DISCOVERIES



HOTELS

Ranch Dressing

If ever there was a hotel project made for the AD100 maestro and nimble historicist Steven Gambrel, this was it: an update to a sprawling 1904 mansion near Tuxedo Park, New York (less than an hour from the city). Spanning 40,000 square feet and set on 200 acres, the house was purportedly first commissioned as a wedding gift for a daughter of financier J.P. Morgan. Gambrel has transformed it room by room into The Ranch Hudson Valley, the inaugural East Coast outpost of the iconic California wellness retreat, founded by Alex and Sue Glasscock. "The original's Malibu vernacular is white and minimalist, but that wasn't going to work with the heavy stone architecture here," reflects Gambrel, who nevertheless wanted to create a sense of light and air. "Instead, I looked to the landscape to bring the outdoors in." That meant using a palette of pale blue, subtle celadon, and quiet pink that balances the wood paneling, stately fireplaces, and carved plaster ceilings. The result is a grand but comfortable manor house where seasoned yogis and stressed-out urbanites alike can find a sense of calm. "What the two locations have in common is that they are more inspirational than intimidating," says Gambrel, alluding to the ambitious fitness and nutrition programs. "By the end of a stay, you and the other guests feel like family." theranchhudsonvalley.com—JOHN WOGAN

