

Spa with a view

India

Ananda – in the Himalayas

This is the view from the balcony of the fifth-floor Deluxe Valley Room at Ananda, the award-winning destination spa in the foothills of the Himalayas. Once the private residence of Maharaja Tehri-Garhwal, it is now one of the best centres for Ayurveda in Asia. All rooms except the presidential suite are housed in an accommodation block just below the main palace, surrounded by forest. Ground-floor suites come with their own private outdoor space, and this room overlooks the beautiful gardens of the Ananda Suite. The terrace being used

here for yoga is infinitely adaptable, frequently transforming into a tented pavilion for intimate dinners. The gardens are planted with willows, palm trees and decorative, scented hedges; the rounded one in the foreground is night jasmine. Beyond the garden is a thick tropical forest of deciduous sal trees which tumbles down to the holy town of Rishikesh, just visible in the background with the Ganges sweeping off into the distance just beyond it.

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