



## Modern Clubhouses

The elite clubhouse, often depicted as a stuffy male retreat for post-golf whiskey and cigars, has taken a decidedly modern—and inclusive—design turn.

Jim Tinson, CEO of New York- and San Francisco-based Hart Howerton, says today's coveted clubs are "playful and casual, increasingly blurring the lines of formality with contemporary lifestyle experiences and programming crafted for the specific culture of the place and its membership." As with hotels and resorts, Tinson and his team invigorate club settings by merging the outdoors and indoors and making way for distinct wellness and recreational features, including a working farm in Armenia, New York and aerial yoga rooms at the Island House in Nassau, the Bahamas. Great Harbor Yacht Club in Massachusetts, fashioned after the Nantucket Steamship Authority building, has a nautical air, while the Canyons at Bighorn Golf Club's rustic aesthetic reflects the Palm Desert, California landscape. At the Yellowstone Club in Big Sky, Montana, Hart Howerton designed the forthcoming, pedestrian-propelled Core Village, a 475,000-square-foot expansion at the base of a private mountain with residences, restaurants, bars, shops, and a spa and fitness center.

Salt Lake City-based Denton House Design Studio also left an imprint on the Yellowstone Club with a golf clubhouse. Founder and principal Rebecca Buchan says it's meant "as a comfortable haven for frozen skiers or worn-out hikers. When you enter during the day, you're faced with floor-to-ceiling glass and a view of the golf course and surrounding mountain ranges; in the evening, an impressive light installation of 75 glass globes all shine independently, creating a star-like atmosphere." Walls are fashioned from local stone, handrails are enshrined in hand-stitched leather, and a 2,000-pound steel structure mimics wood grain. Denton House is crafting two soon-to-open clubhouses as well: one at Baker's Bay Golf & Ocean Club in the Bahamas, which draws on the Sea of Abaco and Atlantic Ocean with a turquoise and cerulean palette, and the midcentury-influenced Chileno Bay Golf & Beach Club in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico nestled into the cliffs.



The exterior of the Canyons at Bighorn Golf Club



A rendering of the bar area at Overlake Golf & Country Club

For the third incarnation of Overlake Golf & Country Club, which traces its roots to 1927, San Francisco-based BraytonHughes Design Studios looked to the Medina, Washington lair's architectural past. According to vice president Kiko Singh, "clubhouses continue to be social hubs" to members whose median age is dropping. This translates to a desire for unconventional amenities, flexible layouts, and bars and restaurants flaunting high design. "The first clubhouse was a barn, which lends itself to the wood-clad walls. The second was a midcentury modern building that inspired the furniture throughout," Singh explains. Despite its remote location, the club's restaurant generates buzz for its views, maximized by light-filled spaces that open to exterior decks.

Abroad, guests of Ukraine's Queen Country Club, 20 minutes outside of Kiev, are just as eager for their own respite. The all-day oasis from locally based YOD Design Lab ensures guests "can spend the whole day here and escape from the bustle of the metropolis," says YOD's designer and co-owner Dmitry Bonesko. Hidden in a green area on a country road, its centerpiece is an 85-foot-long pool shimmering in black tiles. In between dips, patrons lounge in terrace pergolas and dine against a backdrop that mingles plank wood and thatch roofing with stone and brass. "We put the restaurant, bar, and swimming pool in one line," explains Bonesko. "We wanted to save the integrity of a single space, and create a variety of secluded areas." After all, this is a clubhouse.



The bar area at the Yellowstone Club's golf clubhouse

