

### **Bhakti Kutir**

Far southern end of the beach, on the hill dividing Palolem from Colom @08321264 3469 or 264 3472, www/.bhaktikutir.com. Environmentally friendly, Indian-village-style "Eco Hots" equipped with Western amenities (including completely biodegradable chemical toilets), set amid mature gardens five minutes' walk from the south end of Palolem beach, on the headland above the fishing village. Beautifully situated, discreet and sensitively designed to blend with the landscape by its German-Goan owners. The new double-storey units, aimed at families, offer more space, and there's a quality Ayurvedic healing centre on site.

### **Pritham's Cottages**

Down a lane north of Pundalik Gaitondi Rd. Quiet, two-story block of budget rooms in the center of the village: they're bigger than average, have attached bathrooms and share a common veranda.

### **River Valley**

North end of beach behind Cozy Nook @m9822/155502, OR srmh2141@hotmail.com. This small hut camp and its young owner, Manju, offer one of the most consistently hospitable and pleasant budget options in the village. Named after sacred Indian rivers, the ten bamboo huts (sharing three toilets) are in a nice open compound with beautiful views across the estuary to the hills and forest. Good value for the location, which is a lot more relaxing than comparable sites on the beach. A sound budget choice.

### **Sevas**

Far southern end of the beach, on the hill dividing Palolem from Colom @m9326/1 17674 or @m9422/055437, www.sevaspalolem.com. A cheaper, less sophisticated version of Bhakti Kutir, but beautifully done all the same, and the site is peaceful. The "ethnic" cabanas have traditional rice-straw roofs, mud-and-dung floors, hygienic squat-style loos and bucket baths. They also offer massages and yoga classes, and there's a pleasant restaurant serving very good thalis for Rs90.

### **Shanti Kutir**

North end of beach behind River Valley and Dream Catcher @m9422/450392 or to m9960/91 7150. Kerelan-run hut camp of 30 huts (some en suite) on stilts; pleasantly secluded and with an appealing location on the river. Rates vary according to proximity to the water.

### **Virgin Beach Resort**

Palolem village to 0832/264 3451. New tiled rooms in a modern three-story block near the lane running from the main junction in the village to the far north end of the beach. Not exactly the kind of architecture that enhances the village's natural feel, but it's an out-of-the-way spot and some may consider the comfort and security a good trade-off, and it's good value.

### **Claran's Camp**

South end of the beach 0832/264 3477, @www.ciarans.com. Luxury huts ranged around a lawn, each with stone-tiled floors, mosquito nets and bathrooms.

A breezy spot right on the beachfront, and a more stylish set up than most – though prices are comparable with star hotels elsewhere in Goa.

### **Cozy Nook**

North end of the beach, near the island @0832/264 3550. One of the most attractive setups in the village, comprised of 25 bamboo huts (sharing seven toilets, but with good mattresses, mosquito nets, safe lockers and fans) opening onto the lagoon on one side and the beach on the other – an unbeatable spot, which explains the higher than average tariffs.

### **D'Mello**

Pundalik Gaitondi Rd @0832/264 3057. A mix of en-suite and shared-bathroom rooms on three stories, some in a concrete annexe set back from the main road. Well maintained, and most have balconies.

### **Dream Catcher**

North end of the beach behind Cozy Nook @0832/264 4873 or @m9822/1 37446, @lalalandiackie7@yahoo.com. Individually styled, very glam Kerala style huts, with more space, better mattresses, nicer textiles, bigger windows and sturdier foundations than most, in a plum position by the riverside. The couple who run it have also built a shaded yoga *shala* for classes, and there's a 'chillout-ambient bar.' Prices are on the high side, to say the least, but so are the standards.

### **Oceanic**

Tembi Waddo @0832/264 3059, www.hotel-oceanic.com. Ten minutes' walk inland from the beach; also reachable via the backroad to Chaudi. Owned and managed by a resident British couple, its rooms are tastefully fitted out, with large mosquito nets, blockprinted bedspreads and bedside lamps. There's also a pool on a wooded terrace behind and a quality restaurant.

### **Ordo Sounsar**

Far southern end of Palolem beach, on the far side of the creek (look for the rickety footbridge to the right as you head for the island) @m9822/488769 or @m9422/639497, @www.ordosounsatoom. Run by a hospitable brother and sister team, Serafin and Shelly, this is Palolem's most idyllic and friendly hut camp, tucked away on the tranquil side of the river. The huts themselves are a generous size, comfortably furnished and well spaced, with great sitouts to lounge on and funky thatched roofs; and there's a sociable bar, excellent restaurant and snooker table.

### **Café del Sol**

9823313981; kennedy@sancharnet.in; huts up to 6 people Rs 1000-3400) and **Café del Mar** (huts Rs 950-1400) are built and managed by the same people, and have similarly distinctive huts. The difference between them is that Café del Sol is a lot quieter, whereas Café del Mar has a 24-hour bar; the music is turned down at midnight but never actually stops. Other than the noise, it's a lovely sociable and comfortable place to stay, with stylish and well-facilitated huts.

### **Fernandes**

2643743; huts Rs 1000-1400) Pleasant though somewhat overpriced spacious wooden huts with raised balconies. The restaurant also gets good reviews

### **Flavia Paradise**

2643676; r without bathroom Rs 200, beachfront r Rs 500) Good value considering its location; the pleasant verandas and balconies are quite close together. It can be a sociable place.

### **Oceanic Hotel**

2643059; www.hotel-oceanic.com; Tembiwaddo; r Rs 1500-2500. This delightful white building is set off the beach on the road between Palolem and Patnem. It is a lovely space that has a more private feel than many other options in Palolem, and boasts the only swimming pool around (which outsiders call use for Rs 200).

### **Palolem Guest House )**

2644880; palolemguesthouse@hotmail.com; r Rs 1400-2000, huts to 400; Popular with the slightly older crowd who aren't into late-night music and have done their fair share of budget hotels, Palolem Guest House offers spacious rooms that are well-equipped with everything that you could need (including TV, air-con and hot water) and a cozy restaurant. There are two cheap and basic huts on the premises.

### **Bridge & Tunnel**

9326100699; shoumirsh@rtdiffnial.com; huts Rs 900-2500) Some of the huts here are not the best value in town, but Bridge & Tunnel is beyond reproach in light of its location right on the headland of rocks. Climb up one side of the rocks and down the other to get to your hut and your own private little stretch of sand. The huts are pleasantly spaced away from each other.

### **Palolem Beach Resort**

2643054; www.gainms.cemlpalelembeachresort; tents with/without bathroom Rs 450/350, r with/without AC Is 700/1200. Surprisingly well-priced for so professionally run an establishment, Palolem Beach Resort has tents and rooms set around a pleasant grassed area. Basic tents are set up on solid concrete grounds, and have twin beds and a fan; the shared bathroom is clean. There are also rooms that are good value for their location and compared to their neighbors. It's a pleasant place for families to stay with the small playground in the middle of the well-kept and friendly grounds.

### **Hotel Good Shepherd**

2643814; swith/without bathroom Rs 200/150, d with bathroom Rs 350) Hotel Good Shepherd is a central but well-priced budget hotel. There is a common balcony area, and the restaurant downstairs is a good night-time hangout. This is an economic option for solo travelers who don't want to pay for a whole cocohut; there are a couple of clean single rooms with a bed, desk and shared or private bathroom.