



Sunlight pours into the library, where a log-cabin-inspired jharokha and intricate stained-glass windows create a favourite morning retreat. The space features a Mars Attack table by AKFD Studio, vintage kilims, sound-treated ceilings, and lighting by The White Teak Company and light&you; (OPPOSITE PAGE) Now you see it, now you don't: reclaimed wood doors conceal the elegant zinc-clad bar unit in one corner of the patio – perfect for drinks before (or after) dinner



MEMORIES IN MALLORCA

This 22,000 sq ft Jaipur mansion by M-A Architects and AKDS Studio is a Spanish-fort fantasia brought to life with bespoke interiors and modern detailing.

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Framed by a stone wall, the bar patio is a swish, semi-covered retreat, featuring a zinc-clad bar, Hybec lighting, Anantaya decor, and AKFD Studio's Fold lounge chair, side, and centre tables



Oversized floral motifs in marble and brass inlay emblazon the foyer floor, setting the stage for the quiet theatre that follows: AKFD Studio furniture and Il Fanale lights from light&you. The doors are by Schüco International



The foyer exudes a quiet grandeur, featuring a slender arched ceiling, brass and mother of pearl flooring, and an indigo wall punctuated by a vintage mirror and underpinned by an AKFD Studio bench. Il Fanale lights, sourced via light&you, crown the setting

HOME JAIPUR

Evoking a royal pavilion, the dining room centres on a monolithic stone table and chairs by AKFD Studio, bathed in the glow of a Windfall chandelier from Emery Studio and Philippe Starck lamps



The charming pistachio kitchen, with Rococo-inspired details, is full of clever optical illusions: the pan holder doubles as a light, while the custom island by AKFD Studio is a versatile trolley that can be wheeled from room to room



On a trip to Mallorca many moons ago, entrepreneur Puneet Sanghi stumbled upon a charming hotel. One half was a heritage fort, the other a contemporary addition – a postcard from the past, perfectly stamped into the present. “That really sparked the concept,” says Puneet of his family home in Jaipur, which he shares with his brother, Ambrish, their respective wives, Shweta and Devyani, and their children. As fourth-generation automobile entrepreneurs, the brothers’ careers had taken them across the world, shaping not only their outlook but, over the years, their home as well.

In the years that followed, the Sanghis brought that vision to life – but not before trying, and failing, to find the perfect architect. “I must have met about 10 before we finally settled on the one,” Puneet recalls – referring, in fact, to two: Sangeeta and Sharad Maithel of Jaipur-based MA Architects, whom he enlisted to lead what ultimately became the first installment of the project, translating the concept into an architectural framework that respected both heritage and contemporary influences. Their work laid the foundation: an eight-bedroom dwelling with a Spanish-style fort, expansive courtyards, sandstone-clad surfaces, and thoughtful modern interventions, complete with a bell tower, lap pool, and a full-fledged spa.

By 2023, however, the home had evolved – as had the family. The children had grown, the patriarch had passed on, and the Sanghis’ lives had taken new directions. Reshaping the home, both literally and figuratively, had become imperative. And who better to undertake it than someone who knew the family intimately and could anticipate their needs largely unprompted? Enter Ayush Kasliwal of Jaipur-based Ayush Kasliwal Design

Studio, a cherished childhood friend of the brothers, who not only completed the remaining architecture but also took full charge of the interiors. Ayush curated every detail – from custom furniture and lighting to artisanal accents, material choices and art – imbuing the house with a sense of soul and cohesion.

Puneet’s unusual requests – a garden wind chime, a fireplace, a massage area, even a barber chair – set the tone for Ayush’s interventions. In refurbishing the older section, he retained the stone envelope while layering modern elements, creating a striking contrast: the ‘fort’ houses rustic entertainment spaces, while the living areas, including the bedrooms, are distinctly contemporary. Throughout, Ayush maintained an authentic material palette. “Wood had to be real wood, and metal had to be real metal” – an ethos that ensured a harmonious blend of old and new.

The designer’s influence can be felt in every corner: zinc roofing, elegant teak furniture, antique planters and a gazebo with a Stygian metal fireplace that the family uses daily in winter, evoking the charm of a hill-station cottage. The library, bathed in sunlight, features a log-cabin-style *jharokha* and delicate stained-glass windows – a favourite spot for morning retreats. Even the exterior bears subtle signatures, from a decorative directional element inspired by a rotating statue on Kolkata’s Victoria Memorial to “the bench”, a bespoke wooden creation for Puneet’s wedding, whose polish and craftsmanship remain pristine.

“Visitors often say the house feels like a work of art,” Puneet concludes, “and I feel it reflects my life’s journey – from old to modern and everything in between.” Amen to that.

◆ akfdstudio.com

The informal lounge is a masterclass in contrasts, where expansive glass windows meet solid, sculptural furniture. AKFD Studio’s Noguchi Sofa and brass coffee table, a BoConcept chair and stool, artwork by Shrishti Rana, a dramatic Adriano Rachele floral light, and rugs by Hands Carpets infuse the room with vibrant energy (OPPOSITE PAGE) Bamboo screens ensure total seclusion around the houndstooth-edged infinity pool, while AKFD Studio’s BDSM chair doubles as the ultimate poolside perch for drinks. A sculpture by Nikhil Bhandari rests to the left





Bathed in brick-red tones and inspired by ancient wellness rituals, the spa offers a tranquil escape with an in-situ stone jacuzzi topped in Timberstone nano, cosy warm-toned walls and ambient lighting by The White Teak Company (OPPOSITE PAGE) The courtyards, enveloped by stone walls, are lush sanctuaries that help demarcate the private areas from the communal ones. The bird bath is a custom design by AKFD Studio, while the doors are by Schüco International



AKDS STUDIO, based in Jaipur, is a multidisciplinary design practice renowned for its fusion of traditional craftsmanship and contemporary design. Founded in 1997 by Ayush Kasliwal, the studio specialises in creating bespoke furniture, lighting, and installations that reflect India's rich artisanal heritage. Their work is characterised by a commitment to quality, sustainability, and innovation, offering unique design solutions for residential, hospitality, and retail spaces.

WHAT'S THE ONE DESIGN RISK YOU'RE GLAD YOU TOOK?
The spa area. Fully colour-drenched in deep red and rust, it was a bold departure from convention.

WHICH OBJECT IN THE HOUSE HAS THE BEST BACKSTORY?
They all have stories but a standout is the stainless-steel doughnut wall installation that Puneet spotted in a Berlin gallery and ordered via video call with Ayush.

IF YOU COULD SWAP ONE PIECE FOR YOUR OWN, WHAT WOULD IT BE?
Puneet's original Corbusier lounge. I tried repeatedly to negotiate a trade, but Puneet never relented.