

VANITY FAIR

HOLLYWOOD 2017

On Travel

*"I haven't been everywhere,
but it's on my list."
— SUSAN SONTAG*

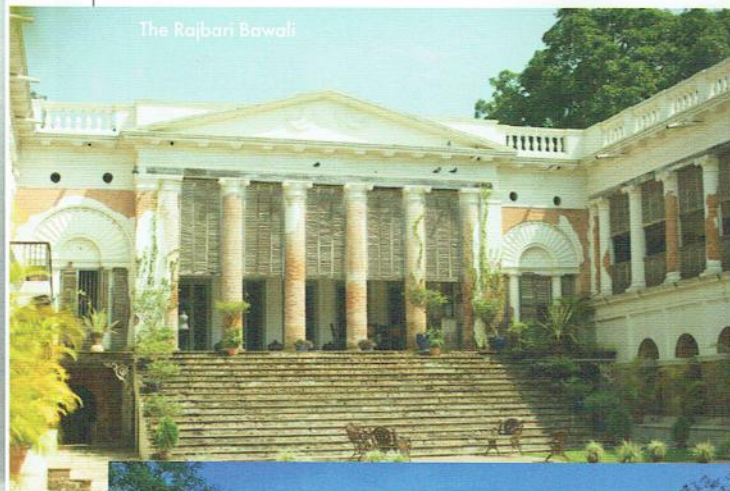
SOUTH AMERICA

(On Travel talks Latin)

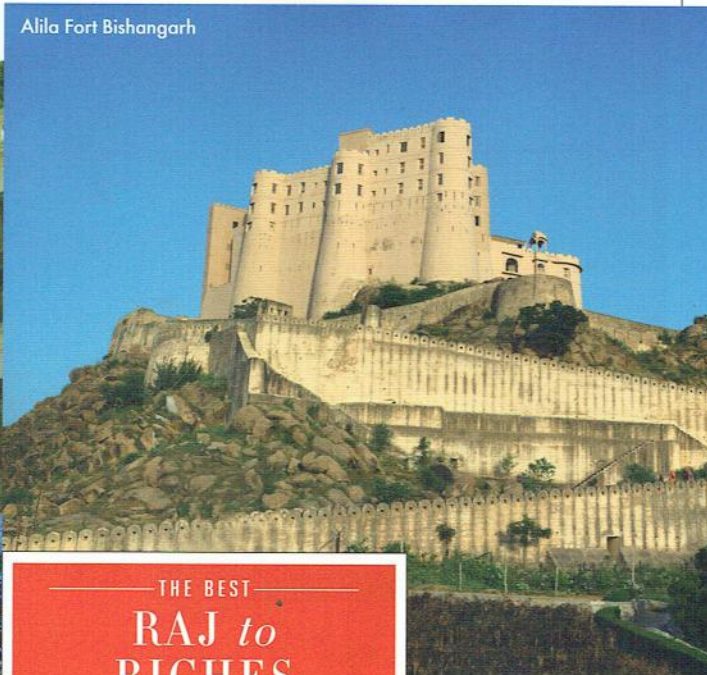
COLOMBIA, BRAZIL, BOLIVIA,
ECUADOR *and* ARGENTINA

By ALICE B-B, ALEX CUADROS, STEVE KING,
PAUL RICHARDSON *and* NICHOLAS SHAKESPEARE

The Rajbari Bawali

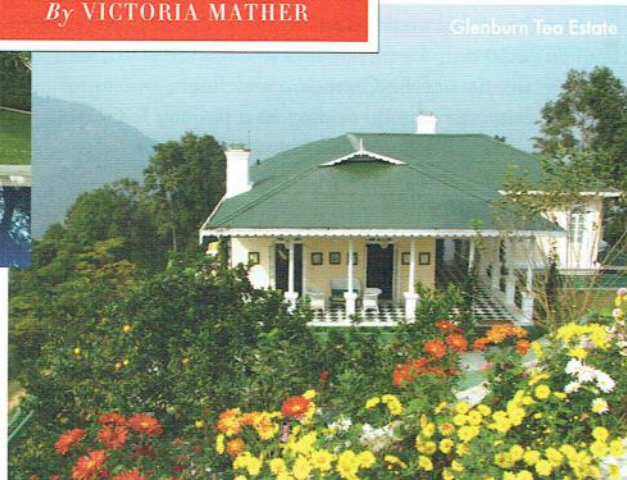


Alila Fort Bishangarh



— THE BEST —
RAJ to RICHES
 By VICTORIA MATHER

Glenburn Tea Estate



Sukhvilas



Hurrah! Yippee! Calcutta (Kolkata) is the city we forget when exploring India.

The first hits are Delhi, Rajasthan and Mumbai, yet Calcutta is magnificent...

And now there is a property in the countryside to rest awhile: the Rajbari Bawali, beautifully restored, a soothing mix of French château meets shabby chic—but nothing shabby about it. Immaculate gardens, lake, huge swimming pool, light-filled royal suites, flickering candles by night, a spa, visits to the Bon temples, a return to charming sitting rooms and a palatial courtyard. India's northeast now has a new circuit: expert Mary-Anne Denison-Pender of Mahout recommends a Shakti Sikkim village walk, followed by a stay at the

darling Glenburn Tea Estate, near Darjeeling, staying in the Glenburn penthouse (and the Oberoi Grand is a Raj *grande dame*), then the Rajbari Bawali. greavesindia.co.uk

And... Wait for it... Oberoi has also opened a new Vilas property—the first in 15 years—in Chandigarh. Biki Oberoi's Vilas properties—the spectacular Rajvilas in Jaipur, Amarvilas in Agra, Udaivilas in Udaipur and Vanyavilas in Ranthambhore—revolutionized luxury travel in India. Chandigarh is a UNESCO World Heritage Site for the Le Corbusier-designed Capitol Complex, and the resort, Sukhvilas, opened in December, with the spa set to open this April. This pioneers a circuit from the Punjab to the Himalayas. Sukhvilas has 60 villas and tents, many with private

pools and gardens, tinkling fountains and waterways. There's an on-site farm, plus food from local growers: so on-trend. greavesindia.co.uk

And... Alila, a forward-thinking hotel group that has done terrific properties in Bali, China and Sri Lanka, has restored Fort Bishangarh, between Delhi and Jaipur. Mughal-British architecture, battlements, spa, 59 suites and a cigar turret. What more do you want? ampersandtravel.com

And... There's nothing like an Englishman Abroad (reference Richard Hanlon,

who owns Bujera Fort, the hottest ticket in Udaipur; and Mark Hill's Jalakara Hotel on Havelock Island in the Andamans). George Cooper, an interior designer, made Kahanda Kanda, in a working tea plantation near Galle, Sri Lanka, the cool go-to place. Now he has opened KK Beach: four suites that are a tad Corbusier-by-the-sea, just 12km from Galle on the Indian Ocean, brand-new and as white-sparkly as the sand. No shoes, seafood barbecues, open-plan, laid-back. It's kick-back delicious. And he now has a boutique in Galle Fort, so take an empty suitcase. ampersandtravel.com