



visi BATHROOMS

SPECIAL SECTION

COMPILED BY
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28

pages of the latest trends
From statement to vintage
bathrooms

PHOTO COURTESY OF FIMA

The move towards attention-grabbing, character-filled bathrooms has never been bolder. Gone are the days when a bathroom's aesthetics came second to its functionality; instead, welcome the era of evocative bathrooms - sanctuaries you'll not only want to soak in, but soak up.





Sanctuary

The growing popularity of spa-like and cocooning bathrooms shows no sign of abating, and the look has evolved into a sophisticated aesthetic. Comforting tactile surfaces - marble, plaster, natural stone, textured paint, glazed tiles and raw timber - are key to today's sanctuary bathroom, while natural and biscuit tones lend an authentic touch.



In a Barcelona warehouse conversion, interior designer Noé Prades extends brick paving used on the adjacent patio into the bathroom, connecting the open shower to the outdoors. Exposed brick walls pair with untreated woods for an earthy look, while matt black fixtures nod to the apartment's industrial beams. Source similar fixtures from Meir. noeprades.com | meirsa.co.za



RIGHT Ballito-based interior designer Michele Throssell offsets the sleek surface of a freestanding tub with textured whitewashed rock walls in this KwaZulu-Natal project. Other tactile surfaces in the bathroom drive home the look. Source similar bathtubs at Duravit. michelethrossell.com | duravit.com



ABOVE A fluted stone vanity and hammered sconce add the luxe factor to an already textured bathroom by South Africa's Gregory Mellor Design. Tactile extremes are exaggerated by offsetting these surfaces with a woven grasscloth, cork ceiling and bamboo blind. gregorymellor.com

PHOTOS ELTON ROCHA, ELSA YOUNG

RIGHT "We layered raw stone, handcrafted tiles and natural wood to create a tactile experience that's both organic and refined," says Kelsey Boyce of Durban-based Fyfe Boyce Interior Design about this bathroom. "The artwork adds softness, balancing the materiality with a sense of warmth and depth." For a handcrafted look, consider tiles from Wolkberg Casting Studio. fyfeboyce.co.za | wolkbergcs.com





MARBLE, TRAVERTINE AND OTHER FORMS OF NATURAL STONE ARE KEY TO A SUCCESSFUL SANCTUARY-LIKE BATHROOM - THEIR NUANCED COLOURS AND TEXTURES ARE EVOCATIVE OF CALMING NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS.



Natural stone - like this Persian tumbled red travertine used by architect Utkan Gunerkan in a Milan apartment - applied from floor to ceiling on as many walls as possible will introduce a spa-like element to a bathroom. He paired it with micro-cement flooring. "To keep the look clean, I didn't want shutters or curtains," he says, "so the windows are smart glass, frosting at a click." utkangunerkan.com

PHOTO UTKAN GUNERKAN





ABOVE In this striking marble bathroom, interior designer Ryan Saghian drives home the cocooning and luxurious drama that using a single material can bring. Natural-stone specialists, including WOMAG, can offer invaluable advice when considering a stone bathtub. ryansaghian.com | womag.co.za

BELOW Black fixtures, including a Spartan F heated towel rail by Jeeves, pair well with concrete for a Zen-like industrial look. The material used for the flooring is sculpted into a bath, its curved lines introducing softness to an otherwise austere space. For a similar effect, contact Cemcrete about the brand's RenoCrete. jeeves.co.za | cemcrete.co.za



ABOVE The grey colour of this freestanding bathtub makes it a point of focus in Australian interior stylist Tim Neve's tone-on-tone bathroom. "It's the textures that really enliven this space, introducing a comforting and earthy ambience," he explains. "Adding matt bronze tapware makes it even more luxurious." timneve.com



ABOVE An oversized wooden tub is a statement-making addition to this rustic bathroom by Gregory Mellor Design. Placing it in the centre of the room not only draws attention to its uniqueness, but also connects it with views of the outdoors. The tub is half of a large oak wine barrel, procured by the client on a whim. It had to be sanded very smooth to remove all splinters, and then thoroughly sealed with a waterproof product. Unlacquered brass tapware elevates the look. gregorymellor.com





Shop the Look

Think organic shapes and earthy textures when designing a spa-like bathroom: mastering this look is about creating a space that promotes wellness and relaxation. Opt for a freestanding tub, tapware in matt, warm-toned metallics, and natural-stone surfaces.



1. Zencha freestanding bathtub by Sebastian Herkner in solid DuroCast Plus; **R98 600 | duravit.com** 2. Kit-Kat matt tiles in Lilac; **R1 259/m² | decobella.co.za** 3. Meir deck-mounted spout and mixer in Lustre Bronze; **R9 995 | flushbathrooms.co.za** 4. Bjhon 1 pedestal basin by Angelo Mangiarotti for Agape in Travertine, and Sen floor-mount mixer by Gwenael Nicolas for Agape in Anodised Black; **from R36 105 | lavo.co.za** 5. @home fluted cylindrical pillar candles in Green; **from R79 each | bash.com** 6. Qatego freestanding bathtub by Studio F.A. Porsche; **R95 000 | duravit.com** 7. @home The Easy Wash cotton towels; **from R49 each | bash.com** 8. Flo mixer in Amber Bronze; **POA | fimacf.africa** 9. Hanoi subway tiles in Pink; **R750/m² | decobella.co.za** 10. Unique wood stool; **R8 900 | lagrangeinteriors.co.za** 11. Perlies Jeffrey's Bay reclaimed white abalone basin; **R3 859 | stiles.co.za** 12. Florim Etoile Symphonie Gloss rectified porcelain tile; **R7 779/m² | stiles.co.za**





Statement

Hyper-expressive interior design characterises these bathrooms, with colour, pattern play, and contrasts in sheen and scale defining their aesthetics. Inventive tiling and arresting wallpapers are key to a winning look, with dramatic basins, and tapware and fixtures in luxe metallics, equally hardworking. The secret to success? Visual cohesion.



Chicago interior designer SuzAnn Kletzien opts for over-the-top maximalism in this guest bathroom, combining Milton & King's Cranes wallpaper with high-gloss metallic tiles, hexagonal floor tiles and a marble vanity. The look works not only because she's chosen a contained colour palette, but because she pairs matt and reflective surfaces. suzannkletzien.com | miltonandking.com



RIGHT "Don't be afraid to mix different textures and finishes - both in colour and in sheen," says Australian interior stylist Tim Neve. "Three is the maximum for a balanced bathroom." Working with a restrained colour palette in this guest toilet, he's paired matt encaustic cement tiles with glossy hand-painted Moroccan bejmat tiles. "If all the surfaces had the same finish, the space would've felt flat, lacking the interplay that makes it engaging." timneve.com



ABOVE Pattern on pattern adds interest to another Leah Ring bathroom. To replicate the mood, select monochromatic patterns in the same tone. Her choices work well here because she's offset Cole & Son's Villandry wallpaper with structured mosaic tiling. Source Cole & Son wallpaper from St Leger & Viney. anotherhuman.la | cole-and-son.com | stleger.co.za



BELOW A large-scale floral wallpaper is just one bold element of Los Angeles-based Another Human's principal designer Leah Ring's more-is-more approach in this bathroom. A shell-shaped basin echoes the forms of the scalloped cabinetry, creating a visual narrative. Locally, Cara Saven Wall Design creates waterproof wallpapers suited to moisture-heavy rooms. anotherhuman.la | carasaven.com





BE IT ON WALLS, FLOORS OR BOTH, GET ADVENTUROUS WITH TILING. EVEN THE MOST ORDINARY OF TILES CAN IMPRESS IF CREATIVELY LAID, SO COLLABORATE WITH YOUR TILER FOR A LOOK THAT PUSHES BOUNDARIES.



Colour is central to hotelier Liz Biden's decorating. In this bathroom at Franschhoek House - a new private villa at La Residence - she demonstrates that bold use of complementary colours need not be intimidating. The trick? She's paired primary and pastel shades of postbox red and offset them with pastel green, introducing white to soften the clash. Source tapware and customisable bathtubs - like this Victoria + Albert Cheshire tub - from Victorian Bathrooms. theroyalportfolio.com | victorianbathrooms.co.za

PHOTO GREG COX PREVIOUS SPREAD: DUSTIN HALLECK, ATELIER PHOTOGRAPHY, LANCE GERBER





ABOVE Spanish interior designer Noé Prades counters the symmetry of the basins and mirrors in this bathroom by instructing his tiler to lay the half-moons and bars in the tile design in irregular patterns. He also suggests painting walls surrounding the tiles in a matching colour. Source similar tiles from Stiles. noeprades.com | stiles.co.za



ABOVE In this playful take on colour drenching, Another Human studio has covered the walls and floor of a bathroom in the same tiles. While this isn't unusual, it's the irregularity of the pattern - created by using various shades of blue - that makes for an exciting result. anotherhuman.la

LEFT For a calmer look, do as Singapore-based interior designer Elizabeth Hay has done in this children's bathroom: opt for a single surface that's heavily patterned, and keep others neutral. Laminate flooring is an easy-clean way to achieve an intricately patterned look. Elizabeth has repeated yellow in the shower doors and mirror, and has had fun repeating the shower's wavy tile edge in the mirror frame. elizabethhaydesign.com



ABOVE Interior designer Irene Kyriacou's solution to a high-traffic bathroom - in this case at Marble Cape Town restaurant - is to opt for a densely and irregularly patterned tile. The advantage of doing so is that water and soap splatter won't easily show. Above hand-washing height, where water drops are less likely, painted walls in a flat colour are given interest by ornate mirrors. Source similar tapware at Flush. oniroco.co.za | flushbathrooms.co.za



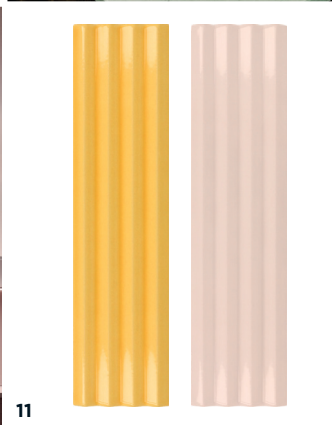
PHOTOS ELTON ROCHA,
CLAIRE GUNN, STEPHEN PAUL,
ALECIA NEO/NEON STUDIO





Shop the Look

Get creative with bold colour and bolder patterns for a bathroom that'll inspire and invigorate. Pair wallpaper with the latest tiles (think shaped, patterned or hand-crafted), and approach both bravely and playfully. Select colourful tapware and sanitaryware in either gloss or matt finishes to drive home the look.



1. Ceramica Globo OPI basin frame in Black with T-Edge basin in Verde Mare finish; **R45 357 | lavo.co.za** 2. Marley basin; **POA | stiles.co.za**
 3. Village Cuadrado tiles in Volcanic Red, Tuscany Gold and Teal; **R750/m² | decobella.co.za** 4. Costa Praia tiles in Baby Blue; **R975/m² | decobella.co.za** 5. SO Aqua mixer in Brushed Gold and Glass; **POA | fimacf.africa** 6. KOH-I-NOOR Luxury Pastel comb in Burgundy; **R725 | victorianbathrooms.co.za** 7. Texture Collection mixer in Chrome; **POA | fimacf.africa** 8. Roman Morning vases by Pils Potten; **R4 295 for four | lagrangeinteriors.co.za** 9. I Balocchi mixer handles by Davide Mercatali & Paolo Pedrizzetti for Fantini; **POA | lavo.co.za**
 10. Flo mixer in Matt White; **POA | fimacf.africa** 11. Costa Praia tiles in Yellow and Beige; **R975/m² | decobella.co.za** 12. Kit Kat tiles in Rosa and Lux Crete Luna basin in Powder Blue; **R489/m²-R4 619 | stiles.co.za**





Monochrome

Long the stuff of clubs and hotels, dark and moody bathrooms are nothing to be afraid of. They're evolution's take on colour drenching, if colour drenching were dressing for a night out. Dimmable ambient (or mood) lighting in warm Kelvin temperatures is vital to making a success of this look - because a nightclub is never a nightclub by daylight.



New York interior designer Crystal Sinclair reinvents the dark arts in this high-contrast bathroom. Her use of a uniform black on the walls, ceiling and mirror- and doorframes makes for an enveloping and evocative space. Black-and-white striped tiles introduce graphic drama. Source similarly veined stone basins at Lavo Bathroom Concepts. crystalsinclairdesigns.com | lavo.co.za



RIGHT "Introducing warmth in the form of timber floors was key to softening this monotone space that could otherwise have been stark," says Studio19's Mia Widlake of her design. "Warming" accessories - such as a tonally apt rug, or the Firefly metallic sconces that she used - are an affordable way to soften a monochromatic bathroom. Source similar flooring from Oggie Hardwood Flooring. studio19.co | oggie.co.za



ABOVE Bruce Fyfe of Fyfe Boyce Interior Design believes that varying textures and forms is key to a contemporary black-and-white scheme. "We played with contrast - graphic patterns, sleek surfaces and bold lines - to create this dynamic yet refined bathroom," he says. "Mixing textures kept it from feeling too stark, proving that a monochrome palette can be full of life and personality." fyfeboyce.co.za

PHOTOS NICOLE FRANZEN, ELSA YOUNG,
DUSTIN HALLECK



BELOW Interior designer SuzAnn Kletzien's monochromatic composition feels airy and light because of her considered use of black. By sticking to a dark colour only in the lower half of this bathroom, she's focusing the eye on the white upper half. The white window frames are key to the design hack. suzannkletzien.com





ABOVE Don't shy away from decorating intimate guest toilets in very dark shades. In this compact space by Crystal Sinclair, she's thoughtfully chosen metallic gold accents. Not only are they tonally warm like the primary shade, they're also reflective, and so bounce subtle mood light into the space. crystalsinclairdesigns.com

BELOW Use carefully placed lighting in monotone bathrooms as a way to distinguish differences in tone. Lighting above a bathtub should be soft or dimmable - and here, ambient pendants in a bath alcove enhance the shadows in the fluted wall. The striations in the wall are repeated in the clever addition of a Jeeves heated towel rail. jeeves.co.za



ABOVE Mia Widlake of Studio19 opts for the studio's glossy-plated Lian swing lamp in the design of this guest toilet. "Both the lamp and the plating of the swivel mirror provide textural contrast to the matt wallpaper and terrazzo countertop," she says. A swing lamp in a guest bathroom allows for focused task lighting. studio19.co



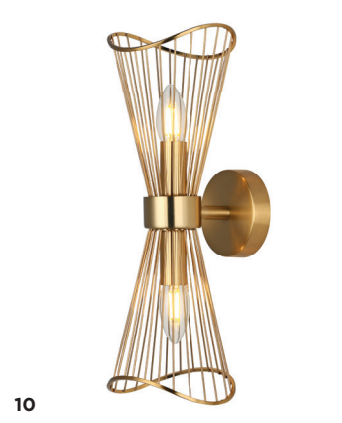
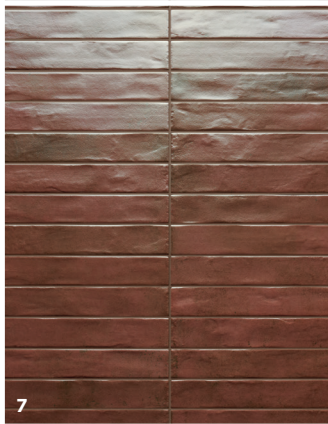
ABOVE In a guest toilet, task lighting can be replaced by ambient, mood-driven lights. In this cocooning space, interior designer Carly Ripp, of Life of Plenty Home in Nashville, opted for the symmetrical placement of sconces on either side of a mirror. The look is particularly pleasing because of the limited palette - vanity, taps, mirror and sconces are all in the same warm tones. Source similar sconces from Coricraft. lifeofplentyhome.com | coricraft.co.za





Shop the Look

Dark moodiness sets the tone for today's monotone bathroom. Go with black-and-white for guaranteed sophistication, or opt for rich nighttime shades for a sultry look. Either way, commit to a colour - and use it generously. Textured sanitaryware and kit-kat or patterned tiles add to the luxe factor.



1. SatinCrete pigmented plaster in Beach Sand; POA | cemcrete.co.za 2. Gatsby tiles in Dark; R795/m² | decobella.co.za
 3. YourTube vase by Pols Potten in Gold; R2 895 | lagrangeinteriors.co.za 4. Emerald Dimensions and Olien Dimensions subway tiles; R1 553/m² | wolkbergcs.com 5. Icona Deco 3-hole tap by Vincent Van Duysen for Fantini in Matt Gun Metal PVD; R52 247 | lavo.co.za
 6. Waffle terry cotton bath sheet; R349 | woolworths.co.za 7. Graffiti tiles in Red; R1 195/m² | decobella.co.za 8. Bjhon 2 pedestal basin by Angelo Mangiarotti for Agape in black Marquina marble; R292 616 | lavo.co.za 9. LED mirror with touch switch; R3 840 | klight.co.za
 10. Senu wall light in Gold; R1 400 | klight.co.za 11. In-Out freestanding bathtub by Benedini Associati for Agape in black Marquina marble; R745 184 | lavo.co.za 12. Aurena bathroom furniture by Antonio Citterio; from R35 800 | duravit.com



Vintage

Looking to the past is entirely on trend for bathrooms of the future. Pay homage to Art Deco's sophisticated patterns and materials, reclaim ubiquitous coloured sanitaryware of the 1960s and '70s, or revisit the glass bricks so popular in the '80s - then embrace the heyday of Hollywood, traditional English decorating, retro safari style and more.



Los Angeles homes of the 1930s and '40s were the inspiration behind Leah Ring's daring guest bathroom. Sanitaryware and fixtures in vintage colours are a growing trend, so she's housed a reclaimed tub in a retro niche - but it's her inclusion of "underwater" wallpaper that makes the look entirely contemporary. Consult Cara Saven Wall Design for waterproof wallpapers. anotherhuman.la | carasaven.com



RIGHT Wallpaper from the Fornasetti collection by Cole & Son does the heavy lifting to introduce romance to this bath alcove by interior designer Ryan Saghian. Do as he does with this Saturnus chandelier, and opt for circular vintage-inspired pendant lighting that mimics the wallpaper's plate-like shapes. Source Cole & Son wallpapers from St Leger & Viney. cole-and-son.com | ryansaghian.com | stleger.co.za

BELOW If bathrooms inspired by Hollywood's Golden Age are all the rage, it's definitely time to revisit shelving alcoves. They're a retro-inspired way to display collectibles, as interior designer Elizabeth Hay does here. Her use of five different tiles - floor, walls, trim and alcove - in similar shades of blue and white adds to the luxurious design. Fit concealed or strip lighting to the shelving for nighttime drama. elizabethhaydesign.com



RIGHT Bathrooms that nod to the heyday and glamour of Tinseltown are rising in the popularity ranks. In this one, designed by SuzAnn Kletzien, the overall mood is of elegance, and results as much from architectural choices - archways, split levels - as from her sophisticated palette. Tilted mirrors, a chandelier and floor tiles in a graphic pattern complement the look. suzannkletzien.com





ABOVE Separating a bath within a bathroom - be it by elevating a freestanding tub or by setting a bath into an alcove - is an increasingly popular way of amplify the bathing experience. Here, a spacious nook built into a wall is home to a Roman tub. Source similar towel rails and customisable coloured baths from Victorian Bathrooms. victorianbathrooms.co.za

BELOW Personalised or customised touches go a long way to creating a convincing sense of place in a bathroom. Not only has a slight recess - more aesthetic than functional - been created in this bathroom to give it a North African look, but playful tiling also reinforces the mood. Source decorative tiles, like these Sintra tiles, from Decobella. decobella.co.za



ABOVE In English architect and interior designer Ben Pentreath's London home, his aesthetic nod to traditional English decorating is layered. Atop Zoffany's Richmond Park wallpaper - an archival design in itself - he has hung a gallery of heritage prints. The look is intentionally busy, but is quietened by the use of prints and frames in the same colours as the wallpaper. Source similar sanitaryware from Duravit. benpentreath.com | zoffany.sandersondesigngroup.com | duravit.com



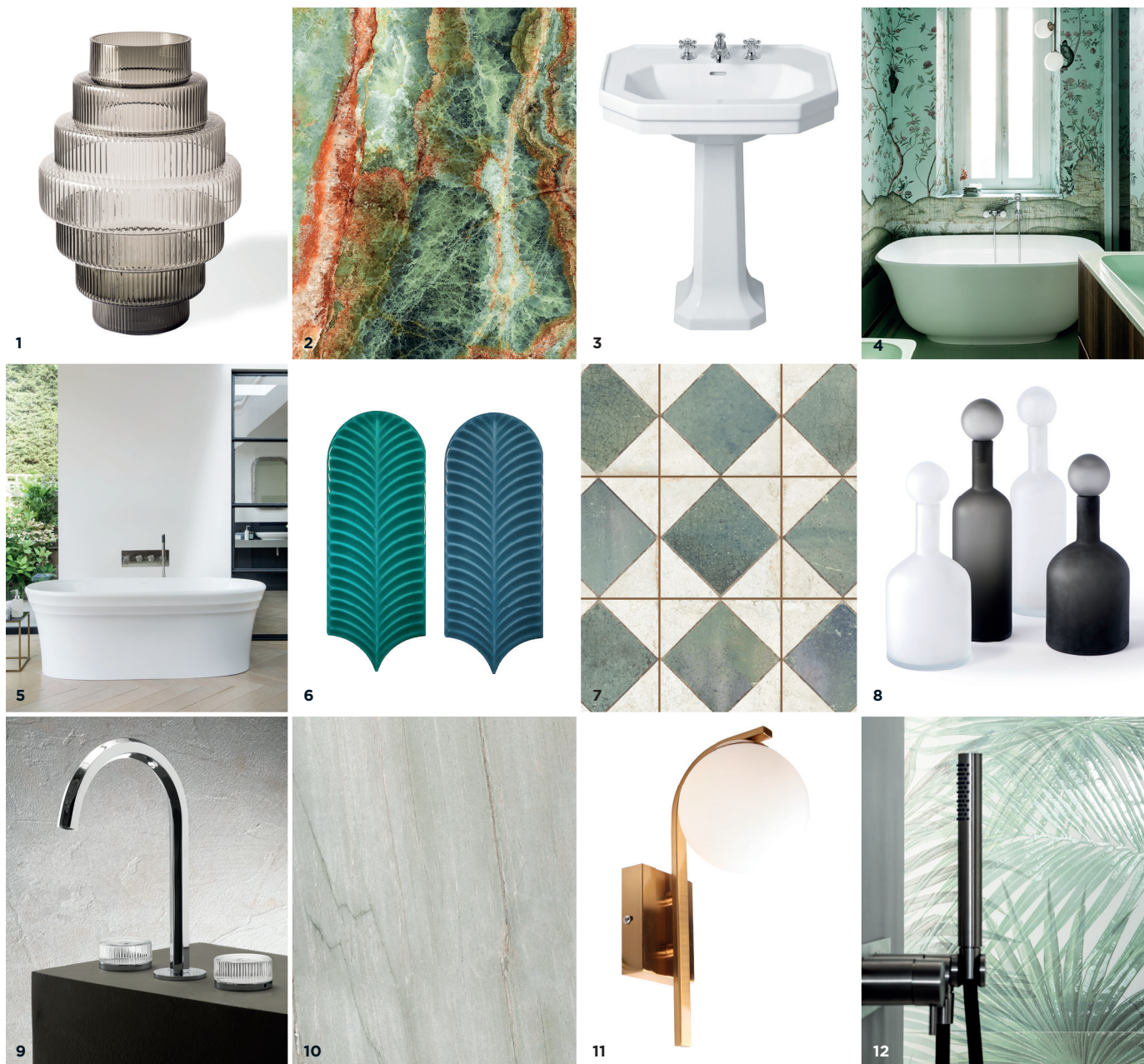
ABOVE Creatively used, wood panelling in a bathroom can evoke a multitude of eras and places. In this safari lodge guest toilet, Michele Throssell lines the walls with pine panelling. Coupled with a Victorian high-level toilet, the look references alpine ski resorts - but she keeps it relevant to its safari setting by painting the timber olive to match the landscape beyond. michelethrossell.com





Shop the Look

Think traditional shapes, classic patterns and timeless textures for a bathroom that reimagines the best of the past. Whether it be Art Deco or Bloomsbury, Hollywood or London, old-school glamour is all in the details - so consider tapware, baths, basins and more when committing to an era.



1. Steps XL vase in Grey; **R6 900** | lagrangeinteriors.co.za 2. Star Onyx Emerald Krystal porcelain tiles; **R1 390/m²** | italtile.co.za
 3. Series 1930 washbasin with pedestal; **R23 600** | duravit.com 4. Texture Collection mixer in Chrome; **POA** | fimacf.africa
 5. Victoria + Albert Warndon freestanding bathtub in Gloss White; **from R26 990** | italtile.co.za 6. Alma tiles in Emerald and Marine; **R1 425/m²** | decobella.co.za 7. FS Arles tiles in Green; **R795/m²** | decobella.co.za 8. Bubbles & Bottles glassware in Black & White; **R2 200 each** | lagrangeinteriors.co.za 9. Venezia 3-hole tap by Matteo Thun & Antonio Rodriguez for Fantini in Chrome; **R25 011** | lavo.co.za
 10. Crystal tile in Winter Green; **R1 250/m²** | ceramica.co.za 11. Curved wall light in Gold; **R925** | klight.co.za 12. Milano Mood tiles in Tropical Verde; **R1 750/m²** | decobella.co.za





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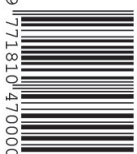
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