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These Are Los Angeles's Best New Hotels

From beach views in Santa Monica to garden terraces in Silver Lake, the City of Angels' latest property openings are worthy of inspiring your next home makeover

By Kathryn Romeyn

Four of Los Angeles' newest bolt-holes, ranging in size from nine to 285 rooms, are aesthetically and energetically disparate, but one thing unites them: design that feels almost too good, too creative, and too special for a mere hotel room. A deluxe residential vibe pervades in environments littered with nothing generic and everything custom, crafted, and rediscovered. Designers responsible for these next-generation properties, including Kelly Wearstler, have embraced bold references and unique ideas for an enlightened approach to hospitality that feels especially refreshing this summer. Below, *AD* surveys four new hotels that have opened in L.A. just in time for summertime fun.

Unique Monthly Visitors: 3,100,000

Santa Monica Proper Hotel

"I always look at architecture, location, and history as a starting point for telling the story," says Kelly Wearstler, who conceived the earthy, timeless look of Santa Monica Proper Hotel based around two distinct buildings—a landmark Spanish Colonial Revival structure built in the 1920s and thoughtfully restored to highlight Moorish details, and a contemporary building "more monolithic in nature and a great canvas for layering with textures—natural materials, stone, wood, plaster." This posed a challenge for conceiving one plan for the 271 guest rooms, and Wearstler ultimately went with a unique design for each building that includes overlapping elements—like the oversized upholstered half-sphere headboard—to bring synergy. "It encapsulates the night tables and reading lamps and is the visual centerpiece," says the designer of the custom piece whose "series of curving seams echo the idea of a sunrise or sunset." In keeping with this statement, the palette throughout is nature-inspired and raw, reflecting its environment that is also celebrated by the Westside's only rooftop pool. Think grass cloth, light hardwoods, and sandy tones that look right at home against curved floor-to-ceiling windows. The art-filled lobby, serene 3,000-square-foot modern Ayurvedic Surya Spa, and forthcoming Onda restaurant (a collaboration between Sqirl's Jessica Koslow and Contramar's Gabriela Cámara) embrace a similar approach. "We intentionally worked with local artists and artisans to bring a true localized experience within the spaces," says Wearstler, who had a hand in every spoon and light fixture inside as well as the original installations by L.A. artists, including Ben Medansky and Morgan Peck.

Santa Monica Proper Hotel

Rates starting at $450 per night.