

**Wallpaper\***  
City Guide

**HONG KONG**

PHAIDON



# HOTELS

## WHERE TO STAY AND WHICH ROOMS TO BOOK

The cross-tunnel traffic can be a little frenetic, so decide on which side of the harbour to base yourself. Central is sleeker, but the view from Kowloon at night is one of the world's great sights. And nowhere more so than from The Ritz-Carlton (ICC, 1 Austin Road West, T 2263 2263), its 103rd-floor lobby reached by a 52-second lift journey. Not far away, the W (1 Austin Road West, T 3717 2222) strengthens Kowloon's case, as does grande dame The Peninsula (Salisbury Road, T 2920 2888), with its green Rolls-Royces, and the Kerry (see p058), opened in 2017. Further afield, the happening 695-room Pentahotel (19 Luk Hop Street, T 3112 8222) brings Neri & Hu's minimalism to Kai Tak (see p074) at a decent price, offering another option for ascetic creatives, who've long sworn by the trusty YMCA (41 Salisbury Road, T 2268 7000), almost overlooking the Star Ferry.

On the Island, the eco-conscious design and expansive rooms of The Upper House (see p029) do their best to shift the emphasis away from business-driven efficiency towards an enveloping sense of calm. For decadent Chinoiserie, you cannot go wrong with the Mandarin Oriental (5 Connaught Road Central, T 2522 0111). And boutique properties are burgeoning – swing by The Pottinger (21 Stanley Street, T 2308 3188), if only to check out Fan Ho's 1950s street photography, and illustrations by HKDI (see p078) students, while The Fleming (opposite) also rejoices in local history.

*For full addresses and room rates, see Resources.*



### The Fleming

To celebrate The Fleming's 10th birthday, its owners did a rare thing in this non-stop city – took a year off to reconceive their property. Along with Maxime Dautresme of local studio A Work Of Substance, they transformed what was an unremarkable 66-room business hotel into a streamline moderne fantasy. The concept stems from the iconic Star Ferry, and nautical curves, burnished brass fittings, shades of blue

and bottle-green, tiles and teak (lobby, above) create a steamliner aesthetic that occasionally strays into steampunk. It is claimed that the Extra Large rooms trump the average flat (not a difficult feat here), and bathrooms have Chinese apothecary-inspired toiletries. Osteria Marzia (T 3607 2253) serves fine coastal Italian cuisine. 41 Fleming Road, T 3607 2288, [www.thefleming.com](http://www.thefleming.com)



### Château Zoobeetle

Sisters Elsa Lepeu and Johanna El Iman's Zoobeetle Paris produces leather goods, from luggage tags to pouches, wallets and bags, that mix a bohemian sensibility with a stylish, practical edge. For instance, the 'Panthéon' cross-body bag is crafted from snakeskin and Italian leather, and comes in burgundy, beige or dusty blue. Look for the artist collaborations, such as that with New Yorker Amit Greenberg, who created nautical-feeling striped passport holders. The split-level store, designed by A Work of Substance, successfully channels the vibe of a Marais apartment: midcentury chairs and cow-skin rugs star amid wood, brass and marble. On display are mainly French labels (Amish Boyish) and accessories (Mr Boho shades), rare vinyl and art books. A wine bar on the ground floor serves quality Gallic tipples, cheese and charcuterie.  
 38 Sai Street, T 5331 5126,  
[www.zoobeetle.com](http://www.zoobeetle.com)

