

WHERE TO STAY

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**Traveler**

**THE SMARTEST HOTEL UPDATES  
AND THE FRESHEST REVIEWS**  
SENSATIONAL NEW ARRIVALS IN PARIS

## HOTEL DE JOBO

The splendidly named Bambi Sloan, who did the interiors of this ravishing little place in the Marais, isn't quite sure how to describe herself. She says she's part designer, part storyteller. She might consider calling herself a history teacher as well. Among other things, Jobo is an amusing education in certain aspects of French life, art and culture in the post-revolutionary period. The name comes from Josephine Bonaparte, Napoleon's first wife and, briefly, Empress of France. From this position of eminence, she indulged her racy and refined tastes – leading the craze for leopard skin, for example, and for swans, and, more than anything else, for roses. All of which are not merely in evidence at the hotel but effectively define it. The result is intense but delightful – it's too witty, too thoughtfully executed to be oppressive. The decadent toffs with whom Josephine caroused in the years after the revolution called themselves '*Les Incroyables et Les Merveilleuses*'. Hôtel de Jobo is both incredible and marvellous. It's also tiny. The ceilings are low, the corridors narrow and the size of the bedrooms ranges from a mere 15 square metres to a modest 40. But that's more than enough if you're Napoleon and Josephine in the early throes of fascination, with no need for anything more than a comfortable bed surrounded by roses and leopard skin and swans. SK +33 1 48 04 70 48; [hoteldejobo.paris](http://hoteldejobo.paris). Doubles from about £155