

THE POWER OF TRAVEL

26 WORLD SAVERS WHO MOVE THE EARTH

GREAT
DEALS

IN
IRELAND, ARIZONA,
AUSTRALIA

Condé Nast Traveler

SEPTEMBER 2009

IT'S THE
NEW AGE OF
TRAVEL

Why It Matters, Why It Thrills

THE
GREENEST
QUEEN

*A Royal Initiative
Transforms Jordan*

ITALY

THE BEST FOOD YOU'LL EVER EAT

BAHAMAS

16-PAGE PULLOUT GUIDE

AMERICAN MIRACLE

10 TOP NATIONAL PARKS
AND HOW TO SEE THEM

MUST-READ REPORT

YOUR NEXT
VACATION COULD
SAVE YOUR LIFE

8 Escapes to Heal Your Body
and Ease Your Mind

PLUS

WHAT'S HOT IN LOS ANGELES, SAN FRANCISCO, HOUSTON, DALLAS

*Queen Rania
of Jordan
at the Roman
ruins of Jerash*



New York City

The Standard

Room 1211, The Standard, New York City; 212-645-4646; standardhotels.com. There are 337 rooms; doubles range from \$195 to \$640. Room 1211, a Deluxe Corner King, is \$640.

URBAN SPRAWL MEETS HISTORIC PRESERVATION—TOUGH TO IMAGINE, BUT THE VIEWS DON'T LIE. THAT STRETCH of green at the left corner of your window is the High Line, a 1.5-mile elevated track built in the 1930s to lift dangerous freight trains off Manhattan's streets. Abandoned since 1980, the High Line was recently rehabilitated into a lushly landscaped public park. Dotted with native plants and LED lighting, it's a paradigm of equilibrium between conservation and design. More than 700 contenders vied for the chance to re-create the structure, but few could have envisioned an 18-story hotel literally straddling the park. Needless to say your room's mid-century Jetsons-on-a-cruise-ship decor is no accident. Echoing the High Line, the hotel feels like a throwback, a modernized version of a bygone era. Even those non-reflective windows (which have invited more than their fair share of exhibitionism) hark back to a time when the Meatpacking District was less trendy and more seedy. Talk about a fine balance....

—Beata L. Santora

Photograph by David Drebin. Hair and makeup by Souhi Lee; styled by Hyla Bauer. Dress by Versace; shoes by Hervé Léger by Max Azria (for stores, see "Where to Buy It," page 204).