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INDIA

JAMTARA WILDERNESS CAMP, PENCH NATIONAL PARK

Avijit Dutta, the resident naturalist here, has an infectious enthusiasm for every detail of the park's fauna and flora. The big draw is the chance of a tiger or leopard sighting. But while these are by definition random, staying at Jamtara does guarantee a top-drawer Indian safari experience between game drives. Join Dutta on a walking safari through the forests of broadleaf teak, flame of the forest and ghostly, bone-white kulu trees in the park's buffer zone or experience village life as the personal guest of one of the staff. Back at Jamtara there is a pool to laze around, or cookery lessons around a campfire under a massive 200-year-old banyan tree. Learn how to make dishes such as *baingan bharta*, a spicy smoked-aubergine and roast-garlic version of *baba ghanoush*. Meals are served in an open-sided dining room on wonderfully irregular giant mango-wood tables made from a tree felled to build a nearby road. The polished wood floors and antique furniture in the camp's 12 stylish tents are sourced from reclamation yards all over India. **FLASH POINT** For a night you will never forget, sleep in one of Jamtara's Star Beds on an outdoor platform under a canopy of shooting stars with a soundtrack of jungle sounds. www.jamtarawilderness.com. Doubles from £185 full board



AUSTRALIA

ONE&ONLY HAYMAN ISLAND, GREAT BARRIER REEF

This 1950s hotel has long been considered by Australians as the most glamorous along the Barrier Reef. Since it reopened last year after a £40 million refurbishment, it's certainly become a lot more polished. Although the architecture is still very *Dr No* (a long, white, three-storey brutalist building set off against a tropical-island fantasy), its rooms are softly sexy, with muslin-draped beds, egg baths for two and fragrant Malin + Goetz body products. Not that you're inside much, given the number of outdoor distractions, from dinghies and jet-skis to lake-sized pools (one for adults, the other for families), tennis and squash courts, and a spa with a Bastien Gonzalez pedicure room and a James Duigan-staffed gym. Being the northernmost Whitsunday island, it's close to the reef and the bright sand of Whitehaven Beach. If you're more sloth than squirrel, this is a place to lie supine for days, sipping fresh Piña Colodas under palm trees and rolling between sensational breakfast buffets (13 different breads are made daily) and moonlit dinners of lobster curry. **FLASH POINT** It's extravagant, but a helicopter ride over the reef to Whitehaven is worth every penny. +61 749 401 234; hayman.oneandonlyresorts.com. Doubles from about £395

CHILE

VINA VIK, MILLAHUE

Alexand and Carrie Vik already have three wildly innovative hotels, but this is their most audacious yet. It all started a decade ago when they set about producing Latin America's finest red wine from their 4,450-hectare estate in Millahue. The grapes are grown holistically and processed in a radical, low-slung winery designed by Chilean architect Smiljan Radic, finished last summer. Then, in the autumn, this superb 22-suite hotel opened on the crest of a hill with vineyard views in all directions. It has an undulating roof in bronzed titanium and walls of glass that render it almost translucent. Each of the suites is an inimitable creation. Gabler's Grisalla, for example, was hand-painted over six months by the Chilean Realist Alvaro Gabler; Azulejo is lined with blue Portuguese tiles decorated by ceramicist Pablo Montealegre. Chef Rodrigo Bravo produces farm-to-table fare (meats cured in the kitchen; wild boar from the hills; rockfish from a surfer dude on the coast) served family-style in the minimalist dining room. There are mountain-bike trails above the vines, paddocks stocked with horses and vinotherapy treatments in the spa. **FLASH POINT** This one-off property is challenging the boundaries of hotel design from an unlikely base in

