



## A Crimson Reverie Set in a Noble Estate in Jaipur

VILLA PALLADIO JAIPUR  
 JAIPUR, RAJASTHAN, INDIA  
 MARIE-ANNE OUDEJANS & BARBARA MIOLINI



Setting foot into the exquisite dark-red fantasy that is Villa Palladio is like stepping into a dream. Indeed, that's the idea. "The whole project began as a dream, as a mood, as a story," says Barbara Miolini, its Swiss-Italian owner. "And it slowly takes shape in all its details." While conjuring up ideas for her nine-room hotel-restaurant set in a country estate in Jaipur, northern India, Miolini called on Marie-Anne Oudejans, an award-winning, locally based Dutch designer to weave her magic as well as her intimate knowledge of European and Indian art and craft. Modeled after both the grand hotels of Italy and the legendary splendor of India's royal courts, Miolini and Oudejans also found inspiration from Jaipur's ornate buildings and impressive palette. Throughout the villa, for example, are elements in crimson, a shade that

Miolini chose as the hotel's signature in order to evoke the idea that it is "full of life, full of love." Yet, combined in various patterns and rendered in different tones, while red dominates Villa Palladio's hallways, none of its spaces are alike—including those in its restaurant. And so, while one room might share the same hue of blood orange, another will feature striped columns and flower motifs, making it feel like a vision of Venice steeped in folklore. To be sure, this aesthetic, in which certain themes seem to proliferate around a few central ideas and motifs, is also evident in the murals that adorn the property. Placed against the backdrop of Jaipur's natural beauty, the sounds and sights of Villa Palladio's garden and fountains are often set to birdsong—a fitting accompaniment for this enchanting, palatial hotel.