

# ASK

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## Exploring New Possibilities



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Nini Andrade Silva

The office can be a hectic environment with the screaming managers, the pyramids of budget reports, and the arrogant customers; who think that they have nothing better to do than drive you up the wall with their endless complaints. You sit down fanning your sweaty face with a memo in one hand; while calculating endless columns of numbers on Excel with the other. Let's face it; you need a vacation! A brochure featuring the lovely green vineyards captures your eyes and you decide you're on your way to having a piece of the peace: Portuguese peace that is.

# A PEACE OF PORTUGAL

Images courtesy of Nini Andrade Silva Atelier



Ah, what part of Portugal would you rather go to than the Madeira?! This long archipelago off the coast is a four seasons resort in the literal sense, especially with the New Year celebrations and spectacular fireworks. Let's not forget to mention the amazing sights and sounds of the birds' chirpings. It's a chance to spend quality time with your family or possibly that special someone; in a relaxing sanctuary away from crazy bosses, constantly ringing mobiles, and worst of all



But, if you are looking for a hotel in town, then The Vine Hotel may be your type of place. It's a new 5-star hotel located at the center of the Madeira's main commercial center, Funchal. Get ready for a radically different design experience that will redefine hotel business.

Designed by Nini Andrade Silva, this dream world, which you have been itching to see reach since completing your last budget reports to your boss, is the epitome of royal spoils. The design in general is a direct reference to the name of the hotel, for this reason, you, as



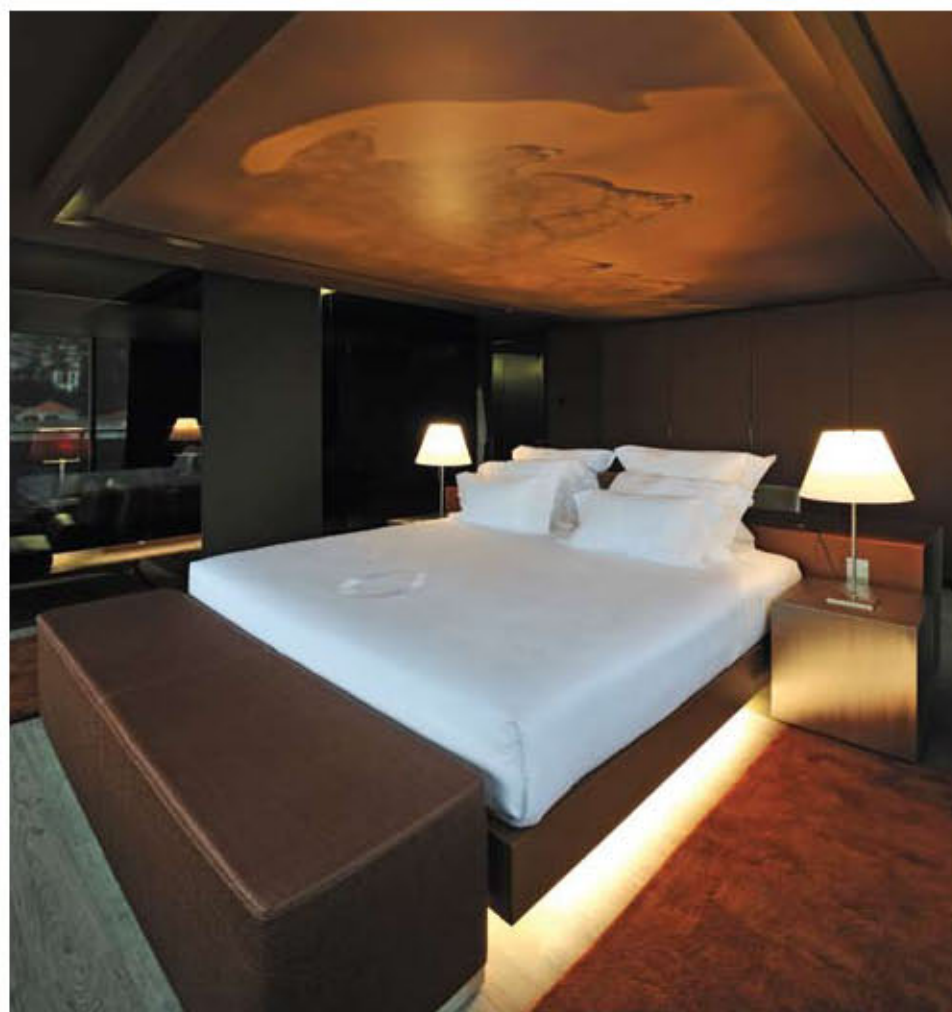
well as; the other guests get a chance to experience the extensive purple staircase and metal work that symbolize summer rain, as soon as you set foot in it.



Designers take the vine theme even further when you get to see the Terra lounge. Imagine being out in an extensive sea of green vines, dappled with purple grapes, with a basket in one hand and a handful of fresh fruit in the other. The lounge is made to induce exactly this feeling, with wine purple cushions sofas; designed resembling large baskets.



Wait; there is more to this peaceful dream! An interesting dialogue fires up, when setting your eyes on the floor finish, covered with small round pebbles; evoking the natural beauty of Madeira's beaches. It's a scene that enables you to imagine yourself jogging barefoot on the edge of the beach; being soothed by the constant applause of the waves.



Time to hit the sack! Let's take a tour through your temporary crib. Designers used a whole new philosophy for making hotel rooms more inclusive, by fusing the bathroom area with the rest of the bedroom; while still maintaining an appropriate separation. The room is illuminated from the ground; accentuating the room and placing emphasis on the vine and grape decorations on the ceilings. The furniture is made to melt into the environment.





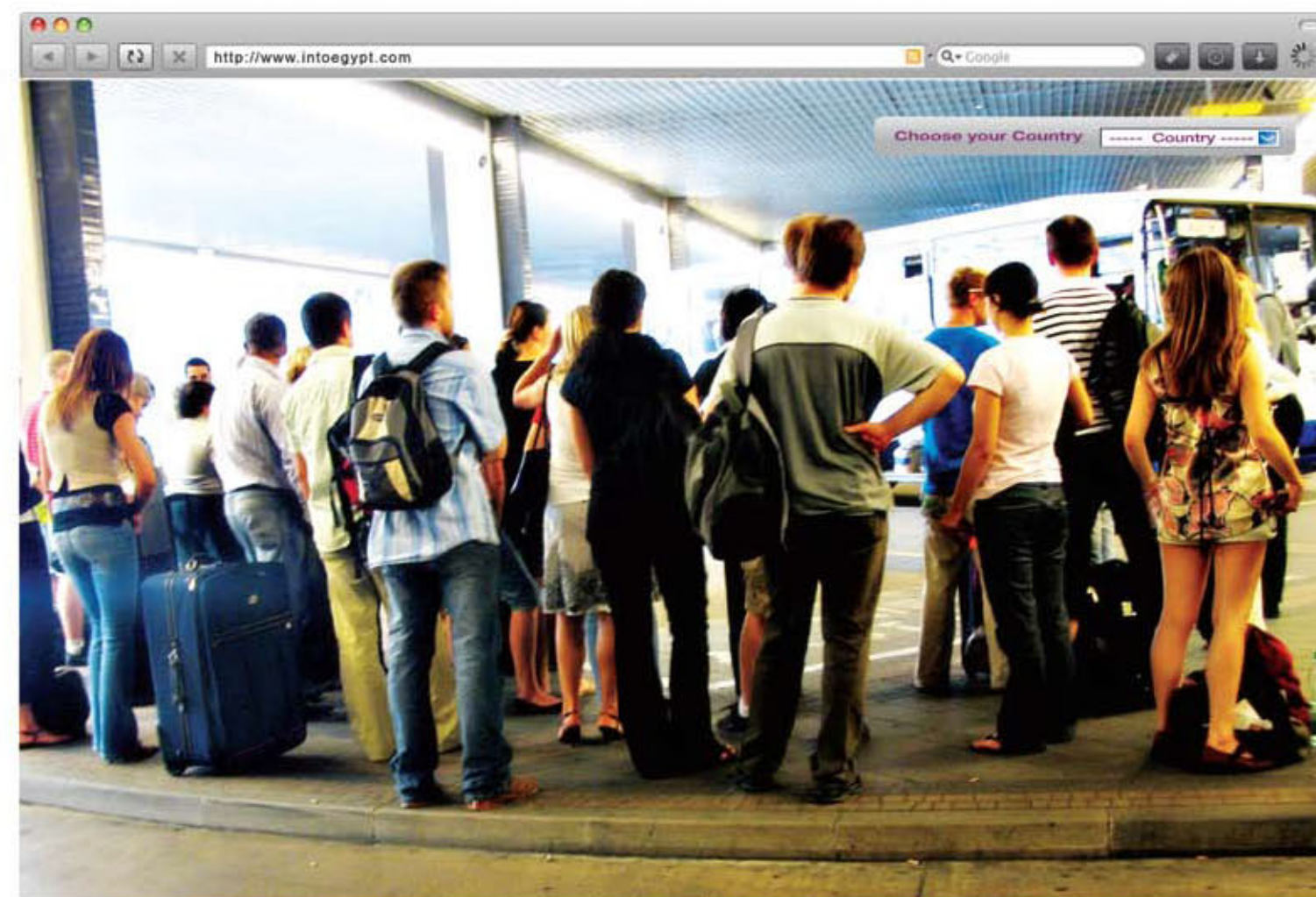


The Vine Hotel is a perfect example of how designers make use of the beauty of natural sites to enhance the overall environment. Simple scenes from vineyards are taken to extrapolate new motifs, through which an interesting contemporary design can be created. It gives rise to an elevated mood, a romantic atmosphere, and most importantly, a place to get some well-deserved rest and relaxation.

Nader Ramadan

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