

The Thoughtful Stay

A considered room. A warmer welcome. A clear place to begin.

Welcome to the Atelier Alma perspective.

A memorable stay begins with a room that feels easy to use and thoughtfully put together. The aim is not to fill every corner or replace everything you own. It is to make a few deliberate decisions that connect comfort, character and a sense of place.

European meets Bahamas.

Born in Germany and based in the Bahamas since 2020, I bring a European eye to island interiors: balanced proportions, tactile materials and a welcoming sense of colour. This guide translates that perspective into practical steps for one guest bedroom or living room.

How to use this guide.

Start with a room audit. Choose one palette, check the guest essentials and plan three improvements. Use the worksheets before you shop, then photograph the finished room honestly. A cohesive space starts with clarity, not a larger shopping list.

A note from Janina

Use these ideas as a starting point for your own property. The most inviting interiors reflect the place, the host and the people who will stay there.

Janina Rath · Founder, Atelier Alma

Read the room.

Look at the space as a guest would, before deciding what to change.

Rate each area: 1 needs attention · 3 adequate · 5 feels considered.

Arrival & movement Score: ____ / 5

Can guests enter, put down a bag and move around furniture easily?

Sleep & rest Score: ____ / 5

Is the bed or seating comfortable, with suitable privacy and light control?

Lighting Score: ____ / 5

Is there useful reading light as well as a gentle evening option?

Everyday function Score: ____ / 5

Where do guests charge devices, unpack and place a drink?

Visual cohesion Score: ____ / 5

Do colours, finishes and textures connect across the room?

Care & condition Score: ____ / 5

Are surfaces, textiles and fittings clean, intact and easy to maintain?

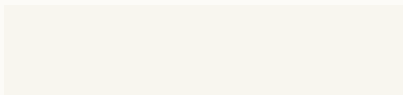
My two lowest scores: the problem, guest impact and first improvement:

Prioritise a low comfort or function score before buying decor. For a low cohesion score, start by editing colour and texture. This is a styling audit, not a technical inspection.

Three island palettes.

Choose one as your foundation. Adapt it to the light and finishes you already have.

Pearl & Palm



Pearl #F8F6EF



Seafoam #C8DCD9



Palm green #52736B

European coastal: tailored lines, soft linen and pale oak with gentle seafoam. Use a light foundation and repeat a small green accent across textiles and accessories.

Island Salon



Ivory #FCFBF7



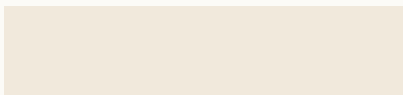
Ocean blue #23516B



Botanical green #526B4E

Modern European forms with Bahamian colour. Keep walls and larger pieces light. Let ocean blue lead in an accent chair or artwork, balanced by small green details.

Sand & Clay



Warm linen #F1E9DC



Muted clay #B66E4C



Teak tone #80624A

Mediterranean warmth meets island texture. Pair warm linen and teak with clay accents. Use woven details sparingly so the space feels composed rather than crowded.

Test physical paint and fabric samples in your actual room, in daylight and evening light. Screens and print cannot reproduce colour exactly.

Comfort before decoration.

A beautiful room should make the everyday moments feel effortless.

The first five minutes

Provide a clear place for luggage, usable hooks or wardrobe space and a visible place to set keys. Remove anything that blocks entry or makes settling in awkward.

A restful evening

Check bedside lighting from the bed itself. Consider privacy, appropriate curtains and a comfortable route to the bathroom. Keep essential instructions brief and easy to find.

Small practical moments

Check where guests can charge a phone, place a glass or sit to put on shoes. A thoughtfully positioned surface is often more valuable than another decorative object.

Materials suited to island life

Consider humidity, sunlight and frequent cleaning when choosing fabrics and finishes. Ask suppliers about indoor or outdoor suitability, care and replacement availability before ordering.

One guest frustration I can remove this week:

Use appropriately qualified local professionals for electrical work, structural issues and safety requirements.

From palette to room.

A visual study in proportion, texture and island colour.

Give each material a role.

Linen softens the bed, oak brings warmth and seafoam adds a restful accent. Repeat these materials to connect the room. Keep useful existing pieces and test physical samples before buying. Tape furniture dimensions on the floor: the image establishes a direction, while your measurements determine what will fit.



Pearl & Palm · Original studio concept and material moodboard.

Illustrative design direction, not a completed client project or technical model.

One material to repeat / one item to keep / one dimension to check:

Buy with a clear brief.

Protect your budget by deciding what each purchase needs to solve.

Work out the full cost.

Set a furniture budget separate from design fees. Include delivery, shipping or import costs where relevant, assembly and installation. Keep a reserve for unexpected costs. Verify these amounts with suppliers before committing.

ITEM / PURPOSE	TOTAL COST
1. _____	\$ _____
2. _____	\$ _____
3. _____	\$ _____
4. _____	\$ _____
5. _____	\$ _____
Delivery / installation: \$ _____ Reserve: \$ _____ Total: \$ _____	

Before ordering, confirm:

Room and access dimensions. Doorway, stair and lift clearance. Product measurements. Stock and delivery timing. Care instructions. Returns policy. Suitable materials for the location. Keep these details alongside your budget.

Prioritise function and condition first, then the changes that connect the room visually. Avoid buying several accents before resolving the main layout.

Photograph the feeling.

Show the real room clearly, with the same care guests will find on arrival.

Prepare the room.

Clean, straighten bedding, remove personal belongings and organise visible cords. Open curtains where appropriate. Use a time of day with balanced natural light and avoid mixing strongly different light colours.

Keep the camera honest.

Clean your phone lens, keep the camera level and avoid excessive wide angle distortion. Photograph from more than one position. Check vertical lines and make sure the room layout is understandable.

Choose five useful views.

One clear room overview. A second angle explaining the layout. The bed or main seating. One practical amenity. One detail that communicates texture and character.

Show what guests will actually receive.

Use current photographs. Do not digitally add amenities, enlarge rooms or hide material limitations. Keep concept visuals separate and clearly labelled. A beautiful presentation should still build realistic expectations.

My lead photograph and the detail that tells our room story:

Give the room a direction.

Choose three improvements you can complete. Begin with comfort and function, then refine the details.

01 / Change · guest benefit · cost · target date

02 / Change · guest benefit · cost · target date

03 / Change · guest benefit · cost · target date

Turn your priorities into a clear plan.

01 / Plan your rental living area · USD 29

The Living Room Edit offers practical worksheets for colour, layout, lighting and shopping. For living rooms; the purchase is optional.

[Explore The Living Room Edit](#)

02 / Get personal clarity · Room Clarity Review · USD 149

Receive a written room review with five prioritised styling actions.

[Explore your room review](#)

03 / Develop your room · From USD 495

Choose Personal Room Design, or Room Vision with a 3D concept view.

[Explore personal room design](#)

[Unsure where to start? Book a free 15 minute call](#)

Fees in USD. Furniture, shipping and applicable taxes are separate.