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CONTACT JENNIFER ECLIPSE FOR REPRINT
INFORMATION
T: 212-221-9595 X.237
E: jennifer.eclipse@parsintl.com**

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The Curry Room
at the Hotel
Franziskaner,
in Zurich. Inset:
A balcony view
from the hotel.

22 Affordable European Hotels

When you think of value-conscious hotels, style and design don't always come to mind. But these T+L favorites promise both, without breaking the bank.




A Superior room at Lisbon's Fontana Park Hotel, designed by Francisco Aires Mateus, above left. Right: The hotel's 1908 façade.

(the woman behind another T+L favorite, the Hôtel Verneuil, in St.-Germain) has established an uncluttered aesthetic and filled the rooms with Parisian paintings garnered from local flea markets.

\$195 LISBON Portuguese architect Francisco Aires Mateus renovated a 1908 iron factory to create the **Fontana Park Hotel** (2 Rua Engenheiro Vieira da Silva; 800/337-4685; designhotels.com). Keeping its exterior intact, he gutted the building to make way for Zen-like interiors. Open expanses, including the Bonsai restaurant and Fontana bar, are punctuated by sharply angled glass staircases and sheaths of hammered ironwork—homages to the building's first life. The 139 simple black-and-white rooms have floor-to-ceiling windows that provide panoramic views of the city.

\$191 BRUSSELS Dominican monks called this cloistered palace off the Grand Place home 600 years ago, but today the candlelit lobby of the **Dominican** (9 Rue Léopold; 32-2/203-0808; thedomincan.be) welcomes all sorts, from ambassadors to twentysomething DJ's. The 150 rooms, some with mezzanine lofts, balance 21st-century convenience (flat-screen TV's; complimentary Wi-Fi) and baroque touches, including Fortuny printed pillows and satin bedspreads on pillowy-soft beds.

\$208 AMSTERDAM If proximity to Gucci is crucial no matter what city you're in, the **Hotel Patou** (63 PC Hoofstraat; 31-20/676-0232; hotelpatou.nl) on the PC Hoofstraat, Amsterdam's version of Rodeo Drive, is for you. The 12 spacious rooms are elegant in the Dutch way (streamlined and spare), with oak-plank floors, a somberly sexy palette of putty-gray, black, and white, and bathrooms with Bisazza-tiled showers and huge marble sinks. Request room Nos. 40–44, all of which have mansard ceilings.

\$217 COPENHAGEN Denmark's architectural history is on display at the **Avenue Hotel Copenhagen** (29 Åboulevard; 45/3537-3111; avenuehotel.dk; breakfast included), where Emil Blichfeldt, the man who designed the arched entrance to the neighboring Tivoli Gardens, created the hotel's original 1899 structure. Inside, patterned Missoni bedspreads brighten the 68 basic rooms. Guests take their breakfast of house-made bread and fresh coffee on the bamboo-shaded patio.

\$197 ST. PETERSBURG *Intimate, affordable, and environmentally friendly* aren't words typically associated with Russian hotels, which is why the **Alexander House** (27 Kryukov Canal Embankment; 800/525-4800 or 7-812/334-3540; a-house.ru; breakfast included) is such a great find. Owner Alexander Zhukov, a former war correspondent for the Associated Press, turned a 19th-century mansion about two miles from Palace Square into a hotel with a familial vibe (Zhukov and his wife personally attend to guests). Each of the 18 rooms is distinct and named for a global city: several, like the airy second-floor Paris, London, and Rome rooms, have canal views.

\$151 BERLIN Looking for a place that evokes Germany's 1920's Art Deco style? Then try the **Ellington Hotel** (50-55 Nürnberger Str.; 49-30/683-150; ellington-hotel.com). Set in what was once a mammoth office building, the original 20th-century façade belies the updated all-white interior. The hotel is also conveniently situated on Nürnberger Strasse, the main artery of former West Berlin, and close to shopping mecca KaDeWe.

\$115 MUNICH Lindwurmstrasse, just outside Sendlinger Tor and the Old City, is a residential avenue lined with comfortable cafés and, now, the **Cocoon**

