

ROOM WITH A VIEW

WHERE ARE WE? CAPETOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

TAKEN FROM THE POOL TERRACE AT CAPE VIEW CLIFTON

Because to wake up here is to feel happy. How can that force of light and expanse of mountain and WHY WE LOVE IT sea fail to put a smile on your face? Directly below are Cape Town's famous Clifton beaches, distinguished by prosaic numbers and sociological demarcations: surfer dudes hang out on First Beach, Second is family-friendly, Third is gay and Fourth is for the universally physically blessed. Beyond is the more egalitarian Camps Bay, backed by the Twelve Apostles mountain range. The new-ish Cape View Clifton has five suites and two apartments, and its owner, interior designer Jess Latimer, has got the interiors just right: natural fabrics, contemporary lines, the occasional good antique or posy of fresh flowers. I'm a little OCD about the way things look, says Latimer, who lives next door and runs the place with Mitch Terry, formerly of Ellerman House. In the kitchens, Celeste and Charmaine rustle up superb breakfasts - toasted brioche with bacon, berry compote and a dollop of mascarpone - and still-warm cakes for tea. It's easy to see why guests (one of whom has stayed five times since it opened in November 2012) treat this place like home.

INSIDE TIP
Little Beach is a tiny secluded spot just past the crowded cafés and restaurants of Camp's Bay, a five-minute drive from the Cape View. With so few visitors, the enviably bronzed lifeguard has little to do but read books all day. Head here to do the same. PETER BROWNE

> 232 Kloof Road, Clifton, Cape Town, South Africa (+27 21 438 8748; www.capeviewclifton.co.za). Suites from about £170, including breakfast

