



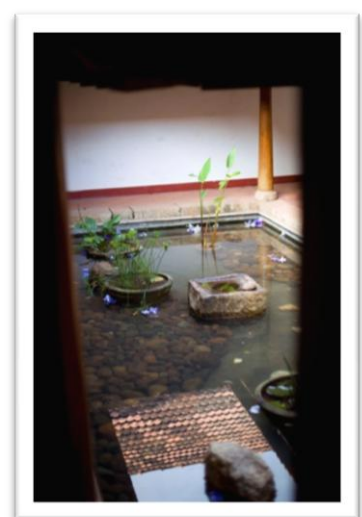
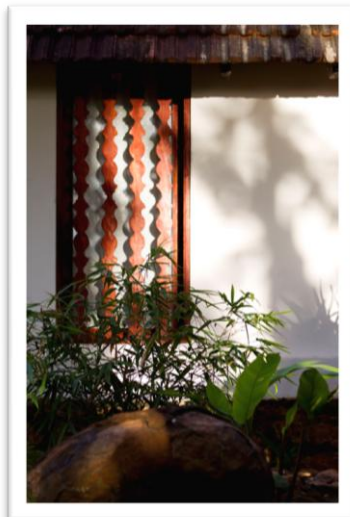
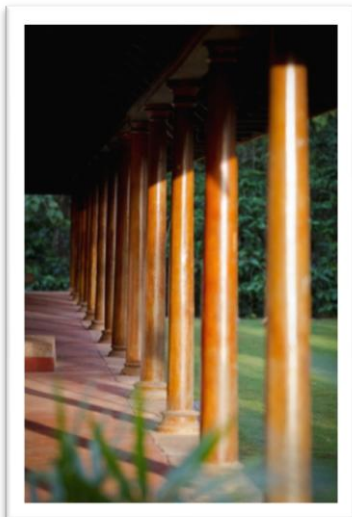
## Rajakkad Garden Hotel

A small garden hotel set in the foothills of India's Western Ghats, Rajakkad offers a sense of serenity and tranquillity. Life here has changed very little over the last century.



This is a journey to the hill country of Southern India. It is a world to be found in the lush forests, the coffee estates and the grandeur of the Palani Hills. Pallam Palace is the house that sits at the heart of the old Rajakkad plantation. A small garden hotel with 8 unique bedrooms within an 18th century wooden structure that perfectly expresses its rich architectural heritage.

At 1000 meters above sea level and set in the foothills of the Western Ghats, Rajakkad Estate offers a sense of serenity and tranquillity. For the traveller seeking a world apart or for the explorer in search of adventure, there can be no better setting. As for those in search of peace, look no further.

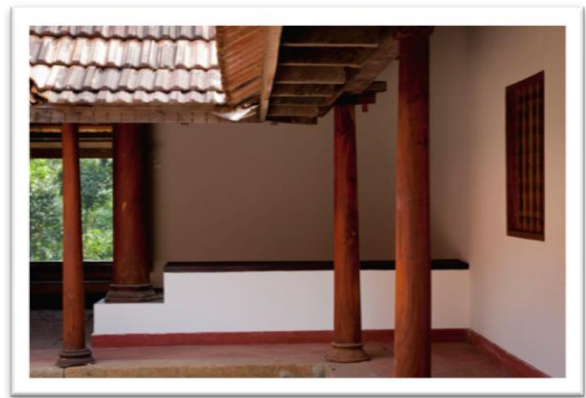




## History

Originally constructed in the 18th century, this building is a fine example of the southern vernacular, a jigsaw of wooden parts influenced by the house building traditions of Kerala. Drawn from the forests of the Western Ghats, it is a construction of many thousands of interlocking beams, panels and screens, sheltered by a roof canopy that appears to float above, making light of a structural complexity that reflects a forgotten refinement.

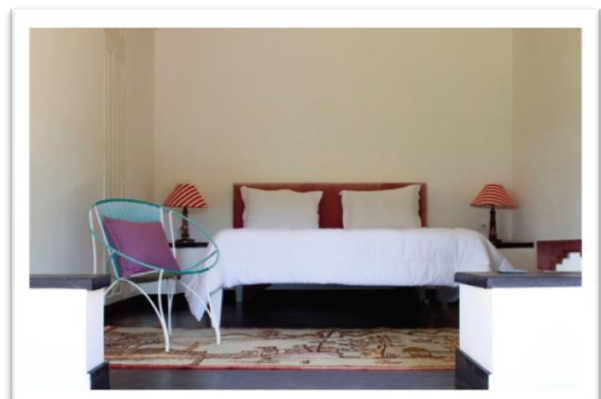
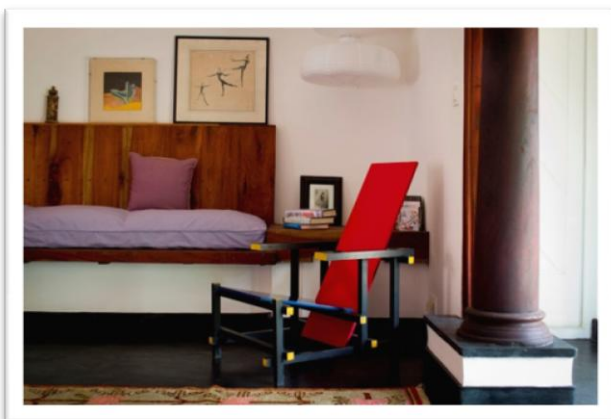
Rajakkad estate is approached along an avenue of royal palms. Red-flowered flamboyant's line the drive to Pallam Palace, at the top of the hill. The building is set around a pattern of courtyards and pools. A series of covered walkways link the 8 bedrooms to the library, the dining room and the sitting rooms. The water from the pools cools the atmosphere. White plaster walls seem to reflect the calm and instil a sense of retreat from the outside world. A repetition of louvered screens and doorways direct a flow of gentle breezes through the house and offer a multiple of framed views of the outside world.

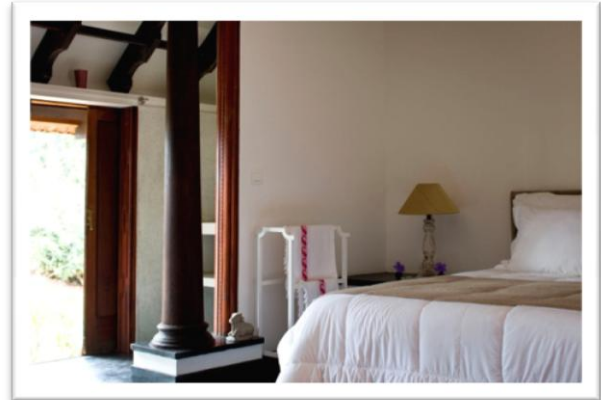


## Rooms

While providing great comfort, Rajakkad has been kept as simple and authentic as possible. There are 8 spacious bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms, including an authentic Alma bedroom, with extra beds for young children. All the bedrooms are accessed through the main courtyard and each room connects to the garden via its own entrance.

White walls and black oxide floors contrast gently with the wooden structure. Furniture is contemporary yet elegant, with colours complimented by carpets from Samarkand. Beds are made up with fine brushed cotton sheets, luxurious quilts and deep pillows. Bathrooms walls have a pearly Tadelac finish with large white South Indian cotton towels for guests. The soft furnishings have been chosen to suit each individual room and its surroundings.





## Cuisine

Rajakkad offers contemporary gourmet cuisine with a focus on quality ingredients sourced locally every day. We run a small farm on the estate grounds, which supplies the kitchen and feeds the table. The cuisine is predominantly South Indian with influences from the Mediterranean. Our chef is equally at home making some of the most delicious South Indian curries, hummus, and ginger lemon cake.

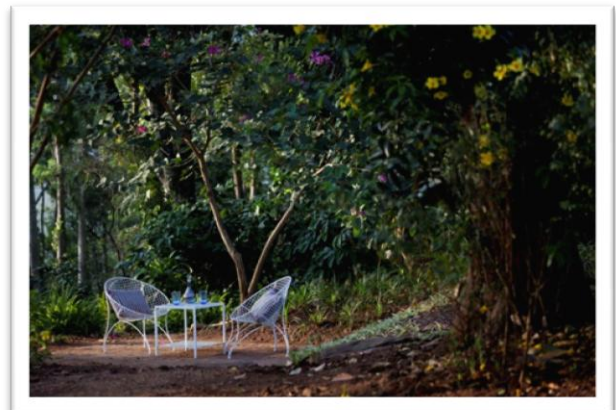
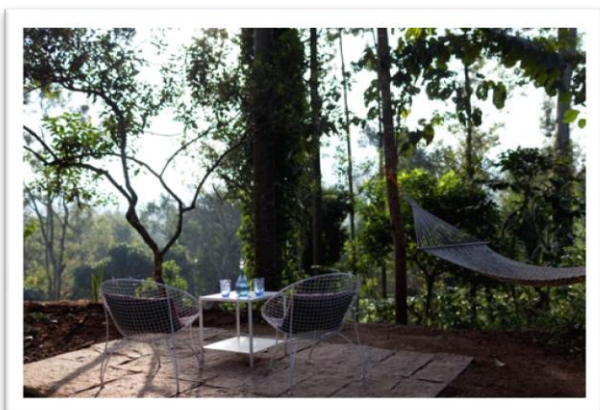
For those wanting a hearty start to the day there is choice of a Continental or Indian breakfast. Residing in coffee country has its advantages and we take pride in serving freshly grounded coffee. Delicious light lunches & snacks are also served at mid day. The dinner menu changes daily with a starter, main course and a delicious dessert.

Breakfast, lunches, anytime tea or coffee can be served either on the tree shaded terrace of your choice, or in the dining room.

## Exploring Rajakkad

Rajakkad is a wonderful place in which to while away the hours reading, listening to bird songs and doing as little as possible lying in a hammock. However thanks to the pleasant climate all year round [the air at this elevation is refreshingly and reasonably cool], we do have a number of excursions to offer you accompanied by our estate guide: walks up the river through rocky gorges, beneath the spreading canopy of the trees and over escarpments with views in all directions; visits of the nearby coffee plantations and the surrounding hills with waterfalls and quiet pools where one can swim and enjoy total peace. Picnics can be arranged to any number of the many different places that makes this world so enchanting.

Rajakkad is also home to a large range of incredible species of birds. Over 200 migratory and indigenous birds species are to be found in this special area of Tamil Nadu.





## Location

Rajakkad is nestled Tamil Nadu, India, in the forests of the Palani Hills, an hour's drive through the majestic mountains of Dindigul district, the nearest market town. The estate can be reached by car from nearby airports and train stations.



## How to get there

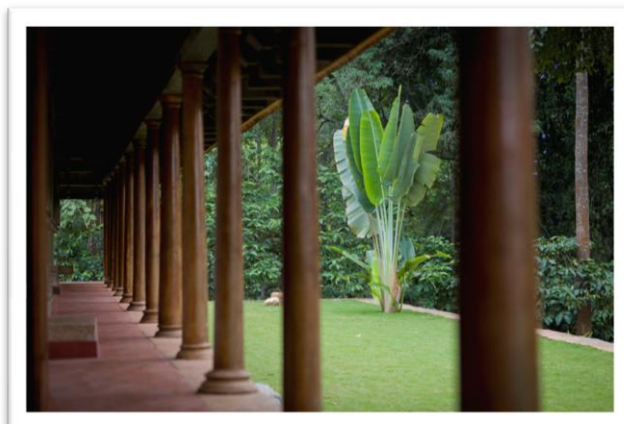
**By Air** MADURAI (2 hours) or TIRUCHIRAPALLI (3 hours) are the closest airports to Rajakkad. We can organize an airport pick up to collect you and bring you to Rajakkad.

If coming directly to Rajakkad from Europe our recommendation would be to fly via Colombo with Sri Lankan Airlines, spend a night in Colombo and then fly onto Tiruchirapalli the next day. This breaks up the journey and makes things a bit more enjoyable.

There are frequent and direct flights on a variety of India's excellent private domestic airlines connecting Madurai and Tiruchirapalli airports with India's main cities

**By Train** Dindigul is the nearest train station stop and it is an 1 hrs drive onto Rajakkad. Dindigul is a major stop on the main line from Chennai heading down to the Peninsular of South India. There are very frequent trains during both night and day.

**By Car** The roads in Tamil Nadu are excellent and Rajakkad can easily be reached from various locations. Tell us where you are coming from and we will work out the best itinerary for you.





## Rates

### 2012 /2013 Rates

| Rajakkad Estate | All Year Round - Prices in INR |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Room Kokkupara  | Single 5 500 - Double 6 500    |
| Room Nainamalai | Single 6 500 - Double 7 500    |
| Room Athukkadu  | Single 5 000 - Double 6 000    |
| Room Poolathur  | Single 6 500 - Double 7 500    |
| Room Kanalkadu  | Single 6 000 - Double 7 000    |
| Room Kattaikadu | Single 6 000 - Double 7 000    |
| Room Pullaveli  | Single 6 000 - Double 7 000    |
| Room Ovamali    | Single 5 000                   |

- Rates are inclusive of Breakfast & Dinner + Anytime tea or coffee
- Rates are valid until 31st November 2013
- All prices are subject to 12.5% government tax
- Rajakkad offers wifi internet but no TV
- Extra Bed INR 1000. Children below 3 years free of charge
- Lunch is A La Carte

## Rent Rajakkad

Rajakkad has the perfect size and intimacy for a small group, be it family, friends, or a retreat. We can accommodate up to 15 people: 3 rooms with double beds, 4 rooms with twin or king size configuration, and 1 room with single bed. Contact us for rates.

## Reservation

To make a booking send your inquiry to [reservation@rajakkadestate.com](mailto:reservation@rajakkadestate.com) with a copy to [piocoff@yahoo.com](mailto:piocoff@yahoo.com)

Our web site is [www.rajakkadestate.com](http://www.rajakkadestate.com)

To talk to us contact Pio Coffrant [Hotel Manager] at +919811797361 or Robesh George [Rajakkad Estate Manager] at +918973444555.

Our address is Rajakkad Estate, Perumparai Post, Manjelparappu Branch Office, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu 624212.



## Press Reviews

*A family of chocolatiers restored Rajakkad Garden Hotel in Kerala—and then moved it 200km east across the Western Ghats. Amana Fontanella-Khan tells its fascinating story*

Sometimes the most sought-after places to holiday are not hotels but the residences of extraordinary people. For many years, Rajakkad Garden Hotel, an 18th-century palace, was one such retreat. Bought and restored in the early 1990s by Englishman Jeremy Fry of the Fry chocolate family, the property was passed down to his son, Francis, after his death in 2005. Over the years, British aristocrats, writers and intellectuals have all stayed as personal guests but in January, Rajakkad will open its doors as a regular hotel, less than two hours from Madurai.

Conde Nast Traveller

Read More

<http://www.cntraveller.in/content/sweet-retreat>

### *Rajakkad Garden Hotel*

Lush estates, architectural heritage and at the heart of an old plantation called Rajakkad. The curious thing is that this fabulous eighteenth-century wooden structure began life as a palace—in Kerala. Pallam Palace was bought by Englishman Jeremy Fry in pieces and he reassembled the house here in Rajakkad in the 1990s. Eight unique bedrooms are set around a pattern of courtyards and pools. Altogether delightful.

Outlook Traveller

Read More

<http://travel.outlookindia.com/article.aspx?279228>

### *Sawdays Special Places To Stay*

...From the winding road clinging to the Western Ghats, lime-green vistas full to bursting unfurl below. A tiny road wiggles through a village, then the track wends ever upwards, through a working coffee and pepper estate to end before an avenue of stately trees and an 18th-century palace built on holistic Vastu principles. The building exudes a blissful quietude. Rooms, courtyards and verandas are multiple and wonderful in shape and style, lattice screens deflect torrential rains and encourage breezes, and minimalist design is enlivened by splashes of rich colour from paintings, linens and sweet vases of flowers. Soft-spoken Francis Fry is the man behind all this elegant beauty, and his passionate and unobtrusively compassionate approach touches staff, animals and all who stay; the place shines with bonhomie. Food from the gardens is mouth-wateringly delicious, bedrooms are languorous and mattresses divine. Extravagant wildlife includes giant squirrels and barking deer, a cacophony of treetop birdlife soothes the soul and a swim under the tiered waterfall will stay in the memory for ever.