

A Blissful Escape

Text: Paula Rabeling
Images © Bliss Boutique Hotel and Terence Loydall

BLISS BOUTIQUE HOTEL



Cape Town is often thought of as an ideal holiday spot, which is no surprise. It is home to some of the world's best beaches and is jam packed with a multitude of things to do - from adventurous escapades such as water sports and hiking to the more relaxed like shopping adventures in top spots and indulging in five-star cuisine in one of the Mother City's many renowned restaurants. Not only that, but Cape Town's outskirts have a host of award-winning wine farms ready and waiting to welcome guests with a glass of their distinctive (and delicious) offerings. Cape Town truly is a relaxing place to be.

Of course, because the Mother City is at the forefront of many travellers' minds, there are hotels waiting to accommodate them all around the region. A new offering has opened up in Sunset Beach: Bliss Boutique Hotel. While entering the already

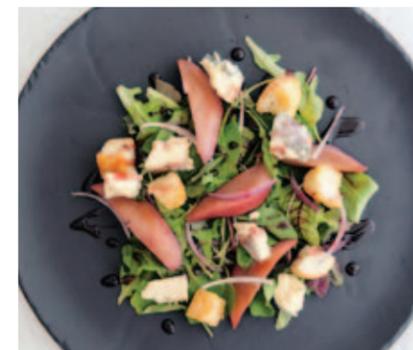
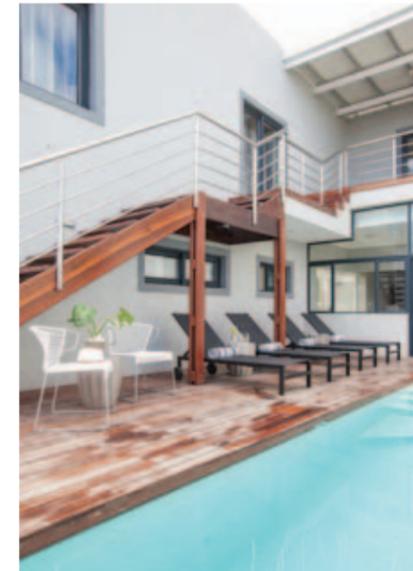
full market of hotels, Bliss truly does stand out from the luxurious crowd.

Every now and again, the stresses of city living can get a tad much. When this happens, the need to get out of the city and into a relaxed environment is crucial. Bliss Boutique hotel is able to take you back to more relaxed, carefree days with its close proximity to the beach, gorgeous views, five-star rooms, and exquisite cuisine.

The relaxed atmosphere at the hotel is partly due to the boutique quality of the establishment. Bliss only has eight rooms, which give guests the extra treat of privacy. The rooms are all furnished exquisitely with plush beds guaranteeing a sleep that will eradicate stress, well-appointed bathrooms with Victoria + Alfred finishings, a stocked minibar, Nespresso machine, and, of course, beautiful views of Table Bay and beyond. The décor is light and

understated, punctuated with pops of yellows and deep blues. Yellow is actually one of the first things you notice when you arrive at Bliss - the large front door is canary yellow against the grey architecture of the hotel, giving the opinion that this hotel is not a stuffy, cordial affair, but a vibrant one.

Everything in Bliss has been handpicked or custom built, resulting in the hotel exuding attention to detail. Something that is immediately noticeable as you walk around the establishment is the abstract art that adorns the walls. No kitsch, uninspiring, mass produced artwork here - all the pieces are from acclaimed South African artist, Michaela Rinaldi. You could spend a whole day finding the artworks and admiring them. Luckily, Bliss plays host to gallery evenings complemented by food and wine where people can come for an evening to view and buy art.



In the evenings, relax at the bar where the floor to ceiling windows provide views of Table Mountain upon the Atlantic. Bartender extraordinaire, Bevan Choga, mixes up drinks that add that extra bit of bliss-inducing happiness. A must-try is the Espresso Martini - flavourful and warming with an extra caffeine kick.

If delicious, top-quality, awe-inducing food is what you like to incorporate into your holidays, then Bliss Boutique Hotel has you covered with its onsite restaurant, Beach & Bites. Chef Dean Correia is at the forefront of this culinary gem, producing meals that will, at first bite, cause your eyes to expand in wonder at the mind-blowing flavours, followed by a sigh of utter contentment. Correia got his start in the Caribbean, so fresh, flavourful seafood makes exquisite appearances (I highly recommend the prawns).

Bliss Boutique Hotel is an establishment that has put a lot of time and effort into creating an experience that encompasses the best of everything: gorgeous décor,

high quality furniture and finishings, relaxing atmosphere, beach views, and memorable cuisine. All this forms a winning combination ensuring a blissful experience.

For more information, please visit www.blissboutiquehotel.co.za. ■

A Warming Winter Menu

Not only Bliss Boutique Hotel guests can experience a meal at Beach & Bites. Visit this Winter to enjoy the Winter Menu for dinner from Thursday to Saturday evenings. Chef Dean Correia has put together a selection of dishes that will banish the Winter chill. Thai prawn curry, homely chicken pie, beef lasagne, and sweet and sour crispy beef are sure to expel the Winter blues.