HOUSE OF

samina

DUBAI

هاوس اوف سامينا

The Table

Dining and coffee tables in hand-cut stone

VOLUME II · PIETRA DURA · DUBAI



VOLUME II

A table is the first thing a guest touches

In a Gulf home the table is where the house receives: coffee in the majlis, a family dinner, a long table for Eid. House of Samina makes these tables in stone, cut and set by hand in the pietra dura tradition, one at a time.

Every top in this book is shown twice: as photographed when it was made, and set on a table in a room, so you can see it at the scale it will live at in your home. Each top is shown on its own base, drawn to suit its stones; bases and rooms are visualisations, and any base can be made for any top.

The tables in chapters I to VIII have been made in our workshops; chapter IX shows new designs, made to order. Each can be made to your size, in your stones, or redrawn entirely for your room.



KEY BOUQUET · DINING TABLE, Ø 140 CM

Measured in hours, not minutes

Each table page gives the approximate number of stone pieces and hours at the bench. Every table passes through four masters, one for each stage. A coffee table of a few hundred pieces takes some weeks; a grand dining table of fifteen hundred pieces, several months.



01

The drawing

The design is scribed into the stone at full size and every piece is numbered.



02

The cutting

Each piece is shaped by hand against the wheel, a fraction of a millimetre at a time.



03

The setting

The ground is cut away to receive each stone, and the pieces are set as tight as a hair.



04

The polish

The whole top is ground flat and polished until stone and ground become one surface.



THE CRAFT

Cut stone, not paint

Pietra dura is not painting, printing or resin. Every flower, leaf and bird on these pages is a separate piece of semi-precious stone, cut to a drawn line, bedded in lime putty and ground back flush, so the surface reads as one plane of marble.

The craft is the craft of the Taj Mahal, and it has never left the hands that keep it. Our fastest inlay masters set about forty pieces a day; a dining top of eleven hundred pieces is many weeks of work by two masters, and it is made that way.

Every table in this book was cut in our own workshops. The photographs are of the work itself, on the bench and on the floor.

CHAPTER I

Geometry

Stars, lattices and arabesques: the pattern language of the Gulf, cut in shell, pearl, malachite and marble. The most requested tables for the majlis.



DINING TABLE ON A CREMA MARBLE MUGHAL ARCH PEDESTAL · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

I · GEOMETRY

Abalone Key

Paua shell on Crema marble

A Greek key border holds a field of turning scrolls, every curve cut from shimmering paua shell, around a sixteen-point star. In daylight the shell moves from emerald to violet.



THE TOP, AS MADE

STONES	Paua abalone shell, mother-of-pearl
GROUND	Crema beige marble
THE WORK	c. 1,200 pieces · c. 700 hours
SIZES	Ø 60 to 150 cm, or to your room
REFERENCE	HS-TB-01





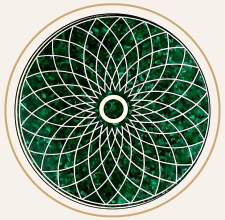
Jaali Star HS-TB-02

Mother-of-pearl, abalone, white marble

C. 900 PIECES · C. 520 HOURS

COFFEE TABLE ON A BRASS HOOP CAGE · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED





Emerald Lattice HS-TB-03

Malachite, white marble lattice

C. 500 PIECES · C. 420 HOURS

COFFEE TABLE ON A GREEN MARBLE BOWL · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

Continuous line-work is the most fragile thing we make.



DINING TABLE ON A CROSSED INDIAN GREEN MARBLE SLABS · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

I · GEOMETRY

Green & Pearl

A lace of white marble on green

Three bands of vine and blossom, cut in white marble and set into deep green marble, framed by a rim of golden mother-of-pearl. A ruby-red centre stone is the only colour.



THE TOP, AS MADE

STONES	White marble, golden mother-of-pearl
GROUND	Indian green marble
THE WORK	c. 1,400 pieces · c. 650 hours
SIZES	Ø 60 to 150 cm, or to your room
REFERENCE	HS-TB-04





Moonlit Lace HS-TB-05

White marble, lapis lazuli rim, mixed stones

C. 1,200 PIECES · C. 600 HOURS

DINING TABLE ON A TURNED EBONY LEGS, BRASS RING · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED





Arabesque Night HS-TB-06

Mother-of-pearl, carnelian, malachite, lapis lazuli

C. 1,100 PIECES · C. 580 HOURS

COFFEE TABLE ON A REEDED BRASS DRUM · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED



DINING TABLE ON A STEPPED BLACK MARBLE PLINTH · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

I · GEOMETRY

Roman Star

Opus sectile in five marbles

Hundreds of small diamonds of coloured marble turn in rings around a radiating sun and a six-point star, inside a border of black and white triangles. Pattern without a single flower.



THE TOP, AS MADE

STONES	Rosso, giallo, black and white marbles, breccia
GROUND	Black marble border
SIZES	Ø 120 to 150 cm
REFERENCE	HS-TB-56

CHAPTER II

Gardens on White

Flowers on clean white marble, the floral language of the Taj Mahal and of the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque. Light, open and calm.





DINING TABLE ON A WHITE MARBLE BALUSTER, BRASS RINGS · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

II · GARDENS ON WHITE

Mughal Sun

A sunburst in the Mughal manner

Rings of small flowers radiate from a jewelled sun, in the floral language of the Taj Mahal: red and green stone on clean white marble, with the ground left open to breathe.



THE TOP, AS MADE

STONES	Carnelian, red jasper, malachite, yellow jasper
GROUND	White marble
THE WORK	c. 1,000 pieces · c. 520 hours
SIZES	Ø 60 to 150 cm, or to your room
REFERENCE	HS-TB-07





Garland HS-TB-08

Lapis, malachite, carnelian, jasper, mother-of-pearl

C. 900 PIECES · C. 480 HOURS

COFFEE TABLE ON A WHITE MARBLE SPOOL · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED





Ribbon Garden HS-TB-09

Lapis lazuli ribbons, jasper, carnelian, malachite

C. 1,000 PIECES · C. 540 HOURS

DINING TABLE ON A WHITE MARBLE TULIP PEDESTAL · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED





Rose & Bird HS-TB-40

Carnelian, malachite, turquoise, yellow jasper

C. 550 PIECES · C. 400 HOURS

COFFEE TABLE ON A STACKED WHITE MARBLE RINGS · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED





Blue Rose HS-TB-41

Lapis lazuli, turquoise, mother-of-pearl

C. 350 PIECES · C. 280 HOURS

DINING TABLE ON A WHITE MARBLE SQUARE COLUMN · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED



DINING TABLE ON A WHITE MARBLE FLARED PEDESTAL · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

II · GARDENS ON WHITE

Crane Court

Golden cranes on white marble

A ring of dancing cranes in golden jasper circles a flower medallion, inside two bands of Mughal flowers. Light, festive and very much a table for gathering.



THE TOP, AS MADE

STONES	Yellow jasper, carnelian, lapis lazuli, malachite
GROUND	White marble
SIZES	Ø 120 to 150 cm
REFERENCE	HS-TB-58

CHAPTER III

Night Gardens

Flowers laid on polished black marble, from a single spray of lilies to a full bouquet. The black makes every stone glow.





COFFEE TABLE ON A CREMA MARBLE DRUM · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

III · NIGHT GARDENS

Bouquet

One bouquet on black

A single loose bouquet laid on polished black marble: lilies and roses in mother-of-pearl, cornflowers in lapis, sprays of turquoise. The most restrained table in the book, and the easiest to live with.

FROM THE BENCH

The nearest thing in stone to a Dutch flower painting.



THE TOP, AS MADE

STONES	Mother-of-pearl, lapis, carnelian, turquoise, aventurine, honey onyx
GROUND	Black marble
THE WORK	c. 450 pieces · c. 320 hours
SIZES	Ø 60 to 150 cm, or to your room
REFERENCE	HS-TB-10





Key Bouquet HS-TB-11

Lapis and white marble key border, mixed stones

C. 700 PIECES · C. 420 HOURS

DINING TABLE ON A SPLAYED BRASS TRIPOD · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

The hardest border we cut: a single degree of error runs visibly round the whole circle. It is set out from the centre outward, the only way it closes cleanly.





Lily Spray HS-TB-12

Yellow and green jasper, mother-of-pearl, lapis

C. 200 PIECES · C. 160 HOURS

COFFEE TABLE ON A WALNUT TRIPOD · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED





Vine & Grape HS-TB-13

Amethyst, aventurine, mother-of-pearl, jasper

C. 1,000 PIECES · C. 560 HOURS

DINING TABLE ON A FLUTED GREY MARBLE CONE · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

Each grape is three pieces of stone: highlight, body and shadow.





Scattered Blossom HS-TB-14

Mother-of-pearl, carnelian, yellow jasper, malachite

C. 350 PIECES · C. 250 HOURS

COFFEE TABLE ON A TRAVERTINE PEBBLE · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

DINING TABLE ON A ROSSO MARBLE COLUMN WITH BRASS BANDS · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

III · NIGHT GARDENS

Carnelian Garden

Red stone flowers on black

Carnelian and red jasper blossoms open around a ring of small flowers, joined by white vines, inside a fine gold-coloured border.



THE TOP, AS MADE

STONES	Carnelian, red jasper, malachite, turquoise, yellow jasper
GROUND	Black marble
SIZES	Ø 120 to 150 cm
REFERENCE	HS-TB-57



DINING TABLE ON A TIERED BLACK MARBLE COLUMN · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

III · NIGHT GARDENS

Golden Scroll

Gold on night

Golden scrolls of yellow jasper turn around a small jewelled centre, with fine vines of mother-of-pearl running out to the rim. Rich, but with plenty of black left between.

> FROM THE BENCH
>
> *Look at the crossings. That is where inlay is either right or obviously wrong.*



THE TOP, AS MADE

STONES	Yellow jasper, mother-of-pearl, mixed stones
GROUND	Black marble
THE WORK	c. 900 pieces · c. 480 hours
SIZES	Ø 60 to 150 cm, or to your room
REFERENCE	HS-TB-15

CHAPTER IV

Grand Pietra Dura

The fullest work in the house: borders, scrolls, fruit and flowers covering the whole top in semi-precious stone. Tables to be the centre of a room.





IV · GRAND PIETRA DURA

Lapis Border

The grand table

A deep lapis border set with pearl dots frames rings of acanthus scroll, vine leaves and fruit around a white lily. The fullest pietra dura in the collection: a centrepiece for a formal dining room or majlis.

> FROM THE BENCH
>
> *Fifteen hundred pieces, each offered up, trimmed and bedded by hand. Nothing is jigged.*



DINING TABLE ON A REEDED BRASS COLUMN · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

STONES	Lapis lazuli, mother-of-pearl, yellow and red jasper, malachite, carnelian
GROUND	Black marble
THE WORK	c. 1,500 pieces · c. 800 hours
SIZES	Ø 60 to 150 cm, or to your room
REFERENCE	HS-TB-16





Carnelian Heart HS-TB-17

Carnelian, red jasper, lapis lazuli, mother-of-pearl

C. 1,100 PIECES · C. 620 HOURS

DINING TABLE ON A ROSSO MARBLE HOURGLASS · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED





Court of Stones HS-TB-18

Lapis, jasper, malachite, mother-of-pearl, rosso marble

C. 1,300 PIECES · C. 700 HOURS

COFFEE TABLE ON A BLACK MARBLE ARCH PLINTH · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED





Kaleidoscope HS-TB-19

Carnelian, lapis, turquoise, malachite, yellow jasper

C. 1,200 PIECES · C. 650 HOURS

DINING TABLE ON A TRIPLE BLACK MARBLE COLUMN · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED





Lapis Rim HS-TB-20

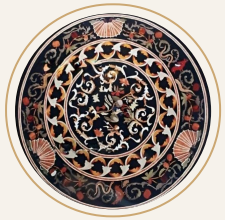
Lapis lazuli rim, jasper, mother-of-pearl

C. 1,200 PIECES · C. 650 HOURS

COFFEE TABLE ON A THREE BRASS SPHERES · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

Sixteen segments, each cut as a mirror pair and set opposite, so any variation in the stone reads as symmetry.





Scallop Court HS-TB-59

Shells and scrolls on black

DINING TABLE ON A BLACK MARBLE CROSS PLINTHS · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED





Lapis Rosette HS-TB-60

A lapis moon in a carnival of stone

COFFEE TABLE ON A BRASS OCTAGONAL LANTERN · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

DINING TABLE ON AN OCTAGONAL BLACK MARBLE PEDESTAL · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

IV · GRAND PIETRA DURA

Quatrefoil Birds

A garden inside a quatrefoil

A quatrefoil of red marble encloses a garden of lapis ribbon and pearls, ringed by scrolls, fruit and four small birds. It can be made with flowers in place of the birds.



THE TOP, AS MADE

STONES	Rosso marble bands, lapis, mother-of-pearl pearls, jasper, onyx
GROUND	Black marble
THE WORK	c. 900 pieces · c. 520 hours
SIZES	Ø 60 to 150 cm, or to your room
REFERENCE	HS-TB-21

CHAPTER V

The Aviary

Birds, a leopard, toucans in a palm garden. Pictorial tables for a living room, a study or a private office.

Any table in this chapter can be made with flowers in place of birds and animals.





COFFEE TABLE ON A BRONZE HOOP LEGS · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

V · THE AVIARY

The Leopard

A leopard in the garden

A snow leopard in white marble, spotted in black, walks through palms and blossom while birds of jasper and onyx watch from the branches. A statement piece for a living room or private office.



THE TOP, AS MADE

STONES	White marble, rosso levanto, jasper, aventurine, onyx, mother-of-pearl
GROUND	Black marble
THE WORK	c. 1,100 pieces · c. 650 hours
SIZES	Ø 60 to 150 cm, or to your room
REFERENCE	HS-TB-22



COFFEE TABLE ON A CLUSTER OF STONE AND BRASS DRUMS · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

V · THE AVIARY

Toucans

Tropical night

Two toucans in banded amethyst, a white cockatoo and a bird of paradise among palm fronds and lilies. The boldest colour in the collection.



THE TOP, AS MADE

STONES	Amethyst, fluorite, white and pink marble, jasper, aventurine
GROUND	Black marble
THE WORK	c. 1,000 pieces · c. 600 hours
SIZES	Ø 60 to 150 cm, or to your room
REFERENCE	HS-TB-23





Tree of Birds HS-TB-24

Lapis, mother-of-pearl, tiger's eye, white marble

C. 700 PIECES · C. 420 HOURS

DINING TABLE ON A WALNUT FRAME WITH A BRASS RING · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED





Parrot Garden HS-TB-25

Green aventurine, carnelian, turquoise, lapis, tiger's eye

C. 650 PIECES · C. 400 HOURS

COFFEE TABLE ON A SCALLOPED CREMA DRUM · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED



COFFEE TABLE ON A BRASS STEM ON WALNUT DISC · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

V · THE AVIARY

Sun & Moon

Onyx sun, marble moon

A sleeping moon in grey marble on one side, a blazing honey-onyx sun on the other, and stars of onyx between. A pictorial table with a sense of humour.



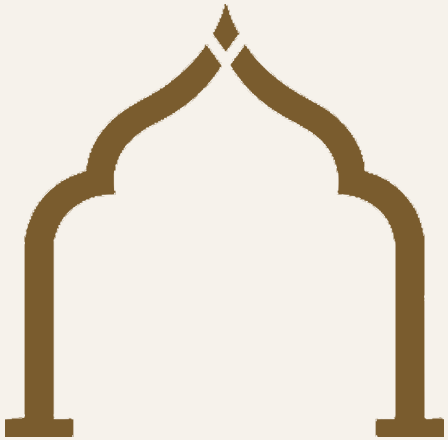
THE TOP, AS MADE

STONES	Honey onyx, grey marble, mother-of-pearl
GROUND	Black marble
SIZES	Ø 90 to 120 cm
REFERENCE	HS-TB-61

CHAPTER VI

Mother-of-Pearl

Shell on black marble: roses, garlands and a vase of flowers in white and golden pearl. The surface changes colour as you walk around it.



DINING TABLE ON A BLACK MARBLE COLUMN ON FOUR FINS · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

VI · MOTHER-OF-PEARL

Pearl Wreath

A garland of pearl roses on black

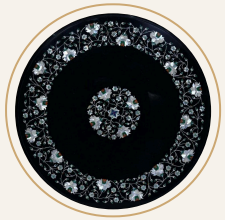
A wreath of mother-of-pearl roses and fine vines runs around the rim, closed at the centre by a single rose in a ring of leaves. The black is left open between.



THE TOP, AS MADE

STONES	Mother-of-pearl, abalone, malachite, carnelian
GROUND	Black marble
SIZES	Ø 120 to 150 cm, or to your room
REFERENCE	HS-TB-52

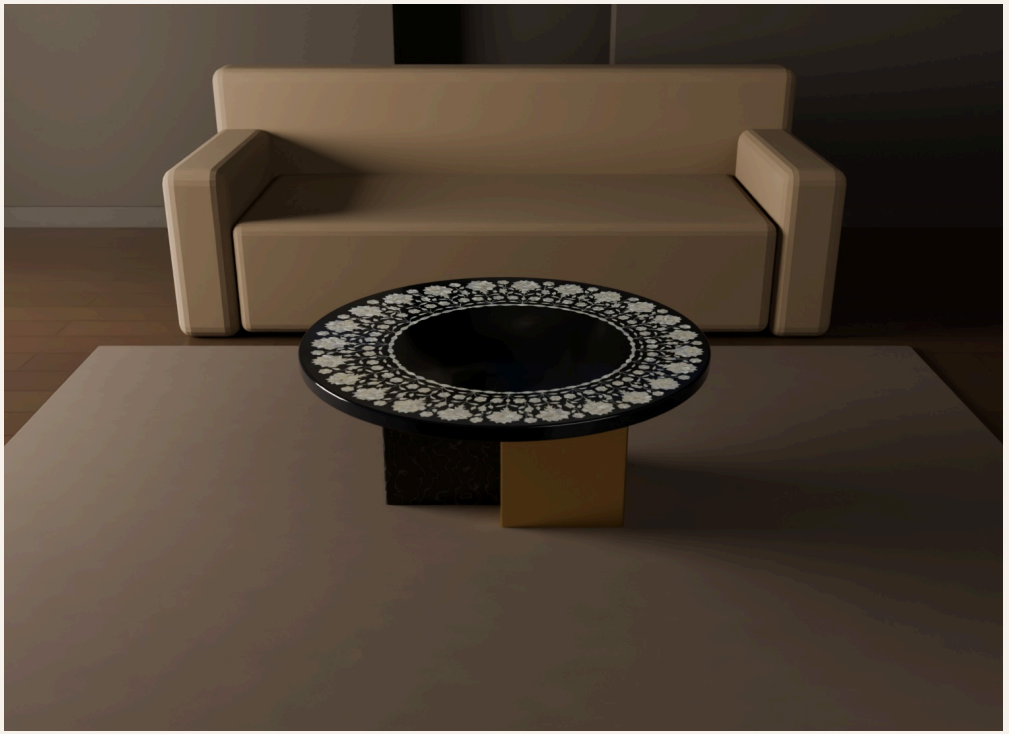




Moonlight Garland HS-TB-53

Pearl flowers in two rings

COFFEE TABLE ON A SIX-LEG EBONY FRAME · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED





Rose Halo HS-TB-54

A crown of pearl roses

COFFEE TABLE ON A BLACK MARBLE AND BRASS BLOCKS · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

SIDE TABLE ON AN EBONY X-FRAME · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

VI · MOTHER-OF-PEARL

Pearl Vase

A vase of flowers in shell

A tall vase of flowers in golden and white mother-of-pearl, with abalone in the vase and the flower hearts. The table for a reading chair or the end of a sofa.



THE TOP, AS MADE

STONES	Golden and white mother-of-pearl, abalone, malachite
GROUND	Black marble
SIZES	Ø 60 to 90 cm; side tables
REFERENCE	HS-TB-55

CHAPTER VII

Solid Stone

No picture at all: the whole surface in one precious material. Lapis lazuli in every shade of blue, malachite with its rings, mother-of-pearl laid like silk.







Lapis Field HS-TB-38

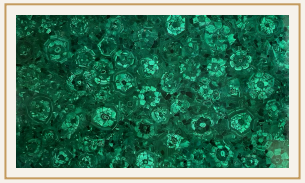
The whole top in lapis lazuli

C. 700 PIECES · C. 450 HOURS · COFFEE 120 × 60 CM TO DINING 240 × 120 CM

COFFEE TABLE ON A PAIR OF WHITE MARBLE SLABS · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

Lapis does not come in table-sized pieces. A field like this is hundreds of fragments, colour-matched by eye.





Malachite Field HS-TB-39

The whole top in malachite

C. 600 PIECES · C. 450 HOURS · COFFEE 120 × 60 CM TO DINING 240 × 120 CM

COFFEE TABLE ON A BRASS X-FRAME · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

Malachite is cut from small nodules. A field like this is a hundred matched slices.



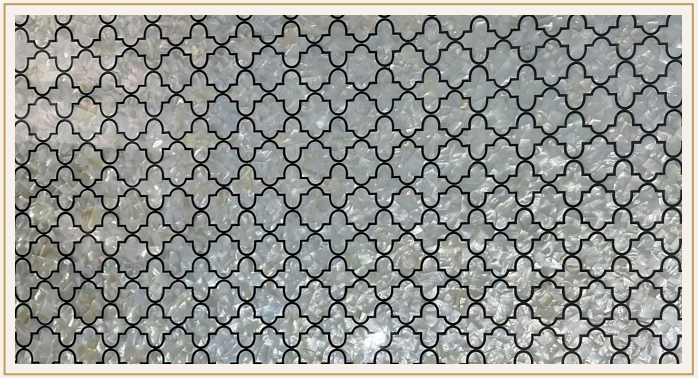
COFFEE TABLE ON A BRASS SLED FRAME · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

VII · SOLID STONE

Pearl Arabesque

Mother-of-pearl, drawn in black

A lantern pattern drawn in fine black lines, every cell filled with white mother-of-pearl. The surface moves from silver to rose as the light changes.



THE TOP, AS MADE

STONES	White mother-of-pearl
GROUND	Black lattice lines
THE WORK	c. 1,800 pieces · c. 700 hours
SIZES	Coffee 120 × 70 cm to dining 240 × 120 cm
REFERENCE	HS-TB-36



PHOTOGRAPHED AS MADE

VII · SOLID STONE

Lapis Sunburst

A coffee table clad in lapis and pearl

An oval drum in alternating bands of lapis lazuli and mother-of-pearl. On the top the bands turn into a sunburst that ripples out from a solid lapis centre; down the sides they fall straight to the floor.

STONES	Lapis lazuli, mother-of-pearl
GROUND	Lapis and pearl on every face
THE WORK	c. 2,000 pieces · c. 750 hours
SIZES	Oval coffee tables 110 × 70 cm to 150 × 90 cm, 40 to 45 cm high
REFERENCE	HS-TB-42

CHAPTER VIII

The Long Table

Dining tables for twelve, for twenty, for a family gathering. Made in joined sections so that the pattern runs unbroken from end to end.



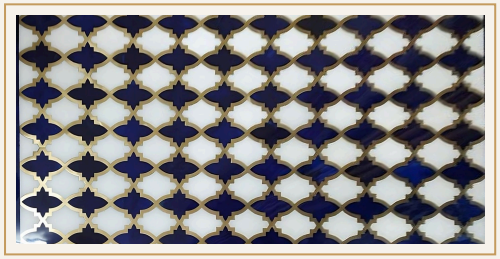


DINING TABLE ON A TWIN WHITE MARBLE ARCH PEDESTALS · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

VIII · THE LONG TABLE

Lapis Lattice

Lapis, brass and white marble



A Moorish lattice of solid brass, each cell filled alternately with lapis lazuli and white marble, inside a solid lapis border. Geometric, quiet and very much at home in a Gulf interior.

STONES	Lapis lazuli, brass
GROUND	White marble, lapis lazuli border
THE WORK	c. 300 pieces · c. 380 hours
SIZES	Coffee tables 120 × 60 cm to dining 240 × 120 cm
REFERENCE	HS-TB-27

DINING TABLE ON A PAIR OF BLACK MARBLE BALUSTERS · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

VIII · THE LONG TABLE

Bird Garden

Birds and flowers on a long black table



Birds of paradise in turquoise and jasper fly through a loose garden of lapis blooms and pearl leaves, the flowers scattered so the black reads as night sky between them.

STONES	Lapis lazuli, turquoise, mother-of-pearl, jasper, carnelian, malachite
GROUND	Black marble
SIZES	Dining 200 × 90 cm to 300 × 120 cm; also as a console
REFERENCE	HS-TB-62





Lyre Court HS-TB-28

Mixed semi-precious stones, rosso marble, mother-of-pearl

C. 1,300 PIECES · C. 700 HOURS · DINING 180 × 120 CM TO 300 × 120 CM

DINING TABLE ON A BRASS TRESTLE · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED





Rinceaux HS-TB-29

Jasper, mother-of-pearl, malachite, lapis

C. 1,200 PIECES · C. 650 HOURS

DINING TABLE ON A TWIN BLACK MARBLE COLUMNS · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

DINING TABLE ON A TWIN WHITE MARBLE PEDESTALS · ACTUAL TOP, VISUALISED

VIII · THE LONG TABLE

Taj Carpet

A Mughal carpet in stone



Laid out like a Mughal carpet: a running border of small flowers, then a field of lilies, poppies and lotus around a lapis medallion, every bloom cut from carnelian, lapis, malachite and turquoise on white marble.

FROM THE BENCH

> *The border is continuous; it does not break at the corners. That is why a top like this takes months, not weeks.*

STONES	Carnelian, lapis lazuli, malachite, turquoise, yellow jasper
GROUND	White marble
THE WORK	c. 2,500 pieces · c. 1,200 hours
SIZES	Dining 200 × 90 cm to 300 × 120 cm
REFERENCE	HS-TB-34



VIII · THE LONG TABLE

Jaali Pearl

On twin carved jaali bases

A lattice of pearl and dark shell inside a border of running scrolls, set on two pedestals carved with jaali screens. The whole table is made as one piece: top and bases in matching stone.

STONES	Mother-of-pearl, dark shell, white marble
GROUND	Mother-of-pearl field
THE WORK	c. 1,500 pieces · c. 720 hours
SIZES	Dining 180 × 90 cm to 240 × 120 cm; bases in matching stone
REFERENCE	HS-TB-33



Pearl Frame HS-TB-31

Mother-of-pearl on black marble

C. 1,200 PIECES · C. 620 HOURS



Birds of Paradise HS-TB-32

Abalone, mother-of-pearl, turquoise, jasper, malachite on black marble

C. 900 PIECES · C. 560 HOURS

CHAPTER IX

Made to Order

New dining tables drawn by the house, shown here as design visualisations. Each is made to order in your size and stones, and photographed in your home when it is finished.

The room settings on these pages are visualisations; the tables are made by hand from the drawings.





IX · MADE TO ORDER

Rose Court

Red and green flowers on white marble

A wide border of roses, peonies and vines in carnelian, malachite and turquoise, with a long central panel of the same flowers on clean white marble. Shown in a formal dining room in walnut and gold.

STONES	White marble; carnelian, malachite, turquoise, mother-of-pearl
SIZES	Dining 200 × 100 cm to 360 × 120 cm
REFERENCE	HS-TD-01



Emerald Garden HS-TD-02

Indian green marble; golden and white mother-of-pearl

DESIGN VISUALISATION · MADE TO ORDER



Malachite Frame HS-TD-03

White marble; malachite, mother-of-pearl

DESIGN VISUALISATION · MADE TO ORDER



Twin Medallions HS-TD-04

White marble; carnelian, lapis lazuli, malachite

DESIGN VISUALISATION · MADE TO ORDER



Garden Carpet HS-TD-05

White marble; carnelian, turquoise, malachite

DESIGN VISUALISATION · MADE TO ORDER



Orchard HS-TD-06

Black marble; jasper, lapis, amethyst, mother-of-pearl, rosso border

DESIGN VISUALISATION · MADE TO ORDER



Midnight Carpet HS-TD-07

Black marble; lapis lazuli, mother-of-pearl, jasper, yellow onyx

DESIGN VISUALISATION · MADE TO ORDER



Lapis Gallery HS-TD-08

Black marble; lapis lazuli ovals, malachite, carnelian, onyx

DESIGN VISUALISATION · MADE TO ORDER



Lyre & Parrot HS-TD-09

Crema marble; lapis, jasper, malachite, yellow onyx

DESIGN VISUALISATION · MADE TO ORDER



Elephant Walk HS-TD-10

Black marble; mother-of-pearl

DESIGN VISUALISATION · MADE TO ORDER



Taj Octagon HS-TD-11

White marble; mother-of-pearl, malachite, red jasper, turquoise

DESIGN VISUALISATION · MADE TO ORDER



BESPOKE

Your own table, drawn for you

Beyond these pages, every table can be drawn from nothing: to the size of your room, in the stones of your choosing, around a motif that belongs to your family.

- A monogram or family crest at the centre
- Arabic calligraphy around the border
- Geometric star and lattice patterns
- Your palette: matched to your marble, fabrics or art
- A set: dining table, coffee table and side tables in one design

YOUR TABLE

Any size, any shape, any base



Ø 60 cm
SIDE TABLE

Ø 90–100 cm
COFFEE TABLE

Ø 120–150 cm
ROUND DINING, 4–8

240 × 120 cm
DINING, 8–10

300 × 120 cm
OVAL DINING, 10–12



MUGHAL ARCH PEDESTAL, CREMA MARBLE



BALUSTER WITH BRASS RINGS



BRASS HOOP CAGE, COFFEE HEIGHT



TWIN ARCH PEDESTALS, LONG TABLE

Thickness

Tops 25 or 30 mm, with a thicker edge profile on request.

Edge

Square, eased, bullnose or ogee, polished to match the top.

Base

Stone, solid brass or bronze, timber or lacquer, designed with the top.

Ground

Black, white marble, green, crema or a stone of your choice.

SPECIFICATION

Technical notes

Tops

30 mm tops are self-supporting on a base; coffee and side tables can be made at 25 mm. Wall and console panels are supplied at 20 mm on aluminium honeycomb, which halves the weight.

The stones

Lapis lazuli, malachite, turquoise, carnelian, jasper, agate, coral, amethyst and mother-of-pearl, bedded in lime putty and ground flush with the marble.

Bases

We make bases in stone, solid brass, bronze or timber, or cut the top to your own base. Send the fixing centres with the order.

Care

Neutral pH cleaner only: no citrus, vinegar or chlorine. Inlay is harder than the marble around it, so abrasives cut the ground first and leave the pattern proud.

Setting out

Every design is redrawn to your dimension before cutting. You approve a full-size drawing and a stone sample board, not a photograph.

Packing

Liquid foam and a timber crate, ISPM 15 compliant. Tops travel flat on a bolted pallet, never on edge.

COMMISSIONING

Made once, for your table

01 **Choose**

A table from these pages, or your own idea, pattern or family emblem.

02 **Draw and sample**

We redraw it to your size, show it in your room, and send stone samples for your approval.

03 **Make**

Cut and set by hand. Most tables take 55 to 60 days from approved drawing.

04 **Deliver and place**

Crated, delivered and set on its base in your home across the UAE.



EVERY TOP TRAVELS IN A CUSTOM WOODEN CRATE, FOAM-LINED

Stone tops are sealed and polished before they leave. A care card comes with every table; marble needs only a soft cloth and a coaster under hot cups and citrus.

HOURS AND PIECE COUNTS ARE INDICATIVE


Abalone Key
HS-TB-01


Jaali Star
HS-TB-02


Emerald Lattice
HS-TB-03


Green & Pearl
HS-TB-04


Moonlit Lace
HS-TB-05


Arabesque Night
HS-TB-06


Mughal Sun
HS-TB-07


Garland
HS-TB-08


Ribbon Garden
HS-TB-09


Rose & Bird
HS-TB-40


Blue Rose
HS-TB-41


Bouquet
HS-TB-10


Key Bouquet
HS-TB-11


Lily Spray
HS-TB-12


Vine & Grape
HS-TB-13


Scattered Blossom
HS-TB-14


Golden Scroll
HS-TB-15


Lapis Border
HS-TB-16


Carnelian Heart
HS-TB-17


Court of Stones
HS-TB-18


Kaleidoscope
HS-TB-19


Lapis Rim
HS-TB-20


Quatrefoil Birds
HS-TB-21


The Leopard
HS-TB-22


Toucans
HS-TB-23


Tree of Birds
HS-TB-24


Parrot Garden
HS-TB-25


Pearl Wreath
HS-TB-52


Moonlight Garland
HS-TB-53


Rose Halo
HS-TB-54


Pearl Vase
HS-TB-55


Roman Star
HS-TB-56


Carnelian Garden
HS-TB-57

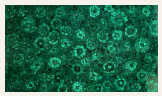

Crane Court
HS-TB-58


Scallop Court
HS-TB-59


Lapis Rosette
HS-TB-60


Sun & Moon
HS-TB-61


Lapis Field
HS-TB-38


Malachite Field
HS-TB-39


Pearl Arabesque
HS-TB-36

Lapis Lattice
HS-TB-27

Lyre Court
HS-TB-28

Rinceaux
HS-TB-29

Taj Carpet
HS-TB-34

Bird Garden
HS-TB-62

Lapis Sunburst
HS-TB-42

Jaali Pearl
HS-TB-33

Pearl Frame
HS-TB-31

Birds of Paradise
HS-TB-32

THE MAKERS

One family, one table

Every table in this book is drawn with you in Dubai, from stone our family selects at the quarry, and is cut and set by hand in our workshops.

HOUSE OF
samina
DUBAI
هاوس اوف سامينا

House of Samina

THE HOUSE IN THE UAE

Where the tables are seen, drawn to your room and commissioned. House of Samina designs each table with you, approves the stones and delivers and places it in your home.

The Stone

FROM THE QUARRY

We select the stone, from white marble to lapis, malachite and shell, and carry each commission from approved drawing to crated delivery.

The Workshop

AT THE BENCH

Where our inlay masters work. The drawing, the cutting, the setting and the polish of every top are done here, by hand.



I

CUT STONE, NOT PAINT

Pietra dura is not painting, printing or resin. Every flower, leaf and bird on these pages is a separate piece of semi-precious stone, cut to a drawn line on a bow saw, bedded in lime putty, and ground back flush so the surface reads as one plane of marble.

The craft came to Makrana with the Taj Mahal and never left. We hold nine inlay craftsmen; the fastest of them sets about forty pieces a day. A dining top of eleven hundred pieces is therefore nine weeks of work by two men, and it is priced that way.

Every piece in this book was cut in our own workshop. The photographs are of the work itself, on the bench and on the floor.

II

THE COLLECTION

Twenty-four pieces. Every design is redrawn to the commission; nothing here is a repeat.



OSBORNE
HS-PD-01



SYON
HS-PD-02



WOBURN
HS-PD-03



LONGLEAT
HS-PD-04



PETWORTH
HS-PD-05



BURGHLEY
HS-PD-06



KNOLE
HS-PD-07



ARUNDEL
HS-PD-08



ALNWICK
HS-PD-09



BELVOIR
HS-PD-10



HAREWOOD
HS-PD-11



STOWE
HS-PD-12



KEDLESTON
HS-PD-13



SLEDMERE
HS-PD-14



HOLKHAM
HS-PD-15



ICKWORTH
HS-PD-16



ATTINGHAM
HS-PD-17



BASILDON
HS-PD-18



CLAYDON
HS-PD-19



CORSHAM
HS-PD-20



DYRHAM
HS-PD-21



ERDDIG
HS-PD-22



FELBRIGG
HS-PD-23



CHARLECOTE
HS-PD-24

PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-01

OSBORNE

the gold acanthus

A black marble round with a gold-toned acanthus scroll turning about a central rosette, the field kept deliberately open so the drawing reads from standing height.

The restraint is the difficulty. Filling a top is easy; leaving it empty and keeping it balanced is not.

TOP SIZE	Ø 1500 mm
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Jasper, agate, mother of pearl
INLAY PIECES	approx. 900
BENCH TIME	approx. 620 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks





SYON

the scrolled ground

Ivory scrollwork on black, cut so the vine passes over and under itself continuously. Every crossing is two separate pieces of stone butted on the line.

Look at the crossings. That is where inlay is either right or obviously wrong.

TOP SIZE	Ø 1400 mm
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Mother of pearl, jasper
INLAY PIECES	approx. 1,100
BENCH TIME	approx. 740 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks

WOBURN

the arabesque

A dense arabesque in coral, lapis and malachite over black, laid to a sixteen-point radial repeat with a plain outer band to close it.

Sixteen segments, each cut as a mirror pair. The pairs are set opposite so any variation in the stone reads as symmetry rather than error.

TOP SIZE	Ø 1500 mm
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Lapis, coral, malachite, jasper
INLAY PIECES	approx. 1,600
BENCH TIME	approx. 980 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks





PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-04

LONGLEAT

the octagon

An octagonal top in Makrana White with a lapis and carnelian flower repeat, bordered in a fine carnelian line. The palest ground we work.

White marble shows every glue line. There are none — the pieces are butted stone to stone and the bed is lime, not epoxy.

TOP SIZE	1200 × 1200 mm octagon
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Lapis, carnelian, malachite
INLAY PIECES	approx. 1,300
BENCH TIME	approx. 820 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks

PETWORTH

the star medallion

An eight-point star in lapis and turquoise, wreathed in a leaf border and closed with a chain of quatrefoils. Mughal geometry cut to Florentine tolerances.

The two traditions meet here. The geometry is Indian; the shading of the flowers is not.

TOP SIZE	Ø 1400 mm
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Lapis, turquoise, jasper, agate
INLAY PIECES	approx. 1,450
BENCH TIME	approx. 900 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks





PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-06

BURGHLEY

the lapis field

A round top with a solid lapis lazuli ground rather than a lapis motif. The stone is laid as a mosaic of matched offcuts so the blue reads continuous.

Lapis does not come in table-sized pieces. A field like this is three hundred fragments colour-matched by eye.

TOP SIZE	Ø 1200 mm
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Lapis lazuli, mother of pearl, gold-toned brass
INLAY PIECES	approx. 1,800
BENCH TIME	approx. 1,050 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks

KNOLE

the pastoral roundel

A pictorial centre — figures, sky and water in shaded stone — ringed by twelve wreathed cartouches, each holding a different animal.

The sky is six shades of one agate, chosen and graded before a single piece was cut. That selection is the work; the setting is the easy half.

TOP SIZE	Ø 1500 mm
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Agate, jasper, mother of pearl, lapis
INLAY PIECES	approx. 2,200
BENCH TIME	approx. 1,400 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks





ARUNDEL

the bird and vine

White marble with a bird-and-vine repeat in soft greens and corals, the drawing loose and botanical rather than geometric.

Drawn freehand on the stone before cutting. No two of these have ever matched, and we do not offer to make them match.

TOP SIZE	Ø 1500 mm
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Malachite, coral, jasper, mother of pearl
INLAY PIECES	approx. 1,700
BENCH TIME	approx. 1,020 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks



THE BENCH

Grinding back

Stone and marble are levelled together, as one surface, after setting.

PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-09

ALNWICK

the lyre

A black ground carrying paired lyres and urns in ochre and lapis, in the neoclassical manner, with a banded outer frame.

A drawing-room piece rather than a dining piece. It wants to be seen whole, from above.

TOP SIZE	Ø 1400 mm
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Jasper, lapis, mother of pearl
INLAY PIECES	approx. 1,250
BENCH TIME	approx. 780 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks





PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-10

BELVOIR

the blue medallion

A deep blue centre framed by concentric bands of flowerwork, closing on a fine chain border. The most colour we put into a single top.

Seven distinct stones. Beyond that a top stops reading as one object and starts reading as a sample board.

TOP SIZE	Ø 1350 mm
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Lapis, turquoise, coral, malachite, jasper
INLAY PIECES	approx. 1,900
BENCH TIME	approx. 1,150 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks

PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-11

HAREWOOD

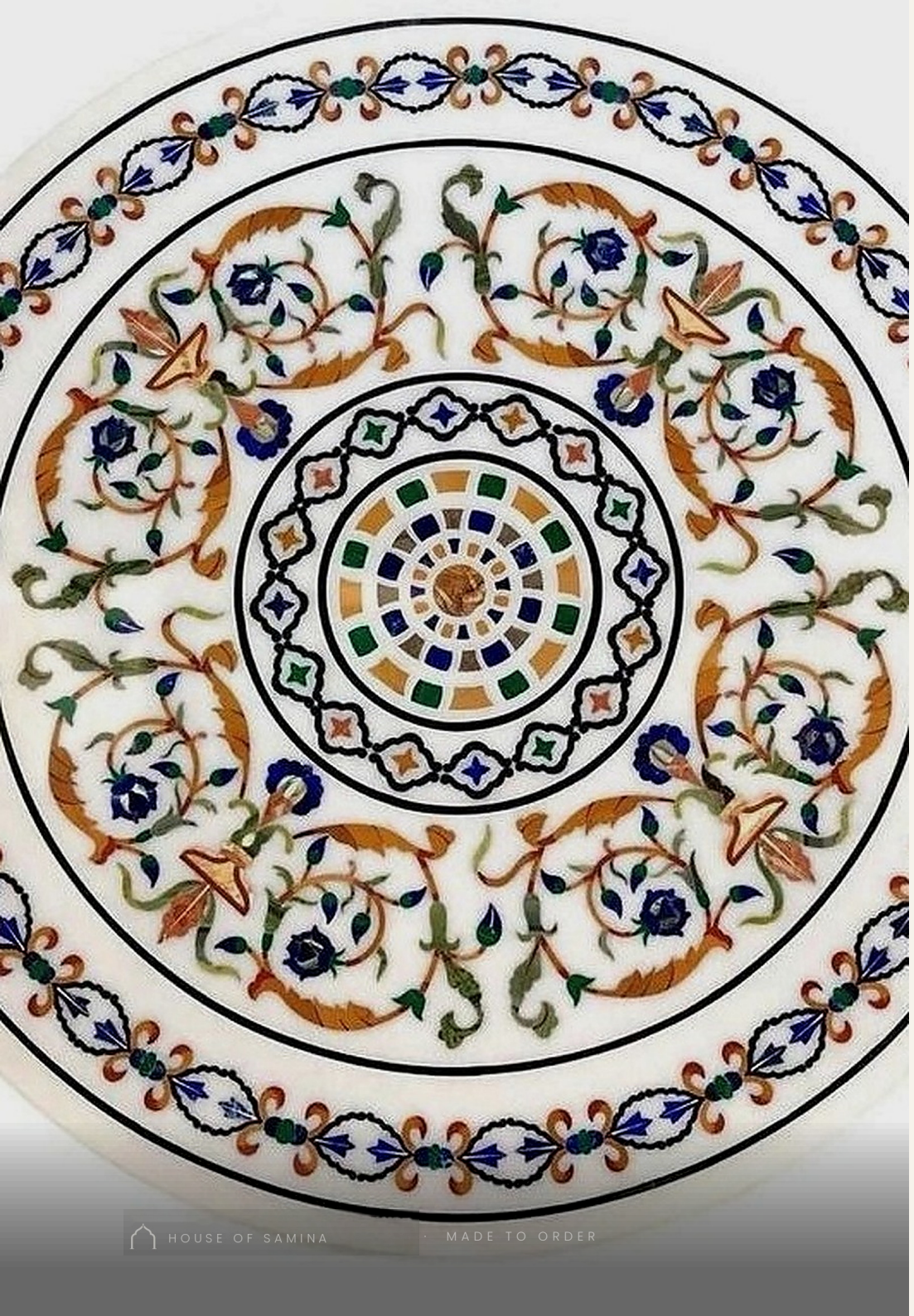
the wreath

A single flower wreath on an open black ground, with a plain polished field inside and outside it. The quietest piece in the book.

Recommended where the room is already busy. It reads as one gesture from across a hall.

TOP SIZE	Ø 1200 mm
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Mother of pearl, jasper, malachite
INLAY PIECES	approx. 600
BENCH TIME	approx. 420 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks





PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-12

STOWE

the grape and leaf

Grapes, vine leaves and blossom on black, shaded so the fruit turns. The shading is done by stone selection alone — nothing is painted or fired.

Each grape is three pieces: highlight, body and shadow. There are ninety grapes.

TOP SIZE	Ø 1400 mm
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Amethyst, malachite, mother of pearl, jasper
INLAY PIECES	approx. 1,500
BENCH TIME	approx. 950 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks

PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-13

KEDLESTON

the tessera field

A black ground worked entirely in small tesserae with cabochon inserts of jasper and lapis, in the Roman manner rather than the Florentine.

Closer to opus sectile than to pietra dura, and priced differently. Ask us which you actually want before you specify.

TOP SIZE	1800 × 900 mm
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Jasper, lapis, agate, marble
INLAY PIECES	approx. 2,400
BENCH TIME	approx. 1,300 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks





PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-14

SLEDMERE

the long table

A rectangular dining top with a running border and a central medallion, sized for ten. The border is continuous — it does not break at the corners.

Continuous borders are the whole reason a top like this takes eleven weeks instead of six.

TOP SIZE	3040 × 1210 mm
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Jasper, malachite, lapis, mother of pearl
INLAY PIECES	approx. 2,800
BENCH TIME	approx. 1,600 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	14–18 weeks

PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-15

HOLKHAM

the greek key

A black centre with a floral spray, ringed by a lapis Greek key on white. The hardest border we cut, because a single degree of error runs visibly round the whole circle.

Set out from the centre outward, not from the border inward. That is the only way it closes cleanly.

TOP SIZE	Ø 1400 mm
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Lapis, jasper, mother of pearl
INLAY PIECES	approx. 1,350
BENCH TIME	approx. 860 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks





PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-16

ICKWORTH

the pillar panel

A tall rectangular panel for a wall or a headboard, with a slender central column of flowerwork and wide plain margins.

Panels hang; they do not carry weight. Backed on aluminium honeycomb at 20 mm they can go on plasterboard.

TOP SIZE	1800 × 700 mm
THICKNESS	20 mm on honeycomb
STONES	Lapis, coral, malachite
INLAY PIECES	approx. 900
BENCH TIME	approx. 560 hours
BASE	Wall-fixed
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks



THE HAND

Setting the line

Each piece is offered up, trimmed and bedded individually. Nothing is jigged.

PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-17

ATTINGHAM

the coffee round

A smaller round in white with a full-field floral repeat, cut for a coffee table where it is read at close range.

Close-range pieces are cut finer. The minimum stone we set here is under two millimetres.

TOP SIZE	Ø 900 mm
THICKNESS	25 mm
STONES	Malachite, coral, lapis, mother of pearl
INLAY PIECES	approx. 1,100
BENCH TIME	approx. 700 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	8–10 weeks





PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-18

BASILDON

the malachite disc

A solid malachite disc, banded and radial-cut so the figure spirals from the centre. No inlay at all — this is stone selection as ornament.

Malachite is sold by the kilo and cut from small nodules. A disc this size is a hundred matched slices.

TOP SIZE	Ø 1100 mm
THICKNESS	25 mm
STONES	Malachite, brass banding
INLAY PIECES	approx. 100 slices
BENCH TIME	approx. 480 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks

CLAYDON

the emerald rosette

A malachite ground with a fine white line-work rosette laid over it, the lines cut as continuous ribbons rather than segments.

Continuous line-work in mother of pearl is the most fragile thing we make. Two per year.

TOP SIZE	Ø 1100 mm
THICKNESS	25 mm
STONES	Malachite, mother of pearl
INLAY PIECES	approx. 800
BENCH TIME	approx. 620 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks





PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-20

CORSHAM

the runner panel

A long narrow floor or table panel with a repeating cartouche, drawn to run either as a table centre or as an entrance-hall inset.

The same drawing works at 2 m and at 6 m. We issue it as a repeat, not as a fixed piece.

TOP SIZE	2400 × 600 mm
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Jasper, lapis, malachite, marble
INLAY PIECES	approx. 1,600
BENCH TIME	approx. 980 hours
BASE	Floor-set or table
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks

PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-21

DYRHAM

the floor medallion

A circular floor medallion in white marble with a black and ochre centre, framed by a ring of foliate scroll. Cut in segments for on-site laying.

Delivered numbered and dry-laid in the works first, so it goes down on site in a day.

TOP SIZE	Ø 2400 mm
THICKNESS	20 mm
STONES	Marble, jasper, agate
INLAY PIECES	approx. 2,000
BENCH TIME	approx. 1,200 hours
BASE	Floor-set
LEAD TIME	12–16 weeks





PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-22

ERDDIG

the rosette floor

A four-lobed rosette medallion with corner fans, in the eighteenth-century English manner but cut with Indian inlay rather than saw-cut marble.

The difference is the detail size. Saw-cut floors stop at about 30 mm; we go to 3 mm.

TOP SIZE	Ø 2000 mm
THICKNESS	20 mm
STONES	Marble, jasper, mother of pearl
INLAY PIECES	approx. 1,700
BENCH TIME	approx. 1,050 hours
BASE	Floor-set
LEAD TIME	12–16 weeks

PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-23

FELBRIGG

the black square

A square top with a tight radial repeat on black, framed in a fine chain border. Reads almost as textile rather than stone.

Square tops are harder than round ones. The repeat has to resolve at the corners as well as at the edge.

TOP SIZE	1200 × 1200 mm
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Jasper, lapis, mother of pearl
INLAY PIECES	approx. 1,900
BENCH TIME	approx. 1,150 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks





PIETRA DURA

HS-PD-24

CHARLECOTE

the shaded bouquet

A single bouquet, shaded and lit from one side, on an open black field. The nearest thing in stone to a Dutch flower painting.

The last piece in the book and the one we would put in front of you first. Nothing about it is repeatable.

TOP SIZE	Ø 1200 mm
THICKNESS	30 mm
STONES	Agate, jasper, mother of pearl, coral
INLAY PIECES	approx. 1,400
BENCH TIME	approx. 1,100 hours
BASE	Client's own or ours
LEAD TIME	10–14 weeks



THE PIECES

Before the top

A single top begins as several thousand cut fragments, sorted by colour.

SPECIFICATION

TECHNICAL NOTES

SUBSTRATE & FIXING

Tops at 30 mm are self-supporting on a base. Wall and floor panels are supplied at 20 mm on aluminium honeycomb, which halves the weight and lets them go onto plasterboard.

BASES

We supply timber, brass or stone bases, or cut the top to your own base drawing. Send the fixing centres with the order.

SETTING OUT

Every design is redrawn to your dimension before cutting. You approve a full-size drawing and a stone sample board, not a photograph.

THE STONES

Lapis lazuli, malachite, turquoise, carnelian, jasper, agate, coral, amethyst and mother of pearl. All bedded in lime putty, never resin, and ground flush with the marble.

CARE

Neutral pH cleaner only. No citrus, no vinegar, no chlorine. Inlay is harder than the marble around it, so abrasives cut the ground first and leave the pattern proud.

PACKING

Liquid foam, timber crate, ISPM 15 compliant. Tops travel flat on a bolted pallet, never on edge.

MADE BY HAND

One family, by hand.

Every House of Samina piece is cut and finished by hand in our family's workshops, in marble from our own quarries in Makrana, the source of the Taj Mahal's marble, and drawn, delivered and set in place for you by our own team in the UAE.

HOUSE OF

samina

DUBAI

هاوس اوف سامينا

To commission a piece, or to see stone samples

info@houseofsamina.ae

INSTAGRAM @houseofsamina.ae

houseofsamina.ae

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

The Table. Every table is made to order; natural stone varies in colour and figure from piece to piece.
Stones are matched to those listed, subject to availability. Hours and piece counts are indicative.