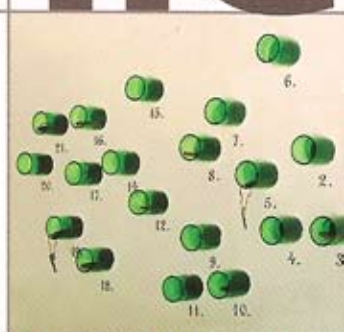


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mexico chic



new edition



Rodavento Boutique Hotel



THIS PAGE: Rodavento has an intriguing mix of luxury, adventure and rustic charm.

OPPOSITE (FROM LEFT): A warm reception awaits guests; the enticing pool after nightfall.

The leader in adventure tourism in Mexico today, Rio Y Montana was founded in 1995 by partners Waldemar Franco and Alfonso de La Parra. While working as river guides in Veracruz in 1993, the duo developed their concept of luxury adventure travel and have never looked back since.

Such are their impressive credentials that both men are incredibly suited to their business—Alfonso is one of a few Mexicans to have ever scaled Mount Everest successfully, so he certainly knows more than a thing or two about adventure travel. A talented architect, it was Waldemar who

...enjoy the excitement of rugged adventures and be treated to the incomparable luxury...



designed their signature boutique hotel, Rodavento, an oasis of luxury near the lakeside town of Valle de Bravo.

Located two hours from Mexico City, Valle de Bravo was built in the 19th century. Like a living museum, the town's colour and spirit are well preserved in the typical Mexican pueblos that line the cobblestone streets. Today these same streets feature gourmet restaurants, beautiful designer shops and a trendy nightlife that offer entertainment to the travellers who come here to escape the assaults of city living.

A great artificial lake sits by the town. Once part of a hydroelectric system to provide electricity for the expanding

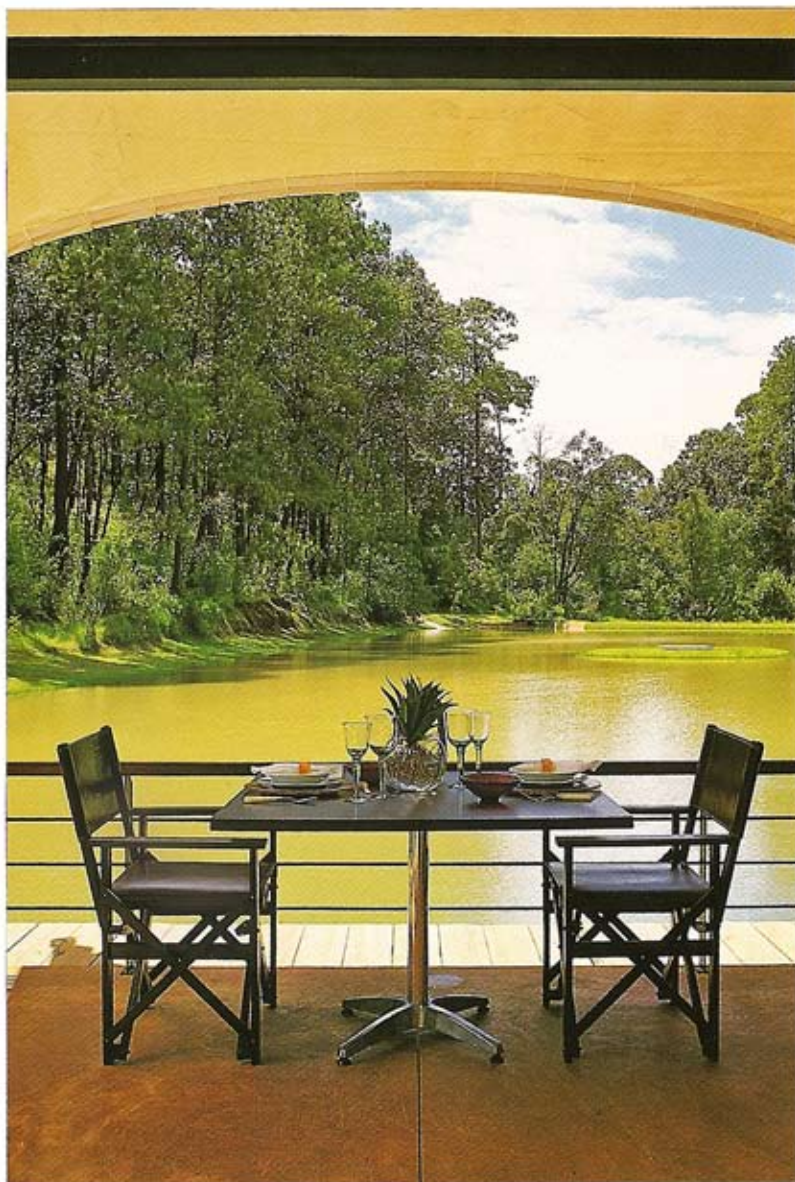
Mexico City, it is a heart of activity today, offering all manner of aquatic sports such as sailing, skiing, kayaking and fishing. Meanwhile, the mountains beyond present a host of other land-based activities from trekking and ATV tours to rock climbing and paragliding.

Located on its own private lake and designed by Waldemar and his architect associate Federico Gomez Crespo, the hotel combines deluxe simplicity and

functionality, while respecting the pine forest that surrounds the property. This unique architectural concept has earned Rodavento Boutique Hotel a deserving Honorable Mention at the Eighth National Architecture Biennial.

At Rodavento, guests are privy to the warmth and colour of Mexican culture. At the same time they can enjoy the excitement of rugged adventures and be treated to the incomparable luxury of a boutique hotel.





There are 28 gorgeous suites, all painted in earthy tones and appointed with king and double beds, soft cosy linens, and traditional Mexican rugs. Sliding glass doors open out to a sleek wooden deck from which guests can take in the beautiful views of the surrounding forest, gardens and lake. Naturally, every suite is outfitted with first-class amenities such as a controlled climate system, fireplace and electronic safety deposit boxes, among others.

The restaurant, housed in the property's main building or Club House, is a virtually all-glass architectural gem located on the lake's shore. Here, the food is as exquisite as it gets in Mexico. Guests are greeted by Rodavento's friendly staff as they arrive at the entrance and are invited to relax beside the fireplace in the lobby. Meals are served in a room that overlooks a crystal lagoon as staff bring out dishes of the chef's sublime specials, paired with a carefully put together wine list. At Rodavento's Lounge Bar, a unique range of home-grown martinis will most certainly excite the palate, all within the cosy ambience and glow of the splendid fireplace.

Suffice to say, a place like this is the perfect setting for an adventure. And at the Adventure Centre, guests make their way to its various attractions by following a trail

Meals are served in a room that overlooks a crystal lagoon...

laid out with original wooden beams from Mexico City's old railroad track. There is an amazing outdoor mountain bike trail as well as an exclusive single track trail that traces the hotel's perimeter with all sorts of surprises. Even the most deft of mountain bikers will find something challenging and thrilling to try.

For adrenaline from a higher plane, try the Tyrolean traverse. An exhilarating leap of faith, it involves participants being attached to a steel cable that is strung along six elevated platforms. A deep breath and they're soon gliding through the air, the ground well below them. Rappelling, kayaking, ATV tours and rock climbing are all there for the taking too. Those who prefer to take it easy can go on slow hikes or horseback rides, do an outdoor yoga class or simply chill in the outdoor pool and jacuzzi.

Last but not least Rodavento is surely a godsend for a luxury spa. And at the Spa Centre, guests can partake in therapeutic

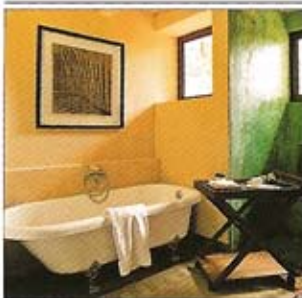


massages, holistic facials and the traditional Mexican Temascal—a pre-hispanic herbal steam bath—all of which were designed to soothe, heal and revitalise.

With such all-round services like these, it's no wonder guests at Rodavento feel like they never want to leave.

THIS PAGE: At the Club House, the restaurant offers an impressive wine list that complements perfectly with its menu.

OPPOSITE: Dine outdoors to enjoy the quiet and natural beauty that surround the restaurant.



PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF RODAVENTO BOUTIQUE HOTEL.

FACTS

ROOMS	20 suites • 8 king suites
FOOD	Rodavento: international
DRINK	Lounge Bar
FEATURES	spa • adventure centre • kids club • group and convention facilities
NEARBY	Valle de Bravo • Toluca City • Mexico City
CONTACT	Km 3.5 Valle de Bravo-Los Saucos Highway, Valle de Bravo, State of Mexico 51200 • telephone: +52.55.5292 5032 through 35 • facsimile: +52.55.5292 5036 • email: adriana@rioymontana.com • website: www.rodavento.com