

FRENCH FANCIES

Irrespective of its sublime sweets, Ladurée is as much salivated over for its picture-perfect, pastel-hued packaging. So what's this, we hear you ask? One of two limited-edition boxes designed in collaboration with Brazilian artist Iracema Trevisan, sprawled with flora and fauna native to her home country. Darker and a little more mysterious, yes, but still as pretty as a, er, chocolate box.

12 macarons gift box (shown), £24; and 18 macarons gift box, £34.70 (laduree.co.uk)



Living etc
LOVES

THE SIMPLE LIFE

Maximalist interiors have had more than their fair share of the spotlight, so let's spare a thought for the more minimally inclined among us.

Purveyor of all things understated, Also Home is the place to find inspiration for a less-is-more approach. Team its Krem ceramics with its washed linen for a setting worthy of a Vermeer still life.

Krem candleholders, from £23; Krem plates, from £14; garment washed linen tablecloth in Citrine, £65, and garment washed linen napkin in Citrine, £26 for four (alsohome.com)



PLUSH HOUR

As the New Year approaches and nostalgia sets in, 2018 could be best described as the year of the collaboration (if not globally, then in the design world at least). Style Library (home to Zoffany, Sanderson, Morris & Co, et al) has been feeling chummy, releasing collections with H&M and Radley in recent months. Alternative Flooring is the latest brand to join the roster, launching the Boutique carpet collection inspired by five signature designs from Zoffany's fabric range. Should you be torn between a carpet and a stone floor, Serpentine in Malachite translates the wavy quality of marble onto a hand-tufted 100 per cent nylon pile. **£57.95sq m (alternativeflooring.com)**

[Initial thoughts]

Get personal this Yuletide with any one of Rae Feather's monogrammed accessories. Friends and family will love seeing their initials stamped across cloth and clobber. Our money's on the City Tote – sized just so for a country escape. **£295 (raefeather.com)**

