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ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

INDIAN EDITION

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sover the all-new way to go island-hopping











STORES MITHA STORY

Jasreen Mayal Khanna discovers new concept boutiques across India that reflect their owners' passion for travel

hopping is an essential part of the way we travel. We bargain in colourful markets, we splurge in luxury showrooms, we appreciate fine craftsmanship and, at the end of a trip, we have to plead for extra baggage allowance. Exposure to modern retail formats, such as design shops, concept stores, destination boutiques and pop-ups, is turning Indian shopaholics into entrepreneurs. Their aesthetics are inspired by their experiences around the world, and they source their curios from faraway places. We list eight retail spaces that will tempt you in the best possible ways.

ROOM THERAPY Hyderabad

The décor of this home accessories store reflects owner Sona Reddy's love of architecture from around the world, with exposed brick walls inspired by Soho lofts, Greek Corinthian columns that are 20ft high, and cement tiles that will make you feel as though you've stepped into a plantation home in South India. Reddy travelled for over a year to source hand-carved panels from China and driftwood sculptures from Indonesia. She retails her own furniture line, which features a lot of distressed finishing, giving each piece a unique character. (www.roomtherapyhome.com)

CNT loves: The bone inlay chests and mirrors that Reddy manufactures in North India and sells in the store. →

Clockwise from top left: The Home of the Traveler; clothes and accessories at MaalGaadi; a wall display at Room Therapy; home furnishings at Room Therapy; Sona Reddy; water bottles at The Kitchen café at Jaipur Modern



MAALGAADI Chennai

To open a lifestyle and concept store was a dream Shahin Ansari inherited from her mother. The collection here includes fun fashion from Vivek Karunakaran, shoes from a.k.a bespoke, SAFOMASI's home products, and Pop Art and design products. The store's industrial and deconstructed interiors—such as installations made of rope, nails and pipes—are inspired by Shahin's travels in Amsterdam. (www.maalgaadistore.com)

CNT loves: The Gaadi clutches embellished with public transport motifs.

JAIPUR MODERN Jaipur

At this concept store, in a 1940s bungalow, Yash Agarwal and Maximiliano Modesti have brought together Indian craft techniques and Italian minimalism. The products are a mix of personal items, art and apparel from brands such as 11.11 eleven / eleven, Rashmi Varma and Rajesh Pratap Singh. Outside lies a landscaped garden, while indoors, the store's café, The Kitchen, serves Italian cuisine using local produce. (www.jaipurmodern.com)

CNT loves: The rustic-chic apparel from the Injiri line by Chinar Farooqui, made using natural fabrics and folk design, and the Heart Table by ROOSHADSHROFF.

TEATRO DHORA Jaipur

'Teatro' means theatre in Italian, while 'Dhora' means dunes in a Rajasthani dialect. This boutique sells only artisan-made items, including furniture, paintings, books and apparel, as well as leather accessories and jewellery by its home label Dhora. The owners have sourced these treasures from Milanese flea markets and old Indian homes. (014 1402 7979)

CNT loves: The tribal earnings by Dhora. ?

