

THE DIAMOND STANDARD
**A CUT
ABOVE**

SPECIAL FEATURE

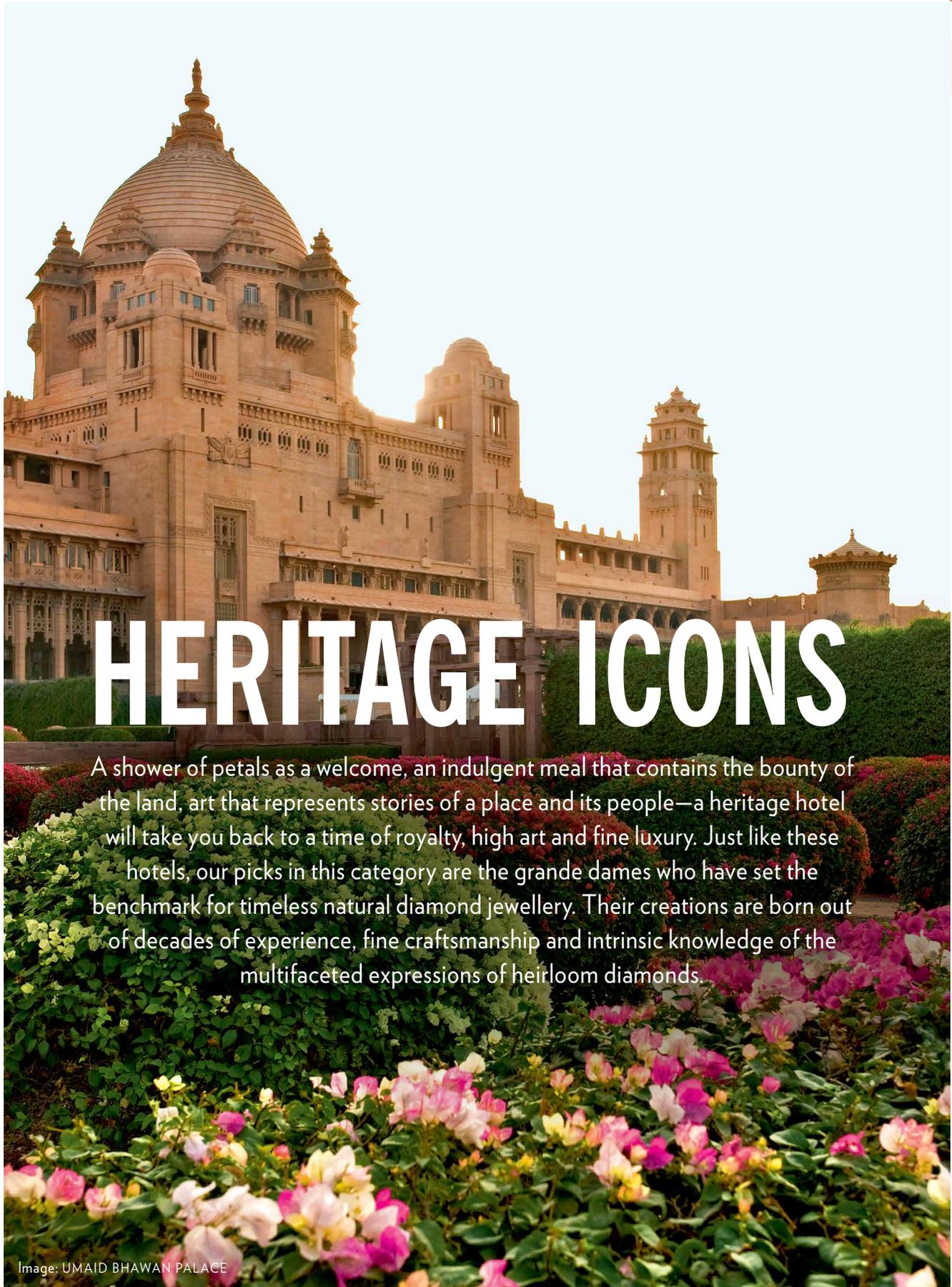
For the first time in India, Condé Nast Traveller presents The Gold List 2022, a selection of the world's finest hotels, personally chosen by our editors across the world. These are the hotels where we make memories we will always treasure. And when we think about treasures, about the things we love, naturally, we think of natural diamonds! As part of this exclusive issue, our editors have curated The Diamond Standard List featuring jewellery brands from across India, as a recognition for being the best of the best. Whether the occasion is a destination wedding in Jaipur or a romantic dinner in Paris, these jewellers have set the standard for natural diamonds as the ultimate travel accessory.

NATURAL
DIAMOND
COUNCIL

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Condé Nast
Traveller

Image: GANJAM , Photographer : Prabuddha Dasgupta



HERITAGE ICONS

A shower of petals as a welcome, an indulgent meal that contains the bounty of the land, art that represents stories of a place and its people—a heritage hotel will take you back to a time of royalty, high art and fine luxury. Just like these hotels, our picks in this category are the grande dames who have set the benchmark for timeless natural diamond jewellery. Their creations are born out of decades of experience, fine craftsmanship and intrinsic knowledge of the multifaceted expressions of heirloom diamonds.

Image: UMAID BHAWAN PALACE

GANJAM

Headquartered in Bengaluru, Ganjam's fine jewellery is born in India and designed for the world. Established in 1889, the brand has created natural diamond jewellery for royals, celebrities and the discerning aesthete. The beauty of each Ganjam piece lies in its intersection of heritage and modernity. Bespoke designs with their roots in Ganjam's rich legacy make for elegant, versatile pieces that make you shine wherever in the world you might be. Imagine a pair of glamorous solitaire earrings for that dinner date in Venice or a majestic diamond pendant for a luxurious evening at a Russian opera. This is modern heritage for today's traveller crafted in natural diamonds.



SPECIAL FEATURE



KHURANA JEWELLERY HOUSE

Established in 1951, Khurana Jewellery House is known for its superior craftsmanship, quality and design that has stood the test of time. Located in Amritsar, the brand puts a twist on traditional craftsmanship with their special curation of Destination Wedding Jewels. This collection features standout natural diamond jewellery that includes elegant shoulder dusters, bold cocktail rings and versatile pieces like tennis bracelets that can double up as chokers. Their bridal sets are easy to wear, perfect for the modern bride, or her best friend who wants to dance the night away. With an unconventional twist to each piece, the collection is tailored to cater to different settings. Whether you're set for a cruise in the Mediterranean or a wedding in Rajasthan, Khurana has you covered.

GEM PALACE

As one of India's oldest jewellery houses, Gem Palace has been the atelier of choice for generations of discerning consumers from royalty to first ladies and men and women who appreciate the perfection that lies in a natural diamond. Rooted in Jaipur's art and culture, this jewellery house helmed by the Kasliwal family has been at the forefront of taking the aesthetics, architecture and history of the Pink City to the world. The legendary Munnu Kasliwal believed that the true beauty of natural diamond jewellery is revealed over time across generations and his son Siddharth carries forward the vision. The same necklace worn by three generations of women on their holidays to Europe becomes part of new travel stories. Their coveted rings are conversation starters whether you are in a bar in Manhattan or at a soiree in Montmartre. Every piece designed by Gem Palace is meant to be timeless and while firmly rooted in their home city of Jaipur, is equally at home in the world.



NAC JEWELLERS

The journey of NAC Jewellers began more than a century ago in 1917 when Shri Nathella Narayana Chetty started a small jewellery business out of his home. Today, under the aegis of Anand Ramanujam and Arjun Varadaraj, it has expanded to a chain of ateliers across India and they continue the legacy of their forefathers with pride. Connoisseurs of rare, timeless jewellery, NAC Jewellers boast of a natural diamond collection that has enchanted loyal patrons for decades. Their stores are a dazzling showcase of everything from exquisite nose studs to a versatile range of diamond solitaire jewellery. These are pieces that bring the perfect touch of romance to a night out in Paris, or a dash of glamour to a milestone birthday on a beach resort.



THE CLASSICS

Some of the best hotels we love and return to over and over are classics. These are the properties that always live up to expectations and never fail to charm. More like a home away from home, these boutique getaways are perfect for intimate celebrations rooted in a place and its culture. Our picks of bespoke ateliers mirror the uniqueness of these classic hotels. They are the brands whose natural diamond jewellery achieves a beautiful balance between individual style, modernity and traditional craftsmanship, making every piece a story unto itself.



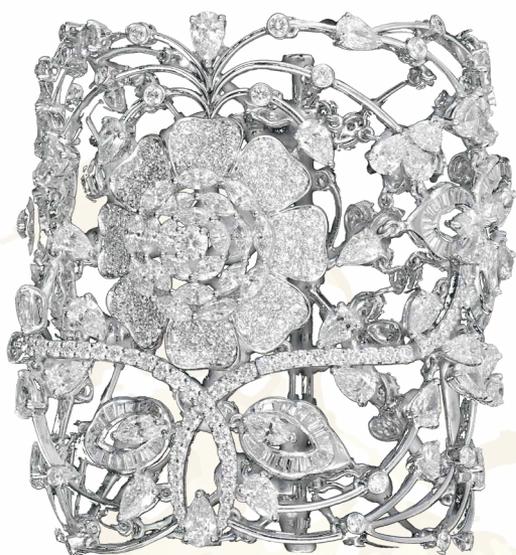
ANMOL

From adding sparkle and glamour to the biggest Bollywood stars to being the go-to choice for trend-conscious millennials, this Mumbai-based brand is the perfect showcase of modern natural diamond jewellery. Each piece reflects the brand's dedication to an aesthetic that melds beauty, craftsmanship and symbolism. Anmol's natural diamond jewellery is the perfect accessory for the discerning traveller. This is the person who flies thousands of kilometres to hear a symphony orchestra or chooses a village in Denmark for its superlative cuisine. Anmol's designs are made with such individuality in mind. From a minimal and elegant diamond bracelet to a dazzling pair of statement diamond earrings, these are jewels for those who travel just as they dream.



DE BEERS FOREVERMARK

Focusing on the splendour of ethically sourced gems, De Beers Forevermark's jewellery is a tribute to the everlasting nature of real diamonds. The brand's commitment to showcasing the beauty and rarity of natural diamonds reflects across all their designs, making every piece a statement piece whether you are wearing it at an airport lounge or a glittering party on the French Riviera. The brand's collections are designed for women with strength and resilience. Each piece can be worn stacked or layered to reflect individual style and character. When combined, the look features multiple diamonds that can adapt to your style wherever in the world you might be.



JAIPUR GEMS

Jaipur Gems has created a niche for itself in the world of bridal jewellery, making pieces that are every woman's dream wedding accessory. The brand draws its inspiration from nature, architecture and the family's own heirlooms—the end result is handcrafted perfection and timeless jewels. These are pieces designed for grand destination weddings. From a fairytale celebration in a Scottish castle to royal nuptials in a palace in Rajasthan, this is an atelier whose natural diamond jewellery will make every bride feel like a queen. Their iconic diamond chokers work for the bride and her mother. The shimmer of diamonds not only make the day and the destination special but also become a part of the family's collective memories and legacy. With conscious luxury and impeccable design at its core, each piece created by Jaipur Gems is a modern heirloom.



MOKSH - FINE UNSEEN JEWELS

With designs that redefine glamour and style for the modern woman, Moksh creates jewellery that makes an individual style statement. These are pieces that transcend season-specific trends or fashion cues and are timeless. Whether you're dressing for a caviar brunch in New York or accessorising for an art opening in Basel, Moksh's diamond jewellery can be paired effortlessly with a variety of ensembles. Each piece from the Mumbai-based store is accentuated with baguette natural diamonds, rubies, sapphires and emeralds. Their Paro collection is inspired by the traditional prayer wheels found in Bhutan's Buddhist temples and is an example of how a place and a story infuses their design.



AVANT-GARDE TRENDSETTERS

Artistic style, chic interiors, conscious luxury and a sustainable approach set our favourite new-age hotels apart from the rest. From state-of-the-art rooms, tech-forward design and experiences customised to the person and the place, these are hotels that care about their carbon footprint as much as their aesthetics. Our pick of jewellery houses in this category are equally edgy in their designs as they are about the provenance of natural diamonds.

These are the brands that represent sleek sophistication and a keen futuristic style born from a fusion of art and science.



Image: RAJMAHAL PALACE

VAK JEWELS

Vishal Kothari pushes the boundaries of Indian craftsmanship and design with his collection of edgy, artisanal natural diamond jewellery. His beautiful atelier located at the Royal Opera House in Mumbai represents the aesthetic of his brand and the art of slow luxury. Each piece is a seamless canvas of rare gemstones, skillfully set to emphasise their beauty. A master of metallurgy, his jewellery marries portrait-cut natural diamonds with rare coloured gemstones to create one-of-a-kind jewellery that makes the ideal accessory for the woman who is a globe trotter and equally at home in a safari in South Africa or a skiing vacation in the Alps.



SPECIAL FEATURE



HOUSE OF UMRAO

Mumbai-based House of Umrao is one of the newest and most exciting fine jewellery brands in India today. Anuj Shah, Creative Director of the brand, designs jewellery that is inspired by the world around him. Galleries, art deco buildings, flea markets like Chor Bazaar and even classic Hollywood movies like Casablanca play an important role in his creative process. But while the inspiration may come from the 1950s and 70s, his techniques and craftsmanship are very much for the 21st-century consumer. Using the finest natural diamonds and gemstones, each piece can transition with ease from the airport to a business conference right up to an evening soiree. Easy to wear and carry, House of Umrao caters to the modern woman who loves to travel with jewellery that is chic and makes a statement.



VRK BY KHANNA JEWELLERS

Impeccable craftsmanship and forward-thinking design sets the tone for New Delhi-based VRK's show-stopping diamond jewellery for over six decades. Their experimental jewellery is engineered for a modern, youthful audience and make for occasion-based show-stoppers, or everyday statement pieces. Vibrant colours enhance the sparkle of natural diamonds with fun, playful designs that highlight the natural character of the precious stones. These pieces are perfect to take you from the beach to a bachelorette and work whether you are in a luxury resort in Ibiza or a quiet beach on the Andamans.

MIRARI

You know a Mirari design when you see one. Created by award-winning gemologist Mira Gulati, this Delhi-based brand draws inspiration from the East and the West, to create jewellery that blends a contemporary aesthetic with traditional craftsmanship. From delicate lotus earrings set with natural diamonds and rubies to layered diamond necklaces, these are pieces that can be worn to a temple ceremony in South India or to the opening night of a Broadway musical in Manhattan.



THE DIAMOND DISRUPTOR

SPECIAL FEATURE

SABYASACHI JEWELLERY

Launched in 2017, Sabyasachi Jewellery emerged as a gamechanger on the scene, breaking all rules and creating a dizzying blend of minimalism, maximalism, fine natural diamonds and the designer's own creative vision. Celebrating Indian heritage, art and craftsmanship along with modern technology, each piece tells a different story. The inspiration for Sabyasachi's jewellery comes from the far corners of the country, from the historic mines of Golconda to the poetic past of Lucknow and the colonial history of Travancore. Vintage designs and legendary natural diamonds provide cues for their signature offerings where brilliantly cut diamonds are paired with a medley of other precious stones to dazzling effect. Rooted in a strong sense of place and an Indian ethos, these are jewels that are versatile, fluid pieces that millennials could wear while sightseeing in Barcelona or Berlin. At the same time they are wonderful symbols of our culture which a bride could wear to her traditional wedding ceremony in a Kolkata rajbari or a lavish royal wedding in Rajasthan.