor pool are a definite plus, as are the six restaurants. Pictured is the Serena Residence Suite. www.ichotelsgroup.com

D / MOVENPICK

The only hotel in town actually on the sea, the Mövenpick is all about location. Pleasantly airy and modern, the hotel is popular with Gulf tourists and comes with a private beach and plenty of sports facilities. The bathtub in the Royal Suite is so large that you won't need to use the pools. www.movenpick-beirut.com

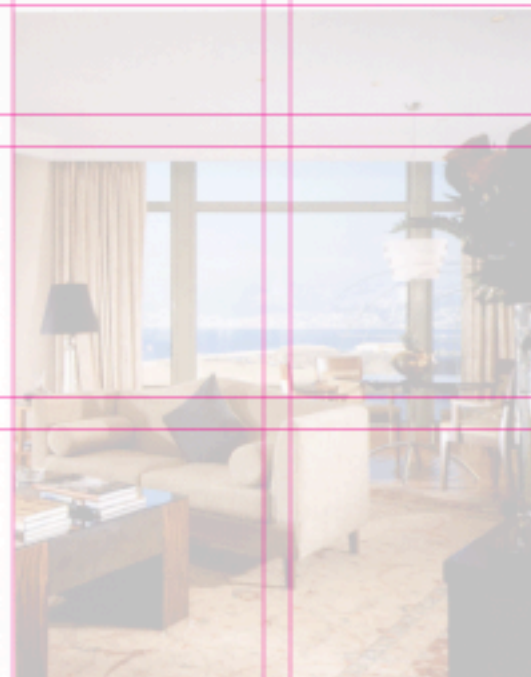


THE BEACH AT THE MOVENPICK HOTEL



14 / AL BUSTAN

Not many hotels have their own music festivals, but for a month each winter the Bustan is home to shows from all over the world. Located in the hills above Beirut, each room enjoys stunning views, but the corner suites – rooms 14, 15 and 16 on each floor – are the sleeping on a high deck.



WHERE TO STAY OUR PICK OF THE TOP HOTELS

Beirut's most famous hotel is a ruin. For the best part of the 20th century, the legendary St Georges was home to monarchs, billionaires, spies and Hollywood stars, but now, locked in a conflict with the government, it languishes in a development limbo, even as its former competitor, the Phoenicia, has been resurrected.

With the few quality hotels that do exist often booked to bursting point and tourist figures set to rise further, Lebanon has gone into overdrive. Hilton, Grand Hyatt and Four Seasons are all coming to town, but it is the city's boutique potential that is most interesting. As hotels such as the Albergo show, Beirut is at its most seductive when it keeps things small. No surprise then that there are at least four boutique hotels currently planned, including one in the Wadi Abou Jami neighbourhood. This project, a collaboration between architect Bernard Khoury and designer Philippe Starck, is due to open in a couple of years. By which time it should be easy to find somewhere sexy to stay.

17 / ALBERGO

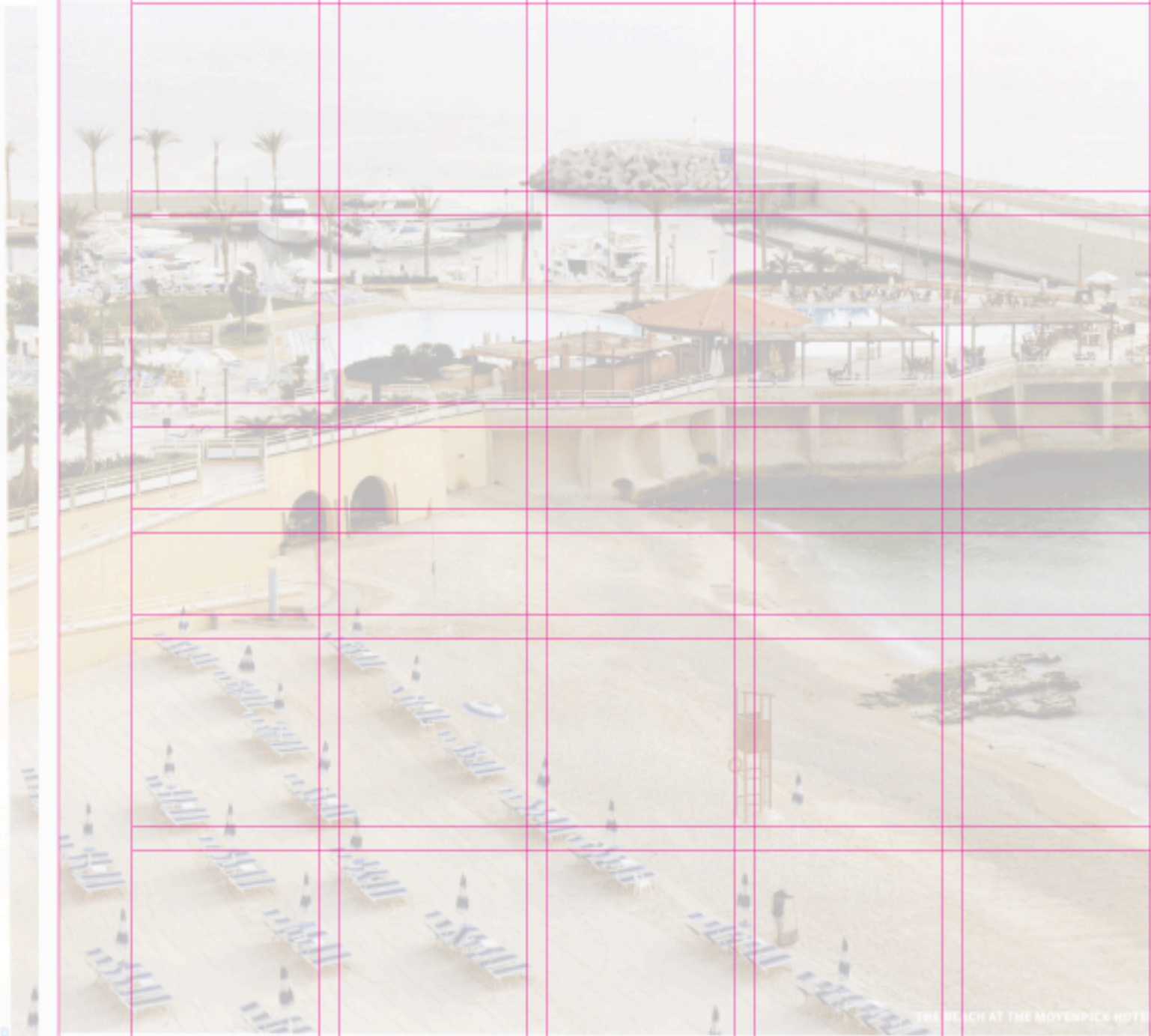
The classiest hotel in town, this neo-Orientalist gem is ideal for indulging any Lawrence of Arabia fantasies – each room is lavishly decorated with a different Middle Eastern theme. Whether you stay here or not, breakfast in the rooftop garden terrace is a treat that really should not be missed. www.albergo.com.lb

18 / PHOENICIA

Known among locals as Riyadil-Mad, this former modernist marvel has emerged from its post-war Saudi-fication with just a snippet of its pre-war charm intact. An indoor and outdoor pool are a definite plus, as are the six restaurants. Witnessed in the Serena Residence Suite. www.phoenicia.com.lb

19 / MOYENPICK

The only hotel in town actually on the sea, the Moyenspik is all about location. Pleasantly airy and modern, the hotel is popular with Gulf tourists and comes with a private beach and plenty of sports facilities. The bathtub in the Royal Suite is so large that you won't need to use the pools. www.moyenspik.com.lb



THE BEACH AT THE MOYENPICK HOTEL

A / EDGE FITNESS

Aesthetically speaking, Edge Fitness (44 Said Akl, Saifi Village, T 03 776 787), pictured, is somewhere between a gym and Studio 54. The emphasis is on personal training. Alternatively, try the new Nautilus Executive (Fresh Street, downtown, T 01 999 901) for all the latest machines and a central location.

B / LA PLAGÉ

Attached to seafood restaurant Café l'Orient, La Plage pool on the seafront (opposite the InterContinental Le Vendôme) is small, pleasant and has direct access to the sea. Its location and the proximity to drink-bearing waiters make it a fine place to spend an afternoon. Ain El-Metteh, T 01 366 222

DAY SPAS

1 Faraya-Mzaar (Intercontinental Mzaar, Mzaar, T 09 340 100) is an hour out of Beirut, 2,300m up
2 Essential Spa & Health Club, Mövenpick Hotel, Corniche al-Manara, Rasouche, T 01 869 666
3 Grand Hills Spa (Grand Hills Resort, Broumana, T 04 862 888) is dedicated to all treats Oriental, from reiki to Chinese massage

EDGE FITNESS GYM



LA PLAGÉ POOL

**GOLF**

The only patch of green in the run-down, semi-slum suburbs around the airport in southern Beirut, the 18-hole course at the Golf Club of Lebanon is set in 50 rolling hectares of land. Swimming, tennis, squash and basketball are available if you tire of swinging and driving. Beerhassan-Ouzai, T 01 822 470

LIFESTYLE CENTRES

1 The Al Mada Building (Ras Beirut, T 01 366 555) is equipped with a pool, a Jacuzzi, a steam room, a sauna, a gym, squash courts and a beauty salon
2 Tamareen (rue Abdel Wahab el-Ingiliz, T 03 300 744) on the second floor of an old Lebanese house in Ashrafiye, offers group aerobics and dance classes

SPORT AND FITNESS WORK OUT, CHILL OUT OR JUST WATCH

In a city where 'going for the burn' will generally be understood as a warning of the dangers of sunbathing without sunscreen and not as a tongue-in-cheek exhortation to aerobicise, working out is still predominantly the preserve of gay men, bored housewives and paunchy salaried men worried about middle-aged spread. Which is not to say that Beirut is short on well-sculpted bodies. Come summer, the city is awash in eye-candy, much of it an appealing, if unintended, by-product of Lebanon's compulsory military service. While major sports facilities tend to be located outside of the city, those intent on working up a sweat can at last do so in style, thanks to the clutch of new gyms that have appeared in recent years. Public pools are nonexistent. However, most major hotels have pools as do the handful of concrete 'beach' clubs along the seafront Corniche, the city's favourite jogging spot. The Med is plenty warm enough for swimming from April to October. Beaches outside the city limits tend to be cleaner.

SWIMMING POOLS

1 Most big hotels, including the Sheraton, Riviera, Mövenpick, Portemilio and Phoenicia, have pools. Expect to pay up to US\$12 a day if you're not a resident
2 Eddie Sands (Byblos, T 09 546 666) is a lush beach resort with pool complex a 40-minute drive from town - worth the effort
3 La Plage, see above

SPORTS SHOPS

1 At CycloSport (rue Gorad, Gemmayze, T 01 446 792) you will find all the keenest cyclist could ever need and more. It's also possible to hire bikes and arrange day trips
2 Head to Nike Sportstown (rue Maarad, downtown, T 01 985 661) for absolutely everything Nike

24-HOUR PHARMACIES

1 Soubra Pharmacy (Verdun, T 01 866 266), will deliver free between 8am and midnight - handy if that cycling day trip has left you in need of some uninterrupted bed rest
2 Hotel Dieu Pharmacy (Ashrafiye, T 01 614 760) is worth trying for its huge range of homeopathic remedies

RETAIL HIT LIST
THE CITY'S BEST SHOPS
HOW TO MAKE A
PRODUCTS TO MAKE A

A/ EDGE FITNESS

Aesthetically speaking, Edge Fitness (44 Said Akk, Saifi Village, T 03 776 7875, pictured), is somewhere between a gym and Studio 54. The emphasis is on personal training. Alternatively, try the new Nautilus Executive French Street, downtown, T 03 999 0011 for all the latest machines and a central location.

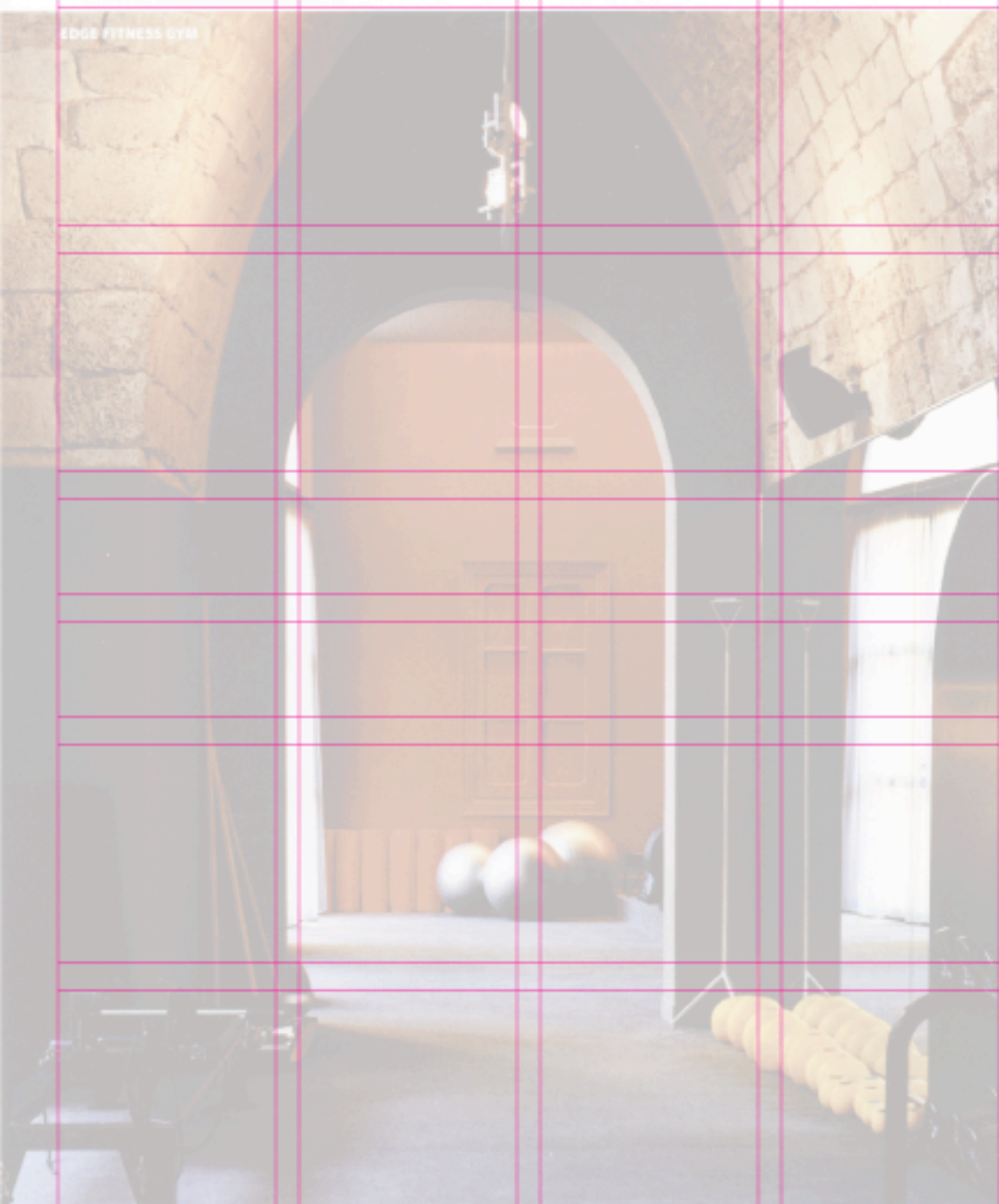
B/ LA PLAGÉ

Attached to seafood restaurant Café l'Orient, La Plage pool on the seafront (opposite the InterContinental Le Vendôme) is small, pleasant and has direct access to the sea. Its location and the proximity to drink-bearing waiters make it a fine place to spend an afternoon. **LA PLAGE POOL**, T 03 366 222

DAY SPAS

1 Faraya Msaar (Intercontinental Msaar, Msaar, T 09 340 100) is on the coast of Beirut, 2,300m up
2 Essential Spa & Health Club, Mövenpick Hotel, Corniche al-Manara, Rasouche, T 01 869 666
3 Grand Hills Spa (Grand Hills Resort, Broumana, T 04 862 888) is dedicated to all treats Oriental from rolls to Chinese massage.

EDGE FITNESS GYM



LA PLAGÉ POOL



GOLF

The only patch of green in the run-down, semi-skim suburbs around the airport in southern Beirut, the 18-hole course at the Golf Club of Lebanon is set in 50 rolling hectares of land. Swimming, tennis, squash and basketball are available if you tire of swinging and driving. **GOLF CLUB OF LEBANON**, T 03 366 222

LIFESTYLE CENTRES

1 The Al-Mada building (Ras Beirut, T 01 366 553) is equipped with a pool, a Jacuzzi, a steam room, a sauna, a gym, squash courts and a beauty salon.
2 Tamareen (rue Abdel Wahab el-Ingilo, T 03 300 744) on the second floor of an old Lebanese house in Ashrafiyeh, offers pool, saunas and three classes.

SPORT AND FITNESS
WORK OUT, CHILL OUT
OR JUST WATCH

In a city where 'going for the burn' will generally be understood as a warning of the dangers of sunbathing without sunscreen and not as a tongue-in-cheek exhortation to aerobicise, working out is still predominantly the preserve of gay men, bored housewives and paunchy salaried men worried about middle-aged spread. Which is not to say that Beirut is short on well-sculpted bodies. Come summer, the city is awash in eye-candy, much of it an appealing, if unintended, by-product of Lebanon's compulsory military service. While major sports facilities tend to be located outside of the city, those intent on working up a sweat can at last do so in style, thanks to the clutch of new gyms that have appeared in recent years. Public pools are nonexistent. However, most major hotels have pools as do the handful of concrete 'beach' clubs along the seafront Corniche, the city's favourite jogging spot. The Med is plenty warm enough for swimming from April to October. Beaches outside the city limits tend to be cleaner.

SWIMMING POOLS

1 Most big hotels, including the Sheraton, Wislana, Mövenpick, Fortenoko and Phoenix, have pools. Expect to pay up to US\$12 a day if you're not a resident.
2 Eddie Sands (Byblos, T 09 546 166) is a beach beach resort with pool complex a 40-minute drive from town - worth the effort.
3 La Plage, see above.

SPORTS SHOPS

1 At Cyclospert (rue Coraod, Gemmayse, T 03 446 792) you will find all the latest cyclist could ever need and more. It's also possible to hire bikes and arrange day trips.
2 Head to Nike Sportstown (rue Maamad, downtown, T 03 985 862) for absolutely everything Nike.

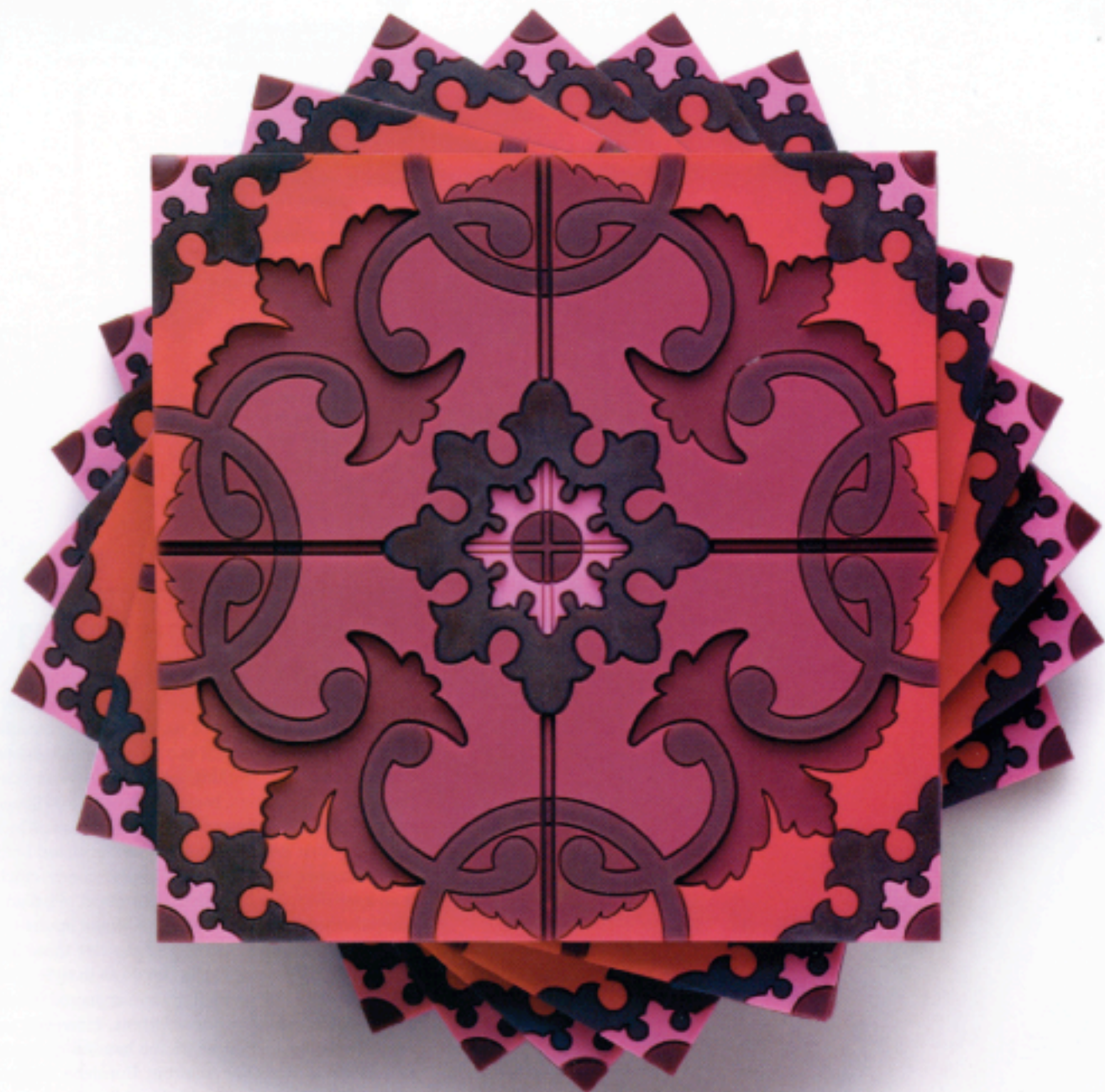
24-HOUR PHARMACIES

1 Sobira Pharmacy (Ventian, T 01 806 266), will deliver free between 8am and midnight - handy if that cycling day trip has left you in need of some uninterrupted bed rest.
2 Hotel Dieu Pharmacy (Ashrafiyeh, T 03 614 760) is worth trying for its huge range of homeopathic remedies.

2013 THE WATER
THE CITY'S BEST
A TEAM OF 25 TRAVELERS

RUBBER COASTERS

Based on the arabesque-pattern terrazzo tiles found in the living rooms and on the balconies of many old Lebanese houses, these rubber coasters look as good on the tabletop as their ancient predecessors do on the floor. US\$12.50 for six, L'Artisan du Liban, Centre St Antoine, rue Accawi, Gemmayze, T 01 580 618



A / VINTAGE POSTCARDS

Beloved of residents shocked by the way things are, and expats nostalgic for the way things were, these pre-war postcards of 'modern Beirut', showing places that haven't existed since 1975, still sell amazingly well. From US\$0.60, from newspapers and tourist shops, especially Esquire, rue Jeanne d'Arc, Hamra



B / 1950S CHAIR

Proving that recycling can be aesthetically, as well as socially, rewarding, Hoda Bokja takes furniture from a flea market, antique fabrics from Damascus, and makes furniture that's as lovely to look at as it is to sit on. US\$1,400, Bokja, Zakkat El Khayat, Aisha, T 03 201 200, E bokjats@yahoo.com



C / LEATHER HANDBAG

Designed in Lebanon, made in Turkey and sold in New York, Johnny Farah's handbags are well-travelled even before they've been bought. They're also light, sturdy and elegant. US\$295, IF, rue Abdallah Beyroun 39, Beirut Central District, T 01 970 177, E ifah@thisisberia.com



D / KASSATLY ROSE WATER

Used as a skin tonic and to soothe tired eyes, drunk warm as a digestif or added to desserts for flavour, rose water is one of the best multitaskers around. It's also one agricultural product from the Bekaa Valley that won't send sniffer dogs into a frenzy when you get to the airport. US\$9, from any supermarket



E / ITALIAN CHROME LIGHT

Frequented by local and international buyers with a taste for mid-20th-century artefacts, Hala and Souheil Hanna's superb shop/showroom is a treasure trove. Buy a piece or just move in: the gallery is ready to inhabit. US\$2,700, Xlème Siècle, rue Abdel Al Hamra, Hamra, T 01 742 020

F / SOAPS

Senteurs d'Orient has taken the fragrances of Lebanon - orange blossom, cedar, olive and honey - and infused them into its range of bath bars and hand-carved soaps. So gentle, you won't need to moisturise; so fragrant, you'll smell good enough to eat. From US\$2.50, L'Artisan du Liban, as before



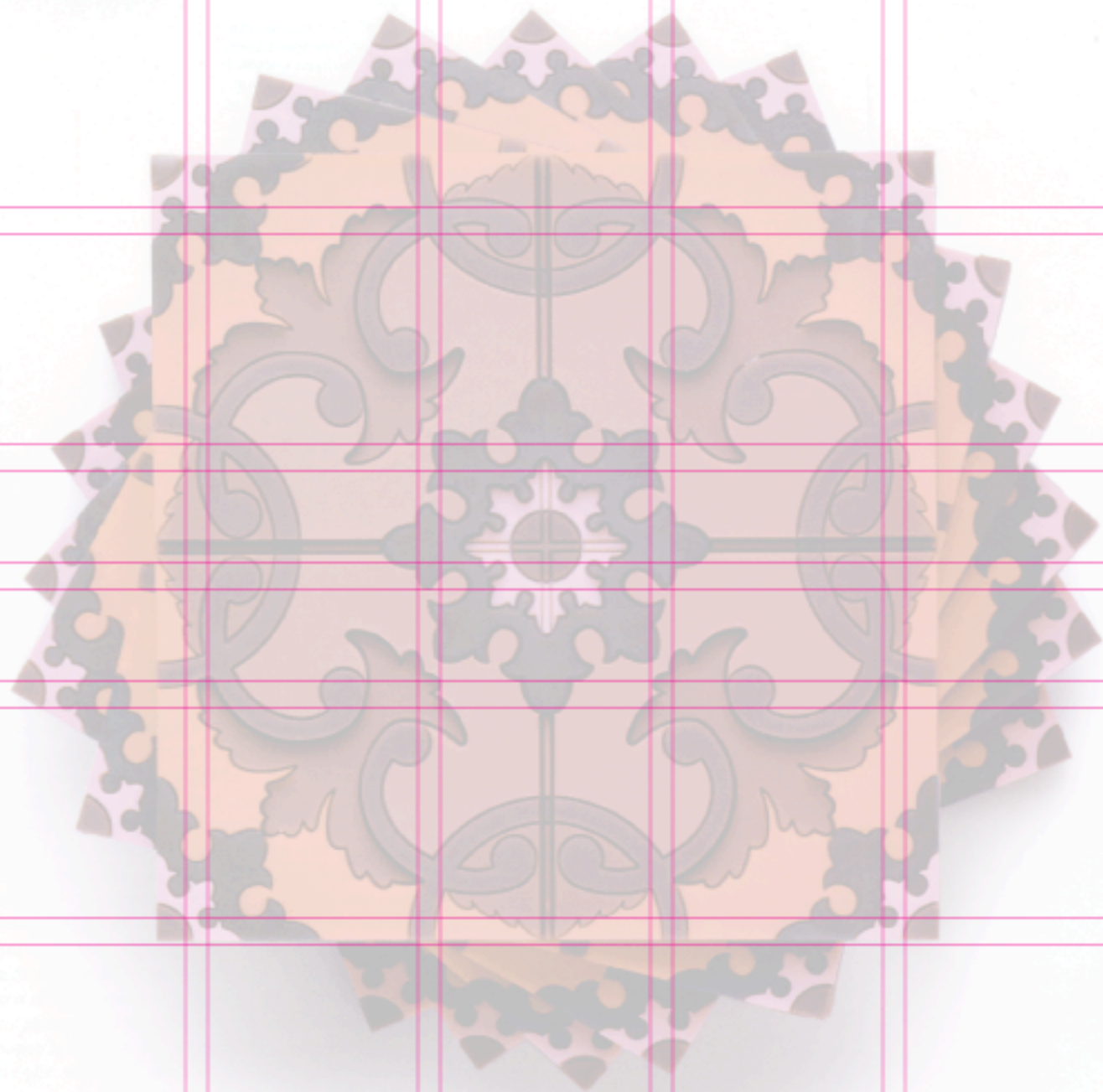
SHIPPING

The local branches of DHL (T 01 629 700) and UPS (T 01 201 575) are best bets

RETAIL HIT LIST
THE CITY'S BEST SHOPS, PLUS THE PRODUCTS TO MAKE A BEELINE FOR

RUBBER COASTERS

Based on the arabesque-pattern terrazzo tiles found in the living rooms and on the balconies of many old Lebanese houses, these rubber coasters look as good on the tabletop as their ancient predecessors do on the floor. US\$12.50 for six, 23rthan de Liban, Centre St Antoine, rue Arzouq, Gemmaye. T 01 587 611



A / VINTAGE POSTCARDS

Beloved by residents shocked by the way things are, and equally nostalgic for the way things were, these pre-war postcards of "modern Beirut", showing places that haven't existed since 1975, still sell amazingly well. From US\$0.65. From newspapers and tourist shops, especially Gemmaye Antiques, Gemmaye.

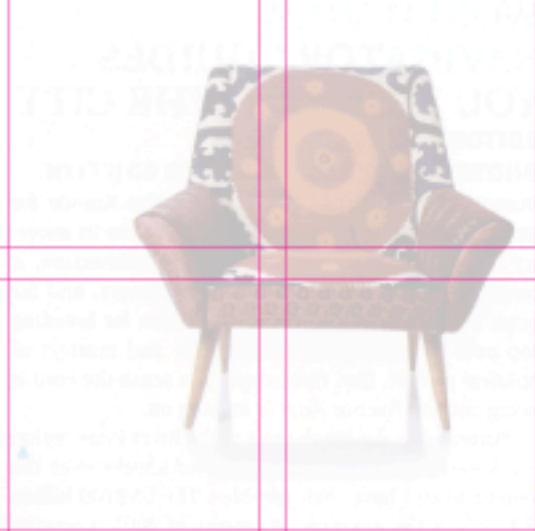


B / 1950s CHAIR

Proving that recycling can be aesthetically, as well as socially, rewarding, Akida Souka takes furniture from a flea market, antique fabrics from Damascus, and makes furniture that's as lovely to look at as it is to sit on. US\$1,400. Souka, 236de St Khayat, Akasha. T 01 201 200. E akida@akida.com

C / LEATHER HANDBAG

Designed in Lebanon, made in Turkey and sold in New York, Johnny Farah's handbags are well-travelled even before they've been bought. They're also light, sturdy and elegant. US\$295. JF, rue Abdallah Beyroun 2A, Beirut Central District. T 01 970 072. E johnny@johnnyfarah.com



D / KASSAF ROSE WATER
Used as a skin tonic and to soothe tired eyes, drunk warm as a digestif or added to desserts for flavor, rose water is one of the best multitaskers around. It's also one agricultural product from Bekaa valley that won't send sniffer dogs into a frenzy when you get to the airport. US\$9. From any supermarket.

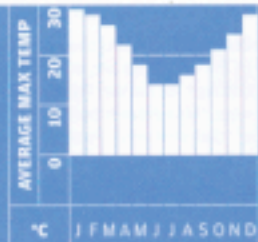
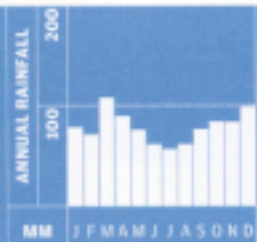
E / ITALIAN CHROME LIGHT
Frequented by local and international buyers with a taste for mid-20th-century artefacts, Hala and Souheil Hama's superb showroom is a treasure trove. Buy a piece or just move the gallery is ready to install. US\$2,700. Khémei Salek, rue Abdel Alkamel, Hamra. T 01 342 030

F / SOAPS
Senteurs d'Orient has taken the fragrances of Lebanon – orange blossom, cedar, olive and honey – and infused them into its range of both bars and hand-carved soaps. So gentle, you won't need to moisturize so fragrant, you'll smell good enough to eat. From US\$2.50. 13rthan de Liban, rue Arzouq.

SHIPPING
The local branches of DHL (T 01 629 2000) and UPS (T 01 201 5759) are best bets.

RETAIL HIT LIST
THE CITY'S BEST SHOPS, PLUS THE PRODUCTS TO MAKE A BEELINE FOR

POPULATION	2.8 million
AREA	1,400 sq km
CURRENCY: PESO	1 peso = €0.26 = \$0.33 = £0.18
TELEPHONE CODES	Argentina: 54, Buenos Aires: (0)11
TIME	GMT -3



WORLD VIEW NAVIGATOR* GUIDES YOU THROUGH THE CITY

EDITOR EMMA MOORE

PHOTOGRAPHER CHRISTOPHER GRIFFITH

Buenos Aires is ready for a new identity. Known for having borrowed the best from Europe, from its ancestry to its grand Italianate and French architecture, it owes little to its Latin American neighbours, and for years has happily thrived on a reputation for breeding top polo players, great intellectuals and masters of political protest. But, these days, you sense the cord is being cut and Buenos Aires is moving on.

Porteños, as the inhabitants of the River Plate region are known, have taken a number of knocks over the years and still have their troubles. The US\$100 billion debt left by the economic meltdown of 2001 is proving slow to dissipate and crime is on the up. But the nation has a habit of seeking counselling (there's one psychoanalyst for every 30 Argentines) and it's beginning to pay off. In spite of everything, optimism prevails. The financial catastrophe left the country unable to fund the imports it had grown used to, and forced it to regenerate its own industry. Favourable exchange rates are also bringing in tourists, keen to enjoy Buenos Aires' attractions at bargain-basement prices.

Breathing freely with open spaces, and boasting broad boulevards, imposing edifices, a rich arts scene, and a burgeoning food and wine industry, BA has everything a city needs to shine. The attractive docklands of Puerto Madero Este are developing apace, restaurants launch almost daily in Palermo, and an injection of youth to the tango scene is reviving San Telmo. And then there's the new set of achievers – from designers Pablo Ramirez and Martín Chuba to flamboyant entrepreneur Alan Faena – finally laying the tired legacies of Evita and Che Guevara to rest. If all this still leaves you in doubt about the merits of the city, it's perhaps worth mentioning its population's well-founded Most Beautiful People In The World tag. Shallow, maybe, but not a bad reputation to hold when your economy has finally begun to see tourism as an important lifeline.



KEYS: PAGE 142

€ 12	€ 0.35	€ 40
€ 0.65	€ 8	€ 0.80

POPULATION	2.8 million
AREA	1,400 sq km
CURRENCY: PESO	1 peso = €0.26 = \$0.53 = £0.18
TELEPHONE CODES	Argentina: 54, Buenos Aires: (031)
TIME	CMT -3



WORLD VIEW NAVIGATOR* GUIDES YOU THROUGH THE CITY

EDITOR EMMA MOORE

PHOTOGRAPHER CHRISTOPHER GRIFFITH

Buenos Aires is ready for a new identity. Known for having borrowed the best from Europe, from its ancestry to its grand Italianate and French architecture, it owes little to its Latin American neighbours, and for years has happily thrived on a reputation for breeding top polo players, great intellectuals and masters of political protest. But, these days, you sense the cord is being cut and Buenos Aires is moving on.

Porteños, as the inhabitants of the River Plate region are known, have taken a number of knocks over the years and still have their troubles. The US\$100 billion debt left by the economic meltdown of 2001 is proving slow to dissipate and crime is on the up. But the nation has a habit of seeking counselling (there's one psychoanalyst for every 30 Argentines) and it's beginning to pay off. In spite of everything, optimism prevails. The financial catastrophe left the country unable to fund the imports it had grown used to, and forced it to regenerate its own industry. Favourable exchange rates are also bringing in tourists, keen to enjoy Buenos Aires' attractions at bargain-basement prices.

Breathing freely with open spaces, and boasting broad boulevards, imposing edifices, a rich arts scene, and a burgeoning food and wine industry, BA has everything a city needs to shine. The attractive docklands of Puerto Madero Este are developing apace, restaurants launch almost daily in Palermo, and an injection of youth to the tango scene is reviving San Telmo. And then there's the new set of achievers – from designers Pablo Ramirez and Martin Chuba to flamboyant entrepreneur Alan Faena – finally laying the tired legacies of Evita and Che Guevara to rest. If all this still leaves you in doubt about the merits of the city, it's perhaps worth mentioning its population's well-founded Most Beautiful People In The World tag. Shallow, maybe, but not a bad reputation to hold when your economy has finally begun to see tourism as an important lifeline.



KEYS: PAGE 142

€12	€0.35	€40
€0.65	€8	€0.80

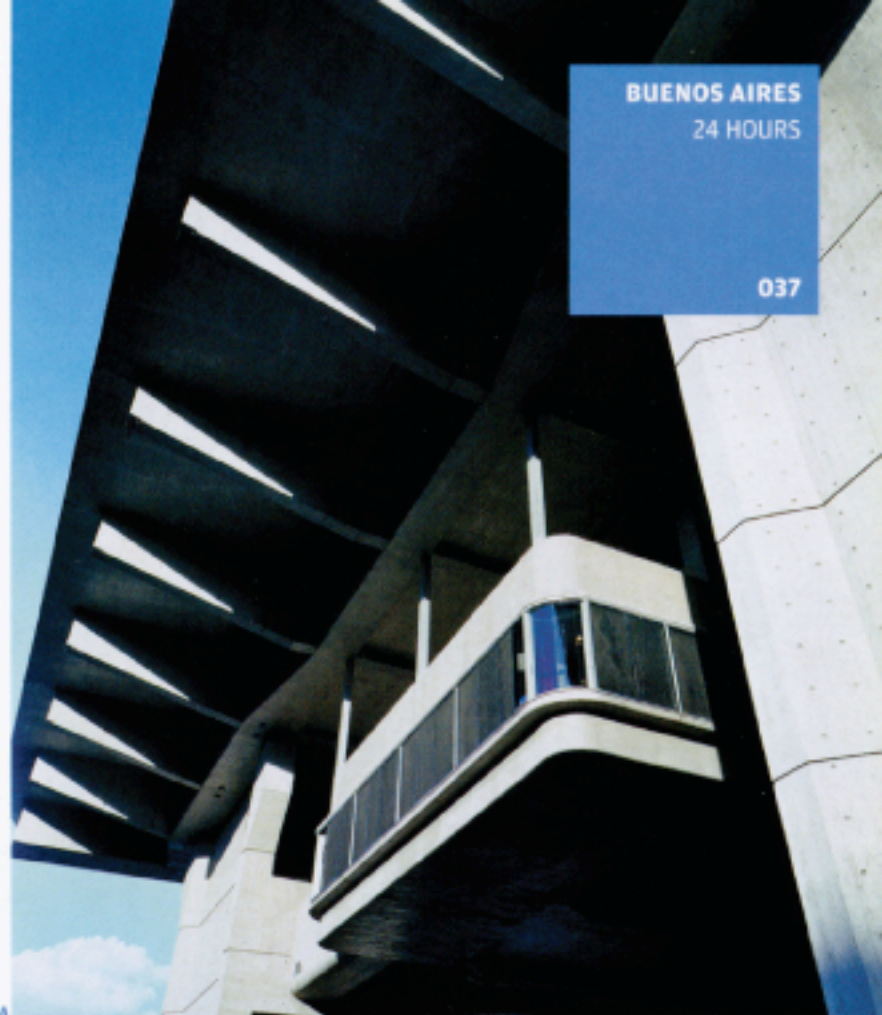
SIGHTSEER

THE BEST OF THE CITY IN JUST ONE DAY

Should you have only a day and a night to spare in Buenos Aires, we recommend taking a tour of the best of Clorinda Testa's modernist masterpieces, while enjoying a little light BA entertainment along the way.

Begin with brunch – Porteños don't really do breakfast – in Bar 6 (Armenia 1676) for a taste of the shopping and eating playground that is Palermo, then make your way to Salón Muaré (Uriarte 1345, T 4776 5839), an exquisite vintage dress- and jacket-hire shop, so you can set yourself up sartorially for a night of tangoing. Next, head south to Avenida Agüero and the Biblioteca Nacional, top right, Testa's monolithic masterpiece. Upstairs, admire the sunlit reading rooms, then descend to the basement to browse back issues of the periodicals for a quick taste of the city's turbulent history. Move on to the Centro Cultural Recoleta, a colourful group of buildings brought together by Testa and his flamboyant vision. Take in an exhibition or indulge in a spot of design shopping in the Puro Diseño store (Unit 1004), then nip around the corner to the famous Cementerio de la Recoleta, with its maze of neoclassical mausoleums. Unless you're a fan, there's no need to tread the well-worn path to Evita's tomb; aimless meandering through the labyrinths is fascinating enough.

Take a taxi to the Microcentro, and grab a *cortada* – and a tango lesson, if your timing is right – at the Confeitería Ideal (Suipacha 384, T 5265 8078), before checking out Testa's Banco Hipotecario Nacional (the former Banco de Londres), right. Work out a ruse to get inside, and climb the escalators to fully appreciate the layered interior structure of the building. Time to return to your hotel and tidy up for tango. Head for La Catedral (Sarimiento 4006) or, if you're lucky enough to be in the city during the Tango Festival, between 26 February and 6 March, dance your way along to one of the special events listed at www.festivaldetango.com.ar.



A / BIBLIOTECA NACIONAL

Although plans were initiated in the 1960s, falling funds meant that this giant concrete structure wasn't completed until 1992. The three million books are kept underground, and reading rooms are in the overhanging upper structure, designed to maximise the public park space beneath. Agüero 2502, T 4806 4721

B / BANCO NACIONAL

This bank, which exemplifies Testa's own brand of rationalism, was designed in 1966. Given the constraints – space, function and the neoclassical surroundings – the feats achieved here are astonishing. Try to get beyond the concrete curtain exterior and see the galleried offices inside. Calle Reconquista 101, Microcentro

CENTRO CULTURAL RECOLETA

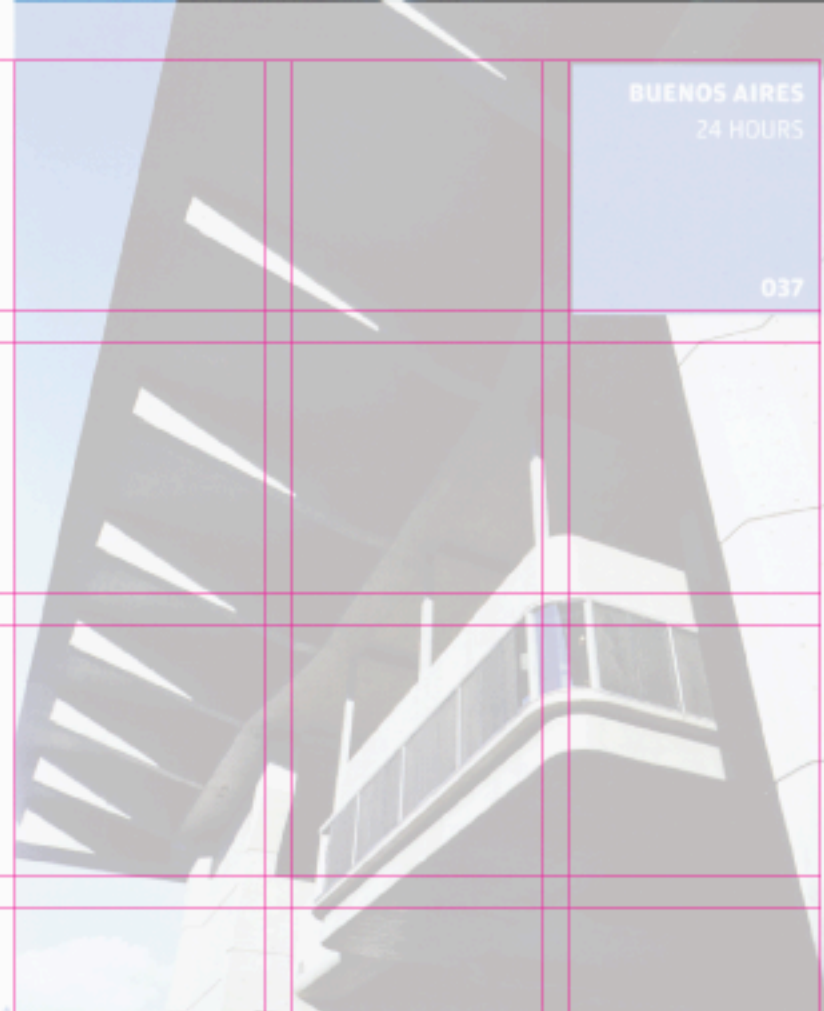
In 1979, Testa was asked to bring together a mismatched selection of buildings and make them into a unit encompassing cultural and commercial spaces. He painted the buildings in primary colours, then added his own structures in-between. Don't miss the Puro Diseño shop on the upper terrace. Avda 1930, T 4803 9799

SIGHTSEER THE BEST OF THE CITY IN JUST ONE DAY

Should you have only a day and a night to spare in Buenos Aires, we recommend taking a tour of the best of Clorinda Testa's modernist masterpieces, while enjoying a little light BA entertainment along the way.

Begin with brunch – Portenos don't really do breakfast – in Bar 6 (Armenia 1676) for a taste of the shopping and eating playground that is Palermo, then make your way to Salón Muaré (Urquiza 1345, T 4776 5839), an exquisite vintage dress and jacket-hire shop, so you can set yourself up sartorially for a night of tangoing. Next, head south to Avenida Agüero and the Biblioteca Nacional, top right, Testa's monolithic masterpiece. Upstairs, admire the sunlit reading rooms, then descend to the basement to browse back issues of the periodicals for a quick taste of the city's turbulent history. Move on to the Centro Cultural Recoleta, a colourful group of buildings brought together by Testa and his flamboyant vision. Take in an exhibition or indulge in a spot of design shopping in the Puro Diseño store (Unit 1004), then nip around the corner to the famous Cementerio de la Recoleta, with its maze of neoclassical mausoleums. Unless you're a fan, there's no need to tread the well-worn path to Evita's tomb; aimless meandering through the labyrinth is fascinating enough.

Take a taxi to the Microcentro, and grab a cortada and a tango lesson, if your timing is right – at the Confeitería Ideal (Suipacha 384, T 5265 8078), before checking out Testa's Banco Hipotecario Nacional (the former Banco de Londres), right. Work out a ruse to get inside, and climb the escalators to fully appreciate the layered interior structure of the building. Time to return to your hotel and tidy up for tango. Head for La Catedral (Sarimiento 4006) or, if you're lucky enough to be in the city during the Tango Festival, between 26 February and 6 March, dance your way along to one of the special events listed at www.festivaldetango.com.ar.



07 BIBLIOTECA NACIONAL

Although plans were initiated in the 1960s, falling funds meant that this giant concrete structure wasn't completed until 2002.

The three million books are kept underground, and reading rooms are in the overhanging upper structure, designed to maximise the public park space beneath. Agüero 2500, T 4905-4721

07 BANCO NACIONAL

This bank, which exemplifies Testa's own brand of rationalism, was designed in 1966. Given the constraints – space, function and the neoclassical surroundings – the feats achieved here are astonishing. Try to get beyond the concrete curtain exterior and see the galleried offices inside. Calle Dorrego 201, Microcentro

CENTRO CULTURAL RECOLETA

In 1979, Testa was asked to bring together a mismatched selection of buildings and make them into a unit encompassing cultural and commercial spaces. He painted the buildings in primary colours, then added his own structures in-between. Don't miss the Puro Diseño shop on the upper terrace. Calle Dorrego 201, T 4922 9299

A / TORRES EL FARO

The first 170m-high El Faro tower was completed in 2003, and its conjoined twin should be finished this year. The tallest buildings in the city, the towers reach up 46 floors, most of which contain luxury apartments, and set the lofty tone for other local upscale residential developments. *Asava Morso y Azucena*

**B / DOCKSIDE DEVELOPMENT**

One of the most important phases of the port's sanitisation fell to Estudio Cabeza, a local urban design firm. It spruced up the dockside promenades with landscaping and specially designed benches, which are dotted among the gargantuan cranes that remain as reminders of the port's industrial past.

COLECCION FORTABAT

Rafael Viñoly's museum, which holds the Colección Fortabat, the substantial private art collection of one of Latin America's richest ladies, is leading Puerto Madero Este's cultural renaissance. Two striking new Norman Foster-designed waterside cultural centres will continue the trend. *Olga Cossetini 100*

PUERTO MADERO ESTE THE CITY'S MOST UP-AND-COMING AREA

Development in the dockland area of Puerto Madero Este, pictured right, is what is currently keeping the chattering classes of Buenos Aires in chat. Alan Faena, a veteran of the fashion industry, kick-started it all with the conversion of a vast grain store into the Faena Hotel + Universe, which comprises a hotel, spa, gallery, restaurants, cabaret, market and apartments. With the help of US investors, Faena has already staked his claim on a second derelict building, El Molino, which he intends to turn into a museum of contemporary art – establishing the area as a major cultural destination.

The port, opened in the 1880s, now firmly holds the attention of the creative crowd. Although it remains to be seen who makes the neighbourhood their own, the sense of security, the stylish waterside promenades, landscaped by local urban design star Diana Cabreza, and its proximity to the Costanera Sur ecological reserve are making this quarter the favourite spot for perambulating Porteños of all ages.



PIERINA DEALESSI DOCKS

FAENA HOTEL + UNIVERSE

Faena has set the tone for decadent dalliance. Its interiors are attracting the beau monde of BA, and celebs from home and abroad – we enjoyed a little impromptu ivory-tinkling in the bar courtesy of Argentine rock legend Charly García. *Martha Salotti 445. T 4010 9000. www.faenahotelanduniverse.com*

FRESH MARKET

A harbour-front deli-cum-café. Owner Sandra Perelmutter's aim is to sell all the dinner party ingredients and table trappings, from flowers to Worcester sauce, that customers struggle to find elsewhere in the city. Don't miss the perfect home-baked pastries. *Azucena Villaflor y Olga Cossetini, T 5775 0330*

RESERVA COSTANERA SUR

The subject of controversial development plans throughout its history, including one to turn it into a satellite city during the 1976-1983 military dictatorship, this vast landfill has survived them all. It is now Buenos Aires' largest public park, and is home to 200 species of birds and countless weekend picnickers.

4 / TORRES EL FARO

The first 170m high El Faro tower was completed in 2003, and its longed twin should be finished this year. The tallest buildings in the city, the towers reach up 45 floors, most of which contain luxury apartments, and set the city tone for other local upscale residential developments.

5 / DOCKSIDE DEVELOPMENT

One of the most important phases of the port's revitalisation will be Estadio Cabera, a local urban design firm. It spruced up the dockside promenades with landscaping and specially designed benches, which are dotted among the gangways. Names that remain as reminders of the port's industrial past.

COLECCION FORTABAT

Rafael Wifely's museum, which holds the Colección Fortabat, the substantial private art collection of one of Latin America's richest families, is leading Puerto Madero's cultural renaissance. Two striking new Norman Foster-designed waterfront cultural centres will continue the trend.



PIERINA DEALESSI DOCKS

PUERTO MADERO ESTE
THE CITY'S MOST
UP-AND-COMING AREA

Development in the dockland area of Puerto Madero Este, pictured right, is what is currently keeping the chattering classes of Buenos Aires in chat. Alan Faena, a veteran of the fashion industry, kick-started it all with the conversion of a vast grain store into the Faena Hotel + Universe, which comprises a hotel, spa, gallery, restaurants, cabaret, market and apartments. With the help of US investors, Faena has already staked his claim on a second derelict building, El Molino, which he intends to turn into a museum of contemporary art – establishing the area as a major cultural destination.

The port, opened in the 1880s, now firmly holds the attention of the creative crowd. Although it remains to be seen who makes the neighbourhood their own, the sense of security, the stylish waterside promenades, landscaped by local urban design star Diana Cabrea, and its proximity to the Costanera Sur ecological reserve are making this quarter the favourite spot for scrambling Porteños of all ages.



FAENA HOTEL + UNIVERSE

Faena has set the tone for decadent elegance. Its interiors are attracting the beau monde of BA, and cosies from home and abroad – we enjoyed a little prompt ivory on leg in the bar courtesy of Argentine rock legend Charly García.

FRESH MARKET

A harbour-front deli-casé-café. Owner Sandra Perelman's aim is to sell all the dinner-party leg odors and table trappings, from flowers to Worcester sauce, but customers struggle to find elsewhere in the city. Don't miss the perfect home-baked pastries.

RESERVA COSTANERA SUR

The subject of controversial development plans throughout its history, including one to turn it into a satellite city during the 1976-1983 military dictatorship, this vast landfill has survived them all. It is now Buenos Aires' largest public park, and is home to 290 species of birds and countless weekend picnickers.

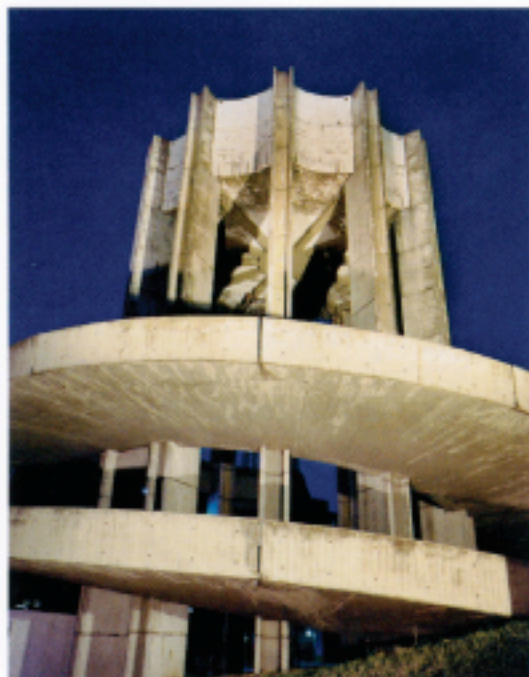
www.farenahotelanduniverse.com

www.freshmarket.com

www.reserva.com

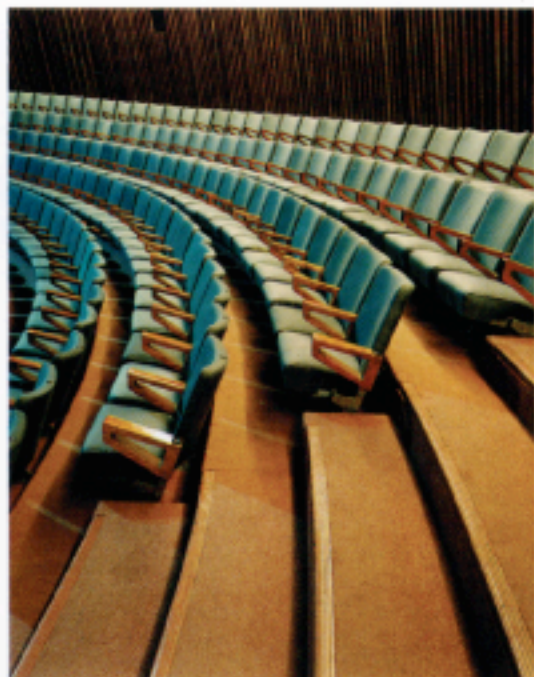
A / HIPODROMO CAR PARK

It might seem perverse to head to the Hipódromo (see page 053), just to check out its car park, but take our word for it, it's a great relic from the military regime of the 1970s and one of the best poured concrete multistoreys we've ever seen. Avenida Dorrego y Avenida Del Libertador



B / TEATRO SAN MARTIN

This theatre, designed by Mario Roberto Alvarez, and built in the 1950s and 1960s, is a prime example of function over form. Still a respected arthouse venue, it has changed little since its heyday. Go to see a play just to view its wood-paneled theatres. Avenida Corrientes 2530, T 0800 333 5254



C / PUENTE DE LA MUJER

Opened in 2001, the Puente de la Mujer is a 160m sculptural walkway that spans the harbour and brings pedestrians from the city into Puerto Madero Este. The US\$6 million project was designed by Valencian architect Santiago Calatrava, and funded by Alberto Gonzalez, the late owner of the Hilton.

CANAL 7

Built to facilitate the broadcast of the 1978 World Cup, this vast television centre, by Manteola, Sanchez-Gomez, Santos, Solsona and Viñoly, houses most of its studios underground. The roof is a park, ensuring that the public space it replaced was not lost. Avenida Figueroa Alcorta 2977, T 4808 2500



**THE NEW ICONS
ARGENTINA IS CARVING
ITS OWN NICHE**

It has taken a lot to dent the pre-eminence of French classicism in Buenos Aires – some of Recoleta's avenues are replicas of Parisian boulevards – but a rich seam of art deco builds, seen in the Edificio Kavanagh and the Automovil Club Argentino, livens up the colonial copies, and a number of native architects have made their mark on the city with their takes on modernism. Avenida Figueroa Alcorta offers up plenty of iconic structures, from Clorinda Testa's Centro Cultural Recoleta to Eduardo Catalano's Floralis Genérica sculpture. Le Corbusier passed through BA in 1929, and deposited the seeds of rationalism. It grew slowly, fed by the work of Bonet, Kurchan and Ferrari-Hardoy (see their apartment blocks on the corner of Paraguay and Suipacha), Testa and Alvarez. The onus is now on young designers such as Gastón Atelman, Alfredo Tapia and Martín Fourcade, the team behind MALBA, and Pablo Beitia, responsible for the Museo Xul Solar, to carve out a new niche for Argentine architecture.

MUSEO XUL SOLAR

Designed by Pablo Beitia, this small museum, finished in 1993, contains the paintings of Xul Solar, a friend of Jorge Luis Borges. It's worth the trip just to see Beitia's inspired interior. The building is pierced by a well of daylight and articulated by means of many irregular planes. Laprida 1212, T 4824 3302

MALBA

Opened in 2001, MALBA is dedicated to Latin American art. The wedge-shaped building, by Gastón Atelman, Alfredo Tapia and Martín Fourcade, has an imposing cantilevered façade, a high, glass-roofed atrium and 5,000 sq m of exhibition space. Avenida Figueroa Alcorta 3415, T 4808 6500



A/ HIPÓDROMO CAR PARK

It might seem perverse to head to the Hipódromo (see page 15) just to check out its car park, but take our word for it, it's a great relic from the military regime of the 1970s and one of the best poured concrete multi-storeys we've ever seen. Avenida Domingo F. Sarmiento 261. www.ahp.com.ar

B/ TEATRO SAN MARTÍN

This theatre, designed by María Beltrán Álvarez, and built in the 1950s and 1960s, is a prime example of function over form. Still a respected art-house venue, it has changed little since its heyday. Go to see a play and to view its wood-paneled theatre. Avenida Corrientes 2530. T 0020 333 6352

C/ PUENTE DE LA MUJER

Opened in 2001, the Puente de la Mujer is a 160m sculptural walkway that spans the harbour and links pedestrians from the city into Puerto Madero Este. The US\$5 million project was designed by Valencian architect Santiago Calatrava, and funded by Alberto Genzalez, the late father of the artist.

CANAL 7

Built to facilitate the broadcast of the 1978 World Cup, this vast television centre, by Mantecó, Sánchez-Gómez, Santos, Soriano and Vicedo, houses most of its studios underground. The roof is a park, ensuring that the public space it replaced was not lost. Avenida Figueroa Alcorta 2912. www.canal7.com.ar



THE NEW ICONS
ARGENTINA IS CARVING
ITS OWN NICHE

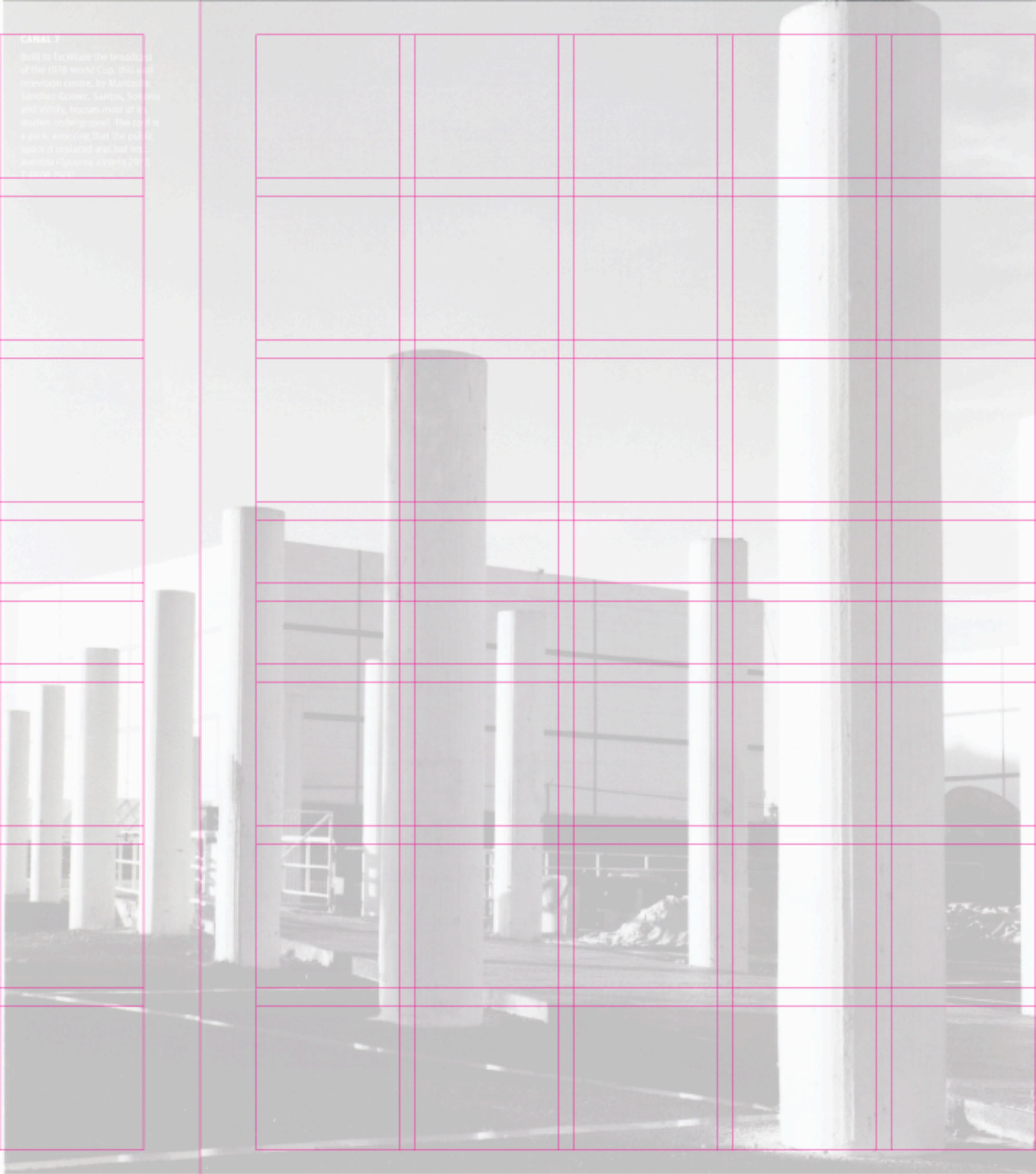
It has taken a lot to deny the pre-eminence of French classicism in Buenos Aires – some of Recoleta's avenues are replicas of Parisian boulevards – but a rich seam of art deco builds, seen in the Edificio Kavanagh and the Automovil Club Argentino, livens up the colonial copies, and a number of native architects have made their mark on the city with their takes on modernism. Avenida Figueroa Alcorta offers up plenty of iconic structures, from Clorinda Testa's Centro Cultural Recoleta to Eduardo Catalano's Floralis Genérica sculpture. Le Corbusier passed through BA in 1929, and deposited the seeds of rationalism. It grew slowly, fed by the work of Bonet, Kurchan and Ferrari-Hardoy (see their apartment blocks on the corner of Paraguay and Suipacha), Testa and Alvarez. The onus is now on young designers such as Gastón Arelman, Alfredo Tapia and Martín Fourcade, the team behind MALBA, and Pablo Beiría, responsible for the Museo Xul Solar, to carve out a new niche for Argentine architecture.

MUSEO XUL SOLAR

Designed by Pablo Beiría, this small museum, finished in 2003, contains the paintings of Xul Solar, a friend of Jorge Luis Borges. It's worth the trip just to see Beiría's inspired interior, the building is pierced by a web of daylight and articulated by streams of narrow regular planes. Lauro 1212. T 4824 3300

MALBA

Opened in 2001, MALBA is dedicated to Latin American art. The wedge-shaped building, by Gastón Arelman, Alfredo Tapia and Martín Fourcade, has an imposing cantilevered facade, a high, glass-roofed atrium and 5,000 sq m of exhibition space. Avenida Figueroa Alcorta 2415. T 4888 6500



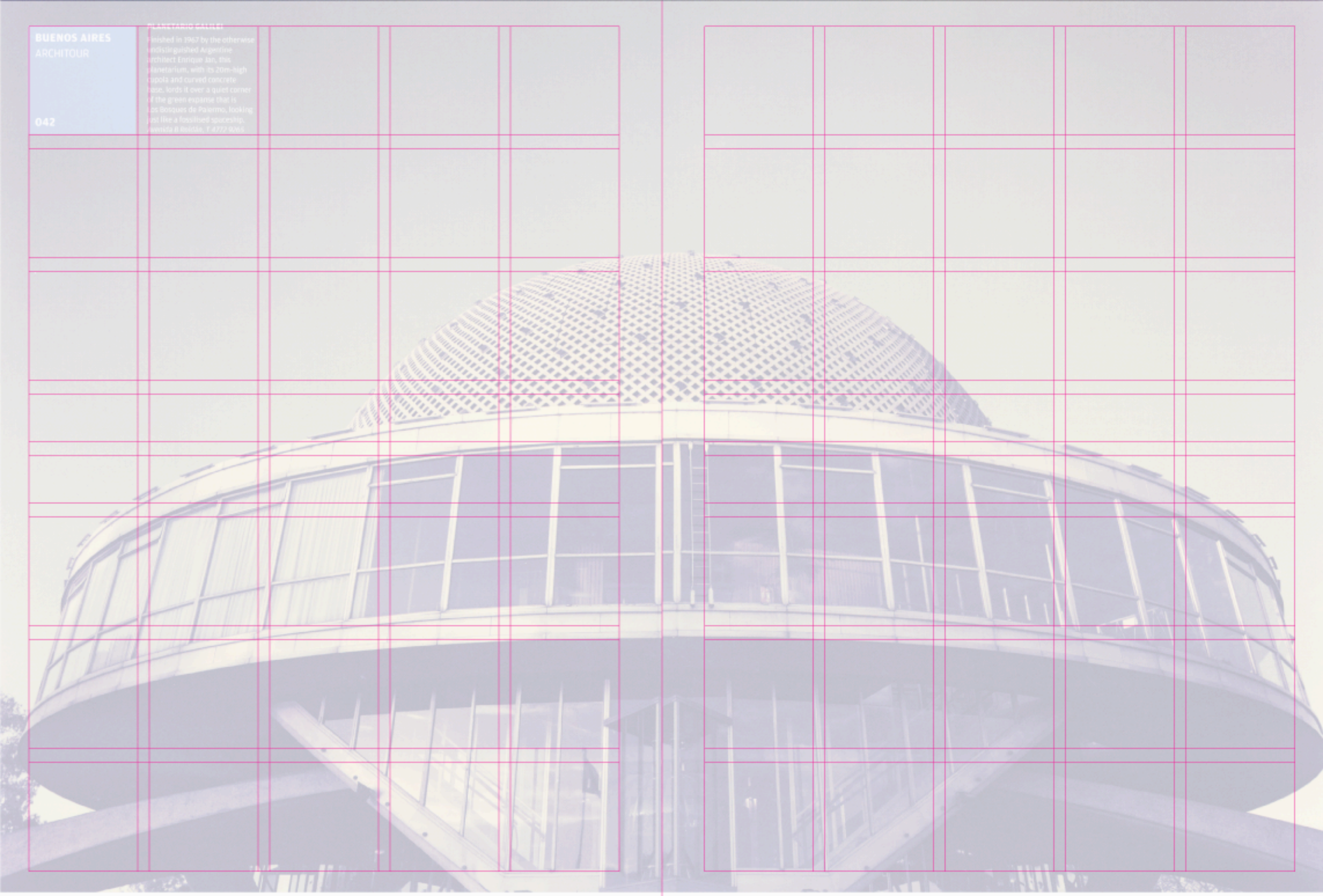
PLANETARIO GALILEI

Finished in 1967 by the otherwise undistinguished Argentine architect Enrique Jan, this planetarium, with its 20m-high cupola and curved concrete base, lords it over a quiet corner of the green expanse that is Los Bosques de Palermo, looking just like a fossilised spaceship. Avenida B Rivadavia, T 4772 9065



PLANETARIO GALILEI

Finished in 1967 by the otherwise undistinguished Argentine architect Enrique Jan, this planetarium, with its 20m-high cupola and curved concrete base, lends it over a quiet corner of the green expanse that is Los Bosques de Palermo, looking just like a fossilised spaceship. Avenida B. Rivadavia, T 4772 9066



HOT SPOTS RESTAURANTS, CAFES, NIGHTCLUBS & BARS

Masters of the *multi-espacio* (multitasking space), Porteños regularly eat, drink and dance in the same venue; and tango, hopelessly fashionable again, is very much part of the wine-sipping experience. Cuisine is almost exclusively European. Pizzas and a sophisticated ice-cream habit – sample some at Persicco (Migueletes 886) – come from Italy; tapas and late dining hours from Spain; and a bookish café society and pastries from France. Indeed, the most prized cuisine has traditionally been French, and the grand dining rooms of hotels such as the Alvear, the BA Sofitel and NH City offer some of the city's best Gallic gastronomy.

The quality of the ingredients, however, is a major source of Argentine pride. The beef is legendary – just how cow should taste when pampered on pampas, not pumped with hormones. The Malbecs, too, knock many an old-world red into a cocked hat. The combination of this and a current fashion for intelligent fusion make BA one of the world's most thrilling foodie destinations.



A / OPERA PAMPA

Traditional fare (barbecue and empanadas), musical shows and shopping in a 1900 neoclassical pavilion in Palermo. The dramatic interior has a gaucho vibe, and includes custom-made furniture by local designer Diana Cabeza. Avenida Sarmiento y Libertador 2704. T 4777 5552. www.operapampa.com.ar

B / SUCRE

Sucre buzzes all week with diners enjoying chef Fernando Trocca's modern Argentine menu, the smell of a wood-burning grill and one of the best cellars in town. Sweetbreads are excellent, but if you're all beefed out, try salmon with brandy and truffle oil. Sucre 636. T 4782 9082. www.sucrerestaurant.com.ar



C / LA CORTE

A hot spot for the city's beautiful youth, out to enjoy haute cuisine, winning wines and good music in an informal atmosphere. Tables are close enough together to ensure group interaction, while chef Maximo Lopez May brings Argentine-British cuisine and a huge sense of fun to the table. Arevalo 2977. T 4775 0999



D / RED RESTO & LOUNGE

In a stylish corner of the Hotel Madero, this private dining area has a cellar with 600 specially selected bottles of Argentina's finest wines. Chef Olivier Faichi produces an impressive menu of contemporary French cuisine, using locally sourced ingredients. Hotel Madero, Rosario Vera Peñalosa 360. T 5776 7777



LA CABRERA

Steak standards are high in BA, but this is the pick of Palermo's *parillas*. It has no pretensions, the décor is timeless and none of the waiters is a model. Start with baked goats' cheese and follow with Ojo de Bife, the cut of the moment. You'll pay no more than US\$7 for the privilege. Cabrera 5099. T 4831 7002

FOUR SEASONS MANSION

Sunday brunch is as much of an BA institution as political protest in the Plaza de Mayo. The very genteel surroundings of the Four Seasons Mansion will provide the most refined and full-on gourmet eat-all-you-can experience you'll ever have. Booking is essential. Four Seasons Mansion, Posadas 1086-1088. T 4321 1200



INSIDER'S GUIDE MARINA MUÑOZ

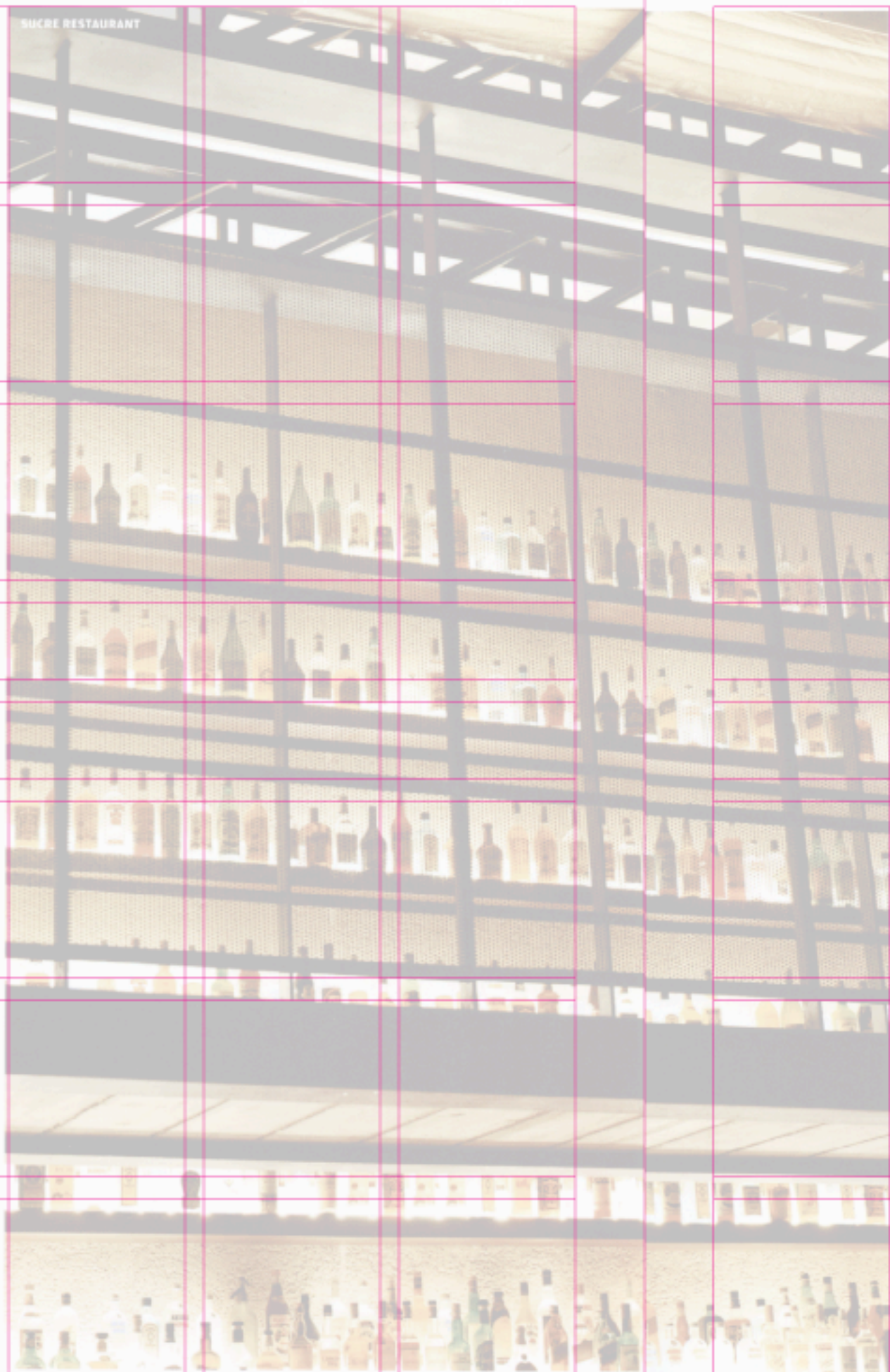
Born in New York to an Argentine father and American mother, fashion stylist Marina Muñoz, 22, has lived in Buenos Aires for four years. In San Telmo, her home *barrio*, she likes *GIL ANTIGUEDADES* (Humberto Primo 412, T 4361 5019) for vintage dresses, hats and bags, and *EL BUEN ORDEN* (Defensa 894) for brooches. She finishes the day with either tapas at *CAFE SAN JUAN* (Avenida San Juan 450) or a glass of wine and *gnocchi* at *NACIONAL* (Balcarce 907) – before going upstairs for a spot of tango. For upscale dressing, she recommends *PABLO RAMIREZ* (Callao 1315), *KUKLA* (Bulnes 2677) or *BENEDICT BIS* (Quintana 16). Muñoz usually buys shoes from *MISCHKA* (El Salvador 4673, T 4833 6566) and gets her hair cut at *ESTUDIO H* (Honduras 3717, T 4822 4380). A day in Palermo, her second home, ideally ends at *DOMINGA* (Honduras 5618, T 4771 4443), for Argentine-style sushi, or *SUDESTADA* (Guatemala 5602, T 4776 3777), for south-east Asian cuisine in minimalist surroundings.

HOT SPOTS RESTAURANTS, CAFES, NIGHTCLUBS & BARS

Masters of the *multi-espacio* (multitasking space), Porteños regularly eat, drink and dance in the same venue; and tango, hopelessly fashionable again, is very much part of the wine-sipping experience. Cuisine is almost exclusively European. Pizzas and a sophisticated ice-cream habit – sample *casas* at *Persicon* (Migueletes 886) – come from Italy; tapas and late dining hours from Spain; and a bookish café society and pastries from France. Indeed, the most prized cuisine has traditionally been French, and the grand dining rooms of hotels such as the Alvear, the BA Sofitel and NH City offer some of the city's best Gallic gastronomy.

The quality of the ingredients, however, is a major source of Argentine pride. The beef is legendary – just now cow should taste when pampered on pampas, not pumped with hormones. The Malbecs, too, knock many an old-world red into a cocked hat. The combination of this and a current fashion for intelligent fusion make BA one of the world's most thrilling foodie destinations.

SUCRE RESTAURANT



C / LA CORTE

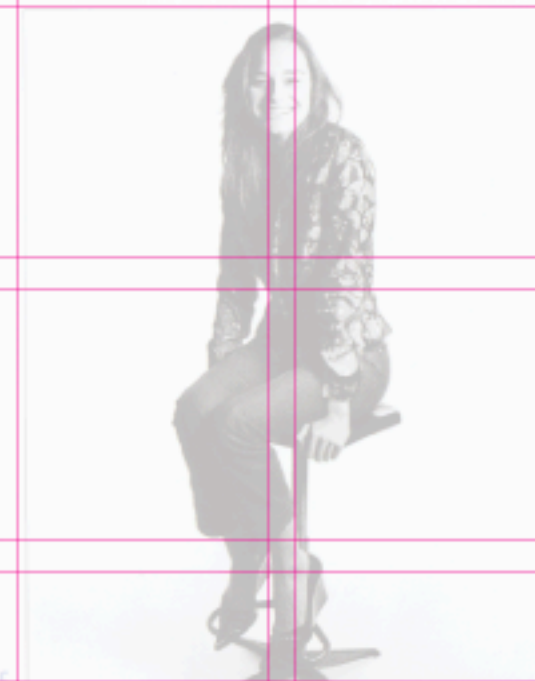
A hot spot for the city's beautiful youth, out to enjoy haute cuisine, sipping wines and good music in an informal atmosphere. Tables are close enough together to ensure group interaction, while chef Massimo Lopez May brings Argentine-Italian cuisine and a huge sense of fun to the table.

www.lacorte.com.ar

D / RED RESTO & LOUNGE

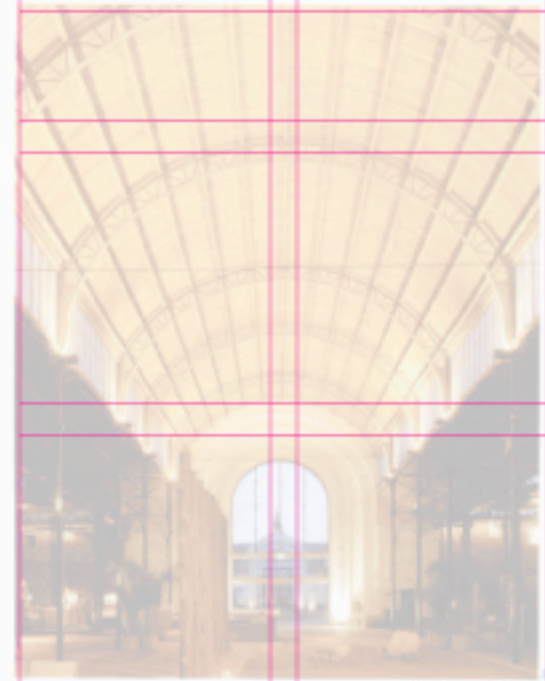
In a stylish corner of the Hotel Modern, this private-dining area has a cellar with 600 specially selected bottles of Argentina's finest wines. Chef Olivier Fauch produces an impressive menu of contemporary French cuisine, using locally sourced ingredients.

www.hotelmodern.com.ar



INSIDER'S GUIDE MARINA MUÑOZ

Born in New York to an Argentine father and American mother, fashion stylist Marina Muñoz, 22, has lived in Buenos Aires for four years. In San Telmo, her home barrio, she likes *GIL ARTIGUERIADAS* (Humberto Primo 412, T 4361 5019) for vintage dresses, hats and bags, and *EL BUEN ORDEN* (Defensa 894) for brooches. She finishes the day with either tapas at *CAFE SAN JUAN* (Avenida San Juan 450) or a glass of wine and gnocchi at *NACIONAL* (Balcarré 907) – before going upstairs for a spot of tango. For upscale dressing, she recommends *BARLO BAMBULE* (Callao 1315), *LUKLA* (Bulnes 2677) or *BENEDICT BEN* (Quintana 16). Muñoz usually buys shoes from *MISCHRA* (El Salvador 4673, T 4833 6566) and gets her hair cut at *ESTUDIO H* (Honduras 3717, T 4822 4380). A day in Palermo, her second home, ideally ends at *DOMINGA* (Honduras 5618, T 4771 4443), for Argentine-style sushi, or *SUDSTADA* (Guatemala 5602, T 4776 3777), for south-east Asian cuisine in minimalist surroundings.



F / FORA BARRA

Additional fare (barbecue and *spañadas*), musical shows and shopping in a 1900s neo-classical edifice in Palermo. The dramatic décor has a gaucho vibe, and includes custom-made furniture by local designer Diana Cabeza. Avenida Sacorrotte 7. Avenida 2704, T 4777 5352. www.fora.com.ar

I / SUCRE

Sucre buzzes all week with diners enjoying chef Fernando Troca's modern Argentine menu, the smell of a wood-burning grill and one of the best collars in town. Sweetbreads are excellent, but if you're all beefed out, try salmon with brandy and truffle oil. Sucre 646, T 4762 9282. www.sucrerestaurant.com.ar

L / LA CABRERA

Steak standards are high in BA, but this is the pick of Palermo's *parillas*. It has no pretensions, the décor is timeless and none of the waiters is a model. Start with baked goats' cheese and follow with *Qip de Bife*, the cut of the moment. You'll pay no more than US\$2 for the grilling. Cabrerá 5090, T 4831 7932.

FOUR SEASONS MANSION

Sunday brunch is as much of an BA institution as political protest in the Plaza de Mayo. The very genteel surroundings of the Four Seasons Mansion will provide the most refined and full on gourmet eat-all-you-can experience you've ever had. Booking is essential. Four Seasons Mansion, Posadas 1766-1788, T 4731 1790.

OLSEN

Danish design and Nordic firs in the garden may mark this out as the city's number-one Scandic dining experience, but much local panache has gone into making this one of Palermo's classiest places to dine. Go during the day to enjoy the blissful garden, and sample the home-made breads. *Govini 5870, T 4776 7677*



PASIONARIA

Pancha Salomon is the king of multi-espacios. His warehouse is packed with mid-20th-century furniture, and is a sometime shop, sometime café, sometime restaurant and film venue. Call to see when he'll next be dusting off the dining tables to serve supper to a select few. *Book early. Govoy Cruz 1841, T 4771 0563*

BUENOS AIRES
URBAN LIFE

046

PLAZA

Swedish design and Nordic firs in the garden may mark this out as the city's number-one Scandic dining experience, but much local panache has gone into making this one of Palermo's classiest places to dine. Go during the day to enjoy the blissful garden, and sample the home-made breads.
Germi 5870, T 4776 2677



PASADONARIA

Pancho Salomon is the king of multi-espacios. His warehouse is packed with mid-20th-century furniture, and is a sometime shop, sometime café, sometime restaurant and film venue. Call to see when he'll next be dusting off the dining tables to serve supper to a select few. Book early.
Godoy Cruz 1841, T 4771 0563



A / BO BO

The city's first boutique hotel has just seven rooms and a small, friendly team of staff. Each room reflects a design era from the 80-year history of the house; we like the Minimalist room, below, although the more rustic Argentine room does boast a sunken Jacuzzi bath and terrace. www.bobohotel.com

**B / SOFITEL MADERO**

Minimalist furnishings and good business facilities give the Madero an international air, but its contemporary lighting and artwork save it from mediocrity. Studio rooms, with a kitchenette, make for comfortable long stays, and a restaurant, pool and spa are all in the hotel's favour. www.hotelmadero.com

**BOQUITAS PINTADAS**

This five-room guesthouse is a Chelsea Hotel for the southern hemisphere. It's low on luxury, but attracts an eccentric crowd of international artists - Stephen Sprouse spent his last days here and Spencer Tunick filled the bar with naked bodies. It's worth splashing out on the Suite Royal. www.boquitas-pintadas.com.ar

WHERE TO STAY OUR PICK OF THE TOP HOTELS

A surge in tourism prompted by the devaluation of the peso in 2001 has shaken up the hotel industry and prompted a flurry of refurbishment. City hotels, which had previously relied on faded belle époque grandeur, were forced to upgrade. Now the Four Seasons, Sofitel Buenos Aires, NH City and the grand old Alvear Palace are to be joined by the 167-room Park Hyatt, which is due for completion in July. The Faena Hotel + Universe (see overleaf), which has upped the ante for extravagant design, is part of Puerto Madero Este's new designer hotel belt that also includes the Mario Roberto Alvarez-designed Hilton (home to the city's best rooftop pool) and the recently opened Hotel Madero.

In Palermo, early 20th-century former family homes are being reworked as boutique hotels. The Bo Bo Hotel on Guatemala is a great example, and we expect the new 18-room conversion on Honduras by Rodrigo Cunil Cabanellas and interior designer Juana Grichener to further hone the boutique trend in the barrio.

**C / NH CITY**

Opened in 2000, NH City has contemporary fittings and artwork, but the deco building, with its marble foyer, dates from 1931. Book a room on a higher floor (1103 is our choice) to ensure proximity to the rooftop pool and guarantee a great view. Pictured is a junior suite. www.nh-hotels.com

FOUR SEASONS

This relatively young hotel combines 21st-century facilities with the poise and grandeur of an older establishment. Besides large, elegant rooms, it boasts BA's best spa, a peaceful outdoor pool and a seven-suite mansion (Madonna's home during the filming of *Evita*) in the grounds. www.fourseasons.com

TRAVEL RESOURCES

For full hotel details and room rates, see Travel Resources, page 142

4 / BO BO

The city's first boutique hotel has just seven rooms and a small, friendly team of staff. Each room reflects a design era from the 80-year history of the house, as like the Minimalist room, below, although the more rustic Argentine room does boast a sunken Jacuzzi bath and terrace. www.bohotel.com



5 / SOFITEL MADERO

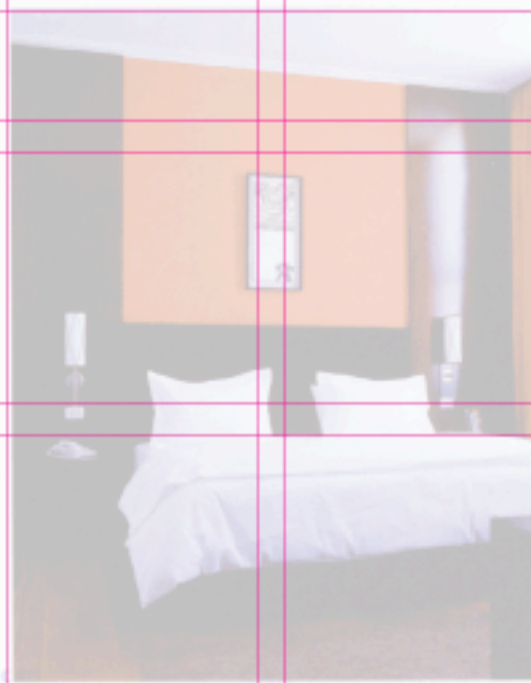
Minimalist furnishings and good business facilities give the Madero an international air, but its contemporary lighting and artwork save it from mediocrity. Studio rooms, with a kitchenette, make for comfortable long stays, and a restaurant, pool and spa are all in the hotel's favor. www.sofitelmadero.com



**WHERE TO STAY
OUR PICK OF
THE TOP HOTELS**

A surge in tourism prompted by the devaluation of the peso in 2001 has shaken up the hotel industry and prompted a flurry of refurbishment. City hotels, which had previously relied on faded belle époque grandeur, were forced to upgrade. Now the Four Seasons, Sofitel Buenos Aires, NH City and the grand old Alvear Palace are to be joined by the 167-room Park Hyatt, which is due for completion in July. The Baena Hotel + Universe (see overleaf), which has upped the ante for extravagant design, is part of Puerto Madero Este's new designer hotel belt that also includes the Mario Roberto Alvarez-designed Hilton (home to the city's best rooftop pool) and the recently opened Hotel Madero.

In Palermo, early 20th-century former family homes are being reworked as boutique hotels. The Bo Bo Hotel on Guatemala is a great example, and we expect the new 18-room conversion on Honduras by Rodrigo Cusi Cabanellas and interior designer Juana Grichener to further hone the boutique trend in the barrio.



BOQUETAS PINTADAS

This five-room guesthouse is a Chelsea Hotel for the southern hemisphere. It's low on luxury, but attracts an eccentric crowd of international artists – Stephen Sondheim spent his last days here, and Spencer Tunick filled the bar with naked bodies. It's worth splashing out on the Suite Royal. www.boquetaspintadas.com.ar

6 / NH CITY

Opened in 2000, NH City has contemporary fittings and artwork, but the deco building, with its marble foyer, dates from 1931. Book a room on a higher floor (101 is our choice) to ensure proximity to the rooftop pool and guarantee a great view. Priced in a junior suite. www.nh-hotels.com

FOUR SEASONS

This relatively young hotel combines 21st-century facilities with the poise and grandeur of an older establishment. Besides large, elegant rooms, it boasts BH's best spa, a peaceful outdoor pool and a seven-suite mansion (Madero's home during the filming of *Evita*) in the grounds. www.fourseasons.com

TRAVEL RESOURCES

For full hotel details and room rates, see Travel Resources, page 142

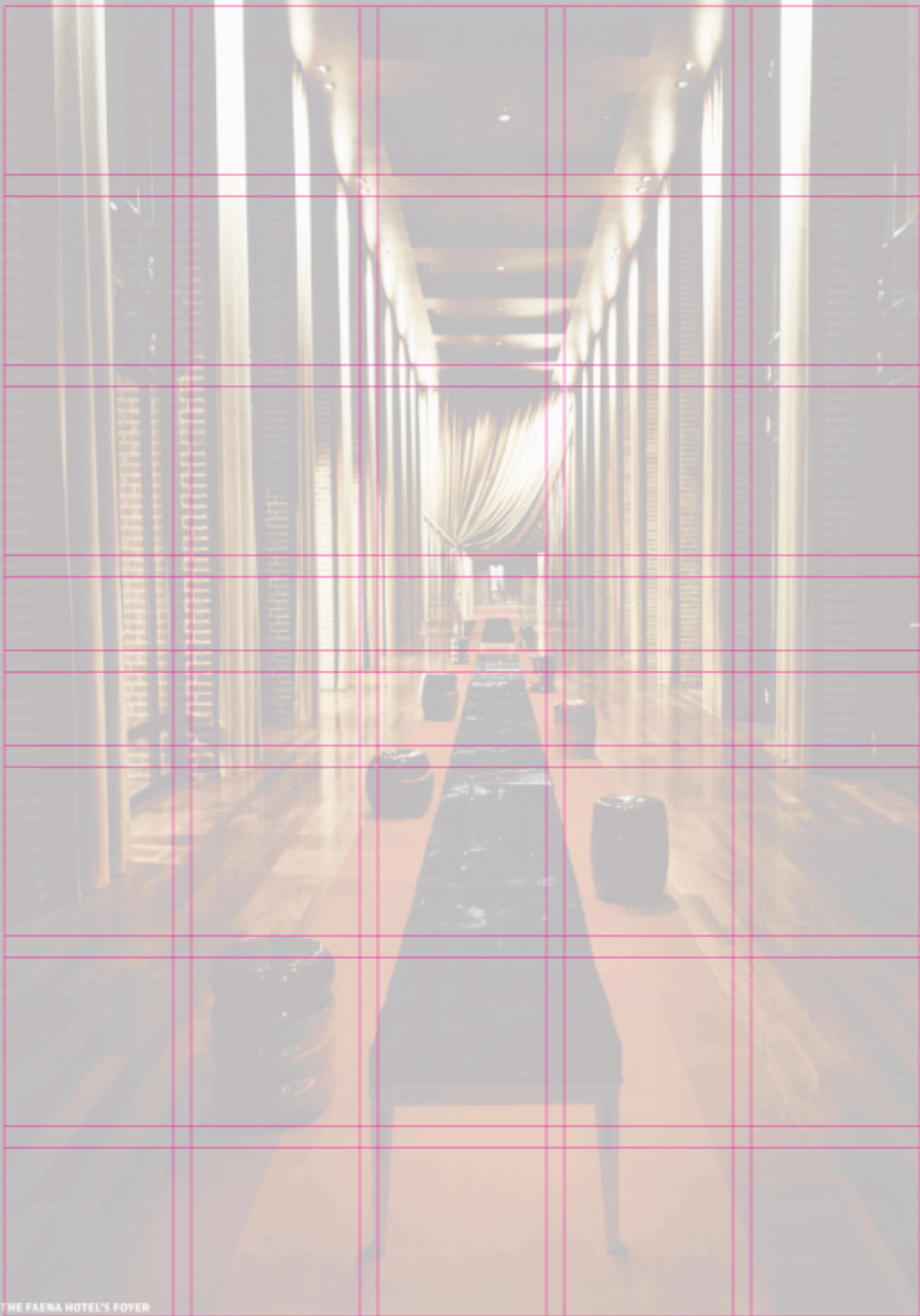


THE FAENA HOTEL'S FOYER

FAENA HOTEL • UNIVERSE

BA's hottest place to lay your head has everything from a spa to a school for good living. The rooms, swathed in red velvet, are pure theatre. We loved SD2 for its sun-soaked bathtub and city views. A designated Experience Manager will be your best friend, PA or guide during your stay. www.faenahotelanduniverse.com

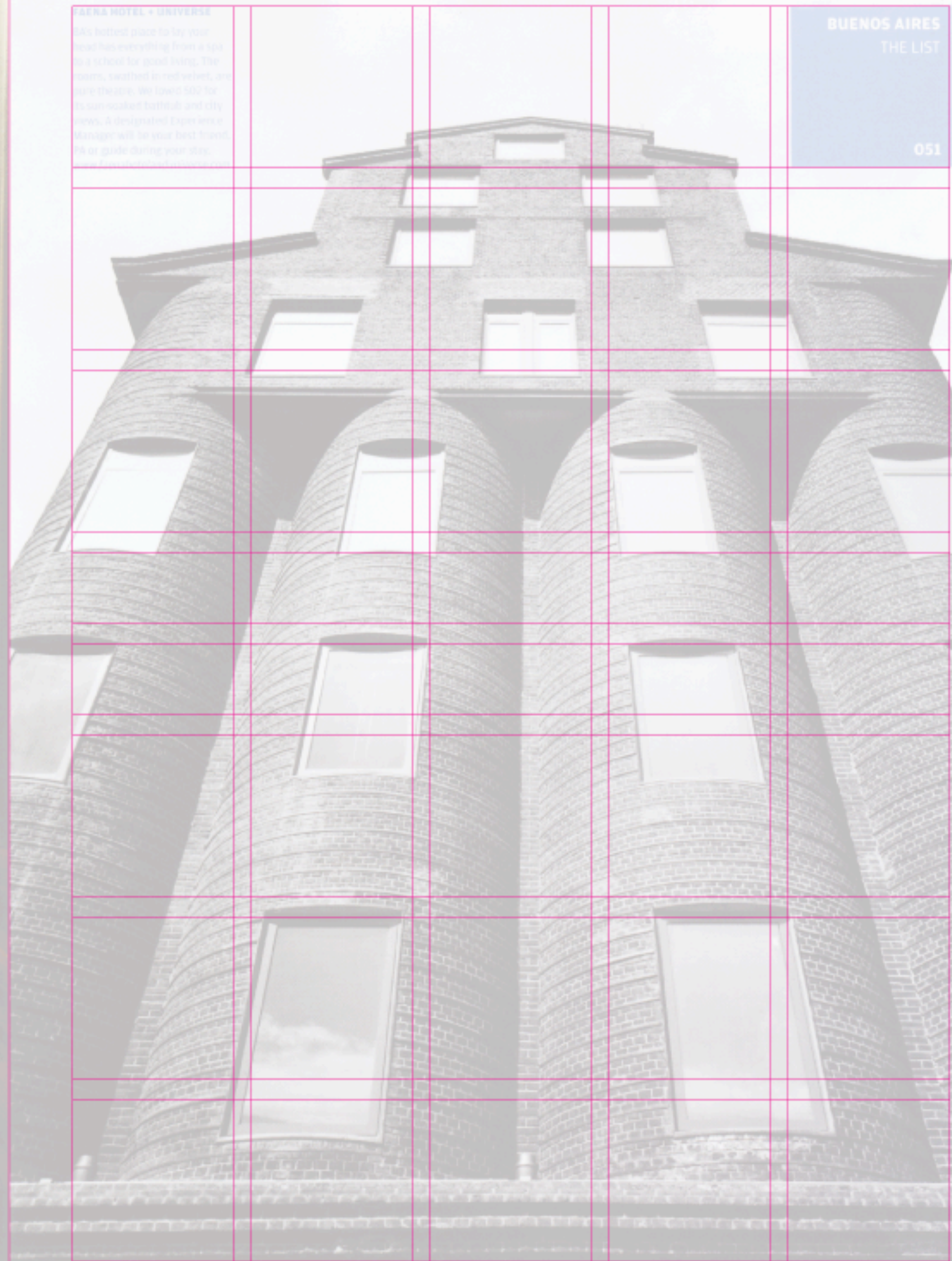




THE FAENA HOTEL'S FOYER

FAENA HOTEL • UNIVERSE

It's hottest place to lay your head has everything from a spa to a school for good living. The rooms, swathed in red velvet, are pure theatre. We took \$82 for its sun-soaked breakfast and city views. A designated Experience Manager will be your best friend. Pick or grade during your stay. www.fahrenhotels.com/usa





HURACAN STADIUM

Huracán de Tres Arroyos football club, which plays in the suburbs, may be in the same league as its bigger city neighbours, but it is firmly in their shadow. It's worth a trek out of town, though, to see a game at its art deco stadium (also pictured opposite, bottom). Sviapacha 351, Tres Arroyos, T 02983 427020



**SPORT AND FITNESS
WORK OUT, CHILL OUT
OR JUST WATCH**

The pursuit of a refined physique seems to be every Porteño's *raison d'être*. Joggers queue to use the exercise stations that dot the parks, and the gyms are lively.

The Porteños' fanaticism for football is also legendary, so take in a game at the art deco stadium (pictured opposite and right) of Huracán de Tres Arroyos.

Equestrian pursuits are part of the fabric of the country. Palermo's polo fields are worth a visit during the season (see www.polonet.com.ar for fixtures) or try to back a winner at the Hipódromo (pictured above).



A / HIPÓDROMO ARGENTINO

If you're in BA outside the polo season or are willing to eschew the equestrian elite and get down with the gambling masses for your horseplay, you can catch racing at the Hipódromo Argentino de Palermo, which is in the heart of the city. Avenida del Libertador 4101, Palermo, T 4778 2800

GYM

Megafon La Imprenta is the latest addition to a BA chain of gyms and also the most stylish. So whether you're training on the treadmill or shaping up in the pool, you have a good excuse to pause and admire the aesthetics. Migueletes 1023, Belgrano, T 4784 6635, www.megafon.com

GOLF

- 1 Campo de Golf de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires, Avenida Torriquist 6392, Palermo, T 4772 7261
- 2 Buenos Aires Golf Club, Mayer Iniesta 3777, Bella Vista, T 4468 2533, www.bagolf.com.ar
- 3 Costa Salguero Golf Center, Avenida Costanera Rafael Obligado y Salguero, Costanera Norte, T 4805 4734, www.costasalguerogolf.com.ar

SWIMMING POOLS

- 1 Hilton Buenos Aires, Avenida Macacha Gaemes 351, Puerto Madero, T 4891 0000, www.hilton.com
- 2 Megafon La Imprenta, Migueletes 1023, Belgrano, T 4784 6635, www.megafon.com
- 3 Vilas Club, Valentín Alsina 1450, Belgrano, T 4777 7500, www.vilasclub.com

DAY SPAS

- 1 Agua Vita Medical Spa, Arenales 1965, Barrio Norte, T 4812 5989, www.aguavitamedicalspa.com
- 2 Evian Agua Club & Spa, Cerviño 3626, Palermo, T 4807 4688, www.aguacubspa.com
- 3 Four Seasons Spa, Posadas 1086-88, Recoleta, T 4321 1200, www.fourseasons.com

TENNIS

- 1 Ocampo Tennis, Avenida Ortiz de Ocampo 3300, Palermo, T 4803 7747
- 2 Vilas Club, Valentín Alsina 1450, Belgrano, T 4777 7500, www.vilasclub.com

24-HOUR PHARMACY

Farmacity, Avenida Alicia Moreau de Justo 390, T 4313 0986



HURACAN STADIUM

Huracán de Tres Arroyos football club, which plays in the suburbs, may be in the same league as its bigger city neighbours, but it is firmly in their shadow. It's worth a trek out of town, though, to see a game at its art deco stadium (also pictured opposite, bottom), Aviparha 251, Tres Arroyos, T 02983 427020

<p>HIPODROMO ARGENTINO</p>		<p>BUENOS AIRES SPORT</p> <p>053</p>
<p>HIPODROMO ARGENTINO</p>		<p>HIPODROMO ARGENTINO If you're in BA outside the polo season or are willing to eschew the equestrian elite and get down with the gambling masses for your horseplay, you can catch racing at the Hippodromo Argentino de Palermo, which is in the heart of the city. Avenida del Libertador 4201, Palermo, T 4788 2800</p>
<p>GYM</p>		<p>GYM Megafit La Imprenta is the latest addition to a BA chain of gyms and also the most stylish, so whether you're training on the treadmill or shaping up in the pool, you have a good excuse to pause and admire the architect Miguelares 1023, Belgrano, T 4784 5635, www.megafit.com.ar</p>
<p>GOLF</p>		<p>GOLF 1 Campo de Golf de la Costanera Buenos Aires, Avenida Tornquist 6392, Palermo, T 4712 2261 2 Buenos Aires Golf Club, Mayor Borda 2272, Villa Urquiza, T 4468 7533, www.bagolf.com.ar 3 Costa Surplus Golf Club, Avenida Costanera Rafael Obligado y Salguero, Costanera Norte, T 4805 4734, www.costasurplusgolf.com.ar</p>
<p>SPORT AND FITNESS WORK OUT, CHILL OUT OR JUST WATCH</p>		<p>SWIMMING POOLS 1 Híton Buenos Aires, Avenida Macacha Garmes 303, Puerto Madero, T 4891 0000, www.hiton.com 2 Megafit La Imprenta, Miguelares 1023, Belgrano, T 4784 5635, www.megafit.com.ar 3 Vilas Club, Valentín Alsina 1450, Belgrano, T 4777 7500, www.vilascub.com</p>
<p>SPA</p>		<p>SPA 1 Agua Vitas Medical Spa, Arriales 1965, Barrio Norte, T 4812 5989, www.aguavitamedicalspa.com 2 Eslan Agua Club & Spa, Cerviño 3636, Palermo, T 4801 4685, www.aguacubida.com 3 Four Seasons Spa, Posadas 1086-88, Recoleta, T 4321 3200, www.fourseasons.com</p>
<p>TENNIS</p>		<p>TENNIS 1 Ocampo Tenis, Avenida Ortiz de Ocampo 3300, Palermo, T 4803 7747 2 Vilas Club, Valentín Alsina 1450, Belgrano, T 4777 7500, www.vilascub.com</p> <p>24-HOUR PHARMACY Farmacia Ity, Avenida Alicia Moreau de Justo 390, T 4313 0986</p>

RETAIL HIT LIST
THE CITY'S BEST SHOPS, PLUS THE
PRODUCTS TO MAKE A BEELINE FOR

TRAMANDO SCREEN

Former fashion designer Martín Churba now operates a design collective above Tramando, his shop in Recoleta, where he collaborates with other artists and designers, such as Mauro Bernardini, who designed this wood-block screen. US\$1,700. Tramando, Prodigios Pella 1973, T 4811 0465

A / 'MADRID' CHAIR

Horacio 'Bicho' Ballero, a highly respected local architect, created this chair in 1967 for a project in Madrid. Fashionable at the time, it has not been produced for years, until Ballero's widow allowed design outlet Manifesto to start making it again in 2004. US\$390. Manifesto, Humboldt 2160, Palermo, T 4773 1500



B / VASES

Planas Vlau acquired a disused glass-blowing factory just south of the city in 2002 and has reignited one of the city's old industries. Its modern designs, produced using traditional techniques, can be seen in the fittings at the Faena Hotel. From US\$40. Hudson 2750, Comas de Zambora, T 4282 8981



C / BAG

Famed for its award-winning 'BKF' backpack, inspired by the iconic 'BKF' butterfly chair, bag designer Humawaca has much more to offer. Its accessories are made from pampas-primed cowhides, and new, original designs are added seasonally. US\$85. Humawaca, El Salvador 4692, Palermo, T 4584 5008



D / DRESS

Couturiers Mario Buraglio and Victor Delgrosso, the duo behind Varanasi, are former architects, a fact apparent in the complex structures of their garments. This is the perfect place to pick up a little evening number for some late-night tangoing. US\$325. Varanasi, El Salvador 4761, Palermo, T 4833 5147



F

F / RIDING BOOTS

There is nowhere better than Argentina, home of equestrian pursuits, to buy handcrafted riding boots. At La Casa de las Botas, polo, dressage and jodphur boots, in your choice of leather, are stitched on site. From US\$200. La Casa de las Botas, Paraguay 3062, Palermo, T 4776 0762

G / BISCUITS

Wherever you stop for coffee in the city, alfajores will be offered as an accompaniment. A dulce de leche biscuit sandwich, the sweetness of an alfajor can test amateur palates, but you'll soon be stashing boxes to take home. Havana is the staple brand. US\$5. Havana, Avenida Quintana 558, Recoleta

H / STOOL

Lights, furniture and ornaments from the 1920s to the 1950s are piled high in this vintage-filled paradise. Though most items are European, unique local pieces, such as this stool, taken from an old cabaret, are fun to ferret out. US\$455. La Pasionaria, Godoy Cruz 1541, Palermo Viejo, T 4773 0563

SHIPPING

For large items, it pays to chose one of the bigger international companies. We recommend DHL, Moreno 963, T 4347 0660

RETAIL HIT LIST
THE CITY'S BEST SHOPS, PLUS THE
PRODUCTS TO MAKE A BEELINE FOR

TRAMANDO SCREEN

Former fashion designer Martín Churba now operates a design collective above Tramando, his shop in Recoleta, where he collaborates with other artists and designers, such as Mauro Bernardini, who designed this wood-block screen. US\$1,700, Tramando, Profronter Peña 1973, T.4811 0465

A / 'MADRID' CHAIR

Rodrigo 'Bacho' Bachers, a highly respected local architect, created this chair in 1967 for a project in Madrid. Fashionable at the time, it has not been produced for years, until Bachers's widow allowed design outlet Manifesto to start making it again in 2004. US\$290, Manifesto, Humboldt 100, Palermo 7, 4773 1000



A

B

D

F

B / VASES

Flavia Vialo acquired a disused glass-blowing factory just south of the city in 2002 and has reopened one of the city's old industries. Its modern designs, produced using traditional techniques, can be seen in the fittings at the Faena hotel. From US\$40, Huchon 2750, Puerto Madero 1, 4784 9888



C

E

G

C / BAG

Famed for its award-winning 'BK' backpack, inspired by the iconic 'BK' butterfly chair, bag designer Humawaca has much more to offer. Its accessories are made from pampas-printed cowhides, and new, original designs are added seasonally. US\$65, Humawaca, El Salvador 663, Palermo 1, 4564 3988



D

F

H

D / DRESS

Costumiers Mario Duraglio and Victor Delgrossi, the duo behind Varanasi, are former architects. A fact apparent in the complex structures of their garments. This is the perfect place to pick up a little evening number for some late-night tangoing. US\$325, Varanasi, El Salvador 286, Palermo 7, 4813 0147



E

E / JEWELLERY

This PyC 'Intersección' necklace and bracelet by design group Massimo Pini Oleria, which uses new production processes and unconventional materials in its jewellery, are part of a recent, highly acclaimed collection. From US\$25, Massimo Pini Oleria, Cabello 3650, Palermo 1, 4773 0563

F / RIDING BOOTS

There is nowhere better than Argentina, home of equestrian pursuits, to buy handcrafted riding boots. At La Casa de las Botas, polo, dressage and jodhpur boots, in your choice of leather, are stitched on site. From US\$200, La Casa de las Botas, Paraguay 3064, Palermo 1, T.4726 2062



F

G / BISCUITS

Wherever you stop for coffee in the city, alfajores will be offered as an accompaniment. A dulce de leche biscuit sandwich, the sweetness of an alfajor can test amateur palates, but you'll soon be washing bowls to take home. Havana is the staple brand. US\$5, Havana, Avenida Quirquina 558, Recoleta



G

H / STOOL

Lighter, furniture and ornaments from the 1920s to the 1950s are piled high in this vintage-filled paradise. Though most items are European, unique local pieces, such as this stool, taken from an old cabaret, are fun to ferret out. US\$455, La Paskovaria, Godoy Cruz 1542, Palermo Viejo, T.4773 0563

SHIPPING
For large items, it pays to choose one of the bigger international companies. We recommend DHL. Móvimo 963, T.4347 0660

NAVIGATOR
COST OF LIVING INDEX
KEY TO SYMBOLSOne-way taxi fare between
city centre and airport

Daily newspaper



Bottle of Moët and Chandon NV



Cappuccino at a good café



Chart CD



Packet of Marlboro Lights

BEIRUT

- **Albergo**
rue Abdel Wahab el-Inglini,
Ashrafiyeh
T 01 339 797
Room rates:
standard suite, US\$275;
junior suite, US\$313;
business suite, US\$339;
deluxe suite, US\$377;
executive suite, US\$415;
presidential suite, US\$700;
royal suite, US\$960;
room 202, see executive suite
- **Al Bustan**
Beig Merry,
Broumana
T 04 870 400
Room rates:
single, US\$154-US\$176;
double, US\$176-\$198;
junior suite, US\$253-275;
executive suite, US\$363-\$385;
presidential suite, US\$583-\$605;
rooms 14, 15 and 16,
see presidential suite
- **Mövenpick**
Avenue Général de Gaulle,
Rasouche
T 01 869 666
Room rates:
single with courtyard
view, US\$220;
double with courtyard
view, US\$242;
single with sea view, US\$264;
double with sea view, US\$286;
suite with garden view, US\$495;
suite with beach view, US\$605;
diplomatic suite, US\$1,200;
ambassador suite, US\$2,200;
royal suite, US\$4,950
- **Phoenicia**
Misef El-Hosn
T 01 369 100
Room rates:
deluxe queen with city
view, US\$235;
deluxe king with
city view, US\$265;
premium with front view, US\$310;
Phoenician, US\$355;
Club InterContinental, US\$405;
Phoenician suite, US\$750;
diplomatic suite, US\$950;
Serena suite, US\$1,350;
ambassador suite, US\$4,000;
majestic suite, US\$5,500;
royal suite, US\$7,900;
royal apartment, US\$12,000;
grand royal suite, US\$14,000

BUENOS AIRES

- **Bo Bo**
Guatemala 4882,
Palermo Soho
T 4774 0505
Room rates:
Classic, Art Deco and
Rationalist rooms, US\$80;
Pop, Minimalist and
Techno rooms, US\$95;
Argentinian room, US\$120
- **Boquitas Pintadas**
Estados Unidos 1391,
Montserrat
T 4 381 6064/4382 4096
Room rates:
101 Gilda, US\$180;
102 royal suite, US\$285;
103 Santeria (single),
US\$135; 201 Diana, US\$210;
203 Chamber of Roses
(single), US\$135
- **Four Seasons**
Posadas 1086-88,
Recoleta
T 4321 1200
Room rates:
superior, US\$350;
deluxe, US\$365;
club deluxe, US\$400;
premier, US\$410;
deluxe premier, US\$440;
club premier, US\$475;
Four Seasons executive
suite, US\$485;
deluxe Four Seasons
executive suite, US\$515;
club Four Seasons
executive suite, US\$550;
deluxe one-bedroom suite,
US\$1,000;
mansion room, US\$450;
mansion Albeniz suite, US\$500;
mansion Rossini suite, US\$600;
mansion diplomatic suite,
US\$950;
mansion ambassador suite,
US\$1,250;
mansion presidential suite,
US\$1,500
- **Madero**
Boulevard Rosario Vera
Peralaza 360,
Puerto Madero
T 5776 7777
Room rates:
superior, US\$210;
deluxe, US\$240;
junior suite, US\$275;
suite executive, US\$315;
suite diplomat, US\$360

- **La Faena Hotel + Universe**
Martha Salotti 445,
Puerto Madero Este
T 4010 9000
Room rates:
premium, US\$300;
executive, US\$350;
executive studio, US\$450;
duplex, US\$750;
River suite, US\$800;
duplex suite, US\$1,000;
Porteno suite, US\$1,200;
presidential, price on request;
room 502, see executive studio;
room 506, see executive room
- **NH City**
Bolívar 160
T 4121 6464
Room rates:
standard (single and
double), US\$115;
special, US\$125;
junior suite, US\$137;
presidential suite, US\$320;
room 1103, US\$410;
room 1106, US\$135

HAMBURG

- **Abtei**
Altaistrasse 14
T 442 905
Room rates:
single, €180;
double, €240
Room 3 (junior suite), €260
- **Atlantic**
An der Alster 72-79
T 268 80
Room rates:
standard single, €270;
superior double, €405;
deluxe double, €470;
junior suite, from €500;
deluxe suite, €600;
BMW suite, €3,900;
Atlantic suite, €3,900
- **East**
Simon-von-Utrecht-Strasse 31
T 3990 8771
Room rates:
single, €155-€195;
double, €165;
large double, €175;
X large suite, €215;
XX large suite, €360
(double occupancy)
- **Gastwerk**
Beim Alten Gastwerk 3
T 890 620
Room rates:
standard, €99;
guests under 26, from €59;
room 224, 424 and 500,
see standard

- Loft room, €135-€165;
junior suite, €175-€195;
suite, €360
- **Louis C Jacob**
Elbchaussee 401-403
T 822 550
Room rates:
Garden single, €185-€235;
Garden double, €235-€295;
deluxe double, €305;
Elbe double, €345-€395;
junior suite €375-€405;
suite, from €565;
deluxe suite, €915
rooms 104 and 204,
see deluxe double;
suite 210, see suite
- **Park Hyatt**
Bugenhagenstrasse 8
T 3332 1234
Room rates:
standard single, €160;
Regency Club single, €210;
standard double, €185;
Regency Club double, €245;
presidential suite, €1,440
- **Vier Jahreszeiten**
Neuer Jungfernstieg 9-14
T 349 40
Room rates:
standard single, €220;
superior single, €250;
deluxe single, €295;
standard double, €270;
superior double, €300;
deluxe double, €345;
deluxe junior suite, €575;
deluxe suite, €975;
superior deluxe suite, €1,250;
rooms 504-516,
see deluxe double

- **Sido**
Drehbahn 49
T 309 990
Room rates:
superior, €185-€240;
deluxe, €205-€290;
executive, €255-€305;
small suite, €295;
medium suite, €395;
large suite, €495;
X large suite, €595;
XX large, €1,109
- **25 hours**
Paul-Dessau-Strasse 2
T 855 070
Room rates:
standard, €99;
guests under 26, from €59;
room 224, 424 and 500,
see standard

- **Malmaison**
Piccadilly
T 278 1000
Room rates:
standard double, €129,
weekend rate, €99;
suite, €365;
rooms ending in 11,
see standard double

MANCHESTER

- **Didsbury House**
Didsbury Park,
Didsbury Village
T 448 2200
Room rates:
standard, €135;
superior, €145;
deluxe, €175;
duplex suite, €195;
queen suite, €225;
king suite, €350;
rooms 32 and 35,
see duplex suites
- **Eleven Didsbury Park**
11 Didsbury Park,
Didsbury Village
T 448 7711
Room rates:
standard, €135;
superior, €145;
deluxe, €175
- **Great John Street**
Great John Street
T 0870 220 2277
Room rates:
baby grand, €235;
studio, €275;
grand, €450;
grandest, €750
- **Jarvis Piccadilly**
Piccadilly Plaza,
Portland Street
T 236 8434
Room rates:
single, €79-€109;
double, €89-€109;
rooms overlooking the
pavilion and the gardens
are the same price
- **The Lowry Hotel**
50 Dearmans Place,
Chapel Wharf
T 827 4000
Room rates:
standard, €209;
deluxe, €239;
single suite, €500;
double suite, €550;
Charles Forte suite,
€1,055-€1,255;
room 422, see deluxe

- **Radisson Edwardian**
Free Trade Hall,
Peter Street
T 835 9929
Room rates:
Monday-Thursday:
king superior, €130;
deluxe, €160;
Friday-Sunday, king
superior, €110;
rooms with "urban gardens",
€280-€450

MONTREAL

- **Fairmont Queen Elizabeth**
900 Boulevard René-Lévesque
T 861 3511
Room rates:
Moderate, C\$169;
Fairmont, from C\$199;
junior suite, from C\$279;
one-bedroom suite, from C\$369;
Fairmont Gold, from C\$279;
John and Yoko (room 1742), from
C\$600, includes breakfast in bed;
John and Yoko room and Give
Peace a Chance package, C\$1,969
- **Gault**
449 rue Ste Helene
T 904 1616
Room rates:
basic queen, C\$199;
basic king, C\$219;
studio suite, C\$329;
loft, C\$579
Room 530, C\$239-C\$299
- **Le Germain**
2050 rue Mansfield
T 849 2050
Room rates:
standard with queen-size bed
(rooms ending 1-4), from C\$220;
suites, from C\$500-C\$1,000
- **Le Godin**
10 rue Sherbrooke Ouest
T 843 6000
Room rates:
king-size standard room, C\$235;
Godin suite with St-Laurent
view, C\$325;
junior suite, C\$350;
diplomatic suite, C\$550;
executive suite, C\$600
- **Nelligan**
106 rue Saint-Paul Ouest
T 788 2040
Room rates:
standard, from C\$210;
king Love suite, from C\$280;
deluxe suite, from C\$310;
Elegant suite, from C\$500

- **Le St James**
355 rue Saint-Jacques
T 841 3111
Room rates:
superior, from C\$400;
deluxe, from C\$475;
superior suite, from C\$575;
deluxe suite, from C\$675

- **St Paul**
355 rue McGill
T 380 2222
Room rates:
standard, from C\$189;
junior suite, from C\$250;
deluxe suite, from C\$350;
penthouse, C\$500;
room 101L, see penthouse
- **Sofitel**
1155 rue Sherbrooke Ouest
T 285 9000
Room rates:
superior, from \$175;
deluxe, from \$199;
deluxe suite, \$239;
executive suite, from \$350;
penthouse, from \$1,500
- **W Montreal**
901 Victoria Square
T 395 3000
Room rates:
Cosy, from \$299;
Wonderful, from \$319;
Spectacular, from \$369;
Mega-king, from \$419;
Urban suite, from \$519;
E-wow suite, from \$4,000

STOCKHOLM

- **Berns**
Näckströmgatan 8,
Berzelli Park
T 566 322 00
Room rates:
single, SEK2,200;
small double, SEK2,500
(single occupancy),
SEK2,800 (double occupancy);
double, SEK2,800 (single
occupancy), SEK3,100
(double occupancy);
deluxe double, SEK3,300
(single occupancy),
SEK3,600 (double occupancy);
deluxe double with park view,
SEK3,800 (single occupancy),
SEK4,100 (double occupancy);
junior suite, SEK4,800;
clock suite, SEK6,500;
rooms 606 and 608,
see double room - both rooms
have a park view

- **Birger Jarl**
Tulegatan 8
T 674 18 00
Room rates:
single room, SEK1,645;
double room, SEK1,980;
business room, SEK2,360;
suite, SEK2,850;
Gotlands and Miss Dottie design
rooms (doubles), SEK2,450;
Mr Glad and 40 design rooms
(junior suites), SEK2,950;
The Currant Suite design room
(executive suite), SEK4,500

- **Clarion**
Ringvägen 98
T 462 10 00
Room rates:
single, SEK1,795;
double, SEK2,495;
deluxe, SEK3,695;
suite, SEK5,195;
Söder suite, SEK10,000
- **Esplanade**
Strandvägen 7a
T 663 07 40
Room rates:
single, SEK1,095-SEK1,595,
weekend rate, SEK1,095;
double, SEK2,295-SEK2,495,
weekend rate, SEK1,695




- **The Grand**
S Blasieholmshamnen 8
T 679 35 60
Room rates:
single, SEK2,400;
single with harbour view,
SEK3,000;
classic double, SEK3,200
(single occupancy),
SEK3,600 (double occupancy);
superior double,
SEK3,900 (double occupancy);
double with harbour view,
SEK3,800 (single occupancy),
SEK4,200 (double occupancy);
deluxe double with
harbour view,
SEK4,100 (single occupancy),
SEK4,500 (double occupancy);
suites, SEK5,500-SEK8,200;
junior suite, SEK8,200;
Nobel suite, SEK11,200;
Flag suite, SEK13,200;
Parlour suites (up to
five bedrooms), SEK10,
300-SEK26,200;
Bernadotte suite (three
bedrooms), SEK13,200;
room 150, see junior suite




- **J Gäshaga**
Vardshusvägen 14-16,
Lidingö
T 601 34 00
Room rates:
double, SEK1,695,
weekend rate, SEK950;
double with sea view, SEK2,095;
weekend rate, SEK1,550;
suite, SEK2,995, weekend
rate, SEK2,900
- **Lydmar**
Stungatan 10
T 566 113 00
Room rates:
small, SEK1,950;
corner room (medium),
SEK2,400;
large, SEK2,600;
extra large, SEK3,950;
suite 551, see extra large

- **Rival**
Mariatorget 3
T 545 789 00
Room rates:
single, SEK1,990, weekend
rate, SEK1,190;
double, SEK2,190, weekend
rate, SEK1,340;
superior, SEK2,090
(single occupancy),
SEK2,790 (double occupancy),
weekend rate, SEK1,590;
deluxe room, SEK2,390
(single occupancy),
SEK2,590 (double occupancy),
weekend rate, SEK1,790;
executive double, SEK2,990,
weekend rate, SEK2,690;
suites, from SEK3,890,
weekend rate, SEK3,590

VALENCIA

- **Ad Hoc**
Calle Boix 4
T 391 9140
Room rates:
Double room, €99
(single occupancy),
€115 (double occupancy);
room 13 and 42, from €115;
room 52, from €135
- **AC Valencia**
Avenida de Francia 67
T 331 7000
Room rates:
standard, €87.50;
superior, €101.50;
business, €117;
rooms 716, 816 and 916,
see superior rooms
- **Mont Sant**
Carretera del Castillo
Xàtiva,
T 227 5081
Room rates:
standard room, €84
(single occupancy),
€112 (double occupancy);
annexe room,
€93 (single occupancy),
€132 (double occupancy);
cabin, €112 (single occupancy),
€130 (double occupancy);
junior suite, €130 (single
occupancy), €149 (double
occupancy); suite,
€224 (single occupancy),
€261 (double occupancy)
- **Neptuno**
Paseo de Neptuno 2
T 356 7777
Room rates:
double, €136 (single occupancy),
€166 (double occupancy);
double with sea view, €185;
junior suites, €225;
room 312, see junior suite
- **Palau De La Mar**
Navarro Reverter 14
T 356 2884
Room rates:
double room, from €180
(single occupancy),
from €200 (double occupancy);
junior suite, €280;
presidential suite, €500;
rooms 501, 502 and 504,
see junior suite
Breakfast €12 per person
- **Petit Palace Bristol**
Abadía de San Martín 3
T 394 5100
Room rates:
double room, from €85;
family room (four beds),
from €120;
junior suite, from €120;
room facing onto Palau de dos
Aigues, see double room
- **Puerta Valencia**
Cardenal Beiloch 28
T 393 6395
Room rates:
standard double, €145
(single occupancy),
€170 (double occupancy);
executive room, €155
(single occupancy),
€180 (double occupancy);
junior suite, €220;
suite, €280

TRAVEL RESOURCES	NAVIGATOR COST OF LIVING INDEX KEY TO SYMBOLS	 One-way taxi fare between city centre and airport	 Daily newspaper	 Bottle of Moët and Chandon NV
142				
CITY	ROMAN AIRPS			MANCHESTER
<p>Albergo rue Abdel Wahab el-Ingliji, Astrafiyeh T 01 339 797 Room rates: standard suite, US\$275; junior suite, US\$313; business suite, US\$339; deluxe suite, US\$377; executive suite, US\$415; presidential suite, US\$700; royal suite, US\$900</p>	<p>Bo Bo Guatemala 4882, Palermo Soho T 4774 0505 Room rates: Classic, Art Deco and Rationalist rooms, US\$80; Pop, Minimalist and Techno rooms, US\$95; Argentinian room, US\$120</p>	<p>La Palma Hotel + Universe Martha Salotti 445, Puerto Madero Este T 4010 9000 Room rates: premium, US\$300; executive, US\$350; executive studio, US\$450; duplex, US\$750; River suite, US\$800; duplex suite, US\$1,000;</p>	<p>Louis C Jacob Elbchaussee 401-403 T 822 550 Room rates: Garden single, €185-€235; Garden double, €235-€295; deluxe double, €305; Elbe double, €345-€395;</p>	<p>Didsbury House Didsbury Park, Didsbury Village T 448 2200 Room rates: standard, £135; superior, £145; deluxe, £175; duplex suite, £225; queen suite, £225;</p>
<p>room 202, see executive suite</p> <p>Al Bustan Beig Merry, Broumana T 04 870 400 Room rates: single, US\$154-US\$176; double, US\$176-£198; junior suite, US\$253-275; executive suite, US\$363-£385; residential suite, US\$583-£625; rooms 14, 15 and 16, see presidential suite</p>	<p>Boquitas Pintadas Trayales 1066-88 Monserrat T 4 381 6064/4382 4096 Room rates: 101 Gilda, US\$180; 102 royal suite, US\$285; 103 Santeria (single), US\$135; 201 Diana, US\$210; 103 Chamber of Roses (single), US\$135</p>	<p>NH City Bollivar 160 T 4021 6464 Room rates: standard (single and double), US\$115; special, US\$125; junior suite, US\$137; residential suite, US\$220; room 1103, US\$480; room 1106, US\$135</p>	<p>Park Hyatt Bugenhagenstrasse 8 T 3332 1234 Room rates: standard single, €160; Regency Club single, €210; standard double, €185; Regency Club double, €245;</p>	<p>Eleven Didsbury Park 11 Didsbury Park, Didsbury Village T 448 7711 Room rates: standard, £335; superior, £345; deluxe, £375</p> <p>Great John Street Great John Street T 0870 220 2277 Room rates: baby grand, £235; studio, £275; grand, £450; grandest, £750</p>
<p>Mövenpick Avenue Général de Gaulle, Basuche T 03 869 666 Room rates: single with courtyard view, US\$220; double with courtyard view, US\$242; single with sea view, US\$264; double with sea view, US\$286; suite with garden view, US\$495; suite with beach view, US\$405; diplomatic suite, US\$1,230; ambassador suite, US\$2,200; royal suite, US\$4,950</p>	<p>Recoleta T 4 321 1200 Room rates: superior, US\$350; deluxe, US\$365; club deluxe, US\$400; premier, US\$410; deluxe premier, US\$430; club premier, US\$475; Four Seasons executive suite, US\$485; deluxe Four Seasons executive suite, US\$515; club Four Seasons executive suite, US\$550; deluxe one-bedroom suite, US\$1,000; mansion room, US\$450; mansion Albeniz suite, US\$500; mansion Rossini suite, US\$600; mansion diplomatic suite, US\$950; mansion ambassador suite, US\$1,250; mansion presidential suite, US\$3,500</p>	<p>HAMBURG</p> <p>Abtei Adenstrasse 14 T 442 905 Room rates: single, €180; double, €240 Room 3 (junior suite), €260</p>	<p>Vier Jahreszeiten Neuer Jungfernstieg 9-14 T 349 40 Room rates: standard single, €220; superior single, €250; deluxe single, €295; standard double, €270; superior double, €300; deluxe double, €345; deluxe junior suite, €375; deluxe suite, €395; superior deluxe suite, €1,250; rooms 504-516, see deluxe double</p>	<p>Jarvis Piccadilly Piccadilly Plaza, Portland Street T 236 8434 Room rates: single, £79-£109; double, £89-£109; rooms overlooking the pavilion and the gardens are the same price</p>
<p>Phoenicia Miser El-Houn T 01 369 100 Room rates: deluxe queen with city view, US\$235; deluxe king with city view, US\$265; premium with front view, US\$310; Phoenician, US\$355; Club InterContinental, US\$405; Phoenician suite, US\$750; diplomatic suite, US\$950; Serena suite, US\$1,350; ambassador suite, US\$4,000; majestic suite, US\$5,500; royal suite, US\$7,500; royal apartment, US\$12,000; grand royal suite, US\$14,000</p>	<p>Four Seasons Recoleta 1066-88 Recoleta T 4 321 1200 Room rates: superior, US\$350; deluxe, US\$365; club deluxe, US\$400; premier, US\$410; deluxe premier, US\$430; club premier, US\$475; Four Seasons executive suite, US\$485; deluxe Four Seasons executive suite, US\$515; club Four Seasons executive suite, US\$550; deluxe one-bedroom suite, US\$1,000; mansion room, US\$450; mansion Albeniz suite, US\$500; mansion Rossini suite, US\$600; mansion diplomatic suite, US\$950; mansion ambassador suite, US\$1,250; mansion presidential suite, US\$3,500</p>	<p>Atlantic An der Alster 22-79 T 388 800 Room rates: standard single, €270; superior double, €405; deluxe double, €470; junior suite, from €500; deluxe suite, €600; BMW suite, €3,900; Atlantic suite, €3,900</p>	<p>Side Drehbahn 49 T 309 990 Room rates: superior, €185-€240; deluxe, €205-€290; executive, €255-€305; small suite, €205; medium suite, €395; large suite, €495; X large suite, €595; XX large, €1,109</p>	<p>The Lowry Hotel 50 Dearmans Place, Chapel Wharf T 827 4000 Room rates: standard, £209; deluxe, £239; single suite, £500; double suite, £550; Charles Forte suite, £1,055-£1,255; room 422, see deluxe suite, £365</p>
<p>Madero Boulevard Rosario Vera Peralaza 360, Puerto Madero T 5776 7777 Room rates: superior, US\$210; deluxe, US\$240; junior suite, US\$275; suite executive, US\$315; suite diplomat, US\$360</p>	<p>East Simon-von-Ötredt-Strasse 31 T 3800 8772 Room rates: single, €155-€195; double, €165; large double, €175; X large suite, €215; XX large suite, €360 (double occupancy)</p>	<p>25 hours Paul-Dessau-Strasse 2 T 895 070 Room rates: standard, €99; weekend rate, €99; guests under 26, from €59; room 224, 424 and 500, see standard</p>	<p>Malmaison Piccadilly T 278 1000 Room rates: standard double, £129, weekend rate, £99; suite, £365; rooms ending in 11, see standard double</p>	<p>Le Bernain 1050 rue Mansfield T 849 2050 Room rates: standard with queen-size bed rooms ending 1-4, from C\$220; suites, from C\$500-C\$1,000</p>
<p>Madere Boulevard Rosario Vera Peralaza 360, Puerto Madero T 5776 7777 Room rates: superior, US\$210; deluxe, US\$240; junior suite, US\$275; suite executive, US\$315; suite diplomat, US\$360</p>	<p>Gastwerk Deim Alten Gastwerk 3 T 890 620 Room rates: Airium room, €125-€145;</p>	<p>25 hours Paul-Dessau-Strasse 2 T 895 070 Room rates: standard, €99; weekend rate, €99; guests under 26, from €59; room 224, 424 and 500, see standard</p>	<p>Malmaison Piccadilly T 278 1000 Room rates: standard double, £129, weekend rate, £99; suite, £365; rooms ending in 11, see standard double</p>	<p>Le Godin 0 rue Sherbrooke Ouest T 843 6000 Room rates: king-size standard rooms, C\$235; Godin suite with St-Laurent view, C\$325; junior suite, C\$350; diplomatic suite, C\$550; executive suite, C\$600</p>

 Cappuccino at a good café	 Chart CD	 Packet of Marlboro Lights		
Cappuccino at a good café	Chart CD	Packet of Marlboro Lights		
Radisson Edwardian	Le St James	Binger Jarl	J Gästgäsa	Mont Saint
<p>Free Trade Hall, Peter Street T 835 9929 Room rates: Monday-Thursday: king superior, £830; deluxe, £160; Friday-Sunday, king superior, £110; rooms with "urban gardens", £80-£450</p>	<p>355 rue Saint-Jacques T 841 3111 Room rates: superior, from C\$400; deluxe, from C\$475; superior suite, from C\$575; deluxe suite, from C\$675</p>	<p>Fulegatan 8 T 674 18 00 Room rates: single room, SEK1,645; double room, SEK1,980; business room, SEK2,360; suite, SEK2,850; Gotlands and Miss Dottie design rooms (doubles), SEK2,450; Mr Glad and 40 design rooms</p>	<p>Nardshusvågen 14-16, Lidingö T 601 34 00 Room rates: double, SEK1,695; weekend rate, SEK950; double with sea view, SEK2,095; weekend rate, SEK1,550; suite, SEK2,995, weekend rate, SEK2,900</p>	<p>Carretera del Castillo Lárbva, T 227 5081 Room rates: standard room, €84 (single occupancy), €93 (double occupancy); annexe room, €93 (single occupancy), €112 (double occupancy); club, €112 (single occupancy), €130 (double occupancy); junior suite, €130 (single occupancy), €149 (double occupancy); suite, €224 (single occupancy), €261 (double occupancy)</p>
<p>Le St James 355 rue Saint-Jacques T 841 3111 Room rates: superior, from C\$400; deluxe, from C\$475; superior suite, from C\$575; deluxe suite, from C\$675</p>	<p>St Paul 355 rue McGill T 380 2222 Room rates: standard, from C\$185; junior suite, from C\$250; deluxe suite, from C\$350; penthouse, C\$500; room 101L, see penthouse</p>	<p>Clarion Ringvägen 98 T 462 10 00 Room rates: single, SEK1,795; double, SEK2,495; deluxe, SEK3,695; suite, SEK5,395; Söder suite, SEK10,000</p>	<p>Lydmar Kungälvan 10 T 566 113 00 Room rates: small, SEK1,950; corner room (medium), SEK2,400; large, SEK2,600; extra large, SEK3,950; suite 551, see extra large</p>	<p>Neptuno Pasaje de Neptuno 2 T 356 7777 Room rates: double, €136 (single occupancy), €166 (double occupancy); double with sea view, €185;</p>
<p>Fairmont Queen Elizabeth 100 Boulevard Rene-Levesque T 861 3511 Room rates: Moderate, C\$169; Fairmont, from C\$199; junior suite, from C\$279; one-bedroom suite, from C\$369; Fairmont Gold, from C\$279; John and Yoko (room 1742), from C\$600, includes breakfast in bed; John and Yoko room and give Peace a Chance package, C\$1,969</p>	<p>Saffire 355 rue Sherbrooke Ouest T 285 9000 Room rates: superior, from \$175; deluxe, from \$199; deluxe suite, \$219; executive suite, from \$350; penthouse, from \$1,000</p>	<p>W Montreal 101 Victoria Square T 395 3000 Room rates: oss, from \$299; Wonderful, from \$329; spectacular, from \$369; Ago-king, from \$419; urban suite, from \$519; I-wow suite, from \$4,000</p>	<p>Esplanade Strandvägen 7a secs 0740 Room rates: single, SEK1,095-SEK1,595; weekend rate, SEK1,095; double, SEK2,295-SEK2,495; superior, SEK2,090 weekend rate, SEK1,695</p>	<p>Palau De La Mar Navarro Reverter 14 T 356 2884 Room rates: double room, from €80 (single occupancy), from €200 (double occupancy); junior suite, €280; presidential suite, €500; rooms 501, 502 and 504, see junior suite</p>
<p>Le Bernain 1050 rue Mansfield T 849 2050 Room rates: standard with queen-size bed rooms ending 1-4, from C\$220; suites, from C\$500-C\$1,000</p>	<p>Rockholm</p> <p>Barns Mickströmgatan 8, Berzelli Park T 566 322 00 Room rates: single, SEK2,200; small double, SEK2,500 single occupancy), SEK2,800 (double occupancy); double with harbour view, SEK3,800 (single occupancy), SEK4,200 (double occupancy); deluxe double with harbour view, SEK4,100 (single occupancy); SEK4,500 (double occupancy); suites, SEK5,500-SEK8,200; junior suite, SEK8,200; global suite, SEK11,200; Flag suite, SEK13,200; Parlour suites (up to five bedrooms), SEK10, 100-SEK26,200; Bernadotte suite (three bedrooms), SEK13,200; room 150, see junior suite</p>	<p>The Grand S Blasieholmshamnen 8 T 679 35 60 Room rates: single, SEK2,400; single with harbour view, SEK3,000</p>	<p>Palau De La Mar Navarro Reverter 14 T 356 2884 Room rates: double room, from €80 (single occupancy), from €200 (double occupancy); junior suite, €280; presidential suite, €500; rooms 501, 502 and 504, see junior suite</p>	<p>Petit Palace Bristol Abadia de San Martin 3 T 394 5100 Room rates: double room, from €85; family room (four beds), from €120; junior suite, from €120; room facing onto Palau de los Liquers, see double room</p>
<p>Le Bernain 1050 rue Mansfield T 849 2050 Room rates: standard with queen-size bed rooms ending 1-4, from C\$220; suites, from C\$500-C\$1,000</p>	<p>Rockholm</p> <p>Barns Mickströmgatan 8, Berzelli Park T 566 322 00 Room rates: single, SEK2,200; small double, SEK2,500 single occupancy), SEK2,800 (double occupancy); double with harbour view, SEK3,800 (single occupancy), SEK4,200 (double occupancy); deluxe double with harbour view, SEK4,100 (single occupancy); SEK4,500 (double occupancy); suites, SEK5,500-SEK8,200; junior suite, SEK8,200; global suite, SEK11,200; Flag suite, SEK13,200; Parlour suites (up to five bedrooms), SEK10, 100-SEK26,200; Bernadotte suite (three bedrooms), SEK13,200; room 150, see junior suite</p>	<p>The Grand S Blasieholmshamnen 8 T 679 35 60 Room rates: single, SEK2,400; single with harbour view, SEK3,000</p>	<p>Palau De La Mar Navarro Reverter 14 T 356 2884 Room rates: double room, from €80 (single occupancy), from €200 (double occupancy); junior suite, €280; presidential suite, €500; rooms 501, 502 and 504, see junior suite</p>	<p>Petit Palace Bristol Abadia de San Martin 3 T 394 5100 Room rates: double room, from €85; family room (four beds), from €120; junior suite, from €120; room facing onto Palau de los Liquers, see double room</p>
<p>Le Bernain 1050 rue Mansfield T 849 2050 Room rates: standard with queen-size bed rooms ending 1-4, from C\$220; suites, from C\$500-C\$1,000</p>	<p>Rockholm</p> <p>Barns Mickströmgatan 8, Berzelli Park T 566 322 00 Room rates: single, SEK2,200; small double, SEK2,500 single occupancy), SEK2,800 (double occupancy); double with harbour view, SEK3,800 (single occupancy), SEK4,200 (double occupancy); deluxe double with harbour view, SEK4,100 (single occupancy); SEK4,500 (double occupancy); suites, SEK5,500-SEK8,200; junior suite, SEK8,200; global suite, SEK11,200; Flag suite, SEK13,200; Parlour suites (up to five bedrooms), SEK10, 100-SEK26,200; Bernadotte suite (three bedrooms), SEK13,200; room 150, see junior suite</p>	<p>The Grand S Blasieholmshamnen 8 T 679 35 60 Room rates: single, SEK2,400; single with harbour view, SEK3,000</p>	<p>Palau De La Mar Navarro Reverter 14 T 356 2884 Room rates: double room, from €80 (single occupancy), from €200 (double occupancy); junior suite, €280; presidential suite, €500; rooms 501, 502 and 504, see junior suite</p>	<p>Petit Palace Bristol Abadia de San Martin 3 T 394 5100 Room rates: double room, from €85; family room (four beds), from €120; junior suite, from €120; room facing onto Palau de los Liquers, see double room</p>

ADVERTISING RESOURCES

BEIRUT

Burberry Customer Services
T 44.7000 785676

Chanel
ABC Retailer,
Dhayeh,
Beirut
T 961.1 202165

Ligne Roset
Place des Martyrs,
Centre Ville,
5139 Beirut
T 961.1 971 444/555
F 961.1 921 7877

BUENOS AIRES

Burberry Customer Services
T 44.7000 785676

HAMBURG

Burberry Customer Services
T 44.7000 785676

Chanel Boutique
Neue ABC-Strasse 2-3,
20354 Hamburg
T 49.40 3035 4311

Ligne Roset
Neuer Wall 64,
20354 Hamburg
T 49.40 327 649
F 49.40 322 702
E hamburg@ligne-roset.de

Ligne Roset
Im Stilwerk,
Grosse Elbstrasse 68,
22767 Hamburg
T 49.40 3062 1200
F 49.40 3062 1210

René Lezard
Jungfernstieg 34,
D 20354 Hamburg
T 49.40 419 1350
F 49.40 4191 3514

Strenesse Shop
ABC-Strasse 2,
Hamburg
T 49.40 3571 3113

MANCHESTER

Burberry Customer Services
T 44.7000 785676

Ligne Roset
64 Bridge Street,
Manchester M3 3BN
T 44.161 839 6662
F 44.161 839 6668

MONTREAL

Burberry Customer Services
T 44.7000 785676

Chanel Boutique
Holt Renfrew,
1300 Sherbrooke Street West,
Montreal
T 1.514 842 5111

STOCKHOLM

Burberry Customer Services
T 44.7000 785676

Ligne Roset
Sibyllegatan 33,
11443 Stockholm
T 46.8 54 58 64 51
F 46.8 54 58 64 50

VALENCIA

Burberry Customer Services
T 44.7000 785676

