

VANITY FAIR

HOLLYWOOD 2016

ON TRAVEL

*"Luxury lies not in richness and ornateness
but in the absence of vulgarity"*
—COCO CHANEL



INDIA

the princely pavilions of

RAJASTHAN

By VICTORIA MATHER

ETHIOPIA

Praises sing to its miraculous

ROCK CHURCHES

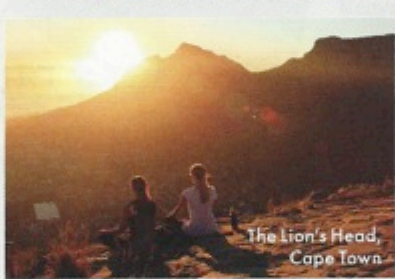
By AIDAN HARTLEY

SECRET SUCCESSES

Cookie-cutter is out. What's in? Small and perfectly formed—preferably packing a unique experience in an individual property. This is beyond boutique. By VICTORIA MATHER

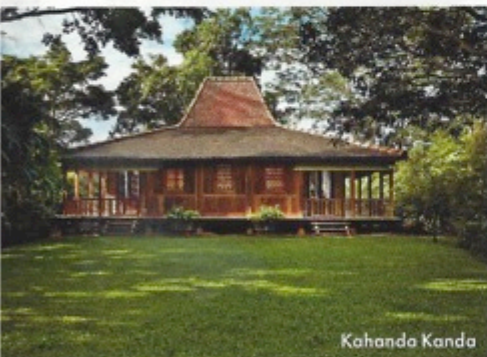
CAPE VIEW CLIFTON, SOUTH AFRICA

Divine. This is absolutely the way one wants to stay now. The 30-year-old owner and designer, Jess Mortimer, has created a vertiginous guest house on Kloof Rd, the city's Belgravia, with glorious views over the Atlantic, the beaches and the Twelve Apostles range. The rooms and suites (for just 20 guests) are dreams of air and light, just as one's own bedroom would be if life, and clutter, didn't keep spoiling the picture. Huge decks; and a central living space with an honesty bar, sofas, books, a sleek open-plan kitchen and a swimming pool. Breakfast is gargantuan; lunch and dinner can be pre-ordered, or transfers arranged to Cape Town's cool restaurants. Take a moonlight hike up the Lion's Head. Cape View would be perfect for friends or family travelling together. Take the whole thing—it's brilliantly priced. capeviewclifton.co.za



KAHANDA KANDA, SRI LANKA

Englishman George Cooper originally built KK as his own home, amid the jungle and tea estates. It's evolved from private villa into baby five-star; but still, eat where you like



Kahanda Kanda

when you like—under the stars in the garden, perhaps? The fruit, veg and herbs are grown on the estate; everything else is local. Lots of health, with a dash of Thai—and chef will give you a cookery class. Just nine perfectly appointed suites, perfect peace (Adrian Zecha, father of Aman, would approve), a gorgeous pool, visits to lovely Galle to assuage culture guilt. George is pure Somerset Maugham—the Englishman abroad. ampersandtravel.com

HACIENDA ZULETA, ECUADOR

Home of the Plaza family, Zuleta, a working farm at 2,800m in the Andes, dates from 1691. At night, the charming staff put hot-water bottles in hand-embroidered linen covers into the beds and light the fires in each of the 14 rooms. It's bird-watching heaven. Hummingbirds hum; condors glide. Food is from the garden, the river and the dairy. In our world of scary minimalism, it's a delight to be with loved family antiques and travel by horse and carriage. theultimatetravelcompany.co.uk



Hacienda Zuleta

HALCYON HOUSE, AUSTRALIA

Byron Bay, New South Wales, is Oz's Hamptons/St Tropez, and sisters Elisha and Siobhan Bickle have transformed a scuzzy surf motel at its Cabarita Beach into the 21-room Halcyon House, echoing



Halcyon House

the chic beach vibe to perfection with Mediterranean stripes, vintage bicycles, an ice-cream cart by the pool (and on arrival—much smarter than a Day-Glo “welcome drink”) and cool art. It is nostalgic-modern, with a nod to JK Place Capri. No two rooms are the same. King of the heap is chef Ben Devlin, who worked at Noma and now brings his paperbark-grilled cod and sharing plates to Paper Daisy, Byron Bay's restaurant to be seen in. nrandmrsmith.com

JEREMY JOWELL/MAJORITY WORLD/DIG VIA GETTY IMAGES (LIONS HEAD/TABLE MOUNTAIN); JERI LITZLER (KAHANDA KANDA); KARA ROSENKIND (HALCYON HOUSE)