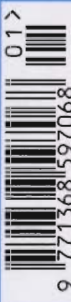


Condé Nast Traveller

A LUXURY HOLIDAY
IN THE CANARIES



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In the garden at The Oberoi Rajvilas, India

BEST HOTELS FOR LOCATION

Asia

★ The Oberoi Rajvilas Rajasthan 97.78

Set in 32 acres of immaculate gardens on the outskirts of Jaipur, this purpose-built palace hotel has a fantastic range of luxury rooms, tents, and villas with Burmese-teak floors and four-poster beds. The Surya Mahal restaurant serves Western and Indian cuisine in a pleasant courtyard setting and there is 24-hour in-room dining and butler service, a Banyan Tree spa and tennis courts.

X-factor With the ancient city of Jaipur twinkling in the distance, the setting could not be more romantic. *Doubles from US\$528. Goner Road, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India (00 91 141 268 0101; www.oberoihotels.com)*

★ Oberoi Wildflower Hall Shimla 96.53

The former home of Lord Kitchener in the foothills of the Himalayas was converted into an elegant, 85-room Oberoi hotel in 2001. There are two

restaurants, one with a large, open-air terrace. An excellent Banyan Tree spa opened recently and there is a heated pool and outdoor Jacuzzi.

X-factor The hotel is in 23 acres of fragrant cedar-and-pine forest and has the most spectacular views of the valley and the Himalayas. *Doubles from US\$429 (00 800 1234 010; www.oberoiwildflowerhall.com)*

★ Amanpulo Philippines 95.99

This is a private-island resort with powder-fine beaches fringed by coral reefs. Accommodation is in 40 *casitas* along the beachfront or on stilts among the lush vegetation. All have huge marble bathrooms and stylish furnishings with local rustic decorative details. The Clubhouse contains The Restaurant, serving Asian and Continental dishes. Private dining is also available. Other facilities include water sports at the Beach Club and a 30-metre pool.

X-factor The location is near-perfect, offering privacy, crystal-clear waters and stunning beaches.

Doubles from US\$854. Pamalican Island, Philippines (00 63 2 759 4040; www.amanresorts.com)

Australasia & South Pacific

★ Lillianfels Blue Mountain Resort & Spa New South Wales 98.51

Recently refurbished, this country-house hotel has 85 rooms and suites, a sitting room with a roaring fire, reading and billiard rooms, plus indoor and outdoor heated pools. The spa offers wilderness-themed treatments; Darley Restaurant is famously good.

X-factor There are lovely views over the Blue Mountains, so named because sunlight hitting the oil of eucalyptus trees creates a blue haze. *Doubles from A\$270 (about £115). Lillianfels Avenue, Echo Point, Katoomba, NSW, Australia (00 61 2 4780 1200; www.lillianfels.com.au)*

★ Hotel Bora Bora

French Polynesia 97.14

In a prime, sunset-facing position with three beaches, this is a classic honeymoon and celebrity haven. Service is commensurate with membership of Amanresorts: discreet, polished, at ease. There are 54 bungalows, some over-water, others in tropical gardens (with private pools) or on the beautiful beach overlooking the lagoon.

X-factor The location on Pointe Raititi is the best on Bora Bora, with excellent beaches; but despite its seclusion, the resort has easy access to the island's other attractions. *Bungalows from US\$777. Pointe Raititi, BP 1, Nunue, Bora Bora, French Polynesia (00 689 604 460; www.amanresorts.com)*