

WHERE TO STAY

THE HEADLINE ACTS

EDITED BY PETER BROWNE



EXCLUSIVE FIRST REVIEW

HOTEL OPENING OF THE MONTH

TWO DECADES AGO, THE OBEROI GROUP DUSTED OFF INDIA'S PRINCELY TRADITION OF GRAND PALACES AND MADE IT RELEVANT AGAIN. NOW THE DYNASTY HAS ARRIVED IN THE PUNJAB WITH ITS FIRST MAJOR LAUNCH IN 14 YEARS

BY STEVE KING. PHOTOGRAPHS BY PANKAJ ANAND



BEST FOR A COOL STAYCATION

The Laslett, London

'The modern bedrooms here are wonderful and have the most tempting mini-bars you are ever likely to find. The Laslett is perfect for a London weekend as it's within walking distance of Hyde Park and the best restaurants and shops in Notting Hill.' *Matthew Buck, Photographic Editor*



BEST FOR SEA VIEWS

La Rosa Hotel, Yorkshire

'The sea rooms look straight out across the harbour and the pantile rooftops of Whitby to the ruins of the Gothic abbey on the opposite cliff. Last time I stayed, a low mist had settled along the River Esk giving the impression the abbey was floating on a cloud. Very Bram Stoker.' *Harry Pearson, Contributing Editor*

BEST FOR SERVICE

Chewton Glen, Hampshire

'No list is complete without the addition of this hotel, one of the most delightful places to stay in the UK, largely thanks to MD Andrew Stembridge and his team, who are unfailingly well-versed, obliging but never obsequious, interested by never nosy, helpful but never hounding.' *Peter Browne, Senior Editor*

BEST FOR FAMILY FROLICS

Babington House, Somerset

'They've thought of everything here: welly boots for tramping about in the woods, all the Gruffalo books on shelves in the Teeny House playroom, and a high tea created for children. I love the cabin on the lake in winter, when the wood-burning stove and outdoor bathtub come into their own.' *Fiona Joseph, Fashion and Beauty Director*



BEST FOR COCKTAILS

No. 131, Cheltenham

'This funky boutique hotel has a cracking little cocktail bar in the basement – the best for miles around. It's a cheeky place, with a neon crucifix, curious things in jars and Bloody Mary brunches for the morning after the night before.

Plus, the lovely town of Cheltenham is just outside the door.' *Hazel Lubbock, Deputy Online Editor*



BEST FOR A SENSE OF THE REMOTE

Inis Meain, County Galway

'Next stop America! You can't go any further west in Europe without falling off the edge. If the blustery wind outside doesn't knock you sideways, the incredible welcome and simple beauty of everything inside this special retreat certainly will. No TVs, no swishy spa, no cocktail bar. Just the ocean crashing right there.' *Aoife O'Riordain, Contributing Writer*

BEST FOR YOUNG AND FUN

Artist Residence, Brighton

'This cool hangout is home to The Set, a laid-back restaurant of reclaimed wood and dimpled copper crockery where chefs in the open kitchen are

clearly having fun as they serve up the three set tasting menus. I love Menu One with its pollock and pig's trotter, rib-sticking oxtail and a pudding of spelt granola and ice cream – as comforting as the sweet milk left at the bottom of my cereal bowl as a child.'

Gráinne McBride, Deputy Chief Sub-Editor



BEST FOR MOORLAND YOMPS

The Inn at Whitewell, Lancashire

'A superlative small hotel in the little-known Trough of Bowland, this old stone inn has 23 bedrooms, some with vintage cabinet baths or open fires, some with views over the River Hodder (take Room 3 for all three). Guests can borrow walking boots and maps for full-scale hikes deep into the rolling countryside.'

Sophie Dening, Contributing Editor

BEST TO DECOMPRESS

The Cary Arms, Devon

'Enjoy this hideaway from a sun lounger on the deck of one of the new beach huts. Wrapped in a blanket, with a tittle in hand, you can spend hours watching children leap off the end of the breakwater on Babbacombe Bay, or just do some cloud-spotting.' *Paula Ellis, Deputy Art Director*

