

Coffee And More...

How does it feel to gaze at undulated mountain ranges covered with greenery as far as your eye can see? Throw in a dense coffee estate and the picturesque sight becomes all the more perfect. **Bindu Gopal Rao** checks into Halli Berri in Karnataka's coffee country of Chikmagalur to experience all this.



Halli Berri overlooks the magnificent Baba Budangiri mountain range

Emerald, olive, chartreuse, lime, shamrock, mint, fern, dark green, light green, there are so many shades of green. Well, I am not giving you a lesson in shades of green but describing the landscape near Chikmagalur. Awash with the first rains of the season, the landscape has morphed into these beautiful shades of green and seems like the perfect start as I reach my destination Halli Berri. Started and run by four women (yes you read that right, this is an all women plantation) of the

Kariappa family, Nalima and her three daughters; Maanavi, Anusha and Tejini the name of this place is after *halli* meaning village and *berri* for the coffee berry.

MAKING ROOM

Nestled in a quiet oasis, this coffee estate is at Kambhiahalli and overlooks the magnificent Baba Budangiri mountain range which is incidentally home to the highest peak in South India. The resort has two pretty, luxurious cottages called the Royalty Rooms of Halli Berri hospitality. Since

this place is meant for nature lovers, the rooms reflect the exact sentiment. The rooms are designed in such a way that you can experience a planter's life for the period you are here. Tastefully done interiors showcasing details from the Victorian era, the rooms are a perfect combination of tradition and contemporary. There are hints of Japanese zen, grounded in traditional South Indian roots and the glass walls offer a panoramic view of the estate. Each room has a private sit out, indoor and outdoor