

## 84 Santiago

## Hotel Magnolia



For our online review of Hotel Magnolia, visit [qantas.com/magnolia-hotel](https://qantas.com/magnolia-hotel)

[STORY BY] Sarah Reid

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At the push of a buzzer, a wrought-iron door swings open into a harlequin-tiled passageway that draws the eye towards a white-marble staircase curving around a geometric chandelier. It's a seductive introduction to Santiago's first true design hotel.

Inside the former residence of a Chilean society family, Hotel Magnolia ([hotel.qantas.com.au/hotelmagnolia](https://hotel.qantas.com.au/hotelmagnolia)) – named for the fragrant flowering tree the current owners discovered growing out the front – may have had an extensive renovation but it has lost none of the mansion's former grandeur.

Three additional floors were added during its transformation into a 40-room boutique stay, the contemporary cleverly disguised behind a glass façade printed with an inverse image of the original floors below. Classic charms such as stained-glass windows remain in the heritage rooms, while the upper floors have a Scandi-retreat feel, with clean lines and blonde eucalyptus timber panelling.

Beyond the bold bronze reception desk, a cosy library has shelves packed with a rainbow of colour-coded books spanning art, travel and fiction to Pablo Neruda poetry. There's also an intimate lobby bar and the chic all-day Magnolia Restaurant, where bulbous Tom Dixon pendants dangle above charcoal velvet booth seats. Ride the lift to the sun-drenched rooftop terrace to look out over the El Centro district and historic Cerro Santa Lucia park or keep your attention fixed firmly on the house empanadas and a glass of crisp Chilean sauvignon blanc.

Denise Heirman



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