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The Robertson Small Hotel

by Megan Schumann



It's misleading, we know, that the only thing small about The Robertson Small Hotel is the town it's situated in and its name. Along the R62 wine route it is the only five-star hotel in the area and has recently undergone a revamp of note...

Taking form in a 1901 Victorian Manor House, **The Robertson Small Hotel** successfully launched in 2011 staking its claim amongst South Africa's finest country hotels. Under the creative eye of Abigail Rands, daughter of owner Tim Rands, the task was set to redesign and rebrand the hotel to the next level of excellence.



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Sticking to its quaint and homely nature, every detail of the hotel was carefully considered. Abigail brought on board Sophie Ashby, of **Studio Ashby in London**, to curate the project. Looking at the surrounding natural environment and local designers, each element was brought in with thought.

“ The curation and collaboration of this project came instinctively. The golden thread is working with people who have a fascination with the world. ”

- Abigail Rands



The list of designers and artists is astounding: Textile artist Alexis Barrell created lush textiles that depict the area's flora and fauna, Michael Chandler's dreamy ceramic tile can be found in the bar, a signature scent was produced by perfumer House of Gozdawa; and art selected by SMITH studio is displayed throughout.

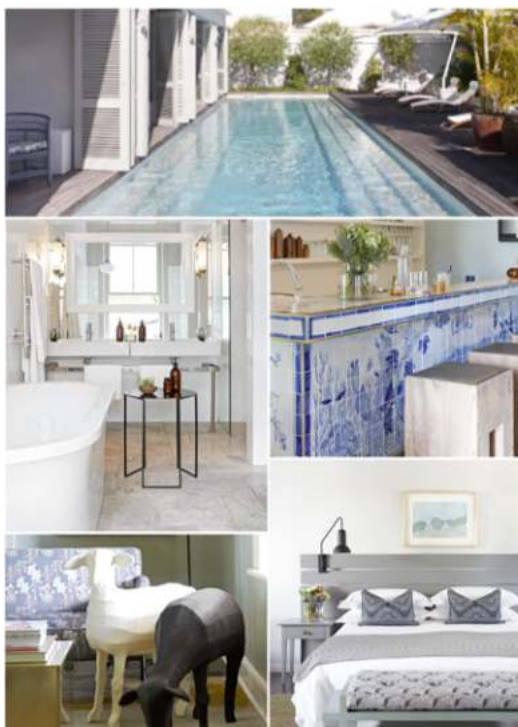


The pool side suites are a luxurious respite from the Robertson heat, and are so beautifully decorated and personal, that one forgets that it is a hotel that they're staying in. The decor is exquisite and an honest representation of South Africa's creatives and brilliant talent. Expect the likes of [Lisa Firer](#) ceramics, [Bofred](#) furniture and [Douglas & Company](#) signature pieces.

From the cocktail menu and food, to the [Pichulik](#) keys chains to your room everything is connected, fresh and beautiful. Apart from the exceptional staff and personal service, each guest receives a special guide to the valley for unforgettable experiences and activities.

“ Whilst the level of service and luxury is very high, I wanted the surroundings to be welcoming, and less intimidating so we filled it with art, colour, soul and a bit of quirk. ”

– Sophie Ashby



'The Robertson Small' Hotel revamp by Studio Ashby, Elle Decoration Website, Nov 2016

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