

# ELLE DECOR

ITALIA

## CONTRACT BOOK

IL DESIGN TAYLOR MADE NEGLI  
ULTIMI PROGETTI DI HOTELLERIE DI  
LISSONI ARCHITETTURA, MATTEO THUN &  
PARTNERS, STUDIO DAVID THULSTRUP,  
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DESIGN AND RESEARCH OFFICE

# OSPITALITÀ D'AUTORE





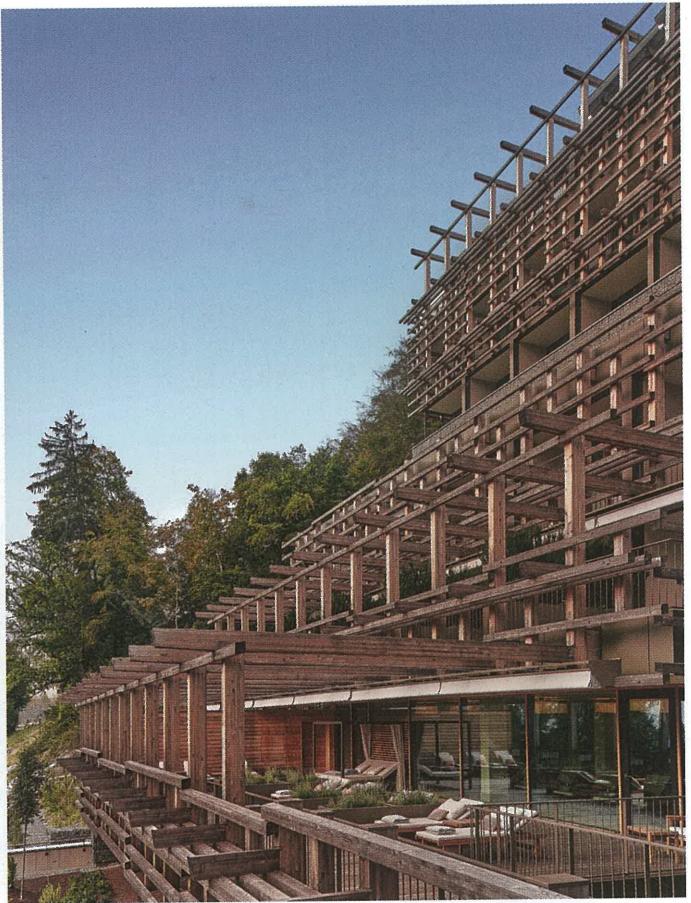
Il Waldhotel, firmato da Matteo Thun & Partners, offre all'ospite un contatto diretto con la natura. Si trova nel cuore della Svizzera, nel Bürgenstock, una penisola circondata dalle acque del lago di Lucerna, e presenta una struttura a terrazze e tetti piani a verde che seguono l'andamento del monte Bürgenstock. Pagina accanto, nella zona relax le grandi vetrate si aprono al paesaggio circostante.

# MATTEO THUN & PARTNERS

## ARCHITETTURA BOTANICA

testo di Laura Maggi — foto di Andrea Garuti







In queste pagine, alcuni scorcii degli spazi pubblici dell'hotel, costruito secondo criteri di sostenibilità e naturalezza, con grandi finestre dal pavimento al soffitto e invitanti terrazze che creano una continuità tra interni ed esterni. Materiali naturali, forme organiche e colori caldi connotano l'intervento di interior design. In cucina, il bancone di ottone brunito ha inserti di ceramiche lavorate a mano a Salerno.





Una delle 160 camere e suite del Waldhotel, tutte orientate verso sud a ricevere i raggi del sole. Sono definite da forme organiche, superfici sensoriali e materiali quali la pietra e il legno locali. Pagina accanto, la lobby principale dove l'ospite è accolto da una scultura luminosa sospesa e oversize. Gli arredi sono su disegno dei progettisti; i vasi in ceramica sono fatti a mano, in Toscana.

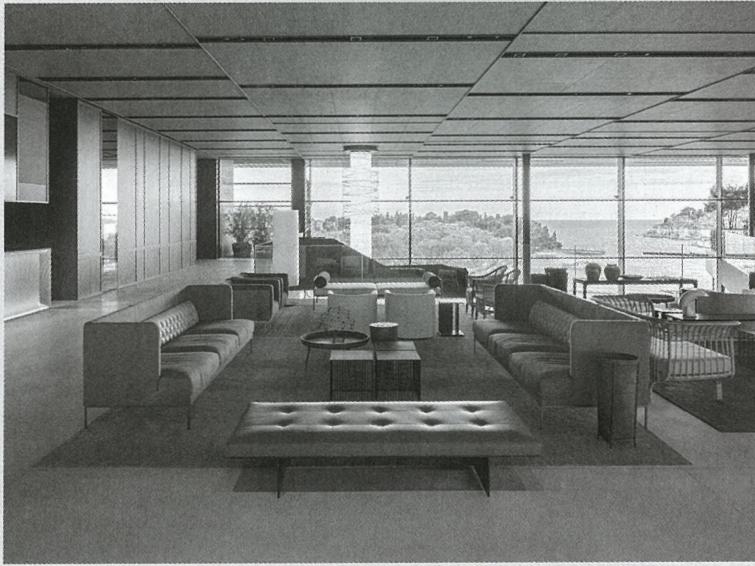
Come ama definirlo il suo progettista il Waldhotel, costruito nel cuore della Svizzera, lungo le pendici del monte Bürgenstock, nella zona del lago di Lucerna, "non è più solo un hotel ma un'eccellenza nel settore Health & Medical", per il suo format inedito "che attua una simbiosi tra benessere e turismo". Immersa nella natura alpina, costruita a terrazze seguendo il declivio della montagna e usando materiali naturali locali, la struttura è stata realizzata dallo studio internazionale Matteo Thun & Partners, il cui portfolio è ricco di realizzazioni in campo residenziale ma anche nel settore dell'interior e product design, e di architetture legate al tema dell'hôtellerie. In alcuni casi pionieristiche, come il Vigilius Mountain Resort di Lana (Bz): il progetto risale al 2001. Nel caso del Waldhotel – 25.000 mq distribuiti su nove piani ad accogliere un'area wellness di 1.600 mq, gli ampi spazi comuni e 160 tra camere e suite – la sfida è stata far coesistere all'interno della stessa struttura le esigenze della cura con quelle dell'ospitalità di alto livello per offrire un'esperienza rigenerante da ogni punto di vista. Più di 4.200 mq sono dedicati a discipline mediche specializzate, diagnostica, oculistica, chirurgia dentale, medicina cinese alternativa, terapia fisica, psicologia, controllo del peso, attività di Spa e programmi di benessere; le sale per i trattamenti si trovano a ogni piano. "Non dovrebbe essere necessario parlare di architettura sostenibile. Dovremmo semplicemente costruirla", dice Matteo Thun, autore di un progetto che estende il tema della sostenibilità e della

salute al campo dell'hospitality, adottando materiali naturali, lavorando con la luce, cercando una fusione armonica con il contesto. Nonostante sia ispirata alla tradizione Walser e all'edilizia alpina, l'architettura con il suo profilo aggettante sulla montagna ricorda quella dei monasteri buddisti tibetani a un passo dal cielo che caratterizzano le valli del Ladakh e dello Zanskar. Le facciate sono disegnate dal sistema a gabbione, o a cesti riempiti con le pietre recuperate dagli scavi del Bürgenstock, e dalle pergole in legno di larice per i balconi delle stanze che richiamano i loggiati delle case tradizionali, con funzioni di frangisole e protezione dagli agenti atmosferici. Il dialogo con la natura è totale: vetrate a tutta parete e terrazze sfumano i confini tra dentro e fuori, la presenza di giardini degli aromi ai diversi piani e rimandi a temi botanici sottolineano il tema del vivere sano, sia nelle camere sia nelle suite. E proprio sull'healthy living e sul cibo come fonte di salute è incentrata la cucina del ristorante Verbena e del suo cooking lab che introduce gli ospiti ai principi di un'alimentazione equilibrata. L'architettura, in armonia con il genius loci – un tema che è perno della filosofia progettuale dello studio – supporta la cura e accompagna il processo di rigenerazione in modo ottimale, favorendo il benessere fisico e mentale e il rapporto tra l'ospite e la natura. Natura che a sua volta, con il passare del tempo, si evolve e si integra con la struttura, trasformandola in una vera architettura botanica. [buergenstock-waldhotel.ch](http://buergenstock-waldhotel.ch)



La piscina è separata dall'area relax da una struttura a doghe mobili in legno di larice, che permette una visione continua dello spazio. L'area wellness dell'hotel copre una superficie totale di 1.600 metri quadrati con swimming pool interne ed esterne, hammam, sauna, spazi per la cura del corpo, zone per il riposo indoor e outdoor con vista panoramica sulle Alpi.





Majestic Grand Park Hotel, Rovinj – p. 20

the bedrooms, 193 all designed like mini suite and the 16 real suites with private pool and view. Higher up, more suites with enormous panoramic picture windows, lounge and garden, private 170-metre square private apartments, with all the services of a grand hotel. Seven eating options, inside and on the terraces, serve a huge array of gourmet food in starred and vegan restaurants and sushi bars. The Albaro Spa and Wellness centre covers 3800 square metres over two floors, with three pools, 3 saunas, a Turkish bath and cutting-edge natural treatments using mineral-rich sea salt. The steam in the sauna is enriched with fragrant essential oils made from the countless wild plants found along the coast. There is also a large, independent congress room in the basement which enjoys the view thanks to a horizontal slit that is like a film dedicated to unspoilt nature and the city, with all the different light changes and activity at sea. Lissoni Architettura also designed all the

outdoor areas along the seafront that links the hotel to the old city centre of Rovinj. Just like a traditional Italian piazzetta on Capri or in Portofino, restaurants, bars, coffee shops, fashion and design boutiques surround the contemporary tourist port, shady with trees and fragrant pergolas lending a modern, lively, animated feel to Rovinj. Here there is also another monumental entrance to the hotel, also for non-residents, just a stone's throw from the boats and yachts in the new marina. Inside, evident efforts have been made by the Lissoni studio to link different areas in a game of proportions. Like the lobby, at the top of the hill, which becomes a large lounge, as welcoming as any home, with a bookcase in glass where books still make sense, and a more private, darker area around the bar that manages to draw the eye from the hypnotic picture postcard views of the city. An oversize bespoke lamp connects the reception with the restaurant floor. The staircase, featuring

the slightly crazy signature Lissoni design that keeps its engineers awake at night, leads to an entire floor with three eating places, inside and out, for socialising and relaxing and open all day. "Simulating a small, private hotel in a very large one is no easy matter. We were helped by a desire and ability to interact with the surroundings, an aptitude for mixing cultures from different countries such as Africa, China, Japan, India and, naturally Croatia, discovered also through exploration of objets trouvés in markets and especially thanks to contact with local artists and talented graphic designers who have interpreted the new Rovinj. Together with Italian artists, such as Veronica Gaido, with the photographic vision of a private, demure Rovinj and Roberta Patalani, who created an enormous site-specific bas-relief inspired by Venetian churches as the backdrop for the Lobby Promenade.

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### **MATTEO THUN & PARTNERS BOTANICAL ARCHITECTURE**

*words by Laura Maggi*

As its designer likes to define it, the Waldhotel, built in the heart of Switzerland, on the slopes of the Bürgenstock mountain in the Lake Lucerne area, is "a category maker: rather than a hotel, it's Health & Medical Excellence" because of its novel format "that activates a symbiosis between wellness and tourism". Immersed in the Alpine countryside, and constructed with local materials on terraces that follow the slope of the mountain, it is a place that focuses on wellness and guests' health. The project was designed by the international Matteo Thun & Partners

studio, which has a rich portfolio of residential constructions and interior and product design, accompanied by a significant array of buildings linked not only to the hotel industry but also to healthcare, with pioneering proposals such as the Vigilius, that dates back to 1999. In the case of the Waldhotel – 25,000 sq m distributed over 9 floors, accommodating a wellness area of 1600 sq m, reception areas and 160 rooms and suites – the challenge was to allow the coexistence within the same structure of the requirements of healthcare together with those of top-level hospitality, in order to offer a regenerating experience from all points of view. Over 4,200 sq m are dedicated to specialised branches of medicine: diagnostics, ophthalmology, dental surgery, alternative Chinese medicine, physiotherapy, psychology, weight control, spa activities and wellness programmes, with treatment rooms on every floor. In the conviction that "It shouldn't strictly be necessary to talk about sustainable architecture. We should simply build it: a sine qua non architecture," Matteo Thun has created a project that extends the topic of sustainability and health to the field of hospitality, adopting natural materials, working with the light, and seeking a harmonious fusion with the context. Although it is inspired by the Walser tradition and Alpine construction, the outline of the building jutting out over the mountain is reminiscent of the Tibetan Buddhist monasteries that characterise the valleys of Ladakh and Zanskar, just below the sky. The facades are designed with the gabion system, cages filled with stones recovered from excavating the Bürgenstock, with larch-wood pergolas for the balconies of the rooms, echoing the porches of the Walser houses that serve as brise soleils and provide protection from the weather. The dialogue with nature and with simplicity is

complete: floor-to-ceiling windows and inviting terraces blur the boundaries between inside and out, while the aromatic gardens on different floors and echoes of botanical themes emphasize the idea of healthy living in the rooms and suites. The cuisine in the Verbena restaurant also focuses on healthy living and food as the source of health, as do the suggestions proposed in the bar and its cooking lab, which introduces guests to the principles of a healthy diet. The architecture, in harmony with the spirit of the place – an idea that is at the heart of the studio's design philosophy – supports healthcare and seeks to accompany the process of regeneration in the best way, by providing physical and mental well-being, fostering the relationship between the guests and nature. And over the years, nature in its turn is integrating into the structure, transforming it into a genuine piece of botanical architecture.  
[buergenstock-waldhotel.ch](http://buergenstock-waldhotel.ch).

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### **STAY WITH A VIEW HOLIDAYS IN THE LANDSCAPE**

**Retreats in magical locations to escape the frantic pace of modern life: the hospitality industry is coming up with new itineraries for travellers to explore. Where design works by subtraction. And rewrites the concept of luxury**

**by Bianca Scotto**

If the frantic pace of modern life leaves us hopelessly anxious, disgruntled and paranoid, the army of new millennium preachers – life coaches, gurus of longevity, spiritual guides – only serves to reiterate that the secret to happiness lies in the care

we take of ourselves – what the Anglo-Saxon world calls 'self-care'. So, it comes as no coincidence that the UN has set up an international observatory whose mission is to define the concept of social happiness, introducing a new parameter for measuring it: The World Happiness Report, a landmark survey that ranks 156 countries by how happy their citizens perceive themselves to be. In our frenzy to carve out some quality time to dedicate to ourselves via our meditation podcasts, yoga courses, and retreats in magical locations, the concept of luxury seems to have rewritten the parameters guiding its own definition, which no longer focuses on tangible items alone but includes new dimensions, such as time, space, the opportunity to travel, and our relationship with nature, all of which help us to restore a feeling of balance. In recent years, the hospitality industry has taken great efforts in order to assimilate the new mantra for happiness and make it its own. It all starts with the choice of location: unspoilt nature and remote locations where the distance from the chaos of classic destinations is part of their attraction, unusual and very exclusive havens. And then comes the long list of wellness options and beauty treatments for guests to pick and choose, a selection of superlative food and wine, and a menu of leisure pursuits. Finally, there is the element of design that seems to work by subtraction nowadays, almost as if a certain aesthetic reduction helps you to gain a better understanding of the location. Shapes become simpler; materials and colours blend in with the surroundings so that the focus remains firmly on the natural environment. In the United Arab Emirates, Al Faya Lodge has chosen the desert for its location. The complex was designed to blend into the background: the linear design of the architecture - simple one-storey