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shining**

Adventures in fields of gold

FIRST LOOK RITZ-CARLTON BANGALORE ★ VANA RETREAT ★ RAAS KANGRA

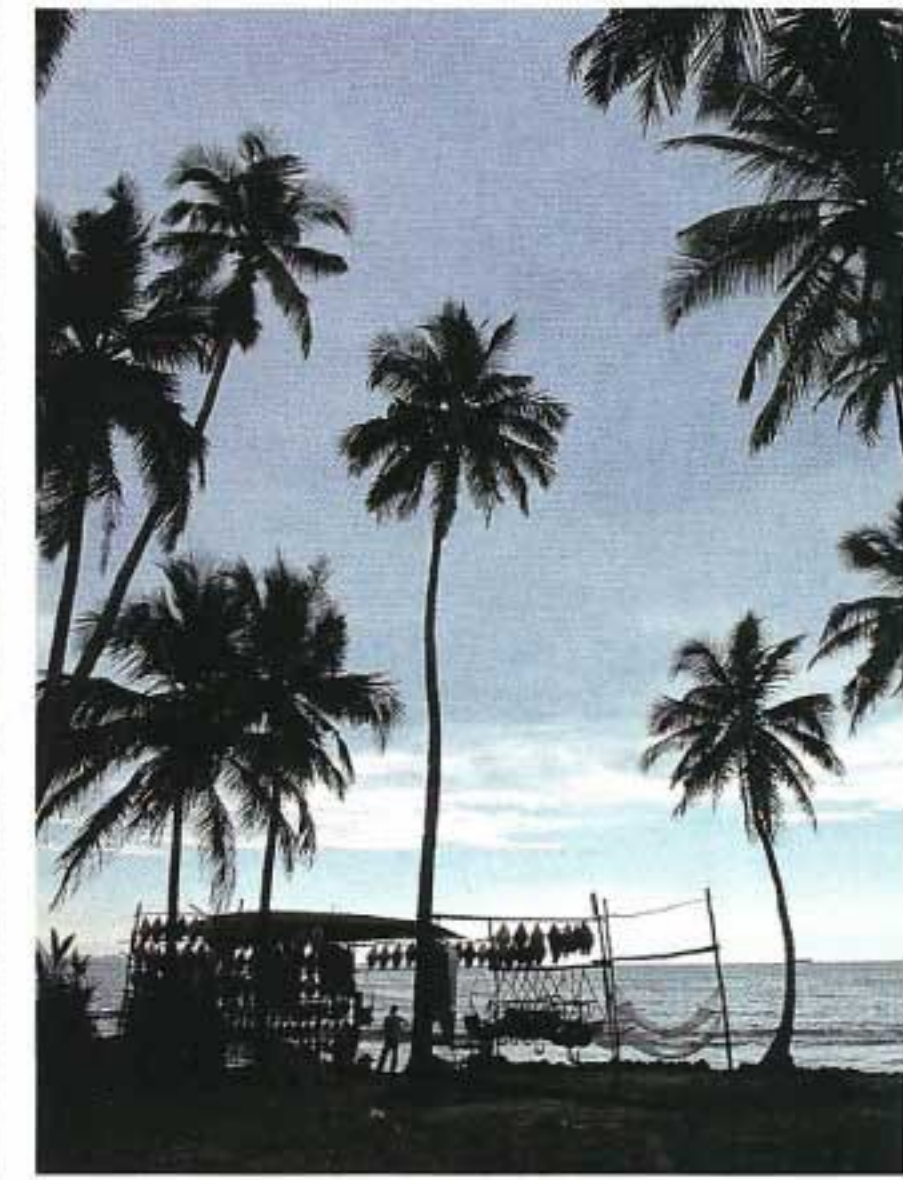
CAZACCOMODORE, Alibaug
What makes it special? Built in 1952 as a retirement home for Navy Commodore Surinder Mongia and his wife Neena, this boutique villa (which was Alibaug's first full-service luxury pool villa) is now run by their son Nitin. Food is a strong focus at the property, most of it sourced locally and cooked with bold flavours. Activities available are sailing and visits to nearby attractions, such as the Kankeshwar temple.

CNT tip Nitin's latest gourmet eatery, Kiki's Cafe and Deli, is only 10 minutes away from the B&B and serves wholesome and delicious meals.
Signature breakfast dish The 'Pine Hog'—which includes a three-egg, double-cheese masala omelette, sausages or bacon, pancakes with honey or maple syrup, fried toast and tea or coffee. (www.cazaccomodore.com)
GOOD VALUE Doubles from ₹12,000

ARTS REVERIE, Ahmedabad
What makes it special? This vibrant haveli in the historic quarter of Ahmedabad now functions as an international centre for artists and craftsmen, promoting the work of the local population. Classified as 'remarkable' by the city's heritage department, the house is a winning combination of traditional structure infused with modern amenities.

CNT tip The establishment offers art, architecture and handicraft tours of the city and its surroundings.
Signature breakfast dish The bajri rotis, served with hand-churned ghee butter, are the most sought-after items on the menu. (www.artsreverie.com)
GOOD VALUE Doubles from ₹5,500

HEPELLA, Goa
What makes it special? Operated by a married and Ayesha Madon, the owners of speciality Italian restaurant J&A's, this charming house is located in the Goan village of Panaji. A stay here is a homely affair, with the family, staff and pets always around the house and home-cooked meals on request. Accommodation for is Heliconia, a first-floor



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an independent cottage in a bamboo grove, and Frangipani, a ground-floor room ideal for single travellers.
CNT tip The owners can organise bird-watching trips for enthusiasts and are happy to assist with other services such as reliable cab drivers, restaurant recommendations and yacht charters.
Signature breakfast dish The banana, strawberry and yoghurt crêpes with honey are a highlight. (www.capeliagoa.com)
GOOD VALUE Doubles from ₹4,000

SUNBEAM, Goa
What makes it special? Designer Jivi Sethi brings his eclectic style to this heritage home in Assagaon, North Goa. Lush foliage envelops the four rooms he rents out for short stays and the house affords great views of a cobbled lawn and a pool. Staying at



Sunbeam is a masterclass in interior design—the house successfully juxtaposes vinyl with the finest brocades, and traditional bronzes with abstract paintings.
CNT tip The terrace-top Mughal Garden, which comes with a bar as well as barbecue facilities, is a great spot for hosting parties.
Signature breakfast dish A range of fresh fruits alongside a tall glass of tender coconut lassi. (www.justjivi.com)
GOOD VALUE Doubles from ₹6,500

THE ONLY OLIVE, Goa
What makes it special? This beautifully restored Portuguese villa gets its name from the olive tree in the garden, rumoured to be 100 years old. Owner Adrian Pinto believes it's Goa's only 'genuine' olive tree. Situated on a pretty hillock in the Goan village of Aldona, The Only Olive offers unique experiences, from fishing in the nearby river to sipping feni with the villagers.
CNT tip The local market, Tinto—with supermarkets, bakeries, local bars, restaurants and even a fish market—is just around the corner.
Signature breakfast dish The Royal Goan, including porridge and local sausage, served with eggs. (www.theonlyolive.com)
GOOD VALUE Doubles from ₹4,000 for a minimum two-night stay

Top left: A veranda at The Only Olive, Goa. Top right: Anjuna beach in Goa at dusk. Left: A guest room at Casa Comodore, Alibaug

Where to stay

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cooking, and guests with anything and everything (travel bookings, city advice). Thoughtfully decorated, the bathrooms have mosaics made with Jodhpuri tiles and the five bedrooms are fitted out with furniture inspired by Indian handicraft and recycling—a lamp made out of a teapot, a sofa draped with a sari.

CNT tip There's an open kitchen so guests can cook for themselves. Alcoholic drinks aren't served, so guests should bring their own to sip on the rooftop or one of the two terraces.
Signature breakfast dish The healthy Western breakfast, including toast, fruit salad, eggs, juice, coffee and chai. Their scrambled eggs are famous. (www.bedandchai.com)

GOOD VALUE Doubles from ₹1,900

G9 SOUTH EXTENSION, New Delhi

What makes it special? Designer Jivi Sethi—he makes furniture and jewellery, and is often the best-dressed man wherever he goes—owns this gem of a place along one of South Delhi's quieter localities. Mixing art deco with contemporary pieces, this one-bedroom apartment also features a terrace garden.

CNT tip Sethi recommends his guests explore the lively Thursday market near his house for good deals on fabric and furniture.

Signature breakfast dish Pickled feta-stuffed paratha served with olive raita and a tomato-basil salad. (www.justjivi.com)

GOOD VALUE Doubles from ₹6,500