



Andrew Harper

## From My Notebook, August 2014

August 2014 Hideaway Report

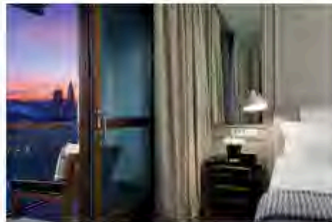
### Cape Town Penthouse



I fell in love with Cape Town one spring when I rented a house in the residential district of Constantia. I never grew tired of the view of Table Mountain, and I don't think I saw a cloud for a month. **The Royal Portfolio**, which contains some of my favorite South African hotels, now offers a spectacular penthouse apartment, "The One Above,"

in the V&A Waterfront. The 13,700-square-foot property has four bedrooms, two pools, a gym, a private chef and butler on call 24 hours a day, and a stupendous 360-degree view from wraparound decks.

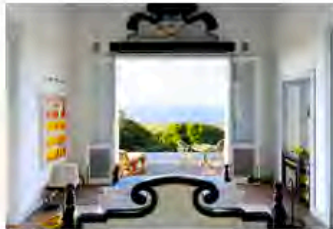
### Ferragamo's Florence



Where to stay in the Tuscan capital? In summer, I prefer to look down on the city from the cooler heights of Fiesole. True, the **Four Seasons Firenze** is surrounded by 11 acres of gardens. But in temperate weather, there is the option of the newly refurbished **Portrait Firenze** (formerly Lungarno Suites), situated at the western end of the Ponte Vecchio. The 34-

suite property, owned by the Ferragamo family, has been redesigned by Florentine architect Michele Bonan. Four penthouse suites come with sublime views.

### Major Caribbean Debut



Until now, St. Kitts has been a fairly sleepy little island, with a dominant volcano, 3,795-foot Mount Liamuiga, and one or two small plantation hotels. This will change with the opening of **Kittitian Hill**, a \$600 million hotel, restaurant, spa, golf and real estate development. The project's chief designer is internationally renowned architect Bill Bensley. It is

set to debut in December with 84 lavish accommodations at Belle Mont Farm. *The Kitchen* restaurant in the Great House will serve farm-to-table seasonal cuisine. St. Kitts will never be quite the same, it seems.