

Spa Design Trends

Spa designers and consultants comment on up-and-coming trends for 2016 and beyond.

By Rachel Kossman



“There’s a shift from ‘luxury pampering’ to wellness and health-focused treatments. One trend within that shift is halotherapy. Salt exposure is healthful and creating a **SALT ROOM** could draw a whole new segment of clients to your spa.”

—**Deborah Evans Parker**,
director of business development,
Lake Austin Wellness Partners

“Allocating space to offer group fitness or cooking classes will help a spa differentiate itself from a day or resort spa across town. I recently worked with a wellness center that incorporated a learning kitchen into its designs.”

—**Raad Ghantous**,
principal and senior designer,
Raad Ghantous & Associates



“I believe the holistic, raw and overall ‘**rustic luxury**’ trend is here to stay. Slick spas are feeling a little tired; I’m seeing environments that are reclaimed and organic, but with a plush feel and a bit of a sparkle—that final touch makes the spa feel like a hidden gem.”

—**Laurie Steichen**,
owner,
Steichen Interior Design

“I’m seeing a turn from silver and brushed chrome to **WARMER METALS: GOLD, COPPER AND ROSE GOLD**. Especially in spas, creating that warmth is crucial.”

—**Leslie McGwire**, ASID associate member and president of Leslie McGwire & Associates

“Ultimately, whether they’re boutique spaces or wellness centers, spas are becoming more luxurious. Spaces will be created so guests can linger—we’ll see more open-air areas where visitors can become one with nature.”

—**Paula Watts**,
vice president of new development,
Steiner Spa Consulting and Management Services



“A blossoming trend in the spa industry is partnering and collaborations. This includes the merging of yoga and spa, food and spa, community spaces and spa.... there are lots of creative possibilities. This will be matched with eco-chic-themed designs and details.”

—**Cary Collier**,
founder and principal,
Blu Spas Inc.