

ELLE DECORATION

*THE SECRET OF
SIMPLE
LIVING*



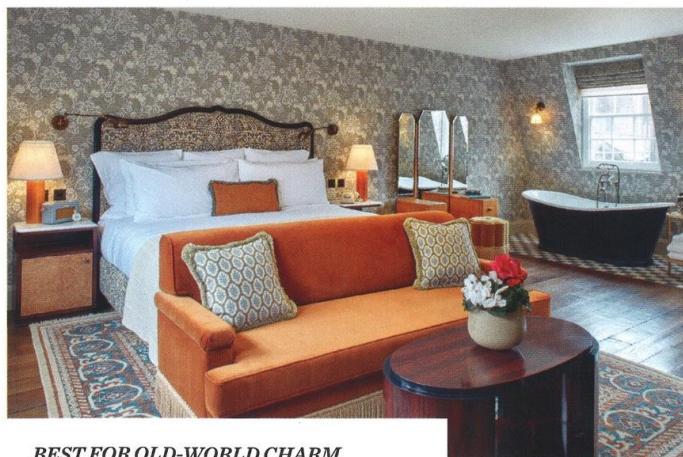
LONDON CALLING

Schedule a mini-break in one of the capital's newest boutique hotels



BEST FOR COCKTAIL HOUR

My Chelsea The newest branch of the My Hotel group has opened on a Victorian boulevard in SW3. The interiors, courtesy of London practice Design Haus Liberty, are inspired by the borough's annual RHS Flower Show: architecturally pared-back, but big on botany. We love the greenhouse-style lobby with brass bar and velvet chairs (from £169 per night; myhotels.com).



BEST FOR AFFORDABILITY

The Pilgrim This Paddington guesthouse aims to relax traditional hotel rules: there's no formal check-in (you do so online) and the café feels like a friend's sitting room. There are velvet armchairs, bookshelves with ferns trailing from them, and home-style cooking – from a plate of British charcuterie to Jerusalem artichoke soup (from £99 per night; thepilgrim.com).

BEST FOR OLD-WORLD CHARM

Kettner's Townhouse A year shy of its 150th anniversary, the Soho society institution Kettner's – which Napoleon III's chef Auguste Kettner opened in 1867 and was thereafter frequented by royalty, as well as the likes of Oscar Wilde and Agatha Christie – closed down in 2016. The Grade II-listed Georgian building has now been taken over by the Soho House empire and reopened as a 33-bedroom hotel with a restaurant and Champagne bar. Note the William Morris textiles, hand-painted wallpaper and 1920s chandeliers (from £225 per night; kettnerstownhouse.com).

PICTURES: SIMON BROWN, JASON BAILEY

