

OUTLOOK traveller

June 2013 • ₹100



12th

ANNIVERSARY
SPECIAL

THE VERY BEST OF TRAVEL



Manali-Leh Road
Kashmiri Feast
Kerala Ayurveda
Everest Three-
Passes Trek
Wayanad
Cuba
Italy
Uzbekistan
Iran
French Riviera

+
12
GREAT
INDIAN
JOURNEYS



ALSO
12 Fellow
Travellers

WILD SINGAPORE ■ SHRUTI HAASAN ■ ABBA ■ COCO SHAMBHALA

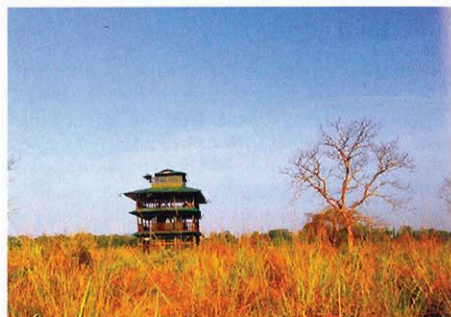
8 West Bengal

THE DOOARS

Tucked between the Himalyan wilderness and the woods of the Northeast, the Dooars have always offered a cogent argument for leisurely escapes—preferably, on elephant back. But while only the most intrepid travellers ventured into Jaldapara's beautiful jungles earlier—threatened not by wild animals, but by the state of the government-run lodges here—the tourist in 2013 is spoiled for choice. Among the best-known properties in the area—near the national parks of Gorumara and Jaldapara—are Sinclairs Retreat Dooars, perched on the Chalsa hilltop (about ₹7,000 with taxes for



Tea gardens in the Dooars; and (above right) the Jaldapara National Park



DHRIYAN MUKHERJEE

doubles; sinclairshotels.com) and Zurrantee, a turn-of-the-century British bungalow cosseted by tea gardens (from ₹3,700 for doubles; zurrantee.com). You could also consider staying at some of the smaller, budget hotels in the area, such as Tusker's Den (₹900; tuskersden.com), Hathihana, the Green Castle (from ₹1,500; thegreencastle.in) or the Jaldapara Jungle Camp (₹1,000; jaldaparacamp.com).

We were in Jaldapara in January 2002