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by [Katherine Graham](#)

Majeka House

Let your soul breathe again in this Stellenbosch guesthouse that's far from the madding crowd.

As we headed out on the N2, passed the airport and took the turn-off to Stellenbosch, I watched as the urban sprawl gave way to pastures and vineyards. And space. More and more of it. The guesthouse Gavin and I were spending the night at was located in Paradyskloof, a little-known suburb above Stellenbosch, which has panoramic views of the majestic mountains and wine farms below.



Named Majeka House, it is tucked away from the public eye. Once inside, though, you realise that there's little reason to leave - there's a spa, a pool, jacuzzi and a fine-dining restaurant called Makaron. The guesthouse has recently undergone a R13-million facelift and the décor is boldly elegant. We were impressed with the cigar room and the M-Bar, which is like a gentleman's lounge with a modern twist.

After a pedicure and a turn on the Sanctuary Spa's Himalayan crystal salt bed, it was time for dinner at Makaron. Chef Anri Diener delighted our palates with the exquisitely prepared food. I sampled the quail ballontine starter, the succulent Tulbagh lamb and ended off the meal with the subtle taste of honey panna cotta.



In the morning we rose early to explore our surroundings. There are three walks the guesthouse recommends in the area, so we chose one of the least strenuous options. If that wasn't enough to work up an appetite, swimming a few laps in the pool was. Reclining in the jacuzzi felt like the height of luxury and a world away from my demanding life as a mother of two small boys.

Breakfast was a leisurely affair, with plenty of fresh fruit, yoghurt and homemade muesli to choose from. A hush fell on us as we ate the last morsels of our eggs benedict and flapjacks, knowing that our weekend away was drawing to an end.

For stressed-out executives or weary cityslickers, this is just the ticket.

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