

## **Upscale Living Magazine print**

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TRAVEL

## WHAT'S NEW























BY HELÉNE RAMACKERS





RIAD BOTANICA MARRAKECH, MOROCCO







Owned by Australian and Moroccan couple Angela and Mohamed Mellak, Riad Botanica is a labor of love and a fusion of cultures. Having undergone meticulous renovations from the ground up, the historic 10th-century Riad is now a space that ignites the senses with traditional Moroccan craftsmanship and Australian style.

Complete with a rooftop terrace, courtyard, and pool, and defined by its iconic Moroccan and Australian art deco design, Riad Botanica can be hired exclusively for up to twelve guests, or suites can be booked individually, making it the perfect place to retreat from the city buzz of Marrakech and soak up Moroccan hospitality and culture.

Nestled in the back streets of the historic 10th century Media, Riad Botanica is an oasis away from the bustle for which Marrakech is renowned. With careful consideration for the traditional craftsmanship of the local artisans, the team has transformed the Riad from its original nine-room aristocratic residence to now offering four spacious guest suites as well as a two-bedroom apartment, which is perfect for families.

The love of Art Deco design became the meeting point, fusing Moroccan craftsmanship with Australian design flair, demonstrated nowhere better than through the hand-printed 1930s Florence Broadhurst wallpapers depicting birds and nature in bright colors, which are complemented by modern Australian features, fixtures, and furnishings.

These elements combine perfectly with the traditional Moroccan nature-inspired, warm woods, brass details, marble and stones in vibrant colors and textures of tadelakt and luxury zelige tile work with Islamic geometric plaster

patterns. The suites have been designed with spacious Australian proportions, featuring king and super king beds, with vast ensuite bathrooms, expansive showers and marble floating vanities.

Each suite has been curated with a color palette unique to its theme, all of which center on the healing properties of plants and the beauty of their flowers: Orange Blossom, Rose Beldi, Nigella, Pomegranate, and Zahara. Riad Botanica guests can relax in the courtyard either by dipping in the crystal clear pool, star gazing under the orange tree on the day beds, or nestling down on the fluffy hand-quilted Beni ourain cushions in the courtyard, accompanied by the bird song and chill tunes.

https://riadbotanica.com