

INVESTING IN
CLASSIC CARS

GEOFFREY ZAKARIAN
AT THE LAMBS CLUB

YACHTS BEYOND
THE SUPER

MINGLING WITH THE
CREME DE LA CREME

PRIVATE AIR

LUXURY HOMES

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A Haven in Montecito
PRIMA LUCE



Photo credit: Tim Street-Porter

SUMMERTIME, AND THE LIVING IS EASY

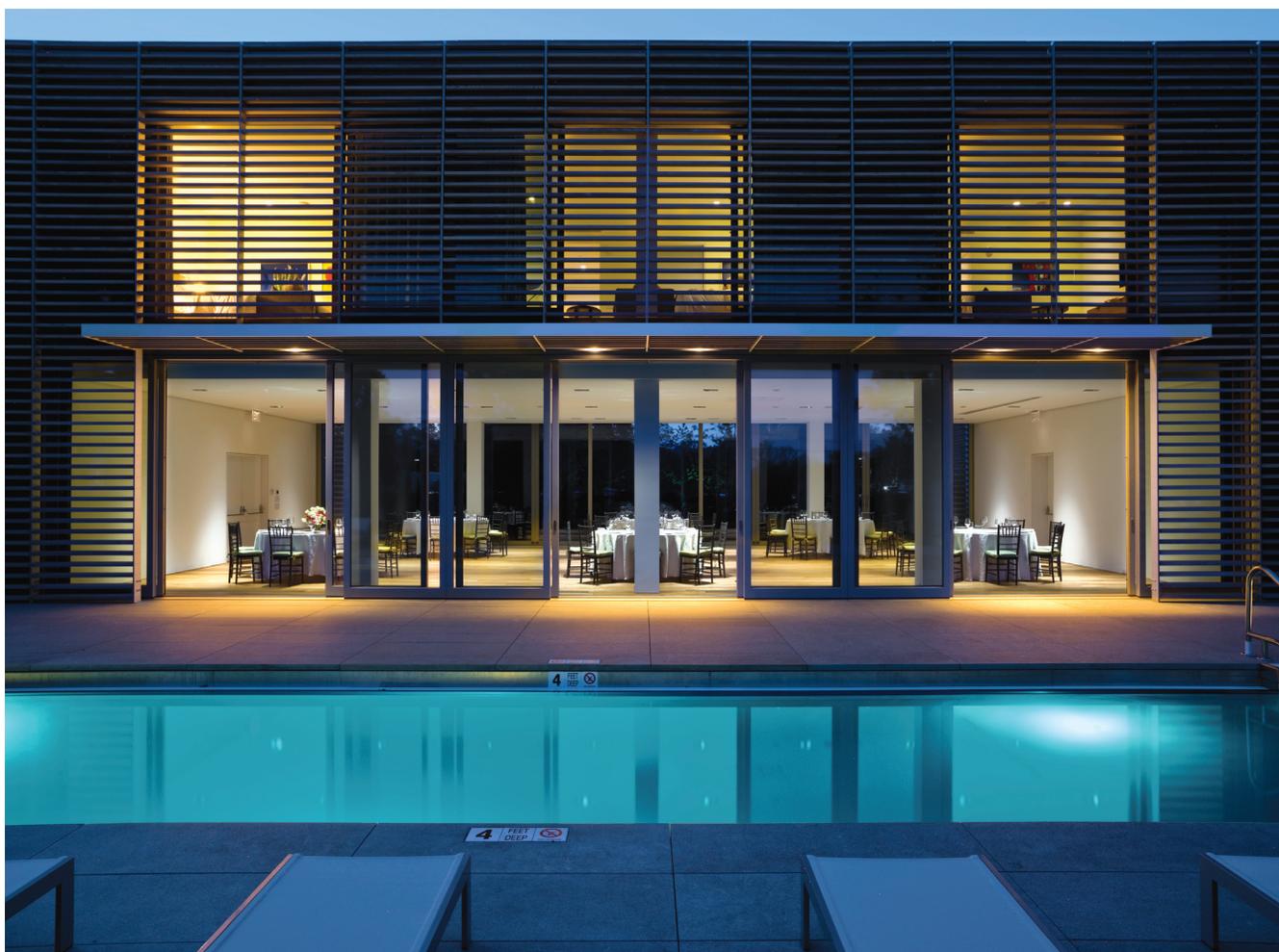
By: Gina Samarotto, Samarotto Design Group

Steeped in elegant history and swaddled by miles of pristine beaches, the Hamptons is synonymous with luxurious summer travel. Here, a collection of charming towns set in a landscape dotted by vineyards and edged in seashore creates a gift-wrapped destination otherwise known as New York's Gold Coast. An ideal summer retreat, the communities that compromise the Hamptons offer everything the privileged beach-goer could want... and all within a mere hundred miles of Manhattan.

While the phrase 'getting there is half the fun' is arguable when it pertains to the famous summer traffic heading from Manhattan towards Long Island, savvy travelers know that it's possible to have the ocean breeze ruffling your hair in less than an hour when one commutes by helicopter. The area's existing landing sites will be further augmented by the opening of Southampton's much lauded Ocean Aviation next spring; ensuring no shortage of options when it comes to flying by bird to the beach. Once there, let the unwinding begin with a

little help from the best the Hamptons have to offer.

From quaint B&Bs and inns to boutique hotels and resorts, accommodations in the Hamptons are plentiful. For those longing for pure, unadulterated luxury, though, there's **Topping Rose House**. The brainchild of Bill Campbell, Simon Critchell and Chef Tom Colicchio, the Hamptons newest gem is situated in the center of Bridgehampton; an eclectic homage to grace, style and comfort just a stone's throw away from the Atlantic.



With structures and aesthetics resulting from a brilliant collaboration between architect Roger Ferris and designer Alexandra Champalimaud, Topping Rose House is a staggeringly beautiful property whose suites, guest rooms and public spaces provide the perfect setting from which to experience east end charm and European-inspired service.

“We want our guests to feel as if they are visiting with friends rather than staying in a hotel,” says Boby Haryadi, the Topping Rose House’s Guest Services Manager. “We provide whatever we can to make their stay as welcoming and luxurious as possible”.

Welcoming it is. If a day at the beach is what you desire, staff will happily provide you with a Lexus stocked with sand chairs, towels and a picnic lunch to go. For those who’d rather stretch

their legs for a ride around town, there’s a fleet of bicycles at the ready. Guests who prefer to stay closer to the creature comforts afforded by the hotel can do so in elegant style at the sleek pool or atop the private rooftop patios provided by the cottage suites. No matter how you spend your days at Topping Rose House, you won’t want to miss a single evening at Chef Colicchio’s masterfully curated restaurant. With dishes created from a bounty harvested from the hotel’s own working farm and paired with selections featured in the extensive wine list, including offerings from local wineries, the restaurant is a destination in and to itself among guests and island natives.

“I’ve been inspired by the bounty of local produce and high quality purveyors in Long Island and on our own farm,” explains Colicchio. “This

gave us the opportunity to create menus that focus more on vegetables and herbs rather than protein. The Topping Rose House property has also given us the opportunity to extend our hospitality beyond a restaurant setting.”

While it may be difficult to pry oneself away from the amenities of a Topping Rose suite, an afternoon wine tasting or the lure of the Atlantic, the myriad shops and boutiques throughout the picturesque towns are hard to resist. From the bespoke offerings at Aerin Lauder’s seasonal boutique, aptly named AERIN to the Tiffany & Co. outpost shop to the antique stores that beckon you to browse, those who relax through retail therapy won’t be disappointed.

Summer. It only comes once a year, but if done well... once is all you need. ✈