



MIRAMONTI BOUTIQUE HOTEL

Mirror image of natural beauty

Like a shard of turquoise glass, this pool defines the lap of luxury – a shimmering fragment cutting through forest, mountains and blue skies. As if engineered by nature, the Miramonti Boutique Hotel's new infinity pool features ancient volcanic rock and silver quartz to mimic a mountain cave.

The design by Arch-Tara is inspired by the hotel's location overlooking the northern Italian resort town of Merano (known as The City of Flowers), which sits in a valley surrounded by snow-tipped peaks.

"The panoramic view at Hotel Miramonti is the one and only inspiration you need," Arch-Tara architect Heike Pohl says.

The creators used all local materials to support the economy and reduce the project's environmental impact.

"It is important to honour existing buildings for what they are," Pohl says. "They have their source in a certain period, with certain circumstances and certain intentions. As an architect you just add another chapter to an ongoing narration."

"With that in mind, it is easy and rewarding to take up certain themes, materials and characteristics and reinterpret them in a new way, combined with some amazing new architectural statements."

AMELIA BARNES

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Note from the editor

I felt an incredible sigh of relief when I read this week's New Living cover story on interior trends. When the feature was pitched I actually had no idea what maximalism was, but as soon as I heard that, in essence, it was bumping minimalism out of the way, I knew I may well be its greatest fan. Stark and cool rooms have never been a style I could embrace. I love texture, layers, personality and warmth inside and outside; actually, that's how I like life to be.

Hundreds of houses come across our desk each week and the properties that stand out are those that have life to them. Spaces and rooms that have been created to nurture, to enjoy and to invite you to live life in. I think texture and density is the best way to get the most out of a space. In my home I love overcrowded bookshelves and the thick stacks of board games that rest in the corner. And the antidote to that is cosy little nooks by a window that encourage a moment of stillness. That, for me, is the true difference between a house and home.

Alice

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