INDIA
SUJÁN RAJMAHAL PALACE, JAIPUR

Reborn with a history of maharajas and mountaineers, princes and polo players, the Rajmahal Palace opened last year after a long period of neglect. Its marble minarets are now shining, its soaring room columns with gilded mirrors, and its 22 rooms and apartments bright as buttons. Built in 1729 by the Maharajah of Jaipur, it was the personal home of Maharaja Sawai Mansingh II and his famously beautiful wife, Gayatri Devi. Still privately owned by the family, it was entrusted to their friends Janak Singh, owner of the polished Suján Safari Camps, and acclaimed designer Adi Ahmed, to turn it into a hotel that would resonate with its historical atmosphere. Much thought went into the open rooms, fresh Powder blues and shutters, silk rugs, on-marble floors, turquoise pillows with pink, powders carpet across areas of wallpaper. There are pineapple and banana leaves in the Veda Bar. Jaipur thalis and Moghul masala (tomato mustard, red millet and garlic) in the Orient Occidental dining room. The stylish Art Deco swimming pool is the place to see, with sunken bar, duvet, toilet in stained white ceramics wrapped in shiny-rice, salt cushions. FLASH POINT: This is India’s most brilliant full of culture and colour, richness and royalty. +91. 11. 467. 2705, sujanluxury.com. Dusky from about $240