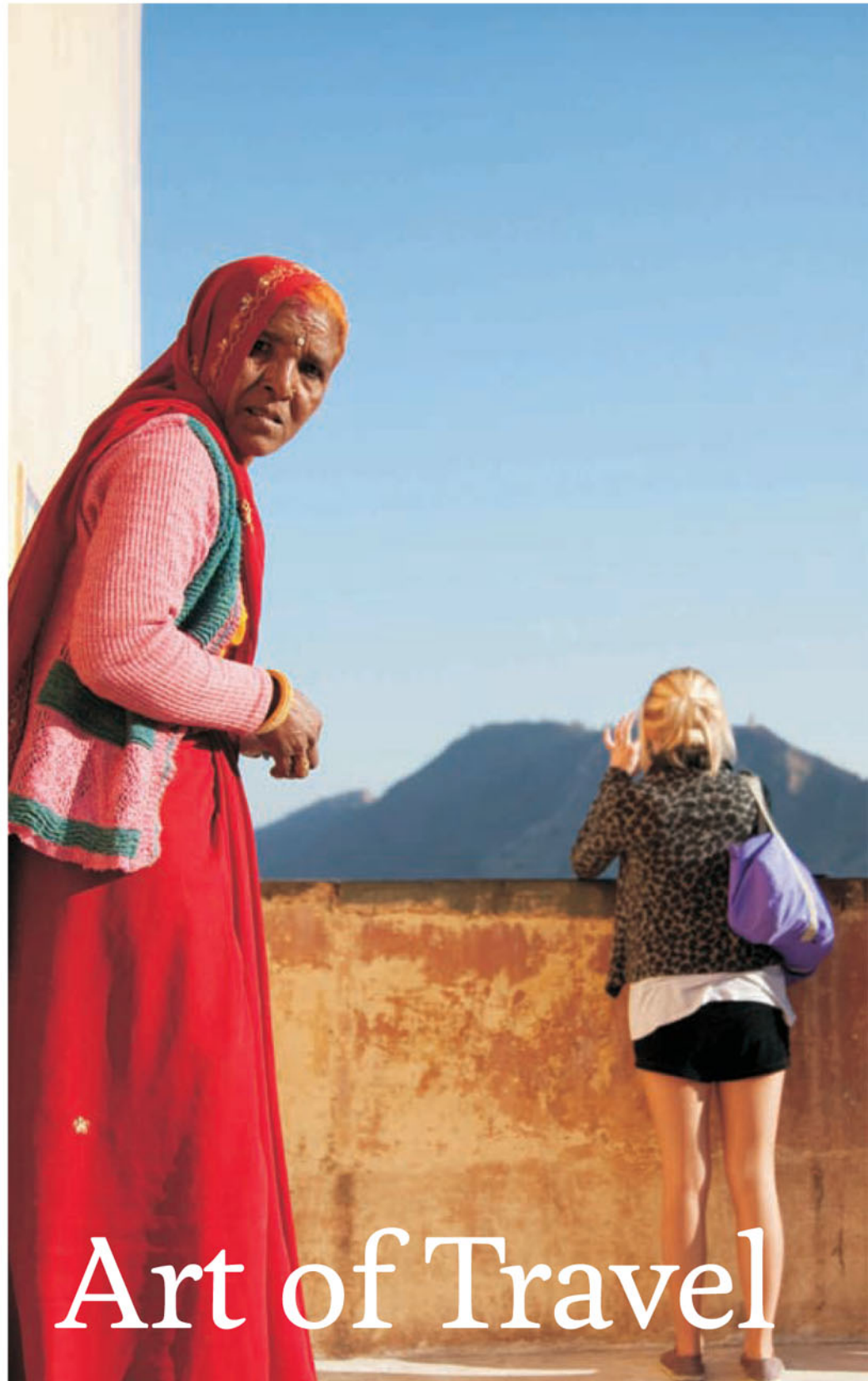


STAY AT  
A DAY IN THE LIFE OF  
LIFESTYLE  
SPOTTED BY SITA  
TOP CHEF RECOMMENDS  
DESTINATION INSIDER  
6 THINGS WE LIKED ABOUT  
FESTIVALS  
INSPIRATION LOCATOR  
TRADE SHOWS



# Art of Travel



“”

## Shanti Home

# 6 Things We Liked About

**The Story of India:** When we entered [Shanti Home](#) it reminded us of the article written by our colleague Harpreet Bhatia for the Art of Travel annual launched at ITB Berlin this year. Harpreet wrote “...every small element in the hotel, every corner of your room should invite questions about India or its traditions. This will lead to interesting conversations and that’s what creates bonds to remember ...” Harpreet you will love Shanti Home, for it tells the story of India like no other. This suburban oasis in West Delhi with its stylish interiors, has an eclectic collection of artifacts collected by its owners from all over India. Not to mention that each room of Shanti Home is based on a theme and named after a particular destination of India. A perfect place to retreat after your encounter with India’s raging capital city and keep the conversation about Delhi and India going whilst sipping your Kingfisher beer in their rooftop restaurant or one of their lounges.

**Public Space:** When we entered Shanti Home, we were also skeptical given our experience with most hotels in residential areas of Delhi. The lack of public space. Once inside, guests have no option but to remain confined to their rooms. But we were pleasantly surprised that that each floor of Shanti Home; barring the third floor, has a spacious lounge where one can relax or interact with other guests. With names like Ganesha and Krishna, each lounge has its own charm and is decorated with antiques, curious and art work from across the country. There is also a movie lounge called Patachitra which has a selection of Bollywood movies. Patachitra is a fabulous art form that portrays the folk tales of the inhabitants of Orissa in eastern India.

**Amenities; real ones:** We liked the idea of Shanti Home offering free internet access, where guests can browse, upload their photos to Facebook and blogs etc, check-in online or print their boarding passes in its business centre. There is also a laptop in one of their lounges offering free internet access. And what’s more- if your guests have Delhi as their entry and exit points and staying at Shanti Home; they are happy to provide a cell phone with a SIM card for no extra cost which guests can carry along during their holiday. Guests are only required to top it up with credits as per their requirement (and return it while on their way out).

**Go Local:** We liked the idea that with Shanti Home “local sightseeing” is indeed local. For those of your guests who may be interested, Shanti Home organises



cycle rickshaw trips to a potter’s village nearby. Matkas (earthen water containers used for storing water) made by the potters here, are popular not only locally but is increasingly become a substitute for refrigerators in Australia’s countryside. On a Wednesday night, your guests can go for a stroll (accompanied by a hotel staff) in the Budh Bazaar (Wednesday Market) where locals come to buy vegetables and fruits at wholesale rates.

**Custom Tailoring:** Shanti Home offers custom tailoring to its guests where delivery is made within 24 hrs. All one needs to do is select the fabric and the design from the catalogue. They store your guest’s measurements in their database should there be future requirements or occasions. Shanti Home is even happy to ship it to your doorstep. We thought it was a nice touch and a great value add-on.

**Food, Cooking Class:** Lantern; its rooftop restaurant is fantastic and we are sold on its 5 course tandoor menu. We plan to return for a round of drinks and kebabs soon. What we also like is their cooking class. We have done cooking classes elsewhere. But what makes the one at Shanti Home different and interesting, is the Chef lending a patient ear and customising it as per the guest’s interests. Interested in Kebabs, Curries? .... no problem. Want it to be gluten free, you are allergic to nuts, tomato seeds or you are a vegan... sure.....nothing is too much trouble for the staff here.