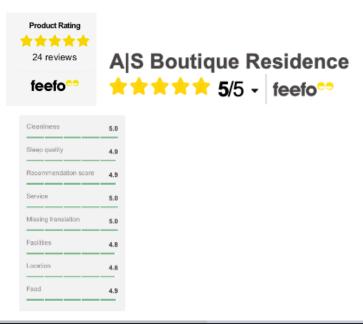
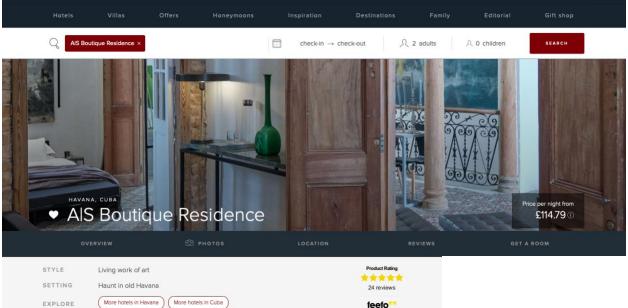
VERIFIED REVIEWS AT MR & MRS SMITH 2022/2023









STYLE Living work of art

SETTING Haunt in old Havana

EXPLORE More hotels in Havana More hotels in Cuba

LOCATION REVIEWS GET A ROOM

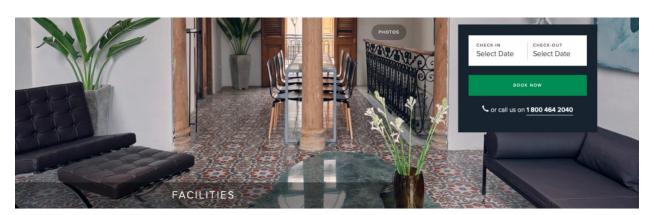
Product Rating

*** *** ***

24 reviews

feefo**

You've gotta hand it to Havana – even centuries of tumult, beautiful decay and a little-country-that-could feud with the US can't hold it back. There's light-at-the-end-of-the-tunnel sparks everywhere, and an especially bright one is AlS Boutique Residence, the first hideaway of its kind in the city; more personalised, intimate and authentic than state-approved stays and more luxurious than bunking in a Habanero home. Set amid the intoxicating bustle of Old Havana, it's awash with vintage romance, with an alluring European accent in its designer furnishings and finishing touches. Run by an accomplished creative twosome, artistry runs deep in its DNA, and its café, salon, gallery and roof terrace set the scene for cultural happenings of all kinds. Altogether, it's an auspicious sign of things to come for Cuba's dizzying capital.



Anonymous review

By Mr & Mrs Smith

Every hotel featured is visited personally by members of our team, given the Smith seal of approval, and then anonymously reviewed. As soon as our reviewers have returned from this 'I wish this was my home' hotel in Habana vieja and unpacked their fat, fragrant Cohibas and bottle of custom scent from heritage perfumers Habana 1791, a full account of their salsa-tempo sojourn will be with you. In the meantime, to whet your wanderlust, here's a quick peek inside AIS Boutique Residence in Cuba's capital...

Havana is a curiosity. It's been repressed – first by colonialism, then pirates, again in its thrall to mobsters in the Fifties, and then by the US's trade embargo – yet it remains irrepressible; it's held in stasis yet thunders into the future; and its revolutionary spirit still burns yet Cubans are as easygoing as they come. You only need spend an afternoon soaking up rum and funky Afro beats in one of its shabbily chic bars to see why. But all these contradictions have swirled into a potent mythology that proves intoxicating to creative sorts, who in turn reinvigorate its neighbourhoods. Such is the story of Dutch painter and fashion designer André Visser and Cuban dancer and musician Sandy Solano Diaz. The

two met and fell in love while on creative missions in Moscow, then settled in Cuba where they've created AIS Boutique Residence – a hotel that differs wildly from the state-mandated stavs and home shares the Cuba-curious have had to settle for before the country allowed co-operative investment for foreigners. They breathed life back into the crumbling 19th-century mansion, restoring its decorative tiled floors, intricate capital mouldings and columns, and Art Nouveau ironwork, hauling in 1970s green marble from Antigua and calling on local craftsmen to make tables and chairs. And they added some Euro flair: Mies Van der Rohe Barcelona chairs, industrial lighting and coloured Venetian glassware. Plus Visser produced bold abstract paintings to hang in each room. The finished product is sumptuously bohemian, both sleek and artfully dishevelled, vintage yet forward-thinking - a feel that carries down to the coffee shop and gallery on the ground floor which has struck a chord with Havana's hipsters, with its fresh and pure menu, teeth-jittering coffee, live music, dance performances and rotating exhibitions. There's a can't-fake-it charm to the place bolstered by the seductively animated streets of Old Havana all around. Wake before sunrise for yoga on the roof terrace, explore Unesco-approved monuments and high-proof bars by day, then return for a salsa lesson, free mojito at sundown and perhaps some scintillating creative discourse. So while Havana's psyche might remain as muddled as a mojito, this kind of visionary stay shows that it's found its footing for careening into the future.

Showing 24 reviews





Without doubt one of the best hotels I have ever stayed in. Having wanted to visit Havana for a while, I was struggling to find accommodation but luckily come across AS Boutique, my perfect type of hotel - small, stylish, authentic and with incredible personable service.

The hotel design is beautiful and it's especially nice that lots of the interiors were sourced from the local area. All the little touches are what make a stay amazing and they did not go unnoticed. Sandy and Andre couldn't do enough to make our stay amazing - from organising tours, restaurant recommendations to where to buy local rum! I can't recommend this hotel enough. ^ Read less

ø 0 ₱ Share





Andre and sandy who run AS boutique are fabulous hosts. Great vibes all round. Made our time in Havana unforgettable. The hotel is stylish and comfortable and in the best location for walking around the old town and soaking it up. Highly recommended

ø 0 ₱ Share





Such a pleasant atmosphere. The hosts have beautiful spirits similar to the space that they Hague created.



Dear Mr and Mrs Smith

My husband and I had an incredible stay in A/S Boutique Residence Hotel. We found it a unique place to experience. The incredible building, from inside, outside and above, was only the beginning of the full sensory experience we received on arrival. The stunning old building with ceilings that escape you, gave us the sense of another world, and one that owners, André and Sandy have delicately and respectfully restored.

It is difficult to call their attention 'service', as the word is too clinical, especially when the owners invited us into their Hotel with a warm welcome and a warm heart. André and Sandy had a genuine interest in assisting us and in making our stay in Havana the best experience possible. Their local knowledge of the exciting, cultural and colorful places to go in Havana really made our trip special. And returning from the vivid atmosphere of Havana to the calm and tranquility of A/S really set the hotel apart for us.

This was our first trip to Cuba, and knowing that there was a real variance in the quality, and price, of the hotel in Havana we booked through Mrs and Mrs Smith. We can honestly say that A/S Residence was one of the best experiences at a hotel we have had. ^ Read less

in 0 ₱ Share





The whole team at AS were fantastic throughout our stay going above and beyond making our stay as enjoyable as possible

ø 0 ₱ Share







Amazing place. Refurbished to a very high standard. Excellent quality breakfast and all of the staff were super friendly. The owner was extremely helpful with places to go and restaurants etc and all reccomendations were great. 5*

ø 0 ₱ Share



The owners were very helpful and friendly, the decor and art are fabulous :)

id 0 ₱ Share



Beautiful oasis of calm bang in the cente of old Havana. Andre couldn't do enough to make our holiday really special and help us navigate unexpected travel and visa restrictions



A|S Boutique Residence was hands down the most exceptional service we have received anywhere. Ever. The proprietors have literally created an extraordinary environment in Old Havana, a haven really, that is unique and extraordinary and comfortable at every turn. Stay in the Art Suite if you can, decadent and unique! Their warmth and desire for you to have the best experience in Cuba is so personalized, you would think they have known you forever. They will choose your restaurants, hire your classic cars, all of the things that at times can be overwhelming when traveling, and is a pleasure for them. What a gift they've given to each other and to Havana and to each guest who is fortunate to stay here. ^ Read less



This was a wonderful stay. Our room was stunning, the location was very convenient, the food was delicious and our hosts were extremely friendly and helpful. It was the perfect place to enjoy the city from and to come back to relax in the evening.

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Amazing place to stay! I stayed here on the last night of my trip and everything was so relaxing - I didn't want to leave.

The breakfast was the best I had in Cuba and the roof top tub was perfect to soak in on my last day.

Would stay again.





AS Boutique is wonderful - we thoroughly enjoyed our stay there, from the fact that it was walkable to so much within Havana Vieja, to the art/design of the space (which was amazing), to the food & coffee, to the recommendations and advice from Andre and the rest of the staff. Highly highly recommend! ^ Read less

ø 0 ₱ Share





The whole team at AS were fantastic throughout our stay going above and beyond making our stay as enjoyable as possible





This was a charming place to stay. The stunning, recently renovated, house was a calm oasis amidst the hustle and bustle of the Old Havana municipality. The owner and team were exclusively friendly, welcoming, and helpful. I would not hesitate to recommend staying here if you are visiting Havana.

When we arrived the owner gave us a brief introduction to the current situation in Cuba, and also provided excellent recommendations for places to eat and visit. If it's your first time in Havana/Cuba I can't overstate how valuable having someone who understands the area is for getting the most from your trip.

The house itself is beautiful, featuring an excellent breakfast and a delightful rooftop terrace where we whiled away many sunny hours.

The house is situated right in the heart of Old Havana, and from here it was easy to walk to a number of great bars, restaurants, and key cultural locations.

^ Read less





The owners were very helpful and friendly, the decor and art are fabulous :)

ø 0 ₱ Share





Beautiful oasis of calm bang in the cente of old Havana. Andre couldn't do enough to make our holiday really special and help us navigate unexpected travel and visa restrictions

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Owner and staff are great. Breakfast was on of the best in our entire travel experience. We made a suggested trip to Vinales and it was amazing thanks to the driver and the guide, absolutely recommended. Interior design of the hotel is far higher than others in town and the atmosphere is magical. Just a little aspect to take into consideration, it is located in the real habana vieja, not the touristic one, so one should be prepared to walk through real Cuban life - which is not always comfortable. A Read less





A super unique find in old havana. The owner kindly met us out of our taxi late at night & as he was Dutch spoke perfect English & made us feel very comfortable & welcome. An amazing renovation project by him & his partner - every aspect of the hotel has been consider with a artists eye and resourcefulness with what can be found & made in Cuba. Water was v expensive at €5 a bottle so try buy elsewhere. The included breakfast was the best we had in Cuba & the coffee & juice was so good we went back when we returned to Havana. Lovely, friendly staff & great place to relax downstairs. The wifi was pretty good & the roof top gave you a really unique view over the amazing buildings of old havana. The room had lots of nice touches such as a hairdryer & multiple towels which you don't really find across cuba. We found the bed super comfy too. Only improvement we would say is a door to the loo !! It is fully open - but considering it was the compact room we found it spacious enough. The owner helped us organise various taxis but would recommend finding a driver you like & getting his number directly for the best prices. The keener v kindly gave us excellent restaurant recommendations & made reservations for us. Would suggest booking your taxi in advance but not via the hotel as despite being excited to have a classic car pick us up - €70 was alot but it did make our arrival very easy. ^ Read less





Absolute hidden gem of Havana

The A/S Boutique residence was absolutely the most amazing place to stay in Havana. Andre the owner couldn't have been more helpful. He sent fabulous recommendations for tried and tested restaurants/bars from all across Havana straight to your phone as soon as you checked in. Organized taxis, trips, or anything else you could possibly wish for during your stay. The rooms are right out of the very latest style magazine, with polished concrete showers, vintage tiled floors, split-level living, super comfortable beds, and giant contemporary canvases of Andre's own work decorating every room. The breakfast was tasty, healthy, and beautiful all at the same time, a food photography dream. Thanks, A/S Boutique residence for the most wonderful stay. ^ Read less





Everything was more than we expected. The owners/hosts were friendly, informative and accommodating. The hotel was beautiful, with stunning artwork and styling throughout. The beds are comfortable and the rooms spacious with air conditioning.

The locality put you right into the heart of old Havana with live music & great food all around.

Amazing *** *** Amazing *** Am





I can't begin to express how beautiful my stay at AS Boutique was. From the second my partner and I arrived, we were greeted with beautiful smiles and great information on the city and where to go. André booked our dinners for us at some beautiful restaurants he recommended, 5 minutes away from the hotel by foot. Breakfast every morning was served fresh and delicious. The staff always had smiles on their faces and great conversation.

I was so sad to leave. Although Cuba is a 30 hour journey from home, I would really love to go again to see the beautiful people at AS boutique.

Thank you, André & Sandy! ^ Read less





Fantastic boutique hotel with beautifully decorated rooms, a wonderful rooftop terrace which is prefect for sundowners and a wonderful breakfast. The coffee is particularly fabulous. Would be delighted to go back, thank you for such amazing hospitality. A Read less





We were completely charmed by our stay at A/S Boutique Residence. The hosts, Andre and Sandy, made us feel completely at home and welcomed. Every detail of the residence is exquisite. From a healthy and delicious breakfast, to the touring and activities they offered, to dinner reservations at local establishments, they and their team went above and beyond. We highly recommend their residence and will be returning in the future! ^ Read less



Dear Mr & Mrs Smith guests,

Thank you for your unanimously positive reviews on the A|S Boutique Residence at the website of Mr & Mrs Smith! It was a pleasure having you as our guests!

Andre & Sandy
A|S Boutique Residence