

weird and wonderful places to stay



Jamtara Wilderness Lodge

Jamtara, India

WHAT Sleep amid prowling wildlife in rural India. Pitched right by a forest, this luxury glamping lodge gives guests the chance to get up close to nature with its array of shut-eye options. Sink into bed in one of 12 luxury tents, snuggle up on your private patio with a hot water bottle to keep you cosy, or, best of all, snooze in an alfresco suite. Set on a platform high on stilts, these four-poster beds offer guests unbeatable star gazing under a clear night sky and prime animal viewing come the crack of dawn. Spot deer, leopards and, if you're lucky, tigers roaming from nearby Pench National Park. After a night out in nature enjoy breakfast back at camp, a daytime safari and afternoon cocktails in the shade of a huge banyan tree.

WHY Indian safari all night long.

HOW Doubles start at about AU\$340 including meals. Game drives from AU\$78 a person.

jamtarawilderness.com



Villa 4337

Kamala, Thailand

WHAT Live like a Thai king in this cliff-top castle overlooking the Andaman Sea. Clinging to a headland on Phuket's exclusive Millionaire's Mile, this six-bedroom showstopper is tropical opulence at its finest. Flop into the 15-metre infinity pool overhanging the rocky shoreline and enjoy the illusion of swimming in your own private ocean. Meander down the steps to a secluded cove and explore the crystal waters and tropical forest. Finish the day with a sunset soak in the outdoor terrazzo bathtub while your private chef prepares dinner. It's expensive so share the love, and the cost, with 11 of your nearest and dearest.

WHY Live the millionaire's life with mates.

HOW From AU\$2516 per night for up to 12 people.

homeaway.com.au



Sleeping Around

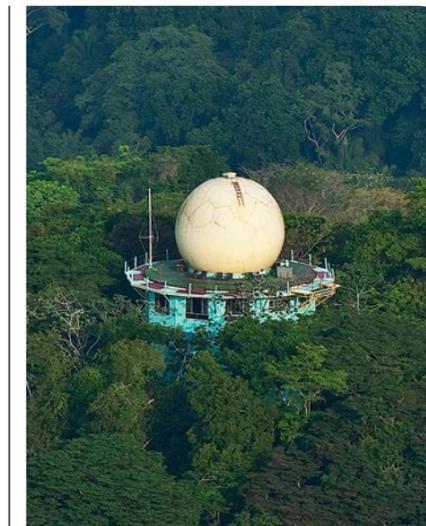
Antwerp, Belgium

WHAT Saved from abandonment on Antwerp's docks, this collection of shipping containers has been revamped and artfully furnished for a new life as a roaming hotel. The four-room pop-up container village boasts everything you'd find in a traditional guesthouse – a comfy bed with luxury linen, air-conditioning, iPod docking station and a bathroom complete with a rain shower – all squeezed into a 20-metre box. There's a separate lounge container for breakfast in the morning and a glass of red before you slip off to bed, and plans for a sauna are hot in the works. So far the hotel has graced the city's riverfront and partnered with a pop-up restaurant called Glow, but its future destinations are at the behest of public votes.

WHY Recycling hits new heights.

HOW From AU\$290 a night, including breakfast.

sleepingaround.eu



Canopy Tower

Soberanía National Park, Panama

WHAT Wake to the calls of the rainforest. Set on a hill in a national park, this eco hotel offers guests an experience that's nestled in nature with the lights of Panama City glimmering in distant view. Built in 1965 by the United States Air Force to house radars, this unusual structure has had numerous identity changes – including a stint as a control tower used to detect aircraft suspected of carrying drugs – before its transformation into the bird-watching haven it is today. Grab a set of binoculars and search the canopy for toucans, fruitcrows and hawks, and keep your eyes peeled for sloths and howler monkeys. During the day kayak the Panama Canal, go fishing, hitch a ride in the Birdmobile to top twitching spots or just chill in an indoor hammock.

WHY Hang out in the rainforest.

HOW Rooms from AU\$145.

canopytower.com