

# TATLER<sup>®</sup>

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Africa Travel Centre

Including  
101 best hotels  
in the world

# Travel Guide



## Bairro Alto

Lisbon, Portugal

Now hipper than Barcelona, Lisbon is the European weekend destination of the year. And the hilltop district of Bairro Alto is the coolest part of town, a mix of cobblestones, colonial architecture and street style with boutiques and bars that have covens of fashion editors gripping their No. 2 pencils. Grace Leo-Andrieu's latest offering is all about strong colours and Azulejos tiles. All 55 rooms and suites have her perfectly restrained and handsome touch. The Igloo Lounge, with its diamond-white walls, can be bagged for private screenings and louche evening parties. And Bar Garrett, with its wall of light-boxes and windows, is the latest place to be, right at the centre of Lisbon's second coming. **Tel** 00 351 21 340 82 88. **Fax** 00 351 21 340 82 99. **Website** bairroaltohotel.com. **UK reservations** Abercrombie & Kent (tel: 0845 070 0612). **Rates** Double, from £330, including breakfast.

## Taj Mahal Palace & Tower

Mumbai, India

This is the grande dame of Indian hotels and also the most opulent. Its hushed corridors along the ground floor are lined with Bond Street shops, but if Louis Vuitton prices are not to your liking in bargain Mumbai, you're a short stop from the best bazaars in the world. Book the Tata Suite and you'll feel spoilt enough to forgive and forget your jet-lag. The pool is almost LA-cool – your butler will be straight out of a PG Wodehouse novel, but with a Bollywood twist. The Taj Mahal is the international gateway to South Asia for the true jet-set, with rooms, appropriately, overlooking the Gateway of India – a tribute to George V and Queen Mary built after their 1927 visit. Pick up one of the Taj's own city guides to discover the secrets of Mumbai, which is now decidedly weekendable. **Tel** 00 91 22 5665 3366. **Fax** 00 91 22 5665 0323. **Website** tajhotels.com. **UK reservations** Greaves Travel (tel: 020 7487 9111). **Rates** Double, from £190.

## Hotel Endsleigh

Milton Abbot, Devon

The Duke of Bedford, who used to own at least a third of Devon, chose the most gorgeous spot of all to build this fishing lodge. The rolling lawns in front of the house scoop down to the River Tamar, which plots and weaves its way through vast, majestic, almost prehistoric forest. It is stunning. Now owned by Olga Polizzi and run by her daughter Alex, Endsleigh is charming and friendly, fun and relaxed. The house is Harry Potterish. It has sheep-knuckle terraces and huge, sprawling beds. There are open fires even in August. Queen Victoria once slept in Room 8, with its beautiful peacock and butterfly wallpaper. Even the most slovenly will find themselves skipping round the magic gardens. **Tel** 01822 870000. **Fax** 01822 870578. **Website** hotelendsleigh.com **Rates** Double, from £210, including breakfast. ▷

