

Eclectic China

JIA SHANGHAI

The owner of JIA Shanghai took a decidedly meticulous approach by appointing three separate designers to oversee everything from the rooms and suites to the lobby. As a result, the second of the JIA's collection of boutique hotels reflects the vibrancy of its energetic city with an eclectic, chic design.

NAME OF HOTEL
JIA Shanghai

DESIGN FIRMS
BURO Architects in association with Hecker Phelan
and Guthrie Interiors, and AFSO

IMAGES COURTESY OF
JIA Shanghai

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Stepping into the lobby at JIA Shanghai, one gets a sense of AFSD's interior designer Andre Fu's style of "Eclectic China". Fu, a protégé of renowned architect John Pawson, welcomes guests with a "Cascade" installation set in a two-storey space. Birdcages are suspended from the ceiling above an undulating Chinese black lacquered sculpture. Washed oak flooring and fabric wall panelling with a romantic Chinese embroidery motif creates JIA's signature homely feel.

At one end of the lobby lounge sits Fu's "Umbrella Table" – a smoky-green velvet couch attached to a black lacquer donut table and a umbrella-inspired tungsten bulb stand, perfect for a quick business meeting or casual chat. At the other end, the lounge captures guests with its chocolate brown walls, playful red bamboo-inspired stools, and cushions with fabrics in rich textures and colours.

The corridors through the five floors are moody and dark. Your room door – a glossy picture frame decked out in a colour assigned to the floor – opens up to an airy, cheerful and designer-chic living area.

JIA Shanghai features 55 chic guest rooms and suites designed by Melbourne-based BURRO Architects in association with Hecker Phean and Guthrie Interiors (HP&G). Two penthouse suites, located on the top floor, are each appointed with luxurious facilities and interconnecting functions to adjacent rooms, allowing them to form larger 200-square-metre suites. The spacious guest rooms average 45 square metres and are designed to be quietly theatrical, warm and sexy spaces. Timber-panelled walls give an immediate sense of modern unhurried luxury while custom-designed floor rugs add a stunning accent to the dark timber floors.

Layered over these are exquisite pieces of Chinese objects and furniture, finished with a unique colour treatment to give an element of surprise. Finally, photographic pieces by renowned Singaporean photographer Russell Wong give the room a sense of energy, reflecting the vibrancy for which Shanghai is known.









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