

# WHERE HISTORY BECKONS

FROM OPULENT MAHARAJAS' PALACES TO HISTORIC HOUSES AND HALF-DONE MAJESTIC FORTS, THERE'S A HOST OF INTRIGUING HOTELS OUT THERE, EACH WITH ITS OWN UNIQUE HISTORY. REVEL IN THE CHARMING AMBIENCE OF BYGONE ERAS WITHOUT MISSING OUT ON ULTRALUXE COMFORTS. **BY NIVEDITA JAYARAM PAWAR**

## **TIJARA FORT PALACE, Alwar**

Perched on a hill, Tijara Fort Palace stands alone in majestic solitude. Originally a 19th-century fort built by Maharaja Balwant Singh in 1835 CE, Tijara has been affectionately and respectfully restored by Neemrana into an extraordinary boutique hotel honouring its historic heritage. Located just two and a half hours from Delhi, the fort premises boast of some of the most beautiful gardens filled with amaltas and jacarandas along with some stunning vistas of date palms and the Aravalli hills.

The Tijara Fort-Palace complex is an unfinished marvel of three structures, built in the Rajput-Afghan style with early colonial influences: the Mardana Mahal, the Rani Mahal and the Hawa Mahal. Each of the 60 suites is named after India's leading painters, designers, artists and aesthetes who have lent their art to the rooms. Striking the perfect balance of seclusion without solitude, Tijara allows guests to determine the tone of their stay, whether they're looking to disappear for an intimate getaway or gather with the group and make new acquaintances.

