

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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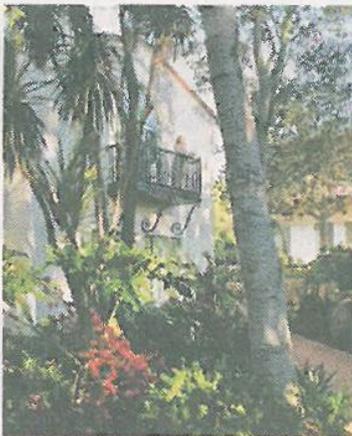
ADVENTURE & TRAVEL

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MAKEOVER

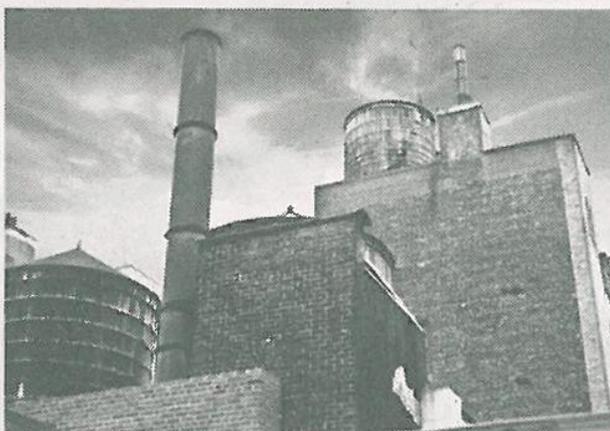
Stay in Fresh-Faced Hotels

Three lodging options launch (or relaunch) this season, after transformations that are far more than skin-deep.



The bandages are off at the hilltop El Encanto in Santa Barbara, Calif., after a seven-year face-lift that, among other things, added a new spa. The property, said to have been an escape for stars from Clark Gable to Sharon Stone, reopened last month with 92 bungalows, each with a private patio or garden. The look is understated elegance, but some details are over-the-top, including the diamond-dust Damien Hirst work hanging by the concierge desk, the Holstein cow whose milk will be used to make hotel cheese and, not least, the wide-open ocean views. *From \$525 per night, elencanto.com*

A new 90-room hotel in Sydney's waterfront Pyrmont neighborhood, 1888, is named for the year the structure—then a wool warehouse—was built. The inn is set to open in April, and the décor incorporates materials recycled from the original building, including reclaimed Ironbark wood made into furniture. *From about \$200 per night, 1888hotel.com.au*



In New York's Garment District, an old millinery factory is scheduled to reopen as a 197-room luxury property next month. Rooms at the Refinery Hotel will have writing desks inspired by old sewing machines, Frette linens and marble mosaic bathroom floors; topping it all off will be a huge rooftop bar. *From \$399 per night, refinery-hotelnewyork.com*