

VANITY FAIR



ON TRAVEL

MARCH 2013

PANAMA

IT'S A *JUNGLE* OUT THERE

By STEVE KING

KASHMIR

BEAUTIFUL BEYOND DISPUTE

By TREVOR FISLOCK

Tom Parker Bowles *HITS THE ROAD* in Search of *STREET FOOD*
Nigel Tisdall *GOES OFF THE RAILS* in *STATION HOTELS*

Plus

Chic-boutique isn't for everybody—gone risks looking insufficiently witty alongside the furniture. The Andaz Amsterdam proves that it doesn't have to be that way. There's no shortage of clever postmodern decorative gee-whizzery, but here it amuses rather than intimidates. The hotel, a former public library on one of the city's grandest canals, Prinsengracht, has been brilliantly contrived to seduce both hipsters in skinny jeans and historians with soup stains on their ties. Local boy Marcel Wanders is a benign design dictator and the entire hotel is a monument to his own groovy aesthetic—and to his beloved Amsterdam.

Amsterdam

ANDAZ I WAS SAYING

Dreamy design in the Dutch capital

BY STEVE KING

Every inch of the place bears his signature, down to the beautiful blue brushstrokes in your bathroom basin, which he painted, by hand, himself. (Er, that's more than 120 basins, isn't it, Marcel? To which he will mutter something about

the speediness and simplicity of the traditional Delft glazing technique.) Best of all is the wallpaper: ravishingly pretty, busier than a red-window girl on

payday, comprised entirely of quotes and snippets of information about the city's history from earliest times to the present, all gorgeously illustrated. Quintessentially Dutch, and more fun than a pancake and a smoke. andaz.hyatt.com



The Observatory, left, and the Library at the Andaz Amsterdam.