

# LIFE

DESIGN &  
CRAFTSMANSHIP



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LEXUS.CO.ZA



## MOXY CHELSEA

The refreshingly fun hotel in the heart of New York City

## THE MASTER TAILOR

Grant van den Berg, the South African craftsman making Savile Row-quality attire

## LF-30 ELECTRIFIED CONCEPT

A glimpse into the bold future of Lexus

## TRENDS 2020

The new year's key new design directions – and the perfect gifts

# THEY SAY HYBRIDS HAVE TO BE PLUGGED IN

NOT IN OUR WORLD



Lexus Hybrids are self-charging. Every time you brake, the regenerative motor charges, storing electrical energy for high-powered take offs and low-speed driving. Lexus Hybrids conveniently charge without ever having to be plugged in. Lexus Hybrid Drive is an innovative system that adds to the overall performance and efficiency of our cars. During initial take off from a stop, the high-output battery provides power to the electric drive. As speed increases, the potent petrol engine is engaged. And, when extra acceleration is desired, power output from both sources is optimised to deliver an even greater boost. The result is powerful acceleration without the jarring shift points experienced in a conventional vehicle. Thanks to extensive expertise in hybrid technology, Lexus offers an 8 year/195 000km warranty on all Hybrid Drive components (including the battery and inverter).

[lexus.co.za](http://lexus.co.za)

**h** | **LEXUS**  
EXPERIENCE AMAZING

# THEY SAY HYBRIDS FAVOUR FUNCTION OVER BEAUTY

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NOT IN OUR WORLD

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Lexus Hybrids are crafted with ultimate sophistication in mind. Lexus released the world's first self-charging luxury hybrid vehicle. Since our hybrid journey began, our purpose has been to create premium models that don't compromise on style or comfort. Lexus Hybrid Drive is an innovative system that adds to the overall performance and efficiency of our cars. During initial take off from a stop, the high-output battery provides power to the electric drive. As speed increases, the potent petrol engine is engaged. And, when extra acceleration is desired, power output from both sources is optimised to deliver an even greater boost. The result is powerful acceleration without the jarring shift points experienced in a conventional vehicle. Thanks to extensive expertise in hybrid technology, Lexus offers an 8 year/195 000km warranty on all Hybrid Drive components (including the battery and inverter).

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## Thought Leader

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## WHICH NEWS DO YOU WANT FIRST...?

Respected newspaper editor and journalist **CHRIS WHITFIELD** on why credible sources of news are so vital

**T**here's a meme doing the rounds of a woman in tattered clothing crawling through a desert, as one might when desperately searching for water. The speech bubble coming out of her mouth reads, "Reliable news source ... any reliable news source."

Her plight will have resonance with many South Africans who watched as the country's once-biggest newspaper group was reduced to a pale shadow of itself, and digital media took hold with its exhausting pursuit of "clicks" and "eyeballs". The decline of the newspaper company has robbed the country of a reliable recorder of news, and the digital media business model generally places an emphasis on quantity at the cost of quality.

So is our media landscape as parched as the one in which the unfortunate woman finds herself?

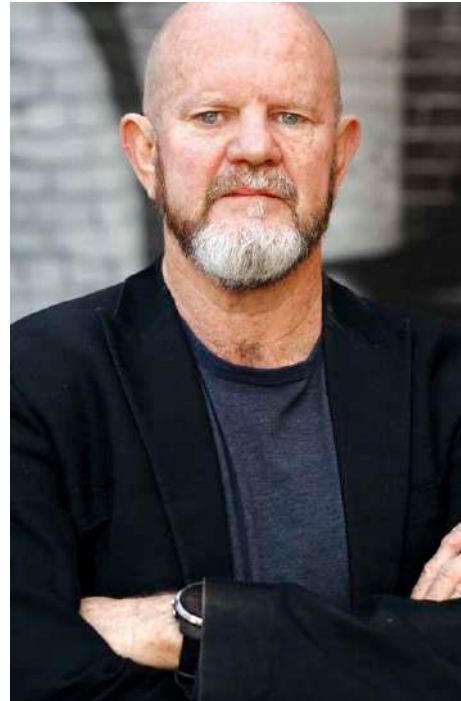
Not quite. In spite of a general decline in standards, there are some real beacons. Perhaps the brightest is the battery of investigative journalists in organisations such as amaBhungane, Media24 and *Daily Maverick*, as well as at the *Sunday Times*. The Afrikaans newspapers do a good job of covering their communities, and *Business Day* is also a fine product, although a niche one.

The aforementioned *Daily Maverick* is a good place to go for insights or opinions – and while tabloids are an overlooked part of the media landscape, some do an excellent job of giving a voice to communities that otherwise would not have one (in between exposés on tokoloshes and racist sharks).

But the yawning chasm in South Africa is the one that was once filled by the Independent Newspapers group: "papers of record" that routinely provide information about your country, province and neighbourhood, and thus equip you to make decisions about your life. These products normally make a vital contribution to democracy, keeping you informed in a balanced way about developments in the local council and what your MP is up to, and keeping an eye on food prices and the like.

The decline of print media – in addition to greedy and short-sighted management – has largely seen this type of journalism disappear. (There are still some exceptions in the "knock and drop" local media, where journalists concentrate on their towns and suburbs.)

The old-fashioned curating and weighting of news – which newspapers once did so effectively – has mostly vanished from the media landscape. So where might a reader go to address this shortcoming? Sadly, there is no simple answer to that question. And so readers in search of real, relevant news might have to spend some time scouring the better online outlets every day ... which suggests that there is a gap in the market, if anybody is listening.



CHRIS WHITFIELD is the former editor of the *Cape Times*, *Cape Argus* and *Weekend Argus*. He and fellow veteran journalist Alide Dasnois recently published the book *Paper Tiger*, about events at Independent Newspapers in recent years.

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A VITAL  
CONTRIBUTION  
TO DEMOCRACY**



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# OPEN-AIR LUXURY

The stunning **LEXUS LC 500 CONVERTIBLE** made its global debut  
at the 2019 Los Angeles Auto Show





The convertible version of the Lexus LC 500 flagship coupé made its global debut at the recent Los Angeles Auto Show, joining the coupé as an aspirational halo model in the Lexus line-up.

### STYLING

With the exterior styling based on the LC coupé, the LC 500 Convertible retains excellent aerodynamic performance and optimal weight distribution. The soft-top roof provides a unique silhouette, and the line of the rear trunk lid has been lifted and widened to create a dynamic side view that emphasises the car's low-and-wide stance.

### DRIVING DYNAMICS

A fresh design approach sees the LC 500 Convertible's chassis achieve a rigidity level that equates to the coupé's driving signature, while simultaneously offering both beautiful styling and sufficient luggage space.

### POWER

The naturally aspirated 5.0-litre V8, mated to the DirectShift-10 automatic transmission, gives the LC 500 Convertible linear yet invigorating acceleration. The power output is also tuned to the driving conditions, with smooth progression during normal commuting and responsive acceleration at the limit when the driver desires.

### HUMAN-CENTRED LUXURY

In order to create a space that allows open-air driving without hindering conversation in the car, a transparent polycarbonate wind deflector suppresses wind flow inside the car. Sound management is a key part of Lexus's DNA, and Active Noise Control, combined with sound insulation and absorption techniques, also suppresses unwanted noises and unpleasant sound frequencies.

The Lexus Climate Concierge is used to automatically control the air conditioning, the seat heaters, the neck heaters and the steering-wheel heater, all while considering whether the top is up or down. This makes the convertible version of the LC 500's cabin comfortable for its passengers regardless of outside temperatures.

The new LC 500 Convertible is scheduled to go on sale in 2020, but the launch and introduction to the South African market is yet to be confirmed.



## DRESSED THE BEST

Lexus was a proud partner of the recent  
**GQ BEST DRESSED MEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2019**

The 14th annual GQ Best Dressed Men of the Year Awards – the most stylish event on South Africa’s social calendar – took place recently at the Mall of Africa in Johannesburg. This year, GQ once again played host to some of South Africa’s most influential and stylish people, and unveiled the Top 10 Best Dressed Men of 2019, who were selected by a panel of judges consisting of GQ’s editorial team, past winners as well as local influencers.

The prestigious event was also proof that the Lexus tagline “Experience Amazing” is not just about creating luxury cars and unique experiences: it also celebrates

the link between people’s love for fashion and their love for cars, design and craftsmanship.

The emotional designs and high-performance models launched by Lexus in the past few years have prefaced a new chapter for the brand and, true to that tagline, the event delivers a strong, unified message and signals the brand’s progressive shift in a lifestyle direction.

“The two key words are *experience* – which relates to the design and engineering ingenuity of Lexus vehicles – and *amazing*, which relates to the impressions we would like our customers to have behind the wheel,” says Glenn Crompton, vice president of marketing and sales at Lexus South Africa.

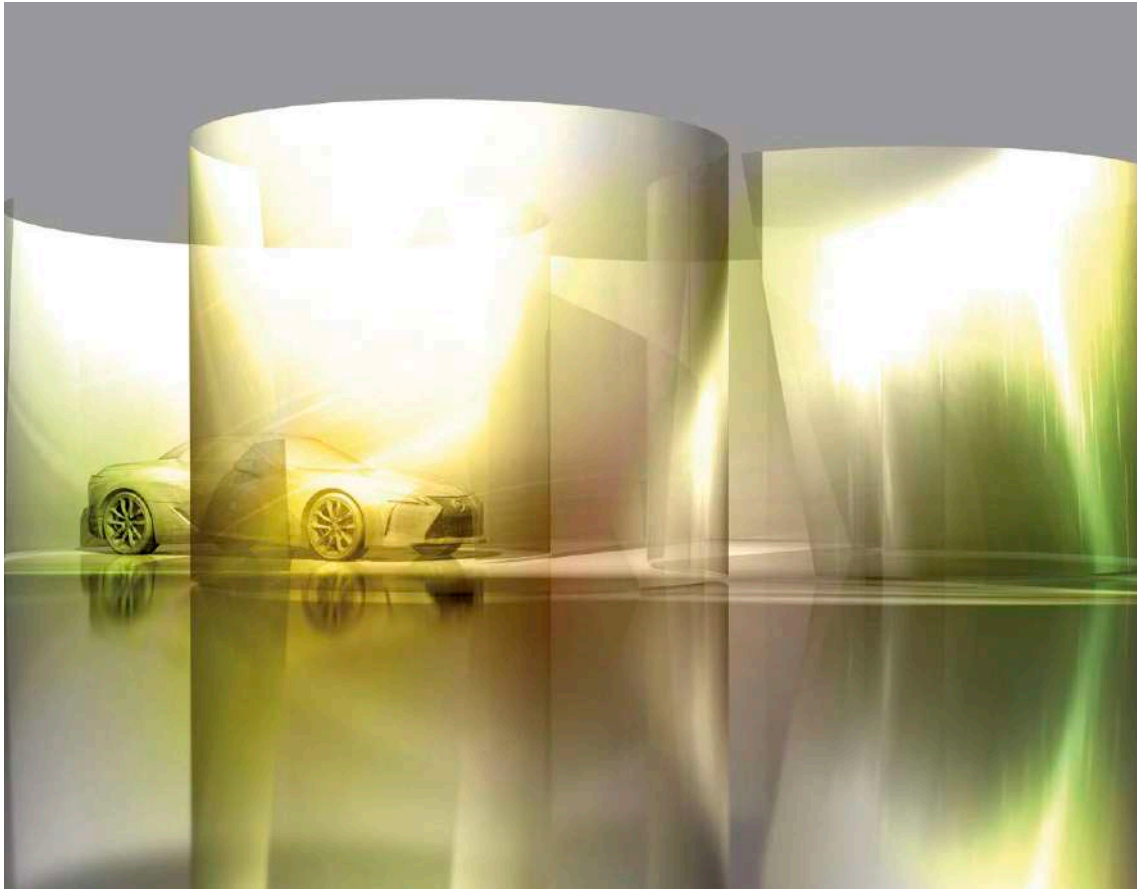


FROM LEFT GQ Best Dressed Reader Kgotso Gila, and three of GQ Best Dressed Men of the Year: Gemaen Taylor, Kat Sinivasan and Doni Del Sal.

**LEXUS CELEBRATES THE LINK BETWEEN  
 PEOPLE’S LOVE FOR FASHION AND THEIR LOVE FOR CARS**

## TAKE A SUNSHOWER

In 2019, Lexus was once again the official automotive partner of **DESIGN MIAMI/**, the global forum for the world's most influential collectors, designers, and curators



**A** long with supporting Design Miami/’s sustainable theme with an all-hybrid fleet to chauffeur the fair’s VIP guests, Lexus also included the LC Convertible Concept in a specially commissioned installation by Nao Tamura, as part of a greater exhibition titled “Sunshower”.

The installation responded to the fair’s theme of “Elements: Water” by creating an immersive multimedia experience that evoked the wonders of this natural outdoor phenomenon. “Sunshower” was curated by Design Miami/ curatorial director Aric Chen and prominent Milan-based curator and author Maria Cristina Didero.

The ethereal exhibition featured the LC Convertible Concept, and reinforced the brand’s commitment to

omotenashi (hospitality), takumi (artisansip) and the indoor-outdoor philosophy of engawa. Guests were invited to experience “Sunshower”, relax in the space, use the charging stations, and sample Ooho – innovative water capsules made of edible seaweed extract.

“Design Miami/ is pleased to have Lexus return as our official automotive partner, and to celebrate the brand’s commitment to innovation, beauty and sustainability,” said Jennifer Roberts, chief executive officer of Design Miami/, in the lead-up to the fair. “Lexus’s dedication to design excellence is unparalleled. With the “Sunshower” exhibition and the all-hybrid vehicle fleet, the Lexus presence will be felt throughout the fair in a way that feels organic to our mission as a global design forum.”

Look out for a full report on Design Miami/ in the next issue of *Lexus LIFE*.

The glass-encased Fleur Room on Moxy Chelsea's 35th floor features panoramic views of New York.



The Art of Living

# MANHATTAN BLOOM

A refreshingly fun hotel  
in the heart of New York City,  
**MOXY CHELSEA**  
gives guests more than they bargained for





1. Butcher blocks suspended from the ceiling act as check-in kiosks. 2. The hotel building stands tall in New York's Flower District. 3 & 4. Bar Feroce extends into an all-season garden terrace, offering guests laid-back dining and lounging options.

1	3
2	4



M

oxy Chelsea certainly lives up to its moniker as the Flower District's secret garden. The entrance to the 35-storey 349-room hotel is through famed florist Putnam & Putnam, and the botanical and floral themes continue throughout

the delightfully energetic space. New York's flower district inhabits a block between 6th and 7th Avenues, and is a welcome natural oasis in the centre of the city, in which vendors parade their blooming bounties daily.


Honouring the botanical landscape in which the hotel resides, architects Stonehill Taylor and interior designers Yabu Pushelberg, along with the Rockwell Group, did a stellar job to create an industrial façade that perfectly frames the glass atrium and vertical gardens within.

The rooms are micro but the amenities are macro: from the plush 300-thread-count European duvets and Egyptian-cotton linen to individual climate-control panels, 43" smart TVs and what the Moxy Chelsea likes to call "furiously fast and free Wi-Fi", you feel like you're living luxe. If the design details don't impress you, the floor-to-ceiling, wall-to-wall

windows and three-metre-high ceilings certainly will. The bedrooms also feature custom multipurpose furniture – like a folding desk, which can be flattened and hung on wall pegs when not in use – to maximise space and allow guests to personally configure the suite to their needs.

In the entrance beyond Putnam & Putnam, four butcher blocks (inspired by the nearby Meatpacking District) are dramatically suspended from the ceiling to act as check-in kiosks, replacing a formal reception desk. This area also features a kinetic digital art installation designed by Anthem AV, where words emerge from LED panels and spell out phrases such as "Good Morning, Stranger" and "You Love Me, You Love Me More".

The quirky elements continue in Bar Feroce, which offers a modern twist on traditional Roman comfort dishes. Here, classic Italian art and sculptures take on traditional themes with a contemporary "glitch": Renaissance-style portraits are broken up by pixelation or visual blips; a sculpture of David strikes an unexpected pose; and a life-sized, toga-clad statue rests on a column, one arm extended so it can hold a guest's phone and pose with them for a selfie. The bar's all-season

A photograph of a modern interior space, likely a lounge or bar. The scene is dominated by a tall, light-colored concrete wall that serves as a backdrop. To the left, a glass atrium is visible, featuring several circular, patterned glass panels. The floor is covered in a colorful, geometric mosaic pattern. In the foreground, there are several red leather armchairs and a wooden table with a lit candle. To the right, a row of wooden chairs with red seats is visible, along with a vertical garden wall covered in lush green plants. The lighting is warm and ambient, creating a cozy atmosphere.

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**AN  
INDUSTRIAL  
FAÇADE  
PERFECTLY  
FRAMES THE  
GLASS ATRIUM  
AND VERTICAL  
GARDENS  
WITHIN**



- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1 | 3   |
| 2 | 4 5 |
|   | 6   |

1. The Fleur Room's wall-to-wall windows showcase the Manhattan skyline. 2. Feroce Caffè serves street-style bites all day. 3, 4 & 5. The Mondo Suite and adjoining rooms make the most of the city views. 6. Quirky decor at Bar Feroce gives traditional themes a contemporary twist.



garden terrace gives a terracotta oven pride of place, with delightfully moreish gourmet pizzas emerging relentlessly throughout the day. Other dining options include Feroce Ristorante, where renowned chef Francesco Panella serves up delicious Italian fare using locally sourced, seasonal ingredients, and Feroce Caffè – an all-day, street-style, café-culture type spot that overlooks West 28th Street and offers diners everything from a frittata to a panini.

The continuous botanical flair and Italian romance culminate dramatically in the jewel of Moxy Chelsea: the Fleur Room. Located on the 35th floor, the rooftop lounge is encased in glass to showcase panoramic 360-degree views of the Manhattan skyline – from the Statue of Liberty

to the Empire State Building and beyond. The copper-clad bar is manned by mixologists who serve up creative cocktails to the eclectic crowd nightly, but the pièce de résistance has to be the lounge's glass walls, which descend at the touch of a button and instantaneously convert the space into an alfresco sky bar. Add to this a DJ booth and a massive vintage disco ball, as well as dedicated high-speed elevator access, and you'll see that the Fleur Room is a destination to put on your must-visit list – whether you're spending the night or not.

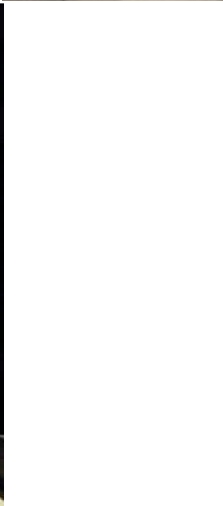
Moxy Chelsea may be the secret garden of the district, but it also seems to be the best address in Manhattan...

[moxychelsea.com](http://moxychelsea.com)



— / —

**THE CONTINUOUS  
BOTANICAL FLAIR  
AND ITALIAN ROMANCE  
CULMINATE DRAMATICALLY  
IN THE JEWEL  
OF MOXY CHELSEA:  
THE FLEUR ROOM**



## The Art of Living

THE  
REAL  
POWER  
OF  
FASHION

Actor and activist  
**ROSARIO DAWSON**  
and partner-in-fashion  
**ABRIMA ERWIAH**

have created a label that honours  
the craftsmanship of Africa  
while empowering and  
supporting its women –  
and keeping things sustainable

A ctress-and-fashion-designer is a double-barrelled title that many celebrities seem to possess these days. From Sarah Jessica Parker and the Olsen twins to Kate Hudson and Jennifer Lopez, plenty have inked deals with big-name department stores or created their own independent lines. What sets Rosario Dawson (opposite left) and co-founder Abrima Erwiah's (opposite right) brand apart, however, are the principles under which their company was founded.

Studio 189 is an artisan-produced fashion/lifestyle brand and social enterprise that focuses on empowerment, creating jobs, and supporting education and skills training. The label partners with organisations such as the United Nations ITC Ethical Fashion Initiative and NYU Stern School of Business, and has collaborated with brands

such as Fendi and Nike. Created and produced in Accra, Ghana, the fashion line is sustainable in every sense of the word – not just in terms of ethically sourced materials and reducing the impact on the environment, but also, perhaps most importantly, in terms of social responsibility.

Through its work, the brand supports the makers – the women on the ground who create the handmade batik, plant-based dyes and intricately weaved kente cloth – in order for them to become self-sufficient and earn a decent living to put their kids through school, have access to healthcare and start their own businesses. The aim is to redesign the supply chain and connect consumers with real artisans.

This commitment to change and innovation is what led the brand to win top honours in 2018 via the prestigious CFDA + Lexus Fashion\* Initiative, whose goal is to inspire



**STUDIO 189  
IS AN ARTISAN-  
PRODUCED  
FASHION/  
LIFESTYLE BRAND  
AND SOCIAL  
ENTERPRISE THAT  
FOCUSES ON  
EMPOWERMENT**

## The Art of Living



1  
2 3 4

1. Rosario Dawson at a farm in Ghana that is the source of materials for her brand's collections.  
2, 3 & 4. Studio 189 works with artisan communities that specialise in various traditional craftsmanship techniques.  
OPPOSITE The SS 2020 collection, presented at Spring Studios during New York Fashion Week in September 2019.

thought leadership, facilitate the implementation of innovative business practices and activate meaningful change within the US fashion industry.

At a time when the fashion industry is under serious scrutiny (Stockholm Fashion Week was cancelled by the Swedish Fashion Council in 2019 to focus on launching a more sustainable model, and London Fashion Week came close to the same fate), the move to a circular economy is not just advisable – it's mandatory.

Luckily, the sustainable fashion community is growing. Look to Helsinki Fashion Week (said to be the most sustainable fashion week in the world) and its founder Evelyn Mora, who is a pioneering force in the industry;

Clare Press, fashion eco-warrior and author of several books; as well as global initiatives like Fashion Revolution and Fashion for Good. The conversation has started – and it's getting louder.

"The more we communicate, share with one another and work as a family, the more we can create an ethos that recognises that we're all in this together – and that a bottom line isn't enough to keep pushing us forward," says Rosario.

Studio 189 is trying to drum home the message that it's cool to care, and that looking good need not cost the earth. Literally.

**[studiooneeightynine.com](http://studiooneeightynine.com)**





— / —

**STUDIO 189 IS TRYING TO DRUM HOME THE MESSAGE THAT IT'S COOL TO CARE, AND THAT LOOKING GOOD NEED NOT COST THE EARTH. LITERALLY**



## The Art of Living

# M E A T I N F R E N C H

Kitchen Cowboy and MasterChef SA judge  
**PETE GOFFE-WOOD**

is on to his next endeavour: Viande,  
the nose-to-tail dining experience in Paarl  
that's well worth a drive out to the Winelands

When asked what he likes most about being a chef, Pete Goffe-Wood invariably says, "clean plates". And he'd know all about those, having delighted the palates of plenty during a career that spans more than three decades. Born in London and raised in South Africa, Pete earned his culinary stripes at the then-celebrated Beverly Hills Hotel in Umhlanga Rocks, before spending nine years in London honing his skills. He returned to South Africa in 1999, and has since been involved in various aspects of the food and hospitality industry.

From having a hand in developing some of the Cape's best restaurants to running his Kitchen Cowboy cooking workshops, writing for food magazines, penning three cookbooks and judging *MasterChef South Africa* for four seasons, it's safe to say that he knows a thing or two about good food.

His latest venture, Viande – "meat" in French – is located at the stately, and recently renovated, Grande Roche Hotel in Paarl. Hand-picked by the hotel's new owners, Hansie and Theresa Britz, Pete says their request to craft a new restaurant on the historic estate was unexpected. "Once I heard about the vision and understood the direction, however – to move away from its past of austere-style fine dining to something more accessible and friendly – it really appealed to me," he says.

Viande is exactly what the name suggests – a celebration of meat. "Viande has a contemporary focus on meat, with certified choice, prime and secondary cuts, as well as offal and extremities, all served across a selection of portion sizes and dishes," Pete explains. "Until now, it had been promoted as an exclusive environment, but I want it to be an 'everyman' experience. I want to throw the experience of this magnificent property open to Paarl and beyond, so that more people have access to its sublime beauty. I want them to have good food – and good times."

The dishes are hearty and varied: you're likely to be presented with a menu of slow-roasted pork belly with maize, corn and a maple glaze; pan-fried calf's liver with roasted beetroot; and gnocchi with veal sweetbreads, mushrooms and home-cured bacon. If that all sounds a touch adventurous, classics like a 300g sirloin steak with all the trimmings or a 28-day dry-aged prime rib (pictured below) are also available – and they're perfected by a man who's spent most of his life working with meat.

"The beauty of being a chef is that you get instant gratification," Pete says. "It's one of the benefits of this business: you instantly know whether people like your food or not. Unlike an architect who must wait for a building to be built, we consistently send food out to diners and have the pleasure of receiving immediate feedback."

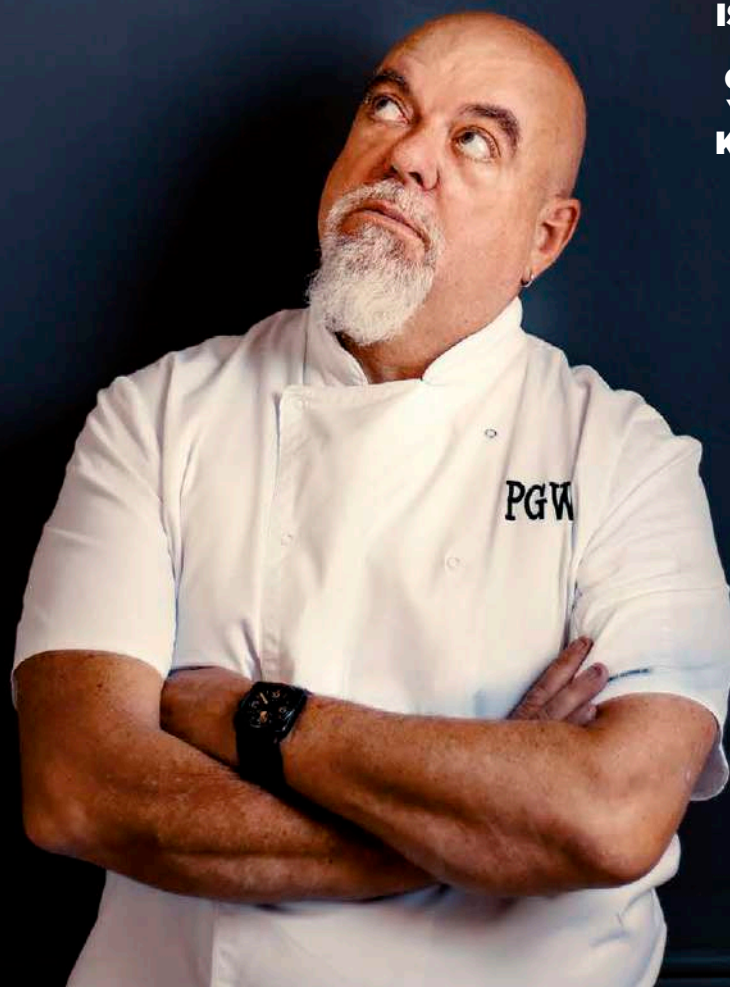
Viande is definitely worth a trip out to Paarl – clean plates guaranteed!  
[granderoche.com](http://granderoche.com)





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**“THE BEAUTY  
OF BEING A CHEF  
IS THAT YOU GET  
INSTANT  
GRATIFICATION.  
YOU INSTANTLY  
KNOW WHETHER  
PEOPLE LIKE  
YOUR FOOD”**



## The Art of Living

# SMART START

Looking to shift towards a **SMART HOME** with complete automation can be daunting. Here are our 10 picks to help you get going

## I.



### GOOGLE HOME MINI ▲

The Google Home Mini smart speaker works with Google Assistant, a leader in the virtual assistant space. Use your voice for search queries; get daily news, sports scores and reminders; or listen to music and audio books. If you've been tinkering with smart light switches or appliances, you can link them to the Home Mini to enable voice-controlled access.

**R999 | [incredible.co.za](http://incredible.co.za)**

## 2.

### BEOSOUND STAGE ►

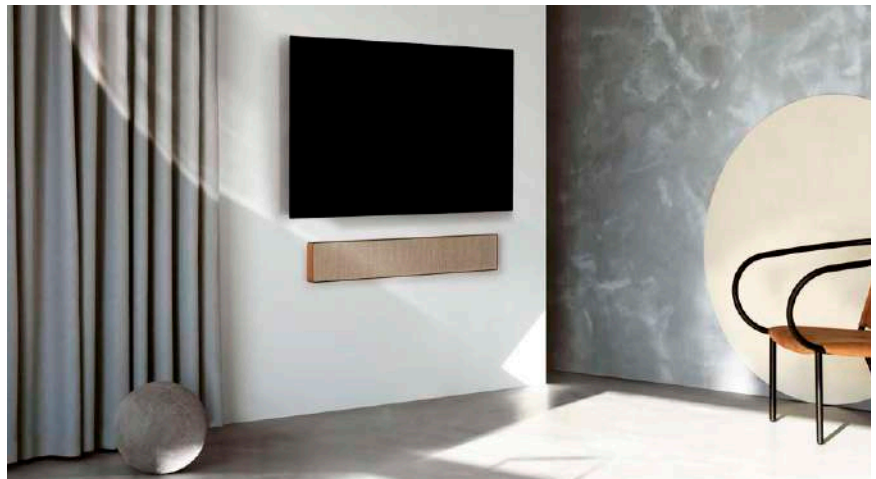
Bang & Olufsen's first soundbar, the Beosound Stage features a simple, minimalist design with clean lines.

Each of its 11 speaker drives has a 50-watt amplifier, and Dolby Atmos

3D support brings multichannel sound for that home-cinema effect.

It's also compatible with Bluetooth and Apple AirPlay 2, and has built-in Chromecast support so you can stream music playlists.

**From R32 000 | [beo-sa.com](http://beo-sa.com)**





# 3.

## **MIELE GENERATION 7000 ▶**

The Miele Generation 7000 series took 72 months to develop and is the company's biggest product launch to date. The oven range works with a smartphone app so you can monitor temperature, reduce cooking times to ensure nothing gets burnt, and power the appliance up or down. An in-oven camera can also send photos to your device.

Welcome to the future of smart kitchens.

**Price TBC | [miele.co.za](http://miele.co.za)**



# 4.



## **SAMSUNG 65" Q900R QLED 8K SMART TV ▲**

Move over, 4K! Samsung's new 65-inch QLED 8K smart TV delivers a staggering 33 million pixels. We're talking 16x the resolution of full HD, in more than a billion colours. It is best-in-class, with better HDR and optimal viewing from any angle. While we may be years away from 8K content, it uses AI to upscale existing videos.

**R65 000 | [hirschs.co.za](http://hirschs.co.za)**

5.



#### LG INSTAVIEW FRIDGE/FREEZER ▲

Tired of opening and closing the fridge when you're hungry? LG's InstaView fridge's Door-in-Door feature illuminates the sleek mirrored glass, so you can look inside with two quick knocks. As a SmartThinQ product, it supports smartphone pairing, allowing you to set the temperature, control HygieneFresh+ or diagnose it. Fruit and vegetables have an individual setting to last longer.

**R30 000 | [makro.co.za](http://makro.co.za)**

6.



#### JURA ENA 8 ▲

The Jura ENA 8 smart coffee machine is a must for coffee lovers and connoisseurs. The Swiss brand's newest bean-to-cup model features a classic design with a striking patterned carafe that holds water. It has an easy-to-use 2.8-inch display with 10 specialities. The app lets you customise lattes and cappuccinos to a ratio of your liking – and you can do it remotely.

**R16 950 | [quaffee.co.za](http://quaffee.co.za)**

7.



#### ELGATO AVEA ▲

The Elgato Avea smart light bulb is the easiest way to switch to smart lighting. It pairs with your smartphone, can be turned into any hue to suit your mood, and doesn't need a constant connection to your device to work with predefined settings. There are presets to choose from – such as morning light, which is tied to your alarm.

**R999 | [raru.co.za](http://raru.co.za)**

The Art of Living



The Master

G R A N T  
V A N D E N B E R G

On par with those acquired on London's Savile Row,  
a custom-made suit by

**FRANK BESPOKE'S MASTER TAILOR**

is not just a sartorial investment –  
it's a lifestyle



“As a youngster, I was obsessed with Al Pacino's Tony Montana in *Scarface*,” says master tailor Grant van den Berg, the man behind the Frank Bespoke brand. “I was also blown away by Richard Gere's character in *American Gigolo* – especially when he opens his wardrobe and lays out all those suits and shirts on his bed, before getting dressed and roaring off in his cabriolet.”

These childhood memories stayed with Grant, who worked for Diesel and Fabiani before striking out on his own with Frank Bespoke. But what his company offers is an entire haberdashery away from the double-breasted, pinstriped cream suits with showy contrast buttons and splayed-collar shirts that featured in *Scarface*.

“Men's formalwear has a long and storied legacy – equal parts decadence and refinement, with an alluring dash of gangsterly disrepute thrown in for good measure,” Grant says. “Our potential clients are looking for a different, more personalised shopping experience. They understand the value of a long-term relationship with their tailor, and the feeling of wearing a customised suit that they simply can't buy off a rack.”

To complement the experience, Grant has also created a cluster of stores reminiscent of old-school, 1920s gentlemen's clubs. “There's nothing slick or modern about Frank Bespoke,” he says. “We play jazz and blues, the Victorian furniture is upholstered in blue velvet, and the walls are the colour of my favourite single malt whiskey.” Vintage sewing machines, old boxing gloves and vintage motorbikes add to the ambience. “It's the South African version of Savile Row. We deliberately chose not to be in shopping malls, because we want our clients to be able to park just metres from the door.”

Bespoke suits are growing in appeal for two reasons, Grant believes: the art is a noble backlash to fast fashion, and people are yearning for meaningful human interaction. “Our clients – from elite sportsmen to captains of industry – often pop in for a drink on their way home from work,” he says. “It's not just about a luxury suit.”

When it comes to the suits, the quality is unparalleled. “Our fabrics come from the best mills and family-owned, boutique fabric houses in the world,” Grant explains. These include pure wool, cashmere, silk and angora from Drago, Holland & Sherry, Loro Piana and Dormeuil.

“When a client walks in, we get to know them over a whiskey. We don't just tailor suits to fit the body – they need to fit the lifestyle too. Once we've built a client profile, we take up to 28 different measurements and discuss the fabric, linings and haberdashery. Each Frank Bespoke suit takes approximately eight weeks to make. It's bench-made in the workshop by a master tailor, cut to your precise measurements and finished to our exacting standards.”

Frank Bespoke suits feature hand-rolled lapels, hand-sewn buttonholes, fine pick stitching, custom-made silk or acetate linings, and quality trims such as Freudenberg fusings, YKK zips and buffalo-horn buttons. “We've made suits from alpaca wool, in medium blue with brown Prince of Wales checks, brown tortoiseshell horn buttons and custom-made linings printed with anything from Zulu shields to vintage cars and pin-up girls,” Grant says.

For those not beguiled by the thought of a bespoke suit, Grant offers a Demispoke range of made-to-measure attire, based on standard patterns that are scaled up or down according to a client's specific measurements. “Introducing bespoke suits for women is also in development,” he says. [frankbespoke.co.za](http://frankbespoke.co.za)



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**BESPOKE SUITS  
ARE A NOBLE  
BACKLASH  
TO FAST  
FASHION -  
AND PEOPLE  
ARE YEARNING  
FOR  
MEANINGFUL  
HUMAN  
INTERACTION**

— / —

# 8.

## ▶ DYSON CYCLONE V10 ABSOLUTE ▶

You may not give vacuum cleaners a second thought, but the Dyson Cyclone V10 Absolute is worth your attention as the most powerful in the line-up. The cordless cleaner's sealed filtration system can trap 99.97% of particles as small as 0.3 microns. Battery life yields 60 or 40 minutes (depending on mode) – or 20, if used with its powerful torque drive cleaner.

**R10 799 | yuppiefchef.com**



# 9.

## ▼ IGLOOHOME MORTISE SMART LOCK

Igloohome's state-of-the-art smart lock offers a modern, elegant look with premium security features. It can be unlocked via fingerprint, app, RFID card or password – or the old-fashioned way, with a key. It is encrypted but does not rely on Wi-Fi, hence no hacking concerns. It also supports temporary PIN codes for once-off access, generated by the app.

**R6 500 | makro.co.za**



# 10.

## ▲ LG TWINWASH ▲

The LG TwinWash washing machine is capable of doing two separate loads at the same time – within 49 minutes. The main 12kg washer/8kg dryer combo's EcoHybrid mode saves time and water, and the smaller 2kg washer beneath lets you wash darks, lights or delicates separately. SmartThinQ allows you to control the machine remotely via a smartphone.

**R19 000 | dionwired.co.za**

The Art of Driving





# THE FUTURE ELECTRIFIED

Unveiled at the recent  
Tokyo Motor Show, the  
**LEXUS LF-30 ELECTRIFIED**  
concept car is a bold indication  
of what's to come from  
this luxury automotive brand

**W**

ith a name that references both the 30th anniversary of the Lexus brand and the point in time to which it looks ahead, the Lexus LF-30 Electrified is a bold new vision of electrification. By 2030, we can expect more dramatic changes in automotive technology than seen in the last five decades – and the LF-30 Electrified is part of pushing the developmental envelope.

From innovations that vary power output for optimised vehicle posture, to in-wheel electric motors, the LF-30 Electrified promises a dynamic driving experience. With exhilarating style and technology to match, it features a sleek exterior with windows that stretch from front to rear, a reimagined driver's space, and autonomous technologies such as self-parking and front-door pickup.

Here are the highlights in more detail.

— / —  
**REAR SEATS  
USE ARTIFICIAL  
MUSCLE TECH TO  
MOULD TO THEIR  
OCCUPANTS'  
SHAPE**

**SPECIFICATIONS: Cruising distance: 500km • Battery capacity: 110kWh**





## The Art of Driving

The signature Lexus “spindle” spans the entire vehicle, with front-to-rear window glass and muscular fenders framing its contours. The sharpness of the rear lights and side air intakes achieves both excellent aerodynamics and cooling performance.



• **Charging speed: 150kW** • **Output: 400kW/700Nm** • **0-100km/h: 3.8 sec** • **Max speed: 200km/h**

## The Art of Driving

### LEXUS ADVANCED POSTURE CONTROL

Four individual motors mounted within each wheel can each instantaneously control torque to all four corners of the vehicle. This not only means improved cornering and traction, but will also help maintain stability during braking and acceleration. With the battery positioned low down in the chassis, the LF-30 Electrified promises better handling of inertia as well as higher levels of driving performance.

### AUTONOMOUS DRIVING

Based on the “Lexus Teammate” tech concept, the LF-30 Electrified features Chauffeur mode for autonomous driving, and Guardian mode for when you’d like to take over the driving duties yourself.

### STEER-BY-WIRE

The steer-by-wire system eliminates the mechanical connection between the steering controller and the drivetrain. In autonomous driving mode, for example, the steering controller can be shifted forward and moved out of the way, allowing for a more open and comfortable cabin.

### FUTURISTIC INTERIOR

The rear seats use artificial muscle technology to mould to their occupants’ shape, and support various modes (such as reclining, relaxation and alert functions). A Mark Levinson audio system creates a next-generation listening environment: the speakers are built into the headrests to not only create an optimal audio environment, but also to provide a noise-cancelling feature that contributes to enhanced quietness. A glass roof above the rear seats features voice control and a gesture-controlled “SkyGate” display window, which uses augmented reality to display various types of information – think a realistic star-filled sky, videos and even navigation.

### TAZUNA COCKPIT

The LF-30’s cockpit represents the next evolution of the Lexus human-centred design philosophy. Embracing the concept of “Tazuna” – which is inspired by the way in which a single rein can be used to achieve mutual understanding between horse and rider – a high degree of synchronisation between the steering controller-mounted switches and head-up display in the LF-30 allows the driver to focus on driving. He or she can control various functions, including navigation, audio system and driving-mode selection, while keeping both eyes on the road ahead.



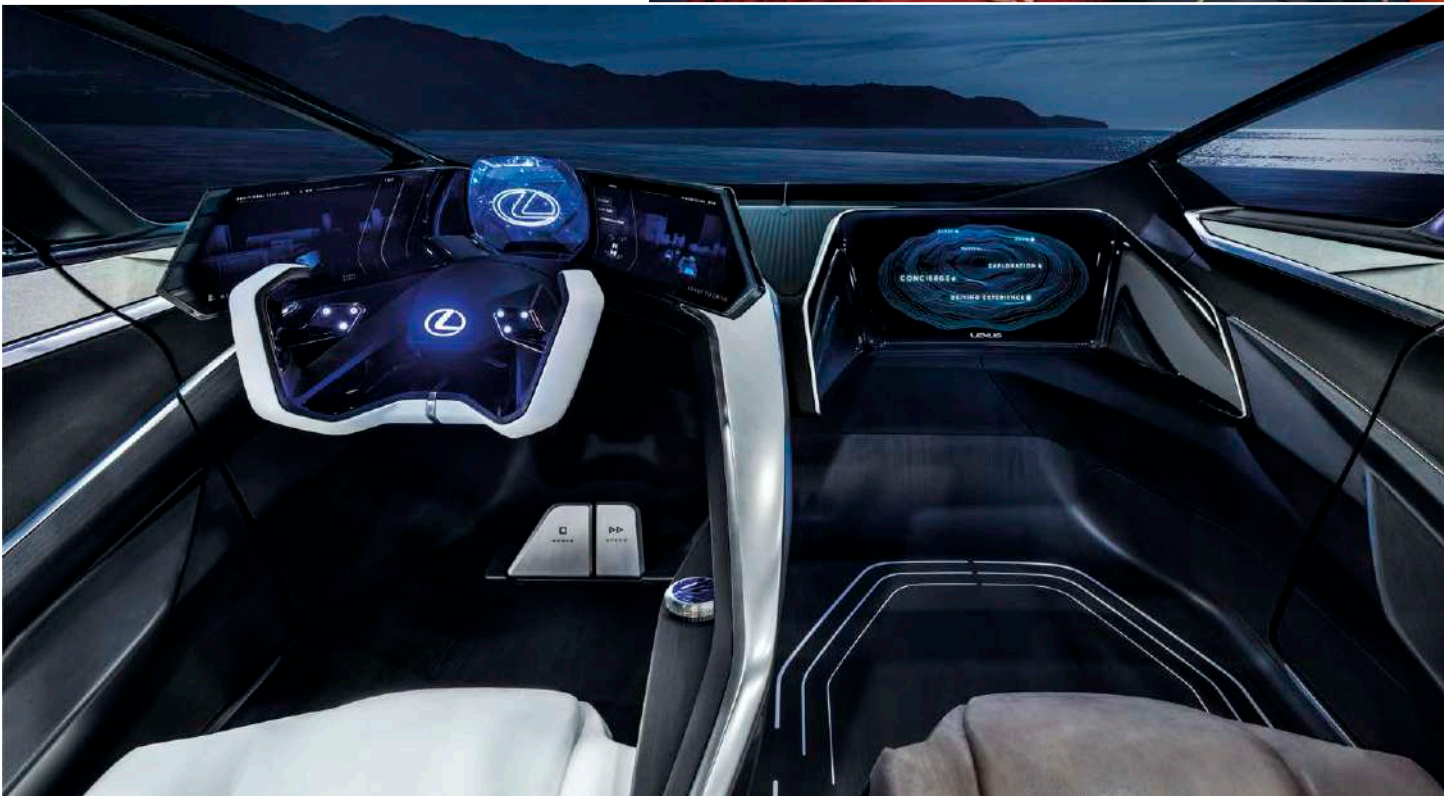
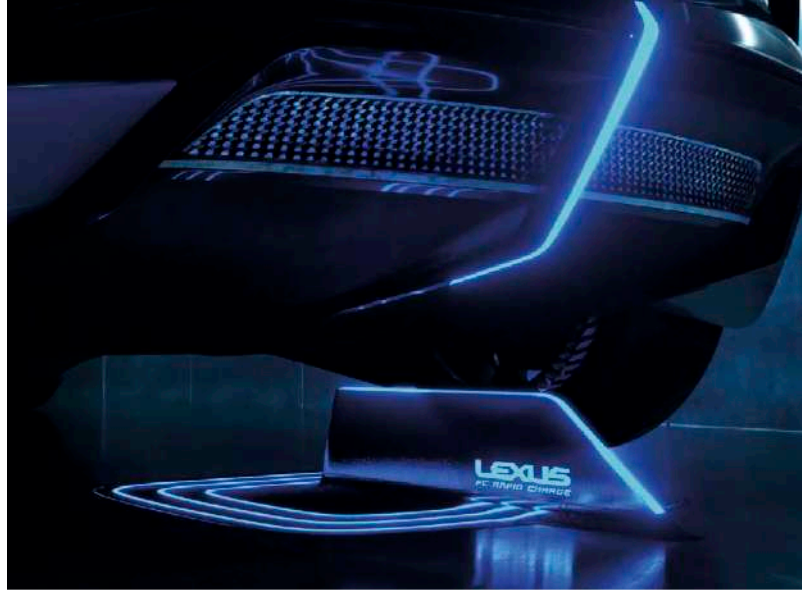
### LEXUS AIRPORTER DRONE

The LF-30 Electrified also carries the Lexus Airporter, a drone support vehicle. Using autonomous control, the drone can, for example, transport luggage and groceries to and from the car.



- 1      3
- 2      4
- 5

1. Sustainable traditional materials such as Yakisugi (charred cedar) have been used in the floor and steering controller, while recycled metal was processed into fibres for the door trim. 2. The exterior colour - Voltaic Sky - employs a metal-infused coating to achieve the blue-green tint. 3. Futuristic exterior features foreshadow the Lexus Electrified vehicles towards 2030. 4. The glass roof above the rear seats features a gesture-controlled "SkyGate" window that uses augmented reality to display information. 5. The opacity of the side windows can be adjusted, providing occupants with scenic views and privacy at night.



Curated

# DESIGN TRENDS

## 2019 / 2020

Available to shop online. From fashion to fitness, we've rounded up our festive wishlist based on some of the year's biggest trends.

**SUSTAINABLE. INNOVATIVELY DESIGNED. RIGHT ON TREND.**



### LE CREUSET STAR WARS RANGE

Two legendary brands collide to bring the Force to your cooking with a limited-edition collector's range that includes a Han Solo roasting pan, Darth Vader casserole dish and Droid mini cocottes.

**From R290 | [lecreuset.co.za](http://lecreuset.co.za)**

### COOL COLLABS

#### ADIDAS ULTRABOOST 20

How do you give adidas's best-loved high-performance running shoes an evolutionary upgrade? Take them to outer space. The brand has partnered with the International Space Station to push its innovation even further.

**From R2 999 | [shop.adidas.co.za](http://shop.adidas.co.za)**



### WEARABLE TECH

#### SAMSUNG GALAXY SMARTWATCH ACTIVE II

Wearable tech was the top fitness trend of 2019. Rather than resembling a piece of sports equipment, the customisable Galaxy looks like a stylish wristwatch, with a rotating bezel that offers easy navigation of its features. The latest version has a bigger screen, precise health insights and an extended battery life.

**From R5 599 | [takealot.com](http://takealot.com)**



#### BOSE FRAMES AUDIO SUNGLASSES

Wireless earbuds meet designer sunglasses in two classic silhouettes – Rondo (pictured above) and Alto. Miniaturised Bose speakers are embedded near the temples for a state-of-the-art audio experience.

**R4 600 | [soundimports.co.za](http://soundimports.co.za)**



#### APPLE POWERBEATS PRO TOTALLY WIRELESS EARPHONES

Statistics show that listening to music can improve your productivity in the office and your pace on the road. The sleek Powerbeats Pro are wireless, voice-activated, adjustable, and sweat- and water-resistant.

**R4 999 | [myistore.co.za](http://myistore.co.za)**

#### INDOOR PLANTERS

##### LECHUZA YULA SELF-WATERING PLANT BAG

In addition to offering science-backed environmental and wellness benefits, indoor plants are a growing interior design trend. Keeping them alive can be tricky – but this sleek self-watering planter solves that.

**R409 | [yuppiechef.com](http://yuppiechef.com)**



**CBD/HEMP**

**DR KERKLAAN NATURAL SKIN CREAM**  
 Legalised for trade in South Africa in 2019, cannabidiol (CBD), which is derived from the cannabis plant, has become a trending ingredient globally. While it won't get you high, it's favoured in natural skincare for its anti-inflammatory properties.

**R995 | goodleaf.co.za**

**HEMP MOONBAG**

Along with a whole bunch of other '90s nostalgia, moonbags (or cross-body bags) are back in a big way. For the conscious consumer, this one is made locally from a blend of durable, ecofriendly industrial hemp and organic cotton.

**R280 | hemporium.co.za**

**TERRAZZO**

**GOOD CLOTHING PINK TERRAZZO RANGE**  
 Terrazzo has moved off the floor to become a design motif on phone covers, coffee mugs and clothing – and Cape Town womenswear brand Good, known for its flattering, feminine, easy-to-wear styles, has designed a cool summer range in pink hues.

**From R650 | goodclothing.co.za**

**COLOUR OF THE YEAR: LIVING CORAL**

**CHANEL EXCLUSIVE CREATION  
 ROUGE ALLURE ROUGE SPLENIDE**

Everyone loves a little Chanel in their Christmas stocking – and this limited-edition luminous lip colour comes in Pink Coral, a shade inspired by Pantone's Colour of the Year 2019. It's a great way to show off your summer glow.

**R835 | woolworths.co.za**

**SUSTAINABILITY****EVA SOLO URBAN TRAVEL MUG**

Switching to a reusable coffee cup is an easy environmental save – and this multitasker's double insulating vacuum walls will keep drinks hot or cold.

**R469 | [yuppiechef.com](http://yuppiechef.com)**

**BETTÉL WATCH**

These unisex wooden watches are designed and handcrafted in Cape Town using sustainably sourced hardwood and genuine leather.

**From R1 799 | [bettelsa.com](http://bettelsa.com)**

**AKINA SWIMWEAR**

Simple swimwear with a sustainable story: Akina, which means spring flower, sources luxurious recycled fabric for its women's bikinis and swimsuits, which are designed and sewn in Cape Town.

**From R500 | [akinalabel.com](http://akinalabel.com)**

**MUNGO AEGEAN TOWEL**

Mungo has introduced its first certified 100%-organic flatweave towel: the Aegean Towel. Available in three colourways, it's soft, compact, quick-drying, absorbent and non-toxic to both skin and soil.

**From R270 | [mungo.co.za](http://mungo.co.za)**



## The Innovator

# FLY ME TO THE MOON

Could lunar life be  
**EARTH'S PLAN B**  
and a viable habitat for  
future generations?

The Moon has long captivated humans – from assisting ancient civilisations in tracking time to making a movie debut in the first science-fiction film ever made (George Méliès' *A Trip to the Moon* in 1902). Now, as exploration of the lunar landscape for human habitation kicks up a gear, the question remains: is outer space really a liveable solution for future generations?

Predictably, the answer is equal parts yes and no.

"Here's the thing," says Didier Schmitt, coordinator for the European Space Agency's (ESA) ministerial council (also known as Space19+) programme proposal for human and robotic exploration of the Moon. "Human physiology has been selected to adapt to Earth's conditions over millions of years – but there is no atmosphere on the Moon, and temperatures vary drastically from -175°C in the shade to +120°C in the sunlight. You can only live in a pressurised habitat there, and stroll around in a space suit."

Having said that, humans have been living and working on the Moon for short periods of time since the 1960s. "New missions will stay a little longer, and demonstrate what it would take to live and work there for extended periods," says Schmitt. "Indigenous life on the Moon is not known to exist, but the lunar geology is expected to contain information about the conditions in which life formed on Earth 3.6-billion years ago – data that has never before been available to analyse. A lot is yet to be discovered."

According to Schmitt, NASA has made plans for human missions to the moon as soon as 2024. "Part of the 'Artemis' programme, initial missions will only last a few days. The next 'first' landing will be a woman and a man together."

The challenges of setting up life on the moon are plenty, and transportation of large equipment and materials in particular remains a main focus. "Once we engage in longer missions, surviving the 14-day lunar night will certainly be a hindrance," says Schmitt. "Also, exposure of humans and computer equipment to ionising radiation is a challenge that exists on the International Space Station as well as on the Moon – and we have yet to find out its impact on missions that last beyond three months."

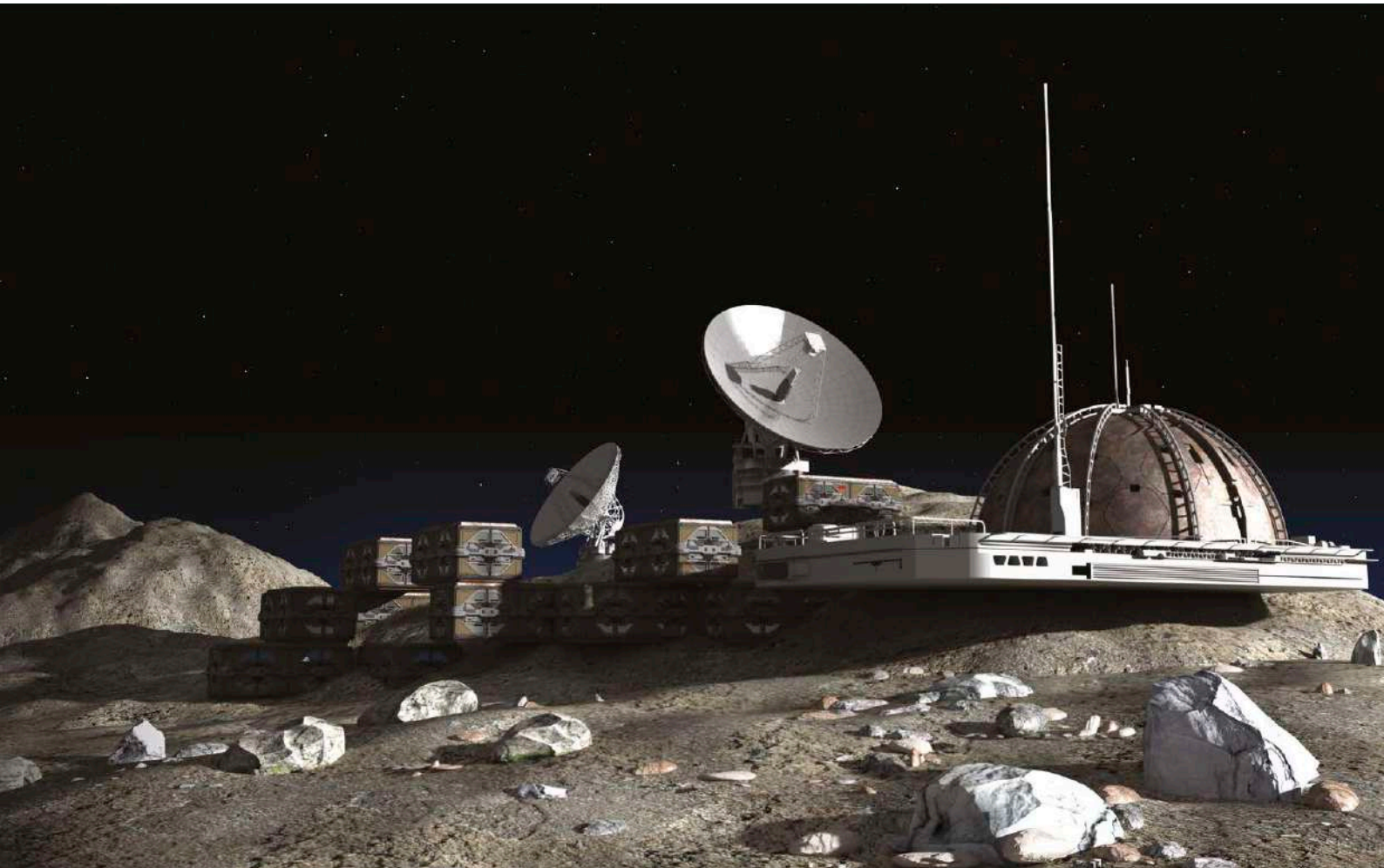
Irrespective of this, journeys will continue, and should habitats be set up in the next few decades, they'll initially look similar to the current space-station modules.

In the future, lunar living spaces can be built into caves and possibly contain inflatable elements, but not when starting out. These sorts of habitats will only be viable if there are larger crews inhabiting the Moon – in other words, hundreds (or even thousands) of astronauts and scientists. For this kind of scenario, many more resources must be invested into exploration. "What you could expect then, for example, is really high ceilings and stairways," says Schmitt. "In space, you can easily jump a few metres, since you only 'weigh' 10 to 15kg."

While the Moon may not be a logical or realistic new home for future generations, its exploration and habitation will assist in determining how our planet came to be – and may be the link that helps us understand and maintain Earth better.

"The Moon is certainly no Plan B – it's part of Plan A," Schmitt says. "If you solve water and waste recycling [among other concerns] for moon habitats, you will also solve a number of current earthly problems linked to environmental pollution."





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**NASA HAS MADE PLANS FOR  
HUMAN MISSIONS TO THE  
MOON AS SOON AS 2024**

