ROYAL EXCLUSIVE PHILIPPOS AND NINA OF GREECE AT HOME

HOUSE & GARDEN

September 2026



Gracious living

ELEGANT INTERIORS FROM WEST SUSSEX TO SOUTH AFRICA

Plus

HOTELS BY DESIGN

GREAT ESCAPES

ROUND THE WORLD

£6.25
International
US $11.99
CAN $13.99
AUS $14.99
NZ $13.99

CASA CEDO, PORTO

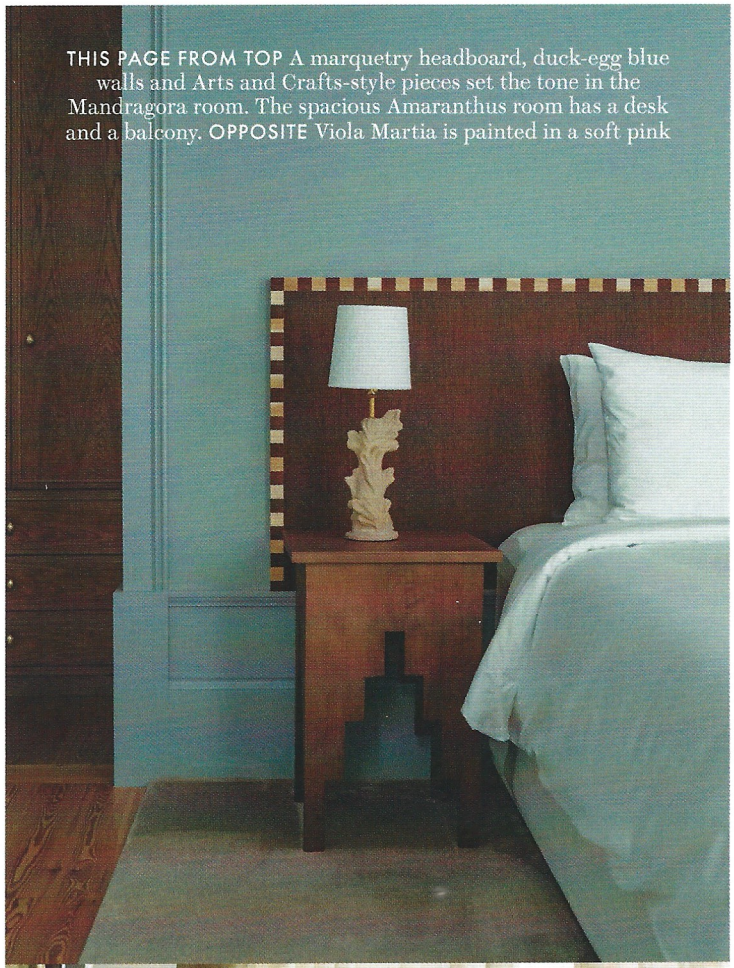
HOUSE STYLE



The owners and designer of Casa Cedo tell EMMA LOVE about their meticulous transformation of a townhouse in the heart of Porto's buzzy Cedofeita into a discreet small hotel



OPPOSITE The communal dining table is made from a long slice of a tree trunk. **THIS PAGE** Daniela Franceschini of Quiet Studios has created a relaxing sitting room with velvet sofas and a textured rug. The painting is *The Year of the Confinement* by Juliana Julieta





THIS PAGE FROM TOP A marquetry headboard, duck-egg blue walls and Arts and Crafts-style pieces set the tone in the Mandragora room. The spacious Amaranthus room has a desk and a balcony. OPPOSITE Viola Martia is painted in a soft pink

When Massimiliano Salé and Jeremiah Healy first viewed the derelict 1920s textiles workshop at the back of what is now the eight-room Casa Cedo hotel, there were plants growing inside that had woven their way through its damaged roof. 'Vegetation was taking over the building and it was surrounded by a beautiful, overgrown secret garden,' recalls Massimiliano of the property, which sits on the main street of Porto's arty Cedofeita district. To say it was in a state of disrepair is an understatement. Jeremiah recalls, 'When we went to a bank about it, they said, "Sorry, we don't finance ruins."'

Thanks to the vision of the Portuguese architecture studio Atelier In.vitro, this is now a light-filled dining room, with salvaged wooden beams, a concrete floor produced using reclaimed materials and a new glass corridor that connects it to the house. A tree-hewn communal breakfast table, paired with iron-and-leather chairs, takes centre stage. At the far end, doors open to an oasis-like courtyard, designed by Toni Sastre, with bay trees, jasmine, ferns and trailing strawberries, while above is a roof terrace with olive trees and herbs. Sitting here with a glass of Douro Valley wine, it's hard to imagine urban life carrying on so close by.

Inspired by the discovery of that garden, subtle botanical references are threaded throughout – from the pineapple-patterned azulejo tiles in the entrance hallway to the floral wall sconces by Lava Earth Objects and the street-facing flower shop open to passers-by. It doubles as the hotel reception and sells the Byredo products found in the bathrooms, alongside Massimiliano's handmade pottery. 'We wanted to create continuity and the feeling of being immersed in nature,' he says. This also explains the names of the rooms, which are all called after plants with an interesting narrative. One is Circaea, the botanical name of enchanter's nightshade associated with Circe. Another is called Amaranthus, sometimes known as prince's feather; this is the largest and has its own terrace.

Rooms are split across three storeys (adding the top floor was the main architectural intervention) and each is defined by a paint colour: duck-egg blue, burgundy and off white. 'I wanted to play with the light and make a distinction between the levels,' says Daniela Franceschini, founder of Lisbon-based Quiet Studios, who led the interior design. 'The bed, marquetry headboard and bedside tables with flower lamps were Arts and Crafts inspired and designed as a complete composition to give the sleeping experience an identity.'

One of the most difficult aspects, Massimiliano notes, was the spa-like bathrooms, which are wrapped in Italian travertine, with brass fittings and oak mirrors: 'The idea was to use warm materials everywhere and we visited at least 10 suppliers to find exactly the right stone.' On the ground floor, that notion of warmth and comfort continues through burnt orange velvet sofas, earthy tones, wool, marble and wood. Figurative paintings by Juliana Julieta lend pops of colour, a 1960s vintage sideboard serves as a cocktail bar and glass doors open to another inviting garden seating nook. 'I have never really loved the expression "home away from home",' Massimiliano explains. 'We want this to feel like a home, but also somewhere that makes guests feel special when they stay here.' In such a sanctuary-like space, there is no doubt that they will.

Doubles at Casa Cedo cost from €300: casacedo.com



'WE WANTED TO CREATE CONTINUITY AND THE FEELING OF BEING IN NATURE'

MASSIMILIANO SALÉ AND JEREMIAH HEALY'S PORTO ADDRESS BOOK

LOT | Labels of Tomorrow
A beautiful concept store in an exquisitely renovated historic building, it includes a charming garden and café, making this a lovely place to unwind. *@lot_labelsoftomorrow*

Serralves Museum
This museum combines contemporary art, architecture and peaceful gardens. The atmosphere feels uniquely Portuguese, which is why we always enjoy returning. *serralves.pt*

Aduela
For us, a night in Porto is rarely complete without a glass of wine at Aduela. Each time we came to view properties in Porto, we went there to decompress and debrief – and the tradition has continued when we bring friends and family to visit Casa Cedo. *@aduelabar*

Flow
A sophisticated, friendly restaurant within walking distance of Casa Cedo. We've celebrated many occasions around its largest table. *flowrestaurant.pt*

Porto's art district
The galleries around Rua de Miguel Bombarda are great for discovering contemporary Portuguese and international artists. The street has an artistic yet unpretentious energy, especially during gallery events that bring the neighbourhood to life.