

Livingetc

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MODERN HOMES
MAGAZINE

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Traditional MODERN

*Embracing the
age-old jaalis*

*Cosy up in
gorgeous
bed linen*

GIVE YOUR HOME
a personal touch

- SUPER-CHIC
FAMILY AREAS
- IMPRESSIVE
FOYERS
- TIPLING
BARS



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SIMPLY SOUTH AMERICA!



South America is fun, fabulous and flamboyant. Endowed with all the right ingredients for a great holiday, it's time to head to this part of the world.

WORDS ROMA ARORA

TIERRA ATACAMA HOTEL & SPA, SAN PEDRO DE ATACAMA, CHILE

BEST FOR... dramatic desert vistas of rugged Chilean landscape
WHY? For an extraordinary visual treat – startlingly blue sky, terracotta mountains, lush green vegetation, rocky paths and gurgling river. The hotel has been featured in the Condé Nast Traveller Hot List of 2008.

WHERE? Located at the edge of the tourist town of San Pedro de Atacama in northern Chile near the Licancabur volcano. Flights from Santiago to Calama (the nearest airport to San Pedro) are approximately two hours long. Transfers from Calama airport to the hotel are included in the hotel's all-inclusive packages.

STAYING IN Tranquility reigns here as there are no TVs in the guest rooms – bliss for some! Sink into the comfort of a four-poster



bed and roll down the blinds for a quick catnap. Those who want to skip the daily excursions can look for inner peace at the hotel. Spend time in the spa, swimming pool, garden, library or stretch out on an outdoor bed. Chill out with your friends in the bar and try Chile's signature cocktail, the Pisco Sour. Enjoy the traditional Chilean and Andean dishes in the restaurant. For ultimate relaxation, go for the outdoor hot water tub bath on a private deck.

STYLE STEALS? Chik blinds on a canopied four-poster bed and a roughly hewn ladder (used as a towel rack) spell earthy practicality. Other interesting features include off-beat murals.

OUT AND ABOUT Explore the Atacama on a horseback, then summit volcanoes, visit flamingo-filled salt lakes, or explore flora-carpeted canyons, caves or sand dunes. Enjoy trekking and mountain biking through varied terrain and villages. Mountaineers can enjoy moderate and challenging climbing of nearby volcanoes.

MORE INFO 32 rooms (tierraatacama.com). Room rates start from Rs 42,000 per person for double occupancy for two nights (including three meals plus snacks and open bar, all excursions, use of the spa, and transfers from the Calama Airport). For prices and bookings visit (travelcity.co.in) or (yatra.com).



FAENA HOTEL AND UNIVERSE, BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

BEST FOR... dramatic design and fabulous nightlife.

WHERE? Located at the El Porteño building in Puerto Madero Este, the heart of Buenos Aires, it is only a stone's throw from the Costanera Sur, the city's riverside promenade. The hotel is a 40-minute drive from the Ezeiza International Airport.

WHY? Because the interior décor, which carries the stamp of Philippe Starck, is quite a feast for the senses. Adjudged the best new hotel by Wallpaper Design Awards in 2006, it was also featured in Condé Nast UK's 2006 Gold List.

STAYING IN With its lush, inviting interiors, you'll be forgiven for playing the spoilsport and staying in. Treat yourself to a pamper session at the spa and Turkish hammam and a sunbath on the stunning rooftop pool. Later, head to El Cabaret for some entertainment. Decked up in gold and red, it's a dramatic setting for tango shows and live music performances. Relish the exquisite French-influenced cuisine at El Bistro and excellent traditional Argentinian cuisine at El Mercado.

STYLE STEALS? Do your own interpretation of the Imperial look with rich reds and crisp whites. Create drama with high-back chesterfield sofas in red and pare back with the classic elegance of Regency-style chairs.



OUT AND ABOUT The hotel is close to the financial centre, the government house and to San Telmo –the oldest neighbourhood in Buenos Aires famous for its typical architecture, antique stores and Tango houses. Enjoy shopping at cute Palermo boutiques, leather workshops and antique emporia of Buenos Aires. Birdwatching is possible in the ecological reserve next to the river and the hotel. Those fond of opera and ballet must-visit Teatro Colón.

MORE INFO 110 rooms (faenahotelanduniverse.com). Room rates start from Rs 16,249. Consult your travel agent for best airline

deals. For prices and bookings visit (airticketsindia.com), (travelcity.co.in) or (yatra.com).



HOTEL FASANO, RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

BEST FOR... panoramic view and beautiful blue beaches.

WHY? For the cool comfort that the hotel offers with its elegant and understated décor by Philippe Starck and iconic pieces from the 50s and 60s. The hotel is a member of The Leading Small Hotels of the World and was featured in the Condé Nast 2008 Hot List.

WHERE? On the ocean front in the stylish district of Ipanema, adjacent to Leblon. The hotel is only 15kms away from the Rio Antonio Carlos Jobim International Airport.

STAYING IN A comfy king-sized bed, luxurious Egyptian bed linen and goose down pillows will keep you glued to bed. Kickstart your day with a workout at the hotel's fitness centre and sauna, and later pamper yourself with a massage treatment. Take a dip in fabulous infinity pool on the rooftop that offers an unparalleled view of Ipanema beach and Two Brothers Mountain. Al Mare restaurant serves delicious Mediterranean seafood. Savour the award winning signature cocktails at the Baretto-Londra lounge.

STYLE STEALS? Pair clean, modern furniture with warm hardwood floors and tie up the look with warm chocolate tones for easy elegance.

OUT AND ABOUT Soak up the sun on the beach at Ipanema and also out try water skiing. The shopping districts of Ipanema, Leblon and Copacabana are only minutes away and the downtown historic district isn't far either. A must-visit is the Corcovado (mountain with statue of Jesus atop its peak) that is an iconic symbol of Rio. Then get more adventurous and take the cable car up to the Sugar Loaf mountain.

MORE INFO 81 rooms and 10 suites (fasano.com.br). Room rates start from Rs 30,737 for superior courtyard rooms and Rs 158,353 for ocean-front deluxe suites (taxes extra). Consult your travel agent for the best deals depending on the season.

