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Holly Robertson

WRITER

The Kampot Express
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"The train from Phnom Penh to Kampot is a journey to another era," Robertson says, "starting with the old-world charm of the restored 1960s carriages and carried on by the grand yet decaying buildings in Kampot town center." Amid the relaxed, easygoing vibe, "I love its mix of colonial architecture and top-notch restaurants, ringed by mountains, pepper farms and rice fields." Visit Twenty Three for "a decadent cheese soufflé well worth the indulgence." Likewise the guilt-free shopping at Dorsu: "any of their ethically made basics make a great addition to your wardrobe."

Twitter: @robertson.holly.



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Rachna Sachasinh

WRITER

The Place: Jaipur
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"Jaipur is all about beauty," the Chiang Mai-based writer says. "Even freight trucks are in gorgeous colors and patterns. Creative energy is youthful and global." Prime example: India Beat's Dig Vijay 'Diggy' Rathore (pictured left). "Hands down the best local guide, he brought me to generations-old craftsmen and young upstarts. His knowledge is encyclopedic and he's funny." Hit Hibiscus Court for dishes with grains and veggies from their garden. "Baajra (millet) rotis slathered in ghee and jaggery is a wholesome meal and a decadent dessert, all in one!" she says. "I ate like a pig." Instagram: @b438.

Laurny Ishak

PHOTOGRAPHER

Wild, Wild Life
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Compared to Bali, Lombok "is less crowded and feels very lush and rustic. It's wild but at the same time accessible," says the Singapore-based photographer. Her favorite adventure of the trip was a hike into the headlands at Jeeva Beloam, on the island's southeastern tip, in search of a Japanese cannon from World War II. "We evaded wild boars, saw a monkey the size of a medium dog, nearly walked into a snake and did walk into a thorny bush. The views were absolutely stunning"—if not exactly what they were looking for. Turned out the cannon was up the other side of the coast. Instagram: @laurnynishak.



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Brian Spencer

WRITER

Wild, Wild Life
Page 82

"Naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace survived four years in the Amazon, a shipwreck in the middle of the ocean, and eight years in the Malay archipelago," Spencer says, "and he collected 200,000 specimens." Follow his trail with caution: "While hiking, we heard this thunderous crash. My heart skipped a few beats; there were some expletives; we both took a few steps back and then two massive boars came stomping out, and all I could think of was a friend telling me that boars would charge. We stood motionless for a few minutes, then pressed on—this time with a large rock in hand." Instagram: @brianbspencer.



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