



JEWEL PURPOSE
Left, designed by US architects Skidmore Owings & Merrill, The Park Hyderabad features a shimmering façade – inspired by Hyderabad's historic jewel collection – and a 125ft infinity pool. Right, the Carbon bar features a striking, geometric design, intended to evoke the facets of a gem. For a gallery of images, plus news of The Park Hyderabad's new Aish restaurant, see www.wallpaper.com ★

NEW ANGLES

With hi-tech construction and plenty of spectacle, the Park Hotel group's new opening in Hyderabad is a contemporary lakeside palace

PHOTOGRAPHY: ROBERT POLIDORI WRITER: JONATHAN BELL

The Park Hotel Hyderabad is the result of a riotous infusion of influences, from classical Indian architecture to high-end, big-style 1960s kitsch, all carefully balanced by renowned US architects Skidmore Owings & Merrill. Perched on the edge of the Hussain Sagar lake, The Park Hyderabad is raised up on a podium, its rhomboid structure clad in ribbons of finely patterned metal mesh – evoking traditional jali screens – and reflected in the 125ft infinity pool. The architects have pushed façade design to the limits, using computer modelling to determine the precise angles and opacity of the shimmering walls, ensuring a finely tuned mix between privacy, personality and dazzling spectacle. Inside, the 270-room hotel is exceptionally well serviced with spas and restaurants, with every surface

swathed in materials that combine India's magnificent craft tradition with the very latest technology. Artworks and installations fuse with the public spaces, from the richly decorated Ruby Lounge to the outdoor Verandah Restaurant and the Sicca Bar, all of which blur the distinction between indoor and out. Jewel motifs are cleverly worked into both surface and structure, with the rooms featuring rich drapery, pattern and curved walls that transform them into cases for riches. Arriving with a clutch of awards for environmental performance and style, The Park Hyderabad – the 40-year-old Park Group's ninth hotel – is a hi-tech palace of rich design and seamless hospitality. www.theparkhotels.com/hyderabad/hyderabad.html

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