

elite traveler

RESPONSIBLE LUXURY LIFESTYLE

ANNUAL EDITION 2023

Hotels, Resorts & Spas



Step into an ethereal
world of tranquility at
Four Seasons Resort Lanai

ENNEA



Photo James Andrew Photography

The Tawny, UK

A new opening in the heart of rural Staffordshire (around three hours from London), The Tawny sits inside Consall Hall Estate, a 70-acre plot with a history that dates back to the 13th century. *Page 77*

Europe, Middle East, Africa Baden-Baden, Beau-Rivage Genève, Borgo Santandrea, Cameron House, Hotel Castello di Reschio, Clinique La Prairie, Four Seasons Hotel Megève, Four Seasons Sultanahmet, De L'Europe Amsterdam, Hotel Supetar Cavtat, The OWO Residences, Hotel TwentySeven, Ultima Gstaad, Villa Copenhagen, Babylonstoren, Usangu Expedition Camp, Raffles Dubai



A bird's-eye view of the farm

BABYLONSTOREN

SOUTH AFRICA

First things first: Babylonstoren is one stunner of a farm stay, and this is largely thanks to one of its owners, former magazine editor Karen Roos. With impeccable precision and attention to detail, her South African country retreat offers up the very best of Cape Winelands luxury on a grand and very glossy scale. There's over 500 acres of whimsical magic here in the form of a plush spa, mammoth kitchen garden with over 300 varieties of edible plants, healing garden, dam-style swimming pool, and a farm shop complete with butcher, bakery, coffee shop and dairy hall. Out on the prairie, ducks waddle and a gated herd of homestead usual suspects — cute donkey included — delight cowboys and girls. Style wise, it's a touch of rural Cape Dutch meets a bit of Scandi chic,

with a touch of Alamo-esque farmhouse glamour in between. Expect burnt terra cotta walls, spaces that scream cozy minimalism (it's a thing here) and grand duplexes that celebrate the very best of rural living: *genuinely* fresh food, bowls of grapes and olives, and tables topped off with rustic loaves and great big lemons.

STAY

Homey and snug, the new Fynbos Cottages follow the same style as Babylonstoren's Garden Cottages: a chic yet cozy open-plan setup with enormous *klompie* (a traditional fireplace hewn from Dutch brick). Beds are vast, as are the bathrooms, and there are cute shuttered windows that look out onto the patios with next-level views of the vineyards and craggy peaks that surround the estate. Kitchens are filled with everything you'll need to rustle up your own farm-to-table banquet and come stocked with complimentary bowls of seasonal fruits, olive oil, rooibos tea and a

bottle of wine produced right on the estate, of course. Elsewhere, the cavernous lounge is stocked with a curated collection of coffee-table books, South African knickknacks and rows of wellies. Out front, views of the neighboring Simonsberg mountain stun from all sides — plus you've got easy access to the hot tub for romantic sunset cocktails.

DINE

The headline restaurant here is Babel. Just about everything on the plate comes directly from the Babylonstoren garden. Walls are festooned with art and tables draped in white linens. The salads are the major highlight, so much so that the team has managed to conjure up three seasonal 'red,' 'green' and 'yellow' Maranda Engelbrecht (Babel's founder) plates that seriously impress the taste buds. Succulent meat, much of it served on the bone, is another highlight here, and thanks to the size of the portions, will keep you full until dawn.

EXPLORE

Morning guided walks with horticulturists provide a deep dive into all the garden wonders Babylonstoren offers, from its vegetables to healing herbs, fruit trees and more. Tours of the wine cellar serve up an insight into the estate's famed bottles. For sightseeing, hit up Jarat Tours for an epic drive around the Cape of Good Hope. You'll see Chapman's Peak, Cape Point, Boulders Beach (the penguins!), Simon's Town and Kalk Bay. *By Luke Abrahams*

From \$850 per night. Contact enquiries@babylonstoren.com, +27 218 633 852, babylonstoren.com



Take a plunge at Fynbos Cottages



The first light over the vines