

INN CHARACTER

From English country estate to American desert chic to Pattaya meets South Beach kitsch, these hotels flaunt their individual style.

W SCOTTSDALE

Scottsdale is Phoenix's slightly more well-to-do twin city and the W has all the upmarket style expected of this groovy chain. Guestrooms feature the signature W feather bed and Wild West views of Camelback Mountain through floor-to-ceiling windows. The palm-shaded pool - a mandatory pit stop in the dry Sonoran Desert heat - segues easily into the Shade Lounge & Bar, which transforms into hip Scottsdale nightlife scene central after dark. Unexpectedly of note - this is the desert, remember - is W's Sushi Roku restaurant. From \$US242 (\$263). **7277 East Camelback Road, Scottsdale, Arizona, USA. +1 (888) 627 8347. wscottsdalehotel.com**



WHERE I STAY

MARNIE GODING
CREATIVE DIRECTOR, ELK



THE IMPERIAL, NEW DELHI, INDIA

"The Imperial is a grand old colonial hotel. Upon entry you are immersed in the aroma of burning jasmine oil and beautiful displays of flowers. The rooms are like stepping back into the 1930s with enormous sleigh beds, large armoires and English-style furnishings. The hotel is located in the centre of the city, so the hum of the traffic can be heard in the background - but the hotel's size and its lush gardens disguise most of the noise. The service is consistently good and it is a pleasure to leave the chaos of Delhi behind once you enter the gates."

From INR11,050 (\$180). **1 Janpath, New Delhi, India. +91 (11) 2334 1234. theimperialindia.com**

CHECK-IN

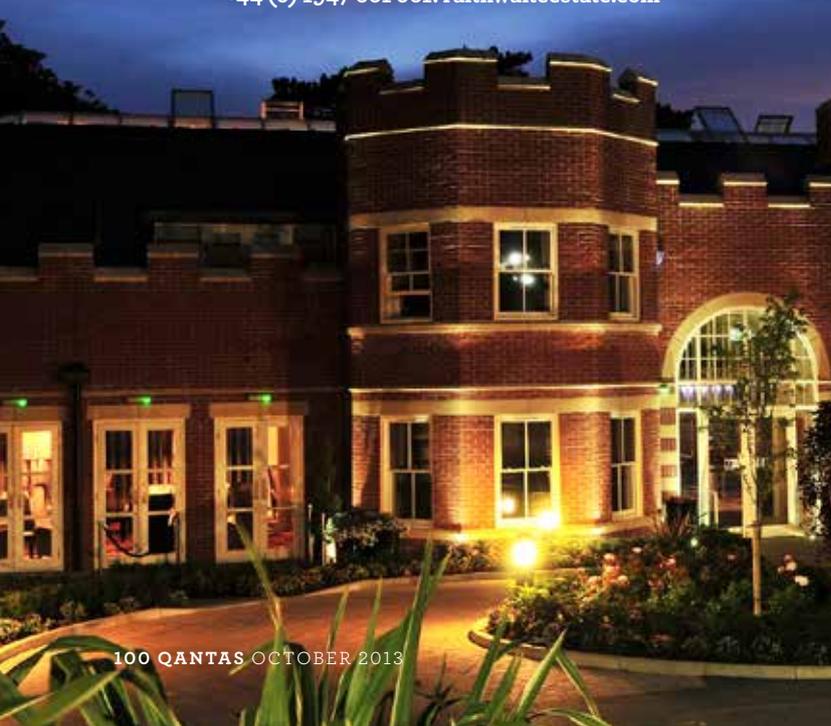


WAVE

Recent arrival Wave has injected some Miami-kitsch cool into the Thai stay scene with its art deco wrought-iron embellishments, duck-egg-blue palette and distinctly Americana vibe. Overlooking the beach in the hip Pattaya Bay locale, party people and sun-seekers alike will find solace in one of the boutique hotel's 21 guestrooms. Dining is South Beach style, with *quesadillas*, mojitos and even Cuban cigars available from the poolside Cabana Bar. **From THB500 (\$192).** 310/2 Beach Road, Pattaya, Chonburi, Thailand. + 66 (0) 38 410 577. wavepattaya.com

RAITHWAITE ESTATE

Sprawled over 40ha of heather-strewn countryside, this Yorkshire estate has three accommodation options. Once a shipping magnate's luxury country home, the turreted Hall has 45 guestrooms with heavy wooden furniture, oil paintings and Chesterfields. The newly opened Keep has a more modern look, with chrome, glass and natural light ruling the 28 rooms. On the shores of Raithwaite Lake, the six-bedroom Lakehouse offers a little more seclusion. **From £99 (\$169).** Sandsend Road, Whitby, North Yorkshire, UK. +44 (0) 1947 661 661. raithwaiteestate.com



ASK THE CONCIERGE



MAGDA
PIWOWSKA
MAMAISSON HOTEL LE
REGINA, WARSAW, POLAND

- ❖ **When friends are in town I take them for a drink at** the renovated Vodka Factory in the Praga district. I love to surprise my friends with this relatively unknown traditional bar where they can taste our famous vodka.
- ❖ **The restaurant that best shows off Warsaw is** Bar Mleczny Prasowy. It is one of the milk bars [government-subsidised cafeterias] famous under communist rule, that have been recently resuscitated by young artists. They specialise in all the old favourites, from *zapiekanki* (baguette cut in half with a baked mushroom cheese topping) to homemade *pierogi* (meat-filled dumplings).
- ❖ **For local designers and fashion I steer guests to** Nowy Świat and Mokotowska Streets. Mokotowska Street is near the beautiful Three Crosses Square and is interesting for its architecture and tiny boutiques stocking clothes by young independent fashion designers.
- ❖ **For the perfect gift I'd shop at** Cepelia, which is an old-fashioned shop that specialises in traditional Polish gifts such as lace, pottery, crystals, amber jewellery and handmade ornaments.
- ❖ **Couples wanting a romantic dinner should consider** The Market Square. During the long summer evenings, illuminated by the small table lamps, you can watch people falling in love.
- ❖ **For great art go to** Warsaw's Centre for Contemporary Art, at Ujazdowski Castle in Ujazdów Park, for its impressive collection of modern art and the live theatre performances.
- ❖ **The best markets are at** Hala Mirowska. Before all the hipsters decided to organise their own markets and pay triple price for eco-food, there was the Hala Mirowska in the city centre. It's not only an architectural jewel, but a local favourite for a street-style meal, or a place to browse for fresh meat, herbs, fruit and seeds. Allow at least half a day.
- ❖ **For vintage finds try** Koło, an antiques bazaar held every weekend in Obozowa. Here you can find anything from rare glass bottles and retro bicycles to a 17th-century wardrobe. Hagglng is vital.
- ❖ **If it's raining** visit the Chopin Museum to learn about the composer's works and life. 🌐



Koło antiques bazaar is held every weekend in Obozowa