

# Westin La Quinta Golf Resort

By Rachel Long

Photography by Jaime Ardiles-Arce

**Tile floors.** Built-in seating. Handcrafted beds. Local art. These are the elements of home. Specifically, they are the hallmarks of the Andalusian-style home. So it was appropriate, says designer Michael G. Stelea, to incorporate them into the new Westin La Quinta Golf Resort in Marbella, Malaga, Spain.

"It is all designed in Andalusian style," says Stelea, whose firm, HDC EUR Hotel Design Consultants (Los Angeles and Rome) worked closely on the project with Paul McMillan, vice



president technical services, Europe, for Westin brand, a division of Starwood Hotels & Resorts. From the large, hand-glazed, ceramic medallions over the beds to the graceful forms of curved archways, interior elements help define a sense of place.

Although Marbella is famous for its beaches, this resort is situated in the mountains, offering stunning views and a microclimate perfect for year-round golf. "They call this the valley of the golf courses," says Stelea. Banking on a clientele more interested in golfing than in beachgoing, a developer of the adjacent La Quinta

