

Summer *Time Gladness*

As the nip in the air is slowly replaced by a stifling stuffiness and the proverbial beads of perspiration begin to form on your brow, you know summer cometh and that can only mean one thing: it's time to escape. Make like the *angrez* lords and ladies and pop up to the mountains (or near them) for a spell, where you can be sure the heat will be staved off for just a while longer and you can pretend the hot months are still far away

COMPILED BY SHARMEEN HUSSAIN





SPLURGE!

8 PRIMROSE VILLAS, CHIKMAGALUR, KARNATAKA

High up in the mountains of the Western Ghats is a place that, once you've seen it, will make you want to leave the city for good. Primrose Villas, in Chikmagalur, has an allure that's almost hypnotic. Jacobean- and Victorian-era furniture sits neatly inside stunning villas, some of which have entire glass walls that make you feel like you're outside the whole time. Any city-slicker, accustomed to cramped spaces, will love the high ceilings and the feeling of openness that the villas offer. The sounds of silence here would make Simon and Garfunkel go dizzy, the calm a soothing balm for frazzled urban nerves. Activities on offer include coffee estate walks, treks through the surrounding hills and trips to nearby Primrose Farm. Come mealtime and you can choose to eat under the stars or have a private barbecue in your villa, while the sounds of the mountains echo around you.

i Closest airport & railhead: Bangalore Airport (265km); Kadur Railway Station (35km)

Make it happen: <http://primrosevillas.com>; residences from ₹ 11,000, villas from ₹ 17,000

