



## Ahilya Fort

Maheshwar, Madhya Pradesh, India

A location like no other. Off the tourist trail in a spectacular setting – high on a cliff above the sacred Narmada River – the Ahilya has 10 rooms (two are tents) that are part of a living, breathing fort and temple. The Indian prince Richard Holkar, a gourmand anglophile married to an American Indian, still owns the fort and lives in it. So it's less like a hotel and more like a home. Proper 18th-century Indian life is happening right on your doorstep. If you suddenly decide, as you skim about on the river under a full moon, that you'd like to have dinner, it will be brought to you by boat. There's a gorgeous pool on your doorstep and the exquisite abandoned city of Mandu 35 miles away. Walk along the river's edge without being hassled for a single rupee. Magical. **Tel** 00 91 11 415 515 75. **Fax** 00 91 11 415 510 55. **Website** ahilyafort.com. **UK reservations** Audley Travel (tel: 01869 276200). **Rates** Double, from £115 (full board).

