

Top row: Hotel Ynez;
bottom: Hotel June



SCENE CHANGE

4 CLOSE-TO-HOME TRAVEL DESTINATIONS WITH AN EYE FOR DESIGN

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PHOTOGRAPHED BY THE INGALLS

With so many unknowns about the immediate future of travel, a California road trip just might be your spring/summer sure bet. And if your weekend aspirations include incredible ambience, you're in for a treat. We caught up with three creative geniuses who reimagined hotels within a 3½-hour drive from the South Bay. Pack your bags (and face masks) for a look at these new properties worth checking into now.

Hotel Ynez

Where: Santa Barbara Wine Country

The breakdown: A secluded, 2-acre property with 18 rooms surrounded by oak and madrone trees; communal firepits; a wellness pavilion; and a rustic outdoor seating area

Design Mastermind: Kimberly Walker, managing partner of Nomada Hotel Group

The Look: Modern west meets Santa Barbara. Think gaucho hats hung on whitewashed walls, arched Spanish doorways and crisp linens paired with hand-loomed, woven pillows by Moroccan-based company Maison Blaoui.

In Three Words: thoughtful, sophisticated, relaxing

Coveted Spot: "The Garden Suite with a large backyard with private firepit, hammock and an outdoor bathtub," says Kimberly. "The space is spacious and ideal for stays with dogs."

Hotel Hack: BBQ room service. "We bring a Weber grill, preseasoned ribs and all the fixings to your private patio so you can grill with a glass of wine overlooking the courtyard," shares Kimberly. "Then we come back and clean it all up for you."

Property Perks: Daily coffee and pastry breakfast service and a fleet of bikes for complimentary guest use

Starting Rate: \$179, including breakfast, hotelynez.com

Hotel June

Where: Los Angeles

Design Mastermind: Christian Schulz, partner and design director, [Studio Collective](http://StudioCollective.com), Venice, California

The Look: "Based on Proper Hospitality's vision for Hotel June, we drew inspiration from a California road trip from Ensenada, Mexico, up Highway 1, winding through Southern California,

rounding out in Big Sur," says Christian. "We were also inspired by colorful and relaxing outdoor gathering spaces found throughout Tulum and Escondido, Mexico, as well as the casual beach casitas of northern Baja and laid-back oceanfront, wood-clad bungalows of Cambria, California."

In Three Words: coastal, cheerful, calming

Design Highlights: A 1950s vintage mid-century sofa that was stripped and rebuilt for comfort with a playful fabric by Kravet. "Road Trip" themed accessories (postcards, thermos, vintage mugs) that adorn the back bar areas at the indoor restaurant, Scenic Route. Other key elements include a large, colorful, artistic installation in the lobby and custom area rug crafted in collaboration with Brooklyn-based artist Alex Proba.

Linger Here: "I love lounging on one of the oversized custom daybeds in the poolside area," says Christian. "The setting offers a great view of the lushly planted poolside area and the second level of the outdoor restaurant, Caravan Swim Club."

Shape Up: Break a sweat in the 24-hour fitness center complete with Peloton bikes, Octane AirDyneX bikes and a WaterRower M1 HiRise.

Starting Rate: \$179, thehoteljune.com