





This century-old South Goa property sitting on a bucolic village cul-de-sac is worth ditching the beach for. Surrounding coconut-tree groves, clucking livestock and clanging church knells will really bring home the rural life. The rooms are named after cities the owners have lived and loved in and take their décor cues from them (Madras is red-walled and Alipore is littered with antiques). At the Lorry Bar (made from the back of a Tata lorry), you're encouraged to drink like a trucker. But make sure to line those intestines with the tender suckling pig first. ELLE loves: The pool set in a lush tropical garden and cleaned with ozone instead of chlorine so it feels like you're frolicking in spring water. ₹4,400 onwards. Vivendagoa.com

RANN RIDERS Kutch, Gujarat

es surround this minimalistic style enclave. Swish rooms d bathrooms are good for but the tree-lined pool is the prettiest spot here. Say ets with home-cooked local ed prawns!) at every meal. inutes to reach Awas beach relax at the Mango Spa. ards. Mangoalibaug.com

The blinding vastness of the Little Rann of Kutch is offset by the intimate, ethnic loveliness of this eco resort set in a eucalyptus plantation. Modelled after a Kutchi village, the cottages are embellished with mud plaster on the outside and exquisite mirror work and hand-dyed upholstery on the inside. Hammocks dot the property and you can cool off by the Nawa Talao lake.

Tip: Get your blood up and running with a horse safari across the desert plains where you'll spot the rare Indian wild ass and countless bird species that visit these parts.

₹ 6,000 onwards: Ranniders.com