

# WITT ISTANBUL SUITES

## *Autoban*

**WHERE** ISTANBUL, TURKEY  
**OPENING** JUNE 2008  
**CLIENT** WITT ISTANBUL  
**CAPACITY** 17 SUITES

Although Autoban is firmly rooted in the present, this is a firm that also acknowledges and embraces the past. Its design for the Witt Istanbul Suites was heavily influenced by the surrounding historical urban context. Even while taking a modernist approach, Autoban understood the importance of neighbouring buildings, whose venerable architectural style – featuring long windows and French balconies – has been incorporated into the façade of the Istanbul Suites, where windows not only allude to the past in terms of form, but literally frame views of the historical quarter of Istanbul. To complement the interesting details of yesteryear, Autoban infused the suites with a true touch of 21<sup>st</sup>-century design:

laser-cut panels of wood or steel. The laser-cut floral motif repeatedly appears throughout the hotel's public spaces and 17 individual suites. Autoban's cohesive plan included the interior design as well. The firm selected furniture from its own collection and adapted the pieces especially for these hotel interiors. Helping to bridge the gap between past and present is an abundance of traditional Marmara marble, an iconic material used extensively by the builders of the Ottoman Empire. A perfectly balanced combination of history and contemporaneity is hard to achieve, but visitors to the Istanbul Suites will find that Autoban has managed to accomplish its key goal to perfection.

#### ABOUT AUTOBAN

*The founders of Autoban, Seyhan Özdemir and Sefer Çağlar, have been working with leaders in various fields – notably interior design, architecture and product development – since 2003. Autoban specializes in the design of upscale department stores, movie theatres, cafés, restaurants and hotels. The aim of the design team is to create exclusive spaces that surpass anything done in the past in terms of the unique experiences they offer. Autoban is located in a rapidly up-and-coming area of Istanbul.*

[www.autoban212.com](http://www.autoban212.com)

**01** ISTANBUL SUITES IS LOCATED IN THE CIHANGIR NEIGHBOURHOOD, A STONE'S THROW FROM THE HISTORIC HEART OF ISTANBUL.

**02** THE STAIRCASE FEATURES A PARTITION MADE OUT OF LASER-CUT PANELS OF SHEET METAL.

**03** THE COSY, MODERN-RETRO STYLE OF THE HOTEL IS ALREADY VISIBLE IN THE LOBBY.

**04** A FLORAL MOTIF PURPOSE-DESIGNED FOR THE HOTEL HAS BEEN REPEATED THROUGHOUT THE INTERIOR. IN THIS IMAGE OF THE GROUND FLOOR, IT CAN BE SEEN ON BOTH CHECK-IN DESK AND WALLS.

**PHOTOS** ALI BEKMAN



03



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**05** OPEN-PLAN SUITES ALLOW GUESTS TO ENJOY DESIGN ELEMENTS WITHOUT INTERRUPTION: A CONTINUOUS SIGHTLINE INCLUDES LIVING ROOM, BEDROOM AND KITCHENETTE.

**06** AUTOBAN FITTED THE MARBLE BATHROOMS WITH FLOWING CORIAN SINKS, PEBBLE-SHAPED TAP HANDLES AND A SIX-HEADED RAIN SHOWER.

**07** KITCHENETTES WITH MARBLE COUNTERS ARE WELL EQUIPPED FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF GUESTS, MAKING THEM FEEL COMFORTABLY AT HOME.

