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New Boutique

Casa Beleza do Sul, Tavira, Portugal

Why is it special?

The 19th-century doctor's house has been restored by Italian architect Paolo Boragine, who has created three homely holiday apartments, but with the added luxury of hotel-style services.

Where is it?

Casa Beleza do Sul (translated as "beautiful house of the south") overlooks the Gilão River, in the historic heart of Tavira: a pretty Roman fishing town on the eastern Algarve.

The look

Stripped-back 19th-century interiors updated with shabby-chic antiques and modern furniture and fittings. Star features include natural-plaster bathrooms and towering cane-lined ceilings that form the pyramid-shaped roofs – an authentic style unique to Tavira, said to have been influenced by the town's trading connections with the Orient.

Boutique bonus

It may feel like a Bohemian bolthole, but breakfasts of freshly baked bread, soft cheese and other local goodies are discreetly delivered to your kitchen table in picnic baskets, and, when you go out, rooms are given a five-star tidying. It's a real treat to return to after a sunny day on the expansive beaches of Ilha de Tavira.

The details

43 Rua Dr Parreira, Tavira (00 351 96 0060 906, www.casabelezadosul.com). From £60 double. Johnny Morris

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