

Harper's BAZAAR

Lily James

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BAZAAR'S
Women of the Year

- celebrating*
KATE WINSLET
NICOLE KIDMAN
LARA STONE
MICHELLE DOCKERY
SIENNA MILLER

The PARTY SEASON

IRRESISTIBLE GIFTS, BEGUILING BEAUTY & GLITTERING GOWNS



ESCAPE

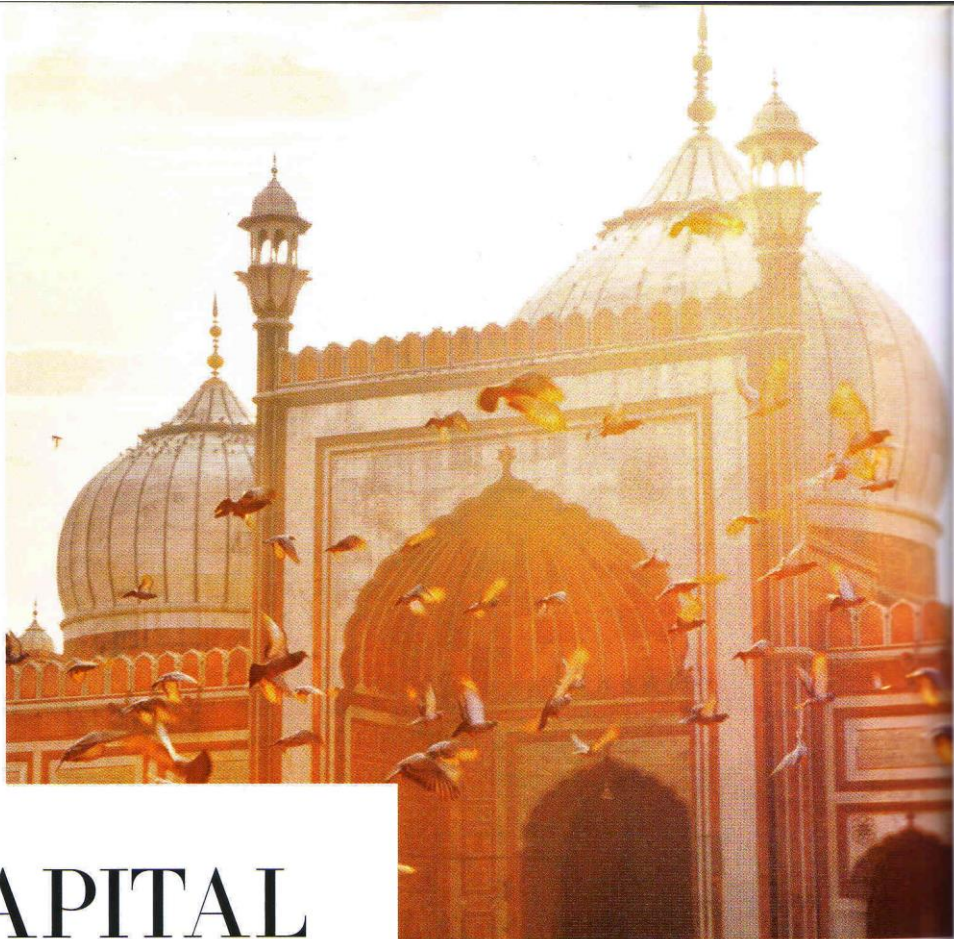
Right: Amber, Simon and Yasmin Le Bon. Far right: inside the walled city of Old Delhi



There are some cities where wandering round the shops and chancing upon a fabulous little restaurant for dinner is possible. New Delhi, sprawling over 800 square miles, is not one of them. But with insider knowledge, there is no better spot for a city break.

Kashmir Loom is the best place in town to pick up cashmere scarves in hundreds of colours and patterns, from cool stripes to plain navy, and Mehar Chand Market sells contemporary Delhi fashions. Wealthy locals browse the canvas and leather weekend bags at Nappa Dori, where you can pick up wash bags printed with pictures. Next-door are the embroidered cushions of Nivasa, and just up the street, En Inde is packed with homewares including pottery, wicker baskets and linen napery. Almirah has pretty children's dresses, and Pia Pauro's cotton and chiffon kaftans are what fashionable young Delhiites wear to go out. Soma has beautifully made kurtas and robes, while the colourful, pure-linen Calcutta towels at Ekmatra are, at just £3, the traditional Indian way to dry your hair, or the nicest tea towels on the planet, depending on your point of view. Nur Home stocks silk interiors accessories, including elegant zigzag cushions and king-size silk eiderdowns. Stones and Silver sells desirable gold and bead bracelets and Indian earrings.

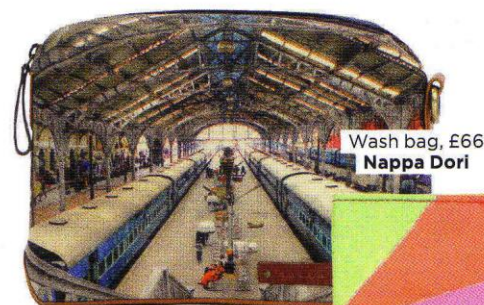
Shopping is hungry work – Q'ba on Connaught Place serves excellent kebabs to a stylish crowd, and the restaurant in the Lodhi Gardens is a romantic gem, popular among New Delhi's sophisticated and wealthy residents – of whom there are many. This is why Cartier holds its Travel With Style event in the city every other year, at which the impossibly glamorous gather to appreciate vintage cars. At this year's rendezvous, a trio of Le Bons – Simon, Yasmin and their daughter, Amber – socialised with Prince Michael of Kent and the racing driver Riccardo



CAPITAL CHARM

The insider's guide to shopping and relaxing in New Delhi

By HILARY ROSE



Wash bag, £66
Nappa Dori



Passport holder, about £7.50
Nur Home

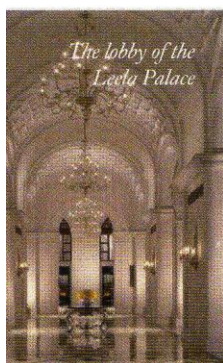


Vintage cars at Cartier's Travel With Style event

Patrese, while admiring a bubble-gum-pink American saloon and show-stopping vehicles created bespoke for India's royal families.

Hauz Khas is a buzzy neighbourhood that is home to boutiques such as Ogaan – the place to buy pearl and gold jewellery, and embroidered clutches for £80 (a selection is available online at www.ogaan.com). The shops at Santushti are scattered around the pretty gardens of, incongruously, an air-force base. Buy cashmere and vintage textiles at Sozy and Indian carpets at Shyam Ahuja, before moving on to Basil & Thyme for lunch.

Come nightfall, bear in mind that New Delhi stays up late: the evening doesn't start until 10pm. Head to Khan Market, famous by day for its paper shops, and home by night to some of the most entertaining spots in the city: Town Hall, a sushi and pizza restaurant with outdoor terraces, and Soda Bottle Opener Wala, a popular Iranian/Indian bar and restaurant. Both are the opposite of what you would expect to find in New Delhi, and all the more enjoyable for it. □ A four-night tour to New Delhi with Greaves India (020 7487 9111; www.greavesindia.com) costs from £1,299 a person, including return flights with British Airways, four nights B&B at the Leela Palace New Delhi, private transfers, sightseeing and one day with a personal shopper.



The lobby of the Leela Palace