



Shinola Hotel
The luxury goods brand ventures into hospitality with a handcrafted hotel in its home town of Detroit

Jean-Philippe Nuel
The French designer brings his own style of classic elegance to Europe's heritage buildings

Belmond Cadogan
Charm, character and craftsmanship come together at Belmond's London debut



Alon Baranowitz and Irene Kronenberg

BARANOWITZ + KRONENBERG ARCHITECTURE

Having completed projects for Sir Hotels and W Hotels, Baranowitz and Kronenberg jet to Morocco's Atlantic coast to take a fantasy break beneath the stars.

Where are you?

Legzira Beach in Morocco, where the Sahara meets the Atlantic.

How did you get there?

We took a sunset flight from Casablanca on board a Cessna 172 Skyhawk seaplane, which lands just in front of our private beach camp escape.

Who is there to greet you on arrival?

A local fisherman welcomes us with an icy pomegranate juice and a dash of vodka, served in intricate Moroccan glasswear.

And who's at the concierge desk?

Nothing but a light breeze, a sunset and a bonfire.

Is there anything you would like waiting for you in your room?

A pair of Kharma Grand speakers playing Clair de Lune by Claude Debussy.

Describe the hotel, your room and the view...

It's a single white sail canopy stretching along the beach beneath the stars, against the backdrop of the Sahara dunes and the soothing ocean. The floor is covered with a jigsaw of handwoven Moroccan rugs rendering the entire scene with an air of Arabian Nights. The space entices us to rest, lounge, play and indulge, breaking every notion of formal living. Furniture is scarce yet brilliantly curated, refined and inviting us to sit as low as the horizon. A sea of candles flicker throughout, a bed awaits and so

do the open-sky shower and spa. Service reveals itself upon request. Nature prevails.

Who designed it?

Naima Bennis, the late Moroccan fashion designer. Testament to her talent is the interplay between tradition and modernity, paying homage to the transgender designs for which she was known. Her trademark black capes are hung just by the outdoor shower, dressing us twice a day with refined luxury.

What's the restaurant and bar like?

The ocean is our restaurant. At dawn, our host leaves to negotiate the menu with the ocean. An ancient well that once quenched the thirst of exotic nomads now treasures our reds, whites and Moët. Colourful jars of freshly squeezed lemons refined with rose water and young mint leaves adorn the intricate copper bucket, which rises from the depths on request. We choose our bottle and let our treasure disappear down into the darkened cold.

Who are you dining with this evening?

Just the two of us, beneath a shimmering blanket of stars and one enigmatic ocean.

Who's manning the stoves?

Rene Redzepi is at the bonfire, fully engaged with the catch-of-the-day, while the speakers play Bill Evans' Alice in Wonderland.

And what's on the menu?

Each day brings a tasting menu of locally inspired

delights with a twist. To name just a few, there's a morning shot of classic Moroccan harira with fried chickpeas in red pepper powder; sunrise orchids served on a crust of khobz bread with sweet ocean foam; a bowl of tidal seaweeds with crispy sardines, fried green chili olives and preserved lemons, paired with a chilled Vionta Albariño Rias Baixas 2016; aubergine fried in a cloud of sweet batter, spicy lubia and crumbles of ground lamb alongside a nice Rioja Alta Vina Arana Reserva 2009; and broken hearts of tomato taktouka comforted with smoked green peppers, garlic and spices.

What's in the mini-bar for a night cap?

A 28-year-old Zacapa rum.

What's on your nightstand at bedtime?

A book, tablet and sketch book. One never knows what the night will bring.

Early morning alarm call or late check-out?

Very late check-out. We hate alarms of any sort!

Bath or power shower?

Power shower.

What toiletries would you like to freshen up with?

Diptyque.

Full English, continental or something different?

We go local wherever we are, it's a great introduction to other cultures.