



### Villa Soro

Those who value privacy over red carpets should eschew the celebrity haunt Maria Cristina when in San Sebastián and stay at Villa Soro, a renovated 1898 mansion. Its location is not as convenient and there is no restaurant, but Arzak (see p037) is just 500m away, bike hire is free, the setting is delightful and the service is unparalleled. Opt for one of the 15 elegant rooms in the main villa; they're individually decorated,

dappled in light and display local art and sculpture, including work by Jorge Oteiza. Yet it is the period-piece public spaces that impress the most – the sitting rooms furnished with antiques, the statement staircase (above), an oak-panelled bar and the gardens laid out by the 19th-century French landscape designer Pierre Ducasse. *Avenida de Ategorrieta 61, T 94 329 7970, [www.villasoro.com](http://www.villasoro.com)*