

## GISELA'S LIST

## Milk and Honey

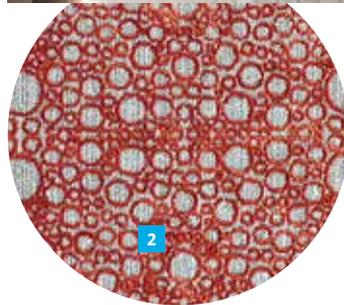
### A slew of new luxury hotels are popping up in Israel.

Israel has long been called the land of milk and honey, and after a recent uptick in tourism, the country is now seeing the opening of even more luxury properties that boast the modern amenities of world-class resorts. In Tel Aviv's fashionable Jaffa district, the wildly anticipated **Jaffa** (*above*; [thejaffahotel.com](http://thejaffahotel.com)) is an ambitious 120-room hotel with 32 residences, owned by American Aby Rosen of RFR Holding and designed by the British minimalist John Pawson. During the 24-year restoration of the property—which encompasses a 19th-century hospital and monastery—arched colonnades and a 13th-century Crusaders' wall were unearthed; the wall is now an impressive, dramatic feature that sweeps through the sleek lobby. Farther north, between the eastern shores of the Sea of Galilee and the foothills of the Golan Heights, lies the **Setai-Sea of Galilee** ([thesetaihotel.co.il](http://thesetaihotel.co.il)), a low-slung hotel of glass and local stone that includes 110 villas, a spacious and modern two-story spa, and a poolside restaurant that offers what is possibly my favorite breakfast buffet on earth. High above the Mediterranean in the popular town of Zikhron Ya'akov is the stunning **Elma** complex ([elma-hotel.com](http://elma-hotel.com)), with 95 rooms, lush grounds, and a cultural center—complete with a state-of-the-art concert hall—all within a beautifully renovated iconic Brutalist building by architect Yaakov Rechter. A stylish international crowd frequents Elma's many spaces, which are fitted out with colorful modernist furniture and contemporary art. I was pleased to discover in these hotels that the milk and honey are not in short supply. —*Gisela Williams*

## Décor Rapport

### Beauty and inspiration in three hits.

**1. Crucial Rooms** Patrick Sutton's *Storied Interiors* (Images Publishing) teaches us that a room can never have enough empty vessels. **2. Emerging Patterns** Whether it's atoms or pizza toppings you see, we suggest taking this beautiful rug from the *Moon Light* collection for Stepevi by Juan Montoya wall-to-wall. **3. Good 'Isms** This 1915 work by Juan Gris at Paris's Centre Pompidou makes us hungry, so *Le Petite Déjeuner* is a fitting title. (From "Le Cubisme," through February 2019.)



THE JAFFA TEL AVIV; AMIT GERON, COURTESY OF THE JAFFA HOTEL

## ED X HODINKEE

## DARK VICTORY

In a world where mechanical time-keepers are totally unnecessary (um, iPhone, anyone?), a watch had better make a statement and bring a smile to your face every time you look at it. The RM 07-01 Gem-Set Black Ceramic from Richard Mille checks both of those boxes with a flourish. This ladies' sports watch is made of matte black ceramic with red gold accents and a sharp-looking diamond set into the crown. It also has slim rows of diamonds set directly into the ceramic bezel, which, despite the effortless appearance, is something that has never been done before and required a considerable amount of R&D. The RM 07-01 is equal parts elegant and aggressive, and it's just about the chicest thing you can wear on the tennis court. \$176,000; [richardmille.com](http://richardmille.com). —*Cara Barrett and Stephen Pulvirent, hodinkee.com*

