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■ CHECK IN HOT SPOTS

3 | TEREBINTE BED AND BREAKFAST DURBAN, KWAZULU-NATAL

CREATIVE Gerhard Duraan, photographer
RATES B&B From R350 per person sharing a night; R380 for a single
CONTACT 082-850-0139, terebinte.co.za

Hot pinks, purples, greys and reds make a splash at Terebinte Bed and Breakfast in the leafy suburb of Glenwood in Durban. Although Gerhard Duraan is the professional 'creative', his wife Yuri – who is a lawyer – has a keen artistic eye and has been co-creator in this project.

A modest gate opens to reveal a traditional garden filled with sculptures and mango and banana trees. The main building is an old house with high ceilings, wooden floors and decor that juxtaposes the modern and the antique.

Yuri and Gerhard live in the main house while guests are accommodated in two courtyard rooms. A 'Life is Beautiful' mural greeted me as I walked to my room, which was furnished with a Cape Dutch yellowwood wardrobe, a quirky steel bed from the Midlands, and a red animal-print carpet Gerhard bought

himself after winning the 2010 Sports Photographer of the Year at the Sasol Springbok Media Awards.

In my room, a muted brown wall behind the bed was decorated with a painting of wild curling branches and inspiring words – a creation by Yuri. (If you like reading, bring along a book light as there are no bedside lamps.) Each room comes with DSTV, couch (mine had a quirky day bed) and air con. Both rooms have a shower, and one a bathtub.

Breakfast was cooked by Gerhard and served in their eclectic kitchen, where the table setting changes every day. Dinner is available on request, but there are a variety of restaurants and bars within two kilometres – I recommend Olive and Oil for easy food made superbly. There are no credit card facilities at the B&B.

– VUYI QUBEKA

FROM
R350
PPPN



FROM
R5 000
PN

4 | THE RAFTERS KALK BAY, WESTERN CAPE

CREATIVE Beezy Bailey, artist
RATES From R5 000 to R6 000 a night for the property (sleeps six and two in the cottage)
CONTACT 021-790-0972, perfectideaways.co.za

Within five seconds of entering The Rafters, in the seaside suburb of Kalk Bay, you'll know you're in an artist's space. The airy, clean layout and the mismatched but cleverly put together furnishings and paintings give that away.

Owner Beezy Bailey is no stranger to South African art lovers, and is known for his vibrant and sometimes controversial, paintings, sculptures, drawings, printmaking and ceramics. His and other artworks, including those of his wife Nicola Bailey and a Marc Chagall print, are displayed on the walls.

The whitewashed clapboard house sleeps six in three rooms upstairs and two in an en-suite cottage. Each room in the main house has its own balcony but only two have views of False Bay. The other overlooks the swimming pool with its loungers, spa bath and a large, immaculate garden. The en-suite master bedroom is a haven on its own, with a Zanzibar day bed, comfy couch and flat-screen TV.

The real treat, though, is the main living area – colourful sari drapes, oversized lamps, elaborate chandeliers and cushions in fuchsia, magenta, cerise and any other shade of pink you can think of. Even though the feel of the place is quaint and rustic, it's by no means old. The modern kitchen has everything you'll need to cook up a storm, even a bright red artisan mixer and an island of varying glasses and teapots – perfect for entertaining.

For colder days there's the TV room with an overstuffed bed-like sofa and a Petit Godin (an ornate freestanding fireplace), while the sun lounge also has a fireplace and a well-stocked bookcase. On warmer days, the beach is just a 10-minute walk away, or cool off in the pool. Those wanting a bit of privacy can opt for the separate cottage in the garden.

The Rafters is a laidback spot, and the light beige carpeting upstairs (including in the toilets and bathroom) will make you feel like you need to kick off your shoes. And that's essentially what you should do here anyway.

– FATIMA ANTER

