

### The clash

Go bold with mixed prints. If you're unsure, stick to pieces in the same colour family – or take the easy route and choose a fabric that blends the motifs for you, like this one with florals, geometrics and painterly foliage.

Mariselle printed poplin dress (R1 699) Poetry. Choc & Milk check clutch (R595) Porter. Arizona Droplet Buckle sandals in Pure Sage (R4 999) Birkenstock. Octopus hoops in brass (R650) Soul Design. Bronze rings (R950 each) Cole Jewellery.

Summer is the perfect time to bring playful patterns into your wardrobe, from bold mixed prints to three-dimensional embroidery and appliqué.

# ULTERIOR *motif*

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### Tropicana

Tropical prints aren't just for Hawaiian shirts. This season, they get a luxe update with slightly blurred, more abstract florals and palm leaves. The overall effect feels elevated, and this structured shirt-dress with its floral edging shows just how sophisticated tropical print can be.

Floral Island print woven dress (R999) Queenspark. Tortoise-shell VE4492U 551487 sunglasses (R2 900) Versace, EssilorLuxottica. Shell earrings (R599) Burleigh, Beach and Beyond. Shell necklace (R899) Colette V, Beach and Beyond. Bronze rings (R950 each) Cole Jewellery.



### A stitch in time

A simple striped print gets a boho revamp with some contrasting embroidery details. The limited colour palette gives it a sophisticated feel.

Striped kaftan (R1 599) Artisanal Lifestyle. Vintage shell earrings (R599) Burleigh, Beach and Beyond. Baby Sand Dollar necklace (R699) Soul Design. Gold-plated link chain bracelet (R3 599) and Swallow medallion charm (R1 199) Pandora. Penelope's Cousin ring (R1 299) Athena A. Bronze rings (R950 each) Cole Jewellery.

## Real retro

This year brings a big revival of 1970s-inspired prints. Colours are key when it comes to this vintage look: Think yellows, browns (both of which made a huge comeback in 2025) and oranges. Add khaki or beige for a more muted take on the trend.

Linen bandeau tie top in Choc (R599) and bellow-sleeve shirt in Cabana Stripe (R799) Me&B. Pleated shorts (R679) Zara. Helena sandals (R1 600) Hamba Nami. Double-chain necklace (R800) LoveShouts. Penelope's Cousin ring (R1 299) Athena A.



## Walk the line

Stripes don't have to be prim and proper – or even restricted to two shades! These bold stripes add pizzazz to a billowy summer kaftan – the perfect summer staple. Toss it on over your cozzie (or just to keep cool on a balmy day), and pair it with neutral shoes and a colourful crochet hat for fun.

Justine Mallandain kaftan (R2 495) The Curators. Crochet hat (R149) Miladys. JC rope sandals in Olive (R1 995) Nomadic State of Mind.

### Octopus's garden

Three-dimensional appliqué brings this marine trend to life. Wear the shirt over your swimwear, or pair it with trousers for a more sophisticated look.

Delilah crochet shirt (R1 299) Poetry. Swimwear cropped top (R199) Woolworths. Denim shorts in Light Blue (R549) Woolworths.



### She sells seashells

A one-piece swimsuit with a geo shell print and a hint of metallic glimmer feels fun but still looks elegant. The print is playful and adds a bit of mermaid-inspired glamour.

Tunnel halterneck one-piece in Seagreen Shell (R1 299) Beach and Beyond. Thando sandals in Chestnut (R1 600) Hamba Nami. Retro-style Marc 877/S sunglasses (R4 230) Marc Jacobs. Safilo. Penelope's Cousin ring (R1 299) Athena A.



**Pocketful of posies**

Bold embroidered details turn this pink-and-navy striped shirt into a statement piece. Styling tip: Keep the rest of the look simple for a foolproof look – these cropped jeans are just the ticket.

Embroidered striped shirt (R999) Artisanal Lifestyle. Wide-leg cropped jeans (R499) Miladys. Toe Joe rope sandals in Café (R1 995) Nomadic State of Mind. Bronze rings (R950 each) Cole Jewellery.



**Landscaping project**

Bring the natural world into your everyday style. Painterly landscape prints are dreamlike and whimsical – almost like wearable art. Keep accessories minimal so the print can stand out.

Strapless dress in Apple Green (R1 999) ZW Collection, Zara. Loretta printed poplin shirt (R899) Poetry. Lia sandals in Chocolate (R1 600) Hamba Nami. Mraba smooth brass bangle (R799) and Mduara hammered brass bangle (R799) Lamu Collection. Bronze rings (R950 each) Cole Jewellery.

MODEL: NINA HENRY FROM BOSS MODELS  
HAIR AND MAKE UP: LISA BAILEY  
SHOT AT CLOUD 9 BOUTIQUE HOTEL & SPA,  
HOTELCLOUDNINE.COM



# What we love right now

It must be summer, because we're eating out a lot – be it amid the lavender fields, in a circus tent or on a rooftop! Also in the mix: a hand-painted set of coffee cups and a darkly funny Vince Gilligan drama

Compiled by Liesl Robertson



## Daily ritual

store. And the rest is history! Today, Tday's collection includes ceramic vases, butter bells, bowls, milk-and-sugar sets, candleholders, serving dishes, ramekins, flower frogs, trinket trays and planters – each one hand-painted with a whimsical design, or glazed. My favourites are the travel mugs, and these espresso mugs in either the Botanical or Funfetti design. *Espresso mugs (R180 each) Tday.co.za*

– Nina

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I found these beautiful hand-painted cups while browsing The Local Edit and I just had to share. Like ceramic brand Tday's founder, artist and potter Lika Horn, I think the cup you drink your coffee from matters. 'How we spend our days is how we spend our lives, and homeware made intentionally reminds us to appreciate the simple things,' she writes.

When the pandemic hit and Lika found herself with time to kill, she started playing around with making ceramic mugs and moulds in her garage. Curious to see if she could generate sales, she launched an online

## Rhea Seehorn vs the end of humanity

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I was itching to watch Rhea Seehorn in *Pluribus* on Apple TV+. I went in with little information – but *Breaking Bad* creator Vince Gilligan has again delivered a smart, darkly funny series. Rhea plays Carol, a best-selling romantic fantasy novelist whose success has made her rich but wildly miserable. After a press tour with her girlfriend/manager, they stop for a drink before heading home, when The Event happens. Carol finds herself alone, surrounded by pod people who want to 'help' – and she's one of the few immune. The hosts insist this isn't an invasion, but once everyone is part of the hive – stripped of love, grief, sadness and personality, but alive – are they still human? And what's the point if there's no one left to enjoy it?

– Eleanor



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## JAN at La Motte



The 18th-century Veepos cottage on La Motte wine estate is home to Season IV of JAN Franschhoek, world-renowned South African chef Jan Hendrik van der Westhuizen's glorious take on a family meal. All 18 guests sit around a big table, which I loved. It felt like a proper family get-together even though we'd never met the other guests before.

It's so cleverly done: All 18 guests meet for drinks – and sublime oysters – at La Motte's perfectly preserved manor house beforehand, so by the time you're bundled into a 1960s Kombi and taken to Veepos you feel like old friends. Our fellow guests were from the US, Sweden, Italy, the Netherlands, Gauteng and Witbank (shoutout to you, Lydia, Henri, Dylan and Mieke!), and the conversation and laughter flowed easily.

Jan is inspired by international trends, but this meal is all about heart and home. There's not a whiff of pretension, or even a menu: just down-to-earth food, exquisitely cooked. It's delicious, but there's also something magical about the experience. Veepos is straight out of a fairy tale: a tiny cottage at the end of rows of lavender, with just enough room for that table. It's hard to imagine a better place to be.

JAN Franschhoek Season IV will be open for dinner (and a lovely long Sunday lunch, if you prefer that) until 30 April 2026. Don't miss it; it's very special. [jan.franschhoek@la-motte.co.za](mailto:jan.franschhoek@la-motte.co.za); 021 876 9115

– Suzy

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## All systems glow

Huxley has yet to launch a product that I don't immediately fall in love with. This new one is light and refreshing, absorbing quickly and leaving skin calm, hydrated and looking all kinds of juicy. Key ingredients are cactus ferment extract (which is exclusive to Huxley, delivering low-molecular-

weight moisturising components that are easily absorbed), as well as gently refining cactus seed oil, cactus ceramide to create a nourishing barrier, niacinamide (aka vitamin B3) and Vita-Hyal (a patented blend of vitamin C and hyaluronic acid that brightens and hydrates). Layer it on after your cleanser but before a serum for a major glow boost. *Huxley Skin Glow Essence (R500) Dermastore*

– Liesl





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## The return of Madame Zingara

For those who remember the original Madame Zingara, she's back, a decade later, as the Royal Countess Zingara – and she's just as fabulous. From the time you wander

through the open-air garden foyer to the moment you slump in your seat, blissfully full, the experience is one for the bucket list. Under Craig Leo's direction, the ever-charismatic Andile Magxaki narrates as the Timekeeper, guiding you through a dazzling line-up of local and international acts. Standouts include opera singer Megan Spencer; Ukrainian twins Mykola and Andrii Pysiura's gravity-defying balance act; and contortionist Lunga 'Brown Sugar' Buthelezi. The staff also deserve a mention: Mischievous and borderline chaotic, the way they stream out of the kitchen to deliver your courses is itself a performance. Fans of the OG Madame Zingara will be happy to know the chilli chocolate steak is on the menu. The show La Dolce Royal runs until May 2026 at Century City; tickets start at R1 150 per person. [zingara.co.za](http://zingara.co.za)

– Eleanor



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## The Sisters Grimm



Ella Spira is a British Grammy-nominated composer, visual artist and environmental advocate whose long love affair with South Africa has resulted in the recent launch of House of Sisters Grimm – a luxury destination in London's West End that showcases South African culture through live performance, visual art, and iGoli, the UK's first South African wine/cocktail bar.

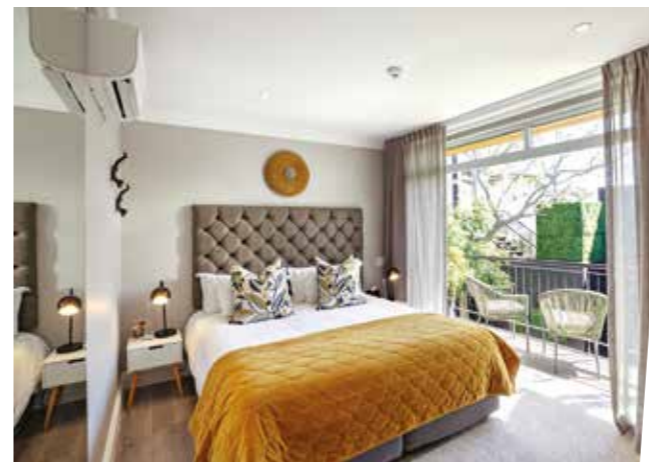
In 2010, Ella came to South Africa for the first time to work with the late Joseph Shabalala of Ladysmith Black Mambazo on *Inala*, which was nominated for a Best World Music Album Grammy. House of Sisters Grimm hosts an intimate production of *Inala*, and the gallery features a permanent exhibition of Ella's original paintings, as well as wine labels that she's painted for some of the wines on their list. 'South Africa's ancient soils, coastal winds and different microclimates

produce some of the best wines in the world,' says Ella, 'and in the UK, they don't have the top-shelf position they deserve.'

Perhaps not yet. But with Sisters Grimm taking charge of the narrative, anything can happen!

[houseofsistersgrimm.com](http://houseofsistersgrimm.com)

– Suzy



## On Cloud 9

The best part about organising fashion shoots in and around Cape Town is discovering some gems on my doorstep! And this one, at the foot of Table Mountain in trendy Tamboerskloof, is too good to gatekeep. Cloud 9 integrates five Edwardian heritage properties into a 50-room boutique hotel, spa and rooftop restaurant. It's the perfect spot for a staycation, with luxe rooms overlooking the city or the mountain, kitted out with cotton linens, decorated with locally sourced art and stocked with Charlotte Rhys products. And don't forget to check out the plunge pool on the upper deck.

If you're just stopping by, Cloud 9's Mountain Club Bistro is at the top of the staircase, with spectacular 360-degree views and an exquisite rooftop bar. Come for breakfast, try the sharing plates, or sample the Uchu Japanese-Peruvian fusion sushi alongside a selection of great cocktails.

Downstairs, you can pop into the Deluxe spa for a pedi, or to try the signature African 'Beach' massage, where you'll be cocooned in warm alpha quartz sand as vibrations of singing bowls and African herbal poultices rejuvenate body and mind. It's worth a visit! [hotelcloudnine.com](http://hotelcloudnine.com)

– Annelee

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## Ready, set, go

My hunt for a new sports bra has been hindered by the fact that high-intensity support and aesthetic appeal seem to be mutually exclusive. Which is why I was happy to be gifted this one from New Balance. I like that the straps can be worn criss-crossed or straight over the shoulders; it also has built-in breathable padding that

provides full support, and it even helps move moisture away from the body. If you're looking for a matching set, I can also recommend the high-waisted leggings, which fit like a glove and are made of four-way stretch fabric that wicks moisture away. It's my new go-to gym set.

*New Balance RC bra (R1 499) and Sleek leggings (R1 299)*

– Liesl



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