

SPACE

GLOBAL DESIGN REVIEW 2025



FORMERLY
HOTEL SPEC

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international
PASSIONATE ABOUT DESIGN

Creating Timeless Interiors
& Memorable Destinations

Ngorongoro Lodge | Meliá Collection | Tanzania

Award-winning WA International continues to create some of the world's finest interiors.

Dubai: PO Box 42, Dubai, UAE Tel: +9714 2663050

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Claire Craig - Design Director

Joey Samera - Associate

Nadia Kamber - Business Development Manager

WA INTERNATIONAL'S LATEST AWARD-WINNING PROJECT IN AFRICA NGORONGORO LODGE | A MELIÁ COLLECTION | TANZANIA



“The Ngorongoro Conservation area with its lush green plains is simply stunning” says WA International’s design director Claire Craig. For WA International, this setting was a beautiful source of inspiration; where they sought to create interiors that complemented the stunning natural beauty while also respecting the lodge’s heritage and history. “The original lodge built in the 1960’s had been sadly neglected for many years and has now been masterfully transformed both internally and externally. Our client’s brief was clear: to ‘bring back the best’ of the old lodge by salvaging and recycling what we could while simultaneously adding and designing new spaces that complement and enhance the existing structure.” explains Claire Craig.

The old vestibule on the front of the lodge was cleverly and skillfully dismantled and the existing stained glass windows and wooden framework was relocated to an originally windowless entrance lobby façade. In place of the old vestibule, a new extended porte-cochère was designed. The reception lobby was completely replanned. Back of house offices were relocated to ‘open up’ this space to allow lots of light from the tall new windows. A magnificent custom designed hand-tufted wall hanging, portraying the Maasai people was commissioned and sits centre stage behind the new reception desk. On the floor, once again a huge carpet was designed which reflects the Ngorongoro Crater shape and colours. The impressive existing rich woods of the ceilings, columns and floors of the ‘Great Room’ lobby lounge, all day dining and bar were painstakingly and beautifully restored.

The guestrooms, suites and newly created suites all required considerably reworking. As the rooms were small, WA International completely stripped them out and created an open plan with a fully glazed bathroom. This enhanced the feeling of more space and brought natural light into the bathroom.

With their renowned attention to detail, WA International transformed the lodge into a luxurious retreat that offers guests a memorable experience amidst one of the world’s most unique natural wonders. From concept design to the careful selection of finishes, furnishings, and artwork, the studio ensured every element was executed with precision. The result is a blend of luxury and nature, offering guests a memorable and authentic experience in Tanzania.

wa-international.com



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Renowned in the hospitality market for creating original and timeless destinations, WA International combines extensive international experience with dynamic creativity and an appreciation of local aesthetics, materials and environments. WA International has built an impressive portfolio of esteemed clients of top hotel and resort brands from around the world, while garnering a reputation for producing award-winning interiors of the very highest standards, building a reputation of innovation, originality and exceptional style. WA International continues to create some of the world's finest interiors, including the recently opened, Ngorongoro Lodge Meliá Collection in Tanzania.

Selection of Current Projects:

Grand Hyatt Jaipur, India
 Luxor 5-star Hotel, Egypt
 Marriott Executive Apartments, Dubai
 Westin Residences, Dubai
 Hyatt Regency Harare The Meikles, Zimbabwe
 Several hotels & resorts in Saudi Arabia.

Selection of Completed Projects:

The St. Regis Downtown Dubai
 One&Only The Palm, Dubai
 Park Hyatt Zanzibar
 Four Seasons Buenos Aires
 Sofitel Dubai The Obelisk
 Ngorongoro Lodge Meliá Collection, Tanzania
 Al Jaddaf Rotana Suite Hotel, Dubai
 JW Marriott Absheron, Baku
 Sanctum Serviced Apartments, London
 Park Chalet, Autograph Collection, Azerbaijan
 Pik Palace, Autograph Collection, Azerbaijan
 One&Only Royal Mirage - refurbishment, Dubai
 Dubai Opera
 Royal Saray Resort, Bahrain
 The Address Downtown Dubai
 Sofitel Corniche, Abu Dhabi



WA International's luxury 5-star Ngorongoro Lodge, Meliá Collection, Tanzania

Sofitel Bahrain Zallaq Thalassa Sea & Spa
 Sofitel Dubai Jumeirah Beach
 Grand Mercure Hotel & Residences, Dubai
 Hyatt Regency, Addis Ababa
 Hilton Al Habtoor City, Dubai
 Ajman Saray, a Luxury Collection Resort

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Claire Craig
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Additional worldwide offices:
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Los Angeles, CA, Miami, FL,
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 Worldwide employees: 350
 Hotel Project Percentage: 95%

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