MONOCLE

1 Agenda

- · Finding Mr Right (wing)
- Qatar's collapsible stadium
- Self-driven vans in Sweden
- India's homemade warship

Global views

- · How to keep the lights on
- Quito's cresting ambitions
- The Debate: Why work?
- · Naples cashes in on culture

Inventory

- · Time to recharge in Oslo?
- Hakone's hospitality revamp
- Aman anew in Manhattan
- Berlin's homage to the 1920s

New energy, bright ideas and powerful design

PLUS: A Venetian master's unseen residence in Zürich

DESIGN TOP

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Our well-turned-out survey is brimming with positivity. Expect furniture finds, peeks through the keyhole at *inspiring interiors* and *insights* on the office of the future. We discuss getting the lighting right and sit down for *interviews* with five key industry leaders.

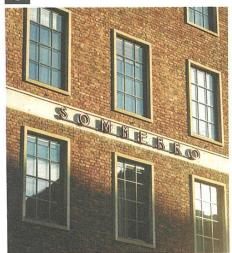


Drawers with draw





INVENTORY: Travel



1 Hotel Special

Sommerro Oslo

"People in the area have an emotional connection to the building," says Dominic Gorham, a guest-relations manager at the new Sommerro hotel in Oslo. In a previous life, the art deco building was the HQ of a Norwegian energy company,

as well as communal baths. "Guests still come here to get energised," says Siri Løining, head of brand, who helped to create this 231-room hotel.

Oslo-based architects LPO and interior design firm Grecodeco were tasked with sprucing up the interiors without erasing the past. "It's quite difficult to do this in a place with protected status," says Løining. "There are three words on the façade here: light, power and heat," she says, pointing to an etching that has been here since the 1930s. "Those words still mean a lot."

From its large windows and brightly hued carpets to chef Jonathan Howell's brasserie Ekspedisjonshallen, the building still has spark. "I felt like Oslo was missing a casual dining spot that didn't feel too fussy," says Howell, who recommends the crab bucatini. Other diversions include screenings at the private cinema and a rooftop pool.

Despite changing the building's use, there is a reassuring solidity here. "If you build a hotel based on trends, you'll have to renew everything in five years," says Løining. "Here, it doesn't matter if things get scratched or change with time." — CAG sommerrohouse.com

- Sommerro's large windows let in plenty of natural light
- 2. Always at your service
- One-off pieces decorate the bedrooms
- The doors are open to tourists and locals alike
- Interiors designed by Grecodeco
- Balcony facing an indoor patio
- 7. Original art deco staircase
- Fresh pastries and coffee at the lobby café







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