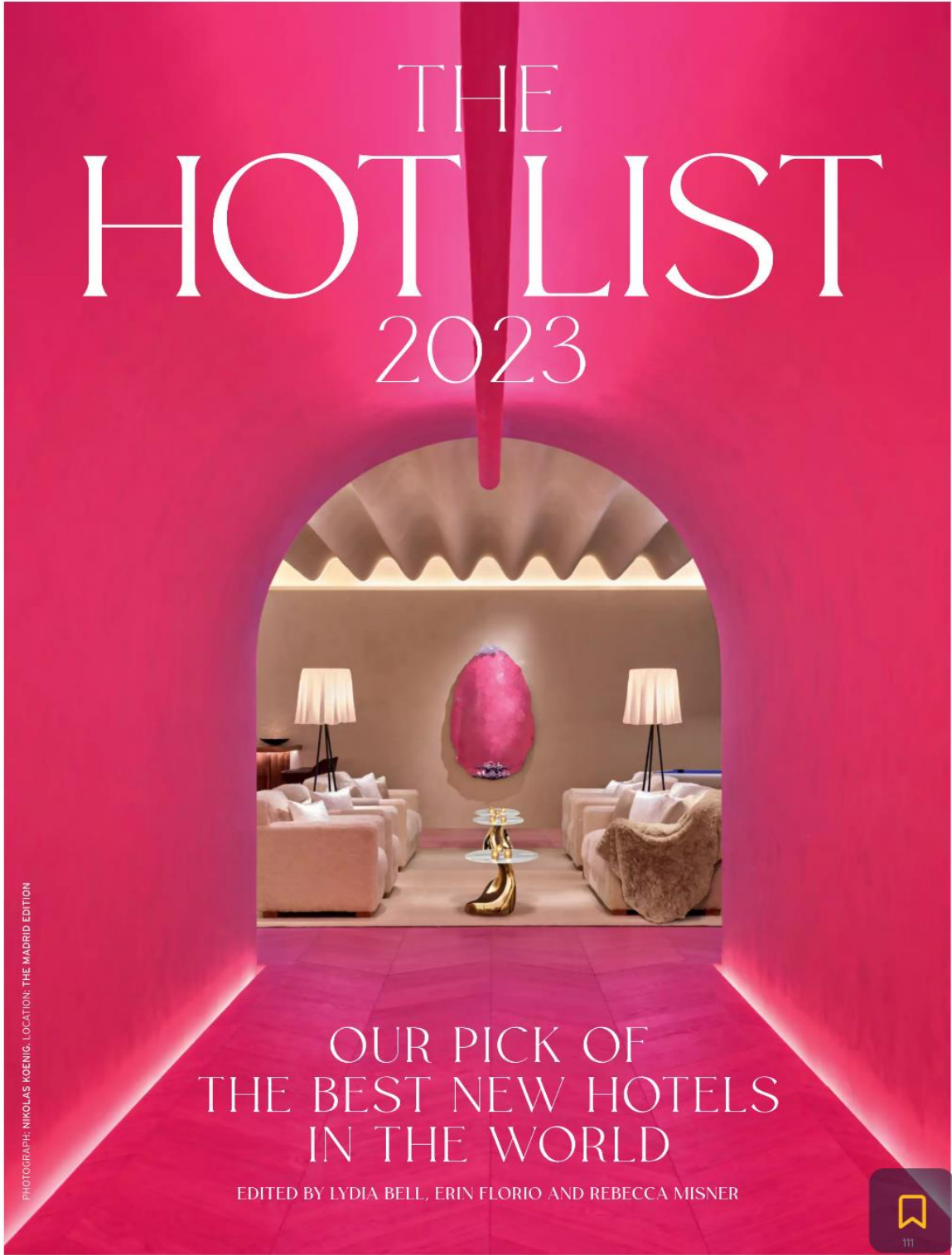


Client: Lungarno Collection
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Date: 1 May 2023



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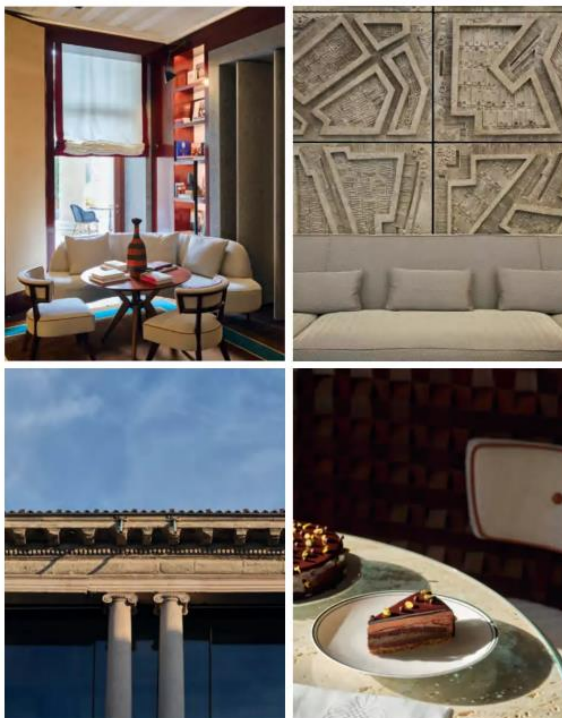
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ITALY

PORTRAIT MILANO

“Landmark” is an oft-misappropriated adjective. But when Leonardo Ferragamo’s Portrait hotel group resurrected a 500-year-old monument in the Golden Triangle touched by some of Milan’s greats, it gifted the Lombardian capital a public piazza, changed its map and created a symbol of modern Milan as it emerges as Italy’s most dynamic destination. In recent years the nation’s business capital has transformed into a leafy, cultural enclave with an influx of talent from London and a new, green metro whooshing in passengers from Linate airport in minutes. The vast columned seminary that Portrait Milano occupies was an abandoned piece of history in the shopping district, commissioned in 1565 by the Archbishop of Milan, Charles Borromeo, and restored post-war by famed architect Piero Portaluppi. Ferragamo’s project is a masterclass in cultural restoration: architect Michele De Lucchi renovated the structure; designer Michele Bonan imbued it with the intimacy of an elegant modernist townhouse. The hotel of 73 rooms and suites celebrates Milanese design via Florentine craftsmanship, with velvets in Gio Ponti’s cardinal red, walnut-inlaid corridors and Tuscan artisanal touches. Young talent on board includes Gualtiero Marchesi’s pupil Alberto Quadrio, who heads up two restaurants, and jeweller Maria Sole Ferragamo, part of the ground-floor lifestyle hub alongside Beefbar’s Italian debut and the biohacking Longevity Suite spa. A landmark, indeed – and an exciting one. **STEPHANIE RAFANELLI**
Doubles from £872; lungarnocollection.com



UK

GLENEAGLES TOWNHOUSE, EDINBURGH

Gleneagles – that great castle-like pile, with its famous golf course – looms as large in the collective Scottish consciousness as it does in its rural Perthshire setting. It’s acquired an heirloom status, as if it were a beloved piece of the national furniture. (All the more fortunate, then, that it’s been so painstakingly mended, polished and reupholstered since its acquisition by Ennismore in 2015.) And now, suddenly, up pops a sister property in the middle of Edinburgh: Gleneagles Townhouse, bright and perky with a mischievous glint in her eye, and difficult to picture yomping through a muddy field in a pair of wellies. Or indeed golf shoes. Perhaps “sister property” isn’t the right term. “Long-lost love child” might express the relationship better. In any case, the family resemblance is unmistakable. The Victorian-ish interiors with Art Deco-esque flourishes; the preponderance of pastel-toned velvet; the hearty abundance of beef, fish, fowl, claret and whisky. These elements converge delightfully in the all-day bar and restaurant, The Spence, flooded with natural light from a magnificent cupola and further lit up by the good humour, energy and ambition of head chef Jonny Wright, sommelier Elizabeth Mellish and bar manager Stef Anderson. Because the Townhouse operates partly on a membership basis, not quite all of it is available to the public. But its 33 bedrooms and The Spence are – and they’re the bits that really count. **STEVE KING** *Doubles from £350; gleneagles.com*