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THE INN CROWD

A quartet of petite new retreats big on design



Typically, a few nights unwinding in an inn means fresh country air, much-needed sleep on feather pillows, and breakfasts of made-to-order eggs. Rustic and quaint? Certainly. But as a slate of newcomers proves, these sanctuaries can also be stylish.

Golden Pheasant Inn → For sisters Briar Faure Mewbourne, Brittany Faure Booz, and Blake Faure, running an inn is natural instinct. After all, their parents helmed the 156-year-old Golden Pheasant Inn (its roots can be traced to 19th-century farmer hangout, the Tincum tavern) in Erwinna, Pennsylvania for over two decades. Now the sisters are in charge of the property set between the scenic Delaware Canal and River, and it's never looked better.

After a top-to-bottom renovation last year, the inn now features ensuite bathrooms with marble counters and custom mosaics, white deep sill windows, burnished metal and unfinished copper lighting fixtures, ceiling millwork resembling milk-painted wood, and an expanded front porch offering river views. Landscape paintings by local Bucks County artists adorn the walls of the cozy dining room (youngest sister Blake helms the kitchen), where a new oversized fireplace commands attention.

Grounding the inn in its natural setting is the Bucks County fieldstone found throughout the property. "It doesn't exist anywhere else in the world



and is gorgeous on the walls of the main building, the fireplaces, and the landscape walls outside. It sets such a lovely tone for the space and is timelessly beautiful," says Faure Mewbourne. "We tried not to be afraid to mix the beauty of the old with the clean sophistication of the new."