



TOP 10 CHIC HOTELS

Hip retreats we'd be jetting to—if we weren't at work and money was no object

By Miranda Purves | August 03, 2009 4:00 p.m.



CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Elysian

The summer is good for exploring Midwestern and East Coast cities, when they're at their most open and relaxed. My husband and I often look at each other and say "why don't we ever go to Chicago?" The Chicago Art Institute is one of my favorite American museums, my four-year-old would be mad for the elevated trains, the Green Zebra, the highly regarded vegetarian restaurant, is there, so I could fully delve into a menu at an "important" restaurant instead of being huffily served the vegetable plate, and the Millennium Park is open and thriving. Now, in a city of great old-school hotels, there's what sounds like another great new-old-school one, the Elysian. Its name refers to the place where Greek heroes went after they died, and since sometimes these days just getting the dishes washed before going to bed requires the strength of Achilles, I definitely need a stay here. Tasteful 1920s inspired grays, blacks, and whites, large rooms, windows that open (this is always a good sign), giant marble bathrooms, terraces, a pile of silky pillows, queen-sized beds even for the children's room: plushy-plush-plus! Bonus: there's a Marc Jacobs flagship store in the lobby.

Elysianhotels.com

312-646-1300

Photo: Courtesy of the hotel