Summer Retreats

India's hill stations have long been a refuge from the heat of the plains. Indeed, in the days of the British Raj, the government would move to Shimla in the Himalayan foothills, and further south officials would head for Ooty in the Western Ghats. These and other locations have evolved to become summer retreats, where you can "escape" and relax. Here we list five fine examples, offering a variety of environments, activities and facilities.





Glenburn Tea Estate

The Glenburn Tea Estate - Darjeeling

In the shadow of Kanchenjunga, Glenburn Tea Estate covers 1,600 acres. Here you can simply relax in the tranquil environment or explore the plantation - hiking or bird watching. Historic suites and gastronomic delights will enhance your stay.

Wildflower Hall - In the Himalayas - Shimla

In the breathtaking Himalayas, Wildflower Hall is set in a pine and cedar forest. Beautifully restored to re-create grand colonial style, the bedrooms, restaurants and heated swimming pool all enjoy magnificent mountain views. This world-class spa offers holistic treatments to relax and rejuvenate.



Wildflower Hall

The Oberoi Cecil - Shimla

The Oberoi Cecil reflects Shimla's rich colonial history. Restored to its original grandeur, the Oberoi Cecil is a celebration of the elegance and grace of the Colonial era. Built around a beautiful atrium, the rooms enjoy magnificent mountain views. A heated swimming pool makes the Cecil a luxury resort for all seasons. It offers traditional reviving treatments.

Kalmatia Sangam Himalaya Resort - Almora

In the heart of the Kumaon hills is Kalmatia Sangam, a delightful "collection" of ten colonial-style cottages dotted around a magical woodland hillside. Each cottage is unique and designed with an eye to contemporary Indian style. There are spectacular views of the Himalayas. Activities include massage, hiking, visiting local villages, temples and the Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary.



Munnar

Windermere Estate - Munnar

Set in beautiful hills near Munnar, Windermere Estate is where manicured tea plantations merge with the lush green forests of the Western Ghats. Hallmarked for its hospitality and tranquil location, Windermere is a 60-acre cardamom plantation where you can escape the lowland heat.