



Designers are adding new elements to guest quarters

WORDS BY ADAM PERKOWSKY

Guestrooms were once thought of as just places to sleep at the end of the day. But as guests' expectations have changed, designers have been more creative and produced spaces that serve as not only a resting spot but also an area to work and entertain.

Global architecture and design firm Nelson Worldwide has been adding natural elements to its guestrooms. Katie Pass-Brinker, design leader, Nelson Worldwide, pointed out that "infusing a guestroom with natural materials builds a stronger connection to nature, which is proven to reduce stress," adding, "As we all know, traveling-either business or pleasure-impacts our wellness and creating a healthier environment via air quality, increasing the physical comfort of the guestroom and providing better nutritional offerings are ways to improve guests' physical wellness during their stay."

There are several ways the company designs a guestroom that considers the wellness of the guest, including creating minimal, clutter-free spaces to support a peaceful mind.

"A calming palette inspired by nature can also provide guests with a mental break which creates a quiet space to relax and recharge," she said. "A quality, comfortable

bed; light-controlled window treatments; and improved sound reduction can ensure a restful night's sleep. Specifying non-emitting materials and high-quality air purifiers creates an environment that supports physical health, and providing in-room meditation or exercise apps via a smart TV can help guests stay on their wellness journey while traveling."

Design studio busk+hertzog, during the design process, considered how its Pico chair for Studio TK looked from the front and back to a guest in the room.

"To achieve this, we used folded paper to create the original shape of Pico," said Flemming Busk, cofounder, busk+hertzog. "Working with the highly pliable paper, we were able to sculpt the organic yet angular natural shape that evokes a sense of comfort, encourages free movement and provides various sitting postures. For us, it was also important to create a chair that visually intrigued guests to come and sit in its welcoming form."

