



A CENTURY-OLD MONTAUK HOTEL GETS A REFRESH

As Gurney's Montauk turns 100 in 2026, the year-round Hamptons hotspot debuts new communal spaces.



Courtesy Gurney's Montauk

The Hamptons isn't usually on travelers' minds when they're planning a January getaway. But, for **Gurney's Montauk**, winter has long been a part of their repertoire. As one of the only luxury year-round resorts in the Hamptons—and the only one situated directly on the beach—the hotel still sees a winter clientele. And, this season, they're greeting guests with a newly remodeled restaurant and lobby, along with redone common spaces, just in time to celebrate their 100th anniversary this year.

The new dining space, Gigi's MTK, honors that heritage. The steak and seafood restaurant pays homage to George Filopoulos, the previous owner of Gurney's who passed away in 2023, and Maude Gurney, the original owner of the then-named Gurney's Inn. The team wanted something that was not an outpost of a New York City restaurant—a trend now common in the Hamptons—but rather destination entirely unique to Gurney's.



Courtesy Gurney's Montauk

The new Gigi's MTK bar.

"Their visions transformed the property into the vibrant hub of luxury and lifestyle it is today," Michael Nenner, current president and COO of Gurney's, exclusively shares with ELLE Decor. "To honor their legacy, the Gigi's culinary team will work with local farmers and fishermen to curate exciting dishes, ensuring a true taste of Montauk."

For the interiors, the team enlisted **HBA San Francisco** to help create a modern yet nautical look. "We drew inspiration from Montauk's cliffs and shoreline, lively social scene, and maritime heritage to create a design that feels both timeless and contemporary, bringing the warmth of nature to the interiors," says Michelle Tran, an associate at the firm.



Courtesy Gurney's Montauk

The new firepit area on the main deck.

The restaurant's look also carries over into the hotel's lobby and entrance, which also includes contemporary touches and natural textures, with ample natural light flooding the space. The idea is that walking into the hotel should usher guests into a unified social and dining space, leading into Gigi's.

"We've completely reimagined our lobby to create a seamless transition from the entrance to the dining experience," says Nenner. "The new lobby is designed to be a vibrant social hub—a sophisticated yet comfortable 'living room' for our guests."



Courtesy Gurney's Montauk

The new lobby was designed to feel like a living room.

But the team hasn't lost a sense of the resort's history. In 1926, Maude Gurney opened a 20-unit hotel named Gurney's Inn. Decades later, the inn was where President Richard Nixon wrote his acceptance speech for the 1968 presidential nomination, out in a cottage on yellow legal pads. And since then, celebrities from Beyoncé to Gwyneth Paltrow have stopped by. The renovation's designers kept the hotel's past in mind during this remodel.

"Gurney's Montauk has seen many seasons and many transformations, but it has always maintained its enduring allure," says Tran. "Our design honors this legacy."

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REFRESH*



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