

## It's the recessionista travel buzzword of choice – why go away when you can stay home and, well, vacation?

**HAZAR, WE SAY!** Although we do love a weekend escape with all the trimmings – which is why we've remodelled the idea of a staycation. You're not home but in your home town. Smart, yes? It gave us the chance to test-crive some of the most talked about new hotels in our cities – and we've all agreed that being a tourist in your own town makes you see things from a different point of view.

## One & Only Cape Town

This multiple award-winning hotel makes you feel like you could be anywhere in the world. You might enter it while in Cape Town, but you'll be crossing a border into that international existence where "everywhere" is a kind of paradise, and purpose-built islands are the norm. The spa – repeatedly voted the best in Africa – is housed on one. You'll dine at globally famous Nobu, or celebrity-chef Reuben Riffel's destination restaurant. You'll have to keep glancing at Table Mountain to remind yourself that you haven't travelled halfway across the world to get here.

Oneandonlycapetown.com

## La Grenadine

In Cape Town's city bowl there's a tiny corner of authentic France. Owners Maxime and Mélodie, both from France, fell in love with Cape Town and decided to make a little home from home here in the form of a charming guesthouse. They've converted a 19th century farmhouse into a stylish mix of contemporary local and vintage decor with a distinctive French flavour. You might be a stone's throw from Kloof Street, but you'll feel like you're in another world. There's a beautiful tree-lined courtyard dotted with café tables, a

world. There's a beautiful tree-lined courtyard dotted with cafe tables, a salon with an impressive collection of vinyl records, a library, and a fireplace for those chilly Cape Town nights – and French accents aplenty. Of course, breakfast is traditional French fare: fresh croissants, pain au chocolat and baguettes. Lagrenadine.co.za

