



CONDÉ NAST TRAVELLER

May 2020

BEST FAMILY *holidays*



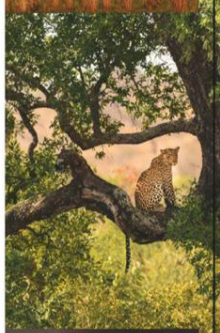
SUJAN JAWAI RAJASTHAN, INDIA

The wilds of western Rajasthan feel utterly remote. There's something about the vast panorama of prehistoric rocks, winding rivers and endless sky that's like teetering at the edge of the earth. Here is where leopards live, and a stay in this safari set-up is the best shot at seeing them in their natural habitat. Crack-of-dawn four-wheel drives head out into an almost lunar landscape to view the magnificent creatures as the sun rises – these encounters are something even the grumpiest of teens will drag themselves out of bed for. After the sightings it's time for tea and pastries lakeside, where hundreds of species of birds and crocodiles reside, before looping back to camp for a proper breakfast. The 10-tent gathering at Jawai is deeply smart: each comes with a huge bed, massive bathroom, fully stocked bar, chrome trunk desk and dhurrie rugs, all designed by the owners Anjali and Jaial Singh. Laundry is whisked away each night, and delicious dinners are organised surrounded by hundreds of oil lamps.

So far, so grown-up, but an exciting programme of activities makes younger guests nod their heads in approval: a cubs den for the littler ones with painting classes; tracking and bushcraft skills workshops for the older set, plus photography lessons and bird watching. The Sujan team are conservationists at heart, and helping Rabari herdsmen lead goats across the hills or dropping into the schools where the group has invested in teacher-training programmes are rewarding experiences that will ingrain themselves on young minds. As an add-on to a grand tour of the Golden Triangle, and a respite from the temples, a stay here is a real adventure.

INSIDER TIP Book the family suite which cleverly has two connecting tents, as well as its own pool and dining area, meaning not only privacy for the adults but also no shushing the children.

BOOK IT Tents from about £980, full board, including daily wilderness drives. thesujanlife.com



PHOTOGRAPHS: MAURA AMMAD; LUCY LAUCHIE; ANJALI SINGH; AUBREY STOLL; GETTY IMAGES