Santa Barbara

MAGAZINE

SUMMER GLOW

BASKING IN THE AMERICAN RIVIERA'S HOTTEST SPOTS

CORAL CASINO'S
Day in the Sun

PADARO BEACH PARADISE

DAY TRIPPERS
5 Weekend Escapes

CHANNEL ISLANDS
A Diver's Dream

JUNE/JULY 2008 $4.95

resort togs, and fabulous shoes. Soccer stars, singers, and paparazzi descend on the city along with internationally famous Brazilian models who return to walk the runways.

The buzz extends to hotels, restaurants, and clubs. The sensual **Hotel Unique**—vaguely reminiscent of a contemporary cruise ship—is its own showcase for design. The Wall is the see-and-be-seen cocktail bar, a library with floor-to-ceiling shelves lined with glass bottles.

Upstairs, the rooms are modern—all-white decor with floor lighting and space partitioned off by frosted glass as well as gigantic porthole windows that look out to a view of skyscrapers. The panorama, though, is on the roof, where the attractions include a restaurant and a swimming pool that's a favorite place for photo shoots.

Hotel Fasano São Paulo is the classic counterpart to Unique. Set in the Beverly Hills-like section of Jardins, the 60-room hotel is the recent enterprise of the Fasano family, which has been bringing fine Italian cuisine to the city for 100 years. Antique leather chairs and impeccable service add a clubby 1930s atmosphere to the lobby, which has a jazz bar (frequented by Grammy Award-winning singer Caetano Veloso) on one side and the renowned Fasano Restaurant on the other.

Just outside the doors are cafes, clubs, and world-class boutiques, from Armani to Tiffany & Co. Or take a taxi to São Paolo's own Daslu, a designer emporium for an unmatched shopping experience that would make any week here fashion week.

HOTEL FASANO SAO PAULO Rua Vittorio Fasano, 88, São Paulo, Brazil, 011-55-11-3896-4000, fasano.com.br. Rates: From $620.
HOTEL UNIQUE Av. Brigadeiro Luis Antonio, 4700, São Paulo, Brazil, 011-55-11-3055-4710, hotelunique.com.br. Rates: From $622.

GOSTOSO!

Thanks to Brazil's residents of Japanese descent—at more than 1.5 million, the largest population outside of Japan—almost every São Paulo street corner claims a sushi restaurant. Those in the know frequent the modern, sleek **Kosushi**, *Itiam, rua Viradouro, 139, 011-55-3167-7272, kosushi.com.br.*

DI-VINE RETREAT

The Napa Valley has come a long way since 1859, when Sam Brannan built a cottage colony and began touting the healthful benefits of his Calistoga Springs Spa. Grapevines now crisscross the valley floor, and luxe hotels and fine restaurants beckon visitors who crave a taste of the good life. **Solage**, the hip new hotel from the Auberge Resort group, recently opened among the vineyards at the edge of Calistoga, with a nod to the Brannan heritage and a look toward an environmentally friendly future.

The 89 individual sage-colored cottages are arrayed around small plazas that lend a village feel. Designed by Howard Backen to blend with the environment, the resort also touts its green

The Vega Studio

approach—in everything from construction materials and landscaping down to soaps and shampoos. Inside, the spacious, streamlined rooms and suites have cathedral ceilings, slate showers, and plush throws over comfy leather chairs. And at each door are two shiny chrome and black cruising bikes so guests can explore vineyard lanes or the byways of Calistoga. (Porters, housekeeping, and room service all get around on two wheels, too).

An inviting 130-foot-long pool with private cabanas is another treat, but it barely hints at the mineral pools at the

20,000-square-foot spa, where, not surprisingly, one of the signature treatments is a Mudslide ($95), a fun take on the nearby town's highly touted baths. A "mudtenant" helps you choose a scent, mixes it with chalk-color volcanic mud, and sends you off to slather up in a heated room, followed by a healthful tub soak.

For meals, the indoor/outdoor Solbar restaurant and lounge serves light meals as well as heartier bistro-style dishes such as short ribs, accompanied, of course, by a choice of Napa Valley vintages.

SOLAGE 755 Silverado Trail, Calistoga, 866-942-7442, solagecalistoga.com. Rates: From $325.