

# TBS

**Trendy Travel Trade with Food & Shop**  
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A bride and groom are standing on a balcony with a wooden railing. The bride is wearing a white wedding dress with a long veil and holding a bouquet of white flowers. The groom is wearing a dark suit with a white shirt and a dark bow tie. They are looking at each other. The background shows large windows with a view of palm trees and a building with intricate white patterns.

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## PUBLISHER'S NOTE



Dear Reader,

Whether you're in the process of planning your destination wedding, honeymoon or simply a romantic getaway for two, this Spring 2019 September issue of T3FS has something for you. In this issue, you'll find the trusty departments some of you may have come to count on, as well as some new and exciting features that strive to aide and inspire.

In trade we focused on destination wedding. A woman has had a lifetime of practice at planning and preparation for her wedding. You might have envisioned it all in your head, and thought that you had every detail on paper, but when it comes to the real planning, your childhood fantasies fade away and the grim reality of the tediousness of planning such a big day finally hits you.

Destination weddings are a popular way to tie the knot and there's no question why. Imagine exchanging vows in the most dreamlike setting with close friends and family by your side. While traditional wedding planning can be overwhelming and expensive, destination wedding planning shouldn't be.

In Hospitality we featured various hotels for destination wedding. Among which Atlantis the palm is one of them.

Capable of hosting celebrations of all sizes and styles, Atlantis, The Palm is one of the Middle East's most iconic wedding and honeymoon destinations.

Couples choosing to tie the knot at Atlantis, The Palm can be rest assured that their wedding day will be like no other, with a dedicated planner on hand to perfectly orchestrate every last detail of their special day. With such a diverse selection of venues on offer, Atlantis is not just one destination; it's a collection of seven individual venues, each with its own character. The Royal Beach and Asateer Tent serve as magnificent backdrops for a mandap setting. Asateer, on the beach, provides a spectacular venue for weddings, offering a fusion of the exotic and opulent, with marble floors, water features and impressive views of the Dubai skyline. For those dreaming of a grand reception, there is the opulent Atlantis Ballroom, which accommodate up to 2,500 guests cocktail style, or 1,200 seated, boasting their own private entrances for the ultimate in exclusive luxury.

In lifestyle, we covered prominent fashion designers with their wedding collection.

Happy Reading

*Vedika Sharma*

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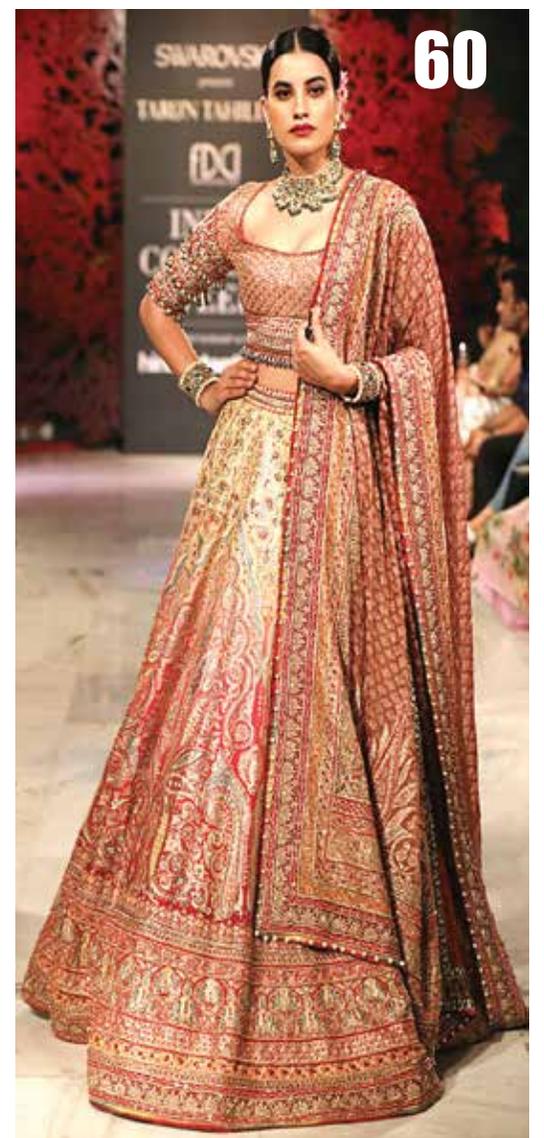
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Lifestyle





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and the heritage of India.



Destination Wedding



Leisure Stay



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## BTEA on Move to Boost Tourism

**B**ahrain Tourism & Exhibitions Authority organized roadshow in Ahmedabad and Kolkata to attract visitors.

BTEA held discussions with several stakeholders, including various tour and travel companies to collaborate to promote the destination. In line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Bahrain, BTEA witnessed presence of close to 150+ tour and travel agents from across the two cities for the roadshow.

"India is the second source market for Bahrain and the board has been taking steady initiated through trade engagements and media partnerships to highlight the offerings of the destination. We have witnessed a growth of 43% in tourist arrivals

from India in 2018 and we are aiming to increase it by 50-56% by 2019 year end" said Mr. Sunil Mathapati, Country Manager - India, BTEA.

Bahrain has various tourist offerings such as Bahrain Fort, Al Fateh Grand Mosque, Riffa Fort, Old houses of Muharraq, Bahrain International Circuit, Gravity skydiving to offer bespoke experiences to its travelers. The Kingdom will launch the world's largest underwater theme park, covering an area of over 100,000 square meters.

Bahrain has also emerged as a preferred wedding destination in the Middle East. The kingdom has hosted close to 20 weddings till March 2019. The destination has idyllic beaches and large banqueting space to support such events.



The Kingdom is infrastructure ready with state of the art convention centers, various water and sports activities to attract the MICE segment.

This is in line with BTEA's strategy to promote MICE & wedding sector and further develop country's tourism under the slogan "Ours.Yours."



**I**srael Ministry of Tourism (IMOT) conducted a roadshow in Mumbai on 27th August to enhance commercial ties with the Indian travel trade fraternity.

In an effort to retain the growth momentum of Indian arrivals to Israel, the team interacted with over 200 key travel and tour operators, MICE providers and up-market leisure operators. The event commenced with a presentation leading to an interactive session with the IMOT team. The roadshow included interactive B2B sessions, education programmes and workshops to aid trade members in planning itineraries and responding to customer queries. The Israeli delegation was led

## Israel Tourism Roadshow in Mumbai

by the newly appointed Director of Tourism for India & Philippines markets, Mr. Sammy Yahia along with Judah Samuel, Director – Marketing, Israel Ministry of Tourism, India and included representative partners from the tourism industry of Israel.

Sammy is responsible to lead the tourism board's initiatives in India while overseeing the development of policies and strategies to strengthen Israel's reputation as a world-class tourism and travel destination. He brings great expertise and know-how to the role with extensive and holistic experience in tourism marketing, strategic government relations and investment facilitation.

Commenting on the roadshow, Mr. Sammy Yahia, Director, Israel Ministry of Tourism – India & Philippines said, "The arrivals from India have exceeded expectations in the last few years and we have seen the same trend in 2019. India currently stands third in Asia among the top source markets

for Israel. While keeping the current momentum going, the idea is to aggressively work towards increasing connectivity between India & Israel by introducing new airlines to service the route. I am delighted with this new position and foresee ample opportunities for us to push boundaries and reinvent the ever evolving and dynamic Indian traveller".

Over the years, Indian cuisine has also taken centre stage with many celebrity chefs and culinary experts visiting the country for menu engineering, special collaborations and food festivals. While Chefs like Sanjeev Kapoor, Thomas Zacharias, Manish Mehrotra and Rakhee Vaswani have travelled to Israel in the past, winner of Master Chef India, Chef Shipra Khanna visited the country for the Indian Culinary Festival at the Sheraton Tel Aviv in July this year. Hosted by the Embassy of India, Chef Khanna recreated flavours of India with the hotel's Executive Chef for a special menu during the festival showcasing the best of India's authentic dishes.

## Jordan: Revenue Hitting \$3.2 billion

**L**atest figures show that Jordan's tourism saw an 8.6% increase in revenue hitting \$3.2 billion from around the world within 7 months of 2019 (January- July 2019). The total number of tourists to Jordan has increased by 9.8 % as compared to 2018 for the same period.

This year Jordan will further confirm its status as one of the most attractive holiday destinations by making visa-on-arrival process easy. The Queen Alia International Airport, Amman has recently introduced 12 new visa processing, purchasing counters for non-Jordanian passengers for entry visa.

Commenting on the increase of tourism revenue, Dr. Abed Al Razzaq Issam Arabiyat, Managing Director, Jordan Tourism Board said, "We are very pleased to see a notable increase in the tourism revenue and it will definitely spill over in remaining months of 2019 and into 2020 as well. Aqaba has recently unveiled its first Underwater Military Museum with 19 decommissioned pieces of military hardware at the bed of Red Sea coast which will help us attract more visitors. The military machines are stationed along the coral reefs imitating a battle tactical formation, that have formed the most exciting underwater escapade, intriguing divers and snorkelers to discover more and more of the dive site, not expecting what to see next and leaving them with a totally unique experience. This museum will help put Aqaba on the diving World map. We look forward to welcoming even more tourists especially from India as it is an emerging market with a huge



population and a growing economy, especially in the IT sector, which caters for the potential in the Indian market for MICE tourism, faith tourism, weddings, and movie production."



Incredible India



Betla National Park



Jonha Fall



Baidyanath Dham, Deoghar



Netarhat



Chhau Dance



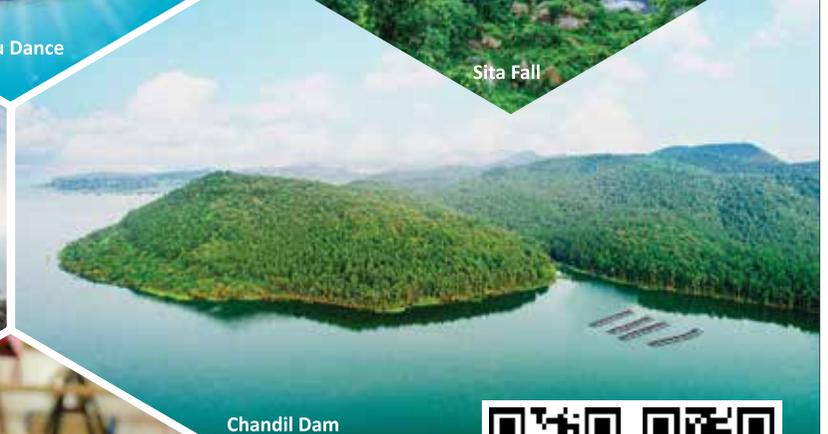
Sita Fall



Rajrappa Temple



Tagore Hill



Chandil Dam



Maluti Temple



Dokra Art

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## LAT Appoints Regional Director for India Market

Los Angeles Tourism & Convention Board (Los Angeles Tourism) is deepening its foothold in the India Market with the appointment of Ms. Seema Kadam as its first-ever Regional Director, India.

In 2018, Los Angeles welcomed 130,000 visitors from India, an increase of 5.1% year-over-year making India the 3rd highest year-over-year international growth market for Los Angeles.

In her role, Kadam will develop and support air service for Los Angeles International Airport (LAX); spearhead strategic travel trade engagement including the implementation of a robust training program, using the L.A. Insider

Program; and attend key industry trade shows in the region.

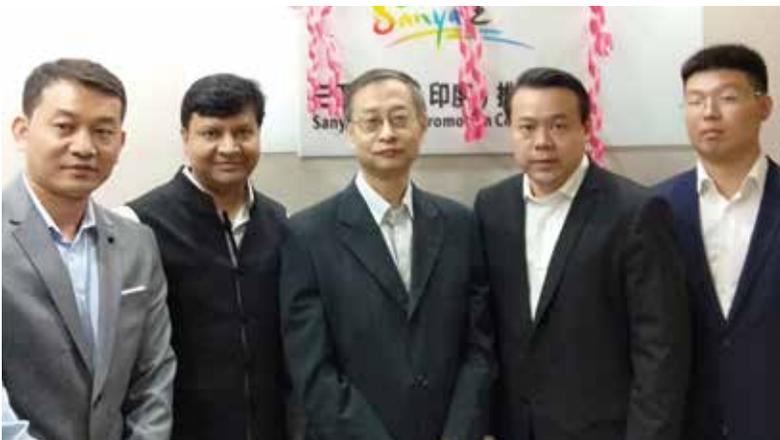
“We established a travel trade presence in India several years ago through Sartha Marketing, who introduced Los Angeles to the industry. The time is now right to deepen our engagement. India holds such vast potential for Los Angeles and appointing a full-time, regional director to oversee all of our tourism activity is a natural evolution of our commitment to the market,” stated Kathryn Smits, Vice President, Tourism for Los Angeles Tourism. “Seema’s most recent experience with DMOs has her well-positioned to be successful in this new role.”

In addition to her exceptional pan-India travel network created over the years, Seema is also skilled at establishing and implementing strategies that are business driven and result-oriented. With her strong product knowledge and business development strengths, she is aptly empowered to navigate any micro or macro challenges during her tenure.



Seema Kadam, Regional Director, India, LAT

## Sanya Tourism Promotion Centre Opens in Delhi



“India is the second-fastest-growing economy in the world. The Indian outbound tourism market reached 30 million persons in 2018, and it is the second largest outbound market in Asia. The number of outbound tourist in India is 150 million. So, it is a large market here.” said Mr. Tian Xin, the Director of China National Tourist Office in New Delhi.

The Sanya Promotion Centre in India will be headed by Mr. Krishan Murthy, General Manager of Sanya Holiday Travel India Pvt. Ltd. He is a seasoned outbound tourism professional with more than 15 years’ experience in working closely with travel agents of India. His vast experience and networking will work as an asset for the Promotion Centre. “Our focus will be on promoting Sanya as a Wedding destination along with MICE and leisure. A focused marketing strategy will be in action soon, and we aim to target a large number of tourist visit Sanya” said Mr. Krishna Murthy, General Manager of Sanya Holiday Travel India Pvt. Ltd.

“India is a huge wedding market,” said Mr. Xu Wei, Chairman of Sanya Wedding Association. It has proliferated in recent years. The products of wedding destination in Thailand, Indonesia, Bali are getting behind the times. So India needs new international wedding destinations such as Sanya. It’s very suitable that Indian wedding is organised under Sanya’s resources and conditions. “I’m looking forward to the development potential of Indian market,” said Mr. Xu Wei.

Sanya Tourism along with Sanya Holiday Travel India makes its presence in India by opening the Sanya Tourism promotion centre in Delhi.

Sanya is the most famous holiday destination in China, which has unique natural resources and perfect tourist reception facilities. Moreover, island holiday products are very popular in India. It’s the right time to hold Sanya Promotion Centre (India) with Sanya Holiday Travel Co. Ltd. For attracting more tourists to come to Sanya (China) for their vacation, they catch the opportunity at the right time to raise Sanya’s profile and influence in India.

## Taiwan Tourism Bureau partnered with Mumbai Metro

The Taiwan Tourism Bureau (TTB) has partnered with the Mumbai Metro, a rapid transit system serving the city of Mumbai, and the wider metropolitan region, to expand awareness of Taiwan as a destination and promote tourism.

Dr. Trust Lin, Director, Taiwan Tourism Bureau, Singapore Office, flagged off the train wrapped in colourful campaign images, on its maiden journey from the Versova Metro Station. Featuring photos of popular web-series stars, Sumeet Vyas and Sapna Pabbi on vacation in Taiwan, the vibrant imagery highlights the great variety of holiday experiences offered by Taiwan, ‘The Heart of Asia’, as well as its rich history and scenic beauty. Sumeet Vyas’s role in English Vinglish was loved by the Taiwanese audience and English Vinglish holds a box office record of being the 2nd highest grossing Bollywood movie in Taiwan. He will be seen next with Kubra Sait in REJCTX, a ZEE5 Original. This special Mumbai Metro train will run from 1st August for a month, also in conjunction with India’s Independence Day.

There will be a Taiwan Train for every 7 trains that stop by each station, reaching out to Mumbai Commuters at a high frequency.

This campaign is part of TTB’s continued efforts to raise awareness among Indian travellers and increase the number of Indian visitors to Taiwan. Underscoring the importance of India as a tourist market, over the past year, TTB has increased its marketing budget for India by six-fold, taking it to US\$1.2 million annually. Additionally, Indian nationals who hold a residency or valid visa for the United States, Canada, the Schengen states, the United Kingdom, Japan, South Korea, New Zealand or Australia are now entitled to a free Taiwan visa, which can easily be applied for online.

TTB, together with Cathay Pacific and Singapore Airlines, are also offering some special fares and transit offers for travelers to Taiwan. Cathay Pacific is offering special return all-inclusive air fares to Taipei from Bangalore at RS. 33,802, Chennai at RS 30,817, New Delhi at



RS 36,600, Kolkata at 30,222 and Hyderabad at RS. 36,500 (terms and conditions apply), while Singapore Airlines has offers for transit visitors to Taiwan who fly through Singapore like airport vouchers and free city tours (terms and conditions apply).

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# A Moment, Forever Yours

Since they were little girls, women have had fantasies about what their wedding day will be like.

• **Vedika Sharma**

A woman has had a lifetime of practice at planning and preparation for her wedding. You might have envisioned it all in your head, and thought that you had every detail on paper, but when it comes to the real planning, your childhood fantasies fade away and the grim reality of the tediousness of planning such a big day finally hits you.

Destination weddings are a popular way to tie the knot and there's no question why. Imagine exchanging

vows in the most dreamlike setting with close friends and family by your side. While traditional wedding planning can be overwhelming and expensive, destination wedding planning shouldn't be.

These days, many couples select to do without conventional (and costly) weddings for a more close assembling at a goal they adore. Goal weddings enable couples to broaden their festival from four hours to four days (or however long you see fit), while making a lifetime of

recollections with their dear loved ones. Since they are frequently more private than conventional weddings, goal weddings can likewise be more reasonable for couples.

Having a goal wedding topic is a stunning thought. You can consolidate your excellent function with a superb wedding trip.

Here lets come and investigate the different destinations of the different goals to offer.



## Thailand : A Dream Wedding Destination

The warm and welcoming Thai hospitality with exotic locations and availability of everything required for an Indian wedding makes this destination a perfect choice for celebrating a special occasion in ones life.

For wedding celebrations in Thailand, new destinations like Chiang Mai, Khao Lak, Krabi are opening up as great wedding celebration destinations for Indians. Wedding functions on yachts, cruises etc are new trends that have become popular with the youngsters looking to get married in Thailand.

Thailand is very well known as A Dream Wedding Destination and has always been the most popular destination for the grand Indian weddings and other celebrations such as milestone birthdays, anniversaries, graduation and family reunions, Bachelor/ Bachelorette parties etc.

Over 400 couples from India tied the knot in Thailand every year, with average number of guests ranging from approximately 200 to 500. Some wedding guests list goes up to 800 guests.

Thailand is a popular choice for Indian weddings because of:

- Proximity to India
- Thai Hospitality
- Beautiful locales
- Value for money destination
- World Class Hotels
- Variety of Cuisines from in house chef to catering services or even brings your own chef!

- Modern excellence combined with traditional details
- Can Do & helpful mindset of Thai people

The most popular beach destinations for Indian wedding celebrations are Hua Hin, Phuket, Pattaya and Rayong. There are also some weddings being held in other locations such as Chiang Mai that has large luxury hotels and resorts. Bangkok also has variety of venues to offer from river side hotels to stylist



convention centers.

In order to encourage more and more Indian travelers to visit Thailand, TAT has extended the free VOA fees to April 2020. This is a great step for large groups to visit Thailand with easy visa process.



**Mr. Isra Stapanaseth, Director, Tourism Authority of Thailand, New Delhi Office**

To further promote Thailand as an ideal wedding celebration destination, TAT regularly organizes FAM trips and wedding symposium in Thailand for Indian wedding planners to get an opportunity to experience various destinations and services in Thailand that cater to Indian wedding celebrations.

TAT supports wedding planners with a complimentary ticket to Thailand post successful completion of the wedding. TAT also offers a Thai cultural dance and garlands that can be organized for the wedding guests.

The start of new airlines like Vistara, Goa Air &

Indigo to Thailand has given a significant boost to the destination wedding market from India. In addition to this, the improved flight connectivity from tier 2 Indian cities to Thailand has also encouraged more and more Indians to travel to Thailand.



## Malaysia: Breath of Freshness to Indian Wedding

Cultural similarities and friendliness of people makes Malaysia a perfect destination for Indian wedding.



**T**rends: Most of the time, Indians prefer beach wedding in Malaysia. By keeping this in mind Malaysia Tourism is promoting destinations namely Kuala Lumpur, Selangor, Langkawi, Penang, Port Dickson, Desaru Coast and Kota Kinabalu. The white sandy beaches fascinate Indians but Malaysia Tourism also noticed that some of the Indians don't want to take connecting flight and prefer direct flight to the destination. Therefore, Lexis Hibiscus Port Dickson and Avani Goldcoast Resort, Sepang are the good options as it is 1-hour drive from Kuala Lumpur International Airport to these resorts and already witnessed 4-5 Indian weddings/events. The Luxury villa chalet with private pool fascinate the guest and

make them feel very special.

**India as source Market:-** There is no other culture that celebrate wedding like the Indian do! Annually, there are between 1 – 10 million wedding that is happening in this market. The economic growth experienced in this market has made it more difficult for couple to find venues to do wedding because more and more people are able to celebrate their auspicious occasion in a big way. This huge potential makes the market an important market source for wedding destination like Malaysia.

To market Malaysia in this vast market, Malaysia tourism started working very closely and aggressively with potential partners like wedding planners,

media – magazine, online portals that promote wedding and agents that sells wedding packages. Malaysia Tourism also arranging familiarization trips for decision makers for them to personally check out some of the facilities that are available in Malaysia.

**Visa:-** Malaysia have the Visa Waiver Program called eNTRI which is 15 days single entry pass to visit Malaysia and applicant only has to pay USD 20 for processing. Applicant can get eNTRI same day. Malaysia also have eVISA which is multiple entry visa and can be get it within 2 days at INR 1150 visa fees and USD 25 as service charges. If the guest is going to Malaysia purely to attend wedding then eNTRI would be best option for the Indian wedding group.

### Mr. Sulaiman Bin Suiq. Director. Tourism Malaysia. North and East India

The prime focused destinations in Malaysia in terms of destination wedding are Langkawi, Penang, Kota Kinabalu and Port Dickson and Now we have Desaru Coast which is near to Singapore and has 18 Km Long beaches. It takes only an hour from Singapore to reach Desaru coast. It can be one the best wedding destination as we have Westin , Hardrock and Anantara Hotel

& Resorts to organize amazing Indian wedding. Desaru Coast Convention Centre also has capacity to accommodate 1500 guests.

Malaysia has now 237 flight from India to Malaysia with capacity of approx. 41,000 seats weekly. We are operating from 14 cities and covering all the important areas of India to

generate arrivals. There are four airlines are providing their services -Malaysia Airlines, AirAsia, Malindo Air and Indigo. We are hoping number of flights to Malaysia will increase in future as more local based Indian carriers sourcing for new destination.





## South Africa: Live the Dream

With magnificent mountains, lush landscapes, golden beaches, award winning vineyards and delectable food, South Africa offers a unique location for an unforgettable wedding and honeymoon.

From saying I do at a beach-front in Eastern Cape to walking down the aisle at award winning vineyards along the Garden Route, or even tying the knot while floating above the clouds in a hot air balloon – dream weddings come alive in South Africa!

South Africa seen a rise in destination weddings for Cape Town and the Garden Route, especially the trend where one party is a NRI. Both these destinations offer breathtaking views at the

same time being incredibly easy from a planning and accessibility perspective.

South Africa observed a lot of the smaller wedding groups opting for game lodges. They often book the entire lodge and spend considerable time prior to the wedding, bonding with family and friends and experience various outdoor activities especially, game drives.

The Indian wedding entourage can range from an intimate group of close family and friends

to a mega extravaganza of a 100+ guests. Bigger wedding gatherings comprise of anywhere between 200 to 800 attendees. South Africa is equipped to cater to every group size and price-point. There are numerous service providers and specialists who source and manage requirements locally thus controlling budget margins for wedding parties. All this coupled with a favourable exchange rate make South Africa a dream destination for Indian weddings.



### Neliswa Nkani, Hub Head – MEISA, South African Tourism

Most couples are looking for an elegant yet relaxed wedding celebration that allows the couple to enjoy not only each other’s company but also the company of family and friends. They are seeking settings that are unique and intimate to make their special day that much more memorable.

South Africa allows for these and is increasingly gaining popularity for being an amazing destination for a wedding, offering a huge variety of stunning locations for not only a dream wedding but also an extraordinary honeymoon.

From local suppliers to wedding planners,

everyone at South Africa takes weddings very seriously. We welcome you to spend your special day amongst warmth, love and spectacular settings.



## Austria: Most Romantic Wedding Settings

From venues ranging from Breathtaking Palaces to Picturesque towns and villages, Idyllic vineyards, Rolling Meadows and Glorious Mountains, in Austria you will find endless amounts of wedding inspiration.



**O**pulent palace wedding themes are most popular for Austria. Austria offers the most romantic wedding setting and the best of wedding planners to help with every requirement to make the day perfect. Luxury spa pamper weekends for brides-to-be, followed with a wide range of choices for the most romantic honeymoon to choose from and you have Austria as the preferred choice for any destination wedding.

Austria offers an abundance

in terms of variety of locations for weddings. From magnificent, spellbinding palaces with their sprawling gardens and heritage halls in Vienna, to castles in the countryside of Salzburg or in the city of Innsbruck, Modern wedding venues like the Hangar 7 to the most unique and sought after location at the Swarovski Crystal Worlds itself. You can choose to have a grand elaborate wedding or an intimate wedding setting for a select few, Austria is fully equipped to cater to all. From the various event locations to the

décor, entertainment, food and hotel options Austria is perfect for a dream fairytale wedding.

Austria being a niche destination, spends will definitely be higher than neighbouring Asian destinations. Keeping this in mind our target group for Destination weddings is the rich, high profile, social swish set of society. Having said that, Austria, with its breathtaking beauty and varied venues, has all it takes to make even a mid budget wedding extra special.



**E**gypt is a country blessed with exceptional themes & settings, is the perfect choice for an unforgettable wedding. The luxurious signature along with the authentic trademark of Egypt consist together an ultimate target for a splendid experience that lets the newlyweds live like real queen and king recalling all the glorious inspiration of the Pharaohs. The unique backdrops of Egypt vary from the very distinguished tourist sites like temples and pyramids to the top luxurious beach resorts to the glamorous Nile cruises to the serene mountains and deserts where a complete proper setup of a cutting-edge wedding can be easily secured.

Some examples of the beach resorts that are very popular for the wedding is Hurghada with its

## Egypt : Exceptional Themes & Settings

Deciding on Egypt as the destination for a wedding can seem a bit like throwing a dart on a map and being sure where it lands.

top-notch tourist centers such as El Gouna, Sahl Hashish and Soma Bay. The atmosphere there is very charming with great scenery, perfect weather almost all year round, and many spots to choose from.

Sharm El Sheikh is another example of a world-class wedding destination that offers endless venues for a dreamy wedding by the sea. The range goes from highly luxurious branded resorts to secluded cozy venues offering both indoor and outdoor settings.

For a historical atmosphere, the choices are almost endless. Historical hotels in Cairo, Luxor and Aswan or real royal palaces Manial Palace and the Royal Mohamed Ali Club or even Iconic Landmarks such as the plateau of the Pyramids in Giza or the Edfu Temple near to Luxor can host one or more of the wedding parties where permissions are obtained.

Otherwise, the country is full of top brands of hotels in Cairo, Alexandria, Sharm El Sheikh, Hurghada, Luxor, Aswan and Marsa Alam many of which are able to cater to 1000+ guests at a time.

Starting from flights to the accommodation to the event cost itself to the post programs, everything is offered in Egypt in a very high value for money. Being that close to India, Egypt is very accessible via many air carriers with an average of 6 hours flying. Direct flights from Mumbai on Egypt Air modern aircrafts are not the only options. The regional airlines are connection Egypt to almost every point to India for very competitive fares. The variety of accommodation and venue levels make it suitable for every destination wedding starting from the budget weddings to the very exotic fairytale ones.





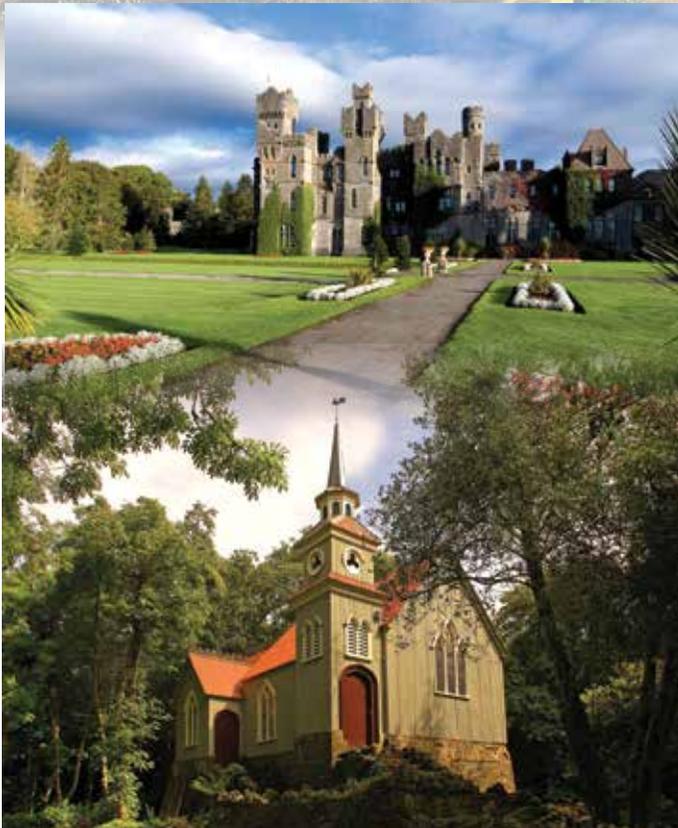
## Ireland: Best Wedding Venues

Ireland is perfect wedding destination as the country has a lot to offer right from the beautiful sites up to better venue location for the wedding with best arrangements.

Popularly known as Emerald Isle, Ireland is among the best wedding destinations in the world. The flawless castle, the great coast line and lovely gardens here can transform into one of the best wedding venues. There are several private properties with lovely garden which can be turned into beautiful wedding venues as well. Some of the renowned places in Ireland which are known for their weddings are Abbeyglenn Castle Hotel, Brooklodge, Corick House hotel and spa, Ashford Castle, Ballynahinch Castle Hotel, Cahernane House and Ballyscullion Park one of the renowned wedding venues in Northern Ireland. Apart from these there are multiple other venues which Ireland

offers to accomplish the perfect destination wedding goals.

Destination Weddings in Ireland can considerably be less or more expensive depending upon the site and day selected. Weddings in Ireland generally take place on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday. The Hotel cost for guests, dinner or lunch menu for the wedding, décor and anything extra needed is always negotiable. Ireland has several magnificent photo locations for the wedding day which one can capture for life time. The other requirements like the photographers, Wedding planners, entertainers and music arrangements are also easily available at a subsidized rate.



## Switzerland: High Quality, Exceptional Service and Experiences

Switzerland is the most romantic destination of the world, so it is really a no-brainer that a wedding staged here is the perfect start of a happy marriage.

The Montreux Fairmont Palace, at the shores of Lake Geneva, is a spectacular hotel and offers a variety of venues for the perfect Indian wedding. The Petit Palais, the pool area, the lush gardens and not to forget the lavish ballrooms guaranteed that all wedding functions have their distinct feel. But Montreux also has amazing off-site venues, like the medieval Chillon Castle, which can be incorporated in the celebrations

The ultra exclusive St. Moritz has also already hosted big Indian weddings with families staying at Badrutt's Palace and Kulm Palace respectively. The Barat through the alpine resort is a sight to behold with wedding guests and local both joining in the celebrations.

Switzerland stands for high quality, exceptional service and experiences of a lifetime. We believe that we offer excellent value for money and our

many satisfied guests are testament to that. Very few people know that Switzerland has the lowest VAT rate in Europe and many resorts are offering their guests the use of the local public transport system free of charge. With Indian weddings guests often join from all over the world. Our location in the center of Europe and excellent flight connections around the world make the organizing of travel very easy and cost-effective.





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Ministry of Tourism  
Government of India



Indian Chamber of Commerce

*Your serenity in travel is our priority*

# Achievement of Professional Recognition

IATO (Indian Association of Tour Operators) made a series of devious stratagem to achieve various goals which benefited the association as well as its member at large.

• **Tarsh Sharma**

IATO is the National body of the tourism industry. It has over 1600 members covering all segments of the Tourism Industry. IATO interacts closely with the Government on all critical Issues affecting the Tourism Industry in India with the highest priority to

Tourism facilitation. It interacts closely with all Government Ministries / Departments, Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Diplomatic Missions etc. It acts as the common medium between the Decision Makers and the industry and presents the complete perspective to both sides, synergising

their common agenda of Tourism facilitation. All IATO members observe the highest standards of professional ethics and offer personalized service to their clients.

Here let us pen down the achievements of IATO.

**Rajiv Mehra, EC Liaison of "Outbound Tourism Promotion Committee", IATO**



The Outbound Tourism Promotion Committee would be looking at neighbouring countries like Indonesia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, Bali, Turkey, Mauritius, Maldives,

Indonesia and UAE where IATO members have itineraries, gauge their potential and subsequently can start a dialogue with NTOs. A change of perception about IATO at the local NTO office is also imperative.

At IATO we are contemplating to request an NTO to make a 15 to 20-minute presentation during our luncheon meeting and get feedback from our members that shall aid charting out a

path. This way the NTOs will get interested and will view IATO as an effective tool for outbound also.

Our aim is that the entire membership of IATO should benefit from the above-planned outbound initiative. Those who are not doing outbound will explore the possibility and gain, plus those who are already into outbound also will reap double the benefit.

**Tony Marwah, EC Liaison of "Committee for Road Shows, Events and Business Promotion Committee" IATO**

Post elections in April 2018, Incredible India Road Shows were organised by Ministry of Tourism, Government of India with proactive participation by the valued members of IATO. The list and the number of participants are appended below:-

No	Road Shows	Date	No. of Participants
1	Road Shows in ASEAN Region	7-10 May, 2018	17
2	Road Shows in the USA	17-22 June, 2018	25
3	Road Shows in China	28 Aug-01 Sept, 2018	17
4	Roadshows in Russia and Nordic countries	08-12 October, 2018	12
5	Road Shows in Australia and New Zealand	15-18 April, 2019	20
6	Road Shows in USA & Canada	24-28 June, 2019	20

Further Ministry of Tourism, Government of India is organising Incredible India Roadshows as per following schedule: -

**ROAD SHOWS NO. 1 - VIETNAM, PHILIPPINES, INDONESIA**

- Aug. 26, 2019 (Mon) - Hanoi
- Aug. 27, 2019 (Tues) - Manila

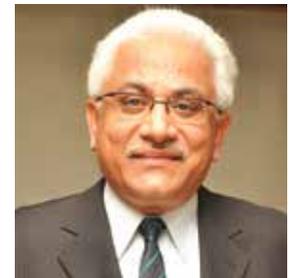
- Aug. 29, 2019 (Thurs) - Jakarta
- Aug. 30, 2019 (Fri) - Public Event in Jakarta in association with Embassy of India, Jakarta.

**ROAD SHOWS NO. 2 - SPAIN, PORTUGAL**

- October 14, 2019 (Mon) - Barcelona
- October 15, 2019 (Tues) - Madrid
- October 16, 2019 (Wed) - Seville
- October 17, 2019 (Thurs) - Lisbon

IATO has requested its members by an internal note on the 19th of July to participate in the above mentioned road shows and draw mileage

More road shows are on the anvil so that our members contact their strategic source markets; leverage their expertise that shall make an effective business sense.



**Raj Bajaj, EC Liaison and Sanjeev Chandra, Convener, IATO Committee- Surface Transport, Railways, Cruises & Waterways**

## Cruising & Waterways

S.NO.	SUBJECT	ACTION RELATED TO	PRESENT SCENARIO	REMARKS
1	Cruising & Waterways	The Recent Announcement of Hon' Finance Minister during her Budget Speech in the Parliament for Greater Traction in Investment towards Inland Waterways will Surely encourage more Private Entrepreneurial Initiatives.	The Existing River Cruising Circuits are doing yeomen service as Some of the undermentioned Prominent Companies have extended more influx of their Corpus as well as continue Marketing drive & initiatives : a) Heritage River Journeys (Ganges Voyager owned by Exotic Heritage Group) b) Assam Bengal Navigation Company (Indian River Cruises) c) M.V. Mahabaahu Cruise (Adventure River Cruises) & few more who are exploring to come up for River Cruises in the Ganges & Brahmaputra.	IATO is co-ordinating with the key stakeholders of these cruise companies to arrange knowledge workshops for our industry members for win-win situation by way of Synergetic Marketing efforts shoulder to shoulder.



# Surface Transport

S.NO.	SUBJECT	ACTION RELATED TO	PRESENT SCENARIO	REMARKS
1	Synergy of IATO with Tour Transport Operators	For united and cohesive move forward in resolving Industry related matters, meetings of IATO with Tourist Transport Operators were conducted to strategies action plans for smooth logistical operations.	Cohesiveness has been the constant Demand of Transporters to Smoothen up operational Matters with DMCs.	The meetings held with them helped us to understand their viewpoint and we also took the opportunity to let them know about our challenges and expectations from them. Going Forward, the Synergetic & United Efforts will surely benefit the Trade partners, at Large.
2	Exorbitant Increase in Transport Taxes	Written representation made to the Chief Minister of Haryana with request to reduce the taxes specially for Volvo & Equivalent which was increase to INR 10000 per day w.e.f 1st October 2017.	IATO Surface Transport Member's alongside Tourist Transport Operators, represented this combined effort & personal visit with Mr. Khattar, the Hon' Haryana CM at his residence in Chandigarh on Sunday, 22nd October 2017, After the emergent meeting, consequently directives of the taxes were immediately reduced to INR 5000 per day.	Fast Track action had Paved the way, for Control in Transport Expenses. The timely action and our efforts resulted in keeping the increase to a reasonable level so that India Tour Packages remain competitive.
3	Smooth Collection and Payment of Transport Tax	To Ease the Flow of Collection of Taxes, the Committee discussed the Matter on approaching other States also for: - • Facility of paying road tax online be made available similar to Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan Governments. • Credit/Debit Card machines to be installed at all the tax collection points at the earliest.	Initiatives taken and on these bases Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Punjab & Madhya Pradesh, all have started facility of paying tax online.	This step has been very important for tourism industry as our tourists had to face inconvenience and waste lot of time on road on State Borders prior to this and the inconvenience to tourists is always an obstacle in promotion of tourism which has been done away not with our efforts.
4	Matter regarding Our demand of Permit/Fitness of Tourist/ Commercial cars for more than 5 years old has to be granted	Deep Introspection was done by the Trade. ITTA took up the case thru' legal recourse but it got dismissed by Lower Court.	With Joint Efforts of the Trade, we can consider fighting the case with the Court of NGT & the Hon' Supreme Court.	Motor Vehicle Act enumerates 9 Years Life for Commercial Vehicle. We are still in the process of finding a right solution for this and consultations are being held with stake holders in the industry to make joint efforts.
5	Separate Treatment by Govt, in terms of Taxes, Fitness, Permits, General Facilitation for Tourist Transport Operator	Efforts continue with the Delhi Govt. for smoothening the Clearance & Extension of Permits.	Min. of Roads, Transport & highways were approached so as to ensure seamless travel by virtue of issuance of national permit for Tourist Coaches, similar to the ways as are issued for Trucks.	Ruling Party states are in favor of this move for its consideration barring the Opposition States. We are making our efforts to persuade the Governments for this and hope to have desired results in future.
6	Protecting Our Foreign Visitors with regards to Insurance Coverage	Discussions took place with National Insurance with Regards to Tour Operator's Liability Insurance, to Cover the Visit of Inbound Tourists.	Wholesale Rate was negotiated by IATO with National Insurance from INR 1 Lakh down to INR 55000, to cover materialistic Risks involved. Unfortunately, this special deal was not availed by much Inbound Operators, but surely the Objective was to Support Small & Medium Tour Operators with this attractive Deal.	These efforts help out Members in large who cannot avail such facilities in their individual capacity.
7	Parking Fees at Delhi Airport of Luxury Coaches	IATO Took up the Issue with DIAL (GMR) to control the Hike of Coach Parking Fees. .	Demand of DIAL was to increase it to level on around INR 1500 per entry, but Our persuasions made it at Status Quo of INR 1050 per Entry	Regular Meetings & Efforts continue with DIAL/GMR, for better facilitation.
8	Opportunity for Road Tourism	a) While on the one hand we are encouraging the use of public transportation and tourist vehicles as they reduce the strain on the roads (One taxi can do the work of 10 private cars on an average or one bus occupies as much space as 10 cars, which is why need to be encouraged as compared to private vehicles.), on the other hand we are levying excess taxes and barriers for their movement. b) There is a pressing need to have a policy for proper parking of tourist vehicles. c) Punitive taxation policies and inefficient process of collecting that tax still plague most of the states in the country.		
9	Transformation of Motor Vehicles with planning to introduce environment friendly electric vehicles in future	IATO is trying to get more information on this and update its members on this issue as this will affect the entire tourism industry.	The introduction of Electric vehicles in need of the hour and IATO fully supports this as the fossil fuel being used presently is resulting in environmental hazard.	While we fully support this move, we expect Govt. to be very careful and not launch this transformation in a hurry. The Government must take necessary measures to ensure that the electric vehicles to ply on Indian roads in future have gone through comprehensive tests and these comply with all safety features and international standards. There should also be necessary infrastructure including charging stations in place at all locations for smooth operation. We shall also like the Government to come out with scheme to help Tour Operators to keep the cost increase of these vehicles to minimum so that it remains affordable to the tourism industry.



## Pure Adrenaline for Wanderlusts and Dare Devils

The COVELONG POINT SURF, MUSIC & YOGA FESTIVAL not only a platform for sports, entertainment, music, wellness but also a key to unlock the tourism opportunity in Tamil Nadu.

• **Vedika Sharma**

For aficionados of Surfing, Music and Yoga, it could have hardly got any better. The COVELONG POINT SURF, MUSIC & YOGA FESTIVAL was held this year, August 23 to 25th at Kovalam, a sleepy fishing hamlet on the picturesque Chennai coast.

The 7th edition of the event brought together

national and international surfers for a three-day competition, alongside Yoga modules conducted by renowned Yoga instructors from across the world.

But the icing on the cake was a fascinating line-up of eclectic music, featuring artists from across India and the globe.



**Arun Vasu, promoter of Covelong Point Surf, Music and Yoga Festival**

The Festival was conceptualized to promote the sport of surfing and stand up paddle in India, spread the message of importance of good health and wellness, provide a platform for India's artists to showcase their works, promote cultural tourism and facilitate social change for the better.

Year on year surf, music and yoga festival is growing, last year we witnessed 15,000 people and this year we crossed 20,000 people.

The reason we clubbed surfing yoga and music because it's kind of goes together in different aspects and also we wanted something for families to come out because surfing is relatively new in India and not everybody would come and understand what this guys doing in the water. So if we add little elements for everyone it attracts a good crowd.

Our main motive is to promote surfing in India which is not well recognized in india but in abroad its huge.



**Jonty Rhodes, the world-famous South African former cricketer, Festival's Brand Ambassador** said "India with its thousands of kilometres of shoreline and beaches is a natural haven for pursuing surfing as a sport. It is only a matter of time before we see surfing champions emerge from this country. The fact that surfing has emerged as one of the disciplines for the next Olympics augurs well for this sport and will soon gain larger acceptance across the world."



This biggest and only one of its kind Festival of SURF, MUSIC, AND YOGA, featured a full-fledged carnival area with over 50 stalls showcasing unique products and specially-curated food stalls and trucks. Over 20,000 visitors revelatedat the event over the course of the weekend.

# Mythology to Learn From

In an exclusive interview, Apurv Jhawar, Managing Director of Usha Breco Limited shares about Jatayu Sculpture Tour.

• **Vedika Sharma**

**VS:** Tell us something about Cable Car Ride and Jatayu Sculpture Tour.

**AJ:** This is a Swiss cable car, which has a capacity of 500 people per hour. The destination was inaugurated last year and was well-received by the public. Once you arrive at the destination, you can use the cable car to reach the hilltop. During the cable car ride, you can enjoy the views as well as have enough selfie moments with the Jatayu sculptor in the background. After you have reached the sculptor, customers can spend enough time on top of the hill to understand mythology as well as enjoy the natural surroundings. There will soon also be a 12D theatre and a digital museum inside the bird sculptor.

**VS:** Is it only for spiritual tourists or has something for the youth in terms of adventure? If yes, please specify.

**AJ:** There are lots to do here. There is an adventure park for the youth, breathtaking views from the cable car and of course enough mythology to learn from!

**VS:** Tell us the procedure of cable car booking for the public as well as Travel agents or Tour Operators.

**AJ:** The booking system is completely online. You can log on to [www.udankhatola.com](http://www.udankhatola.com) and click on Jatayupara to take you to the booking engine for tickets. Even if you show up there, there are ticketing counters from which you can buy tickets.

**VS:** What's the best time to visit Jatayu Earth Centre.

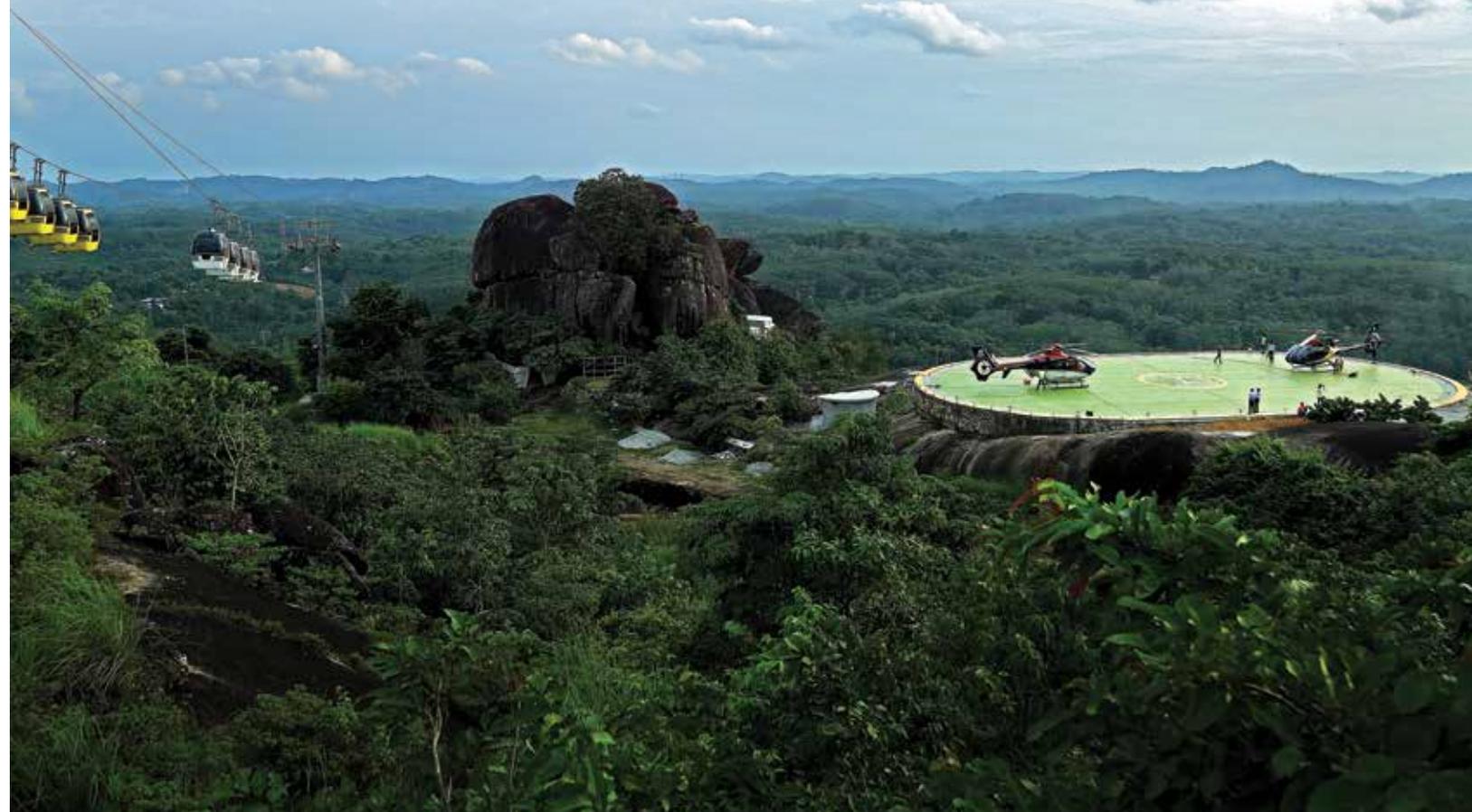
**AJ:** Either 10am-1pm or 4pm onwards since the sunset views are amazing.



• **Vedika Sharma**

**VS:** What message you would like to convey to our audience.

**AJ:** Jatayupara is truly a world-class location which is very unique. The world's largest bird sculptor represents bravery and woman's safety. Surrounded by the natural beauty of Kerela, this destination feels like you are truly in 'God's own Country'!



**SLICE**  
*of life*

Life is now a global competition to face on. How do you deal with the conditions you feel to be entangled in to?

**AJ:** There is always light at the end of the tunnel. Think of the strengths and positives, and focus on that. Know your weaknesses, and focus to strengthen them.

You believe in taking risk or plan beforehand.

**AJ:** I prefer to plan beforehand. Of

course, there is some element of risk that one still has to take.

Your high points.

**AJ:** Winning new projects, completing them, and seeing them succeed.

Your low points.

**AJ:** Failing to execute certain plans.

Favorite trade/hospitality/fashion industry leader.

**AJ:** Sachin Tendulkar

Which type of novels do you love?

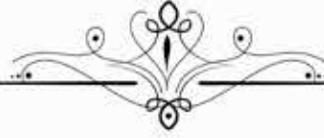
**JM:** Auto-Biographies

A movie that motivates you.

**AJ:** Guru

How you spend your day on day off.

**AJ:** Watching sports, or Netflix, spending time with family



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## Ahmedabad: A city with glorious past

Ahmedabad is the first in the world to be declared a World Heritage City by UNESCO. A city which is one of the most developed townships in India and is famous for several tourist attractions and being the financial hub of North-Western India.

• **Vedika Sharma**

**A** DTOI in association with Gujarat Tourism hosted a city tour of Ahmedabad during its 9th ADTOI annual Convention. It was a tourism educational tour. Here let us take you to a city tour of Ahmedabad.

To begin let me inform you Ahmedabad was also known as the forefront of the Indian struggle for independence when Mahatama Gandhi established the famous Sabarmati Ashram in 1917.



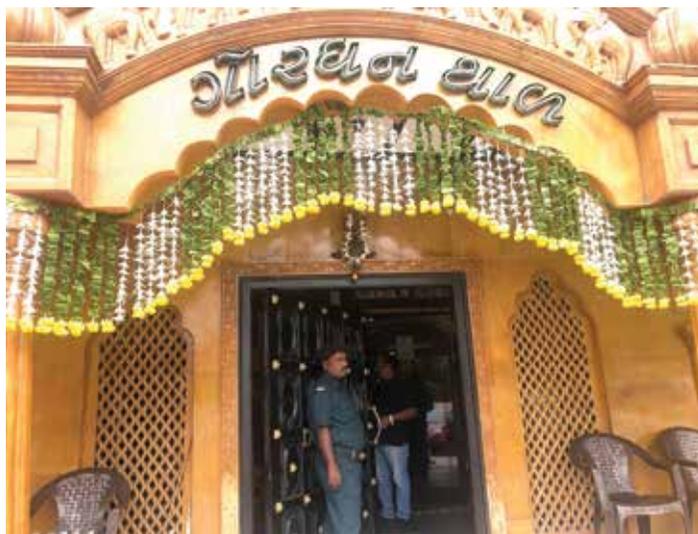
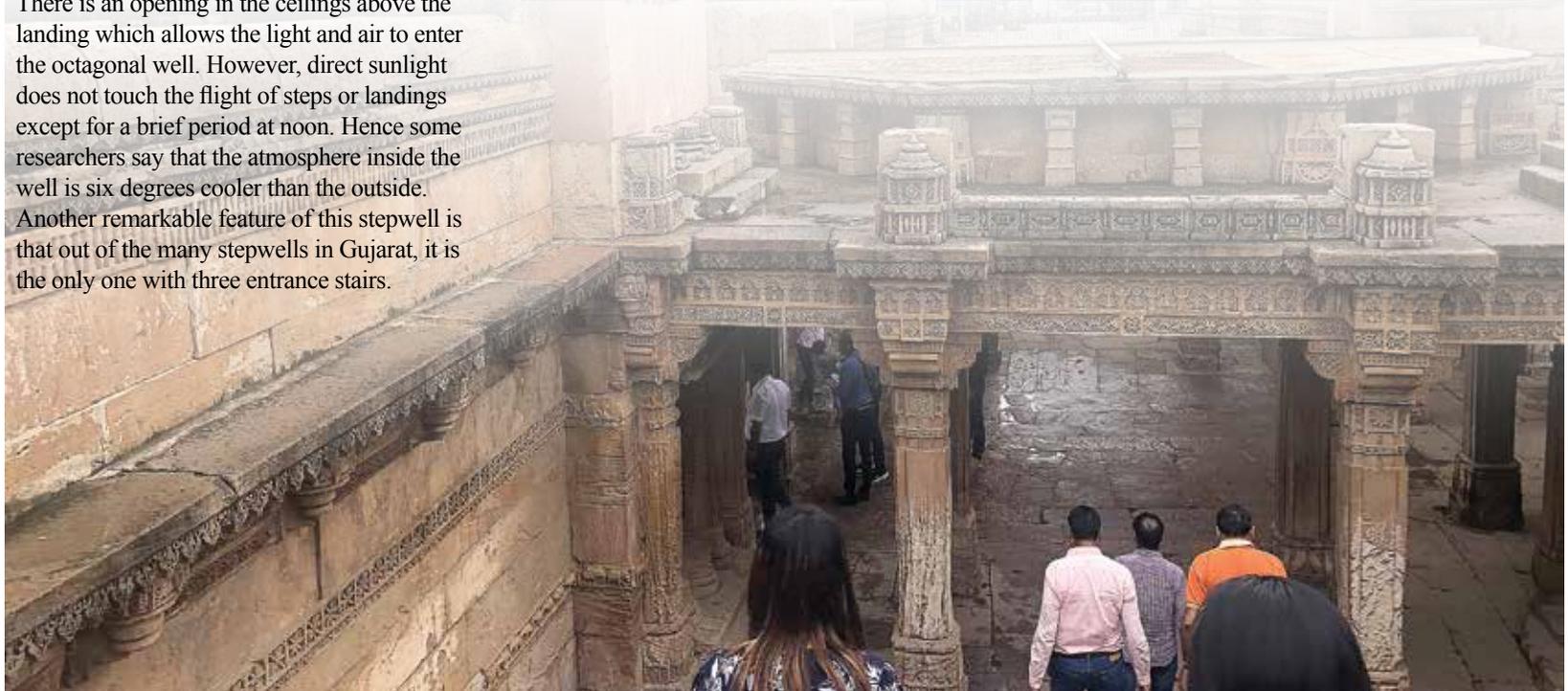
### Sabarmati Ashram

It is located on the west bank of Sabarmati river. Gandhiji had driven all the major activities of independence as well as upliftment of the society from this Ashram which was popularly known as Sabarmati Ashram. He stayed in the ashram for many years before he finally proceeded for a march to Dandi to break the salt law on 12 March 1930.

The Ashram premises houses a museum, which has five units – office, library, two photo galleries and an auditorium. It is perhaps having the largest number of original manuscripts of Gandhiji's letters and articles.

**Adalaj stepwell**

Set in the quiet village of Adalaj, this vav has served as a resting place for hundreds of years for many pilgrims and caravans along their trade routes. Built in 1499 by Queen Rudabai, wife of the Vaghela chief, Veersinh, this five-storey stepwell was not just a cultural and utilitarian space, but also a spiritual refuge. It is believed that villagers would come everyday in the morning to fill water, offer prayers to the deities carved into the walls and interact with each other in the cool shade of the vav. There is an opening in the ceilings above the landing which allows the light and air to enter the octagonal well. However, direct sunlight does not touch the flight of steps or landings except for a brief period at noon. Hence some researchers say that the atmosphere inside the well is six degrees cooler than the outside. Another remarkable feature of this stepwell is that out of the many stepwells in Gujarat, it is the only one with three entrance stairs.



**Cuisine**  
To experience Gujarati cuisine one must go Gordhan Thaal. Delivering top-notch quality, unparalleled service and food that touches one's soul are few things which can magnetise any tourists towards this restaurant.



# 9th ADTOI Annual Convention

ADTOI (Association of Domestic Tour Operators of India) in association with Gujarat Tourism came up with its 9th annual convention in Hotel Hyatt Regency, Ahmedabad, Gujarat from 16th to 18th August 2019.

Convention was taken place in the august presence of Shri Pradipsinh Jadeja, Minister of State- Home, Energy, Parliamentary Affairs, Law, Justice (Minister of State), Police housing, Border security, Civil defense, Gram Rakshak Dal, Jail, Prohibition and Excise, Coordination between voluntary

organization, Non Resident Gujarati Department, Protocol (all independent charge), Government of Gujarat; Shri Vasan Aahir, Minister of State for Tourism, Gujarat; Ms. Ashima Mehrotra, Director, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India; S.J. Haider, Principal Secretary, Gujarat Tourism; Jenu Devan, Managing Director, Gujarat Tourism;

Ashwani Lohani; CMD, Air India; P.P Khanna, President ADTOI.

The convention was great success with the huge gathering of travel trade fraternity and media.

Moreover on the inaugural day ADTOI launched its new logo.



**Vasan Aahir, Minister of State for Tourism, Gujarat**

We are extremely happy that ADTOI chose Gujarat for their 9th annual convention. Rann of Kutch is the perfect model where the travel industry has been a method for building up an undeveloped goal, while offering work to numerous individuals.





## Heartland of Central Europe

A city as old as 775 years has much to offer than just a vacation.

### • Babita Sharma

**B**erlin—the capital city of Germany is one of the busiest metropolises of today's time. The city invites thousands of tourists from all over the world to come and explore the most time-tested and vibrant culture in the history of human civilization.

Easter bonfires in spring, boat trips and barbecues in the park in summer, light festivals in autumn, Christmas markets and wellness in winter, and sightseeing and museums in every season. A city trip to Berlin is always worthwhile: promise! Because there is always something going on in Berlin: there are numerous events taking place every day.

From culture to exhibitions to pop concerts and street festivals: just get here and you'll find the right event already waiting for you. Berlin is exciting 365 days of the year.

Berlin has been the stage for a lot of world history and not just the fall of the Berlin Wall. You can still discover the traces of history in countless places around the capital.

Berlin is also a proper shopping destination. Besides luxury shops along Kurfürstendamm, you will also want to check out the numerous flea markets around the capital. Go on a shopping tour of Berlin: we're certain you'll find something you'll treasure.

Be sure to visit the popular food markets in Berlin's market halls and try out street foods from all over the world. And no Berlin visit is complete without a taste of local cuisine.

Here are the most preferable things to do and visit in Berlin.

### Reichstag

When the decision was made to move the Federal Government to Berlin, it was time to reawaken the Reichstag building from its long years of slumber on the Mauerstreifen, the military zone between the two sides of the Wall. The building has since been completely modernised, and today's visitors to the Reichstag can look out from the building's

glass dome to get a bird's eye view of the hustle and bustle in the city.

### Brandenburg Gate

Without a doubt, the Brandenburg Gate is Berlin's signature attraction. Built in 1791, it was just one of many old city gates around the city of Berlin which, at that time, was still a manageable size. The decorative Pariser Platz was laid at the foot of the gate and is now home to many of the city's important buildings.

### Berlin Television Tower (Fernsehturm)

The Berlin Television Tower, which is known to locals as the Fernsehturm, and is instantly



recognisable from the distance, stand out of the skyline at 368m, making it the tallest building in Berlin. Built in the 1960s, visitors to the tower can enjoy a unique 360° panorama of the city.

### Gendarmenmarkt

The Gendarmenmarkt is one of the most stunning squares in the city, located close to Friedrichstraße, Berlin's exclusive shopping street in the central Mitte district. Three of the most impressive examples of architecture in the capital city are to be found here: the Concert House designed by Schinkel and the German and French Cathedrals (the Deutscher Dom and the Französischer Dom).

### Berlin Cathedral

The Berlin Cathedral (Berliner Dom) with its magnificent dome is a remarkable example of late 19th century architecture. Near the Cathedral are also the German Historical Museum and the Museum's Island. On the side of Berlin's boulevard "Unter den Linden" stands the Catholic St. Hedwigs-Cathedral.

### Charlottenburg Palace

The magnificent Charlottenburg Palace is located just out of the centre of the city. The beautiful palace hosts fine collections of china and paintings and is situated in the middle of a picturesque palace garden right next to the river Spree. If you don't fancy a walk in the park, you can feed your mind instead in the Charlottenburg museums located directly opposite.

### Museum Island

Berlin's Museum Island is one of the UNESCO world heritage sites and home to the city's most

important exhibition centres: the Altes Museum (Old Museum), the Neues Museum (New Museum) the Bode Museum, the Pergamon Museum and the Alte Nationalgalerie (Old National Gallery). The collections in these buildings encompass over 6,000 years of art and cultural history.

### Must visit places for Shopaholic

Go for a wander and discover Berlin's endless shopping possibilities. Whether you're looking for international designer fashion, unusual ideas in hip Berlin style or a cheap bargain, you'll be sure to find just the thing in the shopping centres, department stores, small shops and high-class boutiques.

The largest and most famous department store in Berlin is KaDeWe on Kurfürstendamm. Here you can experience exclusive shopping over six floors. Old turns into new: you can find second-hand, vintage and upcycling stores throughout the city. You can also find bargains at the outlet stores in the city.

### Potsdamer Platz

The new city centre on and around Potsdamer Platz has resulted in many new shopping opportunities in the heart of the city. Discover the unlimited options in the two major shopping centres: Mall of Berlin on Leipziger Platz and Potsdamer Platz Arkaden.

Potsdamer Platz Arkaden not only offers shops from well-known brands, but also a number of small, independent shops together with many restaurants and places offering snacks to satisfy

your hunger and rest your feet.

The high-end Mall of Berlin, one of the largest shopping centres in the city, features an exclusive selection of 270 quality shops and boutiques and an extensive food court for the perfect place to take a break from all the shopping.

### Friedrichstraße

Friedrichstraße is one of Berlin's higher-end shopping streets lined with elegant boutiques and designer shops. Parisian department store Galeries Lafayette has brought French style and fashion to Berlin. The stylish department store with the striking cone-shaped atrium offers not just fashion and cosmetics, but also bistros and a fine foods department downstairs with typical French specialities on offer.

### Kurfürstendamm

The best known and most popular shopping street in Berlin runs from Breitscheidplatz to Halensee and is home to multiple department stores and shops for major chains. As you move west towards Halensee, the boutiques become classier and the window displays more luxurious. Stroll past the showcases of international fashion designers such as Armani, Chanel, and Yves Saint Laurent and be inspired by the latest trends. Behind Breitscheidplatz is the newest and most original shopping centre in the city, the Bikini Berlin. This stylish building from the 1950s combines trendy shops and temporary pop-up stores.

While shopping Kurfürstendamm, also make



## Escape

sure to check out the side streets. Small streets like Knesebeckstraße, Bleibtreustraße, and Fasanenstraße offer many upper middle-class townhouses dating back more than a century that now house many fine boutiques and cafés. If you take a detour towards Kantstraße at Uhlandstraße, you'll come the home furnishings store stilwerk and numerous other furniture and design shops.

### Alexanderplatz

Combine sightseeing and shopping in the shadow of Berlin's famous TV Tower. There are several shopping centres, department stores, and shops on and around Alexanderplatz. The Alexa is probably the first that will catch your eye. Its red façade is a play on the Art Nouveau style. Inside, there are about 180 shops, including international brands not represented anywhere like Billabong and

Bianco Shoewear.

The Galeria Kaufhof is a large department store in sandstone found on Alexanderplatz. Primark, meanwhile, draws in a primarily younger crowd with its popular discount fashion. Athletes' hearts love checking out Decathlon in the Rathauspassageshopping centre where just the right equipment for each sport is on offer. And, if you're looking for a fancy dress costume, you'll want to head to Deiters, also in the Rathauspassagen.

### Hackescher Markt

This neighbourhood in Mitte is not just a popular spot for nightlife, but also a fashionable shopping

district with a charm all its own. This is the perfect spot to shop looks made and designed right here in Berlin, including pieces by many young designers. You'll want to check out the famous Hackesche Höfe, Neue Schönhauser Straße, and Oranienburger Straße. The entire neighbourhood has an old-school Berlin charm, with narrower streets, less tall buildings, and an overall friendly atmosphere. The Hackesche Höfe are a piece of an old Berlin that remains. The complex with nine courtyards was extensively restored in the 90s. Stroll through the Art Nouveau courtyards and browse through the many charming boutiques and small shops found here. The adjacent Rosenhöfe have been elaborately decorated in a floral design.

### Schloßstraße

Schloßstraße runs 1.5 km from Walther-Schreiber-



Platz to the Steglitz Town Hall. Walther-Schreiber-Platz is home to Schloss-Straßen-Center and Berlin's first Primark store, particularly popular with young people. Forum Steglitz was one of the first shopping malls in Germany to utilise the

shop-in-shop concept. As you continue along Schloßstraße, you'll find the Karstadt department store and the next shopping centre: Boulevard Berlin. You can also shopping under the stars or waves of the sea waves at Das Schloss: elaborate

worlds are projected on the ceilings inside this mall to create an incomparable shopping experience.



### Cuisine

Whether your appetites and explore typical Berlin cuisine. Traditional Berlin dishes are solid meals: pork knuckle with mushy peas, liver of calf à la Berlin, aspic on fried potatoes or meatballs. Well-established Berlin restaurants serve Berlin cuisine classics in a cosy rustic ambience.

Other cooks reinterpret the classics and serve freshly cooked up regional dishes.

Berlin's refurbished market halls present street food from all over the world and offer fine delicacies. And it goes without saying that you need to try Berlin's most famous classics: currywurst and döner.

Afterwards, wash down your food with a delicious cocktail in one of Berlin's myriad bars. For breakfast or teatime, pick one of the many cafés – comfy chairs and fancy cakes or urban cool with freshly brewed coffee.



# Be free with the Freedom Holiday

In an exclusive interview, Martin Joseph, Director, Freedom Holidays share about the successful journey of his company which was founded on the independence day of India and completed its 25 years on 15th August 2019.

• **Vedika Sharma**

**VS: Tell us about your journey so far?**

**MJ:** Our Freedom Group journey started on the 15th of August 1994. The idea of starting Freedom Group came to me when I was holidaying in Turkey in the year 1994. And soon after that, we registered two private limited companies in the year 1994 with the capital of Rs.50,000/- borrowed from a good friend of mine. Then the humble beginning started and then we never looked back till date and it was going up and up and business is flourishing with the blessings of Almighty God, our staff and friends.

**VS: On 15th August 2019 Freedom group will be of 25 years. What is your vision for the future of your organisation?**

**MJ:** We are very grateful to Almighty God, our Ex & present staff and friends for achieving this milestone of 25 glorious years. Our vision for the freedom group is to get into the hospitality sector that is getting into hotels and run the hotels on the lease, getting into the quality restaurant business, getting into health and spa and wellness tourism.

**VS: Being in the travel industry for so long what you think needs to develop in India to boost the flow of tourist.**

**MJ:** There are many things which in my knowledge needs to be done to develop India to boost the flow of tourist to India as mentioned below:

- Visa Fees to be reduced.
- Aggressive campaign overseas a must.
- More connectivity to unexplored destination like North East.

- More safety and security of single women travellers.
- Need more languages guides like Chinese, Russian, Turkish and other languages.
- A Linguaphone guide at touristic places will be highly desirable.
- Promote more day to day interland tourism, village tourism, to view the normal activity of local people.
- More facilities to render physically challenged tourist.
- To promote cruise tourism.
- To promote different cuisine tours of India who will have more pat friendly hotels.
- To develop waterways to promote inland tourism.
- More on Hop On Hop Off services in all the touristic places.
- To improve immigration delays at all the airports in India.
- Organize more food festivals, music concerts, plays and promote India through Bollywood movies.
- Improve health tourism facilities and medical tourism facilities.
- To have more connectivity and have direct flights from various foreign countries.

**VS. What were the major challenges you ever faced in the travel industry.**

**MJ:** The major challenges what we faced are:

- Shortage of quality manpower.
- Unethical business practices conducted by our



shallow colleagues in the tourism industry.

- Steep competitions from OTA (Online Travel Agents)
- High taxes
- Not received any assistance from the Government for promoting tourism in India.
- High airport charges and handling charges which is affecting the charter tourism to India.
- Taxi issues, like in Goa which is affecting the tourism industry in Goa.

**VS. How you stand alike from others in terms of services.**

**MJ:** We treat our clients as God as the saying goes "Athithi Devo Bhava".

We seriously practice and implement it while providing services to our guests. We have always stressed in providing best services to our guests. We make sure that guest return back from India with fond memories. We also make sure that the guests are treated well and make them feel at home. We also make sure that they are not overcharged and fleeced. We also ensure the safety and security of all our guests specially women.

## SLICE

*of life*

**At work, what puts a smile on your face?**

**MJ:** When we read the guests comment after completion of the service.

**What puts a frown on your face?**

**MJ:** High Taxes

**You believe in taking risk or plan beforehand.**

**MJ:** We always plan beforehand and we never take risks in providing services to the clients.

**Your high points.**

**MJ:** Confidence, honesty, sincerity,

dedication and lastly passion for tourism and aviation.

**Your low points.**

**MJ:** Not able to convert a query and not able to provide service at 100%.

**Favorite trade/hospitality/fashion industry leader.**

**MJ:** Trade:- Mr. Rajeev Kohli of Creative Travel and late Mr. Inder Sharma and his son Mr. Arjun Sharma.  
Hospitality:- Mr. Ratan Tata- Taj Group of hotels, late Mr. Lalit Suri of Lalit Group and his wife Mrs. Jyotsna Suri, Ms. Priya Paul of Park Hotels

and Mr. Ajay Bakhaya of Sarovar Group.  
Industry Leader- Ms. Meetha Lulla.

**Which type of novels do you love?**

**MJ:** I love reading fiction, biographies, suspense and thriller.

**A movie that motivates you.**

**MJ:** W3 Idiots

**How you spend your day on day off.**

**MJ:** Fishing, socializing, spending time with my parent( mother), family and sleeping.

# Attainment of OTOAI

Mission - connecting various tourism boards, DMC and Representative Offices to our members said Manish Kriplani.

• **Tarsh Sharma**



**M**anish Kriplani, Chairman, Southern Region OTOAI ( Outbound Tour Operators Association of India ) shared the achievements of Southern Region and said “In the last few months we have organised several formal and informal work shop/ meetings for our members connecting them to DMC, Tourism Board and consulates, to list a few, we Invited the Spanish Hon Consul General, Mr Lobo along with our active members in a trending lounge bar for lunch and informal session and to break the ice,

Most of our agents spoke about their issue and grievances which the Consul General addressed. He also shared several insights about the Visa, Tourism to Spain, Some numbers and statistics and also some light moments with our Members as well. We then had representative from Hideaway resort Maldives who did a full presentation of their resort to our members over lunch in Restobar and also offered very special rates to our Members for the season. We recently concluded a 3 city Roadshow for Korean tourism, whereby we had The Tourism Director, the Manager and DMC from Korea who gave us an indepth presentation of Korea. This again was an exclusive OTOAI event and had our member very excited to have the Korean tourism coming to Chennai for the first time. We have many special and

exclusive event lined up for the next few months, whereby we will take all possible efforts to achieve our Mission of connecting various tourism boards, DMC and Representative Offices to our members and keeping them updated at all times about various Happening and events that Happen worldwide and empower them with information and knowledge about various Destinations.”



Kutch Safari Resort, Bhuj (Gujarat)



Mani Mansion, Ahmedabad (Gujarat)



Royal Safari Camp, Bajana (Gujarat)



Darbargadh Poshina (Gujarat)



TatSaraasa Resort & Spa, Udaipur (Rajasthan)



Jhadol Safari Resort, Jhadol (Rajasthan)



Jhalamand Garh, Jodhpur (Rajasthan)



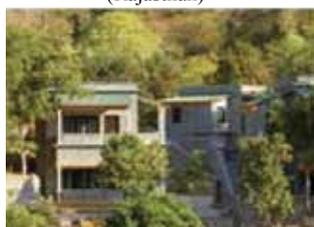
Jungle Vilas Ranthambhore (Rajasthan)



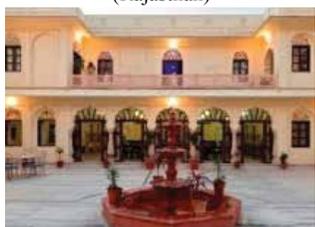
Dhulagarh, Jaipur (Rajasthan)



Sunset Desert Camp - Luxury Mobile Camping



Aranyawas, Ranakpur (Rajasthan)



Dhula Garh, Jaipur (Rajasthan)



Godwad Leopard Safari Camp, Jawai (Rajasthan)



Golden Dune Camp, Jaisalmer



The Lavitra, Udaipur (Rajasthan)



Golden Retreat Stok, Leh



Shaam-E-Jaisal, Jaisalmer (Rajasthan)



Souviner Peppermint, Jaipur (Rajasthan)



The Finch, New Delhi



# 200 years of New Zealand wine

September 25, 2019 marks 200 years since the first planting of a grapevine in New Zealand, a history that may surprise many wine connoisseurs.



From the humble beginnings of a single vine planted 200 years ago in the Bay of Islands, the New Zealand wine industry has grown to become a NZ\$1.83 billion export earner, with an international reputation for premium, diverse and sustainable wines.

It may surprise many connoisseurs around the world to learn that New Zealand's wine story is older than they think.

Early arrival, Reverend Samuel Marsden, who was Chaplain to New South Wales (1765-1838), records September 25, 1819 as the day he planted a grape vine in the fertile grounds beside the Stone Store, at Kerikeri in New Zealand's Bay of Islands. That pioneering vine also gave New Zealand's wine heritage a unique story as one of very few countries in the world where the exact date of the planting of the first vines is recorded.

Throughout the 19th and early 20th century, a significant number of European arrivals established vineyards in different regions, contributing to the early establishment of the diverse wine regions of New Zealand. But it wasn't until the second half of the last century that a new wave of Kiwi viticulturalists and winemakers began to earn their place in the international wine world, firstly with award-winning New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc and then latterly Pinot Noir wines.

Today, the New Zealand wine industry consists of over 700 wineries and more than 600 grape growers, with its growing success depending strongly on the commitment and passion of the people behind it.

Since the 1990s, there has been an evolution in the grape varieties planted throughout New Zealand. Sauvignon Blanc is now the most widely planted variety, accounting for 76% of total production, followed by Pinot Noir and Chardonnay.

As New Zealand's wine industry prepares to raise a toast to the past, it is also looking ahead to the future with a commitment to sustainability and innovation that will protect these wine regions for at least another 200 years. This commitment has already seen 98% of New Zealand's vineyard-production land certified under Sustainable Winegrowing New Zealand (SWNZ), a voluntary scheme that is unmatched anywhere in the world.

New Zealand Winegrowers will be marking the 200-year anniversary of the first vine planting with an event that includes a ceremonial re-planting at the historic Stone Store, followed by a regional wine tasting and dinner on the nearby Waitangi Treaty Grounds.

In his diary, Marsden prophesied, "New Zealand promises to be very favourable to the vine, as far as I can judge at present of the nature of the soil and climate. Should the vine succeed, it will prove of vast importance in this part of the globe." His prediction has been brilliantly fulfilled.



**DO YOU KNOW?**

- The first recorded New Zealand wine was made in the Bay of Islands in the 1830s.
- The first wine-maker was James Busby – representative of the British Crown in New Zealand.
- Busby lived in what is now known as the Treaty House in the Treaty Grounds at Waitangi.
- Busby was the architect of the Treaty of Waitangi – the founding document of the nation of Aotearoa New Zealand.
- When French naval explorer Jules Dumont d’Urville (commanding officer on the Astrolabe) visited the Bay of Islands in 1840, he was disappointed to find Busby was not at home.
- However, d’Urville sampled Busby’s wine and subsequently penned New Zealand’s first wine review: "With great pleasure I agreed to taste the product of the vineyard that I had just seen. I was given a light white wine, very sparkling, and delicious to taste, which I enjoyed very much."

## ON THE WINE TRAIL IN NEW ZEALAND

**WEST COAST**

Christchurch • Akaroa

**NORTH OTAGO**

Timaru • Queenstown • Wanaka • Oamaru

**CENTRAL OTAGO**

Dunedin

**SOUTHLAND**

Invercargill

**SOUTH ISLAND/ TE WAIPOUNAMU**

1. Nelson  
[www.nelsonwine.com/regions/nelson/](http://www.nelsonwine.com/regions/nelson/)
2. Marlborough  
[www.marlborough.com/regions/marlborough/](http://www.marlborough.com/regions/marlborough/)
3. North Canterbury  
[www.northcanterbury.com/regions/north-canterbury/](http://www.northcanterbury.com/regions/north-canterbury/)
4. North Otago  
[www.northotago.com/regions/north-otago/](http://www.northotago.com/regions/north-otago/)
5. Central Otago  
[www.centralotago.com/regions/central-otago/](http://www.centralotago.com/regions/central-otago/)



## Boom in Frequency

Air New Zealand and Cathay Pacific have welcomed the decision by the Minister of Transport Phil Twyford to re-authorise their joint venture alliance for a further five years to 31 October 2024.

Air New Zealand Chief Strategy, Networks and Alliances Officer Nick Judd says the Cathay Pacific partnership plays a significant role in the airline's Pacific Rim network strategy.

"Since forming an alliance in 2013, we've together increased frequency and capacity between New Zealand and Hong Kong, providing travellers with up to four services a day.

"Hong Kong is an important gateway for travel within North Asia, including into Southern

China and beyond. We have a strong partnership with Cathay Pacific and together we can stimulate tourism and trade, as well as providing customers with better connectivity and choice."

Cathay Pacific Director Commercial Lavinia Lau says New Zealand is an important part of its network and a popular destination for customers.

"Our joint venture alliance with Air New Zealand has allowed us to offer more flights and more seats between Hong Kong and New Zealand, while also enabling us to introduce new

routes such as our non-stop seasonal service to Christchurch which will step up from three to four flights per week this year. With this partnership extended for a further five years, we can continue to offer more choice and convenience to our customers when they fly with us."

During peak months, the alliance partners jointly operate a total of 25 return services per week, including four services between Christchurch and Hong Kong.

## Star Alliance Competitive Network

Brazilian airline Ocean Air Linhas Aéreas S/A, headquartered in São Paulo and formerly doing business as Avianca Brasil, will formally leave Star Alliance with effect from 1 September 2019.

Ocean Air's withdrawal follows several months of bankruptcy protection and the withdrawal of its Air Operator Certificate (AOC) by Brazilian regulator ANAC.

The Star Alliance network maintains a significant and long-time presence in the Brazilian market continuously since its founding in 1997.

As of 1 September 2019, the Alliance will number 27 member airlines.

Jeffrey Goh, CEO Star Alliance, said: "Initially

joining Star Alliance in 2015, Avianca Brasil made important contributions to our customer proposition in the Brazilian market, and we regret this unfortunate development.

"I wish to stress that the exit of Avianca Brasil in no way affects the membership of Avianca S.A., our valued member based in Bogota, Colombia, which continues to be a significant contributor to the Alliance in South America."

Eleven of the Star Alliance member airlines

offer direct services to and from Brazil, namely: Air Canada, Avianca, Air China, Copa Airlines, Ethiopian Airlines, Lufthansa, SWISS, South African Airways, TAP Air Portugal, Turkish Airlines and United.

Taken together, Star Alliance member airlines operate 588 weekly flights from 11 domestic points in Brazil to 17 Star Alliance hubs, offering connections to a further 738 international destinations, more than any other airline alliance.

## IndiGo 57th Domestic Destination

IndiGo, India's leading carrier, reinforces its commitment to further enhance connectivity with the launch of 02 daily non-stop flights on the Kolkata-Silchar route, effective September 20, 2019.

Silchar will be IndiGo's 57th domestic and 76th overall destination. Post the launch of direct flights to Shillong, Agartala and Dibrugarh recently, Silchar is the 8th location in the North-east connected by IndiGo, enhancing mobility, trade and tourism in the region.

Mr. William Boulter, Chief Commercial

Officer, IndiGo said, "We have taken another step towards enhancing point-to-point connectivity for our passengers, by introducing Kolkata - Silchar route. The direct connectivity with Silchar, our 57th domestic destination, will offer ease of travel and attract a huge traffic for its natural beauty, rich and diversified culture giving tourists a unique

experience".

Mr. Boulter also added, "We will continue to add more destinations and flights in our network to offer a wide choice, on-time performance, affordable, courteous and hassle-free experience to our customers".



## GoAir's OTP Leadership for 11 Consecutive Months

GoAir, India's fastest growing airline, has created a record of sorts by emerging as the most reliable airline, yet again.

GoAir has achieved the highest On-Time-Performance (OTP) amongst the scheduled domestic carriers for the 11th consecutive month in July 2019. As per the data released by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), GoAir posted 80.5% OTP, the highest among scheduled domestic airlines. It must be noted that July was a tough month with the onset of monsoon and inclement weather conditions across the nation.

One of the most important aspects for travelers in our dynamic industry is the need to reach

the destination on time. From various research studies, it is evident that achieving better customer satisfaction is not about only airfare and flight availability. When travelers consider an airline, they assign higher weightage to on-time-performance and consider timely arrival as one of the major factors to develop their trust in an airline.

GoAir's OTP leadership is the result of continuous focus on enhancing customer experience without compromising on service deliveries. During the month of July 2019, GoAir flew 13.26 lakh passengers, with barely 0.46%

cancellations and one complain per 20,000 passengers.

GoAir currently operates over 300 daily flights to 24 domestic destinations including Ahmedabad, Bagdogra, Bengaluru, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Delhi, Goa, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jammu, Kochi, Kolkata, Kannur, Leh, Lucknow, Mumbai, Nagpur, Patna, Port Blair, Pune, Ranchi and Srinagar and 6 international destinations, including Phuket, Malé, Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Bangkok with another 2 destinations to take off soon.



**Jeh Wadia, Managing Director, GoAir**

DGCA's top ranking in OTP for 11 months is the highest recognition for GoAir. It is a proud moment indeed for each and every GoAir employee who has burnt the midnight oils to make this happen. They don't take punctuality as a duty, rather it runs in their veins as a passion. GoAir is pleased to offer a reliable travel service wherein we assure travelers to get them to their destination in a timely manner. Thank you dear customer – let me reassure you that GoAir will continue to invest in operational excellence.

## Hahn Air Introduces NDC Platform

The market leader in airline distribution, Hahn Air, unveiled its new NDC platform.

The company is extending its suite of products for partner airlines and travel agencies with a solution powered by IATA's New Distribution Capability (NDC) standard. To mark the occasion, the German airline and ticketing expert welcomed the first passengers holding NDC-enabled Hahn Air tickets on one of its scheduled flights from Luxembourg to Dusseldorf on 16th August 2019.

Hahn Air's NDC platform will bring the following benefits to partner airlines:

- Airlines, irrespective if they are already NDC capable or not, can add an additional distribution channel and thereby extend their global customer base.
- In addition, airlines can join the world of NDC by using Hahn Air's NDC platform without having to develop their own solution. Thereby they save time, money and resources and don't

have to deal with the complexity of the new standard.

Travel agents will benefit as follows:

- All travel agents, regardless of which system they are using, can easily connect to Hahn Air's NDC platform. Only one implementation is needed to gain access to multiple partner airlines of Hahn Air. They will find exclusive carriers and flights via Hahn Air's NDC platform.
- Travel agencies can continue to use their preferred forms of payment in almost any market, including cash, credit cards and transactions via BSP with the respective forms of payment.

Any airline with an NDC interface, a proprietary Application Programming Interface (API) or traditional reservation and ticketing interfaces – whether it is an existing Hahn



Air partner airline or not – will be able to take advantage of Hahn Air's new NDC solution. This includes access to Hahn Air's network of connected agencies and aggregators, with the option to make additional connections to the airlines' preferred agency partners. The new NDC platform is powered by 2e Systems, a software development company specializing in web, mobile and communications solutions for the airline industry.



**Christopher Allison, Head of NDC at Hahn Air**

As Hahn Air today supports travel agencies in 190 markets and airlines of any size and business model, we carefully developed a scalable solution that meets the needs of all our current and future partners in a changing airline industry. We are leveraging on the expertise we have acquired during our 20 years of being the leader in airline distribution solutions, as well as our involvement in the IATA activities driving and developing the NDC standard from the very beginning. We have been actively participating in several IATA committees and are currently holding the chair position of the NDC Orders Group, as well as a seat on the Shop-Order Board and the Architecture and Technology Strategy Board.

## Lufthansa's first Changemaker Challenge

With the launch of the Changemaker Challenge, the Lufthansa Group and its new digital business unit Lufthansa Innovation Hub are aiming to explore the full potential of digitalization in the context of sustainable travel and mobility, focusing not only on aviation, but the entire travel chain.

Lufthansa has therefore partnered with three category leaders from the Travel & Mobility Tech ecosystem: Expedia Group, Google, and Uber.

Submitted ideas can range from solutions that make the individual's ecological impact transparent throughout their journey to those that support sustainable decisions during the booking process and innovative transportation technologies. Early-

stage startups, students, and young professionals worldwide are welcome to participate. Starting today, ideas can be submitted online until October 30, 2019.

## Qatar Airways Launch Flights to Langkawi

To announce the launch of Qatar Airways flights to Langkawi, Malaysia, Qatar Airways Group Chief Executive, His Excellency Mr. Akbar Al Baker, hosted a press conference at the Four Seasons Hotel Kuala Lumpur.

The press conference was attended by Qatari Ambassador to Malaysia, His Excellency Mr. Fahad Mohammed Kafoud, Chief Minister of the State of Kedah, Dato' Seri Mukhriz Tun Mahathir and Chief Executive Officer of Langkawi Development Authority (LADA), Dr. Hezri Bin Adnan.

The new service to Langkawi, starting 15 October 2019, is part of the airline's strong expansion plans in Southeast Asia and marks Qatar Airways' third destination in Malaysia after Kuala Lumpur and Penang. Qatar Airways will initially start with four-times weekly Langkawi tag services via Penang with an increase up to five-times weekly services from 27 October 2019 on its state-of-the-art Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft, featuring 22 seats in Business class and 232 seats in Economy class, with spacious cabins and specially-designed interiors.

Forested hills, stunning white-sand beaches and glimmering turquoise waters are among the reasons why travellers enjoy Langkawi Island, an archipelago of 99 picturesque islands surrounded by the azure Andaman Sea on Malaysia's west coast. Known as 'the Jewel of Kedah, Langkawi is home to lush tropical rainforests and mangroves rich in flora and fauna.

Qatar Airways seamlessly connects passengers from Malaysia to more than 160 destinations across six continents via its award-winning Hamad International Airport in Doha.

The National Carrier of the State of Qatar has launched a host of exciting new destinations in 2019, including Lisbon, Portugal; Malta; Rabat, Morocco; Davao, Philippines; Izmir, Turkey; and Mogadishu, Somalia; and will add Gaborone, Botswana to its extensive network in October 2019.



**His Excellency Mr. Akbar Al Baker, Chief Executive, Qatar Airways Group**

Langkawi is one of the most highly sought-after destinations in Malaysia and I am certain our flights will help increase accessibility and boost inbound tourism to this beautiful archipelago. With five weekly flights to Langkawi, our service offers a gateway for passengers to travel and experience Langkawi's magnificent offerings. We also aim to offer greater connectivity for passengers travelling from Malaysia to our extensive global network of over 160 destinations. Our new flights reflect our commitment to growing our presence not just in Malaysia, but in Asia as well.

**Chief Minister of the State of Kedah, Dato' Seri Mukhriz Tun Mahathir**

I'm thrilled to know that Qatar Airways' service expansion now includes the magnificent Langkawi as this will definitely lead to greater opportunities not only for Malaysia's burgeoning tourism industry, but for Kedah as well. Qatar Airways' service to Langkawi will soon bring the world right to the doorstep of the island, allowing them to experience the Langkawi UNESCO Global Geopark in all its majesty.



**Dr. Hezri Bin Adnan, Chief Executive Officer of Langkawi Development Authority (LADA)**

The launch of Qatar Airways' direct services to Langkawi certainly bodes well for the island and goes in line with our plans of further cementing its position as an international tourist destination. Not only that, it also augurs well for Langkawi's economy and tourism industry as we get ready to welcome visitors from across the globe to experience the island's distinctive culture and scenic views at one of the finest tropical gems in Malaysia.

## SpiceJet and IndiGo to shift its Operation

Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL), in consultation with SpiceJet and IndiGo, announced shifting of the airline operations from Terminal 2 to Terminal 3 of Delhi Airport. The movement will take place with effect from 00:01 hours on September 5, 2019.

The move comes as part of DIAL's efforts to enhance passenger experience at Delhi Airport at a time when SpiceJet, IndiGo and GoAir, operating from Terminal 2, have witnessed a steep traffic growth compounded by the re-allocation of Jet Airways traffic.

The shifting, which will take place on the intervening night of September 4 and 5, will enable the airport operator to enhance the overall infrastructure of T2, which is being enhanced to handle rising passenger traffic. Post completion of capacity enhancement of T2, the terminal will be able to handle 18 million passengers per annum (MPPA), up from current 15 MPPA. This will further enhance the passenger comfort and experience. Under T2 capacity enhancement initiatives, the Security Hold Area (SHA), bus gate hold area, new arrivals area and passengers waiting areas would be expanded, while Pre-Embarkation Security Checks (PESC) area would be relocated and Automated Tray Retrieval System (ATRS) would be installed.

After the move, the following changes will take effect:

- All flights of SpiceJet operating from T2 to be shifted to T3
- GoAir to continue all domestic operations; IndiGo to partially operate from T2
- IndiGo flights of 5000 series to shift from T2 to T3
- Flight operations of IndiGo and SpiceJet at T1 to remain unaffected
- This will result in the passenger load at T2 to reduce by 27%

## Aviation Jobs Portal

S hri Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of State (I/C) for Civil Aviation, Housing & Urban Affairs and Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, launched an Aviation Jobs Portal for Aspirants and prospective Employers.

The portal aims to provide a common platform for job seekers to register their job interests across various civil aviation sub-sectors. Prospective Employers, who have completed their KYC under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs MCA-21 database would be eligible to register themselves on the portal.

Elaborating on the portal, the Minister said that, "Aviation Jobs portal is a unique initiative to harness the growth potential of the aviation sector to contribute to employment and re-employment in skilled aviation jobs in India. Both Candidates and Employers would be able to access a wider choice. Candidates will be able to seek job opportunities matching their profiles. Employers will be able to shortlist those suitable to serve their HR requirements as per their company policy through an online medium."

The portal can be accessed at the following link: <http://aviationjobs.co.in/available> on the website of the Ministry. Aviation Jobs makes no recommendations regarding employers. Job seekers and employers are encouraged to perform their verifications when applying for or accepting employment offers.

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# Partnership between British Airways and Born Free

British Airways Holidays has announced a new long-term partnership with leading international wildlife charity Born Free.

British Airways Holidays has been working with Born Free over the last year to develop a new animal welfare strategy which launches on August 8, 2019.

The strategy, which outlines British Airways Holidays policy in relation to wildlife, sees the travel company commit to never promoting the captivity of wild animals and discouraging its hotel partners from doing so.

All attractions where captive wild animals are central to the attraction have been removed from its website, BA.com.

While it will continue to offer customers the opportunity to book rooms in certain hotels that keep wild animals onsite, customers will not be able to book tickets for any animal attractions through British Airways Holidays. These hotels will be clearly labelled as keeping wild animals onsite in captivity to allow customers to make an

informed choice when booking their holiday.

The new policy is being announced at the same time as Born Free launches its new global online alert system, giving customers the opportunity to report captive animal suffering. Supported by British Airways Holidays, Raise the Red Flag not only allows people to make the charity aware of potential cases that may require its help but will also raise awareness of sites animal lovers may want to avoid, both in the UK and abroad.



**Claire Bentley, Managing Director of British Airways Holidays**

Our customers tell us they have concerns about wild animals being kept in captivity, and increasingly see animal performances in particular as outdated. We are delighted to have worked with Born Free to develop our new strategy which allows our customers to make more informed choices and we are contacting all our hotel and attraction partners about our new approach.

**Dr. Chris Draper, Head of Animal Welfare & Captivity, at Born Free**

We are delighted that as part of our new and exciting partnership, British Airways Holidays has committed to supporting both the creation of a new sanctuary space for rescued wild animals and to support our new initiative Raise the Red Flag.

Raise the Red Flag allows members of the public to make Born Free aware of captive wild animal welfare concerns, while equipping people with the tools to take action. It's the first time any major travel company has truly supported an active initiative to help wild animals and we applaud British Airways Holidays for taking this bold stance.



# 15 Years of Etihad Airways in India

Etihad Airways, the national airline of the United Arab Emirates, is preparing to celebrate 15 years of service to its largest and busiest market, India.

The airline's milestone coincides with the third visit to the UAE of India's Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, highlighting the importance of the partnership between the two countries.

Etihad launched daily flights between the UAE capital, Abu Dhabi, and the Indian city of Mumbai in September 2004, within the airline's first year of operation. Three months later, flights were also launched between Abu Dhabi and New Delhi.

Today, Etihad operates 159 return flights per week between Abu Dhabi and 10 key Indian gateways - Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Cochin, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Kozhikode, Mumbai and Thiruvananthapuram - and through its Abu Dhabi hub, the airline connects each of these gateways to international destinations throughout the Middle East, Europe, the Americas, and Africa. Since launching operations to the sub-continent, Etihad has carried more than 16.5 million passengers on its Indian routes.

Etihad's offering in the India market continues to evolve. The airline is continually increasing flights and adding newer, larger aircraft, including its latest addition, the Boeing 787 Dreamliner, which serves cities including Mumbai, Delhi, and Hyderabad.

Etihad Guest, the airline's loyalty programme, recently partnered with SBI Card, one of India's largest credit card providers, to offer a unique travel-specific Visa credit card to Indian travellers. And for guests flying Etihad

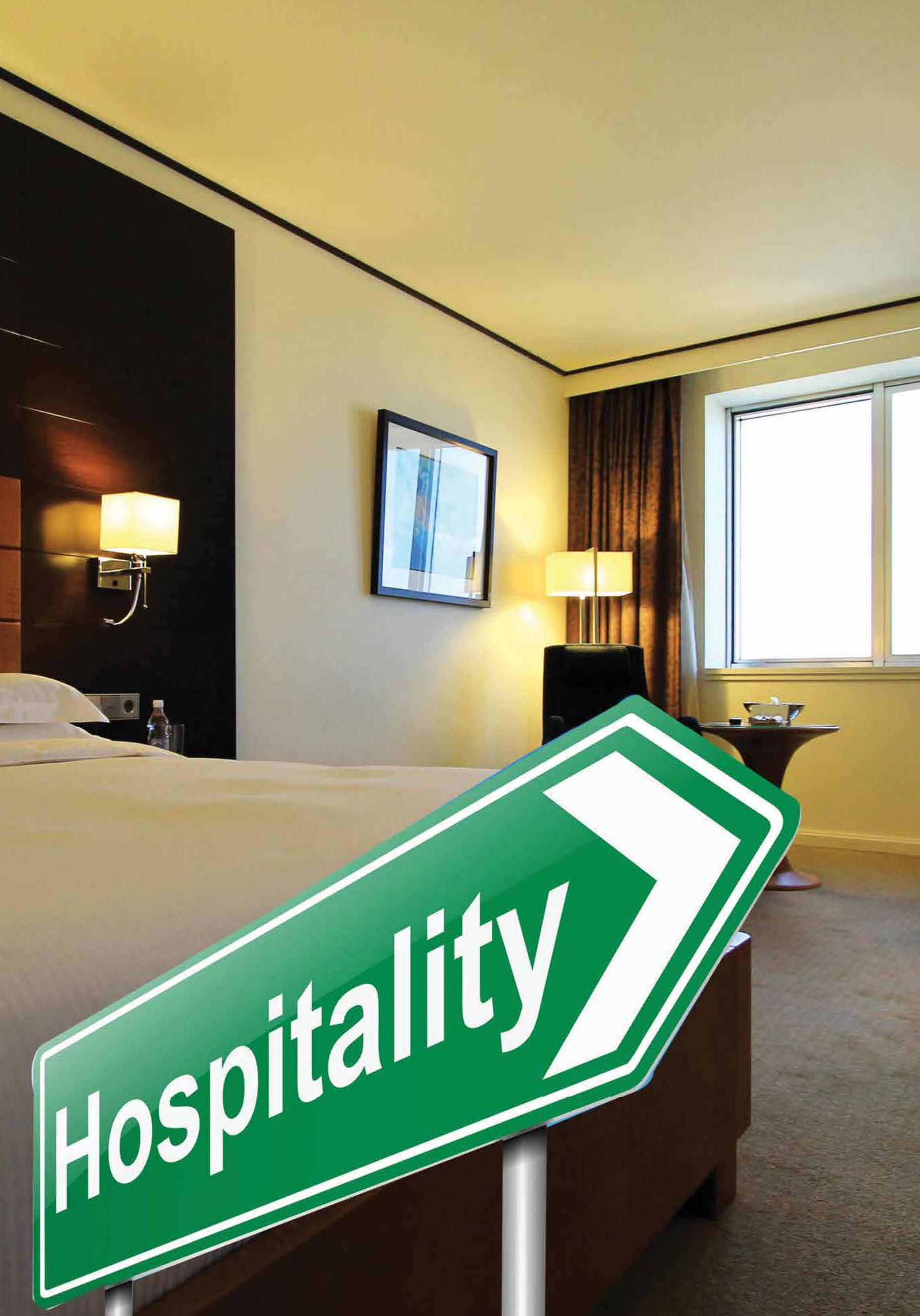
from India to the United States, the Customs and Border Protection facility at Abu Dhabi Airport, enables US immigration, customs and agriculture formalities to be completed in Abu Dhabi before departure.

India is an important strategic source market for Etihad Cargo. In addition to belly space cargo capacity on the 159 weekly passenger aircraft between Abu Dhabi and India, Etihad Cargo operate dedicated freighter flights to Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru and Chennai. In the past decade, Etihad has carried more than 560,000 tonnes of cargo to and from India, from general cargo to key Indian exports including garments, perishable products, pharmaceuticals and electronics.

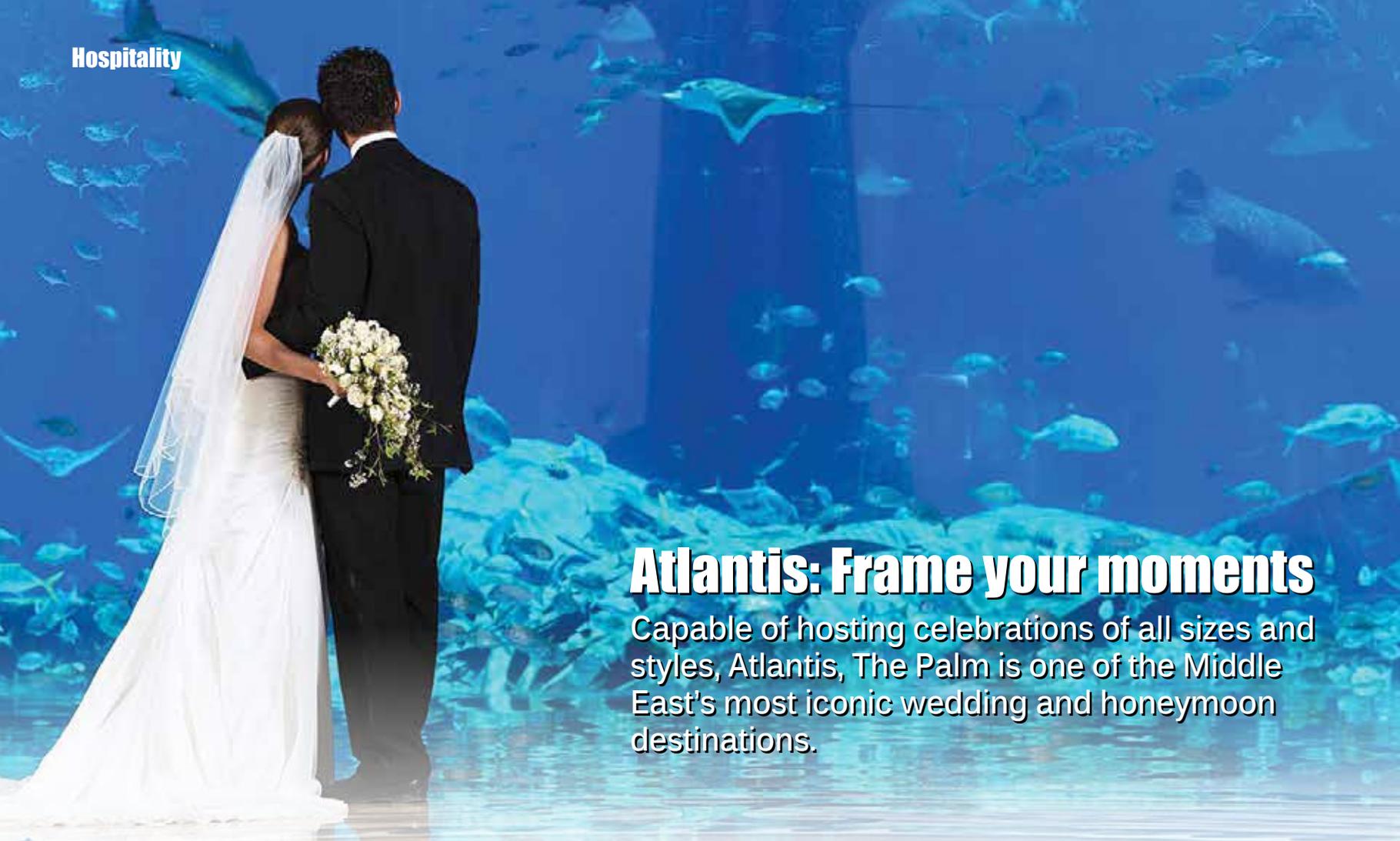


**Tony Douglas, CEO, Etihad Airways Group**

India and the United Arab Emirates share a long and strong economic, cultural and diplomatic relationship, and Etihad Airways connects these nations to each other, and beyond. We serve more destinations in India than any other country in our network, and connect India to the world via Abu Dhabi. Globally, we employ more than 4,800 Indian nationals, almost 25 per cent of our workforce. We contribute strongly to both economies, and last year spent US \$151 million with 480 companies in India. Our commitment is significant, and will continue to grow.



Hospitality



## Atlantis: Frame your moments

Capable of hosting celebrations of all sizes and styles, Atlantis, The Palm is one of the Middle East's most iconic wedding and honeymoon destinations.

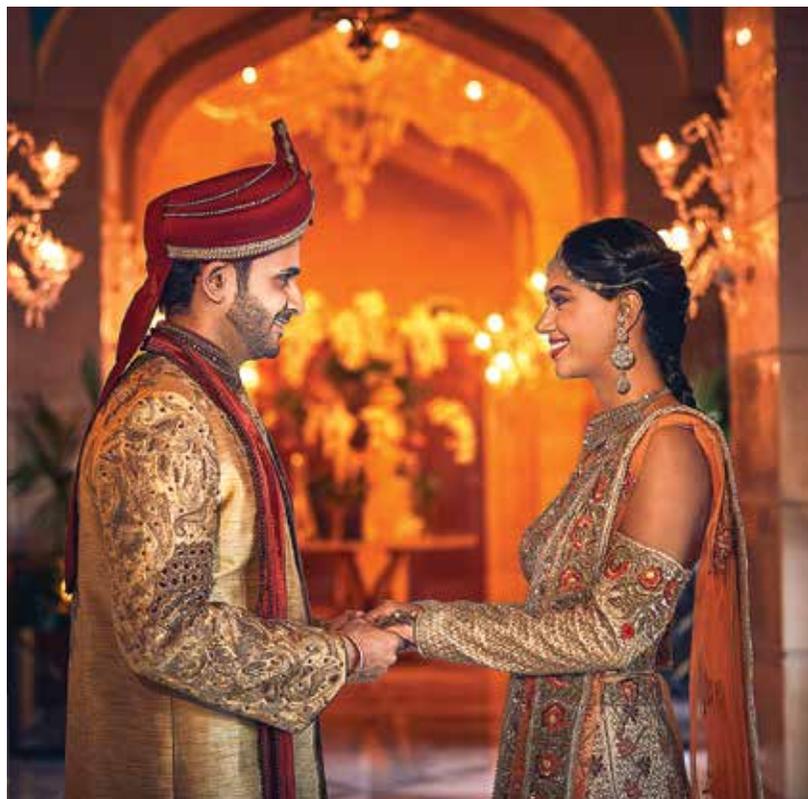
Couples choosing to tie the knot at Atlantis, The Palm can be rest assured that their wedding day will be like no other, with a dedicated planner on hand to perfectly orchestrate every last detail of their special day. With such a diverse selection of venues on offer, Atlantis is not just one destination; it's a collection of seven individual venues, each with its own character. The Royal Beach and Asateer Tent serve as magnificent backdrops for a mandap setting. Asateer, on the

beach, provides a spectacular venue for weddings, offering a fusion of the exotic and opulent, with marble floors, water features and impressive views of the Dubai skyline. For those dreaming of a grand reception, there is the opulent Atlantis Ballroom, which accommodate up to 2,500 guests cocktail style, or 1,200 seated, boasting their own private entrances for the ultimate in exclusive luxury.

Couples looking for a more intimate setting for smaller functions such as mehndi and haldi can choose from a variety of smaller venues, both indoor and outdoor, including the elegant Silk and Spice Ballroom, which seats up to 250 and the picture-perfect Palm Grove for 100 guests in addition to the Zero Entry Pool-side and the Nasimi Beach

When it comes to culinary delights, Atlantis





offers a variety of Indian cuisines including an option of strict vegetarian and Jain meals as well as a number of international cuisine options to choose from.

For couples looking to create a truly unique occasion for guests, the resort has a number of unforgettable options. For the ultimate Atlantis experience, The Lost Chambers Aquarium – offering underwater views into the 11 million litre Ambassador Lagoon, home to 65,000 marine animals - provides a truly unforgettable experience.

For Brides looking to make the grandest of statements, wedding packages can also offer access to the resort's helicopter pad, ensuring outstanding photo opportunities, whether on arrival, or departing in style.

In addition to being a leading wedding destination, Atlantis, The Palm also provides the perfect location for pre-wedding activities, including pampering hen nights, elaborate sangeet and cocktail parties and fun-studded bachelor parties in the run up to the big day. With an iconic location and

award-winning facilities, Atlantis also makes for the perfect honeymoon destination, to unwind post-wedding and start enjoying married life together in style. Boasting 23 restaurants featuring kitchens from world-renowned celebrity chefs such as Giorgio Locatelli, Gordon Ramsay and Nobu Matsuhisa, as well as the award-winning ShuiQi Spa & Fitness - the only spa in Dubai to offer treatments from Shiseido, a Dr. Burgener and Aromatherapy Associates - Atlantis, The Palm offers the ultimate resort destination experience, creating memories of your wedding that will last a lifetime.



## New Level Romance

Cinnamon Hotels: live the dream in real life.

### Cinnamon Island Weddings

Cinnamon Island Weddings is a bespoke, curated, luxurious wedding experience in Sri Lanka by Cinnamon Hotels & Resorts. From romantic beachside ceremonies at sunset to vintage garden parties surrounded by misty mountains, Cinnamon Island Weddings helps one bring their dream island wedding to life. The brand has 10 properties spread across different parts of the country and they offer personalized, 360-degree execution capability. They take tropical island romance to a whole new level with completely customizable wedding packages in ten luxurious locations.

### Cinnamon BeyBeruwala

Cinnamon BeyBeruwala is one of the most extravagant and largest resorts in the beautiful southern coast of Sri Lanka. Located just 55 km from Colombo and not more than an hour's drive from the highway entrance, the convenient location of hotel offers a stunning ocean backdrop for couples who wish to exchange their vows and sail off into the tropical sunset. Inspired by the Arabian trade routes to Sri Lanka, Cinnamon

BeyBeruwala is a modern day take on a lavish trading outpost – a literal island oasis! Destination weddings at Cinnamon BeyBeruwala include a unique garden party. The Garden at Cinnamon BeyBeruwala is a vast, serene setting for any kind of wedding ceremony. Erect a marquee on the grounds for a Bedouin-themed shindig, or opt for an open-air ceremony in the more-often-than-not sunny weather of Sri Lanka. Choose your own décor and wedding canopy for a ceremony that is uniquely yours.

**Banquet Weddings** - Book the Kutlama Hall for a classic, indoor ceremony and banquet celebrations. The Kutlama Hall undertakes a complete makeover when it comes to letting loose and having the celebration of a lifetime. Able to accommodate upto 200 guests, this hall can host a full-blown extravaganza. If you like, you can even choose your own décor from the oil lamps to the wedding canopy to the chair covers.

**Garden Weddings** - Destination weddings at Cinnamon BeyBeruwala include a unique garden

party. The Garden at Cinnamon BeyBeruwala is a vast, serene setting for any kind of wedding ceremony. Erect a marquee on the grounds for a Bedouin-themed shindig or opt for an open-air ceremony in the more-often-than-not sunny weather of Sri Lanka or choose your own décor and wedding canopy for a ceremony that is uniquely yours. You can accommodate around 300 – 500 guests in this setting.

### Cinnamon Grand Colombo

Cinnamon Grand Colombo is a romantic getaway in the heart of the bustling city of Colombo. The indoor and outdoor venues make for a plush ambience, be it during the day or at night. Their majestic ballrooms, elegant courtyard, open garden spaces and a charming little village make sure one's vows feel as heavenly as they really are. Thoughtfully designed, they ensure an experience as smooth as your marriage ought to be. They lay out a sumptuous spread of the most delightful local and international cuisines, for guests to truly relish the wonderful occasion.





## Luxury Retreat

Sheraton Grand Danang Resort is emerging as the ideal destination resort for special events and weddings.

An expansive luxury retreat set along the white sands and tranquil blue waters of the East Vietnam Sea, Sheraton Grand Danang Resort is especially appealing to wedding and meeting planners because of its outstanding service along with an ideal location close to unrivaled beaches and outdoor experiences, and world-class visitor attractions like UNESCO heritage landmarks, theme parks, championship golf courses and more.

Perfectly situated on the world-famous Non Nuoc Beach, Sheraton Grand Danang Resort is an expansive luxury resort offering 258 guest rooms and suites – each with a view of the ocean. The resort offers six signature restaurants and bars featuring a variety of local and international cuisines, along with an impressive selection of guest amenities and activities including a 250-meter-long infinity pool - the longest in Vietnam - which overlooks the sea.

Sheraton Grand Danang Resort stands out from other Vietnamese resorts because of its outstanding amenities and ability to personalize experiences for groups of all sizes. Sheraton Grand Danang Resort is Danang's newest brand hotel, offering meeting

and wedding planners the extra assurance of an exceptional experience that only a brand with an 80-year history of excellence can deliver.

The resort has introduced a variety of creative meeting break options that can be added to any conference or meeting. Organizers can choose standard or deluxe meeting packages for their event, both of which include half or full day options. All packages include a selection of themed coffee or tea breaks. Attendees can enjoy options such as yoga break sessions, pastry kitchen tours, a wellness/ energizing themed break which includes a fitness guru, or a local Vietnam coffee themed break which includes special coffee while walking the streets of Vietnam.

There is much to discover in Danang, and Sheraton Grand Danang Resort is the ideal base from which to explore and experience the area's natural and cultural wonders both on and off the beaten path. Favorite experiences for MICE groups of all sizes include:

**Ba Na Hills** – Just west of Danang, Ba Na Hills is a stunning mountain resort accessible by gondola. Ba Na Hills is home to the new Golden

Bridge, a stunning architectural icon that features giant, ancient hands holding a golden bridge. Ba Na Hills also is also home to a the 27-meter-high Shakyamuni Buddha overlooking the city.

**Marble Mountains** – A cluster of five limestone and marble hills just south of Danang. The peaks are individually named after the key elements of water, wood, fire, metal and earth. The mountains are home to a host of 17th-century Buddhist temples, hidden caves and small villages. A strenuous climb of the steps to the top of the mountains rewards with stunning panoramic views of Non Nuoc and My Khe beaches.

**Monkey Mountain** – A gorgeous mountain park north of Danang on the Son Tra peninsula that features the Ling Ung Pagoda and the Goddess of Mercy, a 67-meter-high white statue, set amidst a lotus-shaped platform.

**BRG Danang Golf Club and Montgomerie Links** – The BRG Gold Club and Range and Montgomerie Links, a five-star championship golf course designed by golfing legend Colin Montgomerie are both just a few minutes from the hotel.



## Dive into Romance

At Anantara Kihavah Maldives Villas, romance is anything but ordinary. A private island with only 80 villas dotting lush grounds, exclusivity is assured. A dedicated wedding planner from first thoughts to final details ensures your dream wedding comes to life in every way.

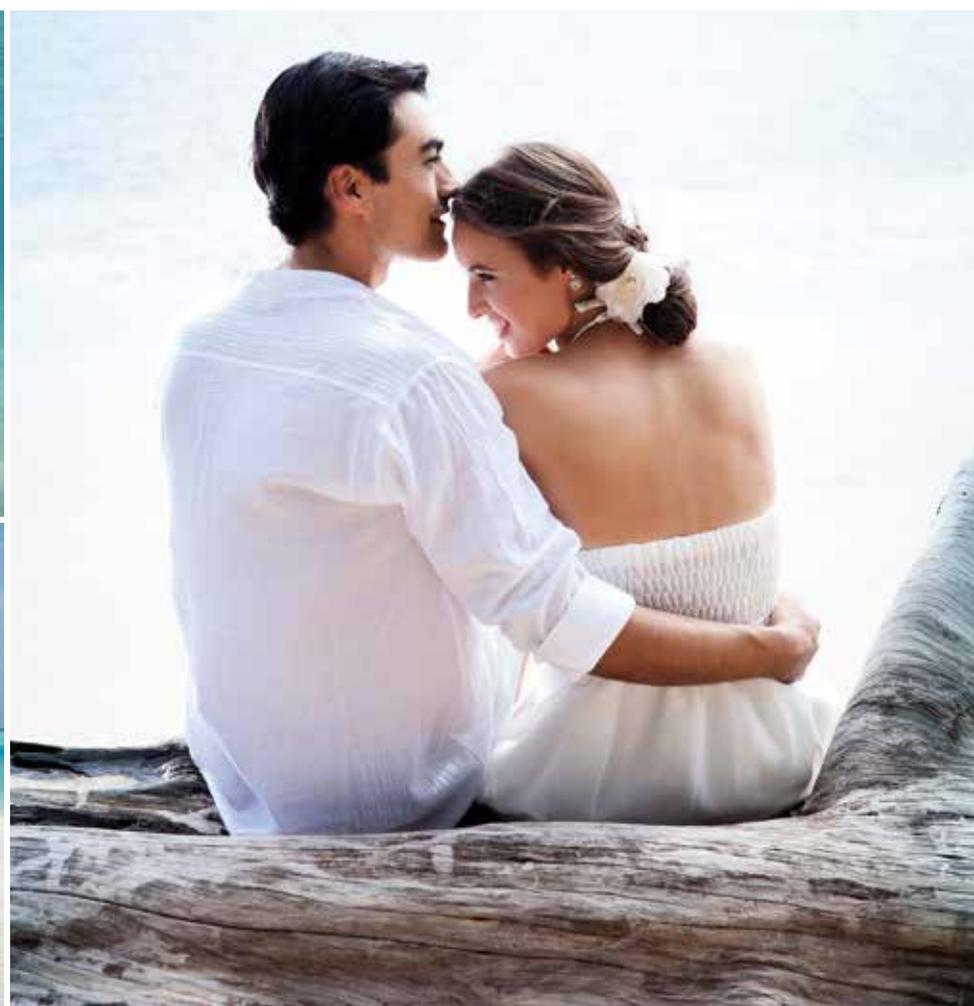
**M**ake a statement with an underwater wedding. Your altar is a coral bed, your rings presented in a white shell. Exchange vows with a dive-certified minister your witness, each moment captured by our underwater photographer. Adopt a coral to memorialise the occasion, returning on an anniversary to see how it blooms.

Your journey together back on land begins with professional hair styling and make-up for the

bride. Dine on barbecued lobster prepared by your chef for the evening, and served by the butler on a candlelit stretch of beach.

Retiring to your villa, your Slumber Guru experience begins with a soak in essential oils in a candlelit bath. Unwind side by side with a lavender oil massage, then fall into the deepest of sleeps. Waking up the next morning, Champagne breakfast is served in bed. The perfect beginning of forever unfolds in paradise.

At Anantara Kihavah, wedding stages are limited only by your imagination. For those who wish to keep their feet on dry land, exchange vows in Kihavah's signature underwater venue SEA as fish swim past floor-to-ceiling glass, wed on a palm-fringed beach at the resort, on a deserted island at sunset, in front of family on a private yacht, or over water in a private residence.





## Magic Moments

“I’m a big fan of the historic Berlin on water and on land.” – By Andre Kühne, Wedding Planner, Hotel Adlon Kempinski Berlin

### • Vedika Sharma

**Q** How would you describe your customer? What are their typical needs and expectations?

Our guests can be very demanding and expect the extraordinary. These of course also includes European luxury and the highest service quality. Furthermore, guests expect us to recognize and fulfill their wishes before they have to express them by themselves. But this is one of the main reasons why guests visit our Hotel Adlon Kempinski, they appreciate our work which ends in Magic Moments.

**Q** Which city tour do you recommend for destination wedding guests?

Since every couple has individual wishes and interests, there is not that one sightseeing tour that we recommend to our guests. Personally, I’m a big fan of the historic Berlin on water and on land. In general, however, every suggestion to our guests

only comes into being when the preferences and interests of the couples crystallize out here. As Berlin is probably Germany’s most multifaceted city, we can tailor very individual tours for our guests. Those who would rather discover the young and urban Berlin, receive a completely different proposal than the couple that is interested in the historical and classical part of the capital. There is only one thing in common with every city tour: all tours start in our lobby at the famous Elephant Fountain, a gift from the Maharaja of Patiala.

**Q** What are your strategies to deal with irate client?

Why should a guest have reasons to complain - our job is to create a feel-good experience for every visitor. If this does not succeed, it is important to listen to every guest at first and to respond to them individually. Case by case. Standard handling does

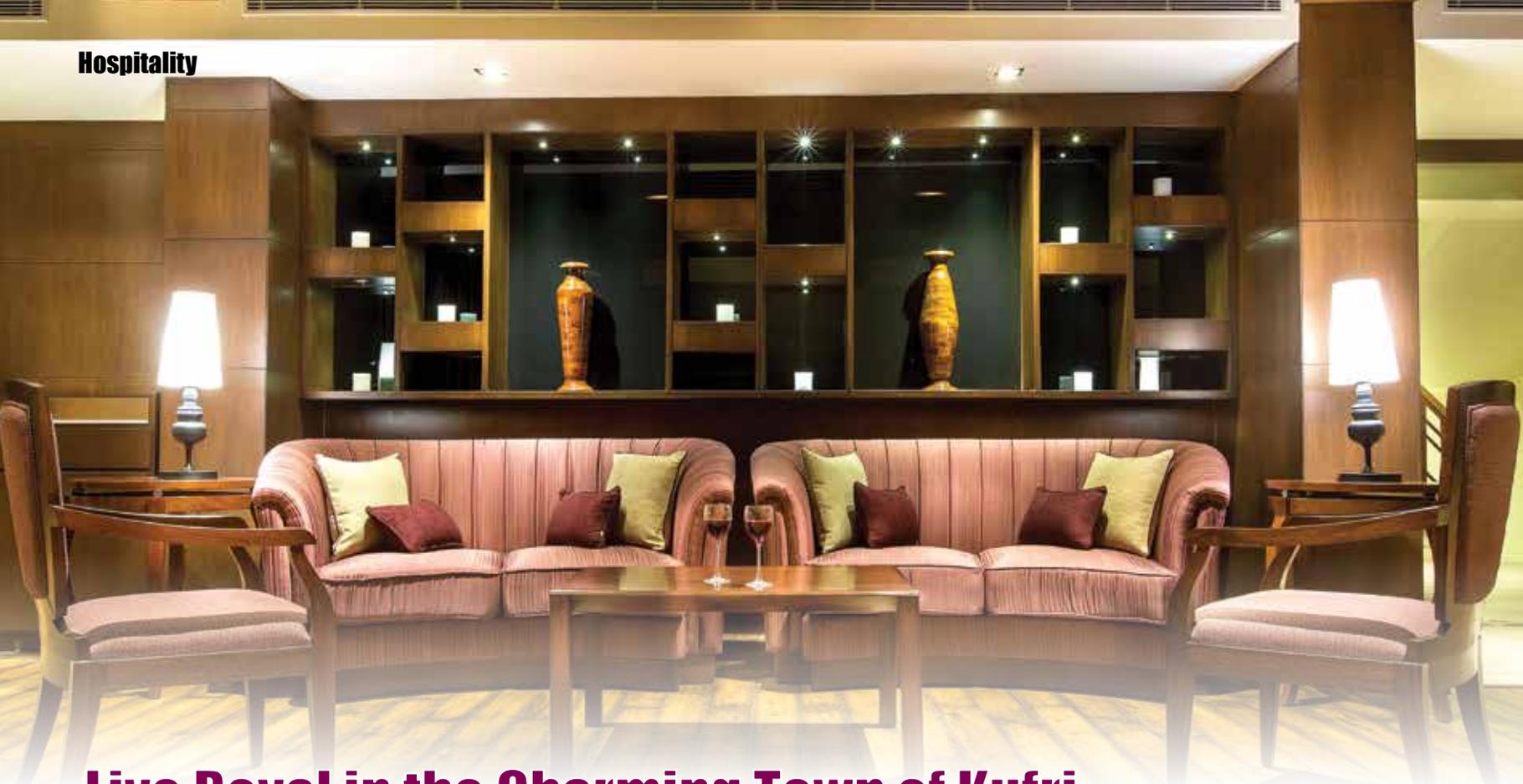
not exist in such situations, as it is our top priority to respond individually and to generate the perfect solution proposal.

**Q** What’s the USP of your hotel in terms of destination wedding?

In addition to the incomparable location at the world-famous Brandenburg Gate in the center of Berlin, with walking distance to many other well-known attractions of the capital, our hotel has written stories that the world will not forget. Almost every well-known person, that visited Berlin, had already been a guest in our grand hotel. This fact gives our hotel a unique charm that can not be found in any other hotel.

Another USP we can offer are our passionate employees. Through their authentic, loving and attentive service our staff gives our guests the feeling of having a second home - home away from home.





## Live Royal in the Charming Town of Kufri

Royal Tulip Kufri is an international five star luxurious hotel located in the picturesque Himalayas. The hotel features 58 well sized luxurious rooms and suites, and each room offers a panoramic view of the beautiful Kufri valley.

Each room at Royal Tulip Kufri is equipped with state of the art amenities, a four fixture bathrooms, a flexible workstation, plush beds, LED television, electronic safe, high speed internet and luxe amenities to ensure a delightful stay for the guests.

The interiors of the hotel are tastefully done with vibrant colour furnitures, carpeted wooden floors, and beautiful paintings. Guest can chose from myriad dining options that includes Cafe

Promenade, an all day dining, multi-cuisine dining restaurant with special menu for kids. Peak, a roof top restaurant that offers a delectable barbeque with breathtaking views of the Himlayan Mountains. The Cedar- a lounge bar, perfect place to unwind and relax with friends and partner over lip smacking drinks.

The hotel houses an impressive and expansive Club Kufri to engage the guests with various fun activities such as – billiards, X box, Air hockey

and other games center. The hotel houses large and spacious halls that can accommodate over 800 guests making the hotel an ideal venue for destination weddings, social functions, corporate off sites and gatherings.

Guests can enjoy expansive view of the Kufri valley from the guestrooms and restaurants, relax in the heated in-door swimming pool and rejuvenate in the tranquility of the Samaaya spa or take leisurely walks through the fragrant cedar forest.



# Travel Away from the Normal Trail

“Synergi is all about exploring. We encourage tourism that stems out from travelling to places that are far-flung from city life and is education while it connects local habitat to the world.” – By Shruti Pandey, Founder, Synergi Hospitality Marketing.

• **Tarsh Sharma**

**Q** Shed some light on your current portfolio of hotels?

Each of the Synergi partner properties is unique in their own ways. They are off-beat in their locations and take pride in their ability to connect the guests to the character & atmosphere of that locality.

There is a lot of outdoors with safaris, treks, heritage walks, tribal & textile tours and camping options. All these properties are either Heritage hotels or are Camps, Resorts & Retreats. We promote glamping or luxury mobile camping wherein temporary Camp set-up is created and operated at off-road locations. The last such event was at Prayagraj for Ardh Kumbh where we hosted the guests from National Geographic. There are semi-constructed Camps also which we promote in Jawai and Jaisalmer sand dunes.

On a fresh note, we have also started working with a Restaurant - The Finch - in Delhi, Mumbai & Chandigarh - to serve cuisines of choice to guests while they are travelling.

**Q** What sets apart Synergi hospitality from other hotel sales and marketing companies?

Synergi is all about exploring. We encourage tourism that stems out from travelling to places that are far-flung from city life and education while it connects local habitat to the world. Each property also takes responsibility for assisting in local growth and sustainability.

**Q** How has been 2018 for your company in terms of growth? (Please share facts & numbers) What are your plans and targets for 2019?

2018-19 was very good for us. We saw a jump in numbers, especially for remote locations like Jawai and Gujarat. This hike has given us a boost to push more aggressively for movement towards these locations. We have started working on creating

more activities to enhance experiences.

**Q** What are your plans for expansion? How are you doing your promotion in tier-II and tier-III cities?

We are already in touch with local travel agents at smaller cities like Aligarh, Nashik and Gwalior. The movements from such cities have been steadily increasing. Their choice of travel has started varying from travel to a city, now to more remote places where there is a lot of out-doors and lots of explore.

We do regular promotions in these cities as advertisements and package offer. The agents are also connected through telecalls and mails.

**Q** How does IATO help the travel industry and what are your expectations from the show?

IATO as the apex body for all inbound tour operators is the best platform to catch up with fresh thoughts and plans for upcoming travel season. The convention gives us an opportunity to meet everyone under one roof. Fresh ideas for new travel itineraries and opportunities are exchanged here and they help precedent the future plans.

**Q** Please share your thoughts on the growth of the hospitality industry in India?

Last season (2018-19) went well, especially with no untoward incident in the country. There has also been an increase in interest towards India, following economic and cultural exchanges. With the advent of stability, Tourism is bound to gain more. The trade is also now ready to welcome more guests as there has been an expansion in infrastructure and related services.

**Q** According to you, What kind of challenges the hospitality industry is facing today?



A great challenge currently is that of quality control over services. With the expansion of service variables, there rises a lacuna of the professional team to operate these services. To train and induct more man-power and to raise a bar on service standard is very much essential.

**Q** Any announcements, news or anything else you would like to share?

Synergi looks forward to exploring more towards the Northern region of India. We have started with Golden Retreat Stok in Leh, a quaint Retreat near Stok Palace where guests would be able to go for long walks, hot picnic lunches and breakfast with local Ladakhi family.

We are also planning and promoting more options of experiences at all the properties we currently promote. There are options of cycling tours, hi-tea breaks, roof-top candle-light dinners, jeep & camel rides and more at all the locations.





## Indian legacy and Culture

A joint venture between ITC Ltd and Jodhana Heritage, established in the year 1997, "WelcomHeritage" represents the finest traditions of heritage hospitality and tourism in India.

Today, WelcomHeritage offers unique properties, ranging from Grand Palaces to traditional Havelis to Magnificent Forts and quiet Nature Resorts, spread across exclusive destinations all over India. Sitting in regal poise all over the country, all of these destinations are gateways to the finest of "Indian legacy and culture". One of the latest additions to its profile is WelcomHeritage Tadoba Vanya Villas Resort & Spa in Tadoba near Nagpur, Maharashtra.

Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve is the oldest and largest national park in Maharashtra. With a total area of 1727 square kilometers, Tadoba is home to the largest number of Bengal Tigers in Central India. Apart from that Tadoba is also home to other mammals, including Indian leopards, sloth bears, gaur, nilgai, dhole, striped hyena, small Indian civet, jungle cats, sambar, barking deer, chital, chausingha and honey badger. Tadoba National Park, in spite of being a rich hub of flora and fauna, is still a place unexplored. The destination has a lot of potentials and in future, it will definitely be catering to a number of tourists round the year.

To cater this influx, WelcomHeritage has flagged property in the periphery of Tadoba Na-

tional Park with the name WelcomHeritage Tadoba Vanya Villas Resort & Spa. It is a premium resort set away from the hustle and bustle of the main city in 1.5 km vicinity of Tadoba Forest. Spread across 65 acres of land the hotel features a private lake and lush green lawns. The basic idea behind the resort is combining comfort with nature.

The resort comprises of 36 tastefully designed individual cottages divided into 3 categories- Premium Cottages, Deluxe Cottages and Tents. Each of the rooms has a sit-out area in the garden where one can relax on the loungers and enjoy the mesmerizing view of the sunset. The cottages are spacious and give a brilliant view of landscaped gardens, and are equipped with all basic amenities including mini-bar, LED television with satellite channels, tea/coffee maker etc. Each cottage and tent has a connected bathroom which is equally huge as the cottage, equipped with all amenities.

WelcomHeritage Tadoba Vanya Villas Resort & Spa enhances the experience of one's stay with its lip-smacking flavours from the whole of Maharashtra. In total the hotel has 3 outlets- Royal Oak, which is a multi-cuisine restaurant that can accommodate around 70 people, Jungle Grill is a poolside based grill restaurant, and Mehfil, which is the mocktail bar.

The resort features two swimming pools, one for the kids and for adults. Guest can also enjoy a relaxing time in the Amoda Spa in the vicinity. One can do all sorts of activities in the resort, right from playing indoor games like carom or ludo to having fun outdoors like bird watching, nature walk, cycling and so on. In all terms, the resort is perfect for a family stay.

A conference/banquet hall of 2300 sq ft size makes Tadoba Vanya Villas Resort & Spa a great destination for any corporate event or a "small and intimate" themed destination wedding.

Things are not only fun in the resort, but around it also. Guests can take a safari to the Tadoba National Park and experience the view of the majestic tiger for real, as Tadoba Forest has the highest probability of spotting a tiger in India. Guests can also visit the historic Balaji Temple in Chimur Town or a visit to Anandvan by Baba Amte.

WelcomHeritage Tadoba Vanya Villas Resort & Spa gives a new meaning to the word comfort. Cosy cottages in the lap of nature and romantic sunset invite you to indulge yourself to a welcome break. So curl up with a book in your cottage or unwind on a lounge in the garden and just let Tadoba Vanya Villas Resort & Spa weave its magic on you.





**WelcomHeritage**

Palaces • Forts • Havelis • Resorts

*WelcomHeritage Tadoba Vanya Villas  
Resort & Spa  
Near Nagpur, Maharashtra*



*An idyllic getaway for nature lovers*



# Time to Rejuvenate

When you choose a Rajputana Luitvista, you choose a feeling.

• **Vedika Sharma**

What you get is your own home comfort at your choice of vacation destination layered with all the comforts and necessities. You may choose to sit on the Terrace sipping your coffee consuming the view & expanse of the mighty Brahmaputra River in

Guwahati & your kids run around the Villa playing their usual games.

You are greeted with a Food Menu in your rooms but the real happiness is when you ask the Chef to make what you want & he does it for you. Ever wanted to invite your friends over for a get

together and this is where we encourage you to do so. Its time to look up your address book and give them a call to let them know that you are in Guwahati and its time to get together. At Rajputana Luitvista, we will work with you to host your treat & make every minute spent worth cherishing.



### **Anurag Singh, Founder, Rajputana Luitvista**

At Rajputana Luitvista you put your feet up and relax while we serve you in a way that makes you feel at home. Personal connect & serenity is what we curate for all our guests. All the rooms at Rajputana Luitvista has their own character and appeals to different senses. Our top priority is to make you feel at home where you are assured of not being bound by the usual Hotel House Rules and enjoy flexibility of relishing your Coffees or Meals whenever you want and in any part of the Villa. Sitting out on the Open Terrace with an uninterrupted view of the mighty Brahmaputra can be awakening.



# Ell Bee



ELLBEE GANGA VIEW, RISHIKESH  
355 Haridwar Road, Rishikesh – 249201 (Uttarakhand)  
+91-888 266 1577 | [reservations@ellbeehotels.com](mailto:reservations@ellbeehotels.com)



## Work, Play, Sleep and Repeat

Make sure of meeting, business needs together with comfort in Golden Tulip Lucknow.

• **Vedika Sharma**

Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh, lies in the middle of the Heritage Arc. This bustling city, famed for its Nawabi era finesse and amazing food, is a unique mix of the ancient and the modern. It is home to extraordinary monuments depicting a fascinating blend of ancient, colonial and oriental architecture. To enhance its glory is The Golden Tulip Lucknow hotel which is the city's first contemporary business hotel.

This 4-star hotel has a very pleasant environment in which our guests can relax and enjoy their stay.

### Room & Suites

The Golden Tulip Hotel Lucknow hotel welcomes its guests into 115 elegantly appointed rooms spread between 2 towers. The Deluxe and Club wings are over 7 floors and offer a great city view. The rooms are categorized under superior, club, and suites category. The hotel is always keeping in mind the needs of the modern business and leisure travellers.





## Treatment Packages Offered at Kairali-The Ayurvedic Healing Village

### Special Ayurvedic Health Programmes for Weight Loss (Duration: 14 to 21 nights)

Unique individualized program's are created, with external herbal treatments and internal ayurvedic medicines to burn excess fat, to tone up muscles and to reduce weight naturally.

### Kairali's Special Package to Remove Stress & Strain (Duration: 7, 14 or 21 days)

Special ayurvedic massages with formulated herbal oils and steam bath to remove stress and strain for one to lead a fatigue-free life.

### Kairali's Panchakarma Therapy (Five Actions) (Duration: 14 to 21 nights)

Ayurveda's most time tested and well know treatment (5 procedures) to cure major health problems which acts by removing the diseases from the roots. So that the chances of recurrence of that diseases is negligible.

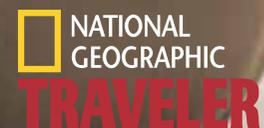
### Proven Remedies for Arthritis, Rheumatism & Spondylitis (Duration: 14 or 21 days)

A combination of various treatments & internal medication help regain lost mobility & subsides pain thus assisting one to live a pain free life once again.

#### WE ALSO SPECIALISE IN TREATMENTS OF

- ❁ Rejuvenation Therapy to Restore Vigor and Vitality
- ❁ Treatment for Sinusitis & Migraine
- ❁ Arthritis & Spondylitis
- ❁ Neurological Disorders
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## WelcomHeritage: Unique Experience

“We are looking forward to tap the burgeoning wedding segment for our properties. They are capable of giving a royal experience as well as creating the most memorable moments of weddings /social event.” – By Mr. Sanjeev K Nayar, MIH, General Manager, WelcomHeritage Hotels.

• **Tarsh Sharma**

**Q** What is the latest news on behalf of WelcomHeritage Hotels?

We had a couple of months ago flagged “Kalyan Bhawan” our 2nd property in Jaisalmer. “Kalyan Bhawan”, a former haveli was an old mansion which had given way with the passage of time and hence many parts had to be recreated to make the property contemporary to the present day times was the former home of the Ruler of Jaisalmer - Maharawal Jawahir Singh Ji and was called as ‘Kanwar Pada’, meaning Princes’ Residence in local parlance. He lived here as a royal member of the Jaisalmer family until he became the ruler of Jaisalmer in 1914.

Presently we have 34 operational properties and four new properties in the pipeline i.e. one, Tadoba Vanyavillas Resort & Spa, in the forest reserve of Tadoba, near Nagpur. This nature resort in Tadoba will be our first property in the state of Maharashtra and we are quite upbeat about it. The other property is Inderpura Resort, in Udaipurwati, Shekhawati region of Rajasthan. We are quite hopeful that both these properties will be flagged during September 2019.

The 3rd property scheduled for flagging is a resort “Mount Valley” on the foothills of Aravalli range in Ranthambore and lastly a Heritage property “BadiKothi” in the holy land of Prayagraj (Allahabad). BadiKothi was built in the year 1897 during the Mughal Era, with a Monumental facade exquisite stone carvings and a Royal Architectural inside. We are hopeful that these two properties will be flagged in the coming months.

**Q** What kind of demand are you expecting from the Indian wedding market this year? How has been demand so far in the current wedding season?

We are looking forward to tap the burgeoning wedding segment for our properties. They are capable of giving a royal experience as well as creating the most memorable moments of weddings / social event. India has huge potential for travel and tourism opportunities which gives us ample of opportunities and we will ensure that this year as well we will register a remarkable growth both in terms of business as well as business expansions.

People have also shown a great interest in the regional heritage, culture and cuisine of that region. It is a very popular choice amongst the inbound tourists as Indian food presents a range of flavors, intense and subtle, as vast as the country itself. Regional influences range from climate and elevation to history and religion. Infact, even the domestic tourists are inclined to taste the regional/local cuisine dished out at our hotels.

We received lots of queries not just during the wedding season but throughout the year. During wedding season some of our properties like WelcomHeritage BalSamad Lake Palace, Jodhpur, WelcomHeritage Kasmanda Palace, Mussorie, WelcomHeritage AyatanaCoorg, WelcomHeritage Woodville Palace Shimla and others were completely sold out. Infact WelcomHeritage Woodville Palace Shimla hosted lots of celebrities including the marriage of popular TV Actress Rubaina Dilaik and Abhinav Shukla and film shoot for the movie - Raima Sen starrer - The Overcoat.

**Q** How was the inbound response this season?

The inbound response always gets better for us every year. Due to this new trend, of getting more than just a hotel in your travel, we have guests who seek something different, and this is what our USP is, we provide a “Unique Experience”. Guests can experience the architecture of a 200-year-old palace, take a walk amidst a lush green garden, enjoy a mesmerizing view of waterfall or enjoy a stroll on the hills of the Himalayas. So, be it the digitization or word of mouth, our inbound response is increasing at a reasonably good rate.

**Q** How active are you on social media for promotion of the properties?

In today’s time of technological advancement, it is very important to have the Visibility of the Brand. We too have adopted the new age technologies and mediums to reach the global trotters. We are there on all major social media platforms including Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn etc.; we have digital media activities in place to reach out to the new age travellers of the digital era. We regularly run ad campaigns to reach out to a new audience around the world.

**Q** What are your expectations from the IATO convention?

Indian Association of Tour Operators (IATO) is a national body of the industry and provides a platform for all stakeholders in the tourism and hospitality industry to interact, network and create business opportunities. We are hopeful that this year too IATO will have a large participation of industry stakeholders.



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# Spanish Cuisine in India

Radisson Hotel Group has signed an exclusive Master Franchise Agreement (MFA) with Tapas Club, a popular Singapore-based food and drink (F&D) brand, to roll out a series of stylish Spanish restaurants across its extensive portfolio of hotels in India.



our business in India, where F&D trends point to the rising popularity of innovative cuisine. We are excited to introduce a new era of dynamic Spanish dining, tailored to Indian palates, to our hotels across the country. We aim to become flagbearers of Spanish cuisine in India,” said Katerina Giannouka, President, Asia Pacific, Radisson Hotel Group.

Tapas Club was conceived to bring contemporary Spanish cuisine to the Asian market. Already present in Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia, its restaurants specialize in authentic dishes that embrace the vibrant colors and flavors of the Iberian Peninsula. This makes it the perfect addition to the Indian F&D market, where diners – especially millennials – are increasingly seeking fresh and unique culinary adventures. According to a study by Deloitte\*, millennials now account for 34% of India’s population and spend almost a third of their disposable income on entertainment and eating out.

Under the new deal, Radisson Hotel Group will have exclusive use of the Tapas Club name in India, allowing it to introduce premium Spanish cuisine to its guests, who are always on the lookout for new experiences. These lively restaurants will also attract local residents and non-resident guests to dine at Radisson Hotel Group’s hotels. The company plans to open more than 10 restaurants in the next four years and will deploy top chefs trained in Spanish cuisine across its Indian hotels and resorts.

“Tapas Club is an excellent strategic fit for

“We are delighted to bring Tapas Club to India and look forward to adding value to our esteemed guests and partners. F&D is an important area for our business in India and we are exploring strategic tie-ups with other leading, high-quality culinary brands to further uplift our presence in this sphere,” said Zubin Saxena, Managing Director & Vice President Operations, South Asia, Radisson Hotel Group.

Rakesh Sethi, Radisson Hotel Group’s Corporate Executive Chef in India, will work



alongside the Tapas Club team to create extraordinary dishes that blend Indian flavors with Iberian flair. The menu will comprise of specialty dishes such as paella, Spanish omelette, croquettes, contemporary tapas and delectable desserts. All dishes will reflect Indian palates, with plenty of vegetarian options.

“It is our privilege to partner with Radisson Hotel Group in India, where the brand has operated for over 20 years and earned a huge brand equity. We are working with experts like Chef Sethi, to delve deep into India’s rich culinary culture and develop new dishes that will delight foodies all over the country,” said Jose Alonso, Executive Chef, Tapas Club.

Radisson Hotel Group now operates 94 hotels in India, making it one of the leading international hotel operators in the country. This strategic partnership with Tapas Club is the latest in a series of moves to enhance the group’s F&D offerings in India.



**Lifestyle**

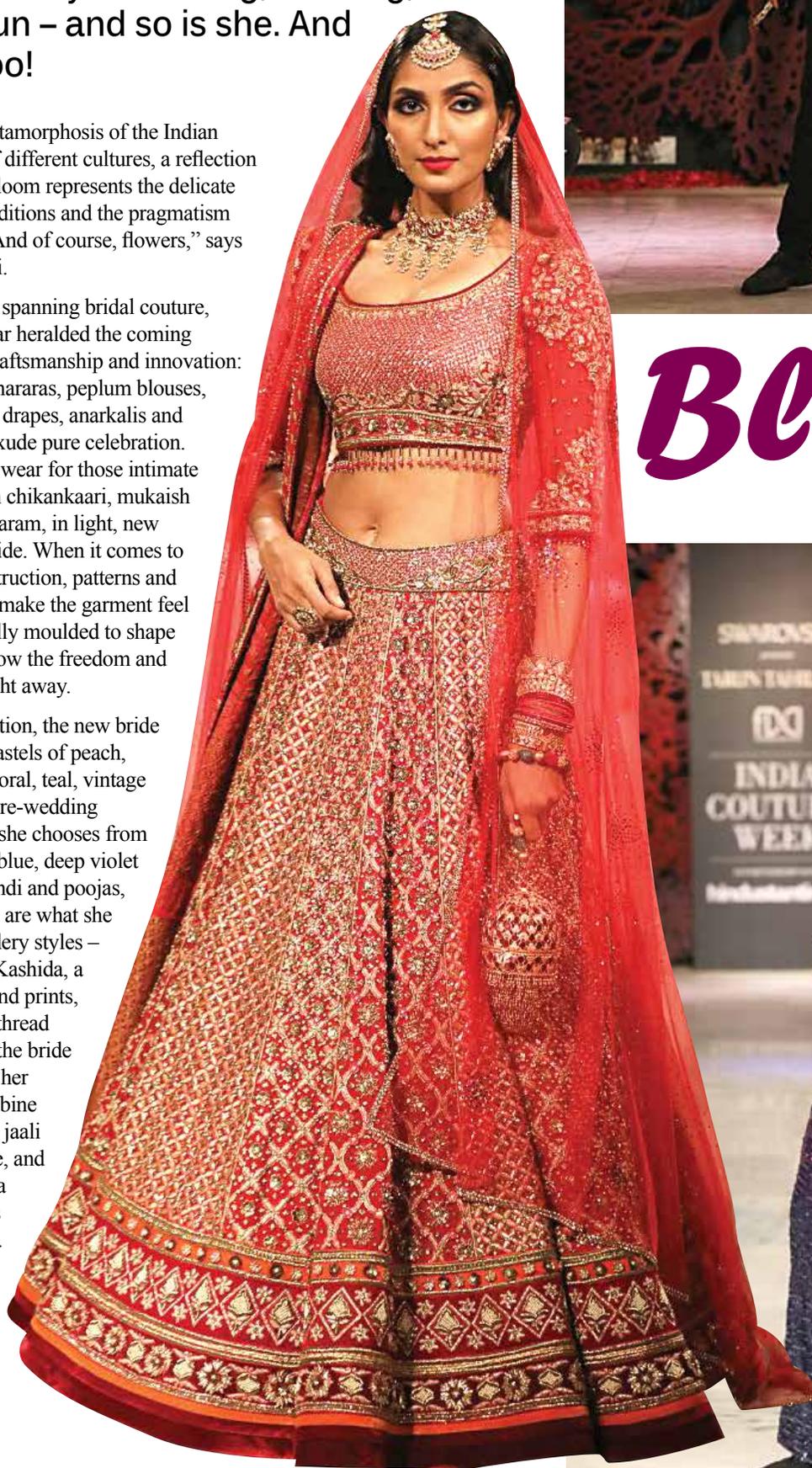


The new Indian bride is the modern goddess that envisions her wedding as a special extension of her personality. She wants intimate occasions with unique décor, lush colours and candid memories to treasure for life. Every sliver of personalisation is visible, be it in the table settings, invitations, keepsakes, and her sartorial choices. She knows her loved ones are having a good time – they're relaxing, dancing, and having fun – and so is she. And about time too!

“Bloom captures the metamorphosis of the Indian bride with a synthesis of different cultures, a reflection of today's generation. Bloom represents the delicate confluence of artistic traditions and the pragmatism of the times we live in. And of course, flowers,” says designer, Tarun Tahiliani.

More than 80 pieces spanning bridal couture, occasion and festive wear heralded the coming together of technique, craftsmanship and innovation: Lightweight lehengas, shararas, peplum blouses, concept saris, structured drapes, anarkalis and fusion-style jumpsuits exude pure celebration. Contemporary occasion wear for those intimate pre-weddings plays with chikankaari, mukaish embroidery and kanjeevaram, in light, new avatars for the stylish bride. When it comes to couture, contoured construction, patterns and unique fabrics merge to make the garment feel like second skin, sensually moulded to shape every curve, and yet, allow the freedom and comfort to dance the night away.

As seen in the collection, the new bride steals the show in soft pastels of peach, dusty rose, blush pink, coral, teal, vintage gold and aqua. For her pre-wedding functions and cocktails, she chooses from a rich palette of electric blue, deep violet and plum. For the mehendi and poojas, deep, earthy Indian hues are what she selects. Diverse embroidery styles – from Kashmir-inspired Kashida, a fine zari work used around prints, Jammevar and Resham thread embroidery makes sure the bride is not weighed down by her outfit. Floral motifs combine with French knots, tulle, jaali burned in the fabric, lace, and ombre beading to bring a glamorous exquisiteness and drama to each piece. Fluffs of whimsical resham-crystal-baadla, sparkling Swarovski crystals adorn customized crinolines for each lehenga.



# Bloom





# Lumen

Amit Aggarwal has long endeavored to bring in a new age of Indian bridal couture and establishing a distinct identity by engineering in innovative designs inspired by nature's awe-inspiring forms; while effortlessly combining our country's rich textile heritage and our commitment to environmental sustainability.



This collection, blends an opaque color with its metallic tone and its iridescent hue making each shade into a superfluous flow of energy. A vibrant jewel color palette of emerald, petrol, purple and plum moves into neutrals of gold, blush, silver and ivory with an eclectic mix of neon tones. The transparency, opacity and reflection of these colors reveal the reaction and the flow of light through every hue in the collection.

The womens wear collection features traditional Indian silhouettes that blend with western ideologies of couture. Sculpted Edwardian bustles lend an edge to the quintessential bridal lehenga, while the brand's signature sarees are reinvented with dramatically structured trails. The ensembles have been enhanced by sheer drapes and layers creating an illusion of color through a play of light.

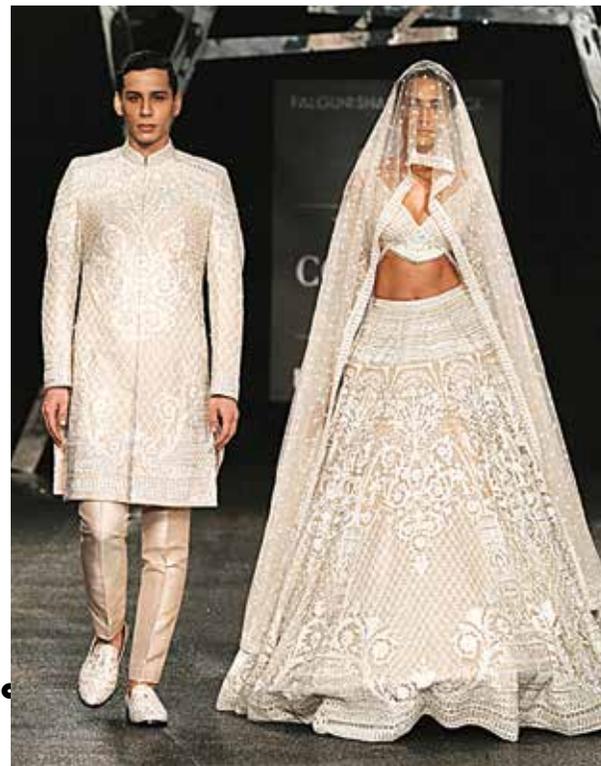
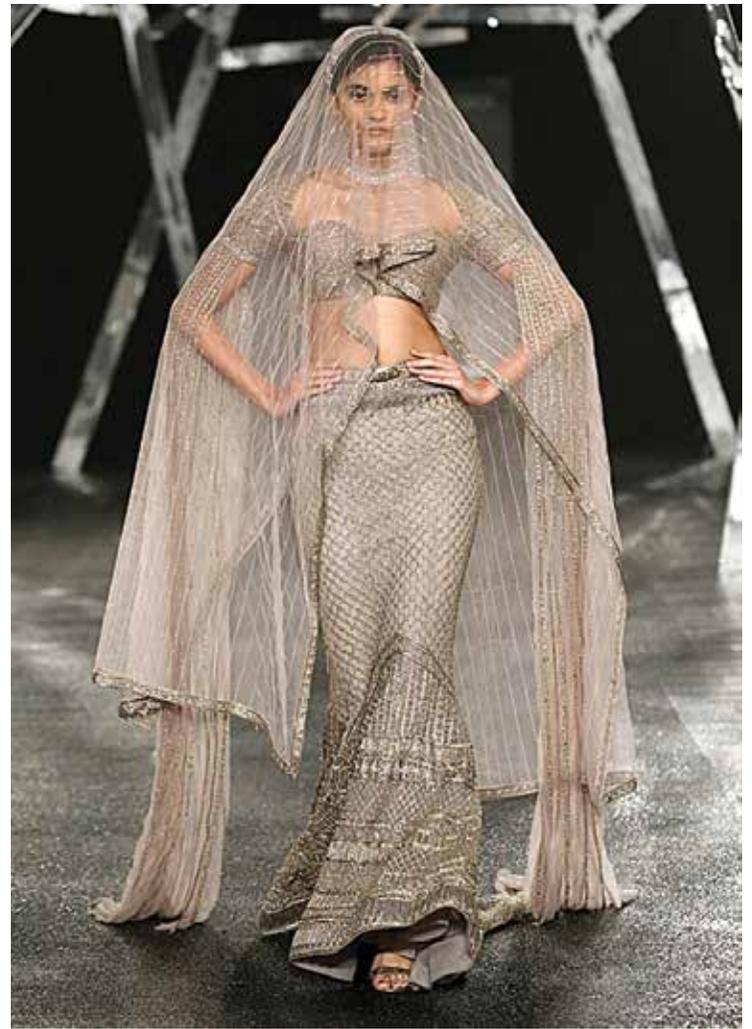
The menswear collection brings forth sharp tailoring in classic styles with a touch of layering. Ceremonial Indian silhouettes are revived with modern three-dimensional hand embroidery fabricated in modern industrial materials, as well as Jacquards, silks and handwoven geometric textiles. The garments have been enhanced by draping layers, color blocking through textiles and highlighting it with intricate craftsmanship. This collection is for the traditional Indian man that has evolved and started accepting newer and innovative forms of clothing.

# Bonjour Amer

Say Jaipur and 'Pink city' is what flashes in our minds. But for Falguni Peacock, it is a sack bag of memories from her latest sojourn. As the designer walked through the City Palace of Jaipur, she was asserted by the intricacies that would usually be blind-eyed to. It's ornate architecture, comprising of resplendent domes, imperial carvings, nondescript doors, intricate frescos, imposing gateways and paintings that depicted the sublime beauty of the palatial city in its magnanimous glory.

The benevolent energy of the place fills you with a solitary calmness, reflecting the bygone, imperial era that is still omnipresent and reverberates through Jaipur's Kaleidoscopic culture. The silhouettes weave a web of modern eccentricity and yesteryear elegance, evoking a rich repertoire between the two. Stellar lehengas juxtaposed into red-carpet-worthy gowns, asymmetrical layers cascading into long, sweeping trails, giving the garment graceful fluidity.

The ensembles are an explosion of dimension and grandeur; it plays with the idea of elaboration while retaining its unconventional aesthetic. The colour story seamlessly binds the collection together with shades like Spanish vanilla, lavender fog, smoke green, pewter, ballet pink, prism silver, scallop shell, Tuscan gold and midnight blue. With 'Bonjour Amer' Falguni Shane Peacock wants you to escape the ordinary and celebrate the extravagance of Jaipur's eclectic landscape and vivid colours.



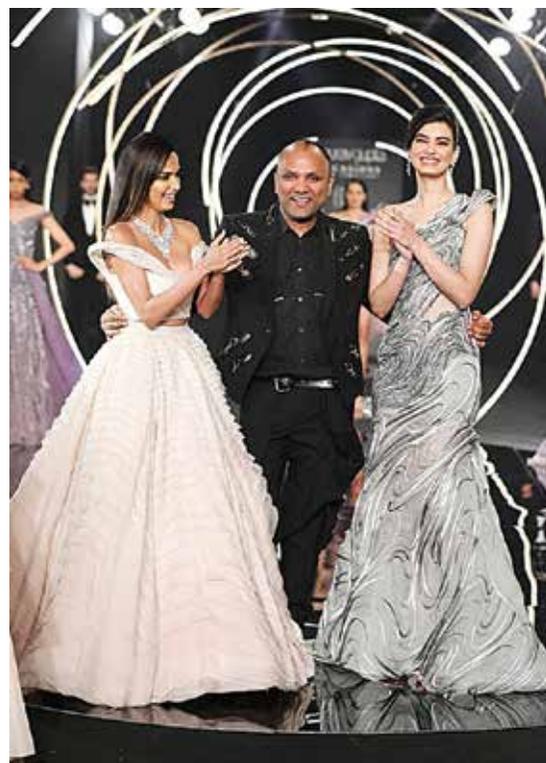
# Marvellous Architectonic Creations

Gaurav Gupta has carved a world that is future primitive, reflected through sculpture-like garments with a sense of infinity and rhythm. Working in proximity with lines, the flow of fabric and the anatomical makeup of the body have lent a science to the way his garments sculpt the body, making it look taller, more shapely and musical.

His Couture 19' collection takes inspiration from endless waves; it is cosmic, fluid, sculptural yet boundless and eternal. The garments are sculpted into marvellous architectonic creations that are harmonized with surreal designs—creating ensembles that personify 'Wearable Art'. The collection aims at decoding the human anatomy in fluid assemblage - from voluminously wide to tiered to perpendicularly slim and narrow silhouettes. He has used abstract lines, fluid and unusual wave-like silhouettes and drapes. The lines epitomize the fierce waves of the immaculate waters—they flow in a rhythm creating a beautiful symphony. Their path is abstract, their form is amorphous and their soul is everlasting.

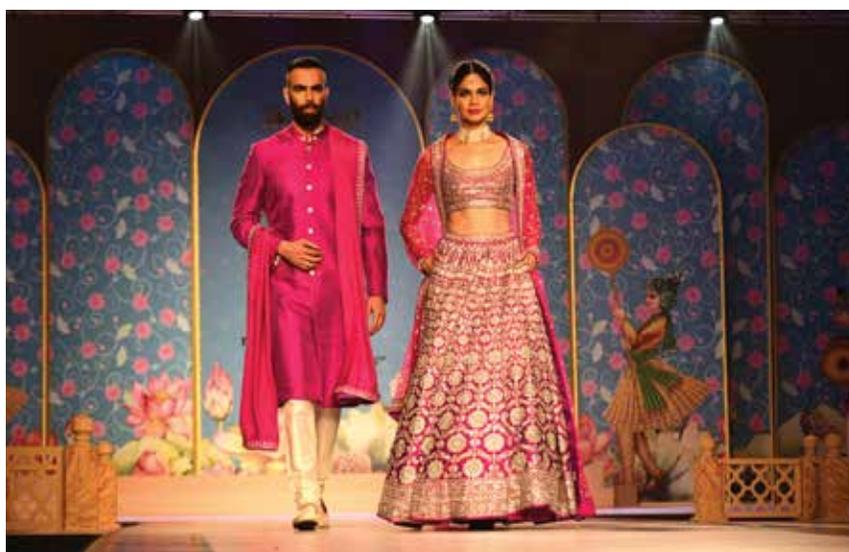
Stripping down the ornate art adorning the walls of Versailles, Gaurav imagines a bride waltzing in the prismatic corridors of the Hall of Mirrors, with a diaphanous veil over her head, while she re-visits the pious lanes of Lucknow, reminiscent of her glorious childhood. She beams with joy, looking like an ethereal goddess wearing pure, handcrafted, textured chikankari embellished with the gilded opulence of zardosi.

Birds, wings, feathers, flowers and waves, and the journey of being one with nature is explored through multi-dimensional construction and forms, adding a whole new vibe to sophisticated couture. The palette is all about pastels, ranging from Silver Grey, Tea Green, Rose Wood, Soft Violet to Lilac.



# Shaadi By Marriott

The second edition of Shaadi by Marriott in the East was jointly hosted by The Westin Kolkata Rajarhat and JW Marriott Kolkata, the numero uno wedding destinations of Kolkata on 10th August 2019 in collaboration with celebrity designer Anita Dongre. The second chapter in the East witnessed Anita Dongre's exquisite Winter Bridal collection called 'Jaipur Love'. Through this event, the largest hospitality chain in the world, Marriott International Inc., once again re-affirmed its commitment of creating a wedding experience that was both superlative and unforgettable in every way, from ideation to execution.

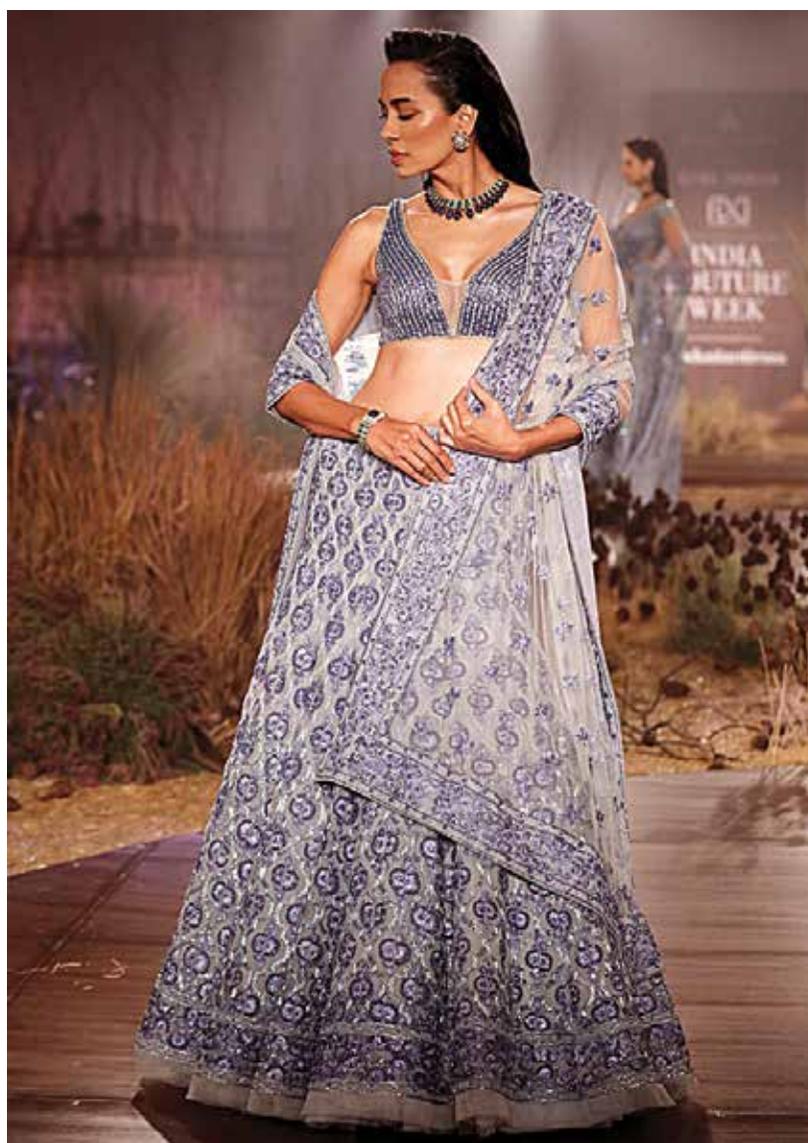


# The Savannah Saga

Reynu Taandon showcase 'The Savannah Saga' - inspired by the multi-faceted skies & its varying hues. This collection bespeaks of serenity, modernity & has a magnificent aroma to it! Reflecting the desires of a contemporary woman by portraying them as a beacon of beauty, love & mysticism.

'The Savannah Saga' is an amalgamation of pragmatism & graciousness with the right dash of sensuality. The fusion of traditional embroideries with modern satin bodices reflect two sides of the woman, showing both her delicate & feminine side topped with a bead of coquettish. The silhouettes provide a calm & placid feel & the Satin & Chanderi fabric adds a classic definition to the beautiful range. The collection is true to its inspiration as it brings out surreal powder pastels in garments which include floor length Anarkali's, lehenga & Sarees

The captivation of mirror work & graceful gold laser cuts enhances the embellishments & embroideries in perfect sync. Also, the soft color palette like powder lilacs, old rose, mint greens bring out the playful innocence in the collection. It's time to indulge in an everlasting tale of magnificent details with 'The Savannah Saga'



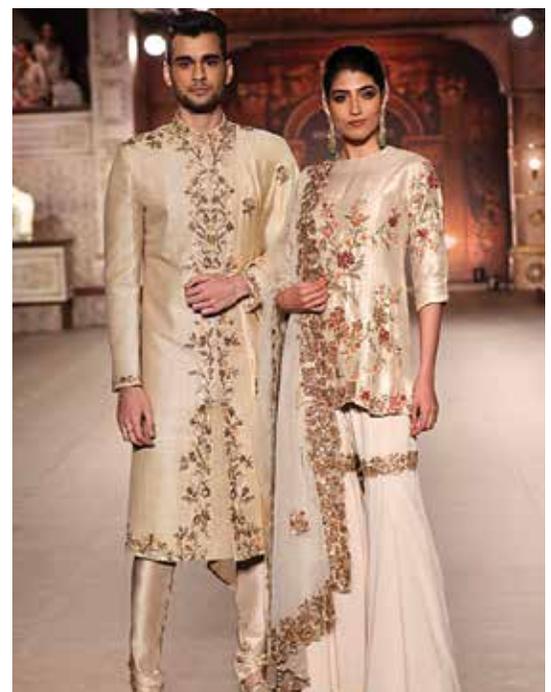
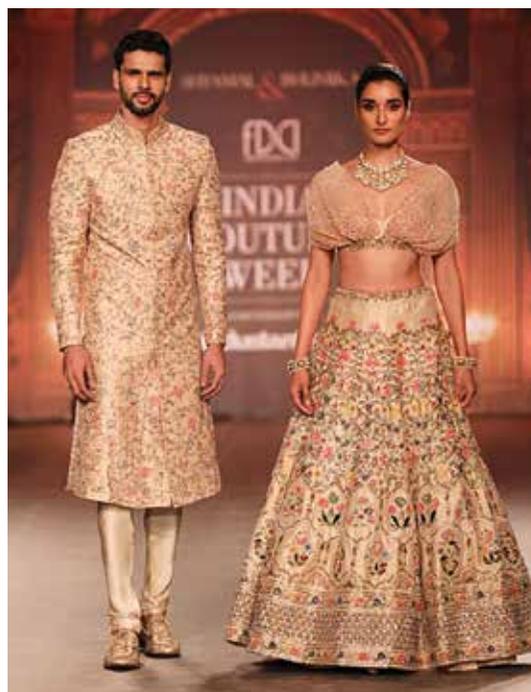
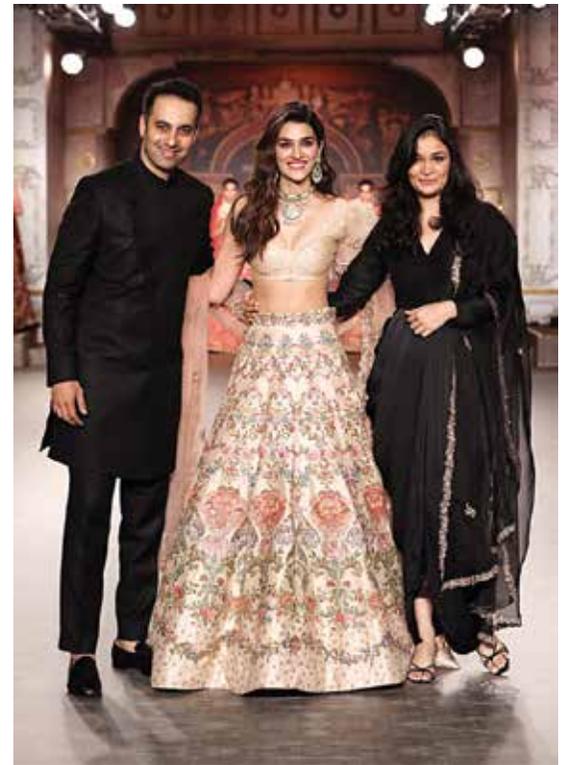
# The Renaissance Muse

Shyamal and Bhumika's Indian Couture Collection for the season is inspired by the iconic period of renaissance which marks the rebirth of art, architecture, music, couture and theatre from the medieval ages to modernity. The famous designer couple travelled to the birthplace of the Renaissance cultural movement to explore inspirations for this Uber glam collection.

The collection comprises of timeless bridal couture, exquisite mens sherwani jackets, bias skirts with sensuous cholees, shararas, kalidaar paneled lehengas, trendy shoulder baring blouses, structures jackets, saris in sheer organzas, asymmetric hemlines, signature cowl dresses, trailing kalidaars, exquisitely crafted veils, peplum tops, poet sleeves, georgettes & translucent tulle and fun details for brides and grooms for a perfect romantic feel on their big day. Shyamal & Bhumika menswear is designed in understated hand woven tussars, matkas and moonga variety of silks making it unconventionally elegant.

The interesting use of color has a blend of traditional Indian tones along with unusual vintage tones inspired by the ceiling frescos of the 15-17th centuries. To create an interesting variety of cut and colour, the collection has a wide range of jewel tones, vintage pastels, Indian reds, wine, blush pinks, watermelon, mood grey, powder blue, navy, muted olive, dusty mint, fennel green, emerald, almond beige and vintage cream.

The Shyamal & Bhumika Couture 2019 collection is a celebration of 'India to the World' giving employment to several artisans and craftsmen, maintaining a connect between their global muse of today and India's age old craft techniques.





## Geejgarh Eco Village Resort



Geejgarh Eco Village Resort  
Village Geejgarh, Tehsil Sikrai  
Dist Dausa

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E-mail: [rajasthanresorts@gmail.com](mailto:rajasthanresorts@gmail.com)

# Travelling: A Therapy to Heel

“Each time a woman stands up for herself, She stands up for all women.”  
 – By Farhana Rahman Subhan

Today we are living in a world full of stress and anxiety and this has affected our mental health to a greater extent. Mental health is of utmost importance as it has a direct impact on our physical health and we may suffer from chronic diseases, but unfortunately we pay very less attention to it.

The emerging concept of medical tourism provides the scope to deal with a wide array of mental diseases like depression, eating disorders, anxiety disorders and many more. Societal negligence and lack of awareness about the concept of travel therapy has motivated me to work on this issue with a versatile outlook.

I could sense that when a woman reaches her midlife becomes more conscious about her health parameters, her wardrobes - to look a little younger but pay very less attention to her mental health or probably raising her kids and taking care of her husband. In this chain she is lost and unhappy.

I have taken a small initiative in promoting

more and more women travelers across the globe with the motto safe tourism for the benefit of the women in general as it is a proven fact that travelling boost up the mental health. I solely believe that

Travelling is the time to disconnect from the daily hassle and stress of work and experiencing other culture and trying new flavors. It has also become very clear that travelling has number of psychological benefits supported by researchers.

Taking vacation actually does improve our well being and mood. Apart from feeling happier and relaxed, we are able to handle our jobs more efficiently.

Travelling with our partner or family can also improve our existing relationship. Moreover going out with the family improves feelings of connectedness and bringing the kids along can have a positive impact on family functioning and bonding.



## Apps: From teen to adulthood

In this digital era, if not by anyone, we are constantly backed by Apps to assist us for every legit situation. With the whirlwind of technology and advancement, people of all ages and walks of life are becoming gadget friendly. These 5 promising apps will cater your needs at all stages of life. Be it providing academic solution for your next big exam, guidance on how and where to invest hard earned money, finding a comfortable yet affordable place to live in a new city, get your home appliances repaired at best price or even plan a pocket friendly trip with friends and family. These 5 apps are like five mantras you can count onto without a doubt.

- Next Curriculum- If you are a student looking for smart and experiential learning for your next big exam, Next Curriculum App by Next Education is a one stop solution for K-12 sector. It has solutions backed up with 400 hours of video lessons, 2D & 3D animation to make learning experiential and fun, topic wise questions with solution, sample papers, question from All India Test Series and detailed performance report. In case of doubt, the online question-answer forum helps you in getting solution within 24-hours. In addition to this, Next Education provides next book, next mentor, next lab (robotics, English, Hindi, math, science) and pre-designed curriculum for facilitating better academic planning for teachers and students.

- Colive- After finishing college, most of us have to travel to the new city in search of jobs and other career opportunities but what bothers the most is finding a comfortable place to stay within budget. The Colive app allows you to spot fully managed rental homes, located close to business hubs and IT parks. Unlike boring PGs where you have to compromise personal space, sans entertainment Colive spaces on the other hand allows one to explore a community of like-minded millennial with premium amenities & living spaces that inspire a sense of Collaboration. It offers flexible, brokerage free & affordable options suitable for urban living while also taking care of social life by providing concept of community kitchen, fitness room, lounge, house-keeping, security and maintenance. Using Colive app one can schedule a visit for taking a tour around the beautiful colive properties.
- Goalwise- Often we want to invest in mutual funds but we step back being apprehensive of authenticity and reliability of various platforms available today or due to lack of proper knowledge about where to invest. Goalwise is a Mutual Fund investing service which helps you plan and invest for your financial goals, be it saving for your travel or iphone buying, buying a house or just building your wealth. At Goalwise, a team of SEBI registered investment advisors helps you to analyze

the value for money in the current market. Goalwise provides 'zero commission' advisory platform.

- 24\*7 Around- Wondering whom to go for getting repaired your electrical appliance you just damaged? Or delaying your favorite dish because you are too busy to get kitchen appliance fixed? Finally, there is an answer to your misery. 247around is a digital post-purchase home appliance servicing platform that enables OEMs/Brands and eComm portals to provide seamless customer experiences. It's the first new-age startup that enables the customers to do self-diagnostics, decipher the issue, and estimate prices much before the engineer arrives at home. The offerings at 247around include services such as installations, demonstrations, returns validation, maintenance contracts, and warranty services, among others.
- Confirm Tkt- It's quite natural to feel homesick while staying away from family. Often, there are unannounced holidays when students and young professionals crave to run back to their homes and spend some quality time with dear ones but uncertainty of confirmed ticket reservation lays them back. Confirm tkt enable hassle free train ticket bookings while also predicting the chances of getting a reservation confirmed (keeping you at a lower risk).



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## Sat Chit Ananda

An Engineer by qualification, Psychologist by passion, Bureaucrat by profession, Meditator by soul journey and a Healer by destiny, Abhay Singh, IAAS, Deputy Director under CAG of India, believe that we all are the embodiment of – Sat Chit Ananda – Truthful Consciousness resulting in Eternal Bliss. Only a 'small' push in terms of right meditation is needed for reconciliation to this divine truth.

• **Vedika Sharma**



**Q Tell us about your journey towards Tibetan Pulsing.**

I started travelling quite early in my life. Touchwood, all was going great in my life, be it the personal, professional or social front – and yet there were some eternal questions haunting me since adolescence. This quest took me to several people and places, in and outside India, who taught me valuable lessons of life. I also stumbled upon Osho's teachings and after some time took Sanyans. On my path, I experienced and got enriched from the ancient wisdom of different forms – Hatha Yoga, Sufism, Bioenergetics, Hypnosis, Tantra, Taoism, Pranic Healing, Shamanism... but something that I felt most drawn to was Tibetan Pulsing and once in its safe hands, stuck to this ancient esoteric modality since several years, yet carrying deep respect for all the different teachings learnt so far. Now I know, the answer I was searching all this while, simple lies within me.

**Q What exactly is Tibetan Pulsing? Please elaborate.**

TP is an ancient esoteric and secretive meditative technique which originated in monasteries of Tibet.

It combines bodywork, acupuncture and sound. TP is a partner and group-oriented practice, and hence is often also called as Tibetan Pulsing Tantra. There is no nudity in the process (as misunderstood many times on reading the word 'Tantra') but lots of sacred touch in form of bodywork and pointwork. First, the body energy of the recipient is amplified by bodywork. By bodywork we mean different kind of bodily postures known as Mandalas. These mandalas involve two persons to start and can go on getting bigger and bigger too. Next, this amplified energy is made to flow in particular channels of the nervous system by pressing certain points on the body. This amplified energy in motion dissolves the blocks present in these particular channels, leading to permanent healing of issues associated with the energy blocks. The points that need to be pressed will be worked out individually for each participant considering the major negative emotion that a person is facing currently. TP not only heals the negative states, it further transforms this negativity to a positive manifestation. For example, a feeling of lack of support not only disappears but also transforms into a sense of inner strength and freedom from external validation. And similarly for other negative emotions too. So, TP brings triple benefit - deep relaxation, healing as well as a positive transformation. As a result of this healing plus transformation, we start living a life full of spontaneity and of continuous Bliss. So far, we have invested too much into our mind. Now, for once we may allow our heart to lead us to a holistic life, using its transformative power, called Pulse.

**Q As you know in this hustle-bustle of life most of the people seeking their inner relaxation. Do you think Tibetan Pulsing is the right place for them?**

Yes, You are at the right place in case you are looking for deep inner relaxation amidst outer chaos or If you looking for healing of one (or more) of the following troubled states of being that you experience quite often -Feeling unsupported / Anxiety / Anger / Powerlessness / Betrayal / Burdened /

Uncentred / Stagnation / Restlessness / Insomnia / Stress / Self-doubt / Lack of Vitality / Being Stubborn / Self-hatred / Dissatisfied / Distrust / Panicky / Fear of future / Indecision / Disorientation / Identity issues / People Pleasing / Self-destruction / Jealousy.

Let us take a look as to why these negative states make home in our being to understand how they can be removed. As we go on living our life, we face a number of emotional, physiological and psychological shocks, which get imprinted on our nervous system as energy blocks. These energy blocks exhibit themselves in the form of different negative emotional states as listed above. And since these blocks are on the nervous system itself, mind meditations are not very helpful in removing these. For example, some of us are too jealous, for no understandable reason. Those who can see it even try to work on it but can't find a solution, for years sitting and meditating. Reason being, the problem sits in mind (or nervous system) and we are trying to search the answer through the same mind.

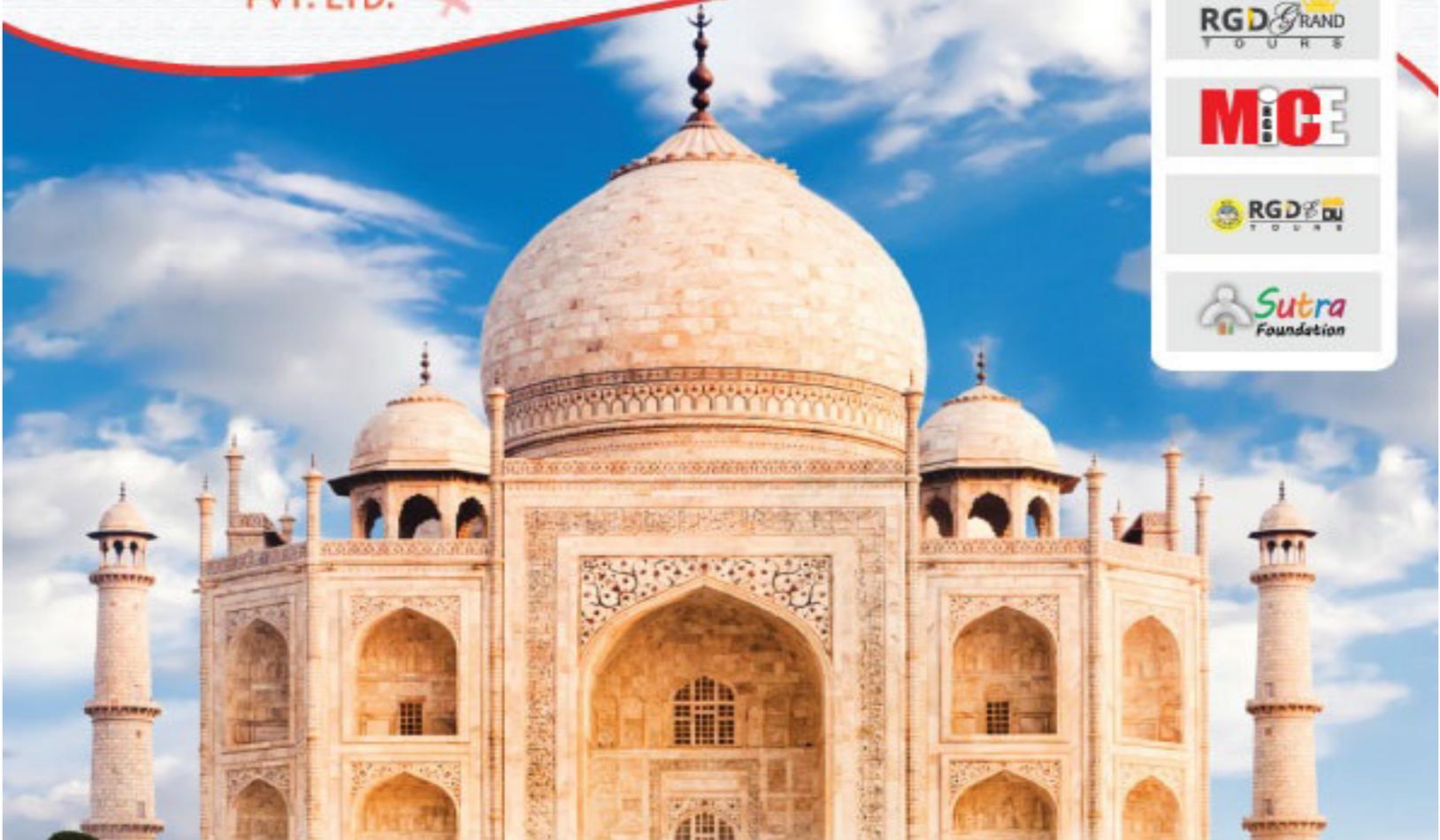
The good news is, Tibetan Pulsing (TP) holds key to healing such negative states permanently by letting heart (Pulse) come into action, where mind fails.

**Q Please mention some major benefits of Tibetan Pulsing.**

Deep relaxation, regeneration, and cleansing of body and mind

- Strengthening the immune system, skeleton and spinal column
- Helps to overcome Anxiety, Emotional Stress, Fear, trauma, shock, grief, heartbreak, Intimacy and trust issues, Negative relationship patterns, Insomnia, Anger, resentment, Depression, Low vitality, exhaustion, low self-esteem, emotional blocks and more
- Helps in curing Physical issues such as migraine, allergies, etc





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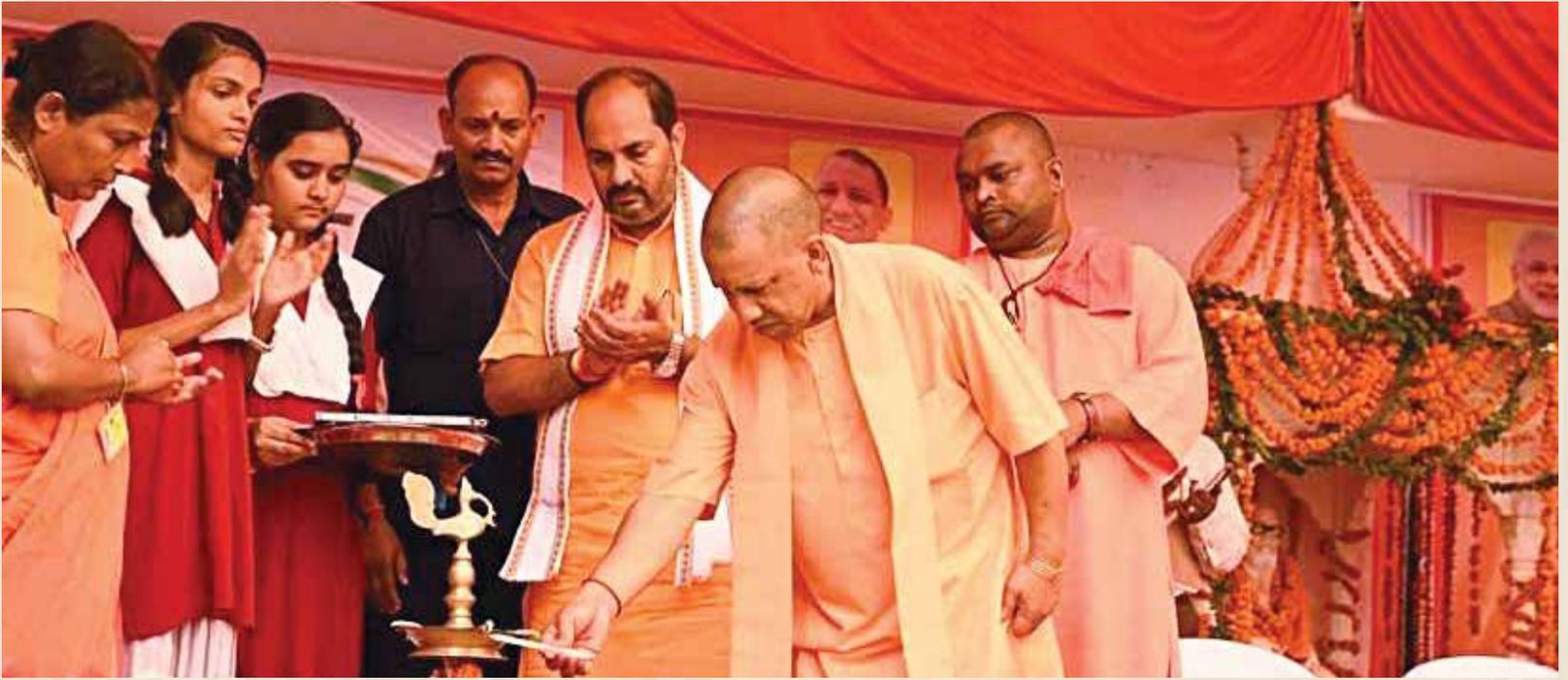
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## FIT INDIA MOVEMENT: A National Goal

The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath launched the Fit India Movement at a ceremony in Adi Shakti Maa Pateshwari Public School, Balrampur on the occasion of National Sports Day.

The campaign is aimed at encouraging people to include physical activity and sports in their everyday life. The Prime Minister also administer a fitness pledge in his address, inviting all Indians to join in.

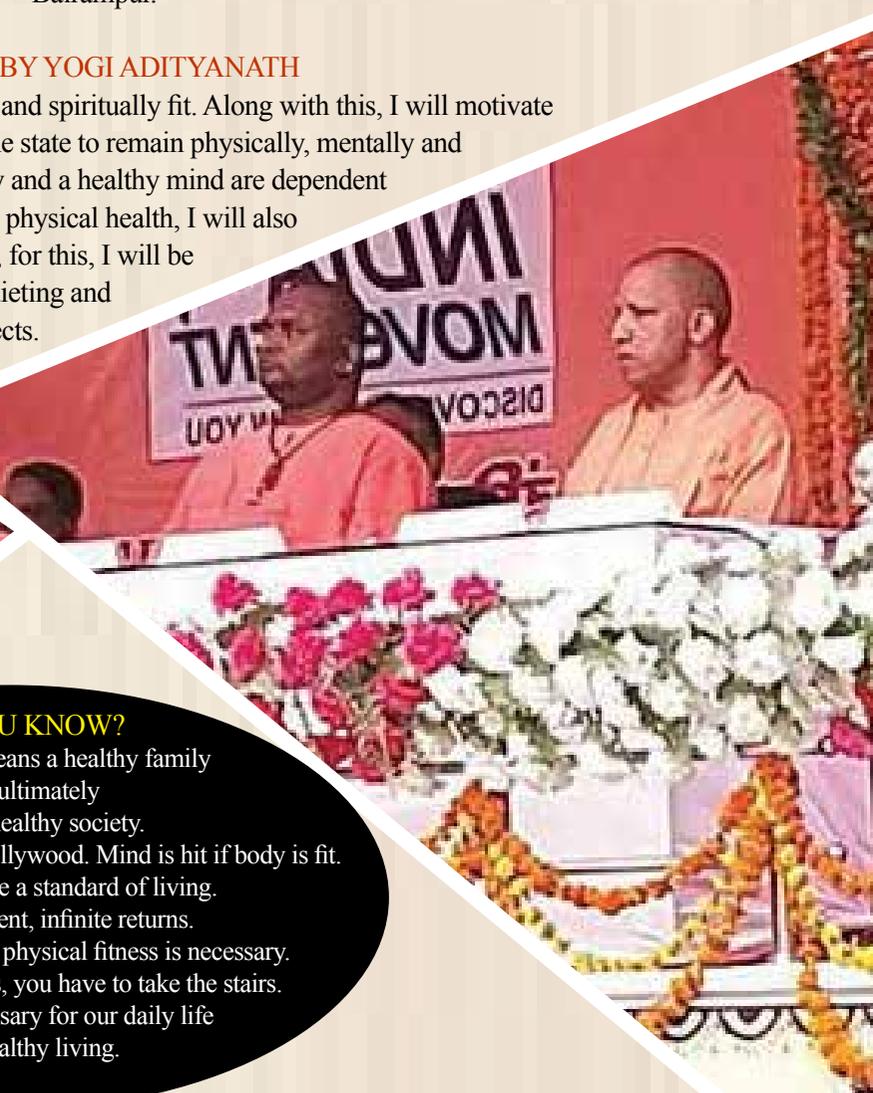
Sports competition was organized under the Fit India Movement in all government and private schools of Lucknow. A two-day hockey competition was organized at KD Singh Babu Stadium, Lucknow. At the same time, sports competitions were also organized in primary schools of all districts including Barabanki, Sitapur, Bahraich, Shravasti, Lakhimpur, Hardoi, Balrampur.

### PLEDGE BY YOGI ADITYANATH

I will remain physically, mentally and spiritually fit. Along with this, I will motivate my family and all the people of the state to remain physically, mentally and spiritually fit. As a healthy body and a healthy mind are dependent on each other, so along with physical health, I will also focus on mental health, for this, I will be focused on ethics, dieting and other related aspects.

### DO YOU KNOW?

- Healthy man means a healthy family which ultimately leads to a healthy society.
- Be it the boardroom or the Bollywood. Mind is hit if body is fit.
- Fitness should be a standard of living.
  - Zero investment, infinite returns.
- For efficiency at work, physical fitness is necessary.
- No elevator to success, you have to take the stairs.
  - Fitness is necessary for our daily life for a healthy living.





### **NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER, INDIA**

Fitness has always been an integral part of our culture. Technology has reduced our physical ability and has robbed us of our daily fitness routines and today we are unaware of our traditional practices and lifestyle which could keep us fit. With time, fitness has been relegated a lower priority in our society. Earlier a person used to walk or cycle for kilometers, today mobile apps have to tell us how many steps we walked. Today lifestyle diseases are on a rise in India affecting even the young. Cases of diabetes and hypertension are on the rise and even common among children in India. But small lifestyle changes can prevent these lifestyle diseases. 'Fit India Movement' is an effort to bring these small lifestyle changes. People in any profession can make themselves efficient in their profession if they are mentally and physically fit. If body is fit, then you would be mentally fit. Sports has a direct relation to fitness but 'Fit India Movement' aims to go beyond fitness. Fitness is not just a word but an essential pillar to a healthy and prosperous life. When we prepare our bodies for battle, we make the country strong as iron. Fitness is part of our historic legacy. Games and sports are played in every nook and corner of India. While working on the body they also train the mind, increasing focus and coordination of body parts. A healthy individual, a healthy family and a healthy society are the essentials to make New India a Fit India.



### **YOGI ADITYANATH, CHIEF MINISTER, UTTAR PRADESH, INDIA**

Development of any country is possible only on the basis of healthy citizens. India has a tradition of staying healthy for centuries. We should follow yoga and meditation to stay healthy in life. A healthy brain develops a healthy body. The economic and social progress of a country whose population remains healthy is also unmatched. I appeal to every citizen of the country to join the "Fit India Movement". All students must include sports in their daily routine along with reading and studies. Every citizen of the country with a population of 130 crores is physically and mentally fit and can contribute to the nation's building, with this objective the Prime Minister has started the "Fit India Movement".

I am happy to start this campaign in Uttar Pradesh. Today this program is being inaugurated throughout the country on the occasion of birth anniversary of Hockey magician and famous player Major Dhyanchand and The National Sports Day. We are all fortunate that Major Dhyanchand has a connection with Uttar Pradesh.



# The 2019 Global Choice Awards

Global Choice Awards 2019 powered by Xel Research facilitate the shining stars of India. Award were given to the achievers by Bollywood celebrity Jackie Shroff and made it great bestowing moments.





# Prediction for September 2019 by Poonam Sethi

“The more you give, the more you receive” is the motto of renowned Tarot card reader and holistic healer, Poonam Sethi, lives by. She has studied Feng Shui and Tarot card reading at several institutions across the globe and has, through extensive self-study, practice and perseverance, mastered the art of guiding people from the present into the future to precision.



### ARIES

Communicating with others will be a strain and you will be frustrated because you will feel you are in a 'holding pattern' and unable to make the kind of changes you want to see happen in your life. Something inside you is telling you something. Try to get in touch

with yourself.

Lucky color: Yellow  
Lucky number: 3



### TAURUS

You will be dismayed at turn of events that seem to sabotage your best intentions, but in the final analysis, things will turn around and peace will be restored. Luck will be with you in the arrival of money or a long-awaited financial settlement.

Lucky color: Orange  
Lucky number: 4



### GEMINI

You could experience problems on the home front. Better keep your attitude in check so you won't get sucked into an emotional storm or a situation you'd rather not be in. you will attract money, favors, assistance, or leverage.

Watch out for allergies.

Lucky color: White  
Lucky number: 1



### CANCER

People might not get your concepts or see things the way you do, but you won't be left out in the cold. Someone will come to your aid or give you the opportunity to utilize your skills or talents. You will tend to scatter your

forces, but being around others will be good therapy.

Lucky color: Green  
Lucky number: 7



**LEO**

You will want to escape from an oppressive or abusive personality and probably will choose your friends wisely, and use more discrimination. There will be surprising developments in your social affairs, and romance will inspire several exciting moments.

Lucky color: Red  
Lucky number: 6



**VIRGO**

Don't blame yourself for the faults of others.. walk away or say 'no'! You will get a business referral or a lucky break in a legal matter or financial gain will come through an investment or profit sharing an investment or profit sharing. Your stomach will act up so be cautious.

Lucky color: Peach  
Lucky number: 8



**LIBRA**

You could have bouts with uncontrollable depression or nostalgia over a lover who is gone.. so much so that you will feel like a zombie or become wrapped up in your work that you won't feel anything. A surprise is in store for you.

Lucky color: Sea Green  
Lucky number: 9



**SCORPIO**

Complications regarding incorrect work methods or programs will end, but so will the possibility of merging with another in a business venture or personal matter. Travel plans may get delayed or shelved for now.

Watch for nausea and pains in abdomen.

Lucky color: Fuscia  
Lucky number: 7



**SAGITTARIUS**

You will want to liberate yourself from limitation and lack, other people's problems, negative attitudes and forced confrontations. You're in laws could be a burden on your mind that you won't want to deal with. An arrival of someone unexpected will cause excitement.

Lucky color: Sea Green  
Lucky number: 2



**CAPRICORN**

You have got to make a move or take the first step. Do something different, and be alert or receptive to new ideas. Act on the alternatives that will be presented. A financially rewarding excursion or business trip is in the offing.

Lucky color: Grey  
Lucky number: 1



**AQUARIUS**

Don't try to assess situations and effect solutions in advance. The time will come when you'll know what is true or what to do. You will regret an impromptu expenditure, but it will prove a wise decision. A visit to a doctor is on the cards.

Lucky color: Golden Yellow  
Lucky number: 3



**PISCES**

Abortive attempts, or delays, are in your favor. New ideas or actions will replace old ones and something better will be established that could not have happened otherwise your involvement with the law, or someone who is married will cause anxiety.

Lucky color: Black  
Lucky number: 9

# A Dream with Passion

“There is nothing that you can't learn.” - By Nikhil Srivas, I.A.S Allied

Clearing IAS EXAM is not an easy task but if the candidate clears this exam at that stage where most of the students gave up is a commendable task. At the age 19 years Nikhil passed B.Tech from MNNIT Allahabad. With his job as Java Developer in TCS, he started preparing for many competitive exams and he cleared various exam conducted by SSC, SBI, IBPS etc before emerging successful in UPSC Civil Services Exam. Here in an exclusive interview with Nikhil Srivas let us know about his inspirational and motivational journey from a student of the lower middle-class family to IAS allied.

**VS: Tell us about your journey so far?**

**NS:** I had a humble beginning. Neither belonging to some ivory tower nor on a street, I was born like a majority of Indians are, in a middle-class family. During my childhood, we lived in a rented single room apartment with a kitchen in the corner. I went to a small, English medium school in my colony. With absolute zero idea of what my future will hold for me, I started my journey.

Blessed to have a supporting family, I was fortunate to get admitted into MNNIT Allahabad. By the time I had my engineering degree in my hand, I was barely a 19-year-old, figuring out my place in this large world. Unfortunately, it was the exact same time when my father had a heart attack and the financial need pulled me into the job. I worked for 1.5 years as a java developer and then left it for the preparation of civil services. I loved learning and exploring, this is the reason that a civil engineer worked as a software developer, took geography as an optional subject and is handling communication finance.

**VS: What are the failures that you most cherish?**

**NS:** The failure which I cherish the most was my first attempt in civil services. Till the time I failed it, I barely knew the density of the word,

the despair it brings and the hope needed to come out of it. Failing and then trying again for something is not an easy task. Society cherishes the success stories; people hardly bat an eye for those who genuinely tried but for some reasons could not get it. Failure makes a person more compassionate and humane towards others. I really feel happy that I failed before I cleared this examination.

**VS: How do you handle stress and pressure?**

**NS:** Do what you love and love what you do. Everything becomes interesting if you put your heart into it. We only feel stress or pressure if we are engaged in something which we don't want to do, or during our bad times. While the later is not in our control, the former is for you to decide.

Also always have a hobby, something apart from your daily work or schedule. Something to take out time for, something to live for. Giving time to it will always make you feel happy. In my case, it was the smile that I brought on the faces of others, I worked in a few NGOs, taught for free, provided motivation lectures and counselling to rejuvenate myself. If the same thing interests you too, give it a try.

**VS. Is there are particular moments or memory that stands out for you?**

**NS:** A lot many moments formed the person I am today. Some being happy while others being not. They all inspired me to become someone better and I am thankful to all of them. The most recent being the face of my teacher who taught or rather scolded me a lot, in the tears of happiness when she saw me as a chief guest in the school. Words were not necessary to communicate at that moment; her teary smile was enough.

**VS. What expectations do you have of yourself?**

**NS:** To become a better person than I was yesterday. A person is made great not by his/her position, but rather by his/her works. If I



can bring a smile on the face of a single person every day, I believe I have done something in my life.

**VS. If you could go back five years, what advice would you give your younger self?**

**NS:** Not to waste your time in computer games.

**VS. What message you would like to convey in closing comment.**

**NS:** Life is journey full of tides and ebb, but there is always something which you cling upon. Be it your dreams, your aspirations, your parents or anything. Whatever it is, it is worth holding onto. Just look in the mirror and remind yourself. No matter how tough the time is, it will end and get better. So just keep smiling and cherish it.

## SLICE of life

**You believe in taking risk or plan beforehand.**

**NS:** Taking planned risk. If you don't take a step out of your comfort zone, you won't go anywhere, but if you won't plan, you will end up nowhere.

**Your high points.**

**NS:** When I bring a positive change in

someone's life and see them smile.

**Your low points.**

**NS:** Watching my dad in the ICU.

**Favorite industry leader.**

**NS:** Elon Musk

**Novel you are inspired with.**

**NS:** Don't sweat the small stuff

**A movie that motivates you.**

**NS:** Shawshank Redemption

**How you spend your day on day off.**

**NS:** Go home and spend time with my family.



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# Bali

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- Inclusion :**
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  - FREE : 1x 60Mins Massage OR 1x Meals at certain hotel
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  - Choice of 1x Full Day Tour OR 1x White Water Rafting

**3D2N  
 Villa Indugence  
 | USD 278**  
\*based on 4\* hotel

- Inclusion :**
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  - FREE 1x Full Day Car at Disposal with English Speaking Local Host
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**4D3N Bali Safari  
 | USD 278**  
\*based on 4\* hotel  
 (1Night at Mara River Safari Lodge + 2Night at South Bali)



- Includes :**
- Safari Journey at Bali safari Park
  - Breakfast with Lion at Tsavo Lion Restaurant
  - Indian Cuisine Lunch or Dinner where available and specified

**5D4N Bali Safari  
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\*based on 4\* hotel

(1Night at Lovina Beach + 3Night at South Bali)

- Inclusion :**
- Wild Dolphin Searching at Lovina Beach, 2 full day tours
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Borobudur Temple, Jogja

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 5D4N Discovery  
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Gedung Sate, Bandung

**Bali - Bandung  
 5D4N Discovery  
 USD 338**

2 Night at Bali + 2 Night at Bandung  
 \*based on 4\* hotel



Sand Island, Lombok

**Bali - Lombok  
 5D4N Discovery  
 USD 328**

2 Night at Bali + 2 Night at Lombok  
 \*based on 4\* hotel

**\*The rates is based on land arrangement only excluding Internation & Domestic airfare**

