

SPECIAL ISSUE ON HEALTH AND BEAUTY

# Town & Country

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

**LOOK  
AND FEEL  
YOUR  
BEST—  
AT  
EVERY  
AGE**

**TWO LIFE-  
CHANGING  
SPAS**

**BEAUTY  
TIPS FOR  
BUSY  
WOMEN**

**ANDRIA MITSAKOS**

**COSMETIC  
SURGERY  
OUR TOP-TO-  
BOTTOM  
GUIDE**



JULY 2006  
U.S. \$4.00 CANADA \$5.00  
FOREIGN \$5.00



Actress and model  
Inés Sastre  
in Michael Kors



Hambleton Hall and its rear garden, the hotel's first guest room (right).

## REVISITING A CLASSIC: HAMBLETON HALL

Located just two hours north of London, **HAMBLETON HALL**, overlooking the picturesque reservoir Rutland Water, has been a real labor of love for owners Tim and Stefa Hart, who converted this former Victorian hunting lodge into a grand country hotel in 1978. Ex-banker Tim is as passionate about his responsibility-

ties—the food, the wine and the gardens—as Stefa is about her charge: the decor. In each of the main building's fifteen rooms and in the property's cottage, she applied a different color scheme to unite the chintzies with the patterned wallpapers, linens and other furnishings. Try to book accommodations with a lakeside view,



such as the Fern Room (the rooms are named rather than numbered), with its green-stenciled walls, canopy bed and bay window. The red Gazvin Room is adorned with 17th-century, hand-painted Persian panels that the Harts found in Iran on their honeymoon. Families might want to stay in the lovely two-bedroom cottage near the croquet pavilion. Guests can spend the day at the pool or on the tennis court, or they can go bird-watching, trout fishing or antiquing. And with Michelin-starred chef Anton Patterson in the kitchen, meals are also a tempting distraction. *Double* from \$340. *Croquet Pavilion Cottage* from \$875. 013-44-3372-726-092; [hambletonhall.com](http://www.hambletonhall.com).

ILENA BOWEN



## ISLAND STYLE

Founded in 2000 by the American designer Mary Vinson, the **ROYAL HUT** collection of home-decor accessories was inspired by her travels through Africa, Asia, Europe and the Caribbean. Vinson worked closely with manufacturers in several countries to produce items such as hand-painted dishes from Zimbabwe, placemats woven from Malaysian raffia and beach towels blessed with a West African-inspired batik (shown at left in lime green, \$100). Many Royal Hut products were designed specifically for the Caribbean homes Vinson shared with her husband, Island Records founder and hitmaker Chris Blackwell, whose Island Outpost properties include Goldeneye and Strawberry Hill, both in Jamaica, and Pink Sands, on Harbour Island in the Bahamas. Vinson died in 2004, but her vision lives on through the efforts of Blackwell and her former assistant, Suzanne Sandler; a portion of sale proceeds goes to the Mary Vinson Blackwell Foundation, which benefits children in Jamaica. 877-M-VINSON; [royalhut.com](http://royalhut.com). 508102 50802