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MARRAKECH

Dar Al Dall

Situated in the oldest part of the city's bustling medina, This Time Tomorrow's riad-style Dar Al Dall (The House of Shadows) is a tranquil oasis inspired by traditional designs. With only five bedrooms, privacy and tranquillity are a priority. The spacious rooms feature private loggias and interiors that blend Moroccan artisanry and European furniture, including handcrafted fireplaces, frescos and furnishings reupholstered using traditional fabrics.

The public spaces are equally charming, with a serene courtyard, a private rooftop space with views over the medina and Atlas Mountains, a private hammam spa and a restaurant serving a fusion of Spanish and Northern African cuisines. Experiences are a key offering, with a resident curator who can craft a bespoke itinerary for every guest, including activities such as an afternoon with a spice dealer or a guided analogue photo tour with Leica camera provided. There's also a traditional Friday couscous feast nodding to the Imazighen people.



Image by Nivedita Gupta

SIKKIM

Taj Guras Kutir Resort & Spa, Gangtok

Surrounded by rhododendron forests near Gangtok, this new Taj Hotels property commands spectacular views of the Kanchenjunga range, part of the Eastern Himalayas. Aga Khan Award-winning firm Studio Lotus was commissioned to design the public areas and interiors within an existing shell, and created locally inspired gestures that anchor the property within the culture and geography of Sikkim.

The studio's new additions of an arrival pavilion and a meditative courtyard, as well as key shared spaces, are designed to enrich the connection to nature and imbue them with a home-like warmth. The interventions respond to the climate and terrain, with intimate volumes that balance daylight access and energy efficiency. Throughout the 69-key resort, motifs referencing Buddhist monasteries and tribal art inform the visual identity. Timber, local stone and vibrant textile tones bring richness and a sense of place. And craft elements abound: Sikkimese woven tapestries are reimagined as intricate wood-beaded screens, and red and indigo tones from traditional *thangka* paintings appear in upholstery and accents. Custom elements like the hand-knotted woollen carpet in the banquet hall further root the design in Sikkim's artisanal traditions, lending the spaces an unmistakable identity while enhancing their sensory appeal for the contemporary traveller.