

Soap Opera

The bathroom has become the home's most intimate expression of luxury

By SAYONI BHADURI

The bathroom has at last graduated from utility room to private sanctuary. For today's luxury homeowner, it is as much about mood, material, and ritual as it is about baths and ablutions. In the Desais' Ahmedabad home, Sonali Rastogi, Founder and Vice Chairperson, Morphogenesis, translated the element of Air into the daughter's bathroom through a bespoke Sicis mosaic wall, hand-blown glass pendants by The White Teak Company and a cloud-like matte-white freestanding Jaquar tub. "It's a fitting distillation of the house's larger philosophy that biophilic design need not announce itself in grand gestures," Rastogi adds. Stone brings its own drama. A-Class Marble has created striking bathrooms using contrasting natural stones, including Belgian black marble and a backlit Mexican Wave Onyx vanity that lends the space an atmospheric glow.

But luxury is less about square footage than intention. Rohina Anand Khira, CEO of AA Living, suggests artwork, plants, wood, woven textures, and ambient lighting to soften the space. "Decant everyday toiletries into beautiful refillable dispensers and keep countertops uncluttered. Include a stool or tray for candles, bath salts or a book to create a spa-like ritual," she says. "High-quality towels, bathmats, and bath linens create a cohesive, hotel-inspired look." For Rukmini Ray Kadam, home and décor content creator and founder of TruMatter Living, scent is another essential element. "I'm a firm believer in scent as part of the experience," she shares. Her recently renovated bathroom pairs blue Moroccan-inspired floor tiles with classic subway walls, a combination that, she says, "completely changed the mood of the space, giving it the relaxed, spa-like feeling we wanted."

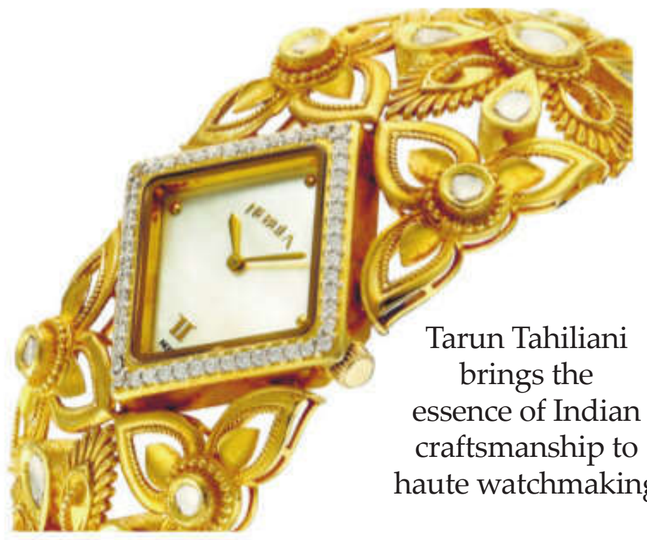
The shift is also visible in the way homeowners approach colour and pattern. Bathrooms are shedding their once-predictable whites and neutrals for jewel tones, graphic tiles, richly veined stone, and warmer metallics. The result is less clinical, more characterful—a room that can be dramatic in the morning and cocooning at night. Even the smallest powder room is being treated as an opportunity for experimentation, proving that great bathroom design is not necessarily about size, but about having the confidence to make a statement.



And then there are the smaller flourishes that turn a bathroom from beautiful to deeply personal: a sculptural stool, a tray of bath salts, a vase of foliage, a favourite artwork or simply a beautifully folded stack of towels. The point is not to replicate a hotel bathroom, but to create a space that feels distinctly yours. In the new vocabulary of luxury, the bathroom is no longer somewhere to simply get ready—it is somewhere to pause, reset and indulge in the everyday.

There is, too, a growing appetite for tactility. Ribbed surfaces, brushed metals, veined stone, tactile textiles and artisanal details invite the eye—and the hand—to linger. It is this layering of texture, light and scent that gives the contemporary bathroom its most coveted quality: a sense of quiet, considered indulgence.





Gold Standard

Tarun Tahiliani brings the essence of Indian craftsmanship to haute watchmaking

By DEEPALI DHINGRA

In a seamless convergence of Indian couture and haute horology, Nebula by Titan has partnered with couturier Tarun Tahiliani to launch Phool Chadar, an exclusive 18K gold timepiece collection. Prices range from ₹3.8 lakh to ₹24 lakh, celebrating indigenous design through precision engineering.

Drawing inspiration from fine Indian architectural details, floral motifs, and textile art, the collection includes standout models like the Gulistan, Kyaari, Kalli, and the entry-level Mandala. The line also features the TT Signature Men's Edition, featuring an etched mother-of-pearl *jaali* dial, TT monogram indices, dual-finish double centre lugs, gold caseback with a 316L stainless steel centre case, 18K gold onion crown, and a genuine alligator leather strap with Zermatt lining and deployment clasp. For Tahiliani, translating Indian artistry into watchmaking is deeply tied to cultural heritage. "The inspiration has come from fine Indian work, it could be sculpture, floral... That's our DNA as Indians," he says. Navigating the craftsmanship required a unique bridge between textiles and metalwork. Tahiliani explains how his atelier communicated with master artisans. "We started embroidering on fabric and sending them the finished pieces to replicate on watches," he shares.

Tahiliani rejects the notion that wedding-centric design is limiting. "Indian weddings have always been living showcases of our finest craftsmanship. Every weave, every jewel and every detail is created not just for a celebration, but to become part of a family's history," he says. With Phool Chadar, he wanted to extend that philosophy beyond couture and into fine watchmaking. "Working with Nebula by Titan allowed us to reinterpret the language of Indian craftsmanship in a completely new form, creating timepieces that honour tradition while becoming heirlooms for generations to come," he adds.





It's Tee Time!



Redefining the modern urban retreat, Stableford is seamlessly weaving elite golf, holistic wellness, and tailored hospitality into an effortless space. The exclusive 13,000-sqft indoor golf, wellness, and lifestyle sanctuary along the Brentwood-Santa Monica corridor is addressing a half-century drought of new private golf clubs in West Los Angeles. Designed by New York-based Mazzarini & Co., the clubhouse eschews conventional athletic aesthetics for a warm, living-room-inspired atmosphere.

The facility seamlessly pairs eight TrackMan simulator lounges, one of California's largest indoor putting greens, and private instruction from swing coach Lucas Wald with dedicated wellness suites featuring cold plunges, Finnish saunas, and red-light therapy. An all-day dining concept serves seasonally rotating dishes alongside an evening cocktail programme crafted by a lead bartender from Employees Only. Tailored for design-forward golfers, Stableford integrates daily practice, social leagues, and exclusive destination trips. With construction currently underway, invitation-only memberships will be strictly capped at a few hundred ahead of its debut.

PICK OF THE WEEK



Collective Memory Revisited

Sabyasachi's museum-worthy store in Delhi's Mehrauli brings fashion, jewellery, accessories, and art together as one

Stepping into Sabyasachi's new Delhi flagship is less a shopping trip than a fever dream of colour, craft, and Kolkata. Spread across 26,000 sqft in Mehrauli, the space unfolds like a maximalist journey through the designer's cultural imagination—from Chowringhee and Hogg Market to old North Calcutta homes, railway carriages, trams and Kashmiri houseboats.

Around 120 chandeliers, nearly 200 antique carpets, 300 paintings from the Sabyasachi Art Foundation and more than 100 antique textiles, mirrors and historic objects create a richly layered universe where fashion, jewellery, art and craft collide. Signature embroidery spills across walls and ceilings, while stone, wood, metal, glass and textiles spotlight the artisans and specialist makers behind the house's maximalist language. A tram-inspired room, complete with etched star-cut glass and a life-size Bengal Tiger, turns nostalgia into theatre. Elsewhere, the intimate customer lounge channels the Bengali *nach ghar*, with pink marble, laterite, sculpture and layered textiles setting the scene for Darjeeling tea and old-school hospitality.

"I have never believed that a luxury store should simply sell products. It should inspire curiosity, preserve culture, and create memory," says Sabyasachi Mukherjee, Founder and Creative Director. The result is a flagship that feels part museum, part salon, part theatre—and unmistakably Sabyasachi: extravagant, eccentric, and gloriously alive. *—Manish Mishra*





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