

# hinge

ARCHITECTURE  
INTERIOR DESIGN

## CHECKING INN...

### Our Annual Hotels Shortlist

#### TALL BRICKS

A Nature Centre

#### MUSCLE UP

A Fitness Garage

#### GOING HOME

3 Houses

little shelter

[www.hinge.hk](http://www.hinge.hk)

ISSN 1561-781-5



9 771561 781004

HK\$80  
RMB80  
US\$11





# Mykonos Riviera Hotel and Spa

Mykonos, Greece  
MKV Design

Photography by Niall Clutton







The Greek islands are basically a paradise on earth, but the hotels that welcome millions of visitors aren't necessarily radical in design. In fact, the white-stucco, indigenous-character properties mostly stay within a predictable, if much loved, type. This new entry located on Mykonos, which is arguably the nation's most favoured tourist isle, tries to nudge the genre gently forward. It's not revolutionary exactly, but it takes some of the familiar materials and forms and tweaks them.

The property has 44 rooms and a serious spa facility, all overlooking the stunning Aegean Sea in the Hora Harbour area. You get a strong hint of what's going on at the reception lobby, which is an alluring, dimly glowing 'cavern' of sorts sitting directly underneath the swimming pool, visible through a pattern of deep punctures in the ceiling. Blue light filters through these apertures to dance around the floor. A mirror-finish reception desk against a curving wall of hanging ropes references nautical, coral, sunlight inspirations to abstract an image of watery calm. In one corner niche, a startling

sculpture depicts a human-scale diver plunging downward from on high. At night, a dance of LED spotlights transforms the space into an almost-party venue.

The property also boasts an intimate library with book niches carved into a wavy wall, besides cosy seating, and the Blu Room, for drinks, work and chats. It's darker than most of the hotel's other spaces, and ideal for reserved meetings or functions. The spa itself offers treatment rooms, a therapy pool, hamam, sauna and salon. The guestrooms are white-doused, blue-accented spaces with private terraces and ceilings strapped in white ropes as decoration.

As you'd expect, most of the spaces spill out onto terraces overlooking the harbour and sea beyond. In Greece, during the summer, you live outdoors or very close to it. So the Riviera's openness and undefined boundaries are de rigueur. It may be as casual as most of Mykonos, and definitely as chic.