

T3FS

Trendy Travel Trade with Food & Shop
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Seeking
Thrills

PASSION
for RUM

The
Gypsy
King

A
Powerful
Spin





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Contact @ :+91- 9899359708, 9999683737, info@ travokholidays.com, travokholidays@gmail.com, www.travok.net

Editor & Publisher : **Vedika Sharma**

Director: **Babita Sharma**

Reporter : **Parul Malhotra**

Consulting Editor (West) : **S K Mishra**

IT Head : **Tarsh Sharma**

Consultant Art Director : **Jitendra Rawat**

Graphic Designer : **Chandrajeet Kumar**

Consulting Photographer : **Ganesh Kapri**

Manager Administration : **Gaurav Kumar**

Manager Circulation : **Himanshu Mudgal**

E-mail : vedika@fabianmedia.net,
babita@fabianmedia.net

Website : www.fabianmedia.net

Editorial & Marketing :
babita@fabianmedia.net

Published, owned, Printed & Edited by Vedika Sharma
888, Pocket – D, Dilshad Garden, Delhi – 110095,
Contact @ 011-41058470, 9560264449

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Dear Readers

October is an eventful month with a lot of festivals, especially Diwali. And in the run up to one of the most famous festivals in the world, there is enjoyment, meeting friends and family, and tons of shopping. Our Product listing of Smart stuff in life style section of this issue suggests some great Diwali Gifts for everyone.

The season and the weather change in October. The change in weather with temperatures coming down to comfortable levels, make the next few months ideal for travel. There are ample options to consider. To add to the excitement, our cover story is all about Adventure travel in India. Whether you travel alone or with young children, adventure is a great way to enjoy, bond, and boost your confidence and personality. We are strongly in favour of our young children communing with nature. They are the ones who are going to make our country a beautiful place to live in. The least we can do is to help them get close to nature, to build their confidence and understand the true meaning of sustainability and climate change. So step out there and have fun!!

For those that love the power and wheels under them, we suggest Overlanding as a great way to enjoy the outdoors. It can be great fun out in wilderness, off the beaten path, just man and machine for company – and of course some interesting wild-life. And for those who love speed, we give you some details of the Big Boy Bikes from the Suzuki stable. Super bikes and big bikes with capacities on the other side of 500 cc have caught the fancy of the young and restless in India. What's more! There are so many more newly constructed



highways across the country. It's time to Zip, Zap, Zoom!

We are sure you are going to enjoy yourself in October. For us this is the T3FS month – a lot of travel, a great season for the travel trade, tons of shopping, and lots and lots of scrumptious food.

We at T3FS wish our readers and their families a Very Happy Diwali and a great year too!

Vedika Sharma
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Seeking Thrills

The demand for thrill when one leads a life that's caught up in the rat race is always high. And you look for something new, exciting and reasonably safe to get your adrenaline pumping. It's Adventure that you seek.

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The Gypsy King

Anupjit Sekhon is an Overlanding enthusiast and has been out-and-about with his vehicles for over a decade. The people of Himachal Pradesh associated the man with his vehicle and named him Gypsy King...

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Romance in the lap of the Aravalli

An award winning hotel, Ramada Udaipur completes your search for a romantic hotel in that region.

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Honeymoon Hotspot

Just-married couples have numerous options when it comes to the best honeymoon places in India. By keeping this in mind we covered a beautiful hotel Fairmont Jaipur.

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Al Khoory Hotels launches second specialised Arabic restaurant

Al Khoory Hotels, part of the Al Khoory Group's hospitality division, has announced the official opening of their second Al Baha Levantine Restaurant, which will be located on the ground floor of the recently opened Al Khoory Courtyard Hotel, located on Al Waha Street, off Sheikh Zayed Road.

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PASSION for RUM

Winters are around the corner. It's time for hot drinks that are not a soup, tea, or coffee. Think of a hot Rum Toddy or simply a Rum with hot water. But one need not wait all year for winters to arrive. Rum can be had through the year as a hot drink or as a regular drink – at parties or just as an evening drink to unwind...

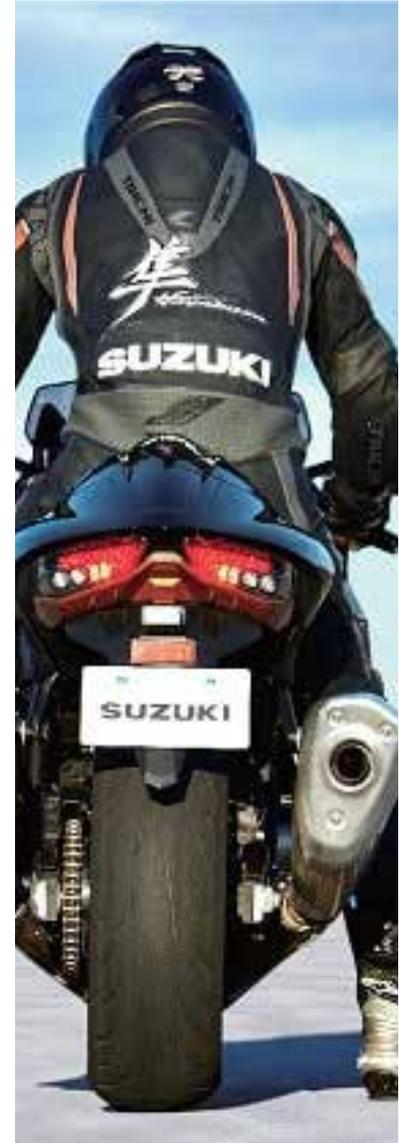
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Snug as a Bug in a Rug

Winter season is a perfect blend of superb coffee and impeccable wear.

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A Powerful Spin

A slew of new motorcycles is launched in India each year. That said, the craze for the big boy bikes remains intact.

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ADTD conducted its first three-city workshop in India



Ajman Department of Tourism Development executed its first ever trade activation through a three-city workshop that was held in Ahmedabad, Delhi and Bangalore on 20th, 21st and 22nd September respectively, which witnessed a constructive and educative session of select 30-35 agents in each city who are keen on promoting the multiple facets of destination Ajman.

The workshop was designed to expose the Indian private sector to Ajman's seamless connectivity from Dubai and Sharjah, emerging tourism products and the plethora of leisure hotels that guests and travellers can experience in the smallest emirate of UAE. It also highlighted the region's potential for being an aspirational destination for couples planning a wedding outside the country owing to its stellar beach side properties and cultural benevolence. The workshop's key purpose was to establish Ajman as a destination which can serve as a gateway to experience the

different side of UAE.

Speaking on ADTD's first-ever initiative in the India market, Ms. Khadija Turki, Director of Tourism Development and Marketing, Ajman Department of Tourism Development, commented, "The outbound travel market in India has been showing positive signs of recovery and we recognize its potential to outperform in the upcoming months. Capitalizing on these developments, ADTD is excited to introduce its products and experiences to the Indian private sector and entice more Indian travellers to visit Ajman. Through the workshops across the three key cities in India, we aim to spread more awareness amongst travel agents and enable them to position Ajman as an extended city for travellers visiting UAE and seeking unique experiences. We are certain that the participants of the workshop will act as catalysts and ensure increase in Indian footfalls in Ajman."

AdventureNEXT

The Adventure Travel Trade Association (ATTA) is pleased to have recently concluded its latest AdventureNEXT event that took place 12-14 September 2022 in Torres del Paine, Chile. AdventureNEXT events feature a B2B marketplace, keynote speakers, round table discussions, and ample opportunities to connect and exchange ideas.

The theme of this event was Reconnect, Reactivate, and Regenerate. As adventure travel professionals emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, the goal of this AdventureNEXT was to reconnect with each other, work together to reactivate our community, and push the industry toward solutions that create a more sustainable future of travel.

AdventureNEXT Patagonia stood out in the diversity of activities that Delegates had the chance to take part, including multi-day kayaking, hiking to the last point of the American continent, learning the customs of the ancient tribes, reforesting private land around the National Parks looking to expand wildlife territory, hiking the world famous "W" trek, sharing a Patagonian BBQ, hiking Gray Glacier, seeing pumas, condors, guanacos, and other native fauna. All in only one destination. The destination is known for its fjords, mountains, and glaciers set among geographic landmarks such as Cape Horn, the Magellan Strait, and Torres del Paine National Park.

"It has undoubtedly been a great experience and opportunity for tour operators and international media to learn first hand about the destination and adventure tourism activities possible in the Region of Magallanes and Chilean Antarctica," said Ximena Castro, the Regional Director of Sernatur Magallanes and Chilean Antarctic. "The international delegation had the opportunity to go kayaking, trekking, puma tracking, and horseback riding among other activities in Chilean Patagonia, which combined with the marketplace and conferences, we are sure will generate business ties and will make Magallanes even better known as a unique adventure tourism destination."

HRANI: 71st Annual General Meeting

Hotel and Restaurant Association of Northern India (HRANI) concluded its 71st Annual General Meeting on September 30, 2022 at Radisson Blu Plaza Delhi Airport, New Delhi. In addition to adopting and approving the financial results for the year 2021-2022 and appointing auditors, the AGM's agenda included elections of the Association's Managing Committee for the term 2022-24.

The AGM was followed by the meeting of the Managing Committee to elect the office bearers for the term 2022-24.

Mr. Garish Oberoi has been elected as President of HRANI.

Mr. Garish Oberoi, Partner, Hotel Uberoi Anand, Uberoi Anand & Associates and Amber Restaurant, Bareilly has been in the Hospitality Industry for more than three decades. He has actively represented and lobbied on behalf of the industry for multiple causes and achieved winning outcomes for the Hospitality sector across board.

The elected Office-bearers are as under:-

1. Vice President

- a. Mr. Rakesh Roy, Director, EL Chico Hotels & Restaurant (P) Ltd, Allahabad.
- b. Mr. Vinod Gulati, Managing Director, Gulati Restaurant, New Delhi

2. Honorary Secretary

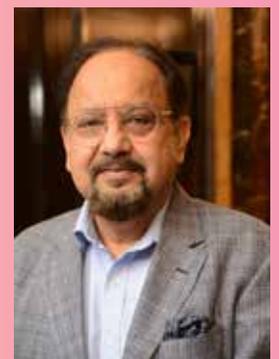
Mr. Surendra Kumar Jaiswal, Managing Director, Deep Group of Hotels, Lucknow

3. Treasurer

Mr. Amarvir Singh, Partner, Hotel Natraj, Ludhiana.

4. Hony. Jt. Secretary

- a. Mr. Ankit Gupta, Managing Director, Hotel Himani's, Chandigarh.
- b. Mr. Rattandeep Singh Anand, Managing Director, Asia Group of Hotels, Jammu.



Arabian Travel Market 2023 signs partnership agreement with IHG Hotels & Resorts

Arabian Travel Market (ATM), the leading travel and tourism event for inbound and outbound tourism professionals throughout the Middle East, has signed an agreement with IHG Hotels & Resorts, to become its Official Hotel Partner for ATM 2023, which takes place at the Dubai World Trade Centre on 1-4 May.

Leading international hospitality group IHG, will officially accommodate almost 200 leading international media and key industry buyers from the UK, Germany, Spain, France, Italy, Israel, Turkey, India, the GCC, US, Egypt and South Africa.

The agreement will enable IHG to showcase their InterContinental branded properties in Dubai, as well as voco Hotels, Crowne Plaza Hotels

and Resorts and Hotel Indigo to top industry professionals representing luxury, leisure, MICE and business travel. In addition, IHG will also host the coveted Official ATM Party.

The theme of next year's ATM showcase is "Working Towards Net Zero" and RX (Reed Exhibitions) the organiser of ATM, will celebrate its 30th annual event by unveiling a dedicated sustainability pledge, not only to make the ATM

2023 event more sustainable, but to announce 30 long term goals, as ATM works towards Net Zero in line with the RX Global pledge.

ATM 2022 attracted over 24,000 visitors and hosted over 31,000 participants including 1,600 exhibitors and attendees from 151 countries, across 10 halls at Dubai World Trade Centre.

Haitham Mattar, IHG's MD for IMEA



We are pleased to extend our long-term relationship with RX as their hotel partner for Arabian Travel Market 2023. We are especially keen on the show's theme "Working towards Net Zero" as it is well aligned with IHG's 'Journey to Tomorrow' – our ten-year responsible business agenda focused on our people, planet and communities.

The partnership presents a great opportunity for IHG to showcase the work that we are doing on a series of far-reaching commitments to drive environmental and social change to meet the demand for sustainable stays from millions of our guests around the world.

As a regular global exhibitor with RX, we have experienced great footfall and interest at several of their shows across the world and especially at ATM. The show's success was especially evident in 2022 as the world returned to meeting face to face, building strong personal networks and long-term business relationships. The show offered a great backdrop for the launch of our new "IHG One Rewards" program and in 2023 we look forward to delving further into our loyalty offering for the Middle East.

Danielle Curtis, Exhibition

Director, Arabian Travel Market



Arabian Travel Market is committed to the Middle East, which has some of the most ambitious and exciting development plans anywhere in the world. This partnership with IHG presents an ideal opportunity to align one of the region's leading

hospitality groups with our unrivaled event platform.

The Official Hotel Partnership is pivotal to the ongoing success of Arabian Travel Market, and the correlation between attracting quality buyers and delivering a quality host hotel experience has been a major factor in driving interest and guaranteeing the attendance of key travel industry professionals.

PM -Holiday in India Export Support

FAITH, the policy federation of all the ten national associations representing the complete tourism, travel and hospitality industry of India - ADTOI, ATOAI, FHRAI, HAI, IATO, ICPB, IHHA, ITTA, TAAI & TAFI has proposed 'PM - HINES' or 'Prime Minister - Holiday in India Export Support' for the upcoming foreign trade policy to fast track tourism, travel and hospitality exports from India.

PM - HINES is a combination of two existing similar support mechanisms of the government of encouraging duty-free exports and PLI scheme. On similar concept, to increase tourism, travel and hospitality exports from India we are basing PM - HINES on two key market principals

- Drawback of all domestic duties, levies and taxes which have become implicitly built into the price of tourism in India

PLUS

- Market linked Incentive based on increasing exports

Thus, the proposed formula for PM- HINES is:

A) Domestic Duty Drawback: 5% of gross forex earnings from tourism travel & hospitality services as base drawback for all tourism exports

PLUS

B) Market linked incentive:

- 1 % additional drawback for forex earnings, if gross forex earnings are < US\$ 50 million, in the financial year
- 2 % additional drawback for gross forex earnings, if gross forex earnings are > US\$ 50 million upto US \$ 100 million in the financial year
- 3% additional drawback for gross forex earnings, if gross forex earnings are > US\$ 100 million upto US \$ 200 million in the financial year
- 4% additional drawback for gross forex earnings, if gross forex earnings are > US\$ 200 million upto US \$ 400 million in the financial year
- 5% additional drawback for gross forex earnings, if gross forex earnings are > US\$ 400 million + in the financial year

Thus, any exporter of tourism travel & hospitality services will get the following duty incentive under PM - HINES as follows

- 6% of their gross forex earnings if gross forex

earnings are upto \$ 50 m in the financial year

- 7% of their gross forex earnings if gross forex earnings are above \$ 50 million upto \$ 100 million in the financial year
- 8% of their gross forex earnings, if gross forex earnings are above \$ 100 million upto \$ 200 million in the financial year
- 9% of their gross forex earnings, if gross forex earnings are above \$ 200 million upto \$ 400 million in the financial year
- 10% of their gross forex earnings, if gross forex earnings are above \$ 400 million in the financial year

This will immediately start make our tourism travel and hospitality exports super competitive globally as tourism enterprises will use the drawback incentive to market internationally, to advertise, to build global partnerships and to reduce overall prices which will lead to much increases forex earnings.

FITUR CRUISES promotes “Blue Tourism”



As part of its mission to help boost the tourism business, and with a focus on the areas of specialisation that bring innovation and cutting-edge developments to the industry, FITUR 2023 — in collaboration with CRUCEROADICTO.COM, the online magazine specialising in cruises — will reinforce the contents and activities of its new FITUR Cruises space. Here, it will present a wide range of proposals to both professionals and the public that will show the potential of this type of “blue tourism”, which is strongly committed to environmental sustainability, protecting destinations and making a positive impact on their communities.

Over the course of three days, from Friday, 20 to Sunday, 22 January, FITUR Cruises will expand its field of action to include the B2B and B2C areas, placing an exhibition area and auditorium in Hall 10 of FITUR to hold the different activities, aimed at promoting commercial action, reinforcing the image of sustainability, offering a meeting point for the cruise industry and ports and tourist destinations and, especially, helping both travel agents and passengers get to know these tourism offers better, as well as reinforcing the loyalty of cruise passengers.

During the two days open to visitors, Cruise Campus will continue with its mini-courses focusing on all aspects of cruise travel, but this time from the cruise passenger’s perspective: How to pack your suitcase to explore the Mediterranean, what an expedition cruise consists of and tips for booking your next cruise, will be some of the interesting topics open to all.

Madhya Pradesh Tourism Roadshow held at Indian Embassy, Paris

The Madhya Pradesh Tourism delegation concluded its successful participation at IFTM Top Resa 2022 with more than 60 meetings with travel trade partners, media and consumers over the course of the three day event. Mr. Sheo Shekhar Shukla, Principal Secretary, Govt of Madhya Pradesh and Managing Director of Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board led the delegation that comprised of some prominent tour operators from the state. Meetings with important tour operators such as TUI, Sita, ASIA, Marco Vasco, etc., were very fruitful and will lead to the addition of more MP based itineraries. Media companies met included Desirs De Voyage, National Geographic, France TV and Marie France and other leading publishing houses.

Mr. Shukla summarized the outcome of the delegation’s fruitful visit to France by stating: “Madhya Pradesh is a central Indian state that has much to offer to the French



traveller, including staples which are heritage and culture. The focus now is to ensure that our responsible tourism initiatives are highlighted and rural, agri and eco-tourism programs are made popular in this market which is sensitive to the ecology and is generally appreciative of efforts made in this direction. We are excited and enthused by the positive response our tourism products have received in France and are quite sure that the number of tourists from this region will grow exponentially in the coming years.”

Incredible India: Addressing The Global Need

Mr Gyan Bhushan, Economic Advisor, Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India on highlighted the potential of Medical Tourism and said that India has skilled doctors like US & Europe and English-speaking Nurses and staffs. “The patients and attendees are getting VISA at a frictionless process. It is one of the champion sectors as per the government of India,” he added.

Addressing the session on ‘Incredible India: Addressing The Global Need’, organized by FICCI under the leadership of Ministry Of Tourism, Govt of India on the occasion of celebrating 75 years of Independence of India, Mr Bhushan also highlighted the prospects of Homestays and said that Homestays help in women empowerment in most of the rural areas and hinterland and has around 4 times multiplier jobs opportunities.

Mr G Kamala Vardhana Rao,

Director General, Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India & Managing Director, ITDC Ltd. said, “India’s tourism industry is still on 5-6 per cent YoY growth. Turkey has done great in terms of number of tourists and has 20 million tourists in a year. We are still behind other countries in terms of digitization e.g., wireless networks in hotels. He further added that the Tourism Department, Govt of India has introduced various initiatives including training of 400 guides in 5 foreign languages in Delhi and 100 women taxi drivers. “Some states have started incentives for the foreign film productions in their state,” he added.

The conference comprised of sessions including Heal in India: Positioning India as the Global Centre of Healthcare & Wellness Services and The emerging importance of Homestays in Travel & Tourism Industry.

VFS Global rolls out first-ever Indonesia fast-track Visa on Arrival service for 75 nationalities

Travellers to Indonesia eligible for Visa on Arrival can now enjoy a quicker, smoother visa application journey by completing the process online, pre-departure, through VFS Global. VFS Global has entered into an exclusive agreement with TLP, the Immigration Department for Republic of Indonesia and Bank Mandiri, to provide online pre-payment of fees, fast-track access and concierge services to international passengers upon arrival in Jakarta.

Nationals of the 75 eligible countries can apply for their Indonesia Visa on Arrival through VFS Global by submitting their documents and paying the fees online at www.indonesiavoa.vfsevisa.id prior to their travel. A confirmation will be sent to their registered email ID and the visa processed in advance to be stamped upon arrival. With the payment having been made online,

the on-arrival process reduces to just the stamping of the visa, which can be done at the designated fast-track Visa on Arrival immigration lanes.

Mr. Jiten Vyas, Chief Commercial Officer, VFS Global said, “Indonesia is a popular destination for travellers across the globe, and we are excited to unveil a service that will make their visa application journey quicker and simpler. With tech-led Do It Yourself solutions becoming increasingly popular, this first-ever fast-track Visa on Arrival service is sure to offer applicants a more relaxed on-arrival experience.”

Indonesia received over 15 million foreign tourists in 2019 before the pandemic. Between January and July 2022, the destination has welcomed around 1 million international travellers. From India alone, over 657,000 tourists arrived in Indonesia in 2019, before the pandemic.



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National Tourism Awards

Vice President of India, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar presented the National Tourism Awards to awardees at the programme organized by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, to mark the World Tourism Day, 2022.



Union Minister of Tourism Shri G. Kishan Reddy and MoS Tourism Shri Ajay Bhatt also graced the ceremony. Secretary Tourism Shri Arvind Singh and other senior officers of the Ministry were also present on this occasion. A total of 81 awards were given away this year highlighting the achievements of the industry in 2018-19. Vice President also released India Tourism Statistics 2022, New Incredible India Global Promotional Films, and “GoBeyond:75 Experiences of North India” e-book on this occasion.

During his keynote address Vice President Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar described India as “heaven for tourism” and asked the Indians to explore domestic tourist destinations first before looking at international travel. Referring to Bharat’s long civilizational history and rich cultural heritage, he underlined that most of the tourist places in the country have a deep connect with our history, folk arts and ancient texts.

Vice President termed tourism a key driver of economic growth and employment generation in the country. Referring to multiple dimensions to the tourism, the Vice President stressed the need for fully leveraging the India’s immense potential in the field of medical tourism as well as the growing global interest in our ancient practices of healing such as Ayurveda and Yoga.

Appreciating the Government’s efforts for the development of the tourism sector in the country, Shri Dhankhar said that the development of tourism infrastructure has been accompanied with innovative initiatives such as Dekho Apna Desh and Utsav Portal.

Speaking on the occasion Shri G. Kishan Reddy said that under the guidance of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India’s Tourism sector is moving towards creative, responsible and inclusive growth. Ministry of Tourism is working with 360-degree perspective and whole of government approach for the development of tourism sector. Along with Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Commerce are also working for the development

of this sector, which will help in establishing better synergy and convergence leading to sustainable and world class infrastructure development.

Shri Reddy further highlighted that India plans to position itself as a major tourism destination during its presidency of G20 for 2023. During the presidency we aim to showcase India as a ‘must visit’ destination at a global level. 3600 railway coaches have been allocated for tourism purpose for Circuit specific trains. Such trains have already started for Ramayana and Buddhist Circuits while the one for Krishna Circuit will start soon. Our aim is to make India one of the most prominent destinations of the world. Union Minister added that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is working as brand ambassador of Indian tourism.

MoS Tourism Shri Ajay Bhatt congratulated all the award winners and said that Ministry of Tourism has prepared a draft National Tourism Policy 2022 as part of the vision of New India on high trajectory of growth and prosperity. The Policy aims at Improving framework conditions for tourism development in the country, supporting tourism industries, strengthening tourism support functions and developing tourism sub sectors.

During his welcome speech Secretary Tourism Shri Arvind Singh said that this kind of award motivates the travel and tourism sector. Travel & Tourism is one of the world’s largest economic sector, creating export and prosperity around the world. Indian Tourism sector has emerged as one of the key drivers of growth for Indian economy post covid, he said.

As India celebrates 75 years of independence, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, commences its Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) iconic week on 27th September 2022 by recognizing the efforts of industry stakeholders and conferring the National Tourism Awards. Due to Covid, the Awards could not be organised during the last 2 years.



The National Tourism Awards are presented to various segments of the travel, tourism and hospitality industry, including State Governments in recognition of their performance in their respective fields and also to encourage healthy competition with an aim to promote tourism. These Awards have over the years emerged as a prestigious recognition of achievements in the travel, tourism and hospitality sectors.

Mr Sunil H Talati, Chairman, SEPC said "The conclave was the coming together of various experts and stakeholders from the industry to add gravitas to the proposed events like ATITHI and strengthen the Travel and Tourism sector in India. It touched upon points for the growth prospects and challenges and the need for a framework to put India on the Global Travel Map."

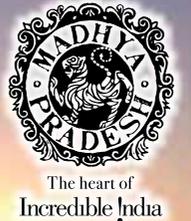
Mr Karan Rathore, Vice Chairman, SEPC said "The hospitality sector is a sunrise industry with immense potential for growth. It accounts for approximately 50 million jobs in the country and direct foreign investments. Hospitality has been the essence of India. The need of the hour is to position India as a holistic travel and wellness destination and help the tourist traffic reach the projected 13.34 million in 2024."

Dr Abhay Sinha, DG, SEPC said "Amongst all the sectors under SEPC, Travel and Tourism is one of the largest and key sectors. Today, India is the 12th largest country in the world when it comes to international tourism. Therefore, as a sector that contributes to more than 31.8 million jobs, it is of paramount importance to understand how the businesses in that sector are performing, what is their support eco-system and what we can do to augment this reach. The mission is to understand what it would take from the council, the stakeholders, and the ministry to go beyond the growth trajectory of the last decade. The strategy should be about charting the course for this sector for the next 25 years when India will complete 100 years of independence. With perceptual change positioning India as a year-round destination, favourable travel policies and aids, infrastructure development, there needs to be a blueprint in place."

Experience

Jal Mahotsav

Give yourself an adrenaline rush in MP



One of the largest water carnivals in India 'JalMahotsav' is all set to host you to experience adventure activities and beautiful tent city of Hanuwantiya in Madhya Pradesh

If you are planning an adventure-packed vacation with full of fun then Hanuwantiya Island in Khandwa District of Madhya Pradesh is the place that you should add in your bucket list this time. One of India's longest Water cation presented by Madhya Pradesh Tourism, 'JalMahotsav' is a combination of food, art, nature, culture and adventure where you can experience clear skies, sparkling blue water and the thrill of scuba diving, bumper boats and much more.

This picturesque destination awaits your presence for 'Jal Mahotsav', the festival which will commence in the last week of November 2022 and will go on till the last week of January 2023. A water cation to Jal Mahotsav has all the elements to give a boost to your body, mind, and spirit.

It offers an array of adventure activities organised at nature's paradise Hanu-wantiya. Located on the banks of Indira Sagar Dam (India's largest reservoir), this is a perfect holiday destination for spending an exciting vacation with your loved ones.

At 'JalMahotsav', you can start your day with the golden rays of the rising sun lighting up the tent city, followed by a delicious breakfast and beautiful Mediterranean blue water views to admire.

What to see and do

At 'JalMahotsav', visitors can enjoy adventure activities based on land, air, or water.



Air and water activities- The major attraction of this festival are air and water activities which include wind surfing, water parasailing, water zorbing, jet-skiing, speed boats ride, cruise boats ride, paramotoring, banana boat ride, hot air balloon ride, zip line and more.

Land-based activities: Yoga camp, wellness and spa, cycling, volleyball, archery, tug of war, climbing, kite flying, bull carting and other activities in adventure zone. One can also go for nature walks, cycle around the island, and visit the local villages. Food zone, craft bazaar, stargazing, island camping and experiencing melody of folk, classical and pop music and dance will keep you going throughout the festival.

Other Attractions

Apart from these amazing activities, Khandwa District has several other tourist attractions as well that include Nagchun dam, Ghantaghar, Omkare-shwar Jyotirlinga, Tulija Bhavani temple, Indira Sagar Dam and Sailani Island.

Also, it is a must-visit place for nature enthusiasts as they can indulge in bird watching, trekking, and night camping.

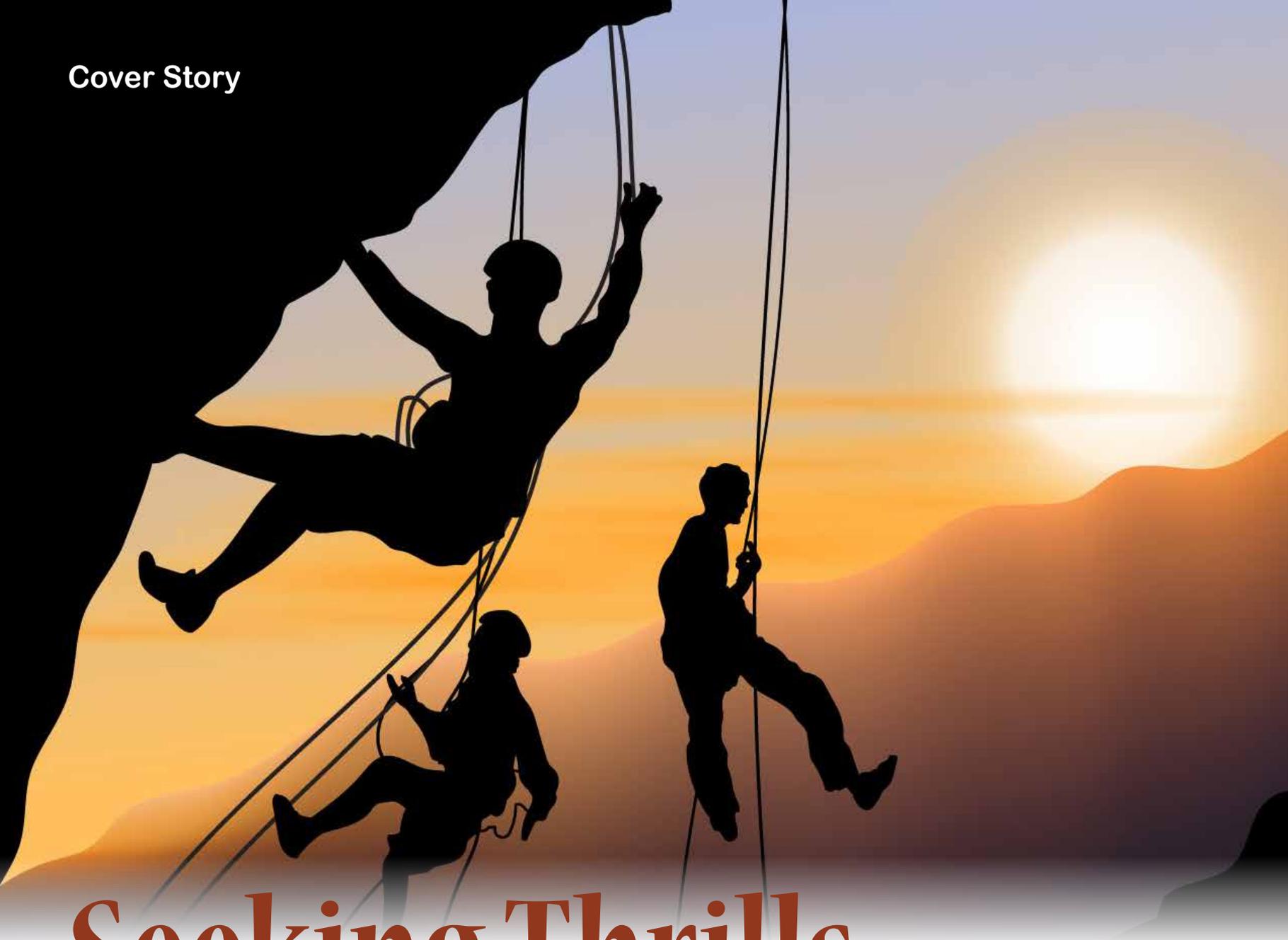


Way to Hanuwantiya

If you are already making plans and wondering how to get here, the nearest airport is Indore, around 3 hours away from the Madhya Dweep islands where Hanuwantiya is located. If you are travelling by rail, you need to get off at Khandwa, 50 km away. And if you prefer the road, then Hanuwantiya is well connected to Indore, Bhopal and Khandwa.

For booking visit: www.jalmahotsav.com





Seeking Thrills

The demand for thrill when one leads a life that's caught up in the rat race is always high. And you look for something new, exciting and reasonably safe to get your adrenaline pumping. Its' Adventure that you seek.

Asheesh Bhandari

Adventure Sports involve activities that are unusual, risky and exciting as well. These are bold undertakings that involve hazardous action and whose outcome may be uncertain. However, in the case of most commercially operated Adventure Sports, the element of safety is key. The success of the operations depends on how safe the activity can be, the back up or rescue facilities available, and finally the experience of the operators and their staff.

Adventure Sport comprise a range of activities. Mountaineering, rock climbing, skiing, river rafting, kayaking, etc, are some popular adventure sports. Each sport has different levels of difficulty and risk involved. Good operators classify their options according to these factors and their ability to manage and handle the attendant risks and dangers involved. The thrill in the sport is enhanced for users when they know that the risk is mitigated to a large extent. The majority of the thrill seekers are not extreme sport enthusiasts – that is a different breed altogether.

The Long List

Depending on the time available als that you seek, and proximity to the destination, you can choose from a range of activities for adventure. In cities, there are now adventure centres that try to compete with the natural habitat. And so there are climbing walls and multi-dimensional races that help you get the adrenaline rush. Bungee Jumping has been around for a long time. These are great for some but for others it has to be the real thing.

Here is a list of some of the adventure sports and activities that you could try:

On Wheels

- Dirt Biking (needs a specific track that may be around where you live)
- Cross Country driving or Overlanding on a bike or four wheeler (Anywhere you like)
- Dune Bashing (In Jaisalmer and other desert areas)

At Sea

- Scuba Diving (Goa, Andamans, Lakshwadeep)
- Sailing, Yatching, Sea Kayaking (Pondicherry, Kochi, Goa, Chennai, and other coastal areas)

Hills and Mountains

- Mountain Biking
- Rock Climbing
- Hiking and Mountaineering
- River Rafting and Kayaking

These can be easily done in most of the Himalaya Region, in the Western and Eastern Ghats, and in the other mountain ranges in India



Aerial Sports

- Silent Flying / Gliding (Bangalore, Mysore, Meerut, Ludhiana)
- Hang Gliding (Bir Biling in Himachal Pradesh)
- Parasailing (Goa, Andaman, Chennai, Bangalore, Meerut, Delhi etc.)
- Para Gliding (Bir Biling is the hot spot although you can take of anywhere there are good thermal currents and a strong wind to get you going)
- Sky Diving (Mysore, Pondicherry, Amby Valley)

Making a Better Person

Adventure is a great enhancer of personalities. It has a number of benefits in a person's life.

✓ Fight Phobias

A number of phobias can be overcome through adventure sports and activities. Just Do it! Is a great slogan to overcome fears and build one's confidence.

✓ Explore one Potential

It's great to watch television and the stunts in the movies. But can you do it or would like to just dream about it. If you haven't tried it you will never know.

✓ Potent Stress Buster

Adrenaline is the best stress buster. A dose of adventure is bound to keep you sane for a while. It's strange isn't it – do the insane to stay sane!

✓ Improves Physical Health

You won't get the muscles you can build indoors in a Gym. But you will build stamina, and stay toned, fit and strong.

✓ Greater Mental Strength

When you deal with nature, you realise how insignificant you really are in this world. Understanding that leads to humility and patience. A strong mental faculty is built by relieving stress and the restlessness that builds up in daily life. Lose the excess energy to stay mentally focussed.

✓ Building Bonds

Going through a difficult and strenuous situation together helps build bonds between people. There is a sense of having accomplished something together. That accomplishment comes through understanding and supporting each other. Adventure activities that are team based help you understand people's strengths and weaknesses and your own too.

There are probably many more benefits to you as an individual. You will only realize this once you are out there and trying out your skills. Building your own personality and confidence is one thing. It is probably more important to build the personalities and confidence of the younger generation as well. Adventure tour operators and many parents are doing just that for the future generations. To make the world a better place, the young ones must experience the outdoors, commune with nature and understand the true meaning of "Sustainability" and "Responsibility". So step out now and take the young ones along!





Tarzan, Jane & Their ManCubs!

This is the story of a family of outdoor enthusiasts who share their stories with others and encourage other families to step out as well. In fact, they now curate holidays in the outdoors and play “Holiday Hosts”.

Asheesh Bhandari

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

Adventures of A2D2 is a journey of a family of four through outback India - from the lush meadows of Baisaran to the pugdundees of Kumaon to the forests of Satpura. Their philosophy is simple – explore the outdoors, understand nature and protect the balance. Their primary focus is to highlight preservation, mindfulness and sustainability through travel.

The journey for Adventure of A2D2 began in 2019 and they have Hollywood to thank for it! It was started as an information blog on Instagram after watching a heart-whelming film "Captain Fantastic". The film featured a family that lived off the land and in the wild. It inspired them to reiterate the power of nature and sustainable living to their young children. The value of having blue skies, clean air, wholesome food, birds and animals roaming about their lands free of fear- and Adventures of A2D2 was born!

A2D2 literally stands for their names ArushAmerDishaDinaira.....Yes, it's as simple as that!!!

A1 is India's answer to Bill Gates! Well not quite, but this IT entrepreneur is a keen wildlife enthusiast who loves exploits in the wilderness.

D1: One look at her and you'll wonder why she's so familiar? That's because she's anchored NDTV's morning shows for a decade. She took a giant leap of faith into the wild with this initiative.

A2: is a 9-year old golf and cricket junkie who loves the outdoors.

D2: A 7-year old gymnast who's not too old for Peppa pig and not too young for Harry Potter!

Through Adventures of A2D2, they would not only journal their travels in the wild but they also give every detail of the trip from how to get to the holiday destination to the accommodation and food as well as the activities that one could do there. In a short span of time, the blog had become a ready reckoner for a huge network of people for outdoor travel in India.

Disha Chopra, Founder, Adventures of A2D2 says “We've taken a non-academic approach to highlighting India's incredible biodiversity, climate change and promoting conservation- all in a bid to create our own Greta Thunbergs as well as a more valued natural ecosystem. We feel that If we can imprint on even a single individual, we've managed to impact generations.”

The Covid pandemic threw its own set of perils and curveballs but they learnt it their own way – travelling to even remoter destinations, working through zoom calls and learning through online school albeit in the wild!

HOW IT'S GOING!

In 2022, their interest soon converted into a passion project of curating & customising bespoke and experiential family holidays in the wild.

How do A2D2 do it? They choose a destination on their bucket list and then plan everything including an exhaustive itinerary. Then they throw it open for families to experience the holiday with them! Something on the lines of a Holiday Host!! Glamping, Safaris, Treks, Nature walks – All while making ever-lasting memories and showcasing the incredible biodiversity of our country to families with young children.

Nikhil Naz, Sports Editor, India Today feels, “It was the most incredible holiday for my little one. From unique activities to hidden gems and fun adventures which are organized so seamlessly! They truly are the top stop for outdoorsy vacations with young children”.

Spreading the word through digital tools like whatsapp, facebook and Instagram, they hope to help families take baby steps into the wild. And once they're in, there's no looking back!

MahimaKaul, who heads Public Policy for Bumble (APAC) says, “ Fun in the forest and absolutely nothing left you wanting! From the camp site to the picnics and hikes, electrolytes in the morning to the calm of the evening – everything was just perfect!”

A2D2's next adventure is what they're calling a 'Pollucation' or a Pollution-free vacation in the wild! It's a forest bathing experience in the Savannah of Ramathra and Sariska with a focus on the carnivores in the area. See you there!

Atali Ganga – “The” Activotel

From the comfort of your accommodation that brings the outdoors in, experience the uniqueness of India's only “Activotel”.

Asheesh Bhandari

Atali Ganga, India's first Activotel has been recognised by prominent organisation as Best New Hotels in The World. The Activotel is situated in Rishikesh, Uttarakhand which is a six hour drive by Road and a 30 minute flight from New Delhi. The Activotel began its operations in April 2012 and is a brain child of Vaibhav Kala who also owns and runs Aquaterra Adventures.

Their staff, backed by years of experience, are conscientious, aware of the needs of the visitors and, interact and communicate freely to provide better service. The Activity Officers are trained in First Aid, CPR, have years of outdoor guiding experience in the Himalaya, and sometimes beyond. Atali Ganga practices a very true form of ecotourism, and is one of the few companies where over 95% of its guides and staff belong to the region. Their high standards

allowed. There is however, a strong Airtel / Jio 4G service available. So if you prefer the sound of music over the whistling of the wind, the rustle of the leaves, the roar of the river, or the other sounds of wildlife and nature, do carry your head phones.

Among the other facilities available are a Conference room, a Swimming Pool, and a sit out area to enjoy the sun. The Activotel therefore, allows you to work from their facilities and to stay connected to your workplace, if you really wish to. Atali Ganga is also a great place to consider for team building and other corporate training.

Activities @ Atali

The activities offered at Atali Ganga are:

• River Rafting

Ride the waves and raft through the rapids on the

face in the vicinity.

• Guided Hikes

Walk through the Reserve Forest with an experienced guide. The beaten path may lead you to sight some wild life in its most natural habitat.

• Bike Course

Enjoy the thrill of mountain cycling – off the road or on the road. The off road course takes you on some great undulating tracks with sharp turns.

• High Ropes Course (full course/first three elements)

The High Ropes Course is a challenge for all ages. You really need to hone your skills and balance to get through this one.



of operation are hard to come by in their field of operations.

Atali Ganga is an oasis surrounded by Reserved Forest that allows you to commune with nature. In the valley of India's holiest life force, the Ganga, be prepared to hear the call of the barking deer, or the midnight roar of the leopard. After a busy day in the great outdoors and doing the activities offered by the Activotel, the dull muscular ache is a satisfaction. 80% of the property is built on a hillside, and you will have to walk a series of steps to reach your cottage. If your group includes infants, small kids and infirm elders, do request for cottages closer to the Café where the meals are served. For the rest of you, walking is a way of life in the hills.

There are 22 private, comfortable and independent cottages overlooking the Ganga valley that can accommodate a family. A 60 seater restaurant – the White Water Café is where you eat your scrumptious meals. But it's not open 24x7 nor is there a facility for room service. Their ever helpful staff will do everything they can for the comfort of your infants, small children and the elderly.

Being located in a Reserve Forest, there are no televisions, and loud music or DJ nights are not

Ganga. The rapids are graded from 1 (low) to 5 (high) based on the degree of difficulty in navigating through them and the probability of flipping the raft. The rapids have some very interesting names and some have a story attached to them. You could also do some body surfing in some sections that are considered safe by your River Guide.

• Kayaking

Not everyone is an experience kayaker. So enjoy some thrilling lessons on the beach and the safer sections of the river. It's a guarantee you will become an enthusiast.

Depending on your experience in a kayak, you could do a kayak run on different sections of the river – long sections may require you to discuss the trip with the organizers.

• Wall Climbing

Immerse yourself into the world of rock climbing by attempting the vertical wall at Atali. You don't need any training to do so. Just your sheer determination and strength will take you to the top. And once you get a handle of the wall, try timing yourself. Who knows the Activity Officers may just take you for an experience of rappelling down a real rock

• The Ultimate Atali (Hike | Bike | Paddle)

The Ultimate Atali is a cross faculty course that challenges your endurance skills. You can take it as seriously as you want. It can be great for families and people of all ages too.

• Yoga (at Atali or on the beach)

Rishikesh is the centre for Yoga. No way is Atali Ganga going to miss this opportunity. You can do yoga at the beach or at the Activotel - in the Conference room if it's free or at the outdoor deck.

• Spa and Sauna

The best thing to soothe those muscles after a day full of activity. Ease the tension in the joints, calm the nerves and relax the muscles. The next morning you are ready for another round.

Atali Ganga encourages the spirit of adventure in people of all ages. It is a wonderful place to initiate your children to the wilderness while being in a safe and protected environment. It's a place to breathe fresh air and be one with nature. It's a place where you will wake up at sun rise and feel good about it. And it's a place where you don't need coffee to get you started up!



Anupjit Sekhon is an Overlanding enthusiast and has been out-and-about with his vehicles for over a decade. The people of Himachal Pradesh associated the man with his vehicle and named him Gypsy King. It's a name that stuck and he uses it with pride, given the many Overlanding trips he has conducted over sand and snow. An alumni of The Lawrence School, Sanawar, he also holds a Master's in Business Administration and works for a large travel company. He is currently based in Gurgaon.

Asheesh Bhandari

Here is what he told T3FS about his experiences:

1. What is Overlanding?

Overlanding is about adventure road trips in solo or groups with a reliable and capable vehicle. You drive through rough and remote terrains which may require engaging 4-wheel drive capabilities to cover some tough situations. Reliability is about a vehicle being maintained in good condition and maybe a few modifications to enhance performance that is not dependent on the engine alone. And capability is all-encompassing - for example; strengthened suspension, increased ground clearance, snorkel for water crossings, modifications to transmission setup, winch, a backup battery etc. The essence of overlanding is that you create a route not well frequented. And you don't look for comforts on the trip; you survive with your vehicle.

With a reliable and capable vehicle, overlanding is very different from a regular roadtrip. The key difference to differentiate a road trip from overlanding is Self-sufficiency. For example, for accommodation you may have a sleeping bag, or a compact tent, or an elaborate roof top setup, or a trailer with a permanent tent. The choice depends on various factors - your budget, duration of a trip, and number of trips you plan to do. The higher

the frequency, more the investment in superior quality products as well as the number of things you want to put together. Another aspect is the number of people you plan to have in the vehicle. Most people plan for water, food, provisions etc. as per the count of occupants in the vehicle. Some trips require advance route planning to replenish drinking water, regular water for daily needs, food and provisions.

To be self-sufficient with food you need a kitchen setup. Usually starts with planning for 2 people, basic pot and pan, cutlery, glasses etc. An ice box for short trips or a fridge or freezer if you have the space, coupled with a stove and water and voila, you can now make your own meals while Overlanding and therefore enable your "rig" to explore uncharted or off-beat locations.

While most people start out with a capable vehicle, sleep setup, kitchen, provisions including grocery, water, stove and an icebox, there are additional things that you can acquire to get comfortable in the open terrain. To name a few:

- Toilet & shower
- Water carriers
- Solar electric solution
- Awning & camping chairs etc.

2. How did you get into Overlanding?

My journey started with hiking and camping whilst at school. Once I was comfortable sleeping in a tent for 4-6 days, I started enjoying it. My first investment was in a compact tent that could be used in heavy rain and snow. Using a regular 2 wheel drive car with water, quick-heat meals or cold cans (like baked beans, tuna fish, and luncheon meat, instant noodles etc.), a few ready to eat snacks and I was all set for my first few trips during my higher education in college. Being based out of Chandigarh in North India and a good 5 years to complete my post-graduation, I used that time to do repeat trips to the hills on weekends, long weekends and then eventually longer trips during summer and winter vacations.

The other "initiation" to self-sufficient travel came from being a "fauji" kid. Familiarity with tents, living in remote areas and visiting exotic places like Nagaland, Arunachal, Wellington (Tamil Nadu) and the opportunity to experience road trips. My most memorable road trip was From Faridkot (Punjab) to Wellington (Tamil Nadu). Coupled with this was our generation's ability to live without TV and also indulge in picnic meals while visiting the farm on our holidays. Board games were limited and radio stations were few and not round the clock. We could talk to people, share jokes and watch the scenery

and appreciate the small things in life. Perhaps, the combination of all the above led me to Overlanding.

At some point of time, I started adding more equipment for my journeys. An economical kerosene stove, and along with that came the luxury of morning coffee followed by other add-ons like emergency light, safety equipment, medical kit, a good rain poncho / duck back since I outgrew the one from my school days.

Acquiring a capable 4x4 wheel drive vehicle got me onto a different level. I could now go to places a car could not. I started with the same tent and kitchen setup, but added more gearlike camping chairs, folding awning, ground sheets etc. I now had the space to carry it all.

3. Do share your experiences on your trips on sand and snow.

Early recollection of driving in sand started in my formative years, accompanying my father on recess along the border in a Willys jeep. There were sand traps galore and also slush crossings, depending on the intensity of each rain shower. Similarly, snow drives were also in forward areas at high altitude



in a multitude of vehicles. Here too I recollect the chaining of tyres to drive on snow and ice. River crossings were also frequent with flags pitched on both banks. The colour of the flag marked the water level and indicated what make of vehicle could cross the river.

My early camping trips during school days were run of the mill - children having fun, jokes, Antakshari and outdoor games. But we formed bonds that have endured till date - typical of friendships in a boarding school. Subsequent trips during my years at college were the evolution from a camping trip to a road trip. In the recent decade or so, with two capable 4x4 vehicles I started venturing out into areas I could not go earlier, irrespective of the season. My first trip to Ladakh in a Willys jeep was probably my first overlanding trip. It was more of an adventure.

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, “knowledge” and information were limited and luxuries like the internet were not available. One found one’s way the old fashioned way – a good old “atlas” (aka

road maps) that was not too accurate, asking other travellers, and a lot of questions at each village and Dhabha on the way. The truck and bus drivers were and continue to be a genuine source of information about road conditions, distance, availability of fuel, and other such useful information. Once one had the “information”, it was a confidence building experience to validate and correct the information for any gaps. Thus began the adventure.

While Ladakh was my area of interest earlier, my first test drive in 1991 was to the border with China (past Pooh). That route has always attracted me and in the last 7 years I have switched from Ladakh to Spiti. A white Spiti beckons!

Switching to a four wheel drive vehicle opened the possibilities for snow drives. I had driven on iced over (closed) roads in a sedan, the Bullet motorcycle and the good old Yamaha 350. I had the basics in place but now I could go beyond a 10-20 kilometre adventure in my four wheel drive.

A well prepared rig for camping, cooking and basic outdoor stay meant I need not rely on homestays, hotels or guest houses. One started the journey

to go with. Good companionship is key to a good Overlanding trip else the trip could end with a lot of unpleasantness. Travel does bring out the best (and the worst) in people! It shapes character and depending on one’s personality, the response to stimuli in strange places outside one’s comfort zone can be varied. That’s why the line “I have travelled” holds a different meaning to different people.

The final step is last minute purchases and checking off items from the checklist. You can’t be a 1000 kms from home and wondering what happened to the sunscreen – its’ essential for both, snow drives in the Himalayas and dune bashing in the Thar Desert.

Depending on your destination, an Overlanding trip can have less or more days of travel. From Delhi, getting to Jaisalmer is usually 2 days (some do it in a day, but why the rush?). That could leave you the option of a week-long stay in the desert. You could camp or stay in tent resorts as per your comfort level and enjoy both worlds. You could also do a gradual “acclimatisation” to the world called “vehicle and tent”. Most people find dealing with no electricity and cold nights the hardest to address. Others may be unnerved by “the lack of security”



with caution in those days - a day or 2 day trip to begin with. One had to save money to buy the missing things in the gear and rig. It was a learning and a humbling experience. I learnt to prioritise and I learnt what I could do without as a luxury. Extending the trips over a period of time in terms of distance and days spent outdoors added to the experience and helped me stay physically and mentally fit. To date, I still recommend sleeping outdoors and waking up at dawn as a remedy for people with painful sleep patterns or those unable to sleep soundly for a sufficient period of time.

4. What is your advice to the uninitiated?

Planning for the trip has always been very essential. Once you have fixed the destination and identified the things to do around there (offshoot valleys to visit for example) and people and places to visit and meet, you finalise the number of days, night halts and general budget for fuel, provisions and exigencies.

The second last thing to close before a trip is who

without a latch or lock or door for that matter.

For beginners, I would recommend camping in a controlled environment like a farm house or even a government school. And if there is a lack of choice, camp next to a police station! Its’ best to talk to your temporary neighbours and then go ahead and camp. Day camping trips are also a good way to get initiated to the concept of overlanding.

The luxury of camping at night in tents usually means getting up early, hitting the road well ahead of others with a fresh cup of coffee made in the wilderness, followed by a short stop to make breakfast and plan your day. By lunch time most Overlanders reach their night halt area and scout for a safe location. Setting up camp can take anything from 5 mins to half an hour depending on your setup. Roof top tents are gaining popularity for their ease of setup and wrapping up the next morning. A camping caravan is the easiest but then limits one to main roads and sufficient parking space while a four wheel drive vehicle can take you to local trails and exotic locations.



Up the mountain and Down the River

Here is an Adventure outfit that's true to its name – Aquaterra! And they conduct thrilling trips on raging rivers and summit difficult mountains.

Asheesh Bhandari

With over twenty five years in the business, having summited over fifty peaks, paddled down over 30 rivers, it's no small wonder why this team of 80 with an average experience of over 40 years, is so highly acclaimed. Aquaterra has been voted among the best adventure travel companies in the world by NatGeo, they are the winners of the Responsible Tourism Award, and recognized by the Ministry of Tourism, and many others.

Explorers and pioneers in their own right, they constantly seek out new areas, mountains, and rivers that no one has touched before. If you are an adventurer at heart and wish to reach the rugged frontiers of India, Aquaterra is the outfit to approach.

Be it river rafting, or treks of varying degrees of difficulty, Aquaterra has something for everyone. They run their own trips and claim to carry the most scrumptious food on each and every trip. There is a "kitchen tent" that moves with every expedition; whether you are climbing the high mountains or camping at a remote location on a raging river, you are sure to get a freshly cooked hot meal on each day of the trip.

Aquaterra operates out of its camps at various places. Camp Aquaterra at Rishikesh, Camp Bagi on the Tons River in Uttarakhand, Camp Sitlakhet also in Uttarakhand, Camp Junga and Camp Tirthan in Himachal Pradesh, Camp Tamia in Madhya Pradesh, Camp Yercaud in Tamil Nadu are their properties used for the various adventure trips.

Camp Aquaterra at Rishikesh caters to the weekend traveller and those who wish to get away from the hustle bustle of city life for a few days. You raft down the Ganga River to the outskirts of Rishikesh city covering sections of the river that

have different grades of rapids. Similarly Camp Bagi on the Tons River is a multi-day trip out in the wilderness to experience the fast flowing river which is a major tributary to the Yamuna River. You also get to explore the surrounding areas and a natural waterfall and pool on your day treks. The signature river rafting trips of Aquaterra are:

- Zaskar River - Ladakh
- Brahmaputra River – Arunachal Pradesh
- Subhansari River – Arunachal Pradesh
- Kali Sarda River - Uttarakhand
- Upper Alaknanda River - Uttarakhand

The Zankar River trip is a self-contained 12 day river trip that starts at the Stod River and on to through the spectacular and scenic Zaskar River gorge. Many call this gorge the Grand Canyon of India. The gorge is has sheer mountain walls on either side that rise a few thousand feet making any rescue a difficult proposition. Experience the pulsating Constriction where the river narrows to a few feet.

But it's not just about river rafting, Ladakh has its own charm and you get to experience a lot of it. There are visits to monasteries, the Stok Palace, a drive up to Khardung-la Pass for acclimatization, and the best of all you get to see many glaciers and the start the rivers that emerge from these glaciers. It's a classic and unforgettable trip.

The Brahmaputra River trip is another challenging river expedition down one of the world's greatest rivers. The expedition begins a few kilometres inside the line –of-control with China and traverses 180 kilometres from Tuting to Passighat in Arunachal Pradesh. The seven days on the river has you negotiating some of the finest big volume white

water rapids in one of the most inaccessible regions in the world. On this trip you get to experience the tribal culture of the region and see the ways and means that the tribal people use to live off the land.

On the Terra front, Aquaterra conducts all kinds of treks to suit the requirements of their guests. From day treks for families visiting any of their camps, to multi-day treks of varying degree of difficulty that can initiate the adventurous to the world of climbing. Their Signature treks include

- Auden's Col trek
- Kang Yatse II Climb
- Parang La Trek
- DayaraBugyal Trek

After the lock-downs and when travel was permitted, Aquaterra have opened up two new trekking options: The Panpatia Col and the Great Ladakh – Kashmir Traverse.

To initiate those who wish to step into the world of rivers and mountains, Aquaterra conducts some basic courses such as a Kayak Clinic on the Ganga River at Camp Aquaterra, a Ski Clinic at Gulmarg, and a Basic Mountain Skills course. For the more experienced there is a mountaineering course and a Swift-water / Flood Rescue Technician Course on offer.

Safety is what Aquaterra excel in. They use the best equipment available in the world on all of their trips irrespective of the degree of difficulty and level of risk. So you use the same equipment on an easy trek or river course as you would when scaling a peak or rafting down a Grade 5+ rapid.

For those that wish to test themselves against the elements of nature, Aquaterra is the outfit to go to.



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National Conference of State Tourism Ministers

Ministry of Tourism organised National Conference of State Tourism Ministers from 18th to 20th September 2022 in Dharamshala to discuss issues related to development of Tourism in the country.

The National Conference of State Tourism Ministers aims to bring in diverse viewpoints and perspectives from all the States and Union Territories of India on tourism development and growth and to create a direct dialogue with the States on Schemes, policies and steps being taken at a national level for overall tourism improvement in India. The National Conference also aims to be a platform for sharing of best practices, successful

projects, and tourism product opportunities. During the press conference MoS Tourism Shri Ajay Bhatt and MoS Tourism Shri Shripad Naik, Chairman FAITH Shri Nakul Anand, DG Tourism Shri G Kamala Vardhana Rao were also present.

The Conference was divided into thematic sessions on Development of Tourism Infrastructure, Cultural, Spiritual & Heritage tourism, Tourism in

the Himalayan states, Responsible and sustainable tourism, Role of digital technology for the marketing and promotion of tourism destinations, Emerging importance of homestays in the Indian hospitality sector, Ayurveda, Wellness, and Medical Value travel, and lastly on Forest and wildlife tourism.

The Ministry has sanctioned Rs 7000 crores for development of tourism infrastructure throughout

Shri Jai Ram Thakur, Chief Minister, Himachal Pradesh



It is a very important day for us as representatives from all over India are here with us. I am delighted that Himachal Pradesh got this opportunity to host all of you. This is an excellent initiative by Ministry of Tourism. Himachal Pradesh presents lots of unique destinations to the world. The tourism industry in India and Himachal was badly hit by the pandemic; however, now we are at the cusp of a change. Now, our government

has also started the "Nai Raahein Nai Manzilein" scheme to highlight some of our lesser known tourist destinations. The state has undertaken multiple new projects to attract the tourists not only for a weekend but for longer stays too.

Sh. Shripad Naik, Minister of State for Tourism & Ports, Shipping and Waterways



PRASHAD scheme, was launched by the Ministry of Tourism in the year 2014-15 for integrated development of identified pilgrimage and heritage destinations aims to provide last mile connectivity. The Ministry of Tourism has prepared a draft National Tourism Policy to promote India as a tourist

destination in all spheres where it enjoys a comparative advantage.

Shri G. Kishan Reddy, Union Minister of Tourism, Culture and DONER



In the past 75 years, India has become synonymous with tourism, spirituality, transformation, culture, and diversity. It is a matter of great pride to celebrate record breaking expansion, leading India to become 5th largest economy in the world. As such, establishing the tourism sector as primary concern, Ministry of Tourism has

undertaken various initiatives and taken a four-fold development strategy that focuses on improving the connectivity via air, rail, and roads, enhancing the tourism infrastructure and dependent services, streamlining branding and promotion and showcasing the culture and heritage.

After vast process of consultations and deliberations, the National Tourism Policy will be brought out before the Budget session. Various tourist circuits are being promoted and a new 'Ambedkar Circuit' shall soon be launched. The Himalayan Circuit will also be promoted under the action plan for development of tourist circuits.

National Conference of State Tourism Ministers is also important in the current context of India's G20 presidency. G-20 will be used as a platform to showcase India's tourism potential to the world. Number of airports in the country has increased from 74 in 2014 to 140 now, and it is further proposed to increase number of airports to 220 by 2025.

Prime Minister's vision of associating Indian diaspora and NRIs for promoting tourism will be encouraged and urged each diaspora Indian to motivate at least 5 foreigners to visit India as per vision of our PM.

The financial assistance to tourism sector, which is the biggest sufferer due to Covid 19, continues to be extended upto 31st March, 2023. The Tourism sector generated INR 16.91 lakh crore (USD 240 billion) or 9.2% of India's GDP in 2018 and has supported around 42.67 million jobs or 8.1% of total employment.

With the pandemic behind us, the tourism industry is all set for a revival. As a travel destination, India offers a diversity of products and experiences. The rich heritage of India, one of the world's oldest civilizations, is an all-embracing confluence of festivals, religions, traditions, and customs. For any global tourist, India is not just a place to see and visit, but a destination to experience and be transformed for life. If India needs to achieve its immediate goals of a 5 trillion economy and its long term goals of a developed nation then Tourism has a very important role to play.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has emphasised on two aspects, First is Whole of Government Approach, where we breakdown silos and work together across Government Ministries. Second is we have to work as Team India, where the Union Government and the State Government work together hand in hand for the benefit of the citizens. I sincerely feel that, with all the government representatives, this is the perfect platform to put forth all perspectives and put in place a vision for the sector. The support of local people and communities must be enlisted so that benefits of Tourism percolate down to the grassroots. Whole of government approach and Jan bhagidari can revolutionise Tourism sector in the country. Just like NSS, NCC we need to work on making Yuva Tourism clubs at all levels. States need to work on a war footing for establishing these tourism clubs which will familiarize the youth with the concept of Dekho Apna Desh. To achieve true potential of tourism, the most fundamental requirement is to ensure coordination at every level. We need a proactive approach, from every stakeholder, be it centre, states or the industry.

Sh Ajay Bhatt, Minister of State for Tourism and Defence



It is the need of the hour to bring out our hidden cultural and natural facets to attract more tourists. We have tackled the difficult times of COVID19 with the Dekho Apna Desh initiative. We are constantly moving forward under the able guidance of our Prime Minister. However, despite having one of the best natural beauties, India attracts less than 2% of global tourists; and, this only points to the potential that we can achieve.

Shri Sambit Patra, Chairman, India Tourism Development Corporation



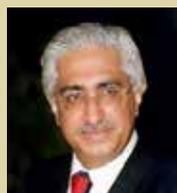
I firmly believe that as far as tourism is concerned it's more about targeting the mental space. The first mantra is to appeal to the mental space with the right advertisement about our Incredible India. Pointing out the vast and diverse culture of the nation, he mentioned that in India 'Kankar Kankar mein hai Shankar' and we need to strive to highlight it for the prospective tourists. Under the able leadership of Prime Minister Sh Narendra Modi, India is striving to make new advances in the tourism sector with the Ramayan circuit, Buddisht Circuit, Himalaya Circuit, etc under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme.

Sh Arvind Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism



The tourism sector was badly hit in the last two years because of COVID19. For the first time after a gap of two years, we have gathered physically here to discuss the revival of tourism sector; and, this in itself is a symbol of change in the tourism sector. The G-20 presidency offers a unique opportunity for India to boost its tourism sector and the revival of tourism sector will generate employment opportunities in India.

Sh Nakul Anand, Chairman, FAITH



We meet together under a common cause which has provided livelihood to many. India, despite being the fifth largest economy in the world, accounts for a miniscule of world's tourism share. COVID19 remained the worst crisis in tourism sector. This year brought a new ray of hope. The year ahead will also see the rise of travel in India as the nation emerges from the pandemic shock. We need to blend and promote the current tourism with our ancient culture. The tourism industry is now answering the demands of the times and we are moving to a tourism sector that focuses on experiential values.

Trade Event



the country. A number of 76 projects have been sanctioned under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme in 30 States and UTs for building tourist infrastructure across various themes. The PRASHAD Scheme aim to strengthen the tourist facilities around spiritual locations, under which 39 projects have been sanctioned in 24 States. The infrastructure development at these tourists, pilgrimage and heritage destinations / cities focuses on cleanliness, security, universal accessibility, service delivery, skill development and livelihood of local communities. The Ministry has recently launched the Swadesh Darshan Scheme 2.0 with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible destinations following

a tourist & destination centric approach. It is a development of the previous Schemes and would and the objective is to evolve as a holistic mission to develop sustainable and responsible tourist destinations covering tourism and allied infrastructure, tourism services, human capital development, destination management and promotion backed by policy and institutional reforms.

The National Conference also aims to build a common vision for tourism and it's growth as we move towards India @ 2047. The upcoming 25 years being the Amrit Kaal, the aim of the Conference is to begin a common conversation between the State

and Central Governments for setting the vision for tourism in India in the year 2047.

The second day of the National Conference of State Tourism Ministers at Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh started with felicitation of dignitaries from various States of India by Shri Jai Ram Thakur, Chief Minister, Himachal Pradesh and Union Minister of Tourism, Culture and DoNER Sh. G. Kishan Reddy. Tourism Ministers of 12 States including Madhya Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Goa, Haryana, Mizoram, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh were present.





A Heritage Hotel by Prime

300 years of Old Elegant Fortified Palace Hotel

Luxury Heritage Hotel

It revives the gracious lifestyle of princes of Rajasthan
and the heritage of India.



Destination Wedding



Leisure Stay



Film-Shoot



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Rethinking Tourism: The Adventures Overland Way

Celebrating World Tourism Day and the 2022 theme of 'Rethinking Tourism,' Adventures Overland – India's first and biggest Road Trip Company has reaffirmed its support for 'Responsible Travel.'

Adventures Overland's initiative is geared toward not only offsetting the carbon footprint of its trips but also empowering all eco-travelers in supporting the idea of conscious travel for the direct benefit of wildlife, natural habitat, and local communities through a Carbon Emissions Calculator.

In line with the 'Responsible Travel' philosophy, Adventures Overland's flagship trip – Road to London, currently undertaking its fourth trip, is also offsetting its Carbon Footprint. The trip is one of the world's most sought-after cross-border road trips. It is currently taking avid road trippers on a 15000 km cross-border journey from Iran to London via Turkey, Eastern Europe, Baltics, and Scandinavia, including Nord Kapp, the northernmost tip of Norway and mainland Europe. The convoy comprises 10 cars and 25 travel enthusiasts making this epic journey via 20 countries. The tour started on the eve of Indian Independence Day and will culminate in London on October 7, 2022.

Commenting on the occasion, Tushar Agarwal, Co-Founder, Adventures Overland said, "We resonate with the theme of 'Rethinking Tourism' not only at

the responsible travel philosophy level but also in terms of how we imagine our trips. As our world becomes smaller and resources become rarer, it is prudent to take corrective action. Being a travel company, our tourism brand has far more purpose than simply going to a destination. We are excited to play a significant role in reducing the carbon footprint of all travelers with our initiative and pledge to offset all the CO2 emissions of the crew cars on the trips. We will also encourage our clients to offset their emissions. At Adventures Overland, we are also exploring options of organising tours with Electric Vehicles (EVs) in Norway and are hopeful that these tours will become a regular feature with us. We wish all passionate travelers a Happy World Tourism Day and look forward to having them join us in some of our forthcoming trips."

Any traveler can use the 'CO2 Emission Calculator' feature available on the Responsible Travel section of the 'Adventures Overland website and reach the CO2 emissions figures of their trip based on parameters such as the type of vehicle, distance, and the fuel used by the car.

Once calculated, the calculator shares information

on the number of trees that must be planted to offset the trip's emissions. The traveler gets an option to directly make payment to Adventures Overland's NGO partner to get the trees planted.

Green Himalayas, a joint venture and a shared passion between two NGOs - Go Green Go Organic (Go Green) and Goldenmile Learning is a key contributor in planting trees to the destinations of the tours. Over the years, Go Green has planted close to 1 million trees across Ladakh. An example project directly impacted by Adventures' carbon offset initiative is The Phobrang Project: 'A Billion Trees across the Himalayas.'

Adventures Overland has been aligned with the 'Rethinking Tourism' philosophy with the kind of eclectic tours that it organizes, such as the ongoing Road to London. In the last decade, senior citizens, solo female travelers, couples, families with children, and differently-abled individuals, have all joined Adventures Overland or engaged its help in undertaking self-drive expeditions around the world. Cross-border trips are one of the unique product categories offered by Adventures Overland. In 2023 the company plans to run a Bus to London from Delhi.





Southern Travels expands its wings to enrich travelling experience of Eastern India

One of the front runners in promoting the Indian travel and tourism sector, Southern Travels has diversified its presence with the launch of its new branch in West Bengal's capital, Kolkata

The Southern Travels expanded its wings to the eastern part of the country and started operation in the area during one of the most celebrated occasions for the Bengalis – the auspicious Durga Puja. The launch was announced during an event organized at Everest house, Ground floor, 46C, Jawaharlal Nehru Road (Chowringhee Road), Kolkata during Durga Puja on 26 September 2022, in the presence of Joint Managing Director of the Southern Travels A V Praveen Kumar.

“Bengalis are one of the largest travelling communities. Southern Travels is setting up its new branch in Kolkata to give wide and rich options for the Bengali community to travel not just within the country but also across the globe. Our new branch is one of the building blocks in our endeavour to have a pan-India presence,” said A V Praveen Kumar, Joint Managing Director, Southern Travels.

Southern Travels has launched its new and updated travel destination brochures during the event in Kolkata. The company is poised to embark on overseas destinations with ambitious plans and viable strategies to exhibit India's global vision – from South India to South East Asia by 2024 and gradually into other continents. Southern Travels also introduced a new set of product lines eyeing international destinations.

“People from the eastern region of the country are very much keen to travel around the globe and people will be willing to travel on the auspicious occasion of Durga Puja. We are optimistic that these will also attract other travellers from the region including the North Eastern zone,” added A V Praveen Kumar.

Recently, Southern Travels celebrated its journey

of 5 decades. The Golden Jubilee celebrations and inauguration of a new brand logo was graced by the presence of Tourism Minister G Kishan Reddy on 14 September 2022 at The Lalit, New Delhi. On the occasion, Southern Travels announced that it is the first travel and tourism company to have been awarded 18 rooms and 36 dormitory beds facility at the Kashi Vishwanath temple premises.

Established in 1970, Southern Travels has been offering travellers a gamut of options – individual holidays, fixed departures, incentive holidays, special interest tours, visas and hotel bookings across the globe. The company is now heading for an expansion spree. By March 2023, it will register its presence also as a service provider with Travel Brand Stores in over 50 cities in India.



October 2022



Visit Abu Dhabi Roadshow Events in India

The Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi (DCT Abu Dhabi) recently concluded its Visit Abu Dhabi Roadshow in India, alongside 28 stakeholders from the UAE capital that included key airlines, cruises, hotels, attractions and DMCs.

More than 800 travel trade delegates attended the roadshow across six events in New Delhi, Mumbai and Bangalore to learn about the unique and diverse experiences Abu Dhabi offers Indian travellers, whilst at the same time paving the way for long-term partnerships in the sector.

The successful events showcased the emirate as a leading tourism destination for leisure, business and incentive travel via a programme of briefings, presentations and a demonstration of the cultural experience of perfume making. This was followed by exclusive networking dinners attended by key industry professionals and buyers, held at The Oberoi (New Delhi), ITC Gardenia, a Luxury Collection Hotel (Bangalore) and Four Seasons (Mumbai).

Over the week-long schedule of events, DCT Abu Dhabi showcased key destination highlights to help familiarise industry professionals with the many exciting experiences on offer at the destination including Abu Dhabi's leading leisure and entertainment destination, Yas Island, which is home to award-winning theme parks such as Ferrari World Abu Dhabi. DCT Abu Dhabi stakeholders also spoke to key partners about the timeline for new developments, and the exhilarating events set to take place across the UAE capital, which include the debut of Broadway musical The Lion King, the UAE's first-ever NBA games, UFC 281, and a performance by Academy Award-winning composer AR Rahman, as part of Diwali celebrations.

The event, which was hosted by DCT Abu Dhabi and the Abu Dhabi Convention & Exhibition Bureau (ADCEB) in partnership with the Experience Hub, will now be held annually, reflecting the importance

Mubarak Al Shamisi, Director of ADCEB, said: "It was an honour to meet our valued travel trade partners in India and share everything that Abu Dhabi has to offer. India is consistently one of the top overseas markets for the emirate and is one of the largest source markets for MICE travel in Abu Dhabi. Our visit this month aimed to support our valued stakeholders, increasing awareness of the destination, meet our targeted corporates and leading MICE agencies, and introduce our enhanced Advantage Abu Dhabi Meetings & Incentives programme and our new MICE Agency Reward scheme, which is aimed at enabling us to continue to stand out in the region.

In Abu Dhabi there is something for everyone to enjoy, at their own pace, whether it's the tranquillity of Al Ain or the thrills of Yas Island. We look forward to welcoming more Indian travellers this year, particularly with the exciting calendar of events we have in 2022 and beyond."

Liam Findlay, CEO of Experience Hub, the trade and promotional arm of Yas Island and a subsidiary of Miral, said: "We are always delighted to meet our valued network of travel trade and MICE partners and share the latest updates about Yas Island and our portfolio of offerings, events and experiences curated specially for the Indian market. At Experience Hub we are committed to equipping trade partners with knowledge and insight about all that the destination has to offer and we look forward to building upon our strong relationships as we gear up for an exciting season of spectacular entertainment, musical performances, sporting fixtures and exhilarating events."

More than 7,000 individual meetings were conducted at the Visit Abu Dhabi Roadshow across the three cities. All attendees were also offered the



Explore and be amazed by the Heritage and Culture of Bahrain

Bahrain is immersed in history offering a wealth of heritage sites just waiting to be discovered. Despite modernization and cosmopolitanism, Arabic culture is still deeply rooted in the roots of this destination. It is one of the friendliest countries in the world, with a level of hospitality second to none.

You can spend your days in Bahrain exploring the rich offerings of this destination. You should start your explorations with the UNESCO world heritage sites of Bahrain. One is Dilmun burial mounds which dominate the landscape north of the island. Another one is Qal'at al-Bahrain (known as Bahrain Fort) is a sandy yellow fortress and by far the oldest intact building on the island. It is a small slice of mediaeval history in an ever-evolving nation. This heritage site comprises of four elements – the tell, an ancient sea tower, a sea channel and palm groves. Third we have the Muharraq pearling path, which is a testimony of the millennia-old pearl collecting tradition. This path encompasses 330,000 square meters, including oyster beds and buildings related to the 19th century pearl industry. The houses along the trail are those of wealthy merchants during that era. Many of which have now been restored and converted into museums, libraries, auditoriums etc. to showcase the pearling story to tourists.

After you have visited the pearling path, you can head on over to the Bahrain National Museum, which is a short distance away. It is the keeper of Bahrain's 5,000 years of history and is an absolute must for anyone interested in the archipelago's past.

There are numerous magnificent forts in Bahrain, but aside from the Bahrain fort, the Arad Fort, which was constructed in the 15th century and is in the traditional

Arabic style, is one you shouldn't miss touring. It is one of the most significant fortified castles in the Middle East. With its sand-colored walls and tall turrets, the stronghold is impressive during the day, but at night, when spot lights are used to illuminate the walls, it truly comes to life. Riffa Fort, has distinctive architecture and finely carved details that are exclusive to Bahrain.

Al Fateh Grand Mosque is another magnificent attraction that you should add to your itinerary. It is the most famous mosque in the Kingdom, and one of the world's largest. It cannot be missed when you are in Juffair. The enormous dome atop the main prayer structure is the biggest dome in the world and is built completely of fiberglass. The building can comfortably hold 7,000 worshippers at any time and is also the site of Bahrain's National Library. The library houses over 50,000 volumes of books in English and Arabic.

Bab Al Bahrain is Bahrain's most famous attraction and its translation means "Gateway to Bahrain". Stepping through the archway is like walking back in time. Narrow alleyways full of shops selling colorful spices, gold jewellery, scarves, carpets etc. It originally housed government offices, though today it is better known as the gateway to Manama Souq.

This beautiful destination is a melting pot of cultures. Here you will find the first in the region, nineteen churches, and three Hindu temples, including the 200-year old Shri Krishna Hindu Temple.



PCEB announces the latest Business Events & Tourism developments in India!

The Penang Convention & Exhibition Bureau (PCEB) has embarked on a preliminary promotional trip to India with the aim to reconnect and revive the tourism and business events industry in Penang and India through press conferences and networking night.

The Preliminary Promotional Trip to India is essential for demonstrating the market readiness in India. Some of the Indian local airlines, have expressed interest in expanding into Penang after attending PCEB's annual roadshow last year. Following the interest, the PCEB team together with YB Yeoh Soon Hin, the State Executive Councillor for Tourism & Creative Economy had a meeting with a few airlines to discuss direct flights opportunities to Penang

from key cities in India. It is essential to maintain marketing momentum in order to keep airlines enthusiastic about the Penang-India link.

India, the largest country in South Asia has been one of the top 5 visitors to Malaysia for a decade and shows no sign of hitting the brakes. India's outbound tourism market is only second to China's. With the Indian market being a key focus area for PCEB, the bureau is gearing up for its annual roadshow to the country in the early months of 2023.

Yeoh Soon Hin, the State Executive Councillor for Tourism & Creative Economy



The efforts to ensure tourism is sustainable was taken well into consideration by incorporating the idea of Responsible Tourism into the travel and tourism sector post pandemic. Penang is the first state in Malaysia to launch a well-designed SOS safety APP, making Penang

once again the trendsetter in Malaysia's tourism environment. With your support, we can restore travellers' confidence to visit Penang and ensure that it remains a top destination for people from all over the world.

Amit Mehta Country Manager- South Asia, Malaysia Airlines



Penang has historically seen a healthy inflow of travelers from India: for leisure and business travellers as well as corporate events. As Malaysia's national airline, we are constantly working towards making Malaysia a preferred destination and are committed to

help enhance Malaysia's market share for the MICE industry. With the collective goal to strengthen connections and reinvigorate the Penang economy, Malaysia Aviation Group (MAG) recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Penang Convention & Exhibition Bureau (PCEB). We are confident that this alliance will prove to be positive for both PCEB and MAG in many ways. We look forward to a long and mutually beneficial business relationship with PCEB.

Tourism New Zealand: New Global Campaign

With New Zealand borders reopened since August, Tourism New Zealand extends an invitation to curious travellers to visit and quench their curious minds.

The new campaign titled "If You Seek" is a call to all visitors who wish to seek more through extraordinary travel experiences. The campaign captivates viewers via alluring perspectives of the destination's people and places. The campaign is set to launch in India through key trade partners like Thomas Cook, MakeMyTrip & Kulin Kumar Holidays. The campaign objective is to convert pent-up demand for New Zealand through these partnerships to boost recovery.

New Zealand rewards those curious enough to look a little deeper and go a little further to discover more authentic, meaningful connections while travelling. The true magic of Aotearoa (New Zealand) is reserved for the manuhiri [visitors] who immerse, embrace, and respect its unique culture, people and natural environment. Building on the country's

rich Māori values of manaakitanga (a deep expression of hospitality and reciprocal understanding/connection) and kaitiakitanga (guardianship and care for the environment). 'If You Seek' is an amalgamation of sensory and spiritual senses that showcases New Zealand's unique people and places.

As part of the IF YOU SEEK campaign, Tourism New Zealand has curated special itineraries for travellers who seek a connection with nature, who yearn for peace and relaxation or even personal growth through challenging and soul-searching adventures. From bungy jumping in Queenstown to relaxing in the hot pools of He Puna Taimoana, from entering the grandiose Hobbiton to encountering dolphins at Kaikoura Dolphins, go on a blissful and eye-opening virtual treat through the short snippets.

Gregg Wafelbakker, General Manager, Asia, Tourism New Zealand



With IF YOU SEEK we want to tap into the curiosity of manuhiri [visitors] who love adventure, nature, and true connections with people. Through this campaign, Aotearoa New Zealand welcomes Indian manuhiri [visitors] with open arms and urges to seek the unseen, explore the unexplored and re-imagine travel experience.

Vipul Prakash, COO – MakeMyTrip



We are pleased to collaborate with Tourism New Zealand to help recreate the diverse and immersive experiences that the country offers. Indian leisure travellers have been longing to tick-off their dream international destinations, and many are gearing up to make it happen in the coming months. As the spring season settles in, we are hoping that bookings will be picking up traction to New Zealand for its many adventures, natural reserves, idyllic beaches and more.

Rajeev Kale, President & Country Head, Holidays, MICE, Visa - Thomas Cook (India) Limited



The pandemic has resulted in strong pent-up demand and a newfound appreciation for the outdoors and nature. We are hence delighted to partner with Tourism New Zealand to showcase the wealth of exciting locales and unique experiences that the destination offers. Through the campaign, our intent is to create magical allure, enticing our range of Indian consumer segments (across families, millennials/young professionals and couples/honeymooners) to explore the amazing diversity and extraordinary travel experiences across both North and South Island.

Chennai projected to be the highest Indian growth market for South African Tourism by 2025

Deepening engagement with key stakeholders in Chennai, South African Tourism – backed by a high-profile diplomatic delegation – visited the city from 21st to 23rd September 2022.

The tourism board was accompanied by the High Commissioner of South Africa to India H.E. Joel Sibusiso Ndebele, Consul-General Andrea Kühn and the Consul-General of South Africa in India, Dean Hoff.

In 2021, Chennai was the third largest Indian feeder market to South Africa with 7.5% Indian arrivals from the city. The city is also projected to be South African Tourism's highest growth market by 2025, with 30% CAGR. Given the strategic importance of this market, the tourism board engaged with the Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation to discuss skill development and other potential collaborations, while also connecting with other key travel players and corporates. During their visit, the delegation also hosted an event for the travel trade in Chennai to promote South Africa as a tourist destination of choice.

The tourism board cited that efforts were ongoing to create greater value for money and adventure-filled itineraries for Chennaites, who are

particularly keen on solo travel to the Rainbow Nation. It is interesting to note that in 2021, 58.2% travellers from Chennai travelled to South Africa alone, while 34.7% travelled with colleagues and associates.

Earlier this year, the tourism board outlined a strategic roadmap to garner a 64% YoY increase in Indian visitors in 2022. With over 17,627 Indian visitors travelling to South Africa between January to May 2022 itself, the tourism board is well on track to achieve or even surpass their yearly targets of 28,890 for this year.

At present, the destination enjoys great connectivity with extremely short layovers across most major international airlines. Travellers from India to South Africa are not required to produce either a vaccination certificate or a negative PCR (polymerase chain reaction) test. While the e-visa link is temporarily closed, travellers can apply via VFS, where the visa processing time is extremely short, with visas available within 5-7 working days from the date of application.

Ms. Neliswa Nkani, Hub Head – Middle East, India and South East Asia, South African Tourism



We are delighted and humbled at the response that destination South Africa has been receiving from the travel fraternity in Chennai. Being one of our top 3 source markets from India and the highest projected growth market, we see immense potential in the city and have been exploring collaboration opportunities to further our footprint here. We are deeply invested in making the destination more accessible to Chennaites, and with support from the High Commissioner and Consul-General, will continue to push for a direct flight from India.

With the Indian outbound travel economy projected to surpass USD 42 billion by 2024, we believe that the time is right to invest in this crucial market. Basis our conversations over the last few days, we expect to see an increase in MICE groups travelling to South Africa in the next 6 months. We anticipate bookings from financial, information technology, beauty, insurance, coal and mining, pharmaceutical, entertainment and sporting companies based in Chennai.



The Way of Saint James: An Eco-Friendly Tour of Spain

Declared a World Heritage Site and a European Cultural Route by the European Council, the Way of Saint James attracts hikers from all over the world. It's a breath-taking route that will give you an opportunity to reflect. You will walk on the responsible side of life. And you will savour each moment like never before.

They say that there are as many routes as there are pilgrims: from the classic French Way, the green Northern Way, the magical Silver Way and the never-ending English Way, to the oldest of all, the awe-inspiring Primitive Way. And all of the 50 different routes interweave to arrive at the same destination: the majestic Santiago de Compostela Cathedral, a stunning example of Romanesque art.

During this month from 4th to 11th September 2022, The Tourism Office of the Embassy of Spain in India (TURESPAÑA) in collaboration with Axencia Turismo de Galicia (Official Tourist Agency of Galicia – Camino de Santiago) successfully organized and executed an Agents FAM trip by hosting 6 Travel Trade Agents to explore the niche tourist segment of the Way of Saint James (Camino de Santiago). This group also included one guide who accompanied the group all the time.

The group of agents were selected based on their merits and the participation varied from across PAN-Indian cities. This 7 nights 8 days extensive niche trip covered the Maritime route of the Apostle, Portuguese way of the Coast and Fisterra-Muxía, French Way, English Way and the final culmination point of the Santiago.

The starting and end point of the trip was Santiago and the work itinerary covered all important aspects and nuances of the various routes of Santiago listed above. The group of agents had an enthralling experience and were able to gather many touristic offerings on their routes which they have committed to offer to their frequent customer travellers for their next trip to Spain.

The experiences of the agents on this Agents FAM can be substantiated by their feedback quotes which can be found attached to this press release for your kind perusal.



Sri Lanka Tourism Embarks on a Series of Road Shows in India

Sri Lanka Tourism will continue to expand its Bilateral and Cultural ties with its Indian counterparts by venturing into a series of Road Shows in key Indian cities.

The first road show will be held at the Taj Palace Hotel in New Delhi on 26th September followed by heading to the St. Regis Hotel in Mumbai on 28th September and closing with the Hyderabad Roadshow at Taj Krishna Hotel on 30th September 2022.

The main purpose of hosting these roadshows is to promote Sri Lanka as an attractive tourism destination across India, as it is one of Sri Lanka's key source markets and has been extremely supportive in Sri Lanka regaining lost momentum both post pandemic and the recent economic downturn.

Sri Lanka is witnessing a considerable increase in tourist arrivals with India leading the way and securing the number one position.

The event also focuses on promoting a myriad of tourism experiences while focusing on converting potential travellers to make booking and highlight the positive message that Sri Lanka is open for Leisure, Business and MICE tourism. The target audience at these roadshows will be Tour Operators, Media, Key Influencers, Corporates and Trade Associations and key Tourism Industry stakeholders in India, who have the ability to take the message that Sri Lanka is not only one of the most beautiful countries but is also safe and secure; adhering to all the necessary health and safety guidelines.

A delegation of over 50 local Travel Agencies and hotels will be participating at this event, with the delegation being led by the

Hon. Harin Fernando, Minister of Tourism accompanied by Mr. Chalaka Gajabahu, Chairman Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau and Mr. Thisum Jayasuriya, Chairman Sri Lanka Conventions Bureau. Many industry stakeholders have supported this endeavour including Sri Lankan Airlines and Mastercard.

Each roadshow will include B2B Sessions facilitating numerous discussions followed by an Evening Networking event which will also help to improve business partnerships.

A touch of glamour will be added to these events with the participation of celebrities such as Sanath Jayasuriya and Yohani De Silva, where dance & entertainment will be included at each event, to give the audience an amazing experience and also a glimpse of the Sri Lankan culture. The dancing troupe will showcase their talent along with Yohani's musical performances.

During the Roadshows, Hon. Minister of Tourism is expected to meet several high-profile Business Leaders, Tourism Stake Holders and Corporates while engaging in several media interviews with leading Indian media houses.

India has generated over 80,000 tourist arrivals to the country so far and it is expected to double these numbers by 2023. Thus, these roadshows will add more value to create a positive mindset regarding Sri Lanka and its diversity of attractions, cultural value and travel opportunities, enabling Indian tourist arrivals to the destination.



Yas Island Celebrates a Successful Summer Season

Yas Island, Abu Dhabi's premier leisure and entertainment hub, has welcomed an increased number of visitors during the summer period of 2022.

Visitors to the island flocked to enjoy the destination's diverse mix of award-winning theme parks and attractions and vast portfolio of lifestyle, dining, and shopping experiences, with core inbound markets driven by the GCC, India and the United Kingdom.

Yas Island's world-class indoor and outdoor leisure and entertainment attractions, alongside an extensive calendar of musical, sporting and family events continued to drive the destination's value proposition as an ideal vacation hub.

As part of its summer offering, Yas Island announced its 'Kids Go Free' packages for children to stay, play, dine and even kart for free for every paying adult which drove great visitation numbers. Hotels across the destination, including Yas Plaza Hotels, W Abu Dhabi, Hilton Abu Dhabi Yas Island, The WB™ Abu Dhabi, Curio Collection by Hilton™, the World's first Warner Bros. themed hotel and DoubleTree by Hilton Abu Dhabi Yas Island Residences, achieved a record-breaking hotel occupancy of around 90% during Eid Al Adha.

Yas Theme parks also had a successful summer season, with a collective 90% recovery in international visitation to the award-winning attractions; Ferrari World Abu Dhabi, Yas Waterworld, and Warner Bros. World™ Abu Dhabi.

Commenting on the successful summer season, Taghrid Alsaeed, Executive Director of Group Communications and Destination Marketing at Miral, said, "We are extremely proud of these results,

and this is a testament to achieving our vision of positioning Yas Island as a top global destination for entertainment and leisure. It is great to see visitors return to Yas Island as the travel industry continues to recover. We are committed to playing a key role in supporting Abu Dhabi's vision of bolstering its tourism offerings regionally and internationally by providing travellers with a wide range of unique offerings, immersive experiences and international events to enjoy throughout the year."

In addition, Yas Mall opened 60 new stores since the beginning of the year including 20 during summer, with Eid Al Adha witnessing great success. Over an 11-day period, Yas Mall saw over 82,000 gamers, cosplayers and families alike visit the Yas Gaming Festival which took place at the newly renovated Sports Boulevard. The mall also hosted an indoor run in August to endorse fitness and healthy living, which saw over 600 runners competing on the day.

Saoud Khoory, Chief Retail Officer of Aldar Investment, added: "Yas Mall has experienced another great year, reaching a milestone of 97% occupancy and introducing a host of new stores and unique concepts in the first six months of the year. As Yas Island's popularity grows and we near the completion of our AED 500 million redevelopment of the mall, we will continue catering to the evolving expectations of our customers, providing them with exciting and personalised shopping, dining and entertainment experience under one roof."

Dubai Unveils Its Latest Winter Campaign with Kommune India

Dubai has historically been a destination of choice for family travel. With the latest campaign 'Are you Ready', Dubai positions itself as a young and vibrant destination that is ideal for other popular segments, friends, solo travellers and couples.



The short ad film captures inspiring experiences for the young and restless that celebrate friendships and encourage travellers to create memories and bonds.

Through this campaign Dubai encourages travellers to plan their perfect winter vacation and discover new experiences. From trying out group activities like Top Golf, Edge Walk, Ski Dubai to experiencing high-octane adrenaline activities such as Sky Diving, Dune Bashing and more, Dubai has a wide motley of experiences to offer the new generation of travellers.

The film featuring notable digital influencers Prajakta Kohli (@MostlySane) Rytasha Rathore, Rajiv Singh, Arjun Kanungo (@Arjun Kanungo), Ayesha Adlakha and Shreya Dhanwanthary sees the group experience moments like never before as they discover themselves and share the love in a city that tells a story.

The campaign is set to run through October 2022 to January 2023.

German National Tourist Office organises India Week 2022

Accelerating its recovery efforts in India, German National Tourist Office concluded their 2 city Networking Dinner and Sales blitz in Mumbai and Delhi. This in-person was the first mega-sales mission and event post-pandemic in 2 Indian cities. The India Week was scheduled during September 19-23, 2022.

The India Week showcased a multitude of German tourism products. Owing to the growing interest from Indian operators, the event saw participation of 6 new German Partners this year Baden-Baden, Frankfurt Tourism, Melia Hotels, Outlets Metzingen, Rail Europe and Visit Berlin. The partners were ecstatic to see the enthusiastic response from the travel fraternity in the Indian cities.

Romit Theophilus, Director, German National Tourist Office in India



We were delighted to host a set of events for the Indian Travel Trade after a gap of three years and witness the evolution in the already burgeoning outbound market over this period of time. India has been identified as a key growth area and the market trends seem to confirm the same. Apart from the consistent year on year growth in the influx of Indian tourists in

Germany, there is also a clear progression in the profile of the Indian traveller. The average spends, number of nights, regions visited have all developed very favourably for Germany.

GNTO aimed at highlighting various unexplored regions as options for Indian travellers to Germany. While bolstering its ties with key tourism partners and business associates across India, the India Week aimed to strengthen Germany's position as a leading lifestyle and Sustainable destination for the affluent traveller.

Germany is witnessing a considerable increase in tourist arrivals with India leading the way. The recently concluded India Week focused on promoting a myriad of tourism experiences while focusing on converting potential travellers to make booking and highlight the positive message that Germany is open for Leisure, Business and MICE tourism.

During the Mumbai Networking event, Mr. Stephan Kowitz, Head of the Consular and Visa section and Ms. Anotonia Korn Visa Officer at the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany met several Tourism Stake Holders while engaging in one-on-one interaction with the leading Indian Travel Trade and our German suppliers.

India has generated over 2,90,000 tourist arrivals to the country so far from January-July 2022 with an increase of 300 percent and it is expected to double these numbers by 2023. Thus, these events will add more value to create a positive mindset regarding Germany and its diversity of attractions, cultural value and travel opportunities, enabling Indian tourist arrivals to the destination.



Aviation

Air India: A Redefined Gourmet Experience

Air India, India's leading airline and a Star Alliance member, has unveiled a specially curated menu for its domestic passengers with effect from October 1 to coincide with the onset of the festive season.



The new Air India in-flight menu, featuring an assortment of gourmet meals, trendy appetizers and decadent desserts, showcases India's locally sourced culinary influence. The menu also incorporates exquisite renditions of regional specialties from the kitchens and streets all around the world to satiate the global palate. At the same time, utmost attention is paid to ensure that the array of delicacies are healthy and stay hygienic, right from the kitchen to the tray-table. Customers of Air India can select their preferred meal choice at the time of booking on www.airindia.in.

The new menu includes an extensive selection of scrumptious hot meals, irresistible desserts, and refreshing beverages including fresh juices and smoothies. Every meal is prepared as per the utmost standards of sanitation and quality. On board, passengers from business class can look forward to buttery and flaky croissant, sugar-free dark chocolate oatmeal muffin, cheese and truffle oil scrambled egg with chives, mustard cream coated chicken sausage etc. along with Indian dishes such as aloo parantha, meduvada and podiidly for breakfast, followed by fish curry, chicken chettinad, potato

podimas etc. for lunch. The airline will be serving chicken 65, grilled sliced pesto chicken sandwich, and Mumbai batatawada for high-tea.

Economy class customers will be delighted by a selection of cheese mushroom omelette, dry jeera aloo wedges, garlic tossed spinach and corn for breakfast, followed by palatable vegetable biryani, malabarchicken curry, and mixed vegetable poriyal for lunch. The passengers will enjoy vegetable fried noodles, chillicken, and blueberry vanilla pastry, coffee truffle slice for high-tea.

Commenting on the new menu, Mr. Sandeep Verma, Head of Inflight Services, Air India said, "The new domestic in-flight menu has been carefully selected by top chefs to blend rich and flavourful Indian cuisine with contemporary International meal options. The new menu choices have been curated to ensure that the flyers enjoy a gourmet meal with emphasis on health and well-being. With several festivals approaching, the new menu offers choices that bring together culinary excellence from different parts of the world. We are excited to roll out this new menu on domestic routes, and are hard at work preparing a revamp of the international menu as well."



Ethiopian Airlines: Multiple Awards at SKYTRAX 2022

Ethiopian Airlines, the largest Aviation Group in Africa, won four awards at the SKYTRAX 2022 World Airline Awards, at a ceremony held in London on 23 September 2022.

Ethiopian has taken the crown for: Best Airline in Africa 2022 for 5th consecutive years, Best Business Class Airline in Africa 2022 for 4th consecutive years, Best Economy Class Airline in Africa 2022 for 4th consecutive years and Best Business Class Onboard Catering in Africa.

Moving an incredible 11 ranks up, Ethiopian has also been placed 26th in the World's Top 100 Airlines for 2022 as voted by airline

customers around the world.

The World Airline Awards are independent and impartial. The Awards were introduced in 1999 to provide a customer satisfaction study that was truly global. Travelers across the world vote in the largest airline passenger satisfaction survey to decide the award winners. The awards are referred to by media around the world as "the Oscars of the aviation industry".

Mesfin Tasew, CEO, Ethiopian group



We are truly honored by the multiple prestigious awards that Ethiopian won today. It gives me great pleasure to witness such a rewarding event to the hard work Ethiopian Airlines employees and management team put in order to provide our valued passengers the best quality service. I would like to assure our customers and everyone who casted their votes in favor of Ethiopian that we will continue to provide a world class

service tailored with African flavored Ethiopian hospitality. We managed to provide our service, unbeaten by the Covid19 pandemic, the greatest challenge for the aviation industry and we will keep pace, enhancing our level of service to an even better level along the way.



Free tickets to the Museum of the Future

Emirates, the world's largest international airline, launched an exciting new offer for holidaymakers planning a trip to Dubai between 22 September and 8 December 2022.

All Emirates customers can now enjoy a complimentary ticket to the Museum of the Future – one of the city's most famous landmarks.

This special offer was valid for all tickets to Dubai purchased using code MFUTURE until 2 October 2022. The offer was available on bookings made on emirates.com, Emirates Call centre or via participating travel agents, for travel from 22 September 2022 until 8 December 2022 in any cabin class.

The complimentary ticket to The Museum of the Future entitles travellers to one admission during the working hours of the museum and must be booked on museumofthefuture.ae against a redemption code sent by Emirates prior to the planned visit and used latest by 15 December 2022.

The Museum of the Future is the star attraction everyone's talking about in Dubai, and are welcoming all ages to see, touch and shape our shared future.

Inside an incredible building that's been dubbed one of the most beautiful in the world, one can explore the future 50 years from now in an incredibly immersive and sensory experience.

Fly into space, explore the wonders of nature, and get closer to the technology that will change the way we live. Kids will love being Future Heroes and taking on challenge missions to create a brighter tomorrow.

Explore more of Dubai with Emirates

Emirates has safely restarted operations to more than 130 destinations, across six continents and currently operates 170 flights per week from India to Dubai.

Whether seeking a city break, a beach getaway, a relaxing retreat, a unique desert experience, or a stopover, there is something for every traveller when visiting Dubai. From sun-soaked beaches and heritage activities to world class hospitality and leisure facilities, Dubai offers a variety of world-class experiences.

MoU between ISA and ICAO

In a ceremony held on the sidelines of the 42nd Session of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Assembly in Montreal on 26 September 2022, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between International Solar Alliance (ISA) and ICAO in the presence of Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Minister of Civil Aviation of India, H.E. Monsieur Clement Beaune, Minister of Transport of France and Mr. Salvatore Sciacchitano, President of the ICAO Council.



The MoU was signed by Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar, Secretary-General, ICAO and Mr. Joshua Wycliffe, Chief of Operations, ISA.

During the visit of Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia to Montreal in May 2022, the idea of ICAO becoming a partner organisation of ISA was mooted by the Minister in his meeting with the President of ICAO. In a period of four months, the MoU was agreed and concluded. The conclusion of the MoU between ISA and ICAO in the presence of Ministers from India and France carries forward the legacy of the bold initiative laid down by Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India and H.E. Francois Hollande, former President of France in 2015 at COP 21 in Paris.

ISA is an alliance of 121 signatory countries and 32 partner organizations including many UN organizations. It works for efficient consumption of solar energy to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. ISA strives to devise cost effective and transformational solutions for using renewable energy to member countries with a particular focus on LDCs and SIDCs.

India had pledged for Net Zero Carbon goal in 2070 in COP 26. Its approach continues to be human-centric, based

on respect and national ownership principles, with a commitment to one and all. India has pledged a target of installing 175 GW of renewable energy of which 100 GW will be solar energy by 2022 and reduction in emission intensity by 33-35% by 2030. Cochin International Airport in India became the world's first fully Solar powered airport in the world in 2015.

India, with the support of France, has invited nations to facilitate infrastructure for implementation of solar projects. The alliance has committed one trillion dollars as an investment, and it is committed to making the costs of solar power more affordable for remote and inaccessible communities.

ICAO is committed towards reducing carbon emissions in aviation sector through its numerous initiatives and goals. In this noble initiative, the Partnership between ISA and ICAO through this MoU could not have come at a better time, as it will trigger a range of interventions towards developing capacity of States to use solar energy. It will work towards providing information, providing advocacy, capacity building and demonstration projects. It will enable the solarization of aviation sector across all Member States.

Ethiopian Airlines and Geven-SkyTecno Tie Up

Ethiopian Airlines and Geven-SkyTecno have inaugurated a state-of-the-art facility for the manufacturing of Insulation Blankets for Boeing 737 MAX airplanes as part of a Boeing agreement (BSCA) between The Boeing Company, Geven-Skytecno and Ethiopian Airlines.

The new joint venture company of Ethiopian Airlines and Geven-SkyTecno, named “Ethiopian Sky Technologies”, is based in Addis Ababa with primary manufacturing facility at Bole Airport.

Ethiopian Airlines holds 51% and SkyTecno 49% of the stake of the newly established company. The parties as per their commitment are jointly manufacturing the products in Italy and Ethiopia as a supplier to The Boeing Company.

Geven-SkyTecno has been contributing its process technology proficiency, manufacturing know-how as well as being responsible for speeding up the industrialization, qualification processes and training skills to the Joint Venture.

Ethiopian Airlines and SkyTecno invested in the state-of-the-art blankets manufacturing equipment to provide unrivalled customer service and product access. The Joint Venture focuses on delivering tailor-made solutions for Boeing 737 MAX airplanes. Products are manufactured in a multicultural environment in synergy between the African and European continent, subject to strict quality control, in order to meet the most demanding expectations of the aircraft industry.

"We are very pleased to announce this joint venture with Ethiopian Airlines, with whom we are looking forward to working together" says Alberto Veneruso, Managing Director of Geven-SkyTecno. "Our manufacturing excellence combined with our expertise in process technology, industrial efficiency and world-class distribution capabilities will provide our customers with best-in-class insulation solutions. Furthermore, Geven-SkyTecno provides the JV with a team of highly trained technical engineers with unparalleled experience meeting the demand for similar products from world airlines and OEM's", continues Veneruso.

Mr. MesfinTasew, CEO of Ethiopian Airlines Group on his part said "We are glad to unveil a modern manufacturing facility of Ethiopian Sky Technologies at our home base, Addis Ababa. As part of our Vision to develop the Aerospace Manufacturing Industry in Ethiopia, the partnership with Geven-SkyTecno takes our capability to the next level. As we have a very well established MRO capability with an excellent track record of providing aircraft maintenance we can leverage this capability and experience to further develop our Aerospace Manufacturing capability and eventually make it one of the key Strategic Business Units of the Airline. We are happy that we have gone into this tri-partite relationship with Geven-SkyTecno and Boeing and that we started manufacturing and exporting the Aircraft Thermo-Acoustic Insulation Blankets for the 737 MAX. We are keen to expand the scope of activities to other aerospace products to the mutual benefit of all parties".

Ethiopian Sky Technologies will manufacture and deliver the aerospace products in accordance with the terms of the Agreement and the stringent requirements of the Aerospace Industry. In addition to building the aerospace manufacturing capability of Ethiopian Airlines, the partnership also enhances Ethiopia's manufacturing infrastructure and international trade connections.

Mr. Henock Lemma Nigatu will lead Ethiopian Sky Technologies PLC as Chief Executive Officer. With his 25 years of experience at Ethiopian Airlines, where he has served in Managerial positions for most of this time, including serving as Manager of Group Alliances & Commercial Cooperation in his last assignment, Henock Lemma Nigatu has taken over the leadership of the joint venture company to foster and enhance the development of the new aerospace manufacturing capabilities.

flydubai touches down in Samarkand

The Dubai-based airline becomes the first UAE national carrier to provide direct flights to Samarkand. flydubai grows its network in Uzbekistan to three points including Namangan from 24 September and the capital, Tashkent.

flydubai, the Dubai-based airline, celebrated its inaugural service to Samarkand, becoming the first UAE national carrier to operate direct flights from Dubai. The airline will operate a twice-weekly service from Dubai International (DXB) to Samarkand International Airport (SKD). With the start of flights to Samarkand, flydubai grows its network in Central Asia to seven points served by a fleet of 68 Boeing 737 aircraft, providing passengers from the UAE and the GCC with more options for travel.

The inaugural flight landed at Samarkand International Airport (SKD) to a traditional water cannon salute. Senior local officials including GairatNematov, General Director at Air Marakanda welcomed the delegation led by Ghaith Al Ghaith, Chief Executive Officer at flydubai.

Speaking at the press conference, Ghaith Al Ghaith, Chief Executive Officer at flydubai, said: "flydubai is committed to opening up underserved markets and strengthening the links from Dubai and the UAE with the region. We are excited to see our network in Uzbekistan grow with the launch of flights to Samarkand. Since 2019 when we first started operations to Uzbekistan, we have

seen sustainable demand and we are confident that the launch of our second destination will provide our passengers with more reliable and convenient options for travel."

"I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Minister of Transport, Hakim of Samarkand region and Chairman of Uzbekistan Airports for their support and look forward to a long and successful relationship moving forward," added Al Ghaith.

Gairat Nematov, General Director of the airport management company, Air Marakanda LLC, said: "The opening of a new route connecting Samarkand to Dubai will have a positive impact on the entire Samarkand region. Cooperating with our valued partners at flydubai, we have established a direct link between Samarkand International Airport and one of the biggest and most vibrant economic hubs in the world. Air Marakanda is very glad to welcome the new airline and we are committed to provide passengers to and from Dubai with a best-in-class airport experience."

On 24 September, the airline also launched its twice-weekly service to Namangan, growing its network in the market to three destinations served with a total of 10 weekly flights.

Jeyhun Efendi, Senior Vice President, Commercial Operations and E-commerce at flydubai



With Namangan and Samarkand joining our network in Central Asia, we see our operations grow to seven points in four countries. Central Asia is an important market for flydubai and we continue to look for more opportunities to connect these markets with direct airlinks to Dubai's aviation hub, making travel more accessible on the flydubai network and beyond.

Hahn Air now offers a PSS solution

To complement their portfolio of solutions, Hahn Air now offers Res 360, a cloud-based Passenger Service System (PSS).

This will allow airlines looking to enter the world of indirect distribution to obtain all essential components from one single source: Hahn Air. The market leader in airline distribution is already offering solutions to enter and expand GDS sales, close distribution gaps and unlock new markets. To deliver this state-of-the-art PSS solution, Hahn Air is partnering with leading technology service provider InteliSys Aviation.

Res360 is 100% cloud-based and allows airlines of any size and business model to connect to all sales channels. Whether the airline obtains bookings through their website; GDSs; direct connections with travel resellers or OTAs; TMCs; metasearch engines; call centres

or a mobile app, the sophisticated API architecture of Res360 enables airlines to centrally manage flight distribution through one sales hub.

The following components are included in the Res360 PSS suite: Inventory and Reservation System; Departure Control System; Reporting Module; Fully responsive Internet Booking Engine (including online check-in and flight tracking tools); Travel Agent Portal; Corporate Customer Portal; Ancillary Management & Sales Module and Loyalty Module

Furthermore, the API infrastructure guarantees flexibility and scalability as it allows airlines to connect further applications and channels in the future and to customise the system to their evolving needs.

Alexander Proschka, Executive Vice President Commercial at Hahn Air



For any airline, the PSS is at the heart of airline distribution. It is only a natural step for Hahn Air to offer this component as part of our distribution package. With Res360, airlines benefit from a one-stop-solution with our unparalleled service combined with the leading technology powered by InteliSys. We are excited to be bringing this offering to the market for airlines around the globe.

Frank Kays, CEO at InteliSys



We are pleased to partner with Hahn Air in offering the Res360 suite. Our long-standing experience in accelerating airline growth and maximising distribution capacities, paired with Hahn Air's industry expertise and system connectivity, creates an unbeatable combination.

ITA Airways and Italian Football Federation Join forces

ITA Airways launched the agreement with the Italian Football Federation (FIGC) during a press conference held at the FIGC Federal Technical Centre in Coverciano.

Fabio Lazzarini CEO of ITA Airways and Gabriele Gravina, President of the FIGC, illustrated the initiatives included in the important agreement between ITA Airways and the FIGC until December 31, 2024. The coach of the Italian national team, Roberto Mancini also attended the press conference.

At the very core of the collaboration between ITA Airways and the FIGC is the common desire to develop and promote Italian sport in the world. For this reason, ITA Airways will be the official carrier of the Italian national football teams, taking care of their flights during a two-year time frame.

According to the agreement, all the National Teams, men's, women's, youth, futsal, beach soccer and e-sport will fly on ITA Airways aircraft to reach the venues of the international competitions in which the Azzurri Teams will take part. In addition, the Italian Referees Association, the Technical Sector and the Youth and Scholastic Sector will also be among the beneficiaries of the agreement,

which also provides special facilities for Federcalcio's "business travel".

According to the average data per year recorded by the FIGC in recent years, the 23 Italian national football teams fly on approximately 25 dedicated charters to/from the competition venues, mainly in Italy and Europe. These flights host around 2,800 passengers, including players, technical staff, media and partners.

In addition, there are over 13,000 individual travellers considering both the National Teams using commercial flights and referees travelling for their respective engagements.

ITA Airways will transport over 30,000 travellers in the next 2 years (2023- 2024), including all the different FIGC users: national team players, technical staff, referees, media and guests of FIGC partners.

Since inception, ITA Airways has linked its Brand to the world of sport to affirm its role as ambassador of Italian excellence. Blue Savoia is the colour of the Company's new livery and aircraft dedicated to the champions of all Italian sports.

Jazeera Airways new routes to India

Jazeera Airways announced the launch of two new routes to the cities of Thiruvananthapuram (formerly known as Trivandrum) and Bengaluru (formerly known as Bangalore) in India.

The Kuwait- Thiruvananthapuram route will be served on Tuesdays and Sundays, with return flights from Trivandrum leaving in the early morning of the next days. The Kuwait-Bengaluru route will be served on Thursdays and Sundays, with return flights from Bengaluru leaving in the early morning of the next day.

Rohit Ramachandran, Chief Executive Officer, Jazeera



We are pleased to be extending our reach into India by the addition of these two new services, catering to the high demand from the expat and business communities in Kuwait and from other connecting GCC countries for flights.



flydubai further strengthens direct air links

The Dubai-based airline grows its network in Uzbekistan with the launch of its twice-weekly service to its third destination in the country after Samarkand and Tashkent

Flydubai, the Dubai-based airline, continues to grow its operations in Uzbekistan with the launch of a twice-weekly service to Namangan International Airport (NMA). The carrier's inaugural flight touched down in Namangan to a traditional water cannon salute as part of a warm welcome by local officials, airport representatives and members of the media.

flydubai is the first UAE carrier to offer direct flights between Dubai and Namangan, the third largest city in Uzbekistan after Samarkand and Tashkent. Flights will operate from Terminal 2, Dubai International (DXB) twice a week on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Commenting on the start of operations to Namangan, Ghaith Al Ghaith, Chief Executive Officer at flydubai, said: "I would like to take this opportunity to thank the local authorities and the Khokim of Namangan, MrShavkatjonAbdurazakov for their support in launching our operations in Namangan. We

are committed to growing links with Uzbekistan and we are confident that these new direct air links will further stimulate travel and trade opportunities between our two countries. We look forward to enabling more passengers from the UAE and the region to visit this historically and culturally rich country through any of the three gateways in Uzbekistan."

In 2019 the UAE and Uzbekistan expanded their partnership that would enhance government modernisation and promote relations between the two nations, closely collaborating on sectors including education, finance, food security and agriculture.

Uzbekistan is known for its iconic Islamic architectural landmarks, its location on the east-west Silk Road and it is one of the world's biggest producers of cotton. Passengers from Uzbekistan can enjoy easier access to Dubai on flydubai's direct flights, as well as more convenient connections beyond Dubai on the carrier's network including the GCC.



Air India deepens connect to US and UK

Enhanced frequencies to connect London, Birmingham, San Francisco. 40 weekly flights to US.

In a major initiative to bolster its international footprint, Air India, India's leading airline, has announced 20 additional flights every week to Birmingham, London and San Francisco. This is part of the airline's on-going endeavour to reclaim its position as a leader on the international aviation map. The additional flights to these 3 global destinations will be introduced in a phased manner from October to December this year.

With 5 additional flights a week to Birmingham, 9 additional flights to London and 6 additional flights a week to San Francisco, Air India will be able to offer over 5,000 additional seats every week to customers and ensure ample choice in terms of connectivity, convenience, and cabin space.

Air India's current schedule of 34 flights every week to the UK will now go up to 48 flights. Birmingham will receive extra five flights per week, three from Delhi and two additional flights from Amritsar. London will receive nine additional weekly flights, of which, five are from Mumbai, three from Delhi and one from Ahmedabad. Altogether, seven Indian cities will now have non-stop Air India flights to the UK's capital.

Flights from India to the United States will increase from 34 to 40 per week. Air India will now connect Mumbai with San Francisco with a thrice weekly service, and reinstate a three-times-weekly Bengaluru operation. This takes Air India's San Francisco offering from 10 to 16 weekly, with non-stop service from Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru.

Commenting on the development, Mr. Campbell Wilson, CEO& MD, Air India, said, "As Air India reinvents itself under the Vihaan.AI transformation programme, adding frequency and improving connectivity from major Indian cities to more international destinations is a significant focus. This sizeable frequency increase to the US and the UK, as well as the addition of new city pairs and improved aircraft cabin interiors, comes just 10 months after Air India's acquisition by the Tata Group. It is a clear signal of our intent, and an early step towards a much bigger aspiration."

In addition to leasing new aircraft, Air India has been working to restore existing narrow-body and wide-body aircraft to the operating fleet. Prior to the expansion described above, the airline has already enabled frequency increases between Delhi and Vancouver as well as the addition of numerous domestic services.

IndiGoCarGo inducts the first A321 P2F freighter

IndiGo, India's leading carrier has received its first A321 Freighter aircraft, converted from passenger jet to a full freighter configuration.

The initiative will make best use of the natural synergies that IndiGo offers, using the same pool of pilots and engineers that fly and service its current fleet. The aircraft will be used for both domestic and international missions by transporting products such as valuables, express shipments, perishables, general cargo, documents, and couriers.

The A321P2F (Passenger-to-Freighter conversion) is the most efficient narrow-bodied freighter available, offering 24 container positions and supporting a payload of up to 27 tonnes. These are being converted through a programme involving ST Engineering and Airbus with their joint venture, Elbe FlugzeugWerke (EFW). The aircraft is uniquely capable for IndiGo, using its vast pool of A320 family pilots, and able to service markets between China in the east, the Gulf in the west, and the CIS countries to the north.

Mahesh Malik, Chief Commercial Officer-CarGo, IndiGo



We are pleased to receive our first A321 freighter aircraft in 6E fleet. CarGo has always been a success story for us especially highlighted during the

pandemic. The CarGo business brought in revenues when the scheduled commercial flights were at a standstill. Our partnership with the Airbus for Freighter programme will further help strengthen our business in the CarGo segment, and act as a strong engine of economic growth for the country. We remain optimistic on the future of Indian aviation, clearly, and the place of CarGo within it – and the expansion into a true freighter fleet is a testament of this confidence.

Malaysia Airlines is Asia's Leading Airline for Business Class

Malaysia Airlines has been named Asia's Leading Airline for Business Class at the 29th World Travel Awards, adding to its honours record.

The airline emerges as the winner after receiving the most votes from industry participants, consumers, media, and travel professionals across the region, outperforming other nominated full-service Asian airlines. Underpinned by the airline's Malaysian Hospitality commitment across its services, the award is a testament to its successful endeavour to maintain the highest service level and safety assurance through its #FlyConfidently commitment.

Malaysia Airlines' Business Class is recognised for providing an unrivalled premium end-to-end experience, from its exclusive priority check-in counters, priority luggage handling, and access to the beautiful Golden Lounges with picturesque views, to its board-anytime flexibility.

The Business Class completes the premium experience by providing spacious lie-flat seats to selected destinations. The airline also provides a wide range of cutting-edge in-flight entertainment, including noise-cancelling headphones, to ensure the most pleasurable flying experience on Malaysia Airlines.

Guests departing from Kuala Lumpur may opt for a personalised fine dining experience with its "Chef on Call" service, which allows customers to select from a variety of specially crafted in-flight meals from 30 to 24 hours prior to their trip and have them delivered to their seat.

This is in addition to the popular signature satay, which has been served on-board since the first flight and has been produced by the airline's caterer since 1973. The meats are freshly marinated with fresh ingredients and chargrilled over mangrove wood charcoal, complemented by nasiimpit (compressed rice cake), refreshing cucumbers, and onion.

Business Class passengers also receive a designer amenity kit by luxury leather goods manufacturer, Aspinal of London. The airline's exclusive amenity kits include an impressive array of travel essentials such as PAYOT's skin and body range, which includes the Lip Balm and the luxe Hand and Body Lotion, specially designed to pamper customers throughout their journey, an eye mask, comb, a pair of earplugs, and socks, and an eye mask, comb, a pair of earplugs, and socks. Customers are given the dual-tone Business Class duvet, which is made of cotton and polyester and has the airline's trademark WauBulan, as well as a soft pillow and mattress cover, making it the ideal snuggle partner through their journey.

Customers can travel with peace of mind as Malaysia Airlines has put in place the highest COVID-19 health and safety protocols globally recognised and certified by Bureau Veritas Certification Malaysia via its MHFly Safe program. Malaysia Airlines is a member of Travel Safe Alliance Malaysia (TSAM) and has been awarded a 7-star rating from Airline Ratings for its COVID-19 safeguards.

Lau Yin May, Chief Marketing and Customer Experience Officer, Malaysia Airlines' Group

This award is a true testament to the organisation and national icon's hard work, long hours, sacrifice, and ultimate passion. As the COVID-19 pandemic has forced a lasting change in travelling preferences, we constantly improve and enhance our products and services with a range of flexibility and choices. One of our most prominent innovations include our business class fare structure that was redesigned to match the value proposition of business class passengers and market demand. Our Business Class fare family makes Malaysia Airlines one of the few airlines in the world to offer flexibility coupled with multiple perks.



New Bengaluru to Sydney Flights

Australia's national airline Qantas has launched a new route from Bengaluru (BLR) to Sydney (SYD), providing the first direct connection between Southern India and Australia by any airline. QF68 will cut nearly three hours off the current fastest travel time between the two cities and significantly boost connectivity between India and New South Wales.

Since the announcement of the new service earlier this year, the route has seen strong demand, with both the outbound and inbound inaugural flights sold out in all cabins. The new services will provide new tourism opportunities for Bengaluru and India, with a direct gateway for Australian tourists to experience all that India has to offer. For people living in Bengaluru and southern India, it's a convenient non-stop flight to Sydney for a dream holiday or to visit friends and family.

Qantas Domestic and International CEO Andrew David said the flights will boost tourism and economic relations and opportunities between Australia and India. "The addition of Bengaluru to our route map deepens our ties with India and follows the launch of direct services from Australia to Delhi last year which has also proven popular. Qantas is now the only airline offering direct flights between Australia's two largest cities and the north and south of India."

Bangalore International Airport Ltd (BIAL) Chief Strategy and Development Officer, Satyaki Raghunath said the start of the new Qantas Bengaluru – Sydney route was a historic moment for BLR Airport. "It gives us immense pleasure to welcome Australia's national airline Qantas to BLR Airport. This is a historic occasion considering that it is the first ever

non-stop service connecting South and Central India to Australia. The flights will reduce travel time over existing options and will make access to Australia and points beyond, including New Zealand and the Pacific Islands easy, particularly for leisure travellers, corporates, sports enthusiasts and students who go there for higher studies.

This connection is even more special because it is the eighth oneworld carrier to begin operations from BLR Airport. The addition of this flight also puts the focus back on BLR Airport's commitment to introducing new routes and opportunities for tourism and trade between South India and Australia."

Qantas has recently launched the first phase of its codeshare partnership with IndiGo. There are currently 11 destinations available for Qantas customers to connect with on IndiGo to and from Bengaluru, including Mumbai, Goa, Kolkata and Chennai. The codeshare will continue to roll out over the coming months, broadening access and making it easier for Qantas customers in India to connect with the new direct flights to Sydney.

Qantas will fly an A330 aircraft from Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport to Sydney four times per week on a Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Virgin Atlantic Updates Gender Identity Policy

Virgin Atlantic has launched its updated gender identity policy, giving its crew, pilots, and ground team the option to choose which of the iconic uniforms, designed by Vivienne Westwood, best represents them – no matter their gender, gender identity, or gender expression.

Reflecting the diversity of the workforce and in a move that cements its position as the most inclusive airline in the skies, Virgin Atlantic will offer its people a fluid approach to its red and burgundy uniforms, meaning LGBTQ+ colleagues will be able to choose either the red or the burgundy uniform, depending on which best reflects themselves.

The announcement is part of an on-going drive to champion the individuality of its people and customers and is complemented by the roll out of optional pronoun badges for all its people and those travelling with the airline. This move enables everyone to clearly communicate and be addressed by their pronouns. The badges will be available to teams and customers effective immediately and customers simply need to ask

for their preferred badge at the check in desk or in the Virgin Atlantic Clubhouse.

Virgin Atlantic has also updated its ticketing systems to allow for those who hold passports with gender neutral gender markers to select 'U' or 'X' gender codes on their booking as well as the gender-neutral title, 'Mx'. Currently citizens from a small number of countries including the USA, India and Pakistan, are able to hold these passports and travellers must travel on the codes that match their passport. In lieu of passports with gender neutral gender markers being available for all, Virgin Atlantic is implementing a longer-term plan to amend communication preferences to ensure customers are addressed by their preferred pronouns across all touchpoints.

LOT Polish Airlines to Fuel its Aircraft With Green Kerosene

LOT Polish Airlines is planning to fuel its aircraft with sustainably produced kerosene. Poland's national flag carrier has signed a cooperation agreement with Polish multi-energy group PKN ORLEN.

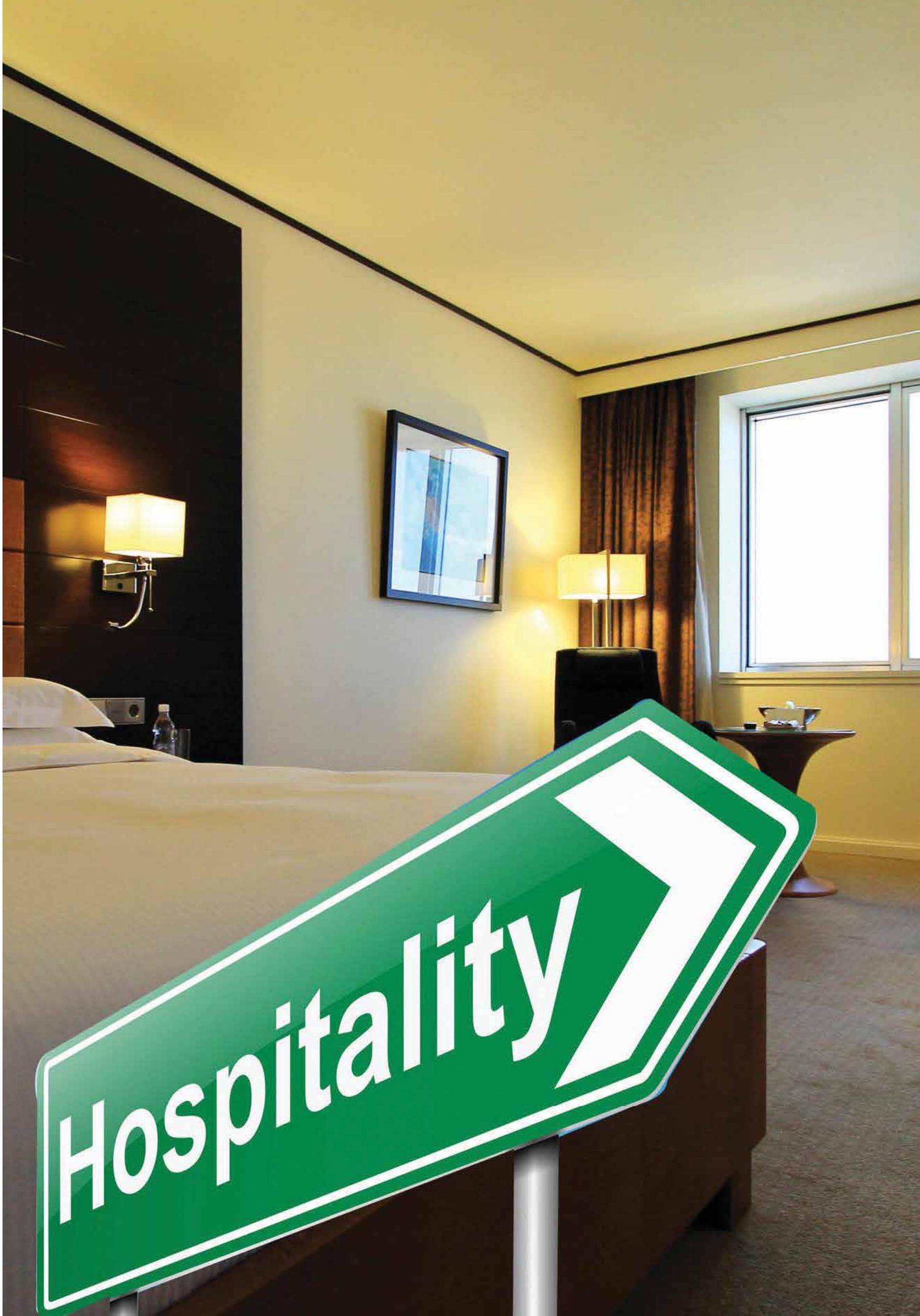
PKN ORLEN is building a production plant in the city of Plock to convert hydrogenated vegetable oils (HVO) into biofuel or bio-components for aviation fuel. Vegetable oils, used vegetable cooking oils and algae oils are used for this purpose. After its completion, the plant will produce around 300,000 tonnes of HVO annually, which already corresponds to half of the fuels produced by the ORLEN Group today.

LOT Polish Airlines will receive sustainably produced aviation fuel (SAF) and with the help of SAF, life cycle emissions can be reduced by up to 80 per cent compared to conventional kerosene.

The agreement to purchase SAF is an important step for LOT Polish Airlines towards more sustainability and environmental protection in air transport, also against the background of the IATA resolution NetZero to make commercial air traffic CO2-neutral by the year 2050. Rafal Milczarski, President and CEO of LOT Polish Airlines, said: "We see the trust placed in us by our passengers as both an honour and an obligation. We not only want to provide them with the highest safety standards and comfortable air transportation. We also want make an important contribution to the preservation and protection of the environment. That is why I am very pleased about the cooperation with PKN ORLEN as the production of kerosene from renewable raw materials represents another initiative with which LOT Polish Airlines is reducing greenhouse gas emissions."

Daniel Obajtek, CEO and President of the PKN ORLEN Management Board: "The aviation industry is an excellent example of how the energy and fuel industry is changing. That is we are developing and investing in clean, advanced products. According to our estimates, the share of sustainably produced fuels in aviation will amount to 3 percent in 2030. Accordingly, we see enormous potential for further growth in this area in line with our ORLEN2030 strategy."

LOT Polish Airlines is a modern carrier connecting Central and Eastern Europe with the rest of the world. LOT's offer includes, inter alia, direct long-haul flights to airports in the United States, Canada, China, Japan, South Korea, India and Sri Lanka. The Polish carrier has been consistently increasing the number of its flights to those destinations, thus strengthening its position in the Central and Eastern Europe. It operates its long-haul flights with Boeing 787 Dreamliner, one of the most advanced wide-body aircraft in the world. Present in the sky since 1929, the Polish carrier is the 12th oldest airline worldwide, being one of the most internationally recognisable Polish brands.



Hospitality



Romance in the lap of the Aravalli

An award winning hotel, Ramada Udaipur completes your search for a romantic hotel in that region.

Surrounded by the ancient and famous Aravalli Hills, lies the Ramada Udaipur. Built on a 6.6 acres of undulating land, this property of the Wyndham group has 72 rooms and suites. The many gardens add to the tranquillity and the beauty of the surrounding mountains and the famous Lake Pichola. The hotel and resort is built with traditional stonework and has a traditional lay out as well – that of a central courtyard around which are built the many guest rooms and suites. The swimming pool lies in the central courtyard. Though constructed in a traditional style, the hotel offers all modern facilities for the discerning traveller.

The 72 rooms of the property are categorized as Deluxe, Super Deluxe, Premium, and Suites. Each of the rooms has a balcony that overlooks the landmarks of Udaipur - Aravalli Hills, Lake Pichola, Lake Fateh Sagar, Sajjan-Garh Fort or Monsoon Palace and the city of Udaipur itself. The rooms are constructed keeping in mind natural ventilation and the thick walls ensure a naturally cool temperature. Premium Rooms and Suites have the look and feel of independent villas.

In keeping with the tradition of the Mewar region, Udaipur Green marble, Agariya White Marble, and Jaisalmer Yellow Marble adorn the corridors

of this Spa Resort. The furnishings and linen also showcase the traditional art and beauty of Mewar.

Myra is a multi-cuisine restaurant that delights your taste buds all day long. The interiors are elegantly styled but the star attraction is the terrace. A meal in the winter sun on the terrace with the spectacular view of the surroundings is a relaxation by itself. And dining under the starlit sky on the Myra terrace with spectacular views of the city lights in the evening, is an unforgettable experience.

Ambar is a pool-side restaurant that serves savoury Indian dishes with authentic flavours. The live Rajasthani music and folk dance add to the Indian-ness of the surroundings. The Liquid Lounge is the bar at the resort that offers a delectable array of spirits, wines, and cocktails. It's a great place of unwind before heading up to the terrace for a meal.

The SOMA Spa at the resort is the most awarded and for good reason. It offers you everything you could wish for in a Spa – from relaxation to revitalization. In addition, there is yoga and meditation and there are the modern day gym and the swimming pool for the routine activities that one does back home.

Ramada Udaipur is considered to be the top event

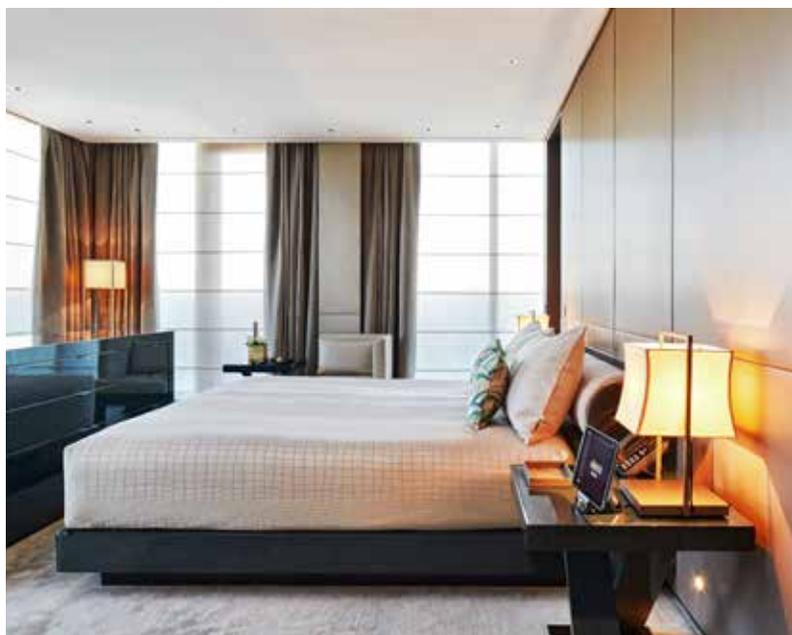
management company in Udaipur. It boasts of having one of the best conference rooms, meeting rooms, and banquet halls with all modern facilities and technologies available for a successful event. Outdoor Hardcourt venues and Outdoor Garden Venues add to the facilities for various events.

Among the Outdoor Hard Court venues, Sajjan Terrace has a capacity of 1000 guests on the roof top of the resort with most spectacular view. The Monsoon Deck has a capacity of 800 guests and is spacious and impressive. The Ambar is located at the Central Courtyard and has a capacity of 300 guests. It is an ideal location for an evening banquet.

The Outdoor Garden Venues, the Wind Garden, Tregg, Bonsoir Garden, and Sarlat are smaller venues with a capacity of 50 guests each. These offer perfect surroundings for a private party or family gathering. The Rock Garden has a capacity of 500 guests and is ideal to use during a wedding or a conference.

The Ramada Udaipur is best known as the resort and hotel for large ceremonies, conferences, meetings, and such gatherings. Next time you plan such an event keep this traditional yet modern hotel in mind.





Magnum Photos - Colors, Places, Faces

On the occasion of the exhibition "Magnum Photos - Colors, Places, Faces", hosted in the Armani/Silos spaces, Armani Hotel Milano offers the opportunity to stay in one of the rooms and suites and visit the exhibition.

Inspired by the warm and rich culture of the Levant, the vibrant Al Baha Restaurant will provide guests with an authentic Levantine experience and feature everything from hot and cold mezzeto various grills, manakeesh, and a delectable array of homemade desserts.

Curated by Giorgio Armani in collaboration with Magnum Photos, the exhibition offers an eclectic perspective as perceived by ten international photographers and their respective understanding

of photography. Artists united by a desire to explore reality, translating suggestions and emotions into images, returning it to the public. A unique combination of art, journalism, and storytelling.

An invitation to immerse oneself in different worlds and cultures while staying in the city, taking advantage of a special package offered by Armani Hotel Milano thanks to which the guest can start the day with an American breakfast served at Armani/Ristorante or, if he/she prefers, in his room. Guests

will enjoy the pleasure of sipping an aperitif for two at Armani/Bamboo Bar, getting lost in the view from floor 7.

Valid until November 6th 2022, (the last day of the exhibition), the package also includes Giorgio Armani signature amenities, an upgrade to a higher room category based on availability, late check-out subject to availability, and two admissions for Armani/Silos.

Cheval Maison – The Palm Dubai is Officially Launched

Cheval Maison - The Palm Dubai is the newly launched iconic property in the Cheval Collection now ready to welcome Indian travellers.

This will be the first Cheval Maison to launch outside of the UK!

The property will have 131 luxury serviced apartments, compiling of one, two and three-bedroom apartments, located in a super prime location on the Palm Jumeirah in Dubai.

Cheval Maison, The Palm is also adjacent to the Nakheel mall, a luxury shopping mall featuring more than 140 shops and cover 30 cafes and restaurants, and only a short walk from West Beach.

The residence is currently undergoing full refurbishment and it is anticipated that it will be open to first guests in Q1 2023.





ITC Hotels Add 5 More Properties as Brand Storii Expands

ITC Hotel's growth story continues to rise with group signing 5 boutique properties under the new brand, Storii by ITC Hotels.

Popular leisure destinations Goa, Dharamshala, Solan, Sirmour and Kufri are the frontliner destinations for Storii with Storii Goa and Storii Dharamshala already opening doors to guests. With the recent openings at Goa and Dharamshala, the ITC HOTELS Group now has its 5th property in Goa and its 12th hotel in Himachal Pradesh.

With the Storii brand, ITC Hotels brings bespoke experiences at immersive locations through atypical hotels and resorts that are unique by character, design or heritage and strive to co-exist with the environment and the community. Every hotel under this brand will tell its own unique 'story' which could stem from its architecture, location, heritage, theme or even its facilities and offerings. This parameter is key for a property to qualify under the Storii by ITC Hotels brand even as there may be a lot more flexibility offered in terms of design

approach, property size and a few other parameters.

Speaking on the occasion, Anil Chadha, Divisional Chief Executive, ITC Hotels said, "Leisure travel in India has grown in the last two years. Post-pandemic, the domestic traveller has not only explored destinations in India but also realised how much more there is to see and do in India. At ITC Hotels, we analysed the changing trends and recognized the demand for a boutique, experiential offering. Storii by ITC Hotels caters to this segment in a way that attracts the discerning traveller who is looking for unique accommodation and comfort without having to worry about consistency and quality of service. We are grateful to our Owners for their faith in ITC Hotels and our decades strong operational excellence in hospitality".

The recently opened Storii by ITC Hotels, Goa is a boutique hotel that holds myriad stories within its century old walls, representing a confluence of

Portuguese and Indian culture. Originally built in 1897 and called 'Casa de Morada' or home of happiness, this charming property was lovingly restored, and is now eagerly waiting to tell its Storii.

Offering another charming experience is the Storii by ITC Hotels, Dharamshala which tells the story of a contemporary retreat offering plush and stylish rooms with mesmerizing views, an all-day dining restaurant and other food and beverage outlets. This experiential property will also offer a well-being zone along with recreational activities.

With the addition of three more boutique properties in Sirmour, Solan and Kufri under the new Storii by ITC Hotels, the brand will further strengthen its footprints in Himachal Pradesh. Each of these properties will offer a distinct experience so that no two stays are the same while discovering the picturesque beauty the State offers.

Kandima Maldives spreads even more smiles to guests!

Every year, on September 21, people from around the world come together to celebrate and manifest oh-so splendid gratitude. World Gratitude Day is more than just a caption - it's a call for everyone to slow down and show appreciation to the one they care and are thankful for.

Kandima is oh-so grateful to have hosted so many people from all around the globe. Be it the families, couples, groups of friends or just solo travellers. The guests at Kandima always come back for more with a spirit of tropical adventure, a desire for genuine hospitality, and the exclusive K'vibe!

For this very special occasion, the K'crew at this tropical (desti)nation is grateful for all the guests

who have visited the resort and created countless unforgettable moments for life. Keeping up with its brand values of being human and rooted, Kandima is giving back to guests with oh-so-awesome 'Thank You' messages in bottles found across the island. Each bottle will be filled with kool surprises including complimentary F&B, spa and water activity vouchers as a gesture of the resort's heartfelt gratitude for guests on their exclusive

journey dedicated to happy memories.

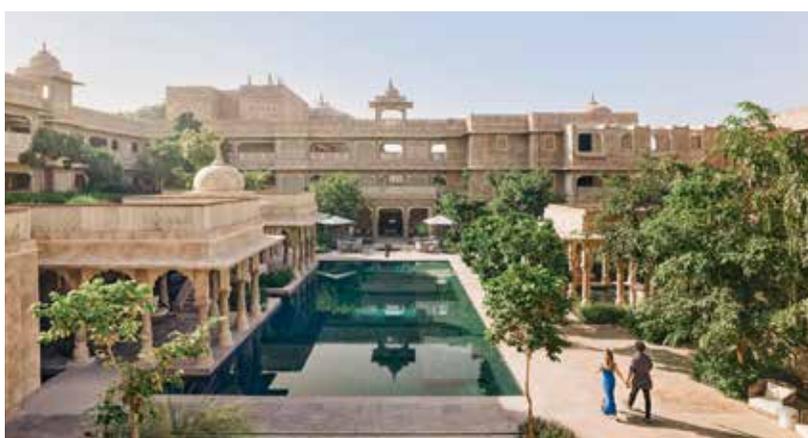
Come and spend an oh-so-exciting vacay at Kandima Maldives this September. Expand your visual colour palette and experience all shades of blue, from clear skies to shimmering seas and a whole lot of fun in the tropical waters! At our game changing tropical island, it's all about smiles and guests' holidays filled with the spirit of Kandima's incredible experiential hospitality!





Six Senses Fort Barwara is all set to celebrate its first anniversary this October

Six Senses Fort Barwara, a sensitively restored 14th-century fort and India's definitive wellness sanctuary, celebrates its first anniversary in October 2022.



Originally home to a Rajasthani Royal family, Six Senses Fort Barwara reinterprets the gracious and regal ambience of a forgotten era dating back 700 years. Significant conservation efforts of over a decade transformed the fort into a luxury resort and retreat of well-being, with the original women's palace serving as pioneering Spa and Wellness centre, offering extensive ayurvedic treatments and personalized wellness programs. Perched on the majestic Aravallis and thirty minutes from the Ranthambore National Park, the royal citadel offers a spectacular view facing the Chauth Mata temple. The historic property features three dining venues, a bar and lounge, 30,000 square foot Six Senses Spa and 48 beautifully appointed suites including five marquee suites with stunning views.

Since its opening last year, Six Senses Fort Barwara has won accolades and recognition in the prestigious Travel + Leisure IT list 2022, Conde Nast Traveler's Hot List for the brand's magnanimous arrival in India and Vogue Beauty Awards for the best wellness resort in domestic category.

Now, Six Senses Fort Barwara is all set to ring in its first anniversary with a host of exciting celebrations, which will include cocktails at sundowner, followed by a gala night with folk music and cultural performances and cake cutting

ceremony at the iconic stepwell. In order to help guests create memories of a lifetime, the resort is running the First Anniversary Offer with extra savings for the entire month of October. The offer includes 20 percent savings on F&B, spa services, surprise welcome treat on arrival and other benefits.

Additionally, guests can also enjoy the slow life at Six Senses Fort Barwara by simply extending their stay for three nights under The Extended Offer, treating themselves to the unique Six Senses experiences such as the signature couple spa treatment, heritage and horticulture walk around the fort along with a dinner and more.

Speaking on this occasion, Mr. Frans Westraadt, General Manager, Six Senses Fort Barwara expressed, "It has indeed been a very exciting journey so far and it will continue to be so, with a uniquely compelling story and meaningful experiences that Fort Barwara has to offer to travelers. As we celebrate our first-year anniversary on October 16th at the resort, we look forward to embarking on an enriching journey into 2023 together with our guests and Six Senses Fort Barwara family."

Six Senses Fort Barwara takes guests on a journey of discovery based on how deep they want to go in the pursuit of well-being. The spa offers an extensive Ayurvedic "whole body" healing system, meditation, and bespoke programs based on the preventative principles of Eastern medicine and result-oriented Western influences. The Eat with Six Senses approach across the dining venues is based on the guiding principles of natural ingredients, local and sustainable menus and less is more. The ground-breaking Sleep with Six Senses standard has been implemented across every suite to give guests the kind of night's sleep where they wake up ready to move mountains. The Six Senses Environmental and Social Sustainability Policy at Fort Barwara focuses on energy efficiency, water and waste management, social commitment, protecting natural surroundings, air quality and noise control.

Be it a romantic getaway or a family bonding vacation, Six Senses Fort Barwara's trademark emotional hospitality promises to spoil one with culinary journeys, heritage and wildlife discoveries, and an experience of a lifetime.



Radisson Delhi Announced as Best Hotel For Business Travel

After a lull of almost 2 years, Business Travel has regained its momentum since the beginning of 2022 and the revival seems to be stronger than ever. As per the IMARC Group, the Indian business travel market reached a value of US\$ 31.7 Billion in 2021 and is expected to reach US\$ 55.2 Billion by 2027, exhibiting a CAGR of 8.1% during 2022-2027.

Recently, CNBC (a popular business news channel in the United States) allied with Statista (a German company specializing in market and consumer data) to produce rankings of the “Best Hotels for Business Travelers” based on a 3-step process, analyzing more than 10,000 four- and five-star hotels in 117 locations across the globe to come up with a list that corporate travelers can trust.

Amongst the top 3 Business Hotels in New Delhi, is the oldest and the most charming property of the Radisson Hotels Group in Delhi known as Radisson Blu Plaza Delhi Airport.

Radisson Blu Plaza Delhi Airport is conveniently situated on the Delhi-Gurugram Expressway, five minutes away from the Indira Gandhi International Airport.

Spread across seven acres, standing tall at the entry point to Delhi and Gurgaon with stretched expanse front, sprawling landscaped gardens, lovely notable architecture, and a story to tell, Radisson Delhi has marked 24 scintillating years of its grand existence in serving guests with excellence from the world for more than two decades.

Known for its impeccable hospitality, the atmosphere of the hotel exudes sophistication and warmth. Adding to the exemplary ambience are the award-winning restaurants of the hotel, which are home to the finest global cuisines and have been winning the hearts of generations since their inception.

Adding a feather to its hat is the hotel’s commitment and dedication to sustainability and reversing climate change. The hotel recently inaugurated

the first Electric Vehicle (EV) chargers of the RHG Sunfuel partnership.

Apart from this, Radisson Blu Plaza Delhi Airport was the first to set up a bottling plant during the pandemic, the hotel outsources laundry and can store nearly 10KL of water through rainwater harvesting every year. The hotel is currently aligning its vision with that of the Radisson Hotel Group which is building on its heritage of sustainability through its commitment to setting science-based emission reduction targets and aims to achieve a net zero carbon future by 2050.

The hotel works on the principles of giving back to the planet and gaining the trust and support of its customers. With the right kind of attitude and the “Yes! I can” commitment toward its guests, the hotel is set out for great things!

Royal Sport in India

The Leela Palaces, Hotels and Resorts, announced an exclusive collaboration with Rajasthan Polo Club, celebrating the brand’s inaugural sponsorship of the royal sport in India with The Leela Maharaja Sawai Man Singh Polo Cup 2022.

The tournament will take place from 3rd October – 9th October 2022 at Rajasthan Polo Club in the Pink City of Jaipur, Rajasthan.

Speaking on the association Mr. Anuraag Bhatnagar, Chief Operating Officer, The Leela Palaces, Hotels and Resorts, said, “We feel privileged to be associated with the Rajasthan Polo Club for our inaugural sponsorship of Polo in India with The Leela Maharaja Sawai Man Singh Polo Cup 2022. At The Leela, we are committed to curating exclusive experiences that resonate with passions of our guests and this partnership gives us the perfect opportunity to do so while paying homage to the country’s dynamic heritage and this historic sport. We are also extremely honoured to have HH Maharaja Sawai Padmanabh Singh of Jaipur lead The Leela Polo team.”

Commenting on the occasion Maharaj Narendra Singh from the Rajasthan Polo Club said, “It is a matter of great pride and celebration that The Leela Palaces, Hotels and Resorts has partnered with the

Rajasthan Polo Club, Jaipur to sponsor The Leela Maharaja Sawai Man Singh Polo Cup 2022. I am personally grateful to The Leela brand for their support and hope that this is the beginning of a long and lasting partnership between them and the Rajasthan Polo Club, Jaipur. My son HH Maharaja Sawai Padmanabh Singh of Jaipur is eagerly looking forward to leading The Leela Polo Team in what promises to be a highly anticipated tournament.”

The Leela Maharaja Sawai Man Singh Polo Cup 2022 takes centre stage at the Rajasthan Polo Club this month, beginning on Monday 3rd October 2022 and will culminate in the finals on Sunday 9th October 2022. As the title sponsor of the tournament, polo enthusiasts and guests are invited to enjoy the day’s matches from The Leela marquee. The brand will host VIP guests, Members of the Governing Council and members of the Rajasthan Polo Club to experience an afternoon of Polo followed by the presentation ceremony and an Afternoon Tea. The Leela Palace Jaipur will also host a gala evening as a celebration of the association and the official closing of the tournament.

The rich history associated with the Rajasthan Polo Club and the Royal Family in Jaipur makes these events and the association with the polo club even more extraordinary and in line with the legacy of The Leela brand. The Leela is imbued with a distinct aesthetic that celebrates the country’s traditions, art, cuisine, artisanal craft and culture and is rooted in its offering of India’s rich heritage to the world. The royal sport of Polo with a history as rich and varied as India herself, and a brand which is the epitome of true Indian luxury, The Leela Maharaja Sawai Man Singh Polo Cup 2022 is a perfect vantage to indulge in timeless traditions with insider access and unravel the mystery and the magic of one of the oldest games in the world.

The Leela has always been focused on curating experiences that resonate with the evolving needs of today’s discerning luxury traveler. As the brand gears up to embrace the next phase of its growth trajectory, it continues to evolve and focus on experiential and conscious luxury while remaining true to its ethos of “Atithi Devo Bhava – Guest is God.”



Ell Bee



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



Honeymoon Hotspot

Just-married couples have numerous options when it comes to the best honeymoon places in India. By keeping this in mind we covered a beautiful hotel Fairmont Jaipur.

Q. Tell us about USP of the hotel by keeping couples in mind for honeymoon.

- Location – In the quiet recesses of Kukas, on the outskirts of the Pink City lies a palace like no other, Fairmont Jaipur. Gleaming under the watchful eyes of the Aravalli hills, glittering with history and culture of Rajasthan, the hotel is a sophisticated chateau that gracefully combines the glories of the past with modern day comforts. The story of Fairmont Jaipur inspires a vision of timeless hospitality, and Fairmont invites couples to join them in imagining a romantic place that is steeped in a rich and privileged heritage, yet is effortlessly modern.
- Experiences – Fairmont Jaipur is an experience in privileged elegant living. A luxury hotel that truly encapsulates the essence of the region's history and culture in its design and architecture, it is a grand contemporary escapade that celebrates the finer things in life. Leisure, adventure and sport are pivotal activities at Fairmont Jaipur which not only boasts a fully equipped gym and spa but also offers a multitude of experiences accompanied with host of excursions and unique services for guests. Ranging from hot air ballooning, mountaineering at the Aravalli hills, elephant rides, picnics and a stroll through the nearby village, a guided tour to the city's most popular attractions, the hotel has a vast list of experiences to offer. The traditional Rajasthani entertainments accompanied by storytellers literally transport guests to an era where

kings and queens fell in love and reigned over kingdoms of gems and jewels. Guests can also explore the ancient art of falconry with hands-on lessons led by a trained falconer present at the hotel. Every evening the hotel winds down with a magnificent lighting ceremony signaling the end of the day and the beginning of nocturnal festivities.

- Fairmont 5 senses welcome experience – The magnificent façade stands tall as the ancient gates of the hotel open to welcome guests to this royal abode. The sound of the arrival of the royal party is echoed in the vast reception against the gravel and nagadas are sounded to announce their arrival amidst a fleet of luxury cars. Once the customary traditional welcome is complete with the tika and showering of rose petals, guests are escorted through the char baagh (four gardens) courtyard where the parrots and peacocks are at play to the mellifluous melody of the santoor in the lobby. The arrival experience resonates with history and the sense that one is entering a privileged world.
- Hammam – The worldly renowned Turkish bath that relaxes and cleanses the mind, body and soul, is at your fingertips when you're at Fairmont Jaipur. It is the only hotel that offers Hammam bath tubs in every room, enabling all guests to transport to a zen state in the comfort of your luxury abode.

Q. What you are offering for the honeymoon couples?

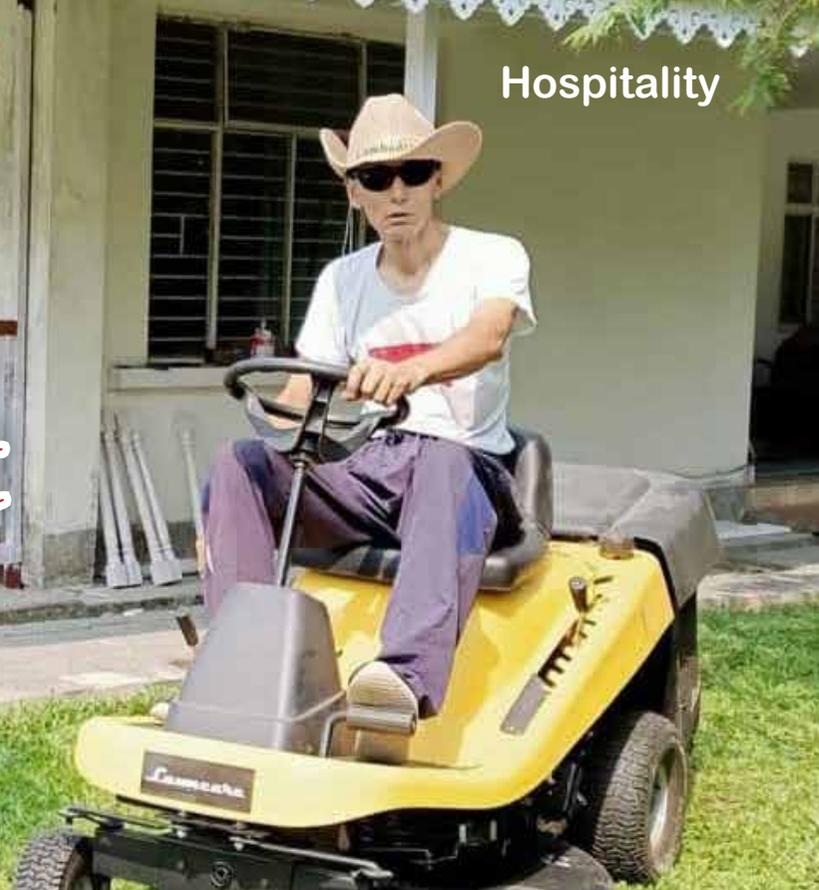
The Royals were known for their love, beauty and refinement. At Fairmont Jaipur, you can experience all of that with an added flair of opulence that is unforgettable. Guest rooms at Fairmont Jaipur are bespoke residences that exude classic heritage influences with four poster beds, camel bone inlaid furniture, walk-in bathrooms with the distinct pink city stone bath tubs, Mughal styled low seating day beds and discreet arched windows that overlook the Aravalli hills. Understated yet opulent at the same time, the beauty of the rooms however lies in the intimate details such as the traditional companion and confidante of royalty, making them perfect for your romantic getaway. If you wish to indulge in an experience that is even more private, exclusive and always at your service – the Fairmont Gold floor is an elevation of luxury in the hotel, a service extended only to select few. The brand's exclusive 'hotel within a hotel' which features access to the Fairmont Gold Lounge with personalised service and luxuries such as an intimate lounge area that serves afternoon tea, evening canapés and a wide choice of beverages.

Fairmont Jaipur also offers unique dining experiences, an unparalleled Hammam experience, and special bespoke setups and room décor customized to cater to your expression of love. You can relax and rejuvenate with your loved one with a Couples spa treatment at Fairmont Jaipur's Ruhab Spa, and make lasting memories watching the sunset/ sunrise, drive in classic cars, and be one with nature through exclusive treks and trails. At Fairmont Jaipur, there is something for everyone.



Riviera Lords Resort - Lords Gateway to Northeast India!!

Nature bound, Lords Hotels and Resorts presents Riviera Lords Resort in Siliguri, West Bengal (WB).



This 2-acre recreational destination located in the lap of Nature is beautifully set on the banks of the the Panchanai river across which lies lush green tea plantations with the hills of Darjeeling and Nepal in the background.

Designed by Mr. Pravin Mukhia, Owner of Riviera Lords Resort, this boutique resort is surrounded by pine trees and lush fruit orchard, bearing exotic fruits with a collection of plants from all over the world; including Thai Tamarind & green mango, about 7 varieties of Indian mangoes, dragon fruit, Afghan grapes, Pepino, Japanese persimmon and an organic vegetable garden powered by vegetable & vermi- compost. The resort houses 36 luxurious rooms with scintillating view of the river, and the interiors feature an ethnic vibe to its designs and décor.

With the overcrowding & urbanisation of nearby towns, this countryside retreat has now become a year-round residence for architect Mr. Pravin Mukhia, the owner of the property who has his villa and home office amidst a large lawn and landscaped garden.

With the conversion of the poultry farm building into a 6-bedroom guest house which has hosted many friends & relatives, there has been a constant request to convert into a homestay in order to extend the leisurely accommodation to others who would like such a peaceful and natural environment.

It was one such experience that Mr. Pushpendra R. Bansal, Chief Operating Officer, experienced and prompted Mr. Pravin to join his group of Hotels and develop it into a Lords Resort.

Mr. Pravin Mukhia, Owner of Riviera Lords Resort, Siliguri(WB) is a multi-faceted personality, who is an architect, a philanthropist, a mountaineer, a paraglider and above all a seasoned pilot and a Formula car racer for Darjeeling. His father, the erstwhile Mr. Harish Mukhia was a visionary and a trailblazer, who revolutionized the Darjeeling Tea Industry. Mr Pravin is excited with the Lord's alliance and

is looking forward to welcoming guests to Siliguri to experience the local Eastern culture.

He further detailed that” Guests can anticipate to experience a tranquil stay at Riviera Lords Resort and loose themselves in the scenic surroundings of the property. Lords Hotels and Resorts and its business module synced well with my vision of hospitality and am looking forward to making this dream of a project take-off into reality. Together, we also hope to launch many more projects in Darjeeling, which will offer guests with a first-hand opportunity to be part of Nature, especially with the tea planting procedures.”

“A hotelier’s job is to ensure that every guest leaves their hotel with a memory that will make them want to return”, well this is the very sentiment I want to create for all my customers” said Mr. Pushpendra R. Bansal, Chief Operating Officer, who was ecstatic about this new launch in Siliguri, which has given

Lords Hotels and Resorts an opportunity to present the exotic beauty of the Northeast India, that includes the circuit of Darjeeling, Gangtok, Nepal and Bhutan.

Riviera Lords Resort will also feature a gamut of facilities including an elegantly designed banquet space, ideal setting for weddings and private functions. For the food connoisseurs, the resort offers a multi-cuisine restaurant and, a bar, where one can chill-out and let their hair down. Guests can also look forward to rejuvenate themselves with a spa session or swim in its river facing infinite swimming pool, or enjoy a fun time in the games room. There is also a conference hall and a 80 car parking space, which is under construction.

To be launched by October - 2023, Riviera Lords Resort is going to be a recreational destination that will be one of the favourite travel ideas in the wish list.

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Al Khoory Hotels launches second specialised Arabic restaurant

Al Khoory Hotels, part of the Al Khoory Group's hospitality division, has announced the official opening of their second Al Baha Levantine Restaurant, which will be located on the ground floor of the recently opened Al Khoory Courtyard Hotel, located on Al Waha Street, off Sheikh Zayed Road.

Inspired by the warm and rich culture of the Levant, the vibrant Al Baha Restaurant will provide guests with an authentic Levantine experience and feature everything from hot and cold mezzeta various grills, manakeesh, and a delectable array of homemade desserts.

The menu has been developed and crafted by Chef Jamal, who has over 15 years of experience working in kitchens throughout the region. The Syrian national takes inspiration from his childhood growing up in Damascus, where he first found his love for different flavours and tastes thanks to the variety of traditional cuisine his mother and grandmother passed down from previous generations.

Jeff Isaacs, Hotel Manager, Al Khoory Courtyard Hotel, said: "Following the success of our first Al Baha restaurant at Al Khoory Sky Gardens, we're excited about expanding to a new location in the Courtyard Hotel by offering diners the same tasty menu, mouth-watering flavours and high standards Al Baha has become renowned for.

"We have created a family-friendly atmosphere within the restaurant, the inspiration of which was taken from the warm and welcoming Arabic traditions. Diners will have every opportunity to sit back and relax with family and friends while enjoying some outstanding food."

The restaurant, which was officially opened last week by Al Khoory Group Chairman Mr



Mohammed Tayyeb Khoory during a ribbon-cutting ceremony, with guests welcomed by a traditional Syrian band in true Levantine style, will see Chef Jamal, Chef Khalil, Executive Chef at Al Khoory Courtyard Hotel, and the team deliver several delicious dishes, including fattoush, fried kibbeh, Armenian flatbreads, grilled tiger prawns, a range of Shawarma platters as well as a host of vegetarian and gluten-free options.

Mr Hamed Mohamed Tayeb Mohamed Khoory - Director of Al Khoory Group, said: "As our flagship restaurant brand, Al Baha Levantine Restaurant has a growing reputation for quality and taste. We are now bringing the restaurant to a new area of Dubai and providing people with the opportunity to enjoy these same fantastic flavours. I'm convinced it will stand out in this highly competitive market."

The Al Khoory Courtyard Hotel is conveniently located in a central location and provides easy access to Dubai International Airport. For families, the location is close to many attractions in Downtown, Dubai Marina, and Palm Jumeirah. At the same time, business travellers will enjoy the short distances to hubs such as Business Bay and the forthcoming District 20.

In addition to Al Baha, guests can also choose from Spices international all-day dining, which serves many international and Indian cuisines, focusing on the family. The lobby café and Shalal Café & Lounge are available for lighter bites and drinks throughout the day.

Lifestyle



PASSION for RUM

Winters are around the corner. It's time for hot drinks that are not a soup, tea, or coffee. Think of a hot Rum Toddy or simply a Rum with hot water. But one need not wait all year for winters to arrive. Rum can be had through the year as a hot drink or as a regular drink – at parties or just as an evening drink to unwind. For the Rum lovers, there are a range of Rum Cocktails available. The Black Russian is a favorite of many across the globe. White Rums are more likely to be the mix of choice in cocktails.

Rum is a distilled alcoholic beverage made from sugarcane's byproducts, such as molasses or jars of honey, or directly from sugarcane juice filtered by the process of fermentation and distillation. Rums are produced in various grades. Light rums are commonly used in cocktails, whereas "golden" and "dark" rums were typically consumed straight or neat i.e. on the rocks, or used for cooking. Premium rums are also available, made to be consumed either straight or iced.

In the years gone by, Rum was famously associated with the Royal Navy and piracy. Rum has also served as a popular medium of economic exchange, used to help fund enterprises such as slavery, organized crime, and military insurgencies.

Blessings comes straight from Rum

Rum has been around for longer than most modern alcoholic beverages. Its medicinal properties have especially been useful to treat wounds in times of

war, to treat the sick on board a ship when medical supplies ran out.

As we all love all the brands and types of rum, now let's know how it's beneficial for us and our health:

Rum for Heart: -

A few years back a survey on the co-relation between drinking alcohol and heart failure, was conducted on 60000+ participants who had no





incidence of heart failure at the time. The risk was highest for those who rarely or never drank alcohol, and for those who had an alcohol problem. Those who drank five or more times a month had a 21% lower risk compared to non – drinkers or those who drank little. Those who drank between one and five times a month had a two per cent lower risk of heart failure. In the case of heart attacks, the risk appeared to be reduced by 28 per cent with each additional one-drink increment.

Diminish the muscle pain: -

One of the main reasons, many people fancy alcohol is because of its ability to reduce stress levels. Alcohol actually acts as a muscle relaxant, which sounds great. When you're inebriated, you are not thinking as clearly and your physical pains seem to fade away. Alcohol lowers your inhibitions and may incite the desire to do something a little crazy such as moving heavy furniture, which is

definitely bad for your back. Alcohol affects your mood and physiology. The substance acts as a depressant that slows the body's natural processes such as circulation and breathing. Even more than that, alcohol can adversely influence your mood.

Rum for Longevity

Longitudinal studies have consistently shown that people who don't consume any alcohol at all tend to die before people who do. At first glance, this makes little sense. Doctors have long suspected that imbibing has health benefits. During the early years of Prohibition, a coalition of doctors went to the Supreme Court to fight for their right to prescribe alcohol for such disorders as upset stomach, chronic wasting disease, prolonged lactation, and tuberculosis. In 1926, just as the Supreme Court was rejecting the physicians' plea, a Johns Hopkins researcher named Raymond Pearl published a book showing that people who drink a little bit of alcohol

live longer than those who drink too much or not at all. Alcohol and longevity has long been a hot topic, both in the science world and on the news.

But its' not an elixir

Alcohol consumption is associated with a variety of short- and long-term health risks, including motor vehicle crashes, violence, sexual risk behaviors, high blood pressure, and various cancers. The risk of these harms increases with the amount of alcohol you drink. For some conditions, like some cancers, the risk increases even at very low levels of alcohol consumption. It is now also established that those who suffer from Type II Diabetes should avoid consumption of Rum mainly because of its high glycemic value.

And like they say everything taken in excess is harmful to health. So drink responsibly!



Snug as a Bug in a Rug

Winter season is a perfect blend of superb coffee and impeccable wear.

Indians favor the winter season. It is a lovely season weather-wise. The low temperatures across the country and blankets of snow in the northern regions are a respite from the heat one faces in the other seasons. After the blazing summer, winter arrives to make the spirits feel alive; in the summer an air conditioned room only reminds one of the winters.

Talking about winter fashion, Class and Simplicity, are two aspects that define the whole cosmos of wear. Trends become classier and marvelous year after year, whether it is men's wear or ladies fashion. The style of outerwear takes on a far more fashion-forward form. This doesn't mean you have to opt for an avant-garde design. Just think slightly outside the box of what is traditional.

Padded Jackets

Padded jackets use foam or are quilted to give a fluffy and warm feel in the winters. Good quality padded jackets are durable but yes they do deteriorate if not washed carefully. Fluffy looks super cute and it doesn't matter what kind of personality you have, or your body shape whether thin or fat - it goes down well with everyone.

Men: "Black padded jacket with check grey scarf and blue full sleeves tees and black jeans with white sneakers" this look is now the new trend of this genre.

Women: "Crimson red with black and white striped



tees with blue denim jeans, open hair and boots" this look is stunning and mostly loved by men for women.

Bomber Jackets

A Bomber jacket is always trending and new designs come up every winter season. These jackets are very good for the look of a fearless go-getter. In the winters these jackets are a really good option to try. The elegance of this jacket is enhanced with leggings, jeans, and trousers. We have a lot to thank Bomber Pilots for and their jackets are just one small contribution to the fashion world.

Men: Try the black or beige suede or leather Bomber jackets that can be worn over jeans or even casual trousers for a fashionable look. Show-off a bit with thick collared Bomber jackets.

Women: Make a fashion statement with Bomber Jackets in any color, with or without patterns, worn with fitted jeans or slacks and the right accessories.

Long Knit Jackets

For many people, winter is more about keeping warm than being stylish. But who says that you can't do both? Wearing the right fabrics will make you

look both elegant and will keep you warm during the short days of the cold season. A good winter fabric should be strong, warm and natural, but should look amazing as well. This material is made of wool which is the finest substance for winters. These jackets are very prominent with the color “Black and Grey”. In this outfit you don’t want to go home, you will enjoy the weather.

Men: This jacket is best with rich and zed black color. This is a unisex jacket. Black is a color that looks superior with every costume. Men have a charm for black. They are inseparable and almost like “besties forever”, never going to leave each other for life. If its’ not the black color then its’ got to be Royal Blue. That’s another color men are in a committed relationship with. The long knit jacket is now a fashion statement for winter ear. Its trending this winter season, and may be trending in the next few winters as well.

Women: This jacket looks adorable and dashing on each and every girl! And Black is Black! It is everyone’s favorite color. Black long knit jackets are adorable and give women the real diva look. It certainly enhances the features of your pretty face.

Rexine Jackets:

Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls! This jacket is going to be your best friend. Because –

- Can be worn on any occasion – to the office, at a party, and as casual wear.
- Its low maintenance and easy to clean
- It doesn’t pinch your pocket and readily available in a mall and in many outfit stores
- If you support animal rights you will love to know that this jacket has been made from the plastics often used in clothing and fabrics. Its’ commonly known as artificial leather.

We don’t suggest you wear it as night wear but rest assured, if you crash out in the open after a crazy binge party this winter, this jacket will keep you warm, protected and cozy. And we should warn you. The jackets are unisex in design so keep it away from your spouse, sibling and adolescent children.

Men: A man with a beard hogs the limelight but



a rexine jacket gives a man the “Manly” look and hottest attention whether or not he sports a beard.

Women: “Fashion and outfit” are inter-connected. When we talk about fashion, the first thing that comes to mind is girls and women as there are more of the finer sex who are fashion conscious. This jacket then personifies fashion for the lovely ladies.

Loose Tunic

Pregnancy is a joyous occasion, causing much congratulatory petting of your ever expanding belly. This doesn’t mean that you are doomed to wear frou-frou dresses, nor are you condemned to hide under sackcloth during your nine-month sojourn into maternity.

The idea is to look effortlessly elegant while attired in cushy clothes, so comfortable they make you feel as if you’ve just stepped into your pajamas. Tunics are becoming bigger and bigger as far as height and size and trendiness is concerned. That’s because the tunic look is very in right now. And it is a fun way to break-up with your long t-shirts.

For the men, a tunic conjures up images of a fabled archer, the detective and the man in the shadows. Choose your style!

Men: In the generation of equality, there are no rules in trends now. So why should girls have all the fun in the matter of fashion and trends. Surprise Surprise!!! This tunic comes with no gender limit. Men can also it worth their money to get a tunic.





Women: Pregnant or not, this surcoat can be worn anytime in winters. Doesn't matter whatever the occasion is.

Parka

For that really warm and snug feel, wear a Parka this winter. Its' always been the best and warmest winter wear for the harshest climatic conditions. But its' now trending as a fashion statement. It still remains an essential outdoor wear, but with couture designers and others toning down the rugged look and feel, the designs are elegant. Get one that has a hood if you like the "hoodie" look. Otherwise high zipped up collars with fur lining help keep your ears warm.

Men: Try the olive green or charcoal grey colors with designs that enhance your outdoorsy or rugged look. Try a black parka with beige fur and an elegant design for a semi-formal wear.

Women: A black parka goes with almost any of your trousers, jeans or slacks. Couple it with a fur lined hood of a color of your choice. Parkas are now elegantly designed in soft materials that you would love to wear when you step out with all your grace.





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A Powerful Spin

A slew of new motorcycles is launched in India each year. That said, the craze for the big boy bikes remains intact.

Asheesh Bhandari

India is one of the largest two-wheeler manufacturers globally, contributing to around 2% of GDP revenues. According to some reports, two-wheeler production accounts for more than 80% of total automotive production in India, making it the home of major automobile manufacturers in the world. Motorcycles are the two-wheeler of choice for the daily commute or for an intercity or cross-country ride. And when you want to take a pleasure spin across the country, it's the big boys that come out.

The monsoon is receding; the temperature is coming down across the country; there are a number of holidays around the corner; yes it's time to really enjoy the phrase, "this road never ends". The old faithful motor bike needs a service and an overhaul for the long journey ahead. Or maybe an upgrade to a larger engine is on the cards. Premium motorcycles with engine displacements above 500cc have found a market in India. Although this market isn't as huge as the ones in Europe and North America, it has seen sizable growth in the last few years with more premium motorcycle brands coming to India with their new products. The options for a big boy bike are many but here are a few from the Suzuki stable to consider for those

brand new highways and expressways coming up across the country.

Suzuki Katana

Suzuki has a remarkable brand presence in India because of its super sports bike – the Hayabusa. Now, with the Katana, Suzuki wants to penetrate strongly in the Indian market by offering its performance motorcycle, an epitome of fine craftsmanship and pure functional beauty. Inspiration for the design came from the famed Japanese sword of the same name.

Further honing of the 2022 KATANA puts an even finer edge on overall performance and riding pleasure. Updates include the introduction of advanced electronic controls and refinements that result in greater overall performance. Styling improvements highlighting its quality and distinctive good looks include cool new body colours suited to a superior street bike and new trim for functioning parts.

While the colours for the 2020 KATANA aimed to reflect the model's heritage, the solid colours and matte finishes for the 2022 model were chosen to

introduce a cool look suited to contemporary tastes.

The Suzuki Intelligent Ride System (S.I.R.S.) introduces a collection of advanced electronic control systems that enable the rider to optimize performance to match their level of confidence and experience, and to best suit specific riding conditions and varying road surfaces. The respective systems that comprise S.I.R.S. assist the rider by helping make the bike more controllable, more predictable, and less tiring to operate.

The Suzuki Drive Mode Selector (SDMS) is designed to offer a choice between three different modes that change output characteristics to match riding conditions or preferences. The settings for each mode are custom-tuned and thoroughly tested to build in the flexibility to better adapt to changing weather, road and riding conditions and optimize performance to make the overall riding experience more enjoyable.

The Suzuki Traction Control System (STCS) is updated to a 5 mode settings (+ OFF). The finer incremental control over settings allows the new 5-mode traction control system to better fit a more diverse variety of riding conditions and styles. The higher the number the mode, the faster the control takes effect and the more proactive the system is in limiting wheel spin.

The STCS is not a substitute for the rider's throttle control. It cannot prevent loss of traction due to excessive speed when the rider enters a turn and/or applies the brakes. Neither can it prevent the front wheel from losing grip. A great riding experience is always about man and machine.

The Bi-directional Quick Shift System enhances the riding experience by enabling the rider to shift up or down smoothly without operating the clutch lever. When activated by the rider, the system automatically interrupts power delivery when accelerating, just long enough to produce smoother, almost uninterrupted acceleration when



the rider shifts up. When decelerating, the system automatically increases rpm to match engine speed to the next-lower gear ratio. The result of this hands-free automatic blipping function combines seamlessly with engine braking to realize highly satisfying downshifts.

The Bi-directional Quick Shift System combines with the SDMS power output mode settings to enable the rider to more freely, prioritize sports or stability characteristics to match their style or the riding conditions. It also provides a more linear shift feel when changing gears adding to the joy of the ride.

The Ride-by-wire Electronic Throttle System is a new electronic throttle control system that leverages the processing capabilities of a 32-bit ECM to control the action of the throttle valves. This makes it possible to introduce the variety of new electronic control systems. The overall result is throttle action that responds amicably to the rider's intention.

Tuned to deliver ideal overall performance on the street, the core architecture of this high-performance 999cm³ four-stroke DOHC liquid-cooled inline-four engine benefits from know-how acquired over decades of winning countless production races, and from technologies developed for MotoGP racing. Updates for the 2022 model, including new camshaft profiles, new valve springs, a new clutch and a new exhaust system, further increase maximum power output and achieve an overall better balance of performance, all while satisfying BS6 emissions standards.

Though maximum torque is marginally lower than that on its predecessor, the engine features greater torque production at low rpm. This brings a more satisfying feeling of immediate response and



acceleration from low speed. It also demonstrates quicker response at mid-range and higher speeds, which leads to a more exhilarating and enjoyable riding experience.

Maximum power output is achieved at higher rpm (11,000 vs. 10,000), and this makes opening the throttle and revving the engine all the more fun. This combines with the rich variety of newly introduced electronic control technologies to make the KATANA more controllable, more predictable, and less tiring to operate.

The sporty 4-2-1 exhaust system was completely

redesigned and tuned to help deliver maximum overall performance while satisfying BS6 emission standards. Structural changes include a new layout behind the collector, a new chamber structure, and the introduction of a new two-stage catalytic converter system. As an added benefit, the exhaust note for this updated system was tuned and optimized using Suzuki's own Exhaust Sound Quality Evaluation Program. This helps realize a pleasing exhaust sound that does not disturb the rider while on the road, but does produce a luxurious note the instant the engine is started.

New electronic throttle bodies not only contribute to satisfying BS6 emissions standards. The optimized Ø40mm bore size help achieve a better balance between idling speed control and power output characteristics.

The air cleaner box introduces an internal structure that contributes to increasing power output by effectively reducing intake resistance. While the new design slightly reduces the box's volumetric capacity from 8.9L to 8.2L, eliminating the separator improves serviceability and reduces weight.

A camshaft with carefully revised exhaust and intake cam profiles decreases the amount of lift and reduces valve lift overlap. This helps improve emissions performance while achieving a better overall balance of performance and controllability, particularly at low- to mid-range speeds.

The radiator adopts a new design that reduces airflow resistance by approximately 18%. This enhances cooling efficiency enough to lower the temperature by approximately 1.5 when idling. Its larger fin pitch also helps better dissipate heat when the fans spin up in situations such as stop-and-go traffic.



Automobile

The Suzuki Clutch Assist System (SCAS) for the 2022 KATANA introduces an assist function to complement the previous generation's slipper clutch. The slipper clutch partially disengages when downshifting from high rpm to mitigate the effect of engine braking. By mitigating the chance of the rear tyre locking up or hopping and working in harmony with the Bi-directional Quick Shift System for a smoother deceleration, SCAS enables the rider to shift down with greater confidence and maintain better control.

The full LCD brightness-adjustable instrument cluster packs a wide range of useful information into a relatively compact form factor. It is also designed to make the readouts from its multiple functions easy to recognize. The look is one of high quality. LED indicators designed for easy recognition flank the display. Included are those for the turn signals, high beam, neutral, malfunction, master warning, ABS, traction control system, low voltage warning, coolant temperature and oil pressure.

Hayabusa

The Hayabusa is famed for its abundant power, agility and majestic presence. It is legendary for establishing new levels of ultimate sport performance, and for retaining the number one position for the past two decades in the class it created. Today, total commitment and tireless effort give birth to a new generation perfectly poised to boldly carry riders into the future. Its further enhanced riding experience features even smoother power delivery and more nimble handling, a collection of the latest electronic systems designed to optimize performance characteristics, and make the Hayabusa more controllable and predictable, as well as unshakeably reliable. All this in a package that will instantly turn heads with its breath-taking style and grace.

The Suzuki Drive Mode Selector Alpha (SDMS- α) groups together five advanced electronic control

systems while enabling riders to select individual settings for each. It optimizes performance characteristics and behaviour to best suit varying road surfaces, riding conditions and preferred riding styles. Experiment with the different settings and benefit from the feedback each offers to hone your riding skills and build greater confidence while enjoying the ultimate riding experience. In addition to three factory presets, (A, B, C), SDMS- α offers a choice between three user-defined groups of settings (U1, U2, U3). Modes and settings can be changed using switches on the left handlebar and the current settings are displayed on the TFT LCD panel located in the centre of the instrument cluster.

A 6-axis, Bosch IMU (Inertial Measurement Unit) combines accelerometers and gyroscopes in a single compact package that constantly monitors pitch (forward or backward tilt), roll (leaning from side to side), and yaw (turning in relation to initial direction). These measurements are compared against one another as well as readings from wheel speed sensors to keep the Hayabusa aware of its situation at all times and realize several of the advanced controls.

Select between three different engine output modes that control power delivery to match road and riding conditions. Mode 1 provides the sharpest throttle response and delivers maximum power. It's a solid choice for the experienced rider out for a sporty run. Mode 2 provides softer throttle response and more linear power delivery. That makes it a practical mode for daily riding. Mode 3 provides the softest throttle response and features a more gentle power curve with reduced maximum output. It's well suited to riding on wet or slippery roads, or while still getting used to the potential of the Ultimate Sport Bike.

Suzuki has successfully developed an advanced system that maximizes acceleration performance while preventing the front wheel from lifting off

the ground. The system offers a choice of 10 mode settings when turned on, with Mode 1 providing minimal control and Mode 10 making it virtually impossible to lift the front wheel, even when fully opening the throttle with a passenger on the back.

Shift up or down more quickly and easily without the need to operate the clutch or throttle. Quick Shift offers two modes. Mode 1 reacts more quickly to replicate racing-style response, while Mode 2 offers a lighter touch. To ensure smooth shift action when using Quick Shift, the ECM retards ignition when accelerating or maintaining steady speed and opens the throttle valve when decelerating. Performance of the new assist & slipper clutch ensures even smoother shifts.

The engine brake control system cancels out the effect of engine braking to suppress rear tyre sliding or skipping and provide smoother, more controllable behaviour. A choice of three modes plus an OFF setting let you control the effective strength of engine braking to match riding conditions or your preference.

The Motion Track traction Control System employs data from the IMU to constantly monitor the amount of lean angle and effectively limit slip in corners as well as on straightaways. It provides greater stability at all times, enabling confident control in varying riding conditions while reducing stress and fatigue. The system offers a choice of 10 mode settings, and it can be turned off when preferred. The higher number the mode, the faster traction control is engaged and the more proactive the system is in limiting wheel spin.

The Launch Control System allows a selection of three mode settings to match the engine speed at launch to your level of experience or confidence. Mode 1 limits engine speed on launch to 4,000 rpm, Mode 2 operates at 6,000 rpm, and Mode 3 - the fastest mode - operates at 8,000 rpm and gives





the feel of a launch at the start line of a race track.

The Active Speed Limiter is a first in the motorcycle industry. This system lets you set a speed you do not wish to exceed and then accelerates or decelerates to that speed limit. This helps lessen worries about the bike exceeding your chosen speed limit.

Hill Hold Control is designed to automatically engage the rear brake for 30 seconds after coming to a stop while facing uphill on an incline, even when you release the brake lever or pedal. This helps ensure a smoother restart, free of worries that the bike will roll backward. The system is disengaged either by quickly squeezing the front brake lever twice, or by accelerating to pull away from a standing start.

Cruise Control reduces fatigue on long rides by allowing you to maintain a set speed without operating the throttle. The speed can be easily adjusted upward or downward using the mode/set switch on the left handlebar and set from 31km/h to 200km/h while riding at 2,000 to 7,000 rpm in second gear or higher. The handy resume function re-engages the system and accelerates to the most recent speed setting after braking.

Refinements implemented throughout the Hayabusa's legendary 1,340cm³ liquid-cooled inline-four engine achieve an even better balance of overall performance, greater efficiency and durability, while also satisfying BS6 emissions standards. Inheriting the proud legacy of the Ultimate Sport Bike that established the category in 1999, the Hayabusa continues to deliver more torque and power than any other sport bike at the engine speeds typically used in daily riding. A symbol of engineering pride and prowess, it is built to deliver the ultimate riding experience for the long run.

Though the engine is already renowned for its durability and longevity, refinements aim to take

it to another level. New pistons and connecting rods reduce the weight of moving parts within the engine. Changes to the crankshaft oil passages improve engine lubrication. The transmission shaft needle bearings are extended in length. Attention to detail goes as far as changing the way the engine case bolts are tightened, and even to the threading for the screw holes in the upper crankcase.

Ultimate performance is born of the perfect marriage between power and poise, and between the rider and the bike. The Hayabusa delivers this in spades. Abundant power and torque offer a more confident ride in any gear and at any speed. Its chassis and running gear ensure the nimble handling to put the rider in full control. All this is skilfully wedded in a bold design with an aggressive stance that highlights its luxurious details and speaks of fine craftsmanship. Like its namesake, the Japanese peregrine falcon, the Hayabusa earns its position as the fastest, most agile predator in the wild. It's far more than the sum of its parts.

Suzuki V-Strom 650 XT

Gathering followers with its versatility and friendly nature, the V-Strom 650XT has earned the respect of many riders.

Inheriting the favored traction control system from the V-Strom 1000, the V-Strom 650XT also is equipped with this advanced technology. This system continuously monitors the front and rear wheel speeds, throttle position, crank position, and gear position with various sensors, and controls the engine output by managing the ignition timing and air delivery. The traction control system can be switched to either of two modes, or off. The modes differ in terms of sensitivity. Mode one allows modest rear wheel spin for more advanced, exhilarating riding, while mode two activates traction control at the slightest loss of rear-wheel grip to give you greater confidence on slippery

surfaces or in the rain. The choice of modes can be quickly and easily made by selecting the traction control mode from the left switch cluster and confirming it with a glance at the instruments. In difficult riding situations such as cold or ragged road surfaces, fully loaded with luggage, or with a pillion rider, this advanced system already established on the V-Strom 1000 shall back up the ride.

By sharing the easy to see and easy to operate/understand instrument cluster, along with the cowling image with its bigger brother, the V-Strom 650XT has rich information with a quality design. The instrument cluster incorporates a large analogue tachometer and digital readouts for the gear position and speedometer. The digital section displays the odometer, twin-trip meter, clock, fuel level, coolant temperature, ambient temperature, battery voltage, remaining fuel, average and instantaneous fuel consumptions, and traction-control modes. The remaining fuel range continues to display after the fuel gauge shows empty, offering the rider with accurate and comforting information. Plus, instantly recognizable LEDs provide freeze, high-beam, neutral, malfunction indicator lamp (MIL), ABS, traction-control mode, and water-temperature indicators. All of this information is accessible from the left handlebar switch, where it is also possible to reset the trip meter.

Equipped with 310mm diameter twin discs with twin two piston callipers on the front and a 260mm diameter single disk with a single piston calliper on the rear, the V-Strom 650XT provides controllable and dependable stopping performance. Also the compact and light-weight ABS, to avoid wheel lock caused by excess hard braking, has been upgraded to the next generation with advanced settings for a further natural feel and secure activation.

The 645cm³ DOHC V-twin is a masterpiece of Suzuki engineering which has an evolving history.

Lazy Gardener

Diwali is just around the corner and with the global pandemic taking its toll, people are eager to adopt the greener side to the festival. Commemorating the concept of “Green Diwali”, say “Hey” to Lazy Gardener’s exclusive Diwali Gift boxes for people who nurture their plants and wish to keep an eye, wherever they are.



Lazy Gardener’s Diwali gift boxes are designed specially to spread positive vibes. The #GreenDiwali boxes have been crafted thoughtfully with Indoor gardening trends to suit the home decor and festive feels, keeping in mind the love for nature and to #PlantsformYourHome. It will urge you to adopt the essence of nature without compromising the pretty designs of artificial planters. These tiny planters will ensure zero mess and can be an ideal gifting solution for all nature enthusiasts as well as people who enjoy modern, innovative art.

The collection includes varieties of boxes, which have been designed to symbolize purity, originality, freshness, calmness, beauty, power, and emotions. The intricate artwork and differing assortment can be the “perfect box of happiness” to substitute the harmful box of loud noises.

The Diwali gifting options range from INR 399 - 2299 and will not hit your pocket hard as you will find something for every pocket size.

So what are you waiting for? Hit the cart button as this series is limited!

Comment: Celebrate #GreenDiwali

Rating: 8/10

The June Shop

The festive season being around the corner not only calls for lighting up our houses with lights and Diyas but also enhancing its interior.



The June Shop has got you covered for this season by introducing its chic dinnerware, making your guests not only love your cultural recipes but, also appreciating the elegance of your Dinnerware by its choicest Sunset Orange Pattern Moroccan Bowl. A careful creation to host your guests with grace, these hand printed designs uplift the entire vibe. Now, ace your interiors game with the aesthetic Illusion Design Soft Feel Long Mat Runner perfectly made for bedrooms. Once they’re all glammed up by the bedroom look, the next plan should be to show-off the bathroom with the help of Waves & Breeze- Super Absorbent Anti Skid Bathroom Floor Mat that allows you to enhance your washroom the classic way for giving a comfortable experience to your guests.

Don’t wait and shop away such trendiest & functional designs for your home from The June Shop – <https://thejuneshop.com/>

Comment: Renovate your home this Diwali with The June Shop

Rating:



Meena Elements

Meena Elements is a one stop solution to all your skincare needs. The brand offers a wide range of products such as face wash, essential oils, moisturizing cream, etc. The bestselling and most popular product is Meena Khaki premium powder.

The Quality Products and Best Service remained as top priority of MEENA PRODUCTS since 1965. With the initial success the company ventured into MEENA KHAKI as Compact Face Powder generally used in drama theaters by Make Up Men & Stage Artists in and around Girgaon, Mumbai. Then became popular amongst masses as Basic Make Up Powder.

What’s better than gifting your loved ones a box of self-care? Each box is designed to complete a sumptuous skincare routine. The cost of the gift hamper is Rs.1003/-

Comment: Old is Gold

Rating: 8/10



Vedic Nuts

Harshita Gupta and Saakshi Gupta established the brand in 2019 with a sole mission of providing the most premium gourmet products for everyone. Being travel enthusiasts, they explored different cultures & their cuisine which gave them the idea of starting the brand- Vedic Nuts.



The brand signifies authenticity and purity. They provide preservative free & color free premium dry fruits to their clients. Vedic Nuts aim is to keep transparency and loyalty with their beloved customers by creating valuable experiences through their scrumptious products & gifting range.

The brand is a perfect amalgamation of luxury yet tasty- which makes it different from the other in the market. From keeping a jar of Rose Petal Almonds or Masala Cranberries at your work desk to carrying a jar of Mint Dates for your on the go work meetings- Vedic Nuts is here to sort all our hunger pangs.

The premium range of Silver and Gold coated (99% & 24 karat edible silver & gold respectively) nuts are the top notch product of the brand.

Comment: Premium Tastes & Premium Aesthetics

Rating: 9/10

Bakehouse Comfort by CDH

It takes fresh bread, buttery croissant & a creamy slice of cake to make one happy! Taking Comfort to a new pitch is Delhi's new Bakehouse –COMFORT BAKEHOUSE BY CAFÉ DELHI HEIGHTS. Helmed by Gunjan Batra from the house of the city's most flavourful & fun brand: CAFÉ DELHI HEIGHTS. A brand known to have pioneered the café culture in the country has always delivered the best of food with the fresh taste & ingredients to its patrons. Comfort Bakehouse reliably turns out aromatic loaves of naturally leavened Sourdough, croissants, vegan breads, cookies that you crave on a daily basis. This Diwali Comfort Bakehouse by Café Delhi Heights has created Gifting hampers which are Global hampers deriving inspirations from the different parts of the world. From Lebanese Grazing tray to Mexican grazing tray - these trays have specially curated delicacies doing justice to their names like Falafel, Hummus, Lavash pita bread, Marinated olive to Lebanese, Nachos, Pineapple salsa, Baked beans, tacos shell etc to Mexican and more. These trays comes as quick solutions for your house parties. There are tempting Dessert trays which carries from Sweet /mega tray to sweet Medium tray to crates in different sizes to hampers which have varieties of Breads, sour dough, cookies, cakes and more.

Starting from Rs 800 onwards, for orders reach out to 9711164033 and available at all Café Delhi Heights outlets as well.

Comment: Justice to their names.

Rating: 9/10



Fix My Curls

Fix My Curls come up with the FMC Hello Definition Box for Diwali. The Hello Definition box is perfectly curated for those who feel their curls are dry, damaged and limp. The blend of formulas in this box will not only provide strength & bond repair over time to your curls but will also give them bounce, definition and volume that curly hair needs.

Comment: Your hair companion

Rating: 9/10



Lexar

Festivals are all about making & capturing memories with our friends, family & loved ones. Therefore If you are looking for the perfect gift for your friends and family, Lexar has SATA NS10 Lite, which comes with a storage capacity of 240 GB. It has faster performance and is more reliable compared to traditional hard drives.

What makes the product different is its high read speed of 480 MB and has shock & vibration-resistant technology.

Comment: Store your beautiful memories forever with Lexar.

Rating: 8/10



Type Beauty Inc

Why is it perfect for Diwali: Don't miss Type Beauty's newest launch : Lipstick & Eyeshadow sticks perfect for that Diwali Glam!!

Lipstick- This ultimate moisturizing sheer lipstick contains Squalane and Tripeptides to soothe dry lips. With only one swipe, you can get the perfect feel smooth creamy matte finish that lasts up to 8 hours, for that perfect plump pout!

Eyeshadow- A soft matte makeup stick that conceals and corrects hyperpigmentation and dark circles. The eye light cream eyeshadow stick has a highly pigmented easy blend formula that is smudge and crease resistant.

Its simple application allows for spectacular eye enhancement with only one stroke! The distinctive square package adds a unique twist allowing this to be a quick graphic liner wand.

Comment: Look more beautiful this Diwali with Type Beauty Inc

Rating: 8/10



Bella Vita Organic

Hello Hydration Gift Box- Immerse your skin in a boatload of hydration with our Hello Hydration Gift Set. Exclusively designed to deliver on-the-go hydration, this gift set is packed with natural hydrators like face wash, toner, face gel, face pack along with under-eye gel, which strengthen the skin's moisture barrier to give you nothing but smooth & supple skin. This travel-friendly kit is perfect to revive dull & dry skin.

Comment: Revive the beauty of your skin

Rating: 8/10



Bevzilla



For the most celebrated festival, we have something very special in our Bevzilla Gift Hamper. From friends to family to colleagues, this gift hamper is perfect for everyone.

This hamper includes Assorted Coffee Cubes & Hot Chocolate Mix, both sweetened with Date Palm Jaggery so you don't need to add any refined sugar and Tumbler.

The electric frother comes handy to prepare creamy, smooth and rich beverages.

The Tumbler is convenient and the best way to savour your beverages on the go!

Comment: Taste that get's you started up

Rating: 8/10

Protouch

A brand that inspires to provide professional solutions to the actual problem with the help of technology that works and products that deliver its promises at the comfort of your home.

The Protouch LED Hair growth therapy comb is a revolutionary product that is all set to take the world of haircare by storm. With its red and blue LED light therapy, 3 vibration modes, and 49 massaging points, a single use of the comb gives the effect and benefit of 10 professional head massages. Get healthier and improved hair simply by using this in-home hair care solution as and when you want. PROTOUCH Biotin & Collagen Hair Growth Drops is power packed with hair growth stimulating ingredients like Biotin, Collagen, Redensyl, Anagain, Procapil & Onion Ext. which rapidly increases hair stem cell activity and nourishes hair follicle to promote healthier hair growth.

Comment: Fast Forward to future: Protouch brings to you a perfect hair care solution infused with new age science and backed by experts

Rating: 9/10



Trudiance

A makeup kit that will help you put your best face forward everyday. Be it at work or at a get-together/ Diwali or any festival. Powered by super ingredients like hyaluronic acid for plumping and hydration, and jojoba oil for moisturization, this kit will ensure your beauty shines through while you're comfortable wearing it. You're sure to love the DEWY, subtle-but-dressy look this kit can help you pull off effortlessly!

Comment: Your everyday beauty

Rating: 8/10



Deyga Organics

Bestsellers' hamper is a well-curated collection of products that helps you delight in the 'Deyga Experience'! It comprises our most-loved products that can be used to build a solid self-care routine. It is also perfect for gifting!

Comment: Love yourself with Deyga Organics

Rating: 8/10



Honey & Dough

If you are Bake lover and Cake lover, then you must know Honey & Dough- a friendly neighbourhood bakery started in 2017 by Utsav & Aavika Chhawchharia. Honey & Dough is a renowned bakery and coffeehouse and a one-stop-destination for premium quality and authentic global baked goods, freshly brewed coffee, custom deserts, decadent chocolates as well as savoury offerings.



As the Festive Season rears its head, Honey & Dough prepares to offer you a unique gifting experience. The gifting range starts from 500 INR to 3500 INR. Our large selection of gift hampers that includes certainly make this year's Diwali an unforgettable one." The New introductions of the boxes which are as beautiful as innovative ranges from Traditional Jar flab box, Dori box, Star boxes and leather trunks. The wooden dessert-grazing box is the perfect fit and suitable to Sturdy box, packaging material made of premium quality, and industry-defined protocols have been followed to ensure safe delivery of the hampers to the customer. The leather trunk boxes, available in pink & blue colour and stripes box are surely contemporary and attract the youth taste as well. These different boxes have special Honey & Dough delights that includes Oatmeal & Raisin Cookies, Chocolate Overloaded Cookies, French Heart Cookies, Granola in Jar, Masala Raisins and Roasted Almonds, Blueberry Muffin, Oatmeal & Raisin Cookies, Cranberry & Pistachio Chocolate Bar and Garlic Soya Sticks, Chocolate Box, Fruit & Nut Chocolate Bar etc

Comment: A reason for celebration

Rating: 9/10

Okayti Tea

Thinking about gifts is a daunting task. We often succumb to generic gifts which for obvious reasons fail to convey our gratitude and appreciation for the other person. Gifts are tokens to acknowledge the difference that our friends, family, and loved ones make in our lives. Something crafted with utmost care and passion harbours the possibility of making a positive impact. Tea is a heritage beverage with a long history. Tea bricks were also used as currency for their high value and the finest tea blends often made great gifts for the royalties. "Okayti wants to rewind and bring back the glory that teas enjoyed erstwhile because they are the most refined and delicate beverage in the world" the management release read.

The gift sets offer the best blends from the organic estate of Okayti. Packed in aesthetic wooden boxes, the gifts are pleasing to the eyes as they are to the palate. The specially crafted teas bring the freshness and greenery of the Himalayas in every sip. The refreshingly mild sweetness of seasonal Darjeeling teas enlaced with the refined notes of seasoned wood is a tea awaited globally. Such an assortment of exclusive teas is destined to put a smile on the face of your loved ones. Make the most

of this festive season with Okayti's enticing tea gift sets from the mystical mountains.

Comment: Start your day with Okayti's Tea

Rating: 8/10



Pure Home + Living

Weave a cheerful blend of fond memories with your loved ones and spread happiness to every corner of your home with an assortment of delightful products from Pure Home + Living's "Noor Collection".



A subtle blend of traditional and contemporary designs, Pure Home + Living's wide collection of candle holders are artistically crafted with ornate detailing. Bring the festive glow in every part of your home with these charming décor pieces.

Elevate your table space with enchanting accessories. From delicate candle holders to hammered wine glasses, find a beautiful assortment of décor for your home.

Crafted with glass, our Iris Purple Decorative Tumbler comes with attractive texture detailing and good quality. Introduce elegance in your home with this beautiful décor accessory.

Crafted with a striking embroidery, Pure Home + Living's Alara Blue Cushion covers exudes a festive vibe with its bright blue color. Bordered by piping, this piece can make your sofa standout with elegance.

Crafted by skilled artisans, Pure Home + Living's Nerea decorative bowl exhibits a luxurious gold glow. Sitting atop a decorative tier stem, this holder bounces a soft light. Bordered with a flower design, this décor accessory can make your room elegant with its unique appeal.

Products available at: PURE's stores across India and website.

Comment: Bring warmth & sparkle to your home this festive season

Rating: 9/10

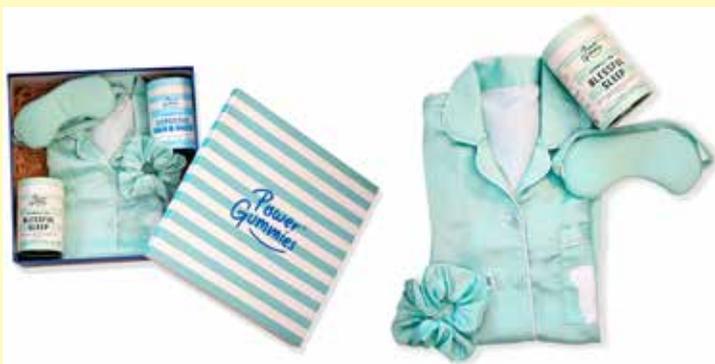
Power Gummies

The ideal present for a special someone is this combo set. The products "Gorgeous Hair and Nails" and "Blessful Sleep," as well as an Eye Mask, a Rubber Band, and a Nightsuit, are included. When it comes to appearance, everyone wants healthy hair and getting a good night's sleep after a party is crucial to ensuring that you wake up ready to take on the world. These gummies nourish the body from the inside out with a range of nutrients, giving the skin the glow it deserves after a good night's sleep and making the hair seem gorgeous.

The gift set also includes a nightgown with excellent breathability and an eye mask that will help prevent dry eyes to make it cozier. The core of these Gummies is their nutritious content and tasty flavor. What could be better on days when individuals don't have time for themselves than giving someone a healthy treat? Give them health and pleasure this Diwali.

Comment: Give the wealth of health this Diwali

Rating: 8/10



Ruchoks

When it comes to Diwali, Ruchoks offers exceptional packaging with creative concept gifting solutions. The patent products of the brand, 'Premium Diwali Kandil Box' and Cracker chocolates are a must try for the festive season. The unique 'Smoke Free Diwali' concept promotes Cracker Chocolates like Rockets, Rassi Bombs, Laxmi Bombs, Zameen Chakris and Anars which will brighten up your Diwali in an environmentally friendly way and give your taste buds a treat.



To balance the festive sugar rush, you can try their health-conscious products by the brand called 'Dibha' launched in 2020, which focuses on immunity boosting healthy products like kadhas, power seeds, green teas, dry fruits, dehydrated fruits, makhanas and numerous other varieties of flavourful and mindful snacking. Looking at the market demand for customized cakes and scrumptious desserts, the power couple decided to start another venture, a store in Powai, Hiranandani called 'Rubakes' which is a one stop shop for all your sweet craving. With a mission to make your every occasion special, Rubakes offers savoury delights, customized meal kits along with pastries, cakes, cupcakes, and brownies.

So, this Diwali, get your near and dear one's gifts that will bring a smile to their faces and leave a fond memory in their hearts. Celebrate the festival of lights and colours with Ruchoks chocolates.

Comment: Celebrate 'Smoke Free Diwali' with Concept Gifting Champions!

Rating: 9/10

The Ayurveda Company (T.A.C.)

The Ayurveda Company (T.A.C.) is one of the fastest-growing brands in the beauty and wellness sector, providing ethically crafted personal and healthcare products at mass prices. T.A.C. embarked on the journey to popularize the pure, unadulterated Ayurvedic value in households across the globe. The company advocates holistic wellbeing of body, mind and soul, achieved through the lineage of Ayurveda.

An extensive collection of Ayurvedic formulations are bottled with care to suit the current times. The research done behind formulating the products is based on the science of healing rather than just instant gratification.

All T.A.C products are certified by the Good Manufacturing Practices (G.M.P), a World Health Organization (WHO) certification. The company's central aim is to introduce the customers to products which bring in the goodness of the holistic Ayurvedic lifestyle that lasts for a lifetime with extended values.

T.A.C. has launched India's first Ayurvedic Baby Care range during an event organized for young mothers, children. Recently it has launched Ayurveda's priceless elixir, the Kumkumadi range. The Company plans to launch such ranges that are holistic, healing and advance the synergy of body, mind, and soul with Ayurveda.

Within a year of acing the E-Commerce world, T.A.C. has stepped into the retail market with the launch of the first of many retail kiosks at Pacific Mall, PitamPura, Delhi.



Comment: Beauty Inside is Beauty Outside

Rating: 8/10

The Tribe Concepts

A beautiful curated box of The Tribe Concepts to gift this Diwali is Amara Bath Ritual Box. Indulge in all things luxurious Ayurveda has to offer Amara, the eternal conquest of Beauty ends with this beautifully curated box. Luxuriously crafted with a touch of elegance, our Amara Bath Ritual Box is a fusion of oils & cleansers made with revitalising herbs & precious Ayurvedic ingredients for healthy hair and skin. This top to toe luxurious bath ritual box is an experience to behold and serves as a great gifting option for your loved ones.

In this box, you get to enjoy 90 Day Miracle Oil, Extra Virgin Coconut Oil, 24k Kumkumadi Thailam, Face Brightening Daily Cleanser, Ubtan Body Cleanser and Organic Hair Cleanser. It is of INR 3,999/-

Things not to miss out while shopping from The Tribe Concepts are their exotic face glow mask and root strengthening & conditioning hair mask.

Comment: Good for Hair & Skin Care

Rating: 8/10



Arnette

Creative on every level, LEVEL 03 of Zayn's creative collab with ARNETTE is set to play-out in full color: ART-WORLD is live.

Inspired by the experimental creativity and bright, abstract colors of contemporary art, Zayn rewinds to fast-forward in the next level of his game-on journey with ARNETTE.

And it's all about creating a new approach to street culture. Keeping the tone upbeat, fun and always unexpected, the third ZAYN X ARNETTE capsule adds color and a load of attitude to a classic. Zayn reworks a nostalgic retro-square shape with unexpected angles, and hypes old-school havanas with the season's freshest tones to frame the playful, positive look of his multifaceted style. Plus, exclusive new mineral bioacetates and dedicated sustainable packaging make sure it's as cool to look at as it is kind to the earth.

Comment: It's time to look cool with Arnette

Rating: 8/10



Legend 1942

Legend 1942 is a unique perfume line keeping in line with co-founder, Anuradha Sansar's decades of experience working with luxe perfume ateliers around the world. Having immersed herself in local cuisines, cultures, and customs, this perfume line promises to be an immersive luxury experience in and of itself for the global citizen.

Legend 1942 is a 'Make in India' product especially curated by infusing the finest indigenous ingredients sourced from diverse parts of India. Available on a global platform, this gender-fluid fragrance comes in 3 significant variants – Heritage, Flamboyance, and In-DNA.

From the rich saffron of India, grown on our very own paradise on earth – Kashmir to the finest sandalwood from Karnataka- the perfume ingredients will infuse India's unparalleled aura into the finished product in every way imaginable.

This perfume is a true pioneer through its progressive "spirit". The "essence" of Legend 1942 lies in its gender fluidity. Instead of stereotyping each perfume in terms of "for men" or "women", Legend 1942 captures a universal note. Its spirit unites us through a holistic approach spanning our emotions, our identity, and our personalities. And of course, our moods.

Comment: Fragrance of India

Rating: 9/10



Inveda

In search of the perfect skin & body care regimen? Inveda's Luxury Kumkumadi Face & Body Kit is special gifting and self-care hamper created to give you the ultimate luxury that you need! While your skin needs attention, so does your body! This Kumkumadi kit is here to give you all of the love and care that you need while making your skin look young and healthy. Gift this amazing combo of body care and skincare to your loved one or treat yourself with amazing packaging that makes you fall in love with solution-driven products with the sweet aroma of saffron!

The Diwali gift hamper of Inveda contains Kumkumadi Tailam Face Oil, Kumkumadi Tailam Ubtan Facewash, Kumkumadi Tailam Body Wash, Kumkumadi Tailam Face Scrub, Kumkumadi Tailam Face Cream, Kumkumadi Tailam Face Pack and Kumkumadi Tailam Body Lotion.

Comment: Look young and Healthy

Rating: 8/10



L'OPERA

Diwali is the time for joy, celebrations and prosperity. Throughout the festivities there are gifts exchanged and love shared in abundance. Skies and hearts both are lit up with



lights and hopes of a better future. So, in light of the season, L'Opéra this year has curated a beautiful range of glittering hampers suited best to the occasion, in addition to its signature baskets and boxes, for gifting. Laurent Samandari, the CEO and Co-Founder of L'Opéra, who personally oversaw the preparation of this year's Diwali collection said, "Green, lavender and peach, ornated with elegant gold and silver recall the purity of the celebration and the elegance of the brand". L'Opéra has also introduced a line of new leather baskets and hexagonal boxes in the most elegant colours along with rich wooden trays to complement its signature delicacies.

Amit Kumar, Chef at L'Opéra adds, "Our selection of gift hampers with the vast range of tea-cakes, biscuits, pralines, preserves, colourful dragées, flavourful teas and the mouth-watering macarons of L'Opéra complemented with traditional dry nuts will certainly make this year's Diwali an unforgettable one".

So, this Diwali, do walk in into any L'Opéra outlet to feel the magic in the air and joy in your hearts.

It's range started from 500 onwards and available at- All L'opera stores.

Comment: Love from Lopera for your loved one's.

Rating: 10/10

Amrutam

Do you have a dresser that's mostly occupied with a wide range of skincare products? One for your dark circles, one for acne, one for random blemishes and one for dry skin, maybe? Oh, are there more? Like a night cream or something to get rid of suntans or stretch marks?

How would you like it if you will have a one-stop solution for all your skin problems? Would you love it if a teeny bottle of magic potion graced your dresser and took care of that long list of skin issues?

From the house of Amrutam, we present to you their version of Amrutam Kumkumadi Oil (Tailam), a special blend of more than 25 rich herbal ingredients including Kesar (Saffron) and Rakta Chandana (Red Sandalwood). This particular tailam (oil) is one such enchanting elixir that can work wonders when used for a multitude of skin issues.

An ancient and traditional Ayurvedic facial oil, it is also called the "Roop Mantra" of Ayurveda. The formula for Kumkumadi Oil was discovered thousands of years ago by the Ayurvedic scientist Maharishi Angarak. From the old Ayurvedic texts and books, it is known that Kumkumadi Oil has been used for long to soften and brighten the face. It is quite popular for bringing a shining radiance on your skin.

Comment: Room mantra of Ayurveda.

Rating: 7/10



Nistiryya

The vision of Nistiryya is to educate the masses about the importance of organic & natural food in our lives. It is a brand that has been created with the pure intention of providing organically & naturally grown/manufactured food products. The people behind Nistiryya have pledged to ethically source chemical-free, eco-friendly, wholesome, natural & premium products.

Adopting an organic food lifestyle is the need of the hour and a wise choice for both the environment and our health. In other words, organic products are the new definition of modern living. Organic products are free from harmful chemicals and more nutritious than regular food along with better & richer taste while being sustainable in the long run. We are certain that you would love the quality of our products and our services.

The bright orange color of Nistiryya represents the vibrancy, excitement, and positive & high energies that we have in our vision. With a spiritual mindset, compassion & responsibility towards our society, the young team behind Nistiryya has pledged to leave no stone unturned in their vision to provide all products of The Organic Origin - the WHOLE SOUL MANTRA of NISTIRYYA.

Comment: Boost your stamina with organic food of Nistiryya.

Rating: 8/10



Make cooking easier with - Classic Essentials

Kitchen is not just where you make food, it's where the creative processes flourish. Be it the recipe that was passed on from generation to generation or something new that you tried. It is the heart of the home. And as such your kitchen should be equipped with the best of the tools to ensure that your artistic process is not interrupted.



Classic Essentials was founded by Mr. S.N Bansal in 1981 with the mission of to develop well-designed classic and essential home goods that thoughtfully raise the standards of what you cook and serve with. The brand emphasizes great culinary results, they have strived to create quality cookware and kitchenware in stainless steel that will last you a lifetime.

The brand believes that utensils are also just as important as the food you choose to eat. Being the first in the country to develop and launch Tri-ply inner lid pressure cookers range shows the constant urge to redefine the Indian cookware industry. Their products are designed to make your life easier and healthier. The brand has a long range of products starting from easy cooking non toxic cookware, storage and goes to serveware. The brand works efficiently when it comes to the product quality, innovative products, the performance, time saving features and aesthetic with good price range.

Comment: Your kitchen Companion

Rating: 9/10

SMOOR

This Diwali, SMOOR brings you a curated treasure-trove of a delicious array of true chocolate treats created with rich ingredients, skilled craftsmanship and much love and care. Beautifully arranged in charming artisan boxes and chic hampers, SMOOR Diwali gifts are a joy to behold. This enchanting box of couverture luxury chocolates is exquisitely rich. Add joy to the festivities with these delicate Belgian chocolates. A fine harmony of dark, milk & white chocolate, and creamy cocoa-butter.

SMOOR wide range of Luxury chocolates, balaklava, macaroons and festive treat boxes to make your experience like never before. Impress your friends and family with the luxury gifting. The items in each hamper are selected with the greatest care and are intended to make the recipient feel appreciated. They cater to all palates and are packed with high regard for aesthetics and sophistication. Moreover, in a bid to be environmentally sensitive, all the packaging material used is recyclable. Some of the options include the Golden Delight Tray, Gardenia Gift Hamper, and Tea Time Chocolate Hamper. These items will be available in SMOOR stores pan India and on D2C platforms.

Comment: Festive treat boxes

Rating: 9/10



Mario Bakery

Snacks. We love them, Scrave them and just can't resist them! A good snack has the power to lift our mood and make our day. Snacks are the perfect munching options between meals. One name that comes to the mind when we think about healthy, delicious, ready-to-eat or easy-to-prepare snacks is Mario.



Ever since its launch in 2015, Mario has become a synonym for flavourful, delightful snacks. With its huge repertoire of products, Mario has something for every palate. Whether you want to choose from a mouth-watering range of Rusk, Biscuits, masala & spicy noodles. Mario is always the right choice. There are many factors behind the success of Mario. Chief among them are a stringent focus on quality, world class production processes and state-of-the-art machinery, which has been imported from Europe. In fact, Mario today has the biggest rusk production facility in Asia. The result is products that have captured markets across Delhi, UP, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu, Rajasthan, Haryana as well as the rest of India. The taste and quality of Mario has won over fans not just in our country but globally also. Mario products are exported to many countries, including Australia, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Spain and Italy to name a few.

Mario has been constantly delivering on all its promises. With its highest standards of production and best quality of ingredients, Mario has proved that snacks can be tasty and fill your life's moments with happiness!

Comment: A flavorful journey!

Rating: 8/10

QuikShef



Quikshef, as the name suggests, is the fastest-growing quick-service restaurant chain, bringing out the best of authentic recipes and techniques. Through what was initiated as a cafe has now evolved into a frozen food manufacturing company. They strive to maintain the freshness of every ingredient used in the dishes until it is consumed. Their menu includes everything from quick bites to full-course meals, all of which are made with ultra-modern technology.

Under envision of Ms. Sheetal Bhalerao, Chairman and MD of Wardwizard Food and Beverages Limited, the flagship brand QuikShef is seeing new heights. With a focus on quality and innovation, QuikShef aims to make its mark in the industry and become a leading player.

Ms. Bhalerao has extensive experience in the food and beverage industry, and she is confident that QuikShef will be able to achieve its goals. With a strong commitment to quality and customer satisfaction, QuikShef is poised for success.

Wardwizard Food and Beverages Limited is one of the leading providers of food and beverage solutions in India. With a focus on quality and innovation, Wardwizard is committed to providing the best possible products and services to its customers.

Comment: Get your food ready in 2 minutes.

Rating: 9/10

PLAYFIT Dial 2

The PLAYFIT Dial 2 is a Bluetooth calling Smart watch with an LCD styled round screen. The watch has a 1.3 inch full touch IPS display panel with toughened glass and great aesthetics. Choose your watch face from a number of those available on the Cloud. Its 22 mm strap made of quality Silicon is designed to look good on the wrist of any gender. The bottom side of the watch is made of Plastic to prevent discomfort due to sweat and higher body temperatures. The Smart watch itself is made of Zinc alloy, Plastic and Silicon.

This Smart watch allows for some advanced health management and accurate tracking of vital parameters. Specifically it has a G-Sensor / Accelerometer, a heart rate monitor, and a blood - oxygen monitor. Other health monitoring features are a pedometer, sedentary alert, and a sleep monitor. Multiple sports modes and intelligent data driven metrics help to enhance your performance.

The Battery has a capacity of 220 mAH, with a normal usage of 5 days, and a standby time of 30 days on a single charge. The battery is charged using a 2 pin magnetic charger.

The PLAYFIT Dial 2 is compatible with the iOS versions IOS 9.0 or above and with Android versions Android 4.4 or above. The Smart watch has an IP rating of IP67 which means it is dust and water resistant.

Comment: Smart choice of Smart generation

Rating: 8/10





The Himalayan Adventure Challenge

The Himalayan Adventure Challenge(HAC) is a one-of-a-kind time trial race on land and water in its 6th edition. A great fun format makes HAC an event unlike any other. Vaibhav Kala, Co-Founder of Aquaterra tells us about this adventurous race

1. Tell us about the HAC

In December 2022, teams can compete against each other in the Himalayan Adventure Challenge (HAC) from 16 to 18 December 2022 (Friday to Sunday) in Rishikesh.

The race beckons you to combine your skills, teamwork and your abilities to the fore, making it the foremost multi-discipline adventure races in India today. HAC offers three formats involving Biking, Hiking and River Rafting. It caters to the novice, the weekend athlete, the armchair adventurer, the endurance champions and even the family; making it India's premier team racing event.

The HAC is a new avatar of the Aquaterra Challenge, and has developed after years of testing ground for safety, fluidity, ability, and improving upon the challenge.

2. What are the formats for HAC

We have the 55 km Zealot Challenge in which Teams of 4 can participate. This involves a 20 km Bike, 21 km Hike, 14 km White Water Rafting sections and all three disciplines must be completed in a single day.

A slightly easier 55 km Zealot Relay Challenge is available for Teams of 4 comprising of 2 cyclists and 2 runners. The two cyclists cover 20 km Bike,

while the 2 runners cover a 21 km Hike. All four members must then cover a 14 km White Water Rafting section to complete the race. The teams therefore must complete 55 kms in 2 different disciplines each in a single day!

30 km Open Challenge allows Teams of 4 to cover a 16 km Hike and 14 km of White Water Rafting. The 10 km Open Challenge is for teams of 4 to 6 members. It's open to and popular for families and friends. We allow the youngsters of 9+ years to get into the outdoors, and experience the rush in this race. This race covers 5 km of White Water Rafting and a 5 km Hike.

3. But how do you adjust for age and gender?

We use a points system where time gets adjusted for age and gender. This is based on age/gender adjustments for qualifying times used by international marathons of Boston, London and New York. The time to complete HAC of every individual team member is taken and adjusted. The individual adjusted times are then added to give the final adjusted team time. This is then used to decide HAC winners and runners-up. It means people of any age or gender have just as much chance as anyone else.

4. Does the local population get involved in the HAC?



We started as a fundraiser to bring people to travel back to Uttarakhand. The HAC was set up to remember the June-2013 flood victims of Uttarakhand, and sought to bring people back to this beautiful part of India. The Aqua Terra Charity Trust supported the event to help bring back opportunities, choices, resources, essential services into the lives of many in Uttarakhand. The event was spread over 45 miles, and 2 days of challenge, involving a time based gruelling walk followed by a 16 mile cycling leg to the third and very exciting leg of the event – a 15 mile raft / inflatable kayak race down the mighty Ganges. Now, we sponsor team members (free of cost) which are made up of budding youngsters from the villages in the region and from Rishikesh. Quite a few of them have gone on to win multiple race events along with many prizes.



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