

## Palais Ronsard to Open in March in Marrakech



The talk of the town in Marrakech? A new, arty boutique hotel is slated to open its doors on March 1 in the Palmeraie. Palais Ronsard is the pet project of Aram Ohanian, the businessman behind jetset-approved hang-outs like Club Jad Mahal, in partnership with his wife, former model and actress Adriana Karembeu. Their goal is to create a new hot spot in Morocco's "Red City." When it debuts, Palais Ronsard will be part of Relais & Châteaux. (Historically, Relais & Châteaux membership was only granted a few years after a property's debut, but times are changing in 2019, with four new establishments opening this year as part of the group.)



Situated in lush, rose-scented gardens dotted with water features and century-old olive trees, Palais Ronsard occupies a 1930s building. It will only have 22 suites, vast in size and equipped with garden terraces and marble bathrooms. There are an additional six private pool pavilions for luxing it up with your entourage. In decorating the hotel, interior architect Gil Dez chose both contemporary and traditional decor in a mix of Baroque, Moorish and Art Deco styles. A design signature are the wall frescoes created by artists trained at Beaux-Arts d'Aix-en-Provence.



Set to lure locals for a lively cultural scene, Palais Ronsard will host artist exhibitions and performances. The three restaurants will be overseen by chef Xavier Mathieu of the Michelinstarred Phébus & Spa in Gordes. There's the Jardin d'Hiver, the Pool House (offering breakfast, lunch and evening cocktails), and you can also dine on vegetable-focused cuisine in Le Verger du Poète, outside under a pergola in the midst of the vegetable garden. There will also be a spa equipped with a hammam, sauna, gym and two treatment rooms.