

Hotel Tivoli: An Artists' Escape in the Hudson Valley

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Courtesy Hotel Tivoli

If you've ever wondered what would happen if you let two wildly, willfully talented abstract artists with a penchant for color and an eclectic design sense loose on a 100-year-old building, then you need only check into their hotel in the sleepy village of Tivoli in the Hudson River Valley. Just prepare to be shocked, awed, amazed—and, finally, totally seduced.

Painters and art world royalty Brice and Helen Marden have lived in Tivoli (about two hours north of New York City) for 12 years, and when their local hangout—a restaurant in the Madalin Hotel—was shuttered a couple of years ago, Brice says he was “so depressed at driving by this empty, dead building” that they bought it. And so the transformation of the ten-room [Hotel Tivoli](#) began, under the watchful eye of both the Mardens and Laura Flam of the New York City-based Reunion Goods & Services design company. (This is the Mardens' second hotel venture; they also own the Golden Rock Inn, on Nevis.) Out went all the dark Victorian furniture; in came lipstick-red chairs, vintage Murano glass chandeliers, bold carpets, plush pink sofas, an elegant bar, and of course art by the owners and their friends, including Robert Rauschenberg and Francesco Clemente.

Happily, the inn is as inviting as it is visually stunning: The beds are sublimely comfortable, the staff are cheerful, and the rustic food is made by Devon Gilroy, formerly of Manhattan favorites Chanterelle and A Voce. Who needs the city when you have all this? (*53 Broadway; from \$210*).

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