

TODAY'S traveller

CORPORATE BUSINESS, AVIATION, MICE & LEISURE TRAVEL MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER 2018 | ₹50

**WTM
ISSUE**

**THE GREAT INDIAN
TEA JOURNEY**

**KERALA BOUNCES
BACK!**

**TAMIL NADU:
SPECTACULAR
SMOKY ROCKS**

**A JOURNEY
OF DISCOVERY**

**24 HOURS IN
TORONTO**

FOCUS STATE - GUJARAT



INDIA'S PREMIER MICE MART
CATERING TO
CORPORATE TRAVEL & MICE



THE PINNACLE OF
LUXURY AND LEISURE TRAVEL

Supported By
Incredible India

15th
November, 2018

**The Ashok Hotel,
NEW DELHI**



OptiMICE Events Pvt. Ltd.

Presents

FILM TOURISM SEMINAR

Film Tourism
Seminar Partner



Media Partner

TODAY'S
traveller

The Seminar will be addressed by Film Directors, Producers and Actors, who will present the topic of Film Tourism and the important criteria involved in destination marketing. The speakers will also discuss the approach that destinations should take to seize the opportunities provided by Film Tourism and thus reap the benefits by way of increased revenue and visitor arrival. It will be part of the broader event – MTM+LLTM.

Time duration: One hour

FOR PARTNERSHIP & BOOKING SPACE PLEASE CONTACT

Safal Saalwar: 09953701567, Prakhar Bhardwaj: 09311234537

mtmsales@optimiceevents.com | www.micetravelmart.com

It's time for
KERALA.

It's time to leave the ordinary behind.

It's time to take off on a brand new
voyage and start life anew.

Come, right away.



CHAIRMAN
KEWAL GILL

PUBLISHER/EDITOR
KAMAL GILL

MANAGING EDITOR
ARJUN GILL

SUB-EDITOR
ABHISHEK PATHAK

GENERAL MANAGER (SALES & MKTG)
VAGISH MISHRA

HEAD - SALES
SAFAL SAALWAR

MANAGER - BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
PRAKHAR BHARDWAJ

Today's Traveller is published/printed by Kamal Gill on behalf of M/s Gill India Concepts Pvt. Ltd. from Office No: 504, 5th Floor, Sheetla House, Building No. 73-74, Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110019

Printed at: Sonu Printer
B-180, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-1,
New Delhi - 110020
All rights reserved.

For correspondence and advertising:
504, 5th Floor, Sheetla House
Building No. 73-74, Nehru Place,
New Delhi - 110019
Tel: 011 41029079, 41029979
Email: publications@gillindia.com

All information in TODAY'S TRAVELLER is derived from sources, which we consider reliable. Information is passed on to our readers without any responsibility on our part. The contents of this publication contain views of authors and are not the views of M/s Gill India Concepts Pvt. Ltd. (GICPL). Similarly, opinions/views expressed by any party in abstract and/or in interviews are not necessarily shared/ do not necessarily reflect any opinion of GICPL. All rights reserved throughout the world. Reproduction in any manner is strictly prohibited. Material appearing in the publication cannot be reproduced in whole or in part without prior permission. The same rule applies when there is a copyright or the article is taken from another publication. Publications reproducing material either in part or in whole, without permission could face legal action. Editorial enquiries and enquiries concerning the reproduction of articles, advertising and circulation should be emailed at publications@gillindia.com. The publisher assumes no responsibility for returning unsolicited material nor is responsible for material lost or damaged in transit. The publisher reserves the right to refuse, withdraw, amend or otherwise deal with all advertisements without explanation. All advertisements must comply with the Indian Advertisements Code as well as the Advertisements Code of South Asia. The publisher will not be liable for any damage or loss caused by the late publication, error or failure of advertisement to appear.



CON

10

WHISTLING THROUGH THE WOODS

History was revived in the Queen of Hills as the heritage KC 520 steam locomotive engine ran on the Shimla-Kalka Heritage Route

12

MARATHON MAN

From expanding the Hilton portfolio in India to the unique challenges posed by its market, Navjit Ahluwalia, Senior Vice President and Country Head of India, Hilton, opens his heart out in a candid interview

14

THE GREAT CONNECT

Yoo Chang-ho, Minister Counsellor for Political Affairs, Embassy of the Republic of Korea, speaks candidly about current and future tourism prospects for Korea and India and how both countries share an intrinsic bond

19

GUJARAT: GAME CHANGER IN WELLNESS AND MEDICAL TOURISM

Known for its vast array of Ayurvedic herbs, world-class centres for Naturopathy and the finest healthcare facilities, the state of

Gujarat has become the preferred choice for those seeking health and wellness.

34

SOLO POWER

Travelling solo has always been a unique and an enriching experience for people who just want to explore what it means to be on your own in a place unknown

36

BATTLE IT OUT!

The Nehru Trophy Boat Race, on the scenic backwaters of Alleppey, is a visual extravaganza and makes for a heart-skipping moment for many

38

THE GREAT INDIAN TEA JOURNEY

Discover an album of experiences at these sublime Tea Estates, as you take Tea Tours to learn the art of Tea Culture

42

KERALA BOUNCES BACK!

The tenth edition of Kerala Tourism Mart brought a shimmer of hope for the flood-hit state, which prepares to receive visitors in the October-March tourist season



TENTS

CORPORATE BUSINESS, AVIATION, MICE & LEISURE TRAVEL MAGAZINE | VOLUME 22 | No.4 | NOVEMBER 2018

44

A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY

A shining example of a great architectural heritage, Rani ki Vav is amongst the finest stepwells in India

46

SPECTACULAR SMOKY ROCKS

Tamil Nadu's Hogenakkal Falls, or Smoky Rocks, draws visitors with its incredible beauty, health benefits and other attractions

48

RETAIL THERAPY

Splurge in style at the Dubai Shopping Festival, which guarantees unique shopping experiences for shopaholics

50

SET SAIL TO QATAR

Two megaships and 10 cruise ships will dock for the first time at Doha Port, to make their maiden voyages to Qatar

52

TAFI: SHOWCASING ABU DHABI

The Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi successfully hosted the 4-day annual TAFI Convention in grand Emirati hospitality at the iconic Emirates Palace Hotels, showcasing Abu Dhabi's rich offerings as a tourist destination

54

UP AND AWAY!

This summer take a trip to St Moritz to discover the art of sailing and weightless gliding with nothing but magnificent bird's-eye views of the Swiss Alps

56

24 HOURS IN TORONTO

Canada's largest metropolis, Toronto is also one of the most multicultural cities in the world. From museums to dynamic districts and entertainment, the city has a little something for everyone

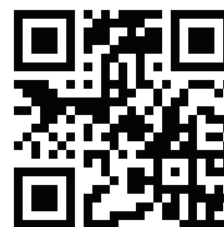
ADD ONS

NEWS.....4

APPOINTMENTS.....8

WHAT WHEN WHERE.....58

PICK OF THE MONTH.....60



POINT YOUR MOBILE AT THIS IMAGE TO VIEW OUR SITE

VISIT US AT:

WWW.GILLINDIA.COM

FOR MARKETING ENQUIRIES:

PUBLICATIONS@GILLINDIA.COM

OR FOLLOW US

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TODAYS-TRAVELLER-835821119776190/](https://www.facebook.com/Todays-Traveller-835821119776190/)

IHCL SIGNS A NEW HOTEL IN KATHMANDU



IHCL recently announced the signing of a new Vivanta hotel in Kathmandu, marking the entry of the brand in the city. This will be IHCL's second hotel in Nepal after Meghauli Serai in Chitwan National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Commenting on the signing of this agreement, Puneet Chhatwal, MD and CEO at IHCL, said, "We are honoured to partner with R&R Hotels and Resorts for this new hotel. Kathmandu is an extremely popular destination and this hotel will help us complete a tourist circuit with Meghauli Serai, our Taj Safari Lodge in Chitwan National Park."

The hotel will have approximately 111 spacious rooms and suites with a selection of rooms offering panoramic views of the beautiful city of Kathmandu. The hotel will also include all-day dining and specialty restaurants, a bar, banqueting facilities and a spa.

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON DEBUTS IN PANAJI, GOA



Hilton expanded its footprint in the country by launching DoubleTree by Hilton in Panaji, Goa. This launch marks Hilton's 18th property in India. A unit of Goldfinch Hotels (part of MRG Group) and managed by Hilton, the hotel reiterates Hilton's aim to double its presence in the country over the next few years. The hotel features 160 well-appointed guestrooms including 9 suites, equipped with signature DoubleTree by Hilton amenities. In addition, this resort also boasts multiple dining options that include Comida, a multi-cuisine restaurant, and Rio Salao, the lobby lounge. The hotel is easily accessible from the Dabolim International Airport as well as from many of the landmark and popular traveller's spots and beaches of Goa.

Speaking on this launch, Navjit Ahluwalia, Senior Vice President and Country Head, Hilton India, said, "Goa is a popular leisure destination for travellers from across the world. We are delighted to expand our presence here with our new DoubleTree by Hilton in Goa - Panaji. This property has a number of standout amenities that offer all our guests with unmatched experiences."

VITS LUXURY HOTELS LAUNCHES 'VITS UPPER THANE'

VITS Luxury Hotels recently launched VITS Upper Thane, a luxury corporate hotel located in the fastest growing city of Kalyan. Located just 35 minutes away from the Thane Railway Station, VITS Upper Thane is the best hotel in the city for both corporate and leisure stay. The hotel has been designed with a string of traditional and modern concepts to suit the needs of the global travellers.

Announcing the opening, Chandrakant Shetty, CEO, VITS Hotels, said, "We are delighted to announce the opening of VITS Upper Thane, our seventh property in Maharashtra. It is a proud moment for us as we expand the brand's footprint in the business district of Kalyan and Bhiwandi. We believe VITS Upper Thane, Bhiwandi with its stunning array of facilities will appeal to both leisure and business tourists."



ITDC INKS A MOU WITH AMITY UNIVERSITY FOR TRAINING PROGRAMMES

ITDC recently signed a MoU with Amity University Haryana Gurugram to offer Six months Certificate courses and One year Diploma in Hospitality trades through Ashok Institute of Hospitality and Tourism Management (AIH&TM), one of the premier PSU Hospitality Training Institutes in the country under ITDC.

The MoU was signed in the presence of Ravneet Kaur, IAS, C&MD, ITDC, Piyush Tiwari, Director (Commercial & Marketing), ITDC and Prof (Dr) Padmakali Banerjee – Pro Vice Chancellor, Amity University Haryana, among other dignitaries.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Ravneet Kaur, IAS, C&MD, ITDC, said, "ITDC has always been paving roads to success and change, driving growth of tourism in India. We believe tourism and hospitality are two important segments contributing to nation building and progressive development. AIH&TM has trained more than 28,000 candidates through its hotels and industry partnerships. With an excellent past placement record, we believe that this collaboration of ITDC and Amity University Haryana will impart skills to students and contribute to the growth of tourism in India."



Incredible India

Hogenakkal Falls

One of the Oldest in South Asia



Hogenakkal Waterfalls on the Cauvery river located 46km from Dharmapuri. It is a major tourist attraction.

Tamil Nadu Tourism

Chennai- 600 002, (TN) India. Toll Free No: 1800 4253 1111
For Tours: tour@ttdonline.com Web: www.tamilnadutourism.org

MMCF COMMEMORATES LIVING HERITAGE AND HISTORY



Maharana of Mewar Charitable Foundation (MMCF) successfully concluded the grand celebration of India's rich cultural diversity at the "4th World Living Heritage Festival" amidst vibrant dances, mesmerising music and incredible exhibition of arts and crafts. The four-day festival was inaugurated by HE Alexandre Ziegler, the Ambassador of France to India, on October 18, 2018, at City Palace, Udaipur. Dr Eric Falt, UNESCO Director, also graced the occasion.

Inaugurating the event, HE Alexandre Ziegler said, "The list of UNESCO World Heritage sites in India is growing steadily, noting that heritage preservation and promotion are both assuming greater significance in India. The power of tourism to promote heritage preservation has to be harnessed."

Shriji Arvind Singh Mewar, the present Chairman and Managing Trustee of MMCF and the 76th Custodian House of Mewar, commented, "I can say it without a doubt that the concept of Living Heritage today has come of age. It is being widely accepted and talked about. I also take this opportunity to acknowledge the continuous support of UNESCO New Delhi Office since 2012. I am a strong believer in the power of continuity to perpetuate relationships and ideas."

JAPAN CONVENTION BUREAU LAUNCHES OFFICIAL FACEBOOK PAGE



The Japan Convention Bureau, which is a part of the Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO), recently launched an official Facebook page for business events. The official account, which differentiates Japan's business events from general tourism, will be a game changer in the social media world as it aims to disseminate information on business travel to Japan for business event planners, travel agents, and event attendees.

The Facebook page of the bureau illustrates why organisations should take their meetings to Japan by showcasing the destination's diverse offerings: the latest news concerning meetings, incentives, conventions and trade shows; information on Japan's cities; and users facts, figures and images that will brand the image of Japan as a destination that meeting planners can't do without.

The Japan Convention Bureau launched the Facebook page as part of the new campaign that was initiated earlier this year, with the advertising slogan, "Japan. Meetings & Events – New ideas start here."

MAJOR BOOST TO PILGRIM TOURISM IN KERALA

In a major fillip to Pilgrim Tourism, Kerala has secured the Centre's approval for a Rs 91.72-crore proposal to improve tourist amenities in 147 pilgrim centres of different faiths across the state. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, has endorsed the proposal submitted by the state government in this regard, as part of the Tourism Infrastructure Development plan.

Stating that Pilgrim Tourism is a priority area for the state, Kadakampally Surendran, Minister for Co-Operation, Tourism and Devaswoms, said, "A detailed project report on the scheme will be submitted to the Centre soon." Facilities for pilgrims, including rest rooms, halls for serving foods, toilets and food stalls, will be built as part of the project. The pilgrim centres in the project include Ananthapadmanabhaswamy Temple, Kasargod; Thirunavaya Nava Mukunda Temple, Malappuram; Valiya Palli Juma Masjid, Ponnani; Sri Visalakshi Sametha; Sri Viswanathaswamy temple, Kalpathy; Thali Siva Temple, Pattambi; Paramekkavu and Thiruvambadi temples in Thrissur; Ayyappa Seva Sangham, Erumeli; Nainar Church, Kanjirappally; St. Mary's Church, Chambakkulam; Marthoma Church, Thiruvalla; and Parabrahma Temple, Oachira.



TAIWAN TOURISM BUREAU INFORMATION CENTER INAUGURATED IN MUMBAI

The Taiwan Tourism Bureau Information Center was recently inaugurated in Mumbai. Dr Trust Lin, Director, Taiwan Tourism Bureau, Singapore Office. The office is located in the Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA) Taipei World Trade Center Liaison Office in Cuffe Parade, Mumbai.

The inauguration was attended by HE Chung-KwangTien, Representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in India, Rupa Naik, Senior Director of WTC Mumbai, the travel trade community, media and social media influencers. It was also announced at the inauguration that a Taiwan booth will be installed at Mood Indigo, Asia's Largest Cultural Festival in Mumbai from December 27-30, 2018. Announcements were also made regarding two major events coming up in Taiwan – the Lantern Festival from February 19 to March 3, 2019, and the Flora Expo from November 3, 2018 to April 24, 2019.





Posturepedic

www.sealy.in

Established in 1881, Sealy Posturepedic is the number one choice of bedding for consumers and 5-Star hotels across the globe



We have been associated with leading International hotels like Four Seasons, Fairmont, J W Marriott and Ritz Carlton apart from ITC Hotels, TAJ group and The Oberoi Group

550+

SEALY EXCLUSIVE
BEDDING GALLERIES

AND OVER

150

DEPARTMENTAL STORES
ACROSS ASIA PACIFIC



PERKIN ROCHA has been recently designated as the Director Operations India at Duet India Hotels. Rocha will be working with COO on all hotel-related operations, including Food and Beverage. He has over 19 Years of experience in the Hospitality Industry and has been associated with organisations such as Park Royal

Intercontinental Hotel and Vasant Continental Hotels (Jaypee Hotel Group). His most recent assignment was with Lemon Tree Hotels as Area Director –Operations. He is a Hotel Management graduate from IIAS (International Institute of Advance Schools) Darjeeling.



VICTOR C SOARES has been designated as the Senior General Manager at Radisson Blu Resort Goa. Soares has worked with various organisations across the globe. A dynamic and result-oriented professional, he loves to take on challenges and has a comprehensive understanding of diverse markets of both corporate and business

leisure across the globe. His core expertise lies in delivering successful results by empowering teams and effective process. In his current role, he will be responsible to ensure the growth and expansion of the properties through his innovative strategies at Radisson Blu Resort Goa.



SACHIN SHET has been appointed as the General Manager at Alila Diwa Goa. Shet will be heading the overall operations of the resort. Shet brings over 18 years of experience in the luxury hotel space. A graduate from IHM Goa, he began his career in 2000. He has earlier worked with Taj Exotica Goa, Taj Hotels in Delhi and Jaipur.

Prior to joining Alila Diwa Goa, he was working at The Leela Goa, where he worked closely with the General Manager in managing the operations and maintaining service excellence.



RAVI SINGH has been designated as the General Manager at the Radisson Chandigarh Zirakpur. In his current role, Singh is responsible for effectively ensuring operational efficiencies, brand enhancement, regulatory compliance and hotel profitability. He has 20 years of rich and varied experience in the Hospitality

Industry, heading key positions with various well-known hotel brands, such as Nikko international, The Claridges, the Taj and

Radisson Hotel Group. Driven towards a 100% guest satisfaction rate, he constantly seeks to build a competent team through various training and team-building sessions, so that collectively they can deliver on the Yes I Can!SM service philosophy of the hotel.



NITIN PATHAK has been appointed as the General Manager of The Novotel Pune Nagar Road. With an experience of 18 years in the Hospitality Sector, Pathak believes in providing wholesome experience to guests and empowering the employees to deliver their best. His most recent stint was with Ibis, Gurugram, where he served as the

General Manager for 2 years and successfully launched a new F&B concept as a pilot project for all Ibis hotels in India. Prior to joining AccorHotels, Pathak has worked with various reputed companies like Citrus Hotels Pvt Ltd and Taj Group of Hotels, in multiple locations and various capacities. He will be responsible for creating an everlasting impact and practising best standards of hospitality, which AccorHotels is known worldwide for.



SHEETAL IYER has been appointed as the General Manager at Holiday Inn Express & Suites Bengaluru Racecourse. With a professional journey of 14 years in the Hospitality Industry, she believes in motivating the team and celebrating the success together. Prior to this, she has been associated with Sheraton Grand Bangalore

at Brigade Gateway as EAM Rooms; The Westin, Gurugram as the Director of Rooms, and more hotels like Zuri, Le Meridien and the Oberoi Group.



DEEPAK GUPTA has been appointed as the General Manager at the Best Western Maryland Zirakpur. He has about two decades of rich and varied experience in the field of Hospitality. As a hospitality veteran, he has held key positions with various well-known hotel brands, such as Sarovar Hotels & Resorts, Royal Orchid Hotels and Ramada Group.

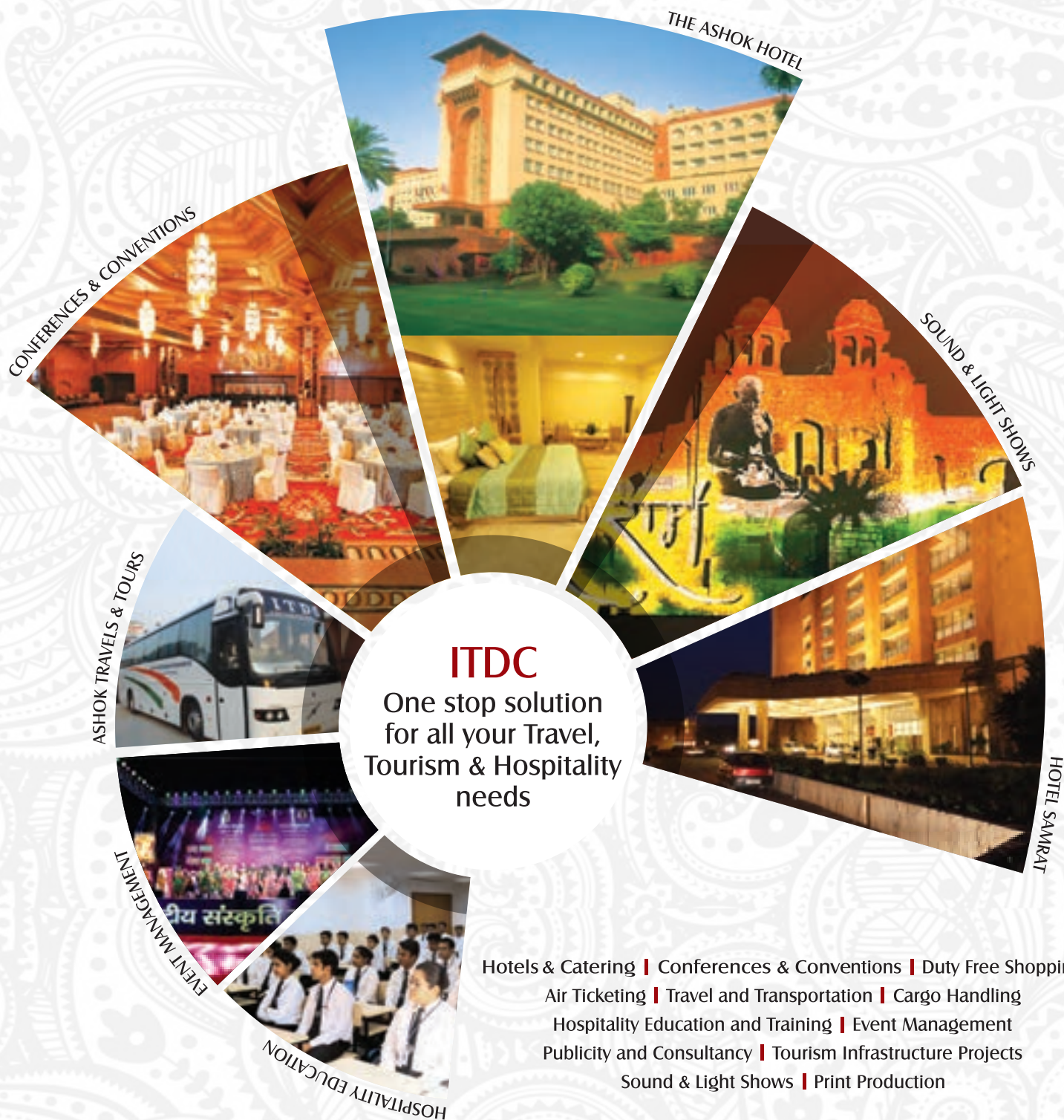
He has an unwavering commitment towards quality assurance and customer service. With his outstanding experience in the Hospitality Industry, he intends to take the hotel to greater heights.



SALOK SETIA has been appointed as the Head of Sales & Marketing at the Howard Johnson (HoJo) Bengaluru Hebbal. A dynamic professional with seven years of experience in Sales and Operations, Setia has previously worked with The Ritz Carlton and AccorHotels in Bengaluru, JW Marriott New Delhi Aerocity, Crowne Plaza New

Delhi Okhla and other well-known brands. He has held various positions in sales, business development and other verticals to increase revenues. In his new role at HoJo, he will be required to leverage marketing strategy, tactical planning and build a team to help organisational growth and revenues of this international Wyndham brand operated by Unique Mercantile India Limited.

MOST CREDIBLE AND TRUSTED BRAND IN TOURISM & HOSPITALITY



Hotels & Catering | Conferences & Conventions | Duty Free Shopping
Air Ticketing | Travel and Transportation | Cargo Handling
Hospitality Education and Training | Event Management
Publicity and Consultancy | Tourism Infrastructure Projects
Sound & Light Shows | Print Production



भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम लि.
India Tourism Development Corporation Ltd.
(Fastest Growing Mini-Ratna PSU 2015-DSIJ)

Regd. Office : Scope Complex, Core 8, 6th Floor, 7 Lodi Road, New Delhi - 110 003 India
Tel. : +91-11-24360303 Fax : +91-11-24360233 E-mail : sales@itdc.co.in Website : www.theashokgroup.com

WHISTLING THROUGH THE WOODS

History was revived in the Queen of Hills as the heritage KC 520 steam locomotive engine ran on the Shimla-Kalka Heritage Route

ABHISHEK PATHAK



Recently, the Indian Railways threw up a surprise for tourists visiting Shimla, when it announced that the 113-year-old KC 520 steam locomotive engine, a relic of a bygone era, would ply on the 22-km Shimla-Kaithlighat section of the Shimla-Kalka heritage track. Built by the North British Locomotive Company for Rs 30,000, the heritage engine KC 520 was commissioned in 1906 and used till 1970 before it was replaced by a diesel locomotive. Since then, the engine has been taken out of regular service, but plies on the track on a few occasions, especially for joyrides during the peak tourist season. The heritage locomotive weighs 41 tonnes and can pull double its weight.

The heritage engine was back on the tracks to repeat the history of those bygone days. So, on October 17, 2018, it was an unusual morning for tourists at the Shimla station, when they got to experience this slice of history, which is an iconic symbol of Shimla. That day, the engine, with the two coaches attached to it, ferried 28 foreigners from Shimla to Kaithlighat and returned, covering 44km. Everyone seemed pepped up about the engine's historic run and were curious to know about its next run.



The Shimla-Kalka rail track was started in 1903 by the Britishers. In 2009, the track was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. There are 103 tunnels, 919 curves, 800 bridges, and 18 stations on this route. It takes about 5 hours to complete the journey on one side. The Summer Hill station was used by the Viceroy of India and his contingent of people to have an easy access to Viceregal Lodge. One of the most famous sites on this route is Barog Station and Tunnel no. 32. This station offers railway lodges to spend a night or two for experiencing the old-world charm at close hand.



CORPORATE

MARATHON MAN

From expanding the Hilton portfolio in India to the unique challenges posed by its market, Navjit Ahluwalia, Senior Vice President and Country Head of India, Hilton, opens his heart out in a candid interview

TT BUREAU

With over a dozen brands under its belt, Hilton has been welcoming guests for nearly a century now. With its host of luxury services, an eye for detail and a generous rewards programme, Hilton has caught the imagination of travellers across the world. When it comes to new and emerging markets for the brand, India ranks high in the global hospitality market.

Overseeing the expansion plans of the Group in India is Navjit Ahluwalia, Senior Vice President and Country Head of India, Hilton, who is currently in charge of 33 hotels, trading and under development, including the recently opened Conrad Bengaluru, while leading the growth strategy in the country. Today's Traveller caught up with this dynamic leader, who spoke at length about the Hilton Group, the potential of the hospitality market in India, the operational challenges one faces in the country and finally, how he unwinds during his free time.

Ahluwalia starts by emphasising the importance of the Indian hospitality market, saying that after the United States and China, India is slated to be the third largest hospitality market in the world, although he could not be certain about when the country would be able to hit the magic mark. "India," says Ahluwalia, "is not a 100-metre sprint, rather it is a Marathon. So, you need to have the stamina and the training to compete in a Marathon. Creating brand value in India, along with new properties, operations teams and guest experiences, takes time. Patience is the key."

The congenial corporate culture of Hilton is well-known, says Ahluwalia. Recently, a survey conducted by CareerBliss – an online career review portal – placed Hilton in its list of happiest US companies. Work place environment, the compensation package and benefits were some of the criteria chosen for consideration. As Ahluwalia puts it, "We want to create a culture which makes it fun for people to work. This is not particular to India, but in fact, a global culture. Hilton already has it. It is a culture of thrive, which very few companies have. We are a company that believes in the larger purpose of what we are doing – whether it is about connecting people or making a difference to the environment around us. That is why people want to stay



Navjit Ahluwalia

with us for years together. However, such things are easier said than done. This is due to the fact that as a corporate, we still have an interest in making the company commercially viable."

Ahluwalia takes time to ponder on the nature of the market in India. The country has gone through various cycles of growth. The international hospitality companies started coming only in the early 2000s. India saw a period of growth from 2000 to 2008-09. Subsequently, the growth slowed down. But, we now see the second cycle of that growth, says Ahluwalia, adding that the hospitality industry still faces a number of problems.

Unlike Hong Kong, India's total number of rooms is quite negligible. Further, infrastructure still needs to be developed in India, and one has to operate according to the local taste and preferences in order to effectively tap into the local market. Ahluwalia cites an example to strike his point home – "The difference between the Indian market and the market abroad is all about service and product differentiation. In the US, while

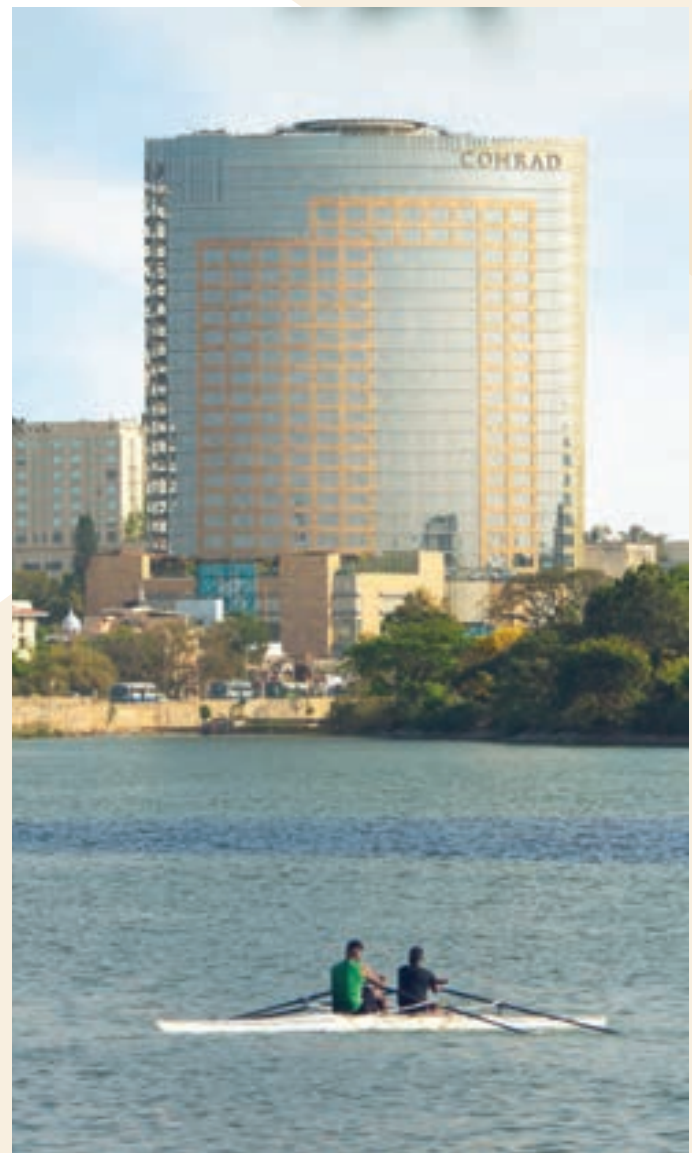


there may not be much difference between a Hilton and Double Tree by Hilton in terms of the product, there is a huge difference between the services offered. India, however, is a different story altogether. In India, no matter what rooms you are providing, you must provide all the essential services offered by the hotel. Further, customers may find other hotels which may provide you with full services at cheaper rates. As such In India, there is not much of service differentiation, but a lot of product differentiation. Unlike international markets, prices of rooms in India are not based on services provided, but on room sizes. All these factors make India a tough market to crack,”

Nonetheless, Ahluwalia is upbeat about the Hilton brand, which is all about teamwork and dedication, and will be celebrating its 100-year-Anniversary the following year. However, the astute hotelier still likes to think of the company as a startup. “This again ties up with the flourishing career prospects that the company provides,” says Ahluwalia. One can start from the very bottom and move up the corporate ladder. His own career is a reflection of this. When it comes to innovation, disruption and creativity, Hilton is the clear leader. The company is also heavily investing in the new digital technology.

Ahluwalia’s firm belief is that India holds immense potential. The new-found leisure sector is booming and as infrastructure develops, more destinations will be added to the Hilton portfolio in India. Ahluwalia states, “Today, we have a chance to mould India in the way we want. India is rapidly changing and we want to tap this growing market.”

It is never ‘All work and no play’ for this fit and dynamic corporate. Cycling and running are two of his greatest passions. “I regularly participate in the Half Marathon,” signs off Ahluwalia.



THE GREAT CONNECT

Yoo Chang-ho, Minister Counsellor for Political Affairs, Embassy of the Republic of Korea, speaks candidly about current and future tourism prospects for Korea and India and how both countries share an intrinsic bond

TT BUREAU



Yoo Chang-ho, Minister Counsellor for Political Affairs, Embassy of the Republic of Korea

It's a given that India and Korea share a deep-rooted relationship which dates back to several years and can be perceived in many facets of both the cultures. Every year, the holy city of Ayodhya plays host to hundreds of South Koreans visiting the city to pay homage to their legendary queen Heo Hwang-ok, also known as Princess Suriratna. Koreans consider the city their maternal home, which is borne out by the July 2018 bilateral talks between the visiting South Korean President, Moon Jae-in, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, when there was a proposal to build a memorial park as a mark of tribute to this 2000-year-old story, which connects the two nations with an ancient genealogical bond.

Today's Traveller caught up with Minister Counsellor, who articulated lucidly on the current status of tourism in both countries, the offerings that Korea provides as a tourist destination, plus his views on the commonalities that bind Korea and India and his vision for promoting the ties between the two countries.

In what ways can we explore the commonalities between India and Korea?

On the surface, people think that India and Korea are very different countries – Korea is only about a thirtieth the size of India and population-wise also it is no match to India's 1.3 billion people (compared with Korea's mere 51 million).

But, below the surface, Korea and India have distinct commonalities – these two Asian countries are tied by history, culture and fate. By now everyone knows about the Ayodhyan Princess who travelled to Korea to marry the Korean King, and how she became the mother of the biggest family in Korea – the Kim family! So, we have Indian DNA in our blood. Also, India is the birthplace to many religions, one of which is Buddhism – one third of all Koreans are Buddhists. Not only this, the Indian people are innately religious and so are the Koreans. Culturally, both India and Korea share similar languages, clothes and instruments, so though the two countries are 5,000 km apart, they are similar in many aspects. Finally, we also share the

same fate – we are both victims of colonisation, victorious in gaining our independence and now on the road to becoming thriving powerhouses of democracy and a booming economy.

Therefore, what we need to do is to make these ties visible, which lie beneath the surface. I am disappointed by the lack of communication that the people in Korea and India have between one another. With the Korean President having visited India in July 2018, and the forthcoming visit of Korea's First Lady for the Diwali Festival in Ayodhya, one is optimistic that Prime Minister Modi will visit Korea again soon. I trust these high-level exchange visits will boost people's interest in visiting each other's nations to experience the familiarity that we share so unconditionally. Therefore, my immediate concern is to make both governments continue to visit each other, with the hope that this will make the people follow suit.

What is your vision for promoting ties between India and Korea?

The first thing on the agenda for promoting ties between the two countries is to open up the gates. For the first time, last month, we had the first Korea-India consular discussions, where we spoke about how to make visas hassle-free, cheaper and perhaps get rid of them altogether.

We would want each of the two countries to recognise the other's incredible heritage resources. India is generally regarded as being one of the greatest conservationists of World Heritage Sites. But, perhaps, many Indians may be unaware of the fact that Korea, too, has an infinite number of tourist attractions – in fact, in 2016, there were more tourists visiting Korea than there were for the whole of India. However, Korea is equally oblivious. Therefore, we need to open people's eyes and make them realise that visiting Korea is fun and visiting India is amazing. There is so much to do and see in Korea and so much to experience and learn in India.

I am trying to stimulate people's interests through the world of television and films. I would like to see an abundance of television programmes filmed in both countries and films produced jointly, since there is enormous potential by way of subjects and opportunities. I will use everything in my power to awaken people's perceptions about each other, and although Korea and India are partners now, I want us to be true friends.

I therefore urge everyone to visit the Korean Embassy (Chanakyapuri) or the Korean Culture Centre (South Extension) and learn about Korea today!



Tomb of Heo Hwang-ok in Gimhae

CORPORATE JET-SETTER

Amit Verma

**Senior Director – Procurement
MetLife Global Operations Support
Center Pvt. Ltd.
Noida**

TT BUREAU

Q: Most memorable trip to any destination?

My most memorable trip was to Kalmatia Resorts in Almora. We spotted snakes as guest visitors to the resort, which was a common sight. No Wi-Fi/Internet connectivity led to more human interactions. A small eating joint – ‘The Laali’s Inn’ – had simple, yet mouth-watering food options to offer.

Q: You dream of going to?

I want to visit Leh Ladakh, as I’ve heard a great deal about the zero gravity point, lack of oxygen and how one takes a few days to get acclimatised to the place. I wish to breathe fresh air, away from the urban concrete jungles and just be close to nature.

Q: Favourite airline and why?

Emirates. Their hospitality, aircraft, disciplined services, business lounge(s) across the world and pleasant faces all around, all make for a mesmerising experience. They just make you feel special and worth the money you have spent.

Q: Best hotel experience and why?

Ramada – South Goa. The people around were very cooperative, helpful and courteous. The pool-side dinners, along with soft live music and delicious food, best spa services and even the customised baby food, all make it a perfect place to enjoy a Goan vacation. It was truly an unforgettable experience for all of us.



Q: A place you plan to visit again?

I would love to visit Jaipur again for its rich historical beauty and magnificent palaces. Whenever I’m in Jaipur, I love to stay at ITC Rajputana, Jaipur. The quiet ambience, with chirping birds in the background, is what makes me and my family visit Jaipur again and again. My children look out for leisure, luxury and peace whenever we are holidaying.

Q: A family vacation that stands out?

Goa is a family vacation that stands out.

Q: Your best holiday with friends?

My trip to Vaishno Devi, with a large group of friends, has been engraved in my memory. We had a fun-filled get-together on the trip, and I certainly wish to relive those memories again.

Q: Great food you enjoyed and where?

I enjoyed pizza/pasta, both baked in firewood, at La Pazerio, Pushkar. The Maggi available on hilltops at various hill stations, such as Rishikesh, Mussorie and so on, is also my favourite.

Q: What to watch out for while travelling?

Be safe and do not be over adventurous. Travel is meant to give you pleasure and not stress.

Q: As a travel buyer, what’s your philosophy?

Plan and make your bookings in advance for your travel and stay. Do not make an itinerary, do not look at the watch and do not search for connectivity. Talk until your jaw hurts, sleep till your back hurts and eat as many times as you are hungry. Enjoy the moment!

11th Edition ^{® ©}
THE GREAT INDIAN
travel
bazaar'19

April 28 - 30, 2019 (Sunday - Tuesday)
Jaipur, Rajasthan, India

Block Your Dates

India's biggest Inbound
Travel Mart

More than
11,000
Pre Scheduled
Structured Face to
Face Business
Meetings

300
Exhibition
Booths

280
Foreign Tour
Operators from
55 Countries

For Sponsorship / Exhibition Contact us

Anirban Chatterjee, Email: anirban.chatterjee@ficci.com
Chetan Mehta / Dolly Issar / Hina Gupta, +91 8368926044 / +91 8826275246 / +91 9560664465
chetan.mehta@ficci.com / tourismexhibition@ficci.com / travel.registration@ficci.com
www.greatindiantravelbazaar.com

PARTNERS

Partner State



Platinum Partner



Diamond Partners



SenKay Tours & Travels Pvt. Ltd.

Gold Partners



Inaugural dinner Hosted by



Supported by



Strategic Media Partner



Media Partner



CORPORATE JET-SETTER

Jai Tondak

**Vice President & Head - Corporate
Service Group
nThrive Business Solutions Pvt. Ltd,
Gurugram**

TT BUREAU

Q: Most memorable trip to any destination?

My most memorable trip was a 2-week trip to Croatia, to see the wetlands and experience the magical islands of the country.

Q: You dream of going to?

I would love to be in Norway someday to experience the Northern Lights hunt.

Q: Favourite airline and why?

Qantas Airways. In my opinion, it has more comfortable seats, more privacy, and their pods are arranged in such a way that everyone has an aisle seat.

Q: Best hotel experience and why?

Park Hyatt Sydney was my best hotel experience till date, because of its great location, beautiful rooms and facilities. I've also enjoyed my stay at Oberoi Udaivilas in India. The spectacular settings, amazing staff and high-quality services make it my favourite.

Q: A place you plan to visit again?

Lower Zambezi National Park, Zambia, makes for a relaxing getaway for me, out of the hustle bustle of city life.



Q: A family vacation that stands out?

My 2-week family trip to Croatia stands out as my best family vacation, where we enjoyed the various islands and wetlands of the country amidst scenic surroundings. On the trip, we realised the importance of being together as a family.

Q: Your best holiday with friends?

It was a boys' week out to Pattaya and Macau. I remember that trip quite fondly, as we realised the value of 'friendship,' which can only be discovered if we venture out of the rat race.

Q: Great food you enjoyed and where?

I am addicted to Thai cuisine, and the iconic Thai Pothong Restaurant, located at Sydney's Newtown district, has been my favourite since my college days. Its authentic Thai food, impeccable Thai service and impressive Thai ambience are recipes for a true Thai experience. I also love eating at Neung Roi at Radisson Delhi, which serves real Thai food in NCR.

Q: What to watch out for while travelling?

I travel light, but also make sure that I pack as per the country I am visiting.

Q: As a travel buyer, what's your philosophy?

I'm always inspired and refreshed by travel. I strongly believe in equality, and travelling helps me remember that no matter where we are raised or living, what we look like or what we do, people are really the same, and everyone is worth getting to know. I always see what I can learn from my visits. I believe in "Keeping your eyes open" – there's a good chance you'll take away something that will change your life forever.



Contents

- GANPATSINH VASAVA, HON'BLE MINISTER FOR TOURISM
- INDIA: GLOBAL HUB FOR WELLNESS
- MEDICAL TOURISM IN INDIA: LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCES
- S J HAIDER, IAS, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY - TOURISM
- GUJARAT: CROWNING JEWEL IN INDIA'S WELLNESS INDUSTRY
- JENU DEVAN, IAS, COMMISSIONER OF TOURISM & MANAGING DIRECTOR OF TCGL
- GUJARAT: MEDICAL TOURISM'S FINEST FACILITATOR
- SOME RARE HERBS AND MEDICINAL PLANTS IN GUJARAT
- BEST WELLNESS RETREATS
 - NAVJIVAN NATURE CURE CENTRE, BHUJ, KUTCH
 - NIMBA NATURE CURE VILLAGE
 - REJOU - THE HEALING SPA & NATUROPATHY, VADODARA
 - SHANKUSH NATURAL HEALTH CENTRE
- MULTISPECIALITY HOSPITALS IN GUJARAT
- WELLNESS CENTRES IN GUJARAT



A Few Words...

Shri Ganpatsinh Vasava

Hon'ble Minister for Tourism

Q: What are the various investment plans and policies in place to increase the growth of Wellness and Medical Tourism in Gujarat?

Gujarat is a vibrant state, with its rich heritage and cultural traditions dating back to the Harappan civilization. Known as a leader in the world of healthcare, the state has a strong presence of pharmaceutical companies and researchers equipped with modern scientific knowledge, technology and ideas. In spite of incredible advancement in modern science and technology, traditional healthcare practices, especially Indian traditional medicinal systems like Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani, have a rich history of their effectiveness. The Tourism Policy 2015-20 has various incentive schemes to promote Medical and Wellness Tourism in the state.

Q: What are your future plans for the development of Wellness and Medical Tourism in the state?

To make Gujarat into a 365-day tourism destination, Tourism and Health Departments are drafting a policy to support and promote Wellness Tourism in Gujarat. This policy for the Medical and Wellness Tourism industry will also help in standardising service quality and the safety of tourists.



*Shri Ganpatsinh Vasava,
Hon'ble Minister for Tourism,
Govt. of Gujarat*

INDIA: GLOBAL HUB FOR WELLNESS

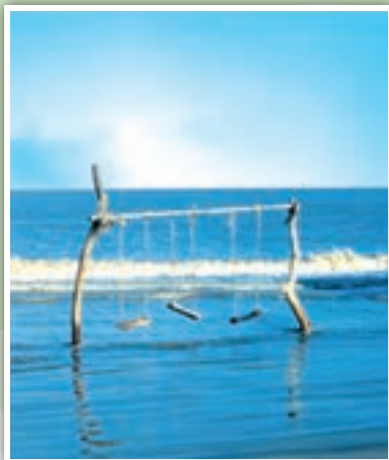
Seeking lifestyle changes and rejuvenating retreats, travellers from across the world visit India to seek spiritual wisdom and tranquillity, and to indulge in a host of wellness treatments to maintain their well-being. India is well-renowned for its rich legacy of Wellness traditions and



offers enormous possibilities for wellness seekers. Today, the Indian Wellness Industry is one of the most flourishing segments of the Travel and Leisure industry, where age-old traditional concepts of wellness and treatment therapies such as Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy (AYUSH) are as old as the civilization itself. India's ancient texts are treasure troves of wellness-related therapies, which provide a holistic treatment for mind, body and soul – therapies that have been in vogue since time immemorial and find mention in the Atharva Veda – the first ancient Indian text for medicines.

Since its beginnings in the 1990s, the Wellness Industry in India has evolved rapidly to become an all-inclusive ecosystem, comprising customers, contributors, adjacent industries, facilitators and the government. Recent estimates indicate that the industry will grow at a CAGR of approximately 12% for the next five years and will reach an estimated high of Rs 1.5 trillion by 2020. Also, there are many luxury spas and wellness centres in the country, providing niche products and services, thus contributing to the development of this sector. These trends show that there is a huge potential for growth in this industry, which will be a major economic force in the near future.

MEDICAL TOURISM IN INDIA: LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCES



Medical Tourism is generally interpreted to mean the travel undertaken by patients across the world to avail healthcare facilities in a cost-effective manner. India was one of the first few nations to recognise the potential of Medical Tourism and is currently a rapidly growing destination for global medical tourists seeking top-notch medical facilities at par with the developed countries.

Availability of excellent infrastructure, exclusive medical facilities, well-qualified doctors and cost-effective treatments are the main reasons for the growth of Medical Tourism in India. India has a fair chance of emerging as one of the most favoured destinations in this sector – since many neighbouring countries do not have advanced and specialised healthcare facilities, and the US and UK have high costs of treatment, long waiting time and unaffordable insurance schemes.

SHRI S J HAIDER, IAS, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY – TOURISM

Q: How important are Wellness and Medical Tourism sectors for Gujarat?

Gujarat is blessed by nature, having more than thousands of medicinal plants and herbs and other geographical advantages. There is a need to capitalise on our distinguished strengths and promote Wellness Tourism to spur development in the state.

Q: What are the various policies for Wellness and Medical Tourism to attract tourists?

We are preparing our policy on Wellness Tourism to encourage entrepreneurs and practitioners engaged in traditional Indian wellness practices. This will create job opportunities for our youth, and the tradition will be passed on to future generations.



GUJARAT: CROWNING JEWEL IN INDIA'S WELLNESS INDUSTRY

Endowed with a rich cultural heritage, plus a wealth of medicinal plants and herbs, Gujarat is one of the leading hubs for Wellness Tourism. This sector includes many segments, such as complementary and alternative medicine, nutrition and weight loss management, beauty, fitness, spas and anti-ageing therapies. Over the past few years, Gujarat has become a global destination for rejuvenating holidays, with people visiting wellness centres, spa facilities and Ayurvedic centres, seeking a fun-filled vacation that also includes a restorative and rejuvenating experience.

Concurring with these trends, Gujarat Tourism has set up numerous resorts and spa centres across the state to fulfil the growing needs of holistic health-based travels, Spa Tourism, organic food, Yoga and meditation, fitness and stress reduction, making the state a highly sought-after destination by wellness travellers.

Gujarat has 1315 recorded species of medicinal value. These include 754 herb species, 248 tree species, 165 shrubs and 148 climbers. A total of 1016 plant species are wild, whereas 299 species are being under cultivation or plantation. There are 33 speciality Ayurveda hospitals in different parts of Gujarat, with 1345 bed capacity available for patients. There are 33 AYUSH teaching institutions in the state and 34,833 AYUSH registered practitioners.



SHRI JENU DEVAN, IAS, COMMISSIONER OF TOURISM & MANAGING DIRECTOR OF TCGL

Q: What are the various promotional and marketing strategies to make Wellness and Medical Tourism sectors play a bigger role in Gujarat?

Our tourist inflow growth is robust and has grown by more than 17.7% YoY for Leisure Tourism, and we see the opportunity to tap this segment for job creation and growth. We are working on a Wellness Tourism policy to encourage investment in this segment, apart from the existing incentive provided to the players in this segment.

Q: What are the different lines of products that Gujarat offers, under the umbrella of Wellness and Medical Tourism, to attract tourists?

The world has a robust interest towards traditional Indian wellness practices. Wellness Tourism is a niche tourism product and India has a distinctive advantage when it comes to traditional wellness practices. We have quite a few NABH-approved wellness centres in the state, serving both domestic and foreign tourists.



GUJARAT: MEDICAL TOURISM'S FINEST FACILITATOR

Medical Tourism has emerged as a major economic force, helping many major cities in Gujarat see an unprecedented growth and development in the past few years. Gujarat is one of the top-most destinations for Medical Tourism in India, as it is well-equipped with state-of-the-art hospitals and treatment centres catering to foreign medical tourists. There are many reasons for the state's success in the field of Medical Tourism. Medical centres in Gujarat provide top-quality health facilities and equipment at par with those of their western counterparts at much cheaper rates. Ahmedabad makes for a standout destination in this regard, featuring premium medicare facilities, zero holding up time and reasonable costs. Availability of highly experienced doctors and surgeons, excellent infrastructure and low-cost market drugs are also major reasons for Gujarat being one of the finest facilitators of Medical Tourism in India.



SOME RARE HERBS AND MEDICINAL PLANTS IN GUJARAT

- Gokshura: Useful for the treatment of stones in the bladder
- Chitraka: Useful in curing dyspepsia, colic, inflammations, cough, bronchitis, helminthiasis, chronic and leprosy
- Agnimukhi: Used in the treatment of ulcers, leprosy, piles, inflammations, abdominal pains, intestinal worms, thirst, bruises, infertility and skin problems
- Bhringaraja: The plant possesses anti-inflammatory properties. Its decoction constitutes one of the ingredients of Ayurvedic preparation which is highly effective in rheumatoid arthritis. The plant juice is administered in for catarrhal jaundice.
- Vasanti Tikta: Leaves and stem are used for eye diseases especially conjunctivitis.
- Nithyakalyani: In case of honeybee sting, external application of leaf juice is useful. Decoction is used for fever, stomach ache, diabetes and cancer. The juice of the leaves is good for wasp-stings and menorrhagia.
- Aragwadha: The powder or decoction of the bark is administered in leprosy, jaundice, syphilis and heart diseases. Pulp is applied in gout and rheumatism.
- Palasa: Decoction of the leaf is orally used to cure diabetes. Flower and leaf decoction is used as an aphrodisiac.
- Apamaraga: External application of dried plant is used in snake bite.
- Ashwagandha: Useful in curing TB, arthritis, leucoderma, leucorrhoea and to stimulate spermatogenesis in males. It also cures asthma and pot-stomach. It kills worms present in the stomach. It induces good natural sleep at night.

The state has a number of hot springs, the waters of which are said to have medicinal value. These serve as health resorts and people suffering from gout and rheumatism use the waters of these hot springs for their treatment. These hot springs are located at Tulsi Shyam in Gir Forest, Unai in Valsad district, Tuwa near Godhra in the Panchmahal district and at Lasundra in Kheda district.

Gokshura



Chitraka



Vasanti Tikta



Nithyakalyani



BEST WELLNESS RETREATS

Navjivan Nature Cure Centre, Bhuj, Kutch

Located 34km away from the city limits of Bhuj, amidst scenic surroundings, Navjivan Nature Cure Centre is a healing centre based on the philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi's 'Nature Cure.' The centre offers Naturopathic remedies for the treatment of a variety of conditions, using ancient Indian Wellness practices, including Ayurvedic and herbal remedies to Panchakarma, Acupuncture, Meditation, Prayer and Yoga asanas. The centre is located near Punadi Patiya village and makes for a complete wellness refuge, away from the stresses of life. The centre also maintains a 40-hectare organic farmland in its sprawling spaces, to cultivate fruits, vegetables, medicinal plants and herbs. The centre has created many green pockets in the heart of the centre by creating two specialised



gardens – Nakshatra Garden and Medicinal Garden. The special treatments available at the centre include Ayurvedic massages, Vibro massage, Shirodhara, Nasyam, Hydrotherapy, Reflexology, and one of the latest therapies – Horticultural therapy.

Nimba Nature Cure Village



One of the prime destinations for Ayurvedic treatments in India, Nimba Nature Cure Village offers the best of traditional and modern wellness practices, based on the concept of the five elements or 'Pancha Mahabhutas.' Located in Mehsana, this unique wellness resort offers integrated holistic treatments, including Naturopathy, Ayurveda, international and contemporary therapies, and some unique treatments that are a fusion of ancient and modern therapies. Achieve the lost balance of mind,

body and spirit through Nimba's innovative wellness therapies, which are designed to augment your experience. Also, Nimba is a well-known centre for Panchakarma Therapy, which is a five-fold Ayurvedic treatment aimed at complete detoxification of your body. This five-phase process is a combination of five detox therapies – Purvakarma, Vamana, Virechana, Nasya and Chakra Basti. At Nimba, every individual gets customised services and treatments based on the body type and health status.

Rejou – The Healing Spa & Naturopathy, Vadodara

Set amidst tranquil landscaped environs, Rejou – The Healing Spa & Naturopathy, is a leading wellness centre in Vadodara and a property of Madhuban Resort & Spa. Spread over 13,000sq.ft, it is one of the first spa centres in India to offer Oxygen and Ozone Therapy, among other modern wellness therapies. The high-quality spa services at Rejou are designed to make

you indulge in the mindful, effective skin and body care therapies administered by experienced and dedicated professionals. Its offerings include alternative therapies, Ayurvedic and Herbal treatments, Touch therapies, Aromatherapy, among many other holistic wellness practices, with each catering to your desired preferences and needs.



Shankus Natural Health Centre

Located 55km away from Ahmedabad, in the environment-friendly environs of Amipura, Mehsana, Shankus Natural Health Centre is a holistic wellness centre based on the profound principles of nature cure to promote health and wellness. This world-class Naturopathy centre offers a unified approach of Naturopathy and Yoga to maintain the lost symphony of mind, body and soul through its various cleansing therapies, medical antidotes, and traditional treatments. It offers various programmes, including wellness programmes, weight management programmes, stress management programmes, among others. Its range of treatment offerings includes Hydrotherapy, Magnet Therapy, Mud Therapy, Diet Therapy, Panchkarma, Beauty Cosmetic Therapy, etc. The centre utilises the concepts of dietary changes, exercise, bodywork and natural remedies for healing the body from within.



Multispeciality Hospitals in Gujarat

Kiran Super Multispeciality Hospital

Vasta Devdi Road, Near Sumul Dairy, Katargam, Surat
Gujarat- 395004
Phone: 0261 716 1111

Devasya Super Speciality Kidney Institute and Research Centre
Near Bhimajipura Cross Roads, New Vadaj Road, Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380013
Phone: 098250 65275

Shubham Multi Speciality Hospital

Near Sardar Patel Circle, 120 Feet Ring Road, Sardar Patel Colony, Navjivan, Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380013
Phone: 079 2768 2103

Aarna Superspeciality Hospital
Opp. Suvidha Shopping Centre, Near Parimal Underpass, Paldi, Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380007
Phone: 079 4010 8108

Sanjivani Super Speciality Hospitals Private Limited

1, Uday Park Society, Near Sunrise Park, Vastrapur, Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380015
Phone: 079 2630 6431

Narayana Multispeciality Hospital

Nr. Chakudiya Mahadev, Rakhial Cross Road, Opp. Rakhial Police Station, Rakhial, Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380023
Phone: 1860 208 0208

Shree Meladi Maa TB Hospital

Sokhada, Kheda
Gujarat- 387411
Phone: + (91) 02694 224075, 02694 224 075

Karnavati Superspeciality Hospital

Opp. Saijpur Tower, Between Memco and Patia Circle, Naroda Road, Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380001
Phone: 098240 97037

Goenka Hospital

Pethapur Mahudi Road Near GGS, Piplaj, Gandhinagar- 382610 Gujarat, India., Gandhinagar- Vijapur Rd, Pimplaj
Gujarat- 382610
Phone: 089800 02120

Gokul Superspeciality Hospital

12/14, Gokul Hospital & Trama, Manhar Plot, Manhar Plot, Rajkot
Gujarat- 360001
Phone: 0281 246 4125

Aashka Multispeciality Hospital

Near N.I.D. & DA- IICT Campus, Mahatma Mandir to GIFT City Road, Gandhinagar
Gujarat- 382421
Phone: 098797 52777

HCG Hospital

52, Sola Rd, Sola, Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380060
Phone: 090997 12345

Kaizen Hospital

132 Feet Ring Road, Near Helmet Circle, Saurabh Society, Memnagar, Naranpura, Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380052
Phone: 079 2791 4444

Venus Super Speciality Hospital

Opposite Akota Ward Office No. 6, Off Old Padra Rd, Akota, Vadodara
Gujarat- 390020
Phone: 0265 234 2444

Devarshi Super Speciality Hospital

27, Swastik Complex, Chandkheda-Zundal BRTS Road, Nr, Sarthi Bunglows BRTS Stend, Chandkheda, Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 382424
Phone: 084609 55550

Anand Multispeciality Hospital

B-tower, Sundarvan Complex, Beside I O C L Petrol Pump, Near Gorwa I T I, Gorwa, Vadodara
Gujarat- 390016
Phone: 0265 228 1090

Spandan Multispeciality Hospital

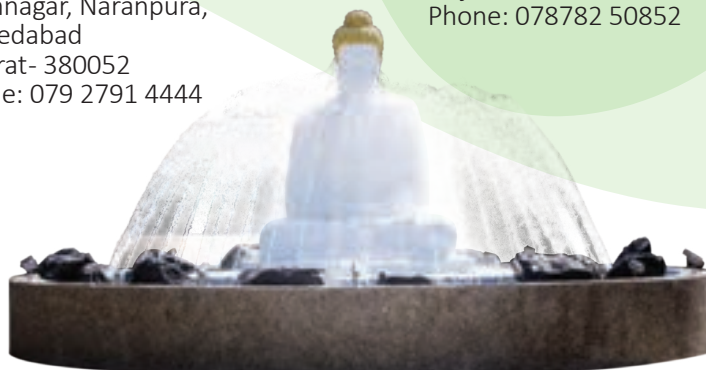
Beside Ward Office No.4, Sindhwa Mata Road, Manjalpur, Vadodara
Gujarat- 390011
Phone: 0265 309 0221

Sanjeevani Hospital

5, Agrawal Tower, Sola Road, Bhuyangdev, Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380061
Phone: 079 2748 1099

Apollo Hospital

Pancholi House, Prabhat Chowk, 61, Ghatlodiya, Chanakyapuri, Ahmedabad
Gujarat
Phone: 078782 50852



Om MultiSpeciality Hospital
A-1, Jayshree Narayan Society,
Samta Char Rasta, Subhanpura,
Vadodara
Gujarat- 390023
Phone: 0265 238 6555

Lifeline Multispeciality Hospital
Shayona Tilak, Near
Vandematram Arcade, Behind
Vishwakarma Temple, New
S G Road, Chandlodia-Gota,
Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 382481
Phone: 079 4800 8073

Krishna Multispeciality Hospital
Behind Mahesh Hotel, Sanala
Road, Morbi, 363649
Phone: 02822 224 491
ext. 224492

Bopal Multispeciality Hospital
Speed Trauma & Emergency
Centre
First Floor, Abhinandan
Complex, Opposite
Inductotherm, Bopal Rd,
Nandanpark Society, Bopal,
Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380058
Phone: 02717 233 043

**Shraddha Multispeciality
Hospital**
B-15,16 Rangdarshan Krupa
Society, Chikuwadi Road,
Dhanmora Char Rasta,, Katarga,
Surat
Gujarat- 395004
Phone: 099787 83338

**Bankers Heart & Multi-
speciality Hospital**
Warasiya Ring Rd, Arvind Park
Society, Bapunagar, Vadodara
Gujarat- 390006
Phone: 070430 00101

Wellness Centres in Gujarat

Anmol Wellness Center
144,1st Floor, Sarjan- II,Above
Axis Bank ATM, New CG Rd,
Chandkheda, Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 382424
Phone: 097276 84712

**Waves Wellness Clinics &
Academy**
101, Ashirwad Paras, Opp.
Prahladnagar Garden,
Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380015
Phone: 092274 45511

**Loving Center for
Transformation**
Devi, 148 Murli
Bungalows, Opposite
Navjeevan Press, Ashram
Road, Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380014
Phone: 087586 33222

**Seva Multispeciality
Physiotherapy and
Wellness Center**
Shop 2-3 Ground Floor,
Maurya Flats, Opp Grand
Cambay Hotel, Gulab
Tower Rd, Thaltej,
Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380054
Phone: 098989 51492

Wellness Space
119C Swastik Society, Lane Opp
Samved Hospital,, Navrangpura,
Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380009
Phone: 084694 61144

Nimba Nature Cure Village
Baliyasan, Ahmedabad-
Palanpur Rd, Mehsana
Gujarat
Phone: 02762 283 313



New Destiny Extrim Wellness Centre - Nuga Best

Sumati Avenue, Near
Central Bank, Jawahar
Chowk, , Archana Society,
Maninagar, Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380028
Phone: 098256 38008

Camex Wellness Limited Camex
House, Opp Samved Hospital
Stadium, Commerce Cir,
Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380009
Phone: 098988 52989

High Hopes
1, Tirupati Nagar,Opp. Nirmala
Convent School, Paras Society
Main Road, Saurashtra Kala
Kendra, Rajkot
Gujarat- 360007
Phone: 0281 258 0196

Anantaa Wellness
2&3, Second Floor, Camps
Corner II, Opposite Prahladnagar
Garden, Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380015
Phone: 079 4006 5950

ActionPhysio Physiotherapy & Wellness Clinic
Kotarpur, Nana Chiloda
Gujarat- 382330
Phone: 094276 21244

H2O Spa & Wellness Center
Third floor, 402, Himalaya
Mall, Drive In Road, Vastrapur,
Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380054
Phone: 083061 05979

Madhubhan Resort & Spa
Anand- Sojitra Road, Near Janta
Crossing, Vallabh Vidyanagar,
Anand
Gujarat- 388120
Phone: 02692 239 268

**Baba Ramdev Wellness Center
Chandkheda**
10,3rd floor, Nakshatra
Arcade, IOC Rd, Chandkheda,
Ahmedabad
Gujarat
Phone: 093745 77778

**Seventh Heaven Wellness
Center**
Amin Road, Gangdev Park,
Gulab Vatika, Rajkot
Gujarat- 360001
Phone: 084880 22222

Shankus Natural Health Centre
03, Sun Complex, Opp State
Bank of India, Near Stadium
Circle, C.G. Road, Ahmedabad,
Gujarat- 380009
Phone: 079 2656 8319

**Aashus Wellness- Antigravity
Yoga**
Opp Navrangpura Post Office,
Navrangpura, Ahmedabad,
Gujarat- 380015
Phone: 098251 58578

Shape and Smile
4A Ashish Park Society Section
2, Beside VIP View Complex,
Opp. Bright School, VIP Road,
Vadodara
Gujarat- 390018
Phone: 096872 05446

M S Wellness Center
G-1, Swaroop Complex, Nr
Mahendra Shah Hospital, Bhalej
Road, Anand
Gujarat- 388001
Phone: 098986 33383

**Anannd Utsav : Center for
Holistic Wellness**
A- 21, Hari Om Tower,
Panchvati Road, Law
Garden, Near Vasan Eye
Care, Above cafe Coffee
Day, Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 380006
Phone: 093761 01156

Aditya Clinic
FF 103-104, Sunrise Complex,
Near Sun Pharma Research
Center, Sun Pharma Road,
Atladara, Vadodara
Gujarat- 390012
Phone: 088666 60011

The Holistica
Ground Floor, Sunshine Global
Hospital Building, Near Big
Bazaar, Surat- Dumas Rd, Piplod,
Surat
Gujarat- 395007
Phone: 099259 24246

**Herbalife Distributor – Jaya
Wellness Center**
Sona Cross Rd, Nigam
Nagar, Chandkheda,
Ahmedabad
Gujarat- 382424



TOURISM CORPORATION OF GUJARAT LTD.

Udyog Bhavan, Block No. I6, 4th Floor, Sector - II, Gandhinagar - 382011
Phone: 91-79-23222523 / 23222645 / 23220002, Fax 91-79-23238908
Website: www.gujarattourism.com

TODAY'S
traveller

Celebrating



AVIATION

ETIHAD AIRWAYS TO INCREASE FREQUENCY OF FLIGHTS



Starting from December 15, 2018, to January 13, 2019, Etihad Airways will increase its flights from Abu Dhabi to London Heathrow Airport, from three to four daily services, to meet the higher passenger demand this festive season.

The flights will be operated by a two-class Boeing 787-9, featuring 28 Business Studios and 271 Economy Smart Seats.

James Harrison, General Manager, Etihad Airways, in the UK and Ireland, said, "We are thrilled to announce more flights to London over the festive period. This is a busy time for local guests travelling between both the capitals, and the extra service will allow more choice and flexibility in their travel."

These services will operate in addition to Etihad Airways' regularly scheduled three daily services from Abu Dhabi to London flights, which will continue to operate on 3-class Airbus A380 aircraft.

GOAIR STARTS DIRECT FLIGHTS TO PHUKET FROM TEN INDIAN CITIES



GoAir recently announced its inaugural International operations with its first non-domestic flight between Delhi, Mumbai and Phuket. The flight also marked the first-ever direct flight from India to Phuket.

Speaking on the occasion, the elated Jeh Wadia, CEO of GoAir, said, "With great pride and humility, we announce that Phuket is our first international route. The level of interest from Indian travellers has been excellent. Thanks to Gulu Lalvani, who convinced me to open-up Phuket to the Indian market, we are making Phuket our Thailand hub. We already have routes from Mumbai and Delhi to Phuket, and by the end of the next year, we will increase this to ten cities flying directly to Phuket."

He added, "With the introduction of these flights, GoAir aims to amplify and replicate its domestic success story, redefining its fly smart experience and value proposition in the Aviation Industry."

SPICEJET CONNECTS SHIRDI WITH DELHI

SpiceJet recently announced the launch of four new direct flights to Maharashtra. SpiceJet is the first and only airline to provide air connectivity to the temple town of Shirdi with daily direct flights from Delhi.

Home to the famous temple dedicated to Shri Sai Baba, Shirdi receives an estimated 60,000 pilgrims every day. With the new flights launched, tourists who otherwise take a rail or road tour can conveniently switch to a more convenient and time-saving travel mode.

Additionally, the airline has also launched a new daily direct flight on the route of Mumbai-Kanpur. The airline also operated its first direct flight on the Mumbai-Jaisalmer route, and a third direct flight is to be started on Mumbai-Kolkata route from November 1, 2018.

Shilpa Bhatia, Chief Sales and Revenue Officer, SpiceJet said, "This is indeed a proud moment for us and a celebrated milestone for Indian Aviation as SpiceJet becomes the first and only airline to connect Shirdi with Delhi. Our new flight will offer an immediate boost to Religious Tourism that the city is best known for."



AAI PAVILION WINS SILVER AWARD AT THE 21ST INDIA INTERNATIONAL SECURITY EXPO

AAI recently participated at the 21st India International Security Expo 2018 organised by India Trade Promotion Organisation at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The Security Expo was inaugurated by Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Hansraj Gangaram Ahir. The AAI Pavilion, inaugurated by IN Murthy, Member (Ops), AAI, exhibited its futuristic endeavours and achievements. Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Home Affairs also visited AAI Pavilion and appreciated the efforts of AAI.

AAI pavilion was adjudged as one of the best exhibitors and won Silver Award for the Pavilion showcased at 21st India International Security Expo 2018.



CORPORATE LEADERS SHINE AT STAR ALLIANCE INVITATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



Star Alliance Invitational Golf Tournament, 2018, was recently organised for corporate clients at Delhi Golf Club. The event was a great opportunity for the 28 Star Alliance member airlines to get in touch with the corporate community and educate them about the benefits of Star Alliance. The event was held in one of the most elite golf courses in Delhi and was highly appreciated by the corporate community. The game of golf was followed up by an awards function along with a gala lunch.

The Invitational Golf Tournament got overwhelming response from the corporate community and the participants competed for overall championship prizes.

Puneet Beriwalla and Satish Mehta emerged as the winners. The event was graced by Suman Billa, Joint Secretary Ministry of Tourism, and Sanjay Singh from Tata & Sons. The championship prizes were given away by the Star Alliance members.

AAI ENCOURAGES CREATIVE TALENT THROUGH ART EXHIBITION



Kalyanmayee, AAI's Women Welfare Association, recently organised an Art Exhibition at the Indian Aviation Academy, Vasant Kunj. The Art Exhibition showcased the paintings that were prepared by the participants of the Art Camp organised in April, 2018.

A total of 20 artists participated in the event, including Chhavi Aggarwal, Vice President, Kalyanmayee; Sanjeev Jindal, President, AAI Art Family; and Vimal S Mehta, President, FIPA. The topic given for this year's artwork was: "The Five Elements – Panchtatava." This is the second Art Camp being organised by Kalyanmayee.

"The objective of the Kalyanmayee Art Camp is to nurture creative talent from among AAI employees and their families. It is also an initiative that provides a platform to amateur artists to showcase their work, get encouraged and therefore motivated to create better artistic work", said Chhavi Aggarwal, Vice President, Kalyanmayee during the Art Exhibition.

The exhibition was visited by participating artists, professional artists, art lovers and other dignitaries.

SPICEJET CONNECTS AMRITSAR TO BANGKOK AND GOA

SpiceJet recently announced the launch of two new flights from Amritsar connecting Bangkok and Goa. The airline is the first and only carrier to offer daily direct connectivity on the routes of both Amritsar-Bangkok-Amritsar and Amritsar-Goa-Amritsar. The new flights will be effective from November 6, 2018. Bangkok is the second international destination after Dubai that SpiceJet will be connecting via a direct flight from Amritsar. Bangkok is one of the most preferred international destinations of Indian tourists. Earlier passengers from Amritsar had to travel to Delhi to board flights for both the destinations. The new flights will provide manifold customer convenience to travellers. The announcement was made in the august presence of Capt. Amarinder Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab.

Shilpa Bhatia, Chief Sales and Revenue Officer, SpiceJet said, "Both Bangkok and Goa are among the top picks for leisure travellers and we see immense potential in these routes. SpiceJet is proud to be the only Indian carrier to offer direct connectivity from Amritsar to Bangkok and Goa."



JET AIRWAYS RECEIVES ITS 5TH BOEING 737 MAX

Jet Airways, recently received its fifth Boeing 737 MAX, as part of its fleet modernisation plan in line with its commitment to offer its guests a considerably superior and differentiated flying experience.

Since the induction of the airline's maiden 737 MAX (registered as VT-JXA) on Jun 28, 2018, another four have joined its fleet. The latest MAX is part of 11 MAX aircraft that Jet Airways will be inducting this fiscal year. Jet Airways remains the first and only Indian carrier to operate these advanced single-aisle fuel-efficient aircraft in the Indian skies. It delivers a comparatively lower noise footprint (nearly 40 percent less) along with lower carbon emissions. The proposed induction of the 737 MAX will enable Jet Airways to not only simplify its fleet structure but even reduce maintenance costs. Guests stepping onboard the new MAX are greeted by a customisable and an eye-catching Sky Interior.



SOLO POWER

Travelling solo has always been a unique and an enriching experience for people who just want to explore what it means to be on your own in a place unknown

TT BUREAU

British Airways recently conducted a survey to study the global trend of rising independent female passengers. The airline released the Global Solo Travel Study into understanding the who, what and why of the trend across the world, and to understand which locations are the most tempting for true escapism.

The BA Global Solo Travel Study of almost 9,000 18-to-64-year-olds across UK, US, France, India, Germany, Italy, Brazil and China found that over 50% of women have taken a holiday by themselves, with 75% of women planning a solo trip in the next few years.

Almost 47% of Indian women said that they have travelled alone, for at least 2-5 times, and 30% of Indian travellers intend to travel solo in the next 2-3 months. The maximum number of solo travellers in India is between ages 18-25. According to the survey, Indian travellers hopped/skipped continents the most, with 37% travelling solo to Europe and 33% exploring the UAE and Middle East

The study also unpacked the reasons why passengers were choosing to head out alone. More than half of the global respondents (55%) choose to travel alone due to the feeling

of freedom and independence. Holidaymakers from India are the most open, with over 50% also prioritising meeting new people and having unique experiences.

Italian women were found to be more adventurous with 63% of them, aged between 18 and 65, exploring another country alone, followed by Germany at 60%. The least inclined to venture overseas, with only 16%, were women from the US. However, this looks to change with 62% currently planning their getaway in the next few years.

The experiences that solo travellers are most likely to take include sunset watching, short-haul trips, long-haul trips of over 6 months, touring continents, especially Europe, and exploring Dubai.

Some other highlights:

- 37% Indian travelled solo to Europe and 33% explored the UAE and Middle East
- The feeling of freedom and independence was the biggest motivation to head out alone
- Many women, 33 percent, are travelling alone to get over a break-up with a significant other





TODAY'S
traveller

Celebrating

21
ANNIVERSARY

EXPLORER

BATTLE IT OUT!



The Nehru Trophy Boat Race, on the scenic backwaters of Alleppey, is a visual extravaganza and makes for a heart-skipping moment for many

ABHISHEK PATHAK

The Nehru Trophy Boat Race is a premier snake boat race, held in Punnamada Lake, near Alleppey, Kerala. Every year, the game is conducted on the second Saturday of August and is a famous tourist attraction.

The story of how this boat race came into existence is rather intriguing – In 1952, when Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru visited Kerala, he received a roaring reception from the people of Alleppey while being escorted on one of the snake boats travelling from Kottayam to Alleppey. He was thrilled hearing deafening cheers from thousands of people and raised his hands to receive their salutations. Indira Gandhi and her children were also present that day with him. A great boom was heard, declaring the start of the race. Throughout the event, as he watched the race through his binoculars, Pandit Nehru displayed a childlike vision of himself. As the boats approached the finishing line towards the Pavilion, where Nehru was seated, he suddenly sprang to his feet in a gesture of ultimate excitement. Amongst the many snake boats vying for supremacy, 'Nadubhagom Chundan' crossed the finishing line with an unbelievable speed, to be the first-ever winner in this impromptu race, conducted in honour of Nehru. The winning boat won the prestigious Silver Trophy, donated by Nehru, which was later known as Nehru Trophy.

This event marked the beginning of one of the greatest water sports in the world. People from across the world arrive in great numbers to watch the spectacular boat race in Kerala. The run-up to the race is marked by a host of events, such

as photo exhibitions, cultural parades, painting contests and competitions in 'Vanchipattu' (poetry songs).

However, after the devastating floods during this season, the current edition of this regular fixture was rescheduled to take place on November 10, 2018. On the day of this fiercely fought boat race, the tranquil lake front of Punnamada is transformed into a sea of humanity with an estimated two lakh people witnessing the 'Kuttanad's Olympics on water,' including tourists from abroad. For the people of Kuttanad and its surrounding villages, a victory at this race is something to be celebrated for months to come.





TEA BOARD OF INDIA
www.teaboard.gov.in



World's Gold Standard

CELEBRATE LIFE WITH INDIAN TEA AND YOGA

Set out on a fulfilling journey of wellness, healing and peace through the two invaluable gifts from India — Yoga and Tea. Scientific studies have shown that both Tea and Yoga help relieve stress and anxiety, and have proven health benefits for the patients with diabetes, hypertension and cardiovascular diseases.

We welcome you to connect with your inner self and discover the perfect harmony of mind, body and soul through the unique confluence of Yoga and Indian Tea.





THE GREAT INDIAN TEA JOURNEY

Discover an album of experiences at these sublime Tea Estates, as you take Tea Tours to learn the art of Tea Culture

ABHISHEK PATHAK

For most of us, tea is much more than just a daily ritual. Tea aficionados will tell you how the whole tea experience generates an acceptance of the world, a feeling of contentment and a pleasing exuberance. Tea initiates and concludes common and not-so-common discussions, and could sometimes act as an ice-breaker between fighting couples or friends.

According to recent trends, Tea Tourism has emerged as a niche segment on the world tourism map and is a wonderful recreational experience that provides ample scope to widen your horizons with regard to this popular beverage. Visiting tea gardens, learning the process of tea plucking, tea producing, tea tasting, and staying at tea bungalows are all part of Tea Tourism. This unique tour directly brings you in sync with nature, as you explore the lush green tea gardens, enjoying a cup of freshly brewed tea, under the shade of an umbrella at a plantation site.



Makaibari Tea Estate





Glenburn Tea Estate

So, come and explore some of these stunning, colonial era tea estates, amidst lush green plantation sites to satisfy your tea cravings.

MAKAIBARI TEA ESTATE

Known as the producer of Darjeeling's most extravagant tea – Silver Tips Imperial – Makaibari Tea Estate is situated on the sloppy hills of Kurseong and is one of the oldest family-owned tea gardens in Darjeeling, established in 1859. Makaibari Tea Estate is a world in itself, replete with green landscapes and astonishing eco-diversity. The estate covers an area of 670 hectares, covering six ridges, with the plantation area covering only 120 hectares. Around 70% area is under forest cover and is a flourishing spot for numerous species of flora and fauna. Explore the stunning landscaped tea gardens as you take tea tours to learn the art of tea plucking, tea tasting or scaling the slopes where the tea grows. The tea estate offers a unique opportunity to take a peek into the daily lives of tea planters as they carefully pluck tea leaves, while you're busy sipping a cup of fine Darjeeling tea. The tea estate has seven natural springs of pure water, which serves the entire community of planters, including a fossil with the impression of an elephant's foot. Silver Tips Imperial (handmade Oolong Tea) is the most famous tea originating out of Makaibari Tea Estate, manufactured in limited quantities each year.

GLENBURN TEA ESTATE, DARJEELING

Step into the idyllic world of Glenburn, amidst stunning scenery and old-fashioned elegance and revel in the opportunity to see the rituals of tea production at this fairytale tea estate. Started by a Scottish tea company in 1859, Glenburn Tea Estate is a colonial-era plantation retreat sitting on a hillock above the banks of the River Rungeet, perched high up in the Himalayas,





Wild Mahseer in Balipara, Assam



and overlooked by the mighty Kanchenjunga mountain range. There are two colonial-styled planter bungalows inside the estate – Burra Bungalow and Water Lily Bungalow – each with four suites, lush green surroundings, and open verandahs that lend a very English feel to the bungalows. One of the most expensive Darjeeling teas, Glenburn Darjeeling Moonshine Tea, with sweet notes of honeysuckle, sells for Rs 760 per 50g.

Spend some quality time as you head out to explore this vast tea estate, which is home to 140 species of birds and 42 varieties of butterflies. The tea tour experience at the estate begins with a guided tour, where a brief overview of the plantation site is provided to tourists. The Glenburn tea picker ladies help you learn the art of tea plucking and different types of pruning methods, after which you're given a free hand to pluck those tea leaves and throw them into the tea basket. At the tea factory, the guided tour explains the process of tea making and the various methods involved in manufacturing the tea that ends in your teacup. The factory tour ends into a tea-tasting session, where you get to taste superfine blends of Glenburn teas, which are

rich in flavour, aroma and appearance. Experience the Glenburn Gastronomy, as you indulge in exotic South-Asian delicacies and European dishes, all made out of the fresh ingredients from the well-stocked kitchen garden. Do try the marmalade and a whole collection of signature cakes and cookies. There are some unique Family Recipes as well on the menu that will satiate your palate. Truly, a few days of stay at this tea estate makes for an enriching and a complete experience in itself, and the lingering English cottage feel rounds up your 'Glenburn Experience.'

WILD MAHSEER, ASSAM

Since the discovery of the *Camellia sinensis* tea plant, in 1823, Assam rapidly blossomed into one of the largest tea-growing regions in the world, especially noted for its malty-flavoured Black Tea, which is known for its briskness and strong bright colour. There are many tea-producing estates in Assam, but one that strikes the eye is Wild Masheer, a part of Addabarie Tea Estate. At first glance, Wild Mahseer seems like a tea lover's paradise, like an ancestral family home that you would love to keep visiting.



Blending colonial and Assamese architecture with high ceilings, sloping roofs, chequered floors, and enclosed verandas, Wild Mahseer was established in 1864 by the British Assam Tea Company for its supervisors and specialists. This award-winning heritage boutique hotel catches your attention, with its old-world charm amidst lush green tea plantations, the moment you set your foot inside it. Wild Mahseer comes with five tea-themed bungalows, named appropriately as – Ambrosia, Silver Tips, Golden Tips and First Flush.

The visit to the plantation site includes a drive through tea gardens, where tourists enjoy an end-to-end experience of how tea is grown, collected/harvested, processed in a traditional factory, then packed and sold in the market. Engage in the romance of tea tasting at the tea bar located at the First Flush dining pavilion, where you get to taste and savour 57 varieties and grades of tea sourced from every nook and corner of the world. Sample the unique blends made using alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages and extracts to savour the wide boutique of teas. Located on the outskirts of Tezpur, Wild Mahseer is a perfect fusion of history and class tucked into a 22-acre sanctuary.

MANY SHADES OF DARJEELING TEA

White Tea

Darjeeling White Tea is the most elegant tea produced in Darjeeling, having the distinct muscatel flavour of the traditional

Darjeeling brews. This white tea is made from unopened buds, has a delicate aroma, and brews to a pale golden colour with a mellow taste and a tinge of sweetness.

Oolong Tea

This semi-fermented tea is made from finely plucked leaves and has the quality of both green and black teas. Oolong leaves are full-bodied tea leaves with a sweet aroma and the brew turns out to be dark orange in colour with the characteristic muscatel flavour.

Green Tea

Sipping from a cup of Darjeeling Green Tea brings you a unique floral aroma, followed by a tincture of nutty muscatel flavour, typical to Darjeeling teas, but unlike any other green tea, making for an unforgettable experience. Each flush lends a different character to the brew.

Black Tea

Darjeeling Black Tea is considered as the best black tea in India and the world, for its unique nutty muscatel notes that resemble no other tea. The black tea from the First Flush (mid-March harvest) is rich in flavour compared to the Second, Third, and Autumnal Flush, and is often called the champagne of teas.



White
Tea



Green
Tea



Oolong
Tea



Black
Tea

KERALA BOUNCES BACK!

The tenth edition of Kerala Tourism Mart brought a shimmer of hope for the flood-hit state, which prepares to receive visitors in the October-March tourist season

TT BUREAU

The pall of gloom that had descended on Kerala's globally famed Tourism and Hospitality Industry in the wake of the August floods, appears to have lifted, if the message filtering from the just concluded Kerala Travel Mart (KTM) 2018 is any indication.

With the state ticking all the boxes to win back the confidence of tourists, God's Own Country has bounced back with an incredible resilience, removing any lingering apprehension about its preparedness to receive visitors in the October-March tourist season.

After the rampaging floods, which devastated 12 of Kerala's 14 districts and the state's infrastructure, especially roads, Kerala Tourism was staring at a loss of Rs 1,000 crore, a sector that contributed Rs 33,000 crore in 2017, accounting for 10% of the state's GDP and a little over 23% of its total employment.

KTM, the biennial showpiece event and India's biggest

conclave of the Tourism Sector stakeholders from across the world, turned out to be a resounding success, with 35,000 business meets involving 1,635 buyers shortlisted from 7,000 applicants (545 of them were from 66 foreign countries – the highest in the KTM history so far), 325 sellers in 400-odd stalls and the highest number of foreign buyers from the US and UK. This definitely referenced the trust placed in the global Tourism Industry in Kerala.

Speaking at the occasion, Rani George, Secretary, Kerala Tourism, said, "KTM's success is historic in a sense that our Tourism Industry got back on track at the right time." Her sentiments were echoed by P Bala Kiran, Director, Kerala Tourism, when he said, "KTM has lent a smile of hope to the faces in the industry, in contrast to the general gloom that prevailed among its captains till a week ago. This edition proved that KTM is not a celebratory event, but a business meet. It's a positive lesson not just for us in



Kerala, but for the whole of India and even the world.”

A major advantage of the event was that it successfully built confidence among tourists and other stakeholders of the industry, in particular, and made a perceptual change among the people in general about the post-floods tourism in Kerala. It also sent out a screaming message to the world that the state has brazened out the adversity with a remarkable degree of gumption and resilience in a speedy fashion. More than that, it provided a platform for the government and other stakeholders to discuss the future roadmap for the Tourism Industry, which is the third highest revenue-earner in the state.

Inaugurated by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, KTM announced plans to reinvent its decade-old Responsible Tourism (RT), update customised packages, strengthen tools of publicity, broaden the tourism map and spruce up heritage spots to increase the footfalls. When implemented, it would give a huge fillip in further promoting public-private participation in the fields of Travel and Hospitality, Wellness and Culture.

The tourism board is slated to launch *Nefertiti*, the Egyptian-themed luxury vessel, to spur Cruise Tourism; Chaliyar River Challenge 2018, for Adventure Tourism; and Jatayu Nature Park and Muziris Project to woo visitors.

A visibly relieved Tourism Minister, Kadakampally Surendran said, “A survey will be conducted seeking the possibility of offering job opportunities through tourism for people in the state’s flood-hit areas. The government has earmarked Rs 700 crore for the Tourism Sector under the Nava Kerala reconstruction activities. The administration is also mulling over modifying certain laws for better tourism practices in the state.”

With these improvements and a slew of new initiatives, Kerala Tourism has found its feet once again. But, it needs to learn lessons from the catastrophe, lend an aggressive edge to its tourism revival plan and develop new products and services for realising the government’s target of increasing tourism’s share to 20% of its GDP by 2020.



Rani George, Secretary, Kerala Tourism





A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY

A shining example of a great architectural heritage, Rani ki Vav is amongst the finest stepwells in India

INDIRA LAUL

At a time when water has become the bone of contention, it does well to hark back to ancient times when building a water body was considered a good deed. That civilizations came to life because of water and ceased to exist without it should serve as a somber reminder for us to get our act together.

Stepwells were constructed all over North India, from the middle ages right till the modern era and represented a repository of knowledge about water collection, storage and distribution in arid regions. In Gujarat, the tradition of constructing a stepwell was raised to a fine art, and until today, serves as an example of a great architectural heritage.

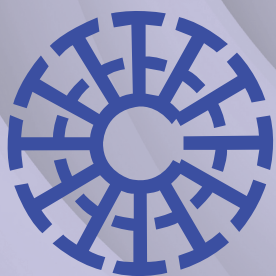
Known as the 'Queen of Stepwells,' Rani ki Vav, or the Ranki stepwell, located within 2km of Patan, in North Gujarat, is an incomparable example of Solanki architecture. Commissioned by Rani Udayamati in memory of her husband King Bhimdev I, it was excavated and discovered in the late 1980s by the Archeological Survey of India, with the carvings intact.

The 'vavs' of Gujarat were not merely sites for collecting

water, but also simultaneously held great spiritual significance. Originally constructed quite simply, they subsequently became more intricate over the years, perhaps to render more clearly the ancient concept of the sanctity of water by carving it out in stone deities.

Constructed like a subterranean temple, the steps of the stepwell begin at ground level, leading you down through the cool air through several pillared pavilions to reach the deep well below. There are more than 800 elaborate sculptures among seven galleries. The central theme is the Dasavataras, or ten incarnations of Vishnu, including Buddha, which are accompanied by sadhus, Brahmins, and apsaras or celestial dancers. At water level, there is a carving of Sheshashayi-Vishnu, in which Vishnu reclines on the thousand-hooded serpent Shesha.

In 2014, Rani-ki-Vav was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, which recognised it as representing, among other things, as 'an architectural monument of human creative genius.'



Tourism Finance Corporation of India Ltd.

helping tourism grow

A specialised all India financial institution catering to the requirements of the tourism Industry through innovative and convenient forms of assistance.

SERVICES INCLUDE

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- Rupee Term Loan
- Corporate Loans
- Take Over Finance
- Financial Structuring

ADVISORY:

Project

- Techno Economic Viability Studies
- Market Assessment
- Loan Syndication
- Valuation Services

Tourism

- Tourism Master Plans
- Circuit Development



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO FOLLOWING SECTORS

TOURISM SECTOR

- Hotels, Resorts, Motels
- Wellness Spa etc
- Entertainment Centres
- Amusement Parks & Water Park
- Multiplexes, Shopping Centres
- Family Entertainment Centres, Club
- Convention Centres
- Ropeways
- Travel & Transport

INFRASTRUCTURE SECTOR

- Conventional & Non-conventional Power projects, Power distributions networks
- Roads Airports, Ports, Rail Infrarelated to tourism
- Hospitals, School, Colleges, Stadium
- Special economic zones, Industrial estates, Warehouses
- Media, Entertainment & telecoms

OTHER SECTOR

- Manufacturing

Winner
TODAY'S
TRAVELLER
Award 2018

Tourism Finance
Corporation of India Ltd.

Best Organisation for
Financial Support to
Tourism Industry



Tourism Finance Corporation of India Ltd.

4th Floor, Tower-1, NBCC Plaza, Pushp Vihar, Sector-5, Saket, New Delhi-110017
Tel: 011-2956 1180 • Fax: 011-2956 1171 • E-mail: ho@tfcilt.com • Website: www.tfcilt.com



SPECTACULAR SMOKY ROCKS

Tamil Nadu's Hogenakkal Falls, or Smoky Rocks, draws visitors with its incredible beauty, health benefits and other attractions

TT BUREAU

Post monsoon is the best time to get away and enjoy a 'green' holiday. The rivers and streams are at their gurgling best and waterfalls cascade in full force. Experience the natural environment and bring back the culture and heritage of local people as well as an enduring respect for nature. Make tracks to the enchanting world of Hogenakkal, in Tamil Nadu, which has emerged as a flagship eco-tourism centre, because of the majestic Hogenakkal Waterfalls and the incredible beauty and tranquility of its surroundings.

Located in the western part of Dharmapuri district,



Hogenakkal is surrounded by a chain of undulating hills with an average elevation of about 914m above mean sea level. The River Cauvery, which gives rise to Hogenakkal Waterfalls, serves as a natural Inter-State boundary between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. The Cauvery enters Tamil Nadu at Hogenakkal and is considered particularly sacred at this spot. The pool into which it falls is called 'Vagnakundam' or sacrificial pit. The carbonatite rocks in this site are considered to be the oldest of its kind in South India and one of the oldest in the world.

Often referred to as the 'Niagara of India,' Hogenakkal Falls are reputed for their medicinal properties and therefore have tourists coming in droves to take a dip in its waters. The 15-km descent from Pennagaram to Hogenakkal snakes through interesting terrain, comprising villages with lush fields of mulberry and the broad-leaved castor. On the outskirts of the rural settlements are fascinating guardian deities, called Aiyans, which are brightly coloured giant figures made of terracotta, depicting fearsome, mustachioed warriors.

The vegetation around the eco-tourism site is predominated by southern tropical mixed deciduous forests and tropical riverine forests. There are about 484 species of flora, while valuable species like Sandal, *Anogeissus latifolia*, etc, abound here.

The main falls are an enchanting vertical drop that form part of the River Cauvery, and are situated at the juncture of the Cauvery and Chinnar. After this confluence, the river changes into a series of waterfalls, which cascade from a height of about 20m (66 ft) with a misty smoke and a thunderous sound. The nomenclature of Hogenakkal comes from two Kannada words, namely, 'Hoge,' meaning 'smoke' and 'Kal,' meaning 'Rocks,' – hence the term 'Smoky Rocks.' It is also known as 'Marikottayam' by the people of Tamil Nadu.

For the visitor, Hogenakkal throws up many attractions. The Crocodile Rehabilitation Centre, located opposite the Forest Cottage, houses about 113 crocodiles which are being maintained in 22 enclosures. The bilingual and pictorial interpretation of the crocodiles, plus the calm and green ambience of the place make it a memorable visit for the whole family.

A charming Children's Park, located within the Crocodile Rehabilitation Centre, is a fun place for kids. The soothing lush green surroundings are peaceful and rejuvenating, making the park one of the most popular attractions for tourists.

The Medicinal Garden showcases about 108 species of medicinal plants which represents the native species. The main aim of the garden is to educate tourists about the local diversity and to encourage them into conserving and using these valuable species for their health and well-being.

For a stunning bird's eye view of the falls, Hogenakkal Forest Department, along with the Hogenakkal Eco-tourism society, have built a watch tower, from where visitors can enjoy breathtaking views of the falls.

The Hanging Bridge in Hogenakkal leads to the rock-head

overlooking the five falls. Apart from its tourism value, the Hanging Bridge connects the people living along the banks of River Cauvery to the nearest towns, thus bringing social and cultural harmony between the people across the states.

For accommodation, you could book rooms near Hogenakkal Falls. The Tamil Nadu Forest Department has many heritage buildings under its control, chief among them being the Chinnar Rest House, located in Bevanurmalai Reserved Forest, along the banks of River Cauvery. The Hogenakkal Cauvery Guest House, also located amidst the thick jungles of the Bevanurmalai Reserve Forest, offers meticulously maintained fully-furnished two air-conditioned suites with attached bath facilities.

Don't miss out on the round boat ride which commences with a 20-minute ride, after which a 15-minute walk gets you to the next course. From there, you are taken to one of the small waterfalls in the area. A total of four persons can be seated in the boat and it takes about an hour to complete the round trip.



RETAIL THERAPY

Splurge in style at the Dubai Shopping Festival, which guarantees unique shopping experiences for shopaholics

TT BUREAU



Dubai Shopping Festival (DSF) will be back for its 24th edition, from December 26, 2018, to January 26, 2019, attracting shoppers from across the globe, featuring exciting events, promotions and opportunities for enjoyable shopping experiences, coupled with fun and entertainment for all families.

Organised by the Dubai Festivals and Retail Establishment (DFRE), an agency of the Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing (Dubai Tourism), DSF will kick off with innovative initiatives and memorable experiences built around the three pillars of the festival – shopping, winning and entertainment.

Ahmed Al Khaja, CEO of DFRE, said: "As Dubai gears up to host yet another successful edition of Dubai Shopping Festival, we are focussed on creating a vibrant ambience for visitors to further enhance the Emirate's position as a leading tourism destination that offers unforgettable and rewarding shopping

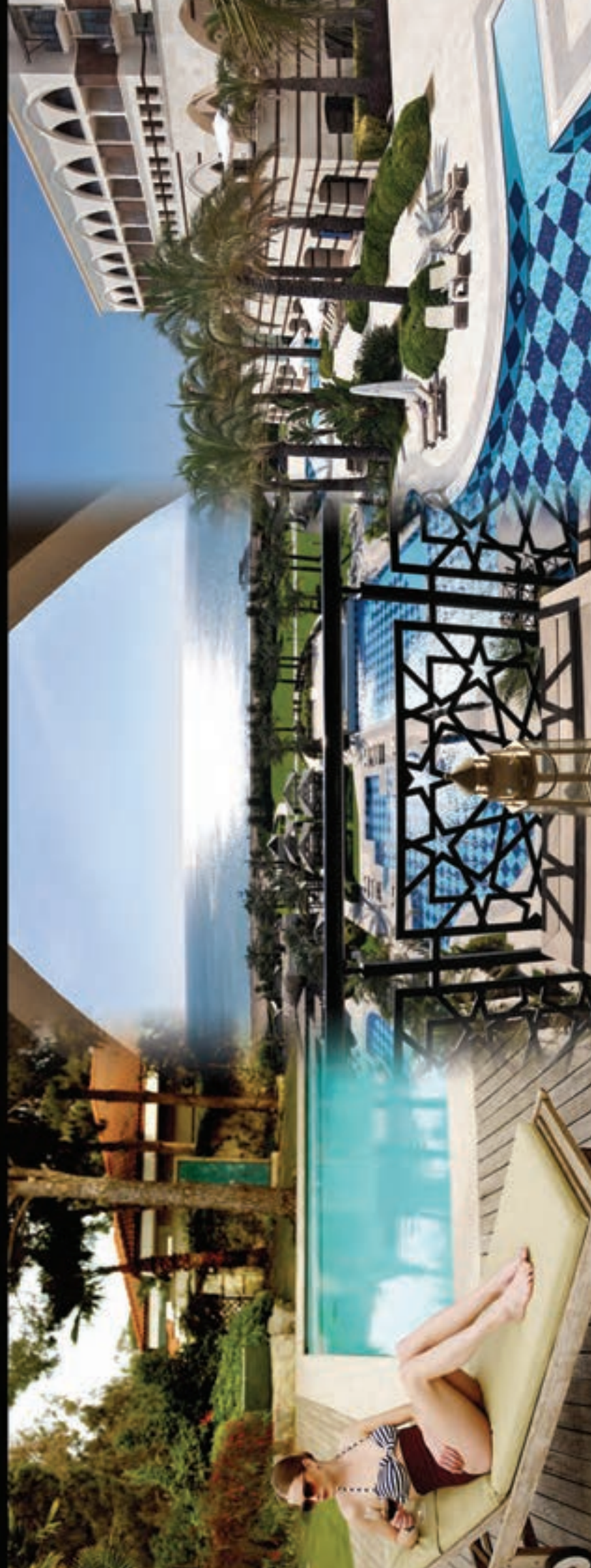
experiences. With DSF being a key pillar of Dubai's retail sector, we are keen in keeping up the momentum, provided by the previous edition, to help boost business in Dubai during this period. We are grateful to the government and the private sector for their enormous contributions to DSF year after year, and with the 24th edition of DSF set to dawn in December, we are working closely with all our partners to ensure that DSF truly lives up to its reputation as a global attraction."

There will be more reasons to celebrate the upcoming edition of DSF, with state-of-the-art malls offering attractive retail sales, deals and discounts from a diverse range of top global brands, along with mega raffles and a chance to win life-changing prizes from luxury cars, gold and cash. In addition, DSF will offer an extensive lineup of events and activities for visitors to choose from, including spectacular fireworks shows and free-to-attend family-oriented activities in malls and activations by leading brands.



Kempinski Hotel
The Dome

BELEK, TURKEY



Beyond Your Expectations

Located in an exquisite corner of Turkey's Mediterranean coast, Kempinski Hotel The Dome Belek, delivers a complete luxury resort experience with an extensive beachfront, two 18-hole golf courses (PGA-approved) and 3600 m² unique Spa and Thalasso facilities.

+90 242 710 13 00 | reservations.thedome@kempinski.com | kempinski.com/belek



global hotel alliance

Kempinski
HOTELS SINCE 1897

SET SAIL TO QATAR

Two megaships and 10 cruise ships will dock for the first time at Doha Port, to make their maiden voyages to Qatar

TT BUREAU



The 2018-19 Cruise Season kicked off in Qatar with the *Boudicca* docking at Doha Port last month. The season, which continues until April 2019, is expected to see nearly double the number of cruise ships that arrived in the 2017-18 season. Of the 43 ships scheduled to call at Doha Port, 10 ships will be making their maiden calls to Qatar. And, with the majority of calls being megaships, this season is set to be the biggest ever for Qatar, bringing 140,000 visitors to Qatar's shores – nearly triple of those that arrived last year.

This season will witness a significant first for Qatar – the arrival of two megaships at Doha Port at the same time – an occurrence that is due to happen a total of five times throughout this season.

Hassan Al Ibrahim, Acting Chairman at Qatar Tourism Authority (QTA), commented, "It continues to be an exciting period of rapid growth for Qatar's Cruise Tourism sector, which will witness more firsts this season. We are pleased to see our local partners join in our efforts to develop services

and products, specifically for cruise visitors. They are an ideal complement to our partnerships with leading international agencies, and we look forward to continue drawing a growing number of visitors to Qatar's shores to enjoy the country's pleasant winter weather."

He added, "These developments highlight the opportunities for investors to develop authentic and memorable experiences that reinforce Qatar's position as a hub of discovery." QTA also continues to work with local and international partners to carefully plan, develop and manage the cruise terminal facilities, infrastructure and operations needed to achieve sustainable growth.

QTA recently signed an agreement with the German Aida Cruises and the Italian Costa Cruises to place Qatar on the two companies' winter itineraries as well as to cooperate in designing special promotion packages for their passengers. As part of the agreements, luxury ship *AIDAprima* and *Costa Mediterranea* are expected to make their maiden trips to Doha Port this season.

WHY? TO GET A STEP AHEAD OF DISEASE.

Today's lifestyle puts your body through a lot. Lack of sleep, irregular food, and stress. Although seemingly small, each of these opens a doorway to disease.

The only way to avoid that is by being one step ahead of it.

Apollo **PERSONALISED HEALTH CHEK™**

Tailored around you, this comprehensive programme helps you prevent diseases before they become problems.

DNA+

This breakthrough test identifies your genetic risk for various diseases (including cardiac, diabetic, metabolic disorders and cancers) and enables timely intervention.

You are the centre of a universe. The reason behind an entire family's laughter. And joy. And the key to that is your health.

**To know more, log on to
www.personalisedhealthchek.com**

Book your appointment today.

 **1860-500-0707**

 **www.apolloedoc.co.in**

 **aphc@apollohospitals.com**

Additional tests, if required, will be at additional cost. Conditions apply.

TAFI: SHOWCASING ABU DHABI

The Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi successfully hosted the 4-day annual TAFI Convention in grand Emirati hospitality at the iconic Emirates Palace Hotels, showcasing Abu Dhabi's rich offerings as a tourist destination



HE Saif Saeed Ghobash (Undersecretary DCT – Abu Dhabi), HE Sultan Al Mutawa Al Dhaheri (Executive Director DCT – Abu Dhabi) with Praveen Chugh (President - TAFI) and HE Navdeep Singh Suri (Ambassador of India to the UAE) at TAFI Convention 2018 inaugural ceremony

ARJUN GILL

The Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi (DCT Abu Dhabi) recently hosted the Travel Agents Federation of India's (TAFI) annual convention at the Emirates Palace Hotel. The TAFI Convention chose Abu Dhabi for this year's destination promotion, which was a resounding success.

The 12th edition of the much-anticipated convention saw the gathering of key decision-makers from the Indian tourism industry to exchange knowledge and help TAFI members navigate this ever-evolving business environment.

Choosing Abu Dhabi as the official host destination for this annual convention underlines the Emirate's expanding reputation as a leading destination for hosting business events.



Left to right: Bharat Shah (Chairman, Convention Committee), Bejan Dinshaw (Country Manager, Department of Culture and Tourism Abu Dhabi) and Anood Khalifa (Asia Pacific Unit Head Destination Promotion Department) at the TAFI Convention 2018 in Abu Dhabi

Themed “Innovation – Transform – Disrupt – Redefining the Offline Travel World,” the event brought together industry professionals from across the globe to discuss the impact of the digital world on the travel and tourism sectors.

HE Saif Saeed Ghobash (Undersecretary DCT), HE Sultan Al Mutawa Al Dhaheri (Executive Director DCT) and HE Navdeep Singh Suri (Ambassador of India to the UAE) were present during the inauguration ceremony, along with delegates from the Travel Agents Federation of India.

Speaking on the occasion, HE Saif Saeed Ghobash (Undersecretary at the Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi) said, “Hosting an event of this calibre is testament to Abu Dhabi’s growing reputation as a world-class destination for high-profile conventions and meetings.”

Recognising the significance of the event, the Undersecretary added, “As the UAE continues to further boost its knowledge-based economy, tourism is singled out as one of the leading sectors that guide our vision and strategy for the future. Against this backdrop, we recognise India as one of Abu Dhabi’s top overseas source markets for guests, as it has recorded a remarkable upward trend over the past few years. As such, we are proud to host this prestigious event and invite all attendees to take the time to explore the Emirate’s rich offerings and enjoy unique experiences whilst they are here.”

The conference was followed by sightseeing tours around Abu Dhabi, Al Ain and Al Dhafra regions where the 480 delegates got to explore and experience Abu Dhabi’s rich tourism offerings. The tour covered iconic landmarks such as Louvre Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Zayed Palace Museum, Al Ain Oasis, Warner Bros World Abu Dhabi, and Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, amongst many other tourist destinations.



TAFI and DCT delegates during the Indian National Anthem at TAFI Convention 2018 in Abu Dhabi



L-R: Bharat Shah (Chairman, Convention Committee), Praveen Chugh (President - TAFI), HE Navdeep Singh Suri (Ambassador of India to the UAE), HE Saif Saeed Ghobash (Undersecretary DCT – Abu Dhabi) and HE Sultan Al Mutawa Al Dhaheri (Executive Director DCT – Abu Dhabi) at the TAFI Convention 2018 in Abu Dhabi



UP AND AWAY!

This summer take a trip to St Moritz to discover the art of sailing and weightless gliding with nothing but magnificent bird's-eye views of the Swiss Alps

TT BUREAU

The lush Alpine settings, unspoilt nature and Swiss tranquillity, combined with world-renowned events, an elegant lifestyle and unlimited sports possibilities make St Moritz and Engadin one of the most beautiful and inspiring valleys to see and visit in Switzerland. It is an ideal escape for guests, especially in summer, who want to swap hot and humid summer temperatures for breathtaking vistas with the light, soothing breeze of the famous Maloja Wind.

The Maloja Wind, the sun and a crystal-clear mountain lake make the perfect combination for an exclusive sailing adventure – one of the six exciting outdoor adventures which guests can enjoy as a complimentary add-on during their stay in Switzerland. Every Friday, the sailing turn with expert

instructions from a skipper takes guests through the glittering water on Lake St Moritz. The lake is set at an elevation of 1,822m above sea level and sits next to the spectacular mountain panorama, offering perfect wind conditions and wind speeds ranging from three to six Beaufort.

Enjoy the e-bike tours along the mountain lakes, goat trekking, climbing and abseiling with views of the Morteratsch Glacier in close sight or mountain biking with a focus on technique and riding down trails. An additional experience for adrenalin seekers is the glider flight experience, where a rapid winch pulls the glider into the air up to 500m. Guests fly almost weightlessly over the famous mountain of Muottas Muragl and enjoy a magnificent bird's-eye view of the Swiss Alps from above.





Traditional Wonders

"CAUVERY" Karnataka State Arts & Crafts Emporia

The ultimate destination for true connoisseurs of arts and crafts...



KARNATAKA STATE HANDICRAFTS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.,

(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)

No.45, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Bangalore 560001.

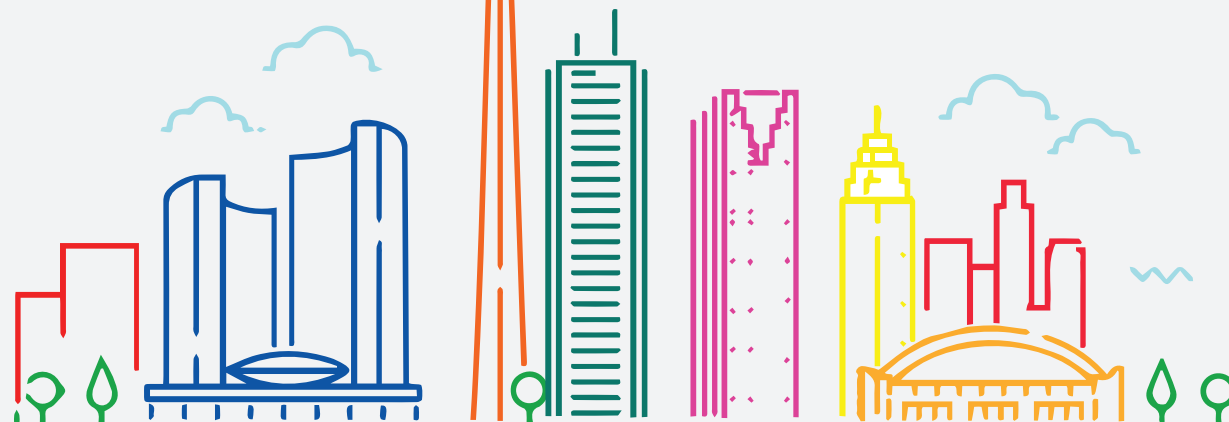
Ph. : 00-91-80-25582656 / 25582793 • Fax : 00-91-80-25580402

email : md@cauveryhandicrafts.net • Website : www.cauverycrafts.com

On-line sale website : www.cauveryhandicrafts.net



24 HOURS IN TORONTO



Canada's largest metropolis, Toronto is also one of the most multicultural cities in the world. From museums to dynamic districts and entertainment, the city has a little something for everyone

TT BUREAU



ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

No trip to Toronto is complete without a visit to the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM)– Canada's largest museum showcasing art, culture, and nature from around the globe and across the ages. The ROM is home to a world-class collection of 13 million artworks, cultural objects and natural history specimens, featured in 40 gallery and exhibition spaces. Explore special exhibitions, as well as the museum's permanent collections of dinosaurs, South Asian art and culture, gems and minerals, ancient Egyptian treasures, biodiversity, and much more.

CN TOWER & EDGEWALK

To get a sense of the city and appreciate Toronto in all its splendour, you have to go as high as you can. And, the best place to do this is to visit the CN Tower, which is the world's second-tallest free-standing structure. Go straight to the top, for some spectacular views of the city – Lake Ontario, and the surrounding cityscape from Toronto's most iconic structure. Dine over 1000ft in the air at 360 Restaurant at the CN Tower. Get a revolving view of the city below as you gorge on a menu featuring Canadian ingredients. Feeling brave? Test your limits on Edgewalk, which is the world's highest hands-free external walk on a building.



ST. LAWRENCE MARKET

Time to recharge with some quality latte! Try Jet Fuel on Parliament Street, which has an awesome selection of different coffees. Then, head to St. Lawrence Market, a major public attraction in Toronto and located in the city's Old Town district. Stalls abound with fresh produce from local vendors and in the mornings the entire space is a flurry of activity. There are three main buildings, namely St. Lawrence Hall, the South Market and the North Market. South is worth a visit for picking up fresh produce – there's even an antique market on Sundays.



DISTILLERY HISTORIC DISTRICT

Listed as a National Historic Site, the Distillery Historic District is one of Toronto's most picturesque neighbourhoods. With cobblestone lanes and Victorian-style shops and buildings, the site was founded as the city's first distillery in the 1830s. Redeveloped in the early 2000s, the district now features high-end boutique shops, art galleries, studios and restaurants. Located in the Old Toronto area, you can stroll the laneways and courtyards or visit the lively Toronto Christmas Market through December.

RIPLEY'S AQUARIUM OF CANADA

Located at the bottom of the CN Tower in the heart of Toronto's entertainment district, Ripley's Aquarium of Canada is home to 16,000 of the city's most beautiful and exotic inhabitants. With over 12,500sq.m. of interactive underwater exhibits, the aquarium features North America's longest underwater viewing tunnel with more than 5.7 million litres of water and over 100 interactive demonstrations and exhibits. Check out giant lobsters, jellyfish, sharks, stingrays and wildly colourful fish from fresh and salt waters around the world, and get up close with the Touch Tank gallery.



WHAT: SERENDIPITY ARTS FESTIVAL
WHEN: DECEMBER 15 – 22, 2018
WHERE: PANJIM, GOA

Serendipity Arts Festival is a multi-disciplinary arts event set over a period of eight days, in December, in the vibrant settings of Panaji, Goa. Curated by a panel of eminent artists and institutional figures, this festival is a long-term cultural project that hopes to affect positive change in the arts in India on a large scale. The Festival also attempts to address pressing issues such as arts education, patronage culture, interdisciplinary discourse and accessibility to the arts. This intensive programme of exhibitions and performances is accompanied by spaces for social and educational engagement. This year's exhibitions and performances will feature craft, culinary arts, dance, music, photography, Special Event, theatre and visual arts.



WHAT: EASTSIDE CULTURE CRAWL
WHEN: NOVEMBER 12-20, 2018
WHERE: VANCOUVER, CANADA

Amateur art collectors, here's one for your calendar: This celebration of visual arts and handicrafts showcases the work of artists and artisans – both local and international – displaying their creations in venues around the city, from Columbia Street to the waterfront. Visitors can browse the handiwork of more than 400 weavers, potters, jewellers, sculptors, painters, glassblowers, printmakers and photographers in their quest to find the perfect piece, while supporting the creative community at the same time.

WHAT: ICELAND AIRWAVES
WHEN: NOVEMBER 07-10, 2018
WHERE: ICELAND

What began in an aeroplane hangar in 1999 has now evolved into Iceland Airwaves, an eclectic mix of musical acts (this year: Ásgeir, Caribou, and Hozier) playing an equally eclectic mix of intimate venues throughout Reykjavik. Many visitors combine the five-day festival with a whistle-stop tour of Iceland's best volcanic bits, including the famous Blue Lagoon (probably because its healing qualities make for a perfect hangover cure).

WHAT: MONTREAL BACH FESTIVAL
WHEN: NOVEMBER 18 – DECEMBER 4, 2018
WHERE: MONTREAL, CANADA

Charming Montreal becomes even more magical in winter – the perfect stage for a celebration of one of history's great composers. Ensembles, orchestras, choirs and solo musicians come from across the globe for this elegant event, which kicks off on November 18 with an even more elegant gala evening.



WHAT: CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL
WHEN: NOVEMBER 14-17, 2018
WHERE: SHILLONG, MEGHALAYA

India has joined Washington D.C. in the USA, and Japan, in celebrating a Cherry Blossom festival. It features a wide range of events, as well as the beautiful cherry blossoms. These include guided night walks, live music, folk and tribal dance performances, storytelling sessions, and stalls showcasing local wine and crafts. All events are free!



WHAT: 49TH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OF INDIA
WHEN: NOVEMBER 20-28TH, 2018
WHERE: GOA, INDIA

The International Film Festival of India (IFFI), founded in 1952, is one of the most significant film festivals in Asia. Held annually, the festival aims at providing a common platform for the cinemas of the world to project the excellence of the film art; contributing to the understanding and appreciation of film cultures of different nations in the context of their social and cultural ethos and promoting friendship and cooperation among people around the world. The Festival has an 'International Competition' Section for feature films by filmmakers from all over the world, apart from the regular features of the Festival. The Indian sections include feature films, homage and retrospectives. The total prize money in the Competition Section is approximately USD 2,00,000.

PICK OF THE MONTH

The latest collection of books, games, audio CDs and DVDs are here to keep you entertained for the month

MUSIC: WHAT IS LOVE? BY CLEAN BANDIT

What Is Love? is the upcoming second studio album by British electronic music group Clean Bandit. It is set to be released on November 30, 2018 by Atlantic Records. It includes the singles "Tears" (featuring Louisa Johnson), "Rockabye" (featuring Sean Paul and Anne-Marie), "Symphony" (featuring Zara Larsson), "I Miss You" (featuring Julia Michaels) and "Solo" (featuring Demi Lovato). In addition, the album will also feature collaborations with Luis Fonsi, Ellie Goulding, Rita Ora and Charli XCX. The album will come

four years after their debut studio album New Eyes, which featured the breakout hits "Rather Be" and "Real Love" with Jess Glynne. What Is Love? will feature a star-studded line up of guest vocalists ranging from established artists such as Ellie Goulding, Rita Ora and Craig David, to rising stars including ALMA and Stefflon Don.

Genre: Dance, Synth-Pop



DVD: DESTINATION WEDDING

Every wedding seems like it has that one person who is miserable and wishes everybody else to be just as miserable as he or she is. As luck has it, this wedding has two such guests. Having travelled to the destination where their friends' wedding is to take place, these two people are miserable in their own minds and antagonistic toward one another. Despite their dissatisfaction with their circumstances, they manage to make a connection that seems like it is destined to grow. When the event has concluded, the two have to make a choice as to continue their relationship or not. This cynical romantic comedy bets that audiences will swoon over seeing Winona Ryder and Keanu Reeves play bickering guests.

Genre: Romantic Comedy



BOOK: MILKMAN BY ANNA BURNS

Milkman calls to mind several seminal works of Irish literature. In its digressive, batty narrative voice, it resembles a novel cited by the narrator: Tristram Shandy. It is Beckettian in its ability to trace the logical within the absurd. In its evocation of a community adapting to survive within a "totalitarian enclave," it recalls a work by another Northern Irish writer, one whom the narrator's neighbours would condemn as being from "the wrong religion": Derek Mahon,

whose astonishing poem, "A Disused Shed in Co. Wexford," should be read by everyone. But for all the comparisons, Milkman has its own energy, its own voice. Although the novel is set in Northern Ireland during the 1970s, it prompts thoughts of other regimes and their impact: Stalinist Russia, the Taliban. Medieval witchhunts, the Skripal poisoning and the #MeToo movement also sprang to mind while reading it. Despite the surreality, everything about this novel rings true. Milkman is a tale of gossip and hearsay, silence and deliberate deafness. It is the story of inaction with enormous consequences.

Genre (s): Literary Fiction



GAMES: HITMAN 2

Hitman 2 is an upcoming stealth video game, releasing on November 13, 2018, developed by IO Interactive and published by Warner Bros. Interactive Entertainment for Microsoft Windows, PlayStation 4, and Xbox One. It will be the seventh entry in the Hitman video game series and is the sequel to the 2016 game Hitman. In the game, Agent 47, a contract assassin, travels to various locations around the globe to eliminate high-profile targets. The game features six missions, which are set in six distinct locations. One of the missions in the game will take place at a racecourse in Miami, where 47 must assassinate one of the drivers and her tech mogul father, while another, set in Colombia, has him hunting the leaders of a local cartel. The game introduces concussive gadgets, which can be used to render an NPC unconscious, and reintroduces the briefcase, which allows the player to conceal and carry large weapons, such as sniper rifles, in public without arousing suspicion. The game will have two paid expansions following its release.

Genre (s): Stealth game



SICIS O'CLOCK



The greatest luxury is time

Sicis Jewels Milan · Via della Spiga 9, Milan 20121 · www.sicisjewels.com · jewels@sicis.com
Sicis Jewels Paris · Rue François 1^{er}, 41 · Paris 75008 · Ph: +33 0149528989



Supported By
अतुल्य! भारत
Incredible India

REVERSE MARKETPLACE®

Speed Dating with Corporates

BOOK YOUR SPACE



15
November 2018

Venue: The Ashok Hotel,
New Delhi

Time: 8:30 AM to 7:30 PM

MART HIGHLIGHTS

- Corporate Panel Discussion • Keynote Address
- Meet corporate purchasers, event & wedding planners • MTM Corporate Star Awards • Networking Tea, Lunch

Principal Country Partner



Film Tourism
Seminar Partner



Hospitality Partner



Media Partner



Organiser



FOR PARTNERSHIP & BOOKING SPACE PLEASE CONTACT:

Safal Saalwar: 09953701567, Prakhar Bhardwaj: 09311234537



mtmsales@optimiceevents.com



www.micetravelmart.com