READERS' TRAVEL AWARDS 2016 WINNERS INSIDE

Condé Nast WIN A STAY AT THE GRAND DRAGON LADAKH

50 SHADES

DEC-JAN 2016-17 | ₹150



PLUS WHAT'S HOT (AND NOT) IN LONDON





@ LEGEND OF LADAKH

Opt for a snowy Christmas and New Year's Eve with a trip to Ladakh. The Grand Dragon Ladakh Hotel is your best bet to discover the snow-capped landscapes of the highlands like a true insider. Perched on the roof of the world, a getaway with a difference is what you are sure to find here. The hotel not only offers plush accommodation but also daily customised itineraries.

After getting acclimatised, each wintery day in Ladakh will be straight out of a fairy-tale. Visit the Thiksey monastery. Alchi (Ladakh's oldest living monastery), and Pangong Lake.

Once you've taken in the sights, indulge yourself at the hotel. Take in the awe-inspiring views. try your hand at making momos or Ladakhi noodles with a local expert, or just kick back and relax. The Stok-View terrace is perfect for a cup of traditional Ladakhi gur gur chai, local thukpa. momos, or Kashmiri Wazwan. The hotel's 5N/6D package for Rs. 19.000/-per night for double occupancy in a deluxe room promises all this and more. (www.thegranddragonladakh.com)

INTO THE WILD

Go off the grid and enjoy a true jungle experience at The Windflower Jungle Resort & Spa Bandigur, a jungle retreat located close to the Bandipur Forest Reserve. Disconnected from the world of technology, your stay will be devoid of televisions or other communication networks, as you get a chance to become one

While an authentic jungle experience is the order of the day, luxury and comfort is not compromised either. The rooms feature delightful sit outs overlooking the dense green forest, where one can witness wildlife from close quarters. Spend your days on a jungle safan, lounging in the outdoor pool, playing the many indoor and outdoor games, and enjoying a meal at the open-air, earthily designed jungle restaurant. For a true pampering session, book a massage at their Emerge - The Wellness Spa. The award-winning spa expertly fuses Ayurvedic. therapeutic and healing massages. This is just the escape from urban life that you were looking for (www.thewindflower.com)

