

FEATURE: BOUTIQUE HOTELS



# Six

## Sleek & Chic Boutique Hotels Found In Urban Locales

By Michelle Martin

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Hotel ZaZa Dallas

The South is filled with fashionable boutique hotels that offer one-of-a-kind experiences and many of them can be found in just as unique locations. Here are six sleek and chic boutique hotels to check out.

[editorial]



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### Gratz Park Inn

Tucked within the historic district of downtown Lexington, Ky., the Gratz Park Inn is within walking distance of many historical and popular attractions such as the Mary Todd Lincoln Home and the Opera House. It's also conveniently located next to the Lexington Convention Center as well as the Victorian Square Area with boutique shops, restaurants, pubs and bars. A top choice for those attending the Kentucky Derby, the hotel features early 19<sup>th</sup> century furniture and décor, including four-poster beds. And, each guest room offers its own distinct décor.

**Chic Meeting Spots:** Gratz Park Inn's English garden provides a lush setting for social events, while a private meeting area features a 52-inch flat-screen TV and high-speed wireless Internet. Curry Dedman, sales and marketing director, said groups will also enjoy gathering at the Jonathan at Gratz Park restaurant, which features regional Southern cuisine.

### Hotel ZaZa Dallas

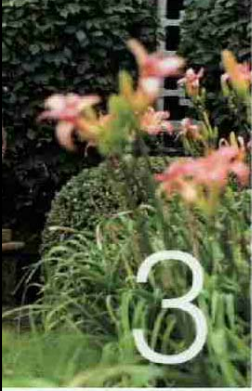
Just north of the heart of Dallas, in the premier Uptown district, the Hotel ZaZa is located just blocks from the world-class cultural institutions of the Dallas Arts District and convenient to popular sporting and musical venues as well. The Uptown district is an urban neighborhood that features a wide array of galleries, antique shops, restaurants and high-end boutiques.

The four-story property offers a Mediterranean feel that's reminiscent of a villa in South of France, said Matthew Nuss, managing director.

**Chic Meeting Spot:** Stay ZaZa Art House at Social Gallery is a new event space for small groups that serves as a "pop-up art gallery" will feature art from the Turner Carroll Gallery in Santa Fe, N.M., and works from renowned artists such as Ashley Collins and Hung Li.



Gratz Park Inn/Zachria Weinman



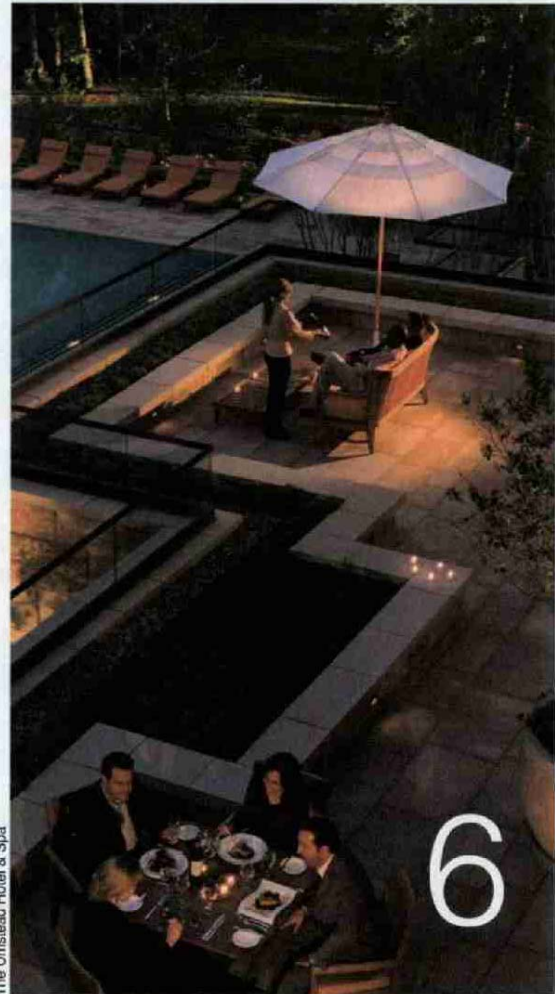
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### The Umstead Hotel & Spa

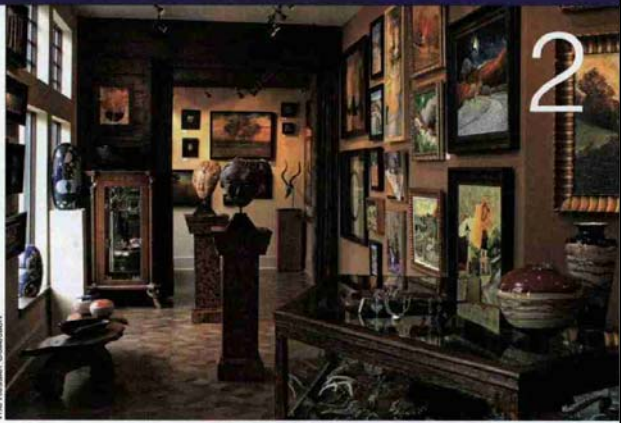
Situated on 12 acres of wooded grounds in Cary, N.C., The Umstead Hotel and Spa allows guests to enjoy the serenity of nature without sacrificing the convenience and accessibility of Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill, and the nearby

Raleigh-Durham International Airport. The town of Cary is known for its charming streets and earned the No.5 spot on *Money* magazine's 2006 list of "Best Places to Live." At the hotel, attendees will find a collection of more than 95 pieces of artwork inspired by nature, said Alison Jenkins, director of sales.

**Chic Meeting Spots:** The boardroom seats up to 16 and has floor-to-ceiling windows and a 65-inch high-definition LCD monitor. Also, the outdoor Lakeside Terrace is an inviting space for more relaxed functions. ■



The Umstead Hotel & Spa

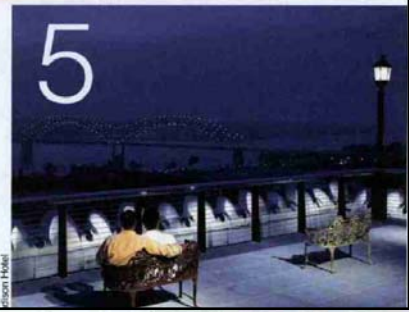


The Umstead Collection

### Madison Hotel

Conveniently located in downtown Memphis, Tenn., the Madison Hotel is steps away from one of the city's Main Street Trolley stops and offers easy access to the live music of world-famous Beale Street and more. The hotel itself is like no other as it was converted from the original Tennessee Trust Building and includes a state-of-the-art fitness center located in the original bank vault. Kevin Dowdell, director of sales, said the property is known for its luxurious amenities such as Egyptian cotton linens made in Italy and Molton Brown beauty products.

**Chic Meeting Spot:** The 1,100-square-foot rooftop terrace provides breathtaking views of the Mighty Mississippi River and can accommodate up to 100 reception-style



Madison Hotel

Numbered photos displayed are as follows: 1. Family Morgan Hotel; 2. Grand Bohemian Hotel Asheville; 3. Gratz Park Inn; 4. Hotel ZaZa; 5. Madison Hotel

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