

# A room of their own

Our pick of romantic boutique hotels has the best of wellness, nature, luxury and design

BY PRACHI JOSHI

Valentine's Day may be over, but who says there's only one day for romance? These boutique hotels—each with a specific focus—are perfect for a couples getaway. Rediscover the thrill of holidaying with your significant other at these properties that combine romance with charm, excitement and a certain *je ne sais quoi*.

## FOR THE DESIGN AFICIONADO

Andaz Delhi has a cosy bed and breakfast deal that is just perfect for a romantic staycation. All the loft-style rooms come with Hyatt's signature Grand Bed, a complimentary (non-alcoholic) mini bar, and a curated piece of artwork inspired by Delhi. See a different side of the city by booking an Andaz Delhi 401 Experience, which includes tea tasting at one of the oldest tea galleries in the city, a demo of parkour on Delhi rooftops, etc. Indulge in couple therapy at Andaz Spa, or take a personalized aqua yoga session. Begin the evening revelry at Juniper Bar with infused gin cocktails. Next, move to the recently opened Hong Kong Club that features dramatic Chinese interiors and serves modern Cantonese cuisine.

Doubles from Rs11,250.  
[Delhi.andaz.hyatt.com](http://Delhi.andaz.hyatt.com)

## FOR THE HERITAGE LOVER

In the heart of Colaba, Abode pays homage to old Mumbai. The luxury boutique hotel is located in a building that dates back to 1910, with a vintage wood-and-iron façade that has been fully restored. A 19th century chandelier greets you in the lobby while reclaimed Burma teak floor-



(top) Rokeby Manor's rustic cottages are surrounded by pine and deodar forests; and at Primrose Villas, guests stay in the midst of a coffee plantation.

ing, antique colonial furniture and Bombay art deco tiles set the heritage ambience. Lounge about in the high-ceilinged luxury rooms with double-height windows that look out over a bustling Colaba street. The bed linen is sumptuous and the walk-in rain shower comes with luxury bath products, and even free-standing bathtubs in some rooms. Abode is well located with several shopping and dining options right at its doorstep.

Doubles from Rs7,450.  
[Abodeboutiquehotels.com](http://Abodeboutiquehotels.com)

## FOR THE MOUNTAIN SOUL

Fancy waking up to a view of the pine and deodar forests of the Shivalik Hills? Or perhaps a languid walk along the *chukkar* trail, taking in sleepy Landour's few sights? Then Rokeby Manor & Residences is your perfect retreat. It was built in 1840, and, after changing hands several times, is now a boutique hotel that retains the 19th century English manor house décor. The rooms and suites are nature-themed, with charming names like The Rose Suite, Lavender Room, Stars and

Moon Room, etc. All of them have a unique ambience, some in Victorian style, others rather rustic. A few of them even come with a functioning fireplace. The Tea Garden is perfect for an afternoon cuppa overlooking the Doon valley.

Doubles from Rs6,000. [Rokebymanor.com](http://Rokebymanor.com)

## FOR THE NATURE LOVER

Surrounded by the rolling greens of the Mullayanagiri peak and the Western Ghats, Primrose Villas are tucked deep inside a coffee estate near Chikmagalur. The swanky cottages with all-round, full-length glass windows literally bring the outdoors in. Feel close to nature as you wake up to sunlight flooding over the front lawn, the surrounding trees, and the mountains beyond. Each villa is surrounded by a private space, so you can leave the curtains open and even bathe in the all-glass bathrooms. The cottages have a Victorian décor with gorgeous four-poster beds, elegant chaise longues and cosy love seats. Spend your days tramping about the winding trails through Primrose Villas' own coffee estate and then partake of delicious meals in the dining room filled with antique artefacts.

Doubles from Rs10,000.  
[Primrosevillas.com](http://Primrosevillas.com)

## FOR THE WELLNESS DEVOTEE

Even for Goa regulars, Aura Goa may come as a surprise. Opened late last year, this yoga retreat is a plush boutique hotel set in a leafy grove on a quiet stretch near Mandrem beach.

The rooms come with balconies while the cottages have a private seating area surrounded by foliage. The suites have a private plunge pool, garden area and deck. Aura has two *yogashalas*—one overlooks a lush Goan village, while the other is a tiered space perfect for meditation. Aura also has a spa that offers everything from Ayurveda experiences and remedial massages to herbal beauty treatments.

Doubles from Rs11,000. [Auragoa.com](http://Auragoa.com)

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