

*Casa*  
GORGEOUS

BY

**THE AFICIONADOS**



What defines a *Casa Gorgeous*? In the following pages, our hotel hotlist of maisons, townhouses and villas open their doors to reveal an eclectic, personable style brought together with love. But what truly sets apart the *Casa Gorgeous* collection is an unashamed passion for detail in its myriad forms, representing a visual diary of the owners' creativity. Interiors pique interest through a riotous explosion of cultural fusions: from that artfully placed kitsch ornament designed to raise a smile; Mediterranean architecture that whispers of merchant trade deals from the faded oriental rug to the mystery of tribal artwork; the memoirs of far-flung treasures and a natural enthusiasm for design history.



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# A Beauteous Retreat

## Casa Fortunato

LISBON, PORTUGAL

The seductive fusion of small design hotel meets stylish townhouse belonging to an architect friend best describes what the luxury nine-suite Casa Fortunato in Lisbon’s fashionable Amoreiras quarters is all about.

Stepping through the heavy-set doors of this 100-year old Pombaline-style brick and limestone building ushers you into a beauteous retreat of apparent heritage paired with a playful, imaginative style narrative of considered design and heirloom nostalgia.

Loved and created by owner-architect duo, António Falcão Costa Lopes and his wife, Filipa Fortunato, the light-filled, intentionally eclectic interiors of Casa Fortunato are wonderfully familiar and irresistibly voyeuristic. Much of the original bare-bone remnants of the house were salvaged just enough to give provenance a historical hug – bygone romance in an empirical dusting of ornate architraves, wooden panelling, chiselled portals, marble flagstones and original sanded pinewood flooring.

Geometrics juxtapose sorbet florals, reflective metals offset hand-tufted carpets and designer icons; Marcel Breuer, Foscari Bahia and Patricia Urquiola add worldly glamour to the over 8,000 glazed terracotta and cement tiles that canvas Lisbon soul. Costa Lopes and Fortunato have been collecting contemporary furniture, and lighting in particular, since they first met as architecture students in the ’90s. It is that, which gives Casa Fortunato its rather distinctive and personable design DNA – it feels coveted, treasured.

There is something innately happy about the Casa Fortunato. It possesses a lovable alchemy of style, design and rooted heritage – it is indeed a small noble house, a boutique hotel and more importantly a Lisbon home for the family, guests and not forgetting adorable in-house canine, Cacao.

Luxury accommodation is split through the nine suite-styled bedrooms which are particularly airy and light decked in a mantra of modern contemporary fixtures, crafted textiles, mid-century finds and touches of 1920s glam.





Cornflower blue, burnt orange through to ochre dress the luxe suites in quiet flamboyance. Meanwhile, eye-popping geometric bed canopies from Jupiter-10 wallpaper leave no question as to the focal point and anchor the ambience in sweet eclecticism from antiques to the hand-made rugs.

Indulgent bathrooms are screened behind crittall panels which delineate the shower area, contrasting with the handmade textured tiles that sit above the modern Duravit basins and softly moulded tadelakt walls that awaken all the senses.

Breakfast is important at Casa Fortunato and reflects the house ethos of natural wellness. Chef Sónia Jordão follows a Japanese macrobiotic philosophy which encompasses a gentle approach to holistic nutrition as well as incorporating Eastern beliefs and attitudes that look at the effect that the environment, exercise, and outlook have on the balance of our lives.

Guests can expect plates filled with a riot of colours with heaps of fruit, vegetables, soy products, whole grains and occasionally fish. The chef whips up aesthetically and palate pleasing plates (including breakfast pancakes with house-made chocolate spread) in the bustling open kitchen. There is an opportunity to delve deeper into this way of life by participating in the morning complimentary yoga and cookery classes that are offered at the Casa.

Life at the Casa is easy-come. Fix yourself a drink from the honesty bar including snacking items and fruits – or grab one of the speciality coffees (including barley) and teas, not forgetting the matcha latte, natural juices and smoothies, the drink panoply rivals only the list of options to crack open.

António and Filipa's souls were woven together when they met at university in Lisbon whilst studying architecture. Their varied lives have since taken them all over the world, but it is now that they have chosen to bring their shared, long-standing vision to life – welcoming guests over the threshold of their exceptional home and into the sanctuary that is Casa Fortunato.

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Owners António and Filipa have known and loved Casa Fortunato for countless moons as it was from here that António ran the Portuguese branch of his bustling architectural practice – but, in amongst the detailed reams of paper and lightboxes and computers that sat on busy desks, Filipa and António had always whispered to each other about a fantasy they shared: to convert the studio into a hotel. It would be elegant and unique. It would be, not only their family home, but a home to visitors from all over the world. Together, they brought this dream to life.

Casa Fortunato is located in Amoreiras – a much sought-after, upscale leafy hood on the borders of central Lisbon. As a residential quarter, the area boasts elegant villas, townhouses and open parkland gardens. Casa Fortunato is just a few minutes' walk from the area of Príncipe Real, Edward VIIth Park (perfect for outdoor yoga or the morning jog) and the Calouste Gulbenkian museum as well as indie boutiques, galleries, cafes and fabulous foodie haunts from the farm-to-table to the gastro treat.

If you crave the scents of the sea and beach time, Casa Fortunato is just 15 minutes' drive to the some of the most beautiful beaches and coves on the Portuguese coast.

The fundamentals of Casa Fortunato however, lie in its wellbeing, whether this be found through the holistic feel of the house, the interiors or the fostering of a macrobiotic lifestyle. Chill in the reading room, join in the morning yoga, sign up to a cookery class with in-house Chef Sónia Jordão or opt for one-to-one Pilates. Alternatively sit back and strike a few keys on the piano or devote some love to the house hound, Cacau. At Casa Fortunato, laughter is never far away.



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