



A room at Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa, designed with bright hues by Jonathan Adler

## Not the Norm

Two high-profile designers recently reimagined two Palm Beach County hotels

BY DON NICHOLS

MANALAPAN

### EAU PALM BEACH RESORT & SPA

Reimagined by Jonathan Adler, the hipster potter, designer, and author

When owners of the former Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach broke ties with the brand two years ago and started operating the beachfront property independently as the Eau Palm Beach, they vowed to deliver "luxury on our terms" and treat guests to what they call "new-fashioned Palm Beach luxury." That philosophy has translated into 309 guest rooms once described as traditional and elegant now looking tres chic, but with a decidedly fresh and fun, laid-back vibe.

Adler labels the look Capri meets Santorini meets Palm Beach, thus the refreshing blue, white, and yellow color palette. Walk into your room and you'll instantly feel like someone special who has jetted off to the beach for a stylish but relaxed holiday. The elegance is there, but minus any stuffiness. "You're in Palm Beach, you need to come here and feel like you're in the most luxurious cabana you could ever imagine," says Adler in a video posted on the hotel's website.

Bamboo Mylar wallpaper, sea-blue carpet, blue valances over balcony doors, throw pillows with "Palm Beach" needlepointed on them, Slim Aarons photographs, and cheeky Donald Robertson artwork (left) depicting multigenerational beachgoers help create a sense of place in rooms. Adler's own sleek Haywood settees, Channing desks, and Maxime chairs give a nod to the

area's rich design history. Pieces of his signature pottery, such as the Dora Maar bowl (used as orchid flowerpots) with bas-relief faces, add a dose of coolness.

It's a "wonderland of eccentric glamour," says Adler on the video.

While a guest, you must: Mellow out in the 42,000-square-foot Eau Spa, where it's all about decadence, not healthy deprivation, a message you'll get when offered Champagne and cupcakes upon arrival. Lose all track of time in its serene garden, decked out with dipping pools, hanging chairs, and cabanas.

From \$209. 888-306-4894; [eaupalmbeach.com](http://eaupalmbeach.com)