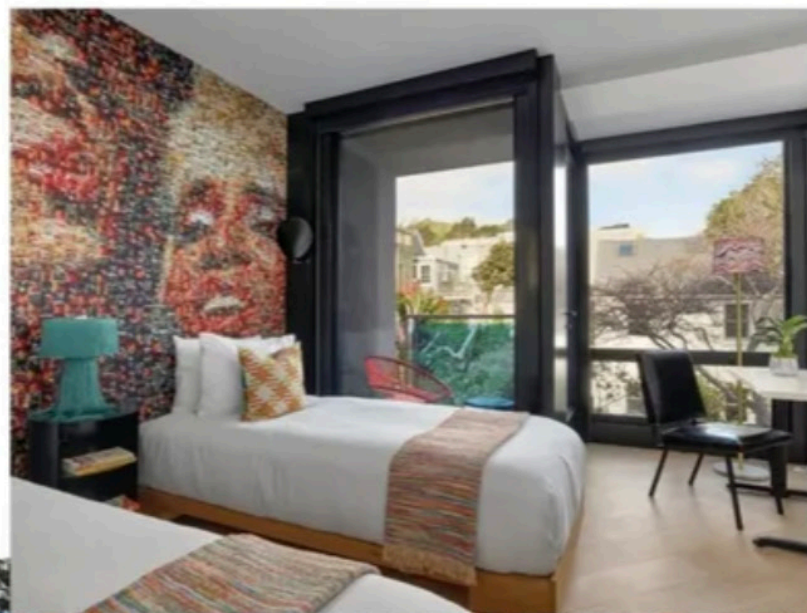


# Castro Style

The design team behind The Hotel Castro want guests to feel like they're overnighting at a friend's gorgeous loft. The recently opened Castro District 12-room, 5,500-square-foot property, designed by New York City-based Cass Calder Smith Architecture & Interiors ([casscaldersmith.com](http://casscaldersmith.com)) with SF-based interior design consultant Jon De La Cruz ([dlcid.com](http://dlcid.com)), doesn't even have a front desk. The concept is a return to the past, when cities featured pocket-size tavern inns that served travelers and locals alike. Granted, those timeless spots didn't feature Hotel Castro's gorgeous recessed balconies, modern decor, rooftop terrace with glass guardrails and original contemporary art in every room. We'll take this approach to the tavern inn every time. 4230 18th St., 415.340.7358, [thehotelcastro.com](http://thehotelcastro.com) —Michael McCarthy



The Hotel Castro is an architectural marvel, with an opportunity for staycations that allow guests to feel like they're part of the historic and engaging neighborhood.