

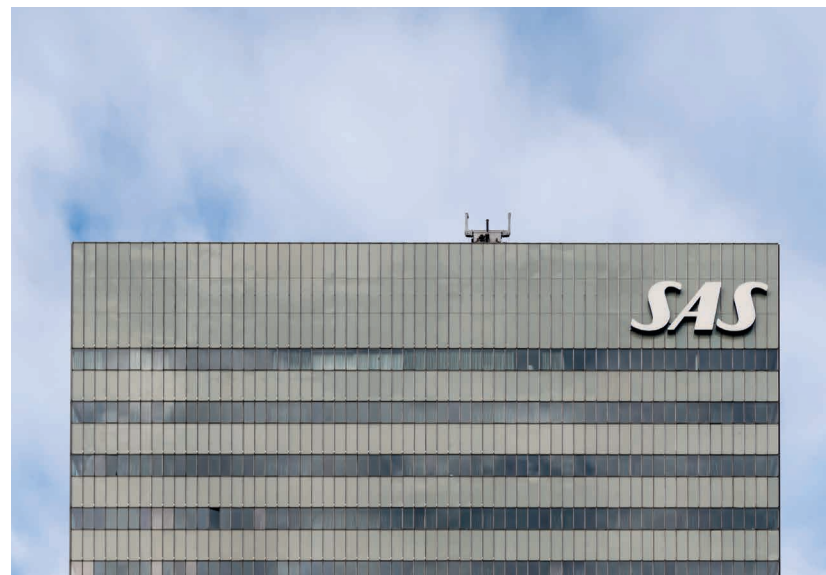


# BEST RESTORATION

We think the revival of a landmark Copenhagen hotel has staying power

PHOTOGRAPHY: ALASTAIR PHILIP WIPER WRITER: LAUREN HO

When it opened in 1960, Copenhagen's SAS Royal Hotel was the talk of the town. It was the city's first skyscraper and boasted top-to-toe design by Danish architect Arne Jacobsen, who had a hand in everything from the façade to the furnishings and cutlery. In recent years, a series of mishandled updates had left the hotel looking bland, with many of its original treasures lost or put in storage. But the 260-room property, now called the Radisson Blu Royal, has recently unveiled the final stages of a complete overhaul that has put it back in fine fettle. Many of Jacobsen's original designs, such as his iconic 'Swan' and 'Egg' chairs and the lobby's spiral staircase, have been reinstated or reconditioned, with local studio Space Copenhagen adding custom lighting and furnishings in an urban charcoal colour palette with flecks of brass. The result is a modern take on what the designers think Jacobsen would have done if commissioned today, while still respecting the architect's legacy and honouring the property's status as the world's first design hotel. ★ [radissonblu.com](http://radissonblu.com)



THIS PAGE, CURVED DETAILS, SUCH AS THE CHANDELIER AND SOFA (A VERSION OF SPACE COPENHAGEN'S 'STAY' SOFA FOR GUBI) ARE A NOD TO ARNE JACOBSEN'S ORIGINAL INTERIORS. A LOBBY CHAIR (NEXT TO THE 'EGG' CHAIR) WAS DESIGNED FOR THE HOTEL BY SPACE COPENHAGEN AND PRODUCED BY &TRADITION

OPPOSITE, BEHIND THE BUILDING'S 1960 FAÇADE, ROOMS FEATURE WOOD PANNELLING, A PIVOTING TV IN THE DESK UNIT, AND JACOBSEN'S 'DROP' CHAIR

