

TODAY'S traveller

CORPORATE BUSINESS, MICE & LEISURE TRAVEL MAGAZINE

PATA GOLD AWARDEE

APRIL 2015

₹50

GOAN
LUXURY

COUPE
RELOADED

MICE
DESTINATIONS

24 HOURS IN
KOLKATA

NATURE'S
GUARDIANS

THE HUMMING
OF SPRING

IS TRAVEL JUST A
SELFIE MOMENT?

Scan
this image
with your
mobile
to view
our site





MEISSEN COUTURE
JOAILLERIE

MEISSEN® ITALIA, Via Monte Napoleone 3, Milano · www.meissen.it · Tel: +39 02 89 42 37 25

My little
MYSTERY!

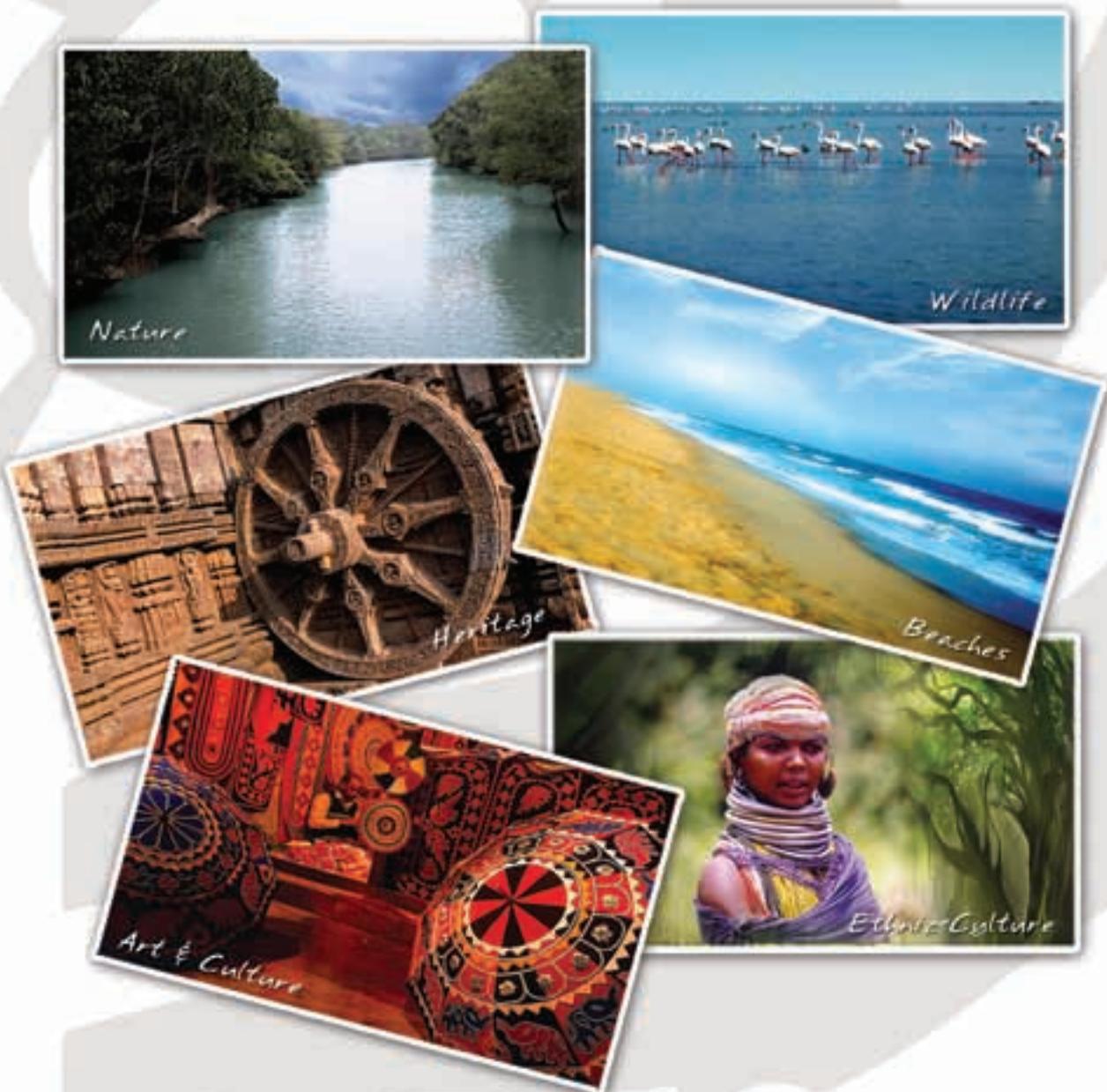


Odisha Tourism



Scenic • Serene • Sublime
The Soul of Incredible India

All the Reasons that make a Destination Perfect.



This season... Come down to discover everything you always wanted to see on a holi.
Welcome to the Total Holiday Package.

Odisha is calling you.



CONDE

April
2015

Gurgaon's preferred choice

In conversation with Arindam Kunar, GM, Crowne Plaza Today Gurgaon

10

Incentives & Conference

Destinations of the World

Exciting MICE destinations of India

29

Corporate jet-setters

Know where the corporate world goes for the perfect vacation

12

Is travel just a Selfie Moment?

Meaningful travel is about living the experience

34

Aviation

AAI encourages amateur artists in India

16

Nature's guardians

Odisha's tribals display cultures that are unmatched and evolved

38

Goan luxury

Leela Goa is a mix of Portuguese and contemporary Indian chic

20

Beating the Indian Summer

Escape to fabulous summer destinations

40

The star of every event

Sahara Star promises a luxurious event with its grandiose space and impeccable service

22

24 Hours in Kolkata

Explore the vibrant city of Kolkata

44

Urban luxury

Radisson Hotel New Delhi Dwarka's proximity to the airport makes it the corporate hotel of choice

24

Coupe reloaded

The new Mercedes-Benz AMG-GT is ready to take on the Indian roads

46

Food par excellence

A quick look into the best of food and beverage

26

The humming of Spring

Follow Spring in some of the world's greatest cities

50

News	04
Apps	06
Corporate updates	08
Glamour	56
What when where	58
Products	60



TODAY'S
traveller

CHAIRMAN/EDITOR
KEWAL GILL

PUBLISHER/EXECUTIVE EDITOR
KAMAL GILL

MANAGING EDITOR
ARJUN GILL

DEPUTY MANAGING EDITOR
SIMRAN MISHRA

SUB-EDITOR
ARKA ROY CHOWDHURY

SENIOR VISUALISER
ABHIJEET SINHA

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER (MKTG)
VAGISH MISHRA

MANAGER (MKTG)
SAFAL SAALWAR

FINANCE CONTROLLER
CA VIJAY GOSAIN

GENERAL MANAGER (ADMIN)
AJITH KUMAR LR

NBS

Corporate Business, MICE & Leisure Travel Magazine | Volume 18 | No. 9

THE TRAVEL EXPERIENCE



Visit us at:
www.todaystraveller.com

For marketing enquiries:
publications@gillindia.com



Point your mobile
at this image to
view our site

Today's Traveller is published/printed by Kamal Gill on behalf of M/s Gill India Communications from Office No: 504-505, 5th Floor, Sheetla House, Building No. 73-74, Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110019

Printed at: Arnav Pack & Print
B-2/1 Okhla Industrial Area Phase-2, New Delhi- 110020
All rights reserved.

For correspondence and advertising:
504-505, 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 Communications (GIC). Similarly, opinions/views expressed by any party in abstract and/or in interviews are not necessarily shared/do not necessarily reflect any opinion of GIC. 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.

SANDEEP SILAS CONFERRED INTER-CULTURAL LEADERSHIP AWARD



Richard Everitt, Director, Education & Society, British Council, conferred the first ever Inter-Cultural Leadership award on Sandeep Silas, at the India-UK Alumni Representatives Meeting, at Shangri-La Hotel (Tapti 1st Floor), New Delhi, India.

Silas will henceforth be recognised as a Senior Practitioner in Inter-Cultural Leadership by the British Council, India-UK.

Silas underwent an intensive training and judgement process for over two years, beginning in 2012, and had participated in the Module A and B of British Council-Middleground UK programmes on Breakthrough Initiatives (BTI) at Dubai, and later in the Systemic Leadership Programme (SLP) at London. His practice of leadership, professionally and in cultural engagements, is proof of his competence and leadership.

He scored strongly in all five competencies and has been proclaimed as the first holder of this prestigious award. The British Council, UK, judged Silas personality, work, both professionally and in Inter-Cultural leadership, and his achievements on the following scale:

- Self Awareness
- Enrolling Across Boundaries
- Breakthrough Initiatives (BTI)
- Systems/Complexity
- Spreading Leadership/Mentoring

Silas' work in Inter-Cultural Leadership has been recognised by civil society, both nationally and internationally. His writings, books and programmes have been creating harmony, inter-faith understanding and bridging cultural gaps. His Track II Diplomacy initiative of Ibadat-e-Aman (Worship of Peace) annual programme has brought the people of India and Pakistan closer. He relentlessly pursues global peace



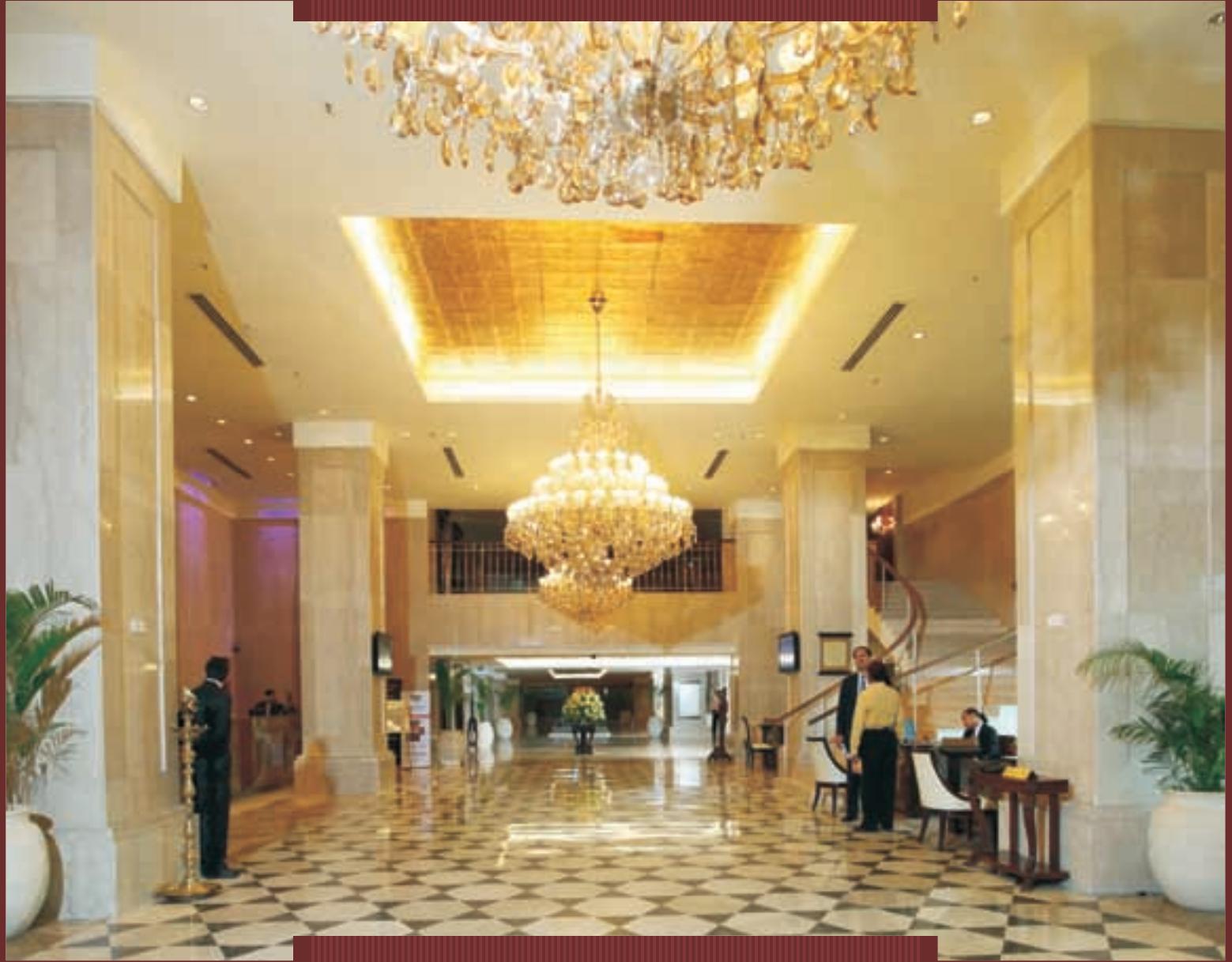
through his novel idea and concept of "Garland of Peace – Declare War Ruins as Peace Heritage Sites."

Silas' work in peace activism and giving leadership to civil society can be seen on his website: www.garlandofpeace.com

THE ASHOK

CLOSE TO YOUR HEART
AND EVERYTHING ELSE

IT'S A HOTEL LIKE NO OTHER



Strategically located in Delhi's Diplomatic Enclave, The Ashok is not just close to the capital's heart but an array of unmatched comforts and conveniences are sure to leave an everlasting impression on you! A hotel that is truly Sahaj...
A hotel that is truly Indian!



50-B, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi - 110021
Tel.: 011 2611 0101, Log on to: www.theashokgroup.com



KA BOOM!!!

Comics can never run out of fashion, and that is why new age technology joins hands with your dear old characters

Manga Rock

For those Naruto, Bleach and many other Manga comic fans, this is a great application. The app is especially goof for those who are a fan of "scanlations." With this application it would be possible for users to track their favourite series and also get notification when a new issue gets out, and also to remember which issue in a series you have been reading. So it is a no hassle application that does not make you go through the entire series in search for you had last left it.

Platform (s):



Comic Book Lover

Here is a good application for comic lovers. The application is fast, it also syncs with cloud storage, and can transfer files in a direct manner with the help of USB or WiFi. There is also a good provision for panel to panel and page to page view with loads of comics available. The application is free and can very smoothly load huge files without any hiccup. All in all this is a good comic reading app that cannot be put down.

Platform (s):



Madefire

A new player that has crept into the digital comic space, this application is a promising one. This application has been built with the idea to enhance digital comics, and it does this by adding sound effects, music, and a touch of animation. A far cry from the static comic experience, the app has Motion Books technology that is open to a new form of storytelling.



Platform (s):



Marvel Unlimited

Coming to the big league of the comic world, Marvel's old application is a good deal for those entering into the world of comics. For this application, users need to create an account with Marvel.com and can read as many comics as desired after signing in with credentials. The application allows easy navigation through the pages. Users should keep in mind that a six month gap is seen between the issues appearing on the app and the date of release.

Platform (s):



DC Comics

Here is the ultimate comic lovers' paradise from where characters such as Batman and Superman took shape. The DC Comic application is a fantastic application for users to get the entire series of cartoons affiliated with the brand. You can also buy the latest comics in a convenient manner. The application is the quintessential comic app for those in love with comics and some of its most famous characters.

Platform (s):



Comicana

A delightful comic book reader, Comicana is easy to navigate and users can read with available configurable touch areas. The comics can be organized according to your need in the folders available; also there is bookmark support for easy search. There is also a kid's corner support available in this app. The comics can be downloaded from SkyDrive and Dropbox, and pages can also be shared.



Platform (s):





Nestled in the heart of West Delhi just 30 mins from International Airport, Radisson Blu Hotel New Delhi Paschim Vihar is a statement of style and elegance.

178 designer guest rooms, 21 suites, 2 signature restaurants, lounge, a luxurious spa and wellness facilities cocoons you in the height of luxury.

With an extensive area of 40,000 square feet the hotel serves as the preferred venue for memorable weddings & corporate events in Delhi-NCR.

**COME AND CELEBRATE WITH
THE BEST MICE HOTEL- DELHI/NCR FOR 2014**

RADISSON BLU HOTEL NEW DELHI PASCHIM VIHAR

Plot No.D District Centre, Outer Ring Road, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi - 110062, India

Tel: +91-11-4639-9999 Fax: +91-11-4639-1000 Email: dcnvi@rpdvdelhi.com

radissonblu.com/hotel-newdelhipaschimvihar

BERLIN APP A HIT: "GOING LOCAL BERLIN"

In the first month after its launch, the new, free app "Going Local Berlin," by visitBerlin, has already been downloaded 10,000 times. Since its launch, the app has been offering orientation to the city's many and diverse neighbourhoods to visitors and Berliners alike, with tips for discovering previously unexplored sides of Berlin. "Our app is a great success. It gives Berlin visitors the chance to experience the 'real Berlin' and make new discoveries," says Burkhard Kieker, CEO of visitBerlin.

'SPLASH & SPICE' FESTIVAL, THAILAND

Prepare to feast on Thailand's culinary delicacies from now right until 31 May, 2015, as the country embarks on the third edition of the "Thailand Splash and Spice Festival." Taking its name from Songkran (which is New Year in Thailand), which is celebrated as a water festival, Thailand Splash and Spice is essentially a food festival that offers visitors special deals at high-end restaurants in Bangkok, Pattaya, Hua Hin, Chiang Mai, Phuket and Samui. TAT Governor Thawatchai Arunyik said, "The expanded festival is part of our continuing effort to underscore our new brand campaign '2015 Discover Thainess'."



AIANA HOTELS & RESORTS L.L.C.

HE Sheikh Faisal bin Qassim Al Thani, Chairman of Al Sawari Holding and Al Faisal Holdings, and Amruda Nair, Joint Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Aiana Hotels & Resorts L.L.C., recently announced the signing of an agreement to create Aiana Hotels & Resorts a global hotel management company with the best of the Indian service ethos at its heart. Sheikh Faisal Bin Qassim, said: "Given the long standing relationship between Qatar and India, there is also great synergy in the similar way that we travel. This is why we want to bring Aiana as a new lifestyle hotel brand to the Middle East and will continue to support Aiana through our ambitious expansion plans.



MALAYSIA ANNOUNCED AS 16TH IIFA DESTINATION

The International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) has announced the much awaited destination for the mega weekend that is all set to take place this June. Having travelled to some phenomenal destinations across the globe over the last 15 years, IIFA has graced the shores of the USA, UK, Europe, Middle East, Southeast Asia, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Canada. IIFA will now return to the culturally diverse country of Malaysia after 13 years, where fans and enthusiasts of Indian Cinema from around the world can expect to see their favourite stars descend into Kuala Lumpur during the weekend and witness Indian Cinema's most glorious event unfold in the city.

CANADA REGISTERS 19.3 PER CENT GROWTH IN INDIAN TOURIST ARRIVALS

Canada has recorded an increase of 19.3 per cent Indian tourist arrivals in the year 2014 with a positive growth in each month in comparison to 2013. Overnight arrivals from all of Canadian Tourism Commission's overseas markets increased at a double digit pace from January-December 2014. SanJeet-India Representative, Canadian Tourism Commission, said, "India is a lucrative market for Canada. Having shown a growth of about 20 per cent proves that Indians are looking at exploring Canada for its uniqueness. Canada has everything to offer for Indian travellers."



MANDIP SINGH SOIN FRGS RECEIVES THE 'CITATION OF MERIT'

At a glittering evening of famous and distinguished explorers from around the world, the 111th Explorers Club Annual Dinner was the most exciting evening in its history at three venues, namely, the Intrepid, American Museum of Natural History and the United Nations Building. The 'Citation of Merit' was awarded to mountaineer and explorer, Mandip Singh Soin, by the Explorers Club, USA, for his outstanding work in mountaineering, notably for an unmatched spirit of adventure and exploration spanning six continents. Promoting the spirit of exploration was a key founding principle of The Explorers Club over a century ago.



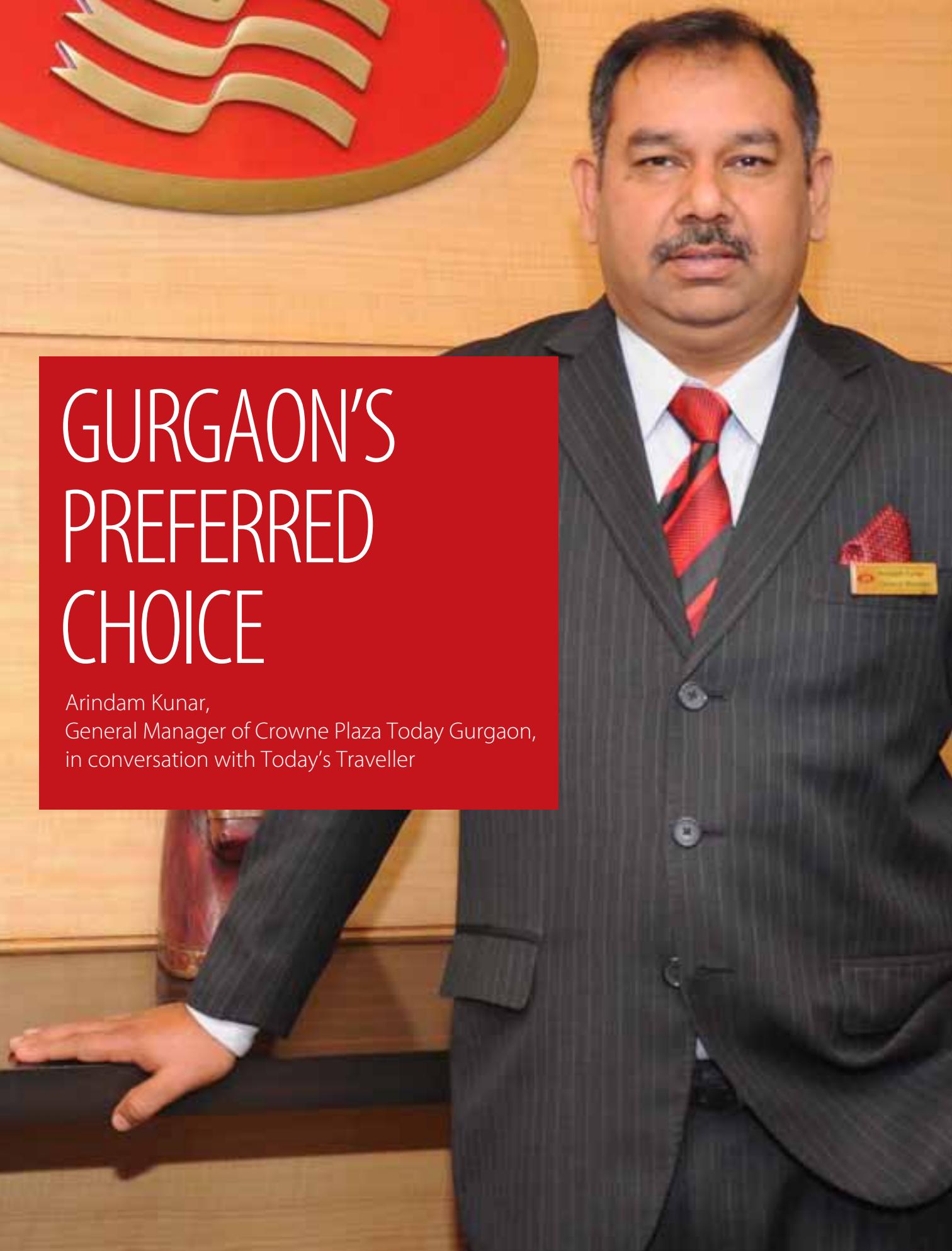
CORPORATE CONNECT





GURGAON'S PREFERRED CHOICE

Arindam Kunar,
General Manager of Crowne Plaza Today Gurgaon,
in conversation with Today's Traveller





TT BUREAU

What is your hotel's corporate positioning?

Crowne Plaza Today is positioned as "Gurgaon's destination for business and celebration." It is located in the heart of the business district of Gurgaon, and is close to all the Fortune 500 companies, IT – ITES hub, while having an easy access to the International airport.



What are the facilities that your hotel offers for business and meetings?

Our 11 versatile meeting rooms can effortlessly host intimate banquets and conferences for up to 500 guests. Our outdoor venues, with scenic settings, can host up to 1500 guests. We offer an elegant atmosphere and prime location, to add a sophisticated touch to your events. Crowne Plaza Meeting Success is a well-renowned programme, which enables us to customise the events to best suit guests' needs and meet their goals.

What are the options for corporate visitors to entertain their guests?

The hotel offers a variety of food and drink options throughout the day, from fine dining to lighter meals. One can embark on a culinary adventure across the globe at Cafe G – the all-day dining restaurant that travels from one country to another through our interactive kitchen and chefs. Enjoy a lively and authentic Brazilian-style dining experience at our seven-times award-winning restaurant Wild Fire, which serves up Churrascaria grilled meats. One can also spend a lighter moment at our chic bar ConeXions, which is open 24 hours.

What is your corporate outreach programme?

Our hotel has its own relationship management team which manages our corporate relationships as well as our IHG network of National and International sales structure. Besides, we also have a strong loyalty programme for our corporate partners, and as IHG hotels grow in India, we leverage each other's strengths to enhance business and visibility. In addition, participation in various internal and external trade shows and events give us a larger reach, both in the domestic and international markets.

CORPORATE JET-SETTERS



**MS. KALPANA SHANKAR
VICE PRESIDENT – ADMINISTRATION
AEGIS LIMITED**

Q: Most memorable trip to any destination:

Dubai has been the most memorable trip of my life. Dazzling Dubai has everything to offer. On the one hand, we were marvelling at skyscrapers, unique tops of high rises followed by shopping at luxury super malls, and on the other, we were awed by the completely different experiences of desert safari and dune bashing, along with dine out at badouin style camps under the stars, soaking in their local "Tanoura" dance and culture.

Q: You dream of going to:

I love to travel and the dream destination location on my list to relax and get pampered is "Australia". It is truly an incredible destination with mind-blowing attractions.

Q: Favourite airline and why?

Cathay Pacific for its excellent crew, and almost perfect service, and that too, irrespective of travelling business or economy class.

Q: Best hotel experience and why?

It has to be Marriott Group of hotels (Marriott – Dubai, Marriott – Goa), because of their focus on absolute comfort, personalised service, attention to detail and availability of several category/type for different reasons of travel.

Q: A place you plan to visit again:

This question had me thinking. In my pursuit of visiting as many countries and exploring as many experiences as possible, one did not think of returning to the place one had visited before; but London tops my list, for visiting again and again. Looks like this place has stolen my heart, perhaps because, I just love shopping there.

Q: A family vacation that stands out:

Our family vacation to Disneyland - Hong Kong, last year stands out. The trips to the theme parks were magical. I



felt happy watching my teenage daughter brimming with laughter, having a blast and inspiring us to shed our layers of adulthood. Such visions of exhilaration get etched in your memory. The feeling was exactly the same when we visited Disneyland in Paris almost six years ago.

Q: Your best holiday with friends:

The best holiday with family friends, girlfriends, has to be Goa. This is an ultimate destination, especially when you are in the company of friends for fun, seafood, beaches, water sports (risky at times – I have a personal story to tell, but it doesn't deter me), a temporary tattoo (since I could not dare to have a permanent one, I flaunted a temporary tattoo in Goa), parties and pure natural scenic beauty.

Q: Great food you enjoyed and where:

I loved Malaysian food, especially "Nasi Goreng – with Chicken" (rice stir fried with chillie, garlic and sweet Soy with chicken and fried egg over the top.)

I love trying different cuisines, wines, understanding local cuisines, local ingredients that go into its making, since I am a Food Technologist and food is my forte. Travel is incomplete without gaining knowledge about local food, and, of course, tasting and relishing it.

Q: What to watch out for while travelling:

While travelling we need to understand the expectations from the trip as a family, so that we can pre-plan our itinerary accordingly. We get our vacation planned and bookings done through reputed global travel agencies with focus on quality of hotels, airlines and leisure activities, important attractions so that we can all have a comfortable, smooth, enjoyable and memorable trip .

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

As a travel buyer, my philosophy/mantra is "Trust" and "Value for money."

The fastest and smartest way to travel between Heathrow and central London 15 minutes, every 15 minutes

With no traffic jams or taxi queues, you can be in the centre of London or inside the airport in just 15 minutes, with a short journey to Terminals 4 or 5.



To do business the smarter way,
please contact Global Destinations



- Smart, paperless ticketing.
- £16 million refurbishment of the Heathrow Express fleet.
- Ergonomic, comfortable seat design, climate controlled carriages and generous luggage space.
- Live on-board TV.
- Free Wi-Fi, uninterrupted mobile signal throughout the journey and power sockets at your seat.

**Heathrow
Express**
The smarter way

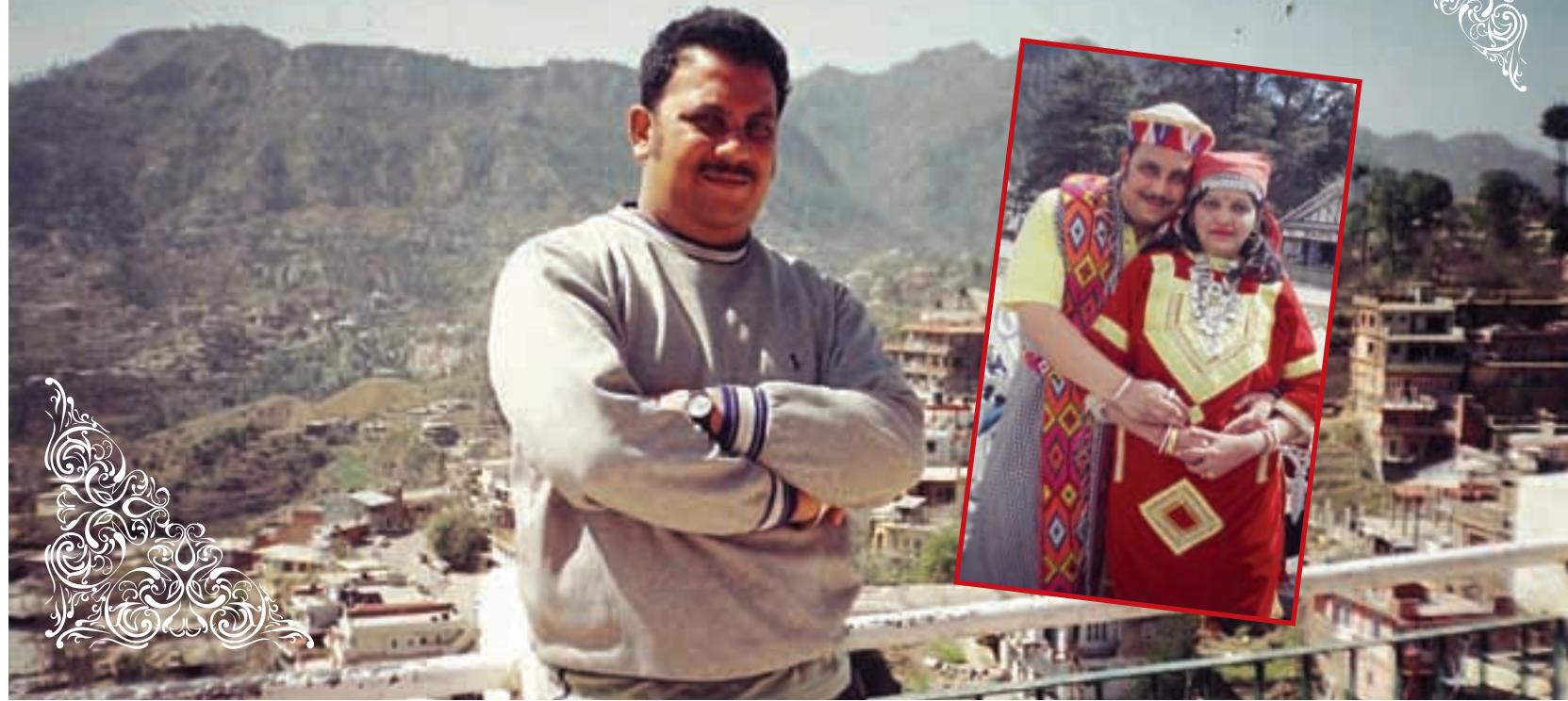
Nema Reshamvala: nema@globaldestinations.in
and/or: pranavkapadia@globaldestinations.in

Contact: +91 22 4300 4500

heathrowexpress.com



CORPORATE JET-SETTERS



ABHIJIT SARKAR
NATIONAL HEAD – ADMINISTRATION
SHAREKHAN LTD.

Q: Most memorable trip to any destination:

I have always liked the serene atmosphere of a hill town, and closer home we have some of the best hill stations. Some of the most memorable destinations for me definitely are Shimla, Kulu, Manali, where I had a great time.

Q: You dream of going to:

The European experience is something that I would love to have. The countries there have such rich history, so many different cultures and so many beautiful places. A Euro trip is definitely high on my list of dreams.

Q: Favourite airline and why?

I prefer to travel by Jet and Emirates. The two main reasons for this are great service and unmatched hospitality.

Q: Best hotel experience and why?

Here again, due to these exceptional service and hospitality, I prefer Taj Hotels. However, another important factor that draws me towards Taj is the magnificent ambience.

Q: A place you plan to visit again:

I would definitely love to visit Kulu all over again. It was just a fantastic feeling, a very enchanting experience.

Q: A family vacation that stands out:

Once again, it was the trip to Shimla and Kulu with my family that stands out for me.

Q: Your best holiday with friends:

Where else, but Goa! Great food, good environment, long beaches, palm trees, and a sense of celebration! Goa never disappoints.

Q: Great food you enjoyed and where:

I quite liked the food in Shimla and they were these simplest of things, such as assorted Parathas, Siddhu, Bhatoora and Chana Madra.

Q: What to watch out for while travelling:

It is very important to ensure that you are not over paying for things, and also one must watch out for travel alerts.

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

Travelling makes me a creative person and that shows in my choice of purchase. Jokes apart, travel really makes me more creative.



AVIATION



TAT PARTNERS WITH THAI SMILE AIRWAYS & CARTOON NETWORK AMAZONE



The co-branded marketing partnership between THAI Smile Airways and Cartoon Network Amazone will give a significant boost to Thailand's tourism strategies and help meet the visitor arrivals and expenditure targets for 2015.

Addressing a press conference at the launching ceremony, Somrak Kumputch, Deputy Governor for Administration, Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT), said that the partnership will help attract more family travel and enhance both the average length of stay and daily expenditure of visitors to Thailand.

Thai Smile Airways is a subsidiary airline of national airline Thai Airways

International and flies only on regional routes. Cartoon Network Amazone, the world's first Cartoon Network-themed waterpark, opened to the public in October 2014, in Bang Saray, Thailand. Amazon Falls is the owner and operator of the Cartoon Network Amazone waterpark.

Somrak said, "The collaboration between THAI Smile Airways and Cartoon Network Amazone Waterpark will have a major impact on the Thai travel and tourism industry by raising the profile of the country and increasing the number of tourists to Thailand, which is in accordance with TAT's marketing strategies."

THERE IS MORE TO BRITAIN WITH BRITISH AIRWAYS

British Airways and VisitBritain have partnered once again to bring to you the unexpected side of the UK that you may not have seen before. As part of this campaign, British Airways has launched a series of short films on YouTube to inspire you to look at Britain with fresh eyes and a whole new perspective.

The two latest videos aim to take you on a little whirlwind tour of London. Food lovers can enjoy a wide variety of cuisines from all around the world in London, from delicious Italian dishes and fresh Chinese delicatessen, to more innovative proposals from the likes of Gordon Ramsay. In the first video, 'Big Ben' takes you on a little gastronomic tour of Big Ben. The second video aims to inspire the shopaholic in you to experience the fashion scene in London, exhibiting plenty of chic character and style that caters to the needs of every customer. All of this at an incredible price!

In 2014, British Airways and VisitBritain jointly launched an online campaign, the 'Unexpected Kingdom,' to promote UK destinations across their key markets, including India, China and the US. British Airways has a long association with India, flying to India for 90 years and currently operating 49 flights a week from London Heathrow to five cities: Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Bengaluru and Hyderabad.



TWO GENERATIONS OF EMIRATES CABIN CREW

Recruited in Dubai, after walking into the operations center while on holiday, Sue reminisces about her time as cabin crew: "In 1994, we were about 500 cabin crew with this new airline, Emirates. And now Karim's experience is such a contrast to mine – he travels to exotic destinations, with colleagues from around the world, and lives in a Dubai that is very different from the city that I knew."

In a surprise visit to Dubai to attend Karim's Cabin Crew graduation ceremony, Sue says it was an emotional moment that left her feeling proud. "After 20 years, I look back on those days with affection and nostalgia, and I am happy and feel reassured to know that Karim is going to have a great future here."

Recruited from over 135 countries and speaking more than 55 languages, Emirates is proud of the service delivered by its Cabin Crew. In total, Emirates employs over 19,500 Cabin Crew members today, including over 900 from India, who have all trained at the Emirates Aviation College Cabin Crew Training.





TURKISH AIRLINES WORLD GOLF CUP – 2015 CONCLUDES

The latest stage of the 2015 Turkish Airlines World Golf Cup, one of the sport's largest and most exciting amateur tournaments, took place at Classic Golf & Country Club in Delhi, recently. The fifth of 66 qualifiers for the global event, which has expanded rapidly since the inaugural tournament in 2013, featured 101 players, all personally-invited guests of Turkish Airlines.

Sanjay Setia and Shekhar Agrawal finished first in their respective categories in the individual Stableford Competition and therefore progress to the Grand Final in Antalya, Turkey, this October. Raj Kumar, meanwhile, won the Nearest-the-Pin Prize, and Rudratej Singh scored the lowest gross of the day.

"We would like to congratulate everyone who took part in the Turkish Airlines World Golf Cup qualifier in Delhi," said Ozer Guler, General Manager for Turkish Airlines Delhi. "It was another successful edition and well played by our winners, Sanjay and Shekhar. We look forward to seeing you in Antalya in October."

The first qualifier took place in Johannesburg, South Africa, with events also taking place in Cape Town, Doha and Mumbai, in March, before visiting Delhi. Tournaments will continue to take place across the globe, with Kuwait, Karachi, Dubai, Los Angeles, Seoul and Beijing

amongst the next events on the schedule.

The overall winners of the Grand Final will progress to play in the 2015 Turkish Airlines Open pro-am, while all finalists are to enjoy a seven-night stay in an all-inclusive hotel. Turkish Airlines, which was recently voted Europe's best airline for the fourth consecutive year (2014), launched the World Golf Cup in 2013, featuring 12 qualifying events. China's Han Liang proved victorious and his prize was partnering world number one and 14-time major champion Tiger Woods in the Turkish Airlines Open Pro-Am. After that initial success, there was a rapid expansion to include 50 events worldwide, last year.



AAI TO PROMOTE ARTISTS OF INDIA

In order to promote and encourage the works of amateur and budding artists in India, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has started art galleries at its airports. The respective Airport Director will invite the amateur/budding artists for display of their art work and thereafter a panel will be maintained to allow the artists to display their works for a period of 15 days.

The display of artists at work would include sculpture or any other form of art and is not limited to paintings alone. On receipt of intimation / notice / advertisement, the artist will approach the Airport Manager-in-Charge at the Terminal Building at the airport for fulfilling procedural formalities. The works are to be framed appropriately by the artists themselves and delivered at the airport for fitting and display.



AAI'S 20TH ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

Airports Authority of India (AAI), known for providing state-of-the-art passenger facilities and services at all the airports in the country, celebrated its 20th Annual Day on 1 April, 2015. The Annual Day function was celebrated at Siri Fort Auditorium with full pomp and show. P Ashok Gajapathi Raju, Union Minister of Civil Aviation, was the Chief Guest and Mahesh Sharma, Hon'ble Minister of State for Civil Aviation and Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Tourism & Culture was the Guest of Honour at the function.

The Union Minister of Civil Aviation congratulated the AAI family on the eve of the 20th Anniversary and wished that AAI would keep up its progress in the future. The Minister of State for Civil Aviation and Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Tourism & Culture felicitated the employees and hoped that AAI would enhance its passenger services, revenue and profit for the country's growth.

CAMBODIA AIRPORTS SELECTS PLAZA PREMIUM LOUNGE TO REDEVELOP AIRPORTS & SERVICES

Plaza Premium Lounge Management Limited (Plaza Premium) has been appointed to design and operate airports lounges at the newly-built extensions of Phnom Penh and Siem Reap International Airports' passenger terminals. The Hong Kong-based company will also introduce innovative services to travellers looking for airport value-added arrangements, including Meet and Greet Service and spa and shower facilities.

Song Hoi-see, Founder & CEO of Plaza Premium, says, "We are excited to announce cultural capitals Phnom Penh and Siem Reap as the latest additions to the Plaza Premium global network. Our lounges, spanning over 2,200sq.m. in the two airports combined, are a promise of comfort, convenience and value. This latest development testifies to our commitment in making the global travel experience an enjoyable one."

Patrine Tay, Marketing & Sales Director of Cambodia Airports, says: Cambodia Airports is delighted to have a like-minded partner in Plaza Premium, who shares our commitment to service quality and excellence. With their expertise in lounge management globally, we look forward to welcoming our passengers in our best-in-class airport lounges in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap international airports."

KEMPEGOWDA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, BENGALURU CLOCKS IN 15M PASSENGERS

Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) announced that the Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru (KIAB) welcomed its 15 millionth passenger recently marking the airport's graduation to the mid-sized airport category (15 to 25 million passenger airports) classification within seven years of initiating operations. With this, KIAB has established itself as South India's busiest airport and India's third largest airport. A previous traffic record was set in the last financial year, when the traffic figure was 12.86 million passengers.

"This milestone is a reinforcement of KIAB's commitment to provide its passengers a seamless travel experience combined with good connectivity, world-class infrastructure and service delivery excellence. With this exponential growth we have consolidated our position as India's third largest airport and South India's busiest airport with highest passenger traffic. KIAB will most likely end the fiscal year with 15.24 million passengers" said Mr. G V Sanjay Reddy, Managing Director, BIAL.



P. Ashok Gajapathi Raju, Union Minister of Civil Aviation is lighting the lamp on the occasion of AAI's 20th Annual Day celebration at Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi. Also seen in the picture are Mahesh Sharma, Minister of State for Civil Aviation and Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Tourism & Culture (L) and R K Srivastava, IAS, Chairman, AAI (R). P. Ashok Gajapathi Raju, Union Minister of Civil Aviation is lighting the lamp on the occasion of AAI's 20th Annual Day celebration at Siri fort Auditorium, New Delhi. Also seen in the picture are Mahesh Sharma, Minister of State for Civil Aviation and Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Tourism & Culture (L) and R K Srivastava, IAS, Chairman, AAI (R).

HOSPITALITY





GOAN LUXURY

The Leela Goa epitomises the word 'luxury,' with their magnificent property stylised in colonial Portuguese and contemporary Indian chic

TT BUREAU

A magnificent property, spread across 75 acres of green sanctuary and fresh water lagoons, The Leela Goa contains 206 rooms with a unique combination of colonial Portuguese architecture and contemporary Indian design. The resort offers luxurious, secluded guestrooms and suites; destination dining experiences from around the world; an award-winning spa; a golf course and a children's club

along with thoughtful, discreet service, to meet every traveller's needs.

Located just 50 minutes by flight from Mumbai and a 45-minute drive away from the Goa airport through coconut groves, nestles The Leela Goa, one of the most celebrated luxury beach resorts in India. Situated on the pristine Mabor beach, in South Goa, the property has an eco-system of its own – River Sal on one side, the Arabian Sea on the other,

and over 300,000 trees and freshwater lagoons within – making it a spectacular green sanctuary.

The Leela Goa brings alive the 'Susegado' spirit, the relaxed and laidback attitude towards life that Goa is known for and serves guests an unforgettable vacation experience.

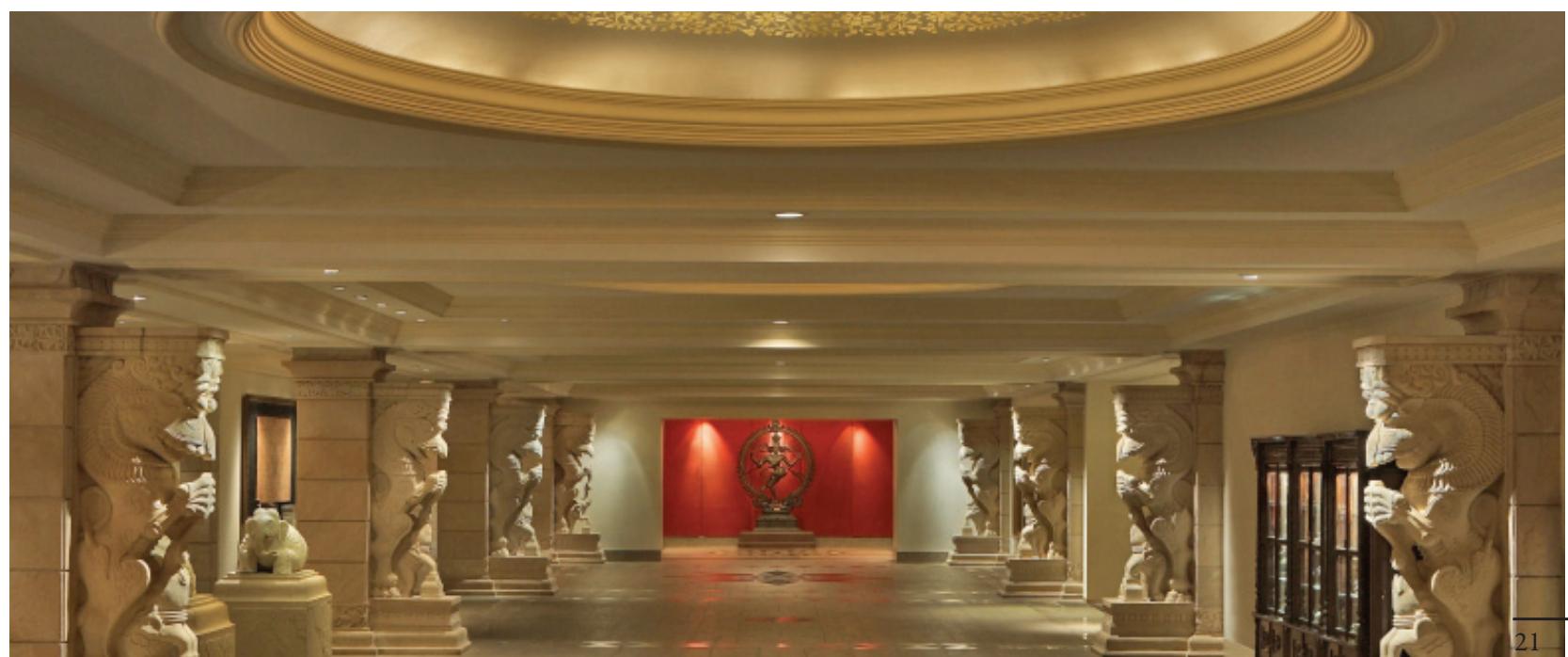
Recently renovated, The Leela Goa now offers a range of 206 new and refurbished rooms replete with modern

amenities, along with multiple dining options. The hotel's fine dining concepts include a new pavilion restaurant called, 'The Restaurant,' with four live kitchens serving global gourmet cuisines and the all-new 'Jamavar,' The Leela's signature fine dining Indian restaurant. Guests can also enjoy local fresh seafood at 'Susegado,' the beachfront grill restaurant, and finally, fine dining at the 'Riverside,' the Italian restaurant on the banks of the River Sal.

When it comes to the in-resort leisure facilities, this expansive resort has something for every guest – an award-winning spa that offers Ayurvedic and natural therapeutic treatments; a full-service beauty salon; a fitness centre with complimentary steam and sauna; a tennis club with floodlit court; a swimming pool; and a lush green 12-hole executive golf course to say the least.

For guests seeking exclusive and unparalleled luxury, The Leela Goa has its very own – The Club. Private and exclusive, The Club has twenty lavish suites, each with a personalised 24-hour butler, a private all-day dining restaurant known as the Club Lounge, private access to a 25-metre swimming pool, and more importantly, private access to a secluded beach.

The Leela Goa has enough and more to offer for one and all, it's just a question of packing your bags and escaping to one of the finest resorts the industry can offer.



THE STAR OF EVERY EVENT

Sahara Star promises to enthrall the world with its sheer opulence and luxurious services



Sahara Sapphire - Event Hall

TT BUREAU

Sahara Star, the flagship hotel of Sahara India Pariwar, is one of India's most desirable destinations. The 5-star deluxe hotel is strategically located opposite Mumbai's domestic airport. Blending Indian mysticism and culture and personifying the country's progressive spirit, the hotel blends peerless hospitality with ultra-modern technology. A majestic landmark, Hotel Sahara Star promises to enthrall the world with its magnificence and architectural splendour.

Be it seminars, workshops, conferences or grand celebrations, Sahara Star's banquets are the ideal choice. The exclusive Business Centre serves as the ideal destination for business deals. Five meeting rooms christened as Clubs, Spade, Hearts, Diamonds, and Kings offers state-of-the-art audio-visual facility, live broadcast and tele-video conferencing facilities, with high speed WiFi Internet connectivity and secretarial services at easy access.

Sahara Sapphire

Sahara Sapphire, Mumbai's largest pillarless multi-purpose event hall, gives hosts the opportunity to announce their event to the world. Hotel Sahara Star boasts the largest hall in the city, with a floor plate of 55,000sq.ft, an impressive ceiling height of 25ft. and lofts a larger-than-life feeling in a city that is pressed for grand celebrations. Ideal

for corporate gala parties and cocktail receptions, its architectural features demonstrate a fine blend of Indian sensibilities and contemporary design in its majestic environment.

A central hall of 28,000sq.ft., two Annexe halls of 6000sq.ft. each and a pre-function area of 3000sq.ft. dominate Sahara Star's grand and opulent inner spaces. With a capacity to inspire up to 2500 guests in its rich ambience, Sahara Sapphire is a distinctive addition to the city with many firsts gloried to it. Quintessential for product launches, its distinctive scissor elevator, with the capacity to carry heavy-laden products to the event hall is a distinct addition, making it one of the most unique attractions for corporates and travellers. Its dedicated six spacious elevators are also one of the many prominent features of the hall.

Complemented by a dedicated state-of-the-art kitchen, award-winning Chefs and highly trained Personal Butlers endeavour to deliver world-class cuisine and some of the most remarkable signature beverage brands to discerning guests. The attached Green Rooms are an added facility for special guests and hosts.

Jade Ballroom

Redefining splendour, the Jade Ballroom is designed in. Reigned by contemporary style, its intimate designed spaces

embrace a sombre play of elegance and minimalism. It has a capacity to host 1000 guests in its abundant space of 10,000sq.ft. Jade's pillarless multi-function area with a ceiling height of 18ft. is a captivating sight for every guest. Adjacent to its ballroom is a pre-function area that is spread across 3,500sq.ft, and is perfect for cocktails and breakouts.

The Ballroom's unique ability to convert into two soundproof sections by a state-of-the-art DORMA Air wall makes it an ideal choice for smaller events, workshops, and lectures. Its advanced multi-media and communications technology, along with other distinctive features, enrich the celebratory experience every time.

ACES, The Presidential Boardroom

The Presidential Boardroom is one of the city's largest, featuring technologically advanced facilities for the first time in India. The 77-people capacity Presidential Boardroom comprises four-screen Barco projection system, Bosch Digital Congress Network system, voice-activated cameras, ceiling mounted visualiser and multi-media documentation of proceedings.

Oyster Banquet Hall

A 3,100sq.ft. hall makes for an inspiring venue for every event and celebration. Its interior exudes an ambience that strikes a perfect balance between the intimate and professional. Architecturally unique, built to complement every event and celebration, Oyster provides guests with a fine balance of international and Indian hospitality.

Coral Banquet Hall

The elegant Coral Banquet Hall is a 2,800-sq.ft. ideal venue to host events, seminars and conferences. Masterfully designed, it anticipates every request and seamlessly caters to every need with utmost care. Complemented by latest design trends and facilities, Coral provides a rich ambience for celebrating small events with grand style.



DELHI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Multiplying greens, multiplying smiles...

www.dda.org.in



A legacy of 57 years...
An achievement of
laying 5050 hectares of greenery...



DDA - making Delhi breathe fresher everyday

An unwavering effort of DDA has made Delhi one of the greenest cities of the world. Over 5 lakh saplings of trees and shrubs are planted every year in Delhi. During the last year, many acres of land was converted into green zones. In DDA's journey of 57 years, about 5050 hectares of greens have been developed in the form of various parks, lawns, children's corners and many more, acting as the lungs of the city.

- 4 Regional Parks • 111 District Parks • 25 City Forests • 605 Master Plan Greens • 255 Neighbourhood Parks • 2 Bio-diversity parks
- 1872 Group Housing Greens • 13 Sport Complexes & 3 Mini Sport Complexes • Sustainable housing constructions with Green Building Technology

promodmangroup.com

Delhi Development Authority (DDA) Head Office: Vikas Sadan Near INA Market New Delhi : 110016

URBAN LUXURY



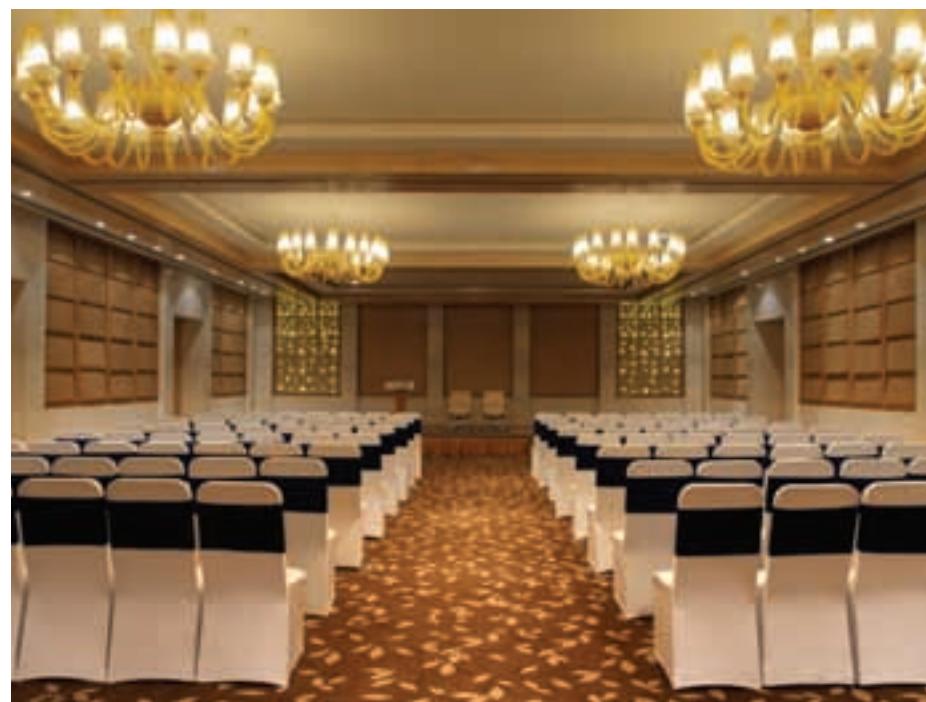
Close to the Capital's domestic and international airports, the Radisson Blu Hotel, New Delhi Dwarka offers infinite relaxation

TT BUREAU

Nestled in one of the largest residential areas in Asia, Radisson Blu Hotel, New Delhi Dwarka is a perfect combination of individualistic design and service excellence. With decor that showcases the four seasons in its lobby and rooms, the hotel takes guests on a journey through nature, making their stay a relaxed, peaceful and memorable one.

Radisson Blu Hotel, New Delhi Dwarka offers guests impeccable meeting and social event spaces. Defined by individual character, excellence in service, outstanding value and focussed attention, these spaces are what make meetings and events at Radisson Blu Hotel, New Delhi Dwarka most memorable, unique and successful. An additional asset is that one can always count on the friendly, professional staff, each dedicated to accommodating every guest's need. The meeting, event and social celebration spaces offer versatility, are elegant and include state-of-the-art technology that can cater to 50-1000 guests. Other facilities include:

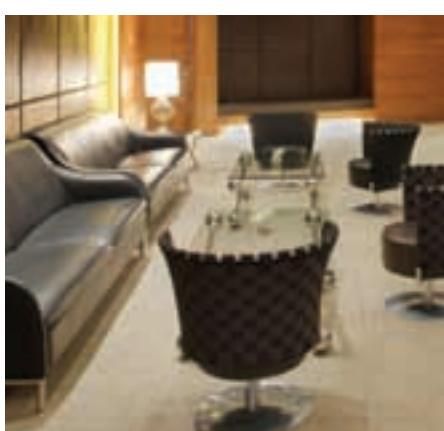
- A pillarless grand Ballroom that may be used individually or combined to accommodate events of 75 to 1000 guests.
- A convention hall called the Crystal Room, at the lobby level also accommodates 50 to 300.
- Guests for social and corporate events.
- Three meeting rooms that accommodate 8 to 25 guests.
- Open terrace lounge with attached party hall that can accommodate 150-200 guests.
- Poolside Banquet area for social gatherings for up to 500 guests.



WEDDING AND SOCIAL CELEBRATIONS

Radisson Blu Hotel, New Delhi Dwarka strives to ensure that each event or celebration is a special one. Making each wedding and social celebration an affair of a lifetime, the hotel provides versatile and tastefully decorated banqueting facilities which are equipped with natural light, outdoor areas and splendid green environs. Special event services include:

- Dedicated meeting and event specialist for every event.
- Complimentary hospitality room for large events.
- A gastronomic range of tailor-made menus to meet the specific needs of every event.
- Live food counters and theme menus.
- Our panel of preferred entertainment partners can assist in providing quality entertainment options.
- Whatever the audio-visual requirements are, the professional team can ensure its availability.
- The hotel's transport team can provide the guests with options for their various travel requirements.
- Exclusive florists and theme creators.



CONFERENCE AND MEETINGS SERVICES

With a focus on pre-empting your meeting needs, the hotel offers:

- Natural light in pre-function area.
- Wireless connectivity.
- Dedicated Event Manager for each event.
- Complimentary valet parking.
- Tailor-made menus to meet the specific needs of every meeting.
- Florists available for various set-ups.
- Audio/visual facilities.
- A 24-hour Business Centre further supports all the business needs of a conference with three boardrooms, a cyber-room and full secretarial services, ensuring that even the smallest of meetings are successful.

The hotel features 217 well-appointed guest rooms, including Executive Suites and a spacious Deluxe Suite. With high speed internet access, voicemail, in-room safe, minibar and tea & coffee maker, the rooms at the hotel are ideal for both business and leisure travellers. The hotel offers eclectic dining options from Pan-Asian cuisine to vibrant international cuisine. Rice with its interactive kitchens and talented chefs, serves a wide range of Pan-Asian delicacies, the 24-hour coffee shop Spring serves delicious international cuisine any time of day. For a tempting cocktail or a rich cup of coffee, one can stop by at one of the hotel's lounges. The Indian Specialty Restaurant Dvar will boast traditional Indian cuisine in a fine dining setting and ASOM-A State of Music the hotel's buzzing discotheque.

BANQUETS & FACILITIES



FOOD PAR EXCELLENCE

With innovative cuisines and multifarious F&B options, food has never tasted better

RAHUL SINGHA

Grand Mirage Resort Bali

In an effort to pamper the different international palates of guests, the Bali hotel, Grand Mirage Resort & Thalasso Bali, is launching a new menu bringing out the genuine taste of Indian cuisine. Recently started, the Executive Chef will specially prepare a selection of popular Indian dishes for your dining pleasure.

The new menu will be introduced in the Grand Café all-day dining restaurant. The menu offers items from a wide variety of regional cuisines native to India – from aromatic curries to vegetarian food. Executive Chef, Matthew Wood, stated that the menu consists of several, internationally recognised dishes appealing to all guests.



Rossini's Restaurant at Sheraton Grande Sukhumvit

Rossini's, the award-winning Italian restaurant at the Sheraton Grande Sukhumvit, remains as essential as ever to Bangkok's fine-dining scene. This elegant signature outlet continues to present its creative take on traditional Italian cuisine, combining top-quality imported ingredients with innovative techniques, enhanced by gorgeous interiors evoking the setting of a Tuscan countryside villa. Rossini's welcomes group diners or business meetings in its special partitioned dining section, and is definitely ideal for couples who will find intimacy in the cosy candlelit corners.



Hyatt Place Gurgaon/Udyog Vihar

Hyatt Place, Gurgaon/Udyog Vihar transforms the meaning of F&B by introducing the brand new concept of 24x7 dining options. Indulge yourself in the grandest treats served by Hyatt Place, Gurgaon/Udyog Vihar as it pampers your palate with its delectable cuisine. The skillful Chef Deva Kumar serves the most sumptuous delights that will leave you wanting more.



Le Cirque at The Leela Palace, New Delhi

Le Cirque at The Leela Palace New Delhi, the iconic restaurant chain's first venture in Asia, is synonymous with luxurious and high-end dining. Famously known for owner Sirio Maccioni's legendary hospitality, Le Cirque at The Leela Palace New Delhi offers guests a cuisine which is an eclectic mix of flavours and colours amidst a candle-lit chic ambience.

Each of the dishes offered are authentic and classic, allowing guests to experience the truly innovative Le Cirque cuisine. Guests can also savour some of the Le Cirque classic dishes which are offered at other locations of this world-famous restaurant group. The restaurant also offers an impressive wine list with over 80 labels of Italian wines and 100 labels of French wines.



Culinary Art India 2015

The five-day gastronomic trail, Culinary Art India 2015, bid adieu with a gala award ceremony recently, at Pragati Maidan, in the Capital. The competition saw 300 chefs participating and showcasing the best of their skills and talent in cooking food presentation. The award ceremony was graced by the Chief Guest, JS Deepak, CMD, ITPO, and known faces from the culinary world.

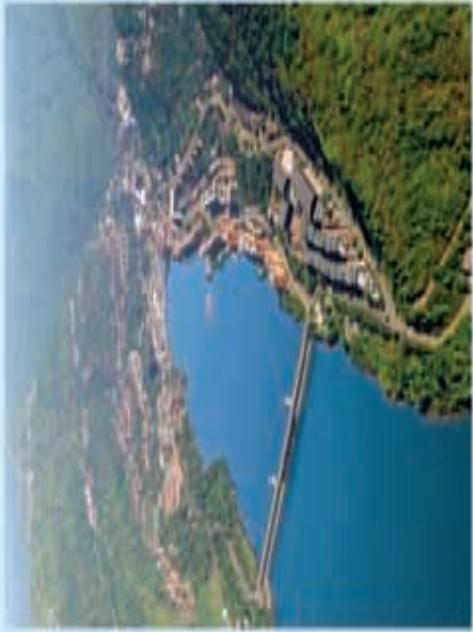
Organised by Indian Culinary Forum, in association with Hospitality First & ITPO, the event has been specially created to recognise the excellence of culinary skills in India. Out of

many prestigious awards, Radisson Blu, MBD Hotel, Noida bagged 26 medals, which include 5 Gold, 9 Silver and 12 Bronze, while Mohammad Asif, Corporate Chef, Radisson Blu, MBD Hotel, Noida was awarded the Most Outstanding Pastry Chef.

Chef Vivek Saggar, Organising Secretary, Culinary Art India, 2015, said, "We are delighted to have a platform that brings in chefs and food lovers from all over India. CAI also gives young chefs an opportunity to come up with new and innovative ideas."



WHAT COULD BE A BIGGER NIGHTMARE THAN INDIA'S BRIGHTEST LEAVING ITS SHORES? THEM COMING BACK TO ITS CITIES.



- First of India's 100 new cities
- Closest to urban & rural areas, up and running
- Located on the Ghaziabad-Gurgaon economic corridor
- Built for 3 lakh permanent residents
- Employment opportunities for 1 lakh citizens
- First Indian city with a City Manager
- First in India with an e-Governance module
- Current economy drivers include homes, schools, colleges, hospitals, retail & recreation facilities

Unless we start creating 100 brand-new cities
to welcome back our brightest.

The first of these 100 cities is already underway. A full-fledged, self-sustaining, new city called Lavasa. With 10,000 hectares of land nestled amidst picturesque surroundings, it offers a climate conducive to Indian start-ups and the brains behind them to flourish.

It is home to plug-and-play infrastructure that lets you focus on business than worry about basic needs. Moreover, development permits are straightforward, thanks to the Special Planning Authority at Lavasa.

Here, people can even walk to work from their apartment or villa because of the concept of New Urbanism being implemented.

In short, a city that will help India retain the talent that belongs to her. Thereby #UnlockingIndia'sPotential

India, the land of smart technologists and entrepreneurs.

Many of whom contribute to Information Technology or just about any industry for that matter, globally. Unfortunately, this talent does not benefit its own country.

Why? Because they shift their base to countries that offer them an ecosystem which embraces their talent, while they create substantial business and wealth in return.

No wonder 40% of the founder-members of start-ups in Silicon Valley are Indians. But did you know that many of them would actually like to come back to India and work? And if these enterprising folk were to do so, could our cities support them enough to be as successful? With most cities at their breaking point, the answer is a resounding "No".



360-degree panoramic views on Google Maps.

For business and sales enquiries, contact us.

Mumbai: +91 22 42386 7000/40025 6000 | Lavasa: +91 28 6473 1024/70320 +945 | LAVASA, 10, ST 575

[www.lavasa.com](#) | [LavasaCommunity](#)

Disclaimer: The information given herein is general and conceptual and no representation is given as to its accuracy. Design and specifications are subject to change.



UNLOCKING
INDIA'S
POTENTIAL



INCENTIVE & CONFERENCE DESTINATIONS IN INDIA

A paradigm shift in the travel world has given way to exciting MICE destinations; take a look at some hotels in India that are making a mark in this field

TT BUREAU

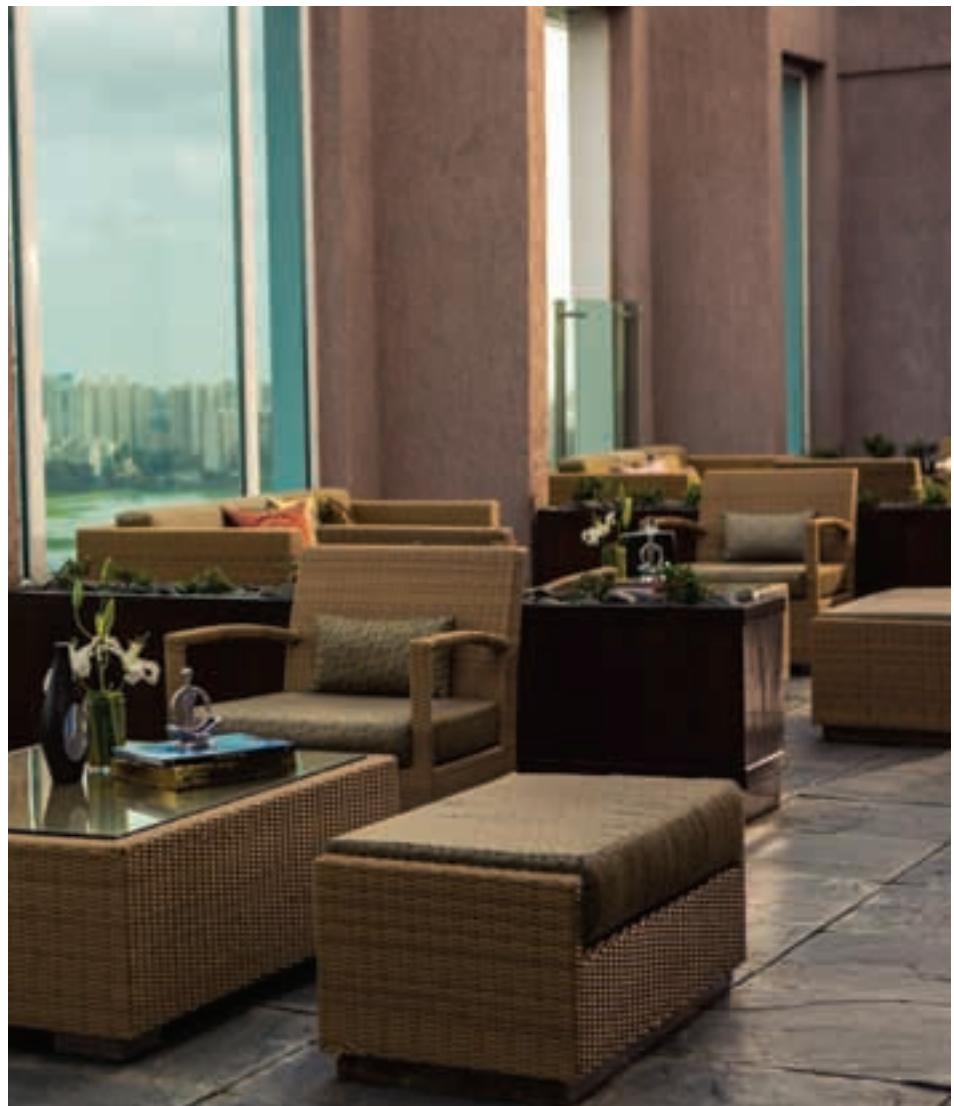
The ever changing world of travel is becoming genre centric, with incentives and conferences being great motivative factors. Hotels are actually going the extra mile to ensure an unforgettable experience for travelling businessmen and corporates who are looking for a taste of luxury. Here are five hotels who know how to mix business with pleasure, style and dedication.

Hyatt Regency Gurgaon

Amidst the busy corporate environs of Gurgaon stands Hyatt Regency Gurgaon, the perfect luxury hotel. The hotel is the largest convention hotel, showcasing the best of features for meetings and events. The ultimate destination for MICE events, fine facilities and impeccable services speak for themselves. The MICE space includes The Regency Ballroom, eight individual meeting rooms, boardroom and with a pre-function area for each venue. Spread over 20,710sq.ft., the Regency ballroom is a majestic space with ceiling height of 28ft. It is the only ballroom in the country to house a 'Christie' projector of 35,000 lumens along with 144 inbuilt LED Par cans and 8 Moving Heads, which facilitate a memorable events experience. Additionally, the hotel also offers its guests, innovative concepts, themes and contemporary styles for every event. There are personalised menus with Indian and International cuisines, served by a well trained staff. The hotel has 451 well-designed rooms, with recreational facilities, swimming pool, and the best of dining experiences.

Renaissance Mumbai Convention Centre Hotel

One of the largest convention centres in Mumbai, this is a preferred choice for MICE travellers. Located close to both Domestic and International airports on the banks of Powai Lake, it offers a luxurious retreat for corporates visiting India's commercial hub. The 15-acres hotel with its lush green surroundings has 230,000sq.ft. of indoor and outdoor convention spaces, and includes the largest ballroom in the city. The hotel has 17 meeting rooms and beautiful outdoor locations for celebrations. Being a successful MICE destination, the hotel offers state-of-the-art conference facilities and WiFi, along with a business centre that is well equipped. The Renaissance Mumbai Convention Centre Hotel has 583 rooms that are designed par excellence, and offers a versatile menu for gastronomical delights.



Hotel Clarks Shiraz, Agra

Mixing business with pleasure, Hotel Clarks Shiraz, Agra is the perfect destination for incentives and conferences. Just 2km away from the Taj Mahal it is 7km from the Airport and 3km from the Railway station, commanding a vantage location. The hotel has three well maintained halls that are ready to host events round the year. The Shiraz Hall overlooks the green lawns and water bodies where special conference packages are custom-made for companies with themes such as Mughal, Brij, Hyderabadi, Avadhi and Jungle. The Akbar Hall comprises two sections that include state-of-the-art interiors along with a unique lighting system for various themes and functions. The Tower Hall is a relatively smaller hall that has four pillars and is located at the lobby level; it is apt for an intimate private gathering. Clarks Shiraz has 237 exclusive rooms and serves a diverse cuisine, including Mughlai, Continental, and Chinese.



Hotel Sahara Star, Mumbai

Sahara Star, Mumbai, by all definitions, is a great destination for MICE travellers. Close to Mumbai's Domestic Airport, the hotel has cutting-edge facilities and all modern amenities for guests. The hotel has six magnificent spaces for various uses, with Sahara Sapphire as the largest in the city, having a floor plate of 55,000sq.ft, and a 25-ft ceiling height. The central hall is 18,000sq.ft and includes 2 Annex halls, 6000sq.ft each, while the pre-function area is all of 3000sq.ft. It can accommodate up to 2,500 people at a time. The Jade Ballroom measures 10,000sq.ft, and is a pillar less ballroom that can host 1000 guests for an intimate party. The Presidential boardroom, known as Aces, is a technologically advanced boardroom that can host 77 people in it at once. The Oyster Banquet hall is 3,100sq.ft. and plays host to every celebration. The Coral Banquet Hall has an area space of 2,800sq.ft. and is an elegant play of style and design. Even small events can be well accommodated into it. There are four options in the Business Centre, with state-of-the-art meeting rooms, namely, Club, Spades, Diamonds and Hearts.

Grand Hyatt Goa

The mesmerising setting of Goa makes for a perfect resort and spa destination. Overlooking the stunning Bambolim Bay in North Goa, it cannot get any more picturesque than this. Spread across 28 acres of magnificent tropical gardens and lush lawns, Grand Hyatt Goa is the epitome of the combination, 'business and leisure.' Designed in Indo-Portuguese style, the 312 splendid rooms and suites are chic and elegant. The hotel specialises as an incentive and conference destination with a professional and well dedicated team. The function areas are located across two floors, and include the elegant Grand Ballroom that has a space of 12,000sq.ft. Six function rooms are at the lobby level with a pre-function area ideally equipped to host large dinners and meetings. The lobby level also houses two meeting rooms and two board rooms. The Hyatt touch ensures that events are shaped in a distinct way, making a point to treat each event differently, with tailored menus. The hotel offers extensive buffets that can be customised, with choices ranging from Asian, Indian, Italian, and Middle Eastern cuisine, along with a wide range of premium beverages.



EXPLORER





IS TRAVEL JUST A SELFIE MOMENT?

ARKA ROY CHOWDHURY

The modern world is all about travelling and having a great time, but are we actually entering the heart of it, or just merely peeping in?

Jack Kerouac gave a new meaning to life with his masterful travel book, 'On the Road.' In the book, the famously ardent Dean Moriarty's hunger for travel may put travel enthusiasts to shame, as principle character Sal Paradise says, "The only people in life for me are the mad ones... the ones who never yawn or say a commonplace thing, but burn, burn, burn like fabulous yellow roman candles."

The heart of life is a rather simple one when looked at closely. It is to eat, sleep, travel, and learn, with love as the basic virtue stitched within. Social media has raised the scope of travel; it is a phenomenon that can hardly be avoided, and is pretty much like a mirror effect. This has given a push to modern "Kerouacism," which has made men and women curious about the new. It starts with a narcissistic value, to show-off, to gain recognition and to let people see the extraordinary journeys you and I have been on. The very many pictures create a ripple on social media and everyone wants to go there. The paradigm shift from monotonous perils of life to a soulful journey full of happiness and love is fast. But, is the travel a sincere one?

Invoking the Travel Muse

We aren't in post-World War times; we are ordinary beings living in ordinary times, and our break to fame is the social media. So, posing in front of the mountainous tracks of Leh is more of a 'photo op,' than a memory. The curiously vacant eyes staring at the long winding roads in a dense jungle are most often looking for a good light for a picture perfect story to tell, not the effervescence of the wildflowers that abound everywhere. The need to tell a story overcomes the need to experience it.

It is the travelling nomad who is the wisest of all, having seen the face of a thousand sunsets from a thousand different places, or learning the best of cultures from around the world. The travelling nomad has probably fallen in love a thousand times, fallen for grace, for virtue, for unknown faces in the middle of many bazaars. Letting go of oneself is in the heart of travel, but on hindsight, do modern travellers really see the heart of an escapade or are they driven by the post-modern epiphany of a 'selfie?' The *joi de vivre* of life has been subjected to the perils of a technologically advanced race on the fringes of a narcissistic life. But nevertheless, travelling most definitely changes the scheme of life, from the drudgery that it once was, to the madness that it transforms into. Man cannot walk into his grave carrying the scent of a near ordinary life, and that is where the need to travel becomes strongest.



From Memory to the Machine

A dear old friend's late mother once remarked that it is only when you preserve the scenes from your travels inside the depth of your mind, that you actually long for them. A picture,



on the other hand, only makes it easy to store those moments. The 'upload-to-facebook' generation will forever be storing memories into a machine, into some numerical mish-mash. Memories of your last travel are simply binary calculations inside the world of the Internet, and fed into a social networking site. It is definitely easier than it sounds, but to think of it, much of life has become complicated, and so has the art of travel. Discerning beings are often looking for somewhere new to escape to, but what is the result? It is simply a dictum of the Internet, a paroxysm to match the world of friends and acquaintances who happen to have been someplace. Is it just plain old competition – whose pictures are better, yours or mine?

Standing on a particularly high hill on Sandakphu, the highest peak of West Bengal, one can see the clouds beneath. People looking up from their balconies below trying to access the weather are looking at the same clouds, above which you sit. You can either stare at this magnificent glory, or take pictures to upload on social networking sites. Would you turn your memories into binary codes, or have them floating in the abyss of your mind until memory fades?





WORLD'S NO.1 OFF-ROAD VEHICLE.



RAZOR SHARP PERFORMANCE

For more information please visit your nearest Polaris dealer
or write to polaris.india@polarisind.com

AVAIL EASY FINANCE FROM **HDFC BANK**
We understand your world

DEALERS

Ahmedabad

West India AutoEquip Pvt. Ltd.
+91 9099938651

Bangalore

AKB Motors
+91 8553013504,
+91 8060013504

Chennai

MPL Adventure Sports Vehicles Pvt. Ltd.
+91 44 28541704-05, +91 9841043444

Cochin

EVM Motors
+91 9995856655,
+91 8129095544

Dehradun

Jahnavi AT Mobiles
+91 9927049189

Hyderabad

Garapati Autoventures Pvt. Ltd.
+91 9000981959, +91 9177524365

Indore

Mycar Indore Pvt. Ltd.
+91 9755095589, +91 9755095599

Jaipur

Axis Powersports
+91 9785079125, +91 8875018080,
+91 141 4016371

Jammu

Trikuta Motors
+91 9419190404,
+91 9409109054,
+91 9419115975

Kolkata

OSL Powersports Pvt. Ltd.
+91 8013299999,
+91 33 65403969

Lucknow

Beeckay Motors
+91 9935066100, +91 7607693333,
+91 9452242165

Ludhiana

Chadha Motors
+918437000213

Mumbai

Navnit Motors Pvt. Ltd.
+91 9664457709, +91 9773377555
+91 22 66776677/58/59/60/71

Nagaland

Qualitat Tools & Systems
+919774020395

New Delhi

Techno Automobiles Pvt. Ltd.
+91 8800796060, +91 9810007228

HEAD OFFICE

Polaris India Private Limited, Second Floor, M-6, Uppal's Plaza, Jasola, New Delhi - 110025 | Tel: +91 11 49121212 | Website: www.polarisind.in
For Institutional Sales Contact: polaris.india@polarisind.com | Book a Test Ride, Contact: info.tech@polarisind.in



NATURE'S GUARDIANS

Fiercely protective of their domain, Odisha's tribal people display cultures that are unmatched and more evolved than society.

TT BUREAU

The state of Odisha is a paradox of modernity and anachronism. Home to myriad of tribal communities, Odisha is the epitome of tribal culture, which has carefully remained indigenous, thereby flourishing in its archaic glory. Odisha's hinterlands hold some of the most obscure tribal societies, running in accordance with tribal customs.

If you believe that travel is about connecting with people in meaningful and enjoyable ways, then exploring the tribal population of Odisha could be a significant experience. This unique state houses the largest variety of tribal societies found in the districts of Koraput, Rayagada, Naurangpur, Malkangiri, Kalahandi, Nauapara, Kandhamal, Baudh, Keonjhar, Sundargarh and Mayurbhanj. Pitted against the old-world morality of modern life, the tribes of Odisha adhere to customs and traditions, that are a far cry from the conventional world.

The tribal societies of Odisha are linguistically divided with socio-cultural similarities, and are starkly different from more advanced and complex societies. Considering the general features

of the tribes, we can broadly classify them into six types.

Hunters, Collectors And Gatherers

Under this genre, are the Kharia, Mankidi, Mankidia and Birhor, who live in the forests of Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar and Sundargarh districts. They depend on forest resources and practise hunting, gathering and collecting to sustain their livelihood. They live in temporary huts that are made of materials found and gathered, and almost always live in isolated groups. These people are completely dependent on the forest, have limited skills and technology, and are largely governed by traditions and rituals. This group of tribals has remained primitive and neglected by and large.

Cattle herders

The only tribal community to be involved in pastoral and cattle-breeding, they are known as the Koya tribe, and belong to the Dravidian linguistic group. The tribe belongs to the Malkangiri district, and has been going through a rough patch for lack of pasture.

Simple Artisans

The Mahali tribe of Odisha practises basketry, while the Kol-Lohara tribe are blacksmiths by trade. The skills of the Loharas are put to good use as they manufacture iron and wooden tools for other neighbouring tribes. The Mahalis, on the other hand, help other communities by building baskets for them. A sense of socio-economic interdependency is profound within the tribes of Odisha, and this makes them closely knit in more ways than they can imagine. Their problems are compounded when their goods meet the competitiveness and cutting-edge technology of modern products.

Hill and Shifting Cultivators

There are many tribes in Odisha who practise hill and shifting cultivation, while the northern areas are inherited by Juang and Bhuyan, in southern Odisha there are the Kondh, Saora, Koya, Parenga, Didayi, Dharua and Bondopractise shifting cultivation. The Juang tribe has a tribal dance pertaining to shifting cultivation which denotes the way of life for the tribe, and it includes their social, economic and political structure.

Settled Agriculture Farmers

Tribes such as Santal, Ho, Munda, Bhumji, Oraon, Gond, Mirdha, and Savara make their livelihood with settled agriculture. However, there

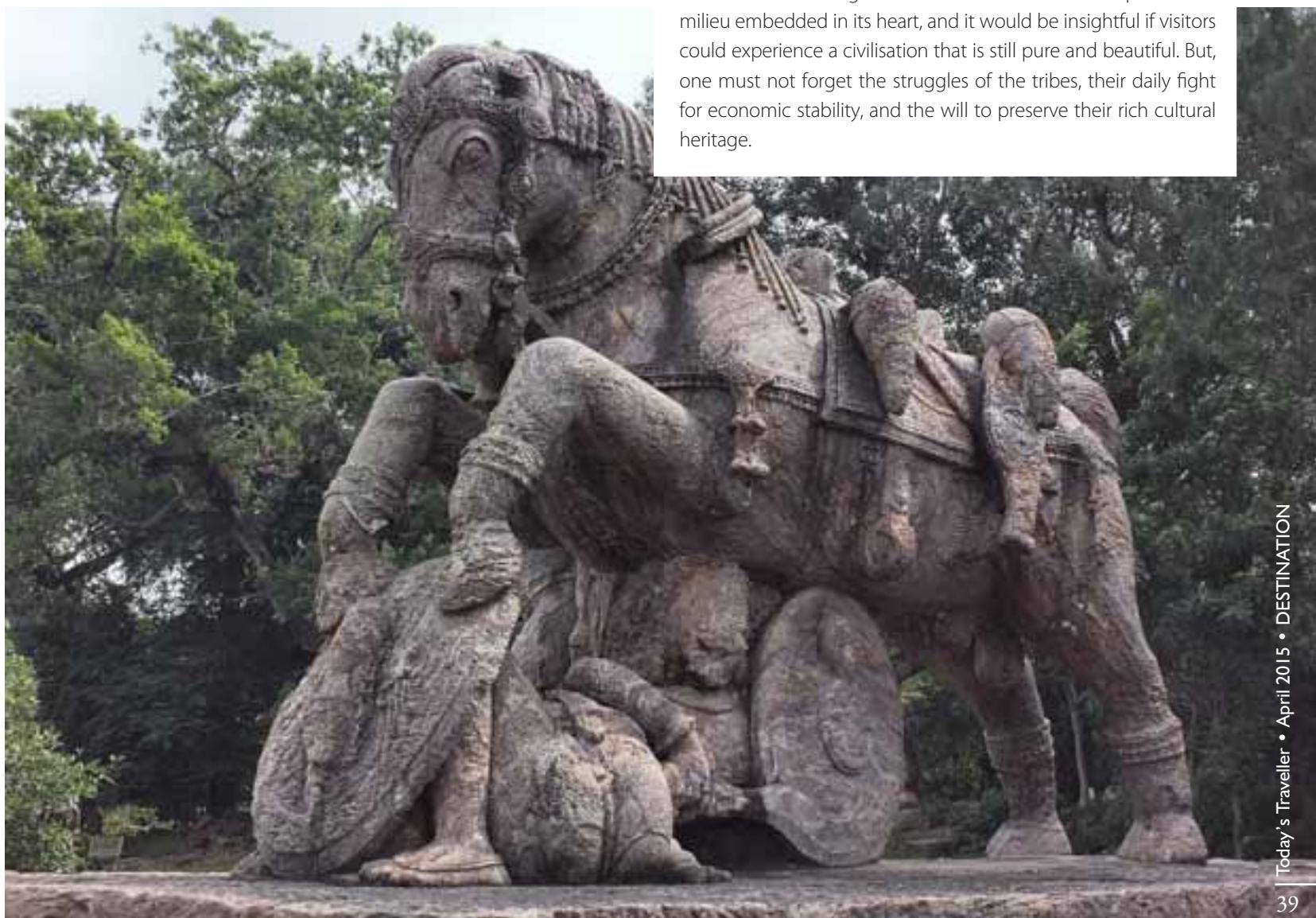
are problems addressing the community who are trying to continue settled agriculture, precisely due to lack of irrigation facilities, lack of easy credit facilities, absence of adequate roads, land ownership, seasonal migration and as well as the use of traditional techniques. This is why the tribes also have to supplement their economy by other activities, such as hunting, gathering and collecting.



Industrial Urban Workers

Much of the tribal population has moved to mining in the industrial and urban areas. With the increase in industrial work, the tribal population has also found itself working for the industries, which is allowing them to get fixed wages. The advanced tribal communities of Santal, Munda, Ho, Oraon, Kisan, Gond have opened up in search of economic stability. On hindsight, this has also caused tribal villages to disappear, with the loss of tradition and tribal occupation.

A closer look into the lives of Odisha's tribes, will help one understand the socio-economic struggle clashing with their age-old traditions and ideologies. The state of Odisha has a unique cultural milieu embedded in its heart, and it would be insightful if visitors could experience a civilisation that is still pure and beautiful. But, one must not forget the struggles of the tribes, their daily fight for economic stability, and the will to preserve their rich cultural heritage.





BEATING THE INDIAN SUMMER

Escape to these fabulous destinations this summer and forget the heat and sweat

ARKA ROY CHOWDHURY

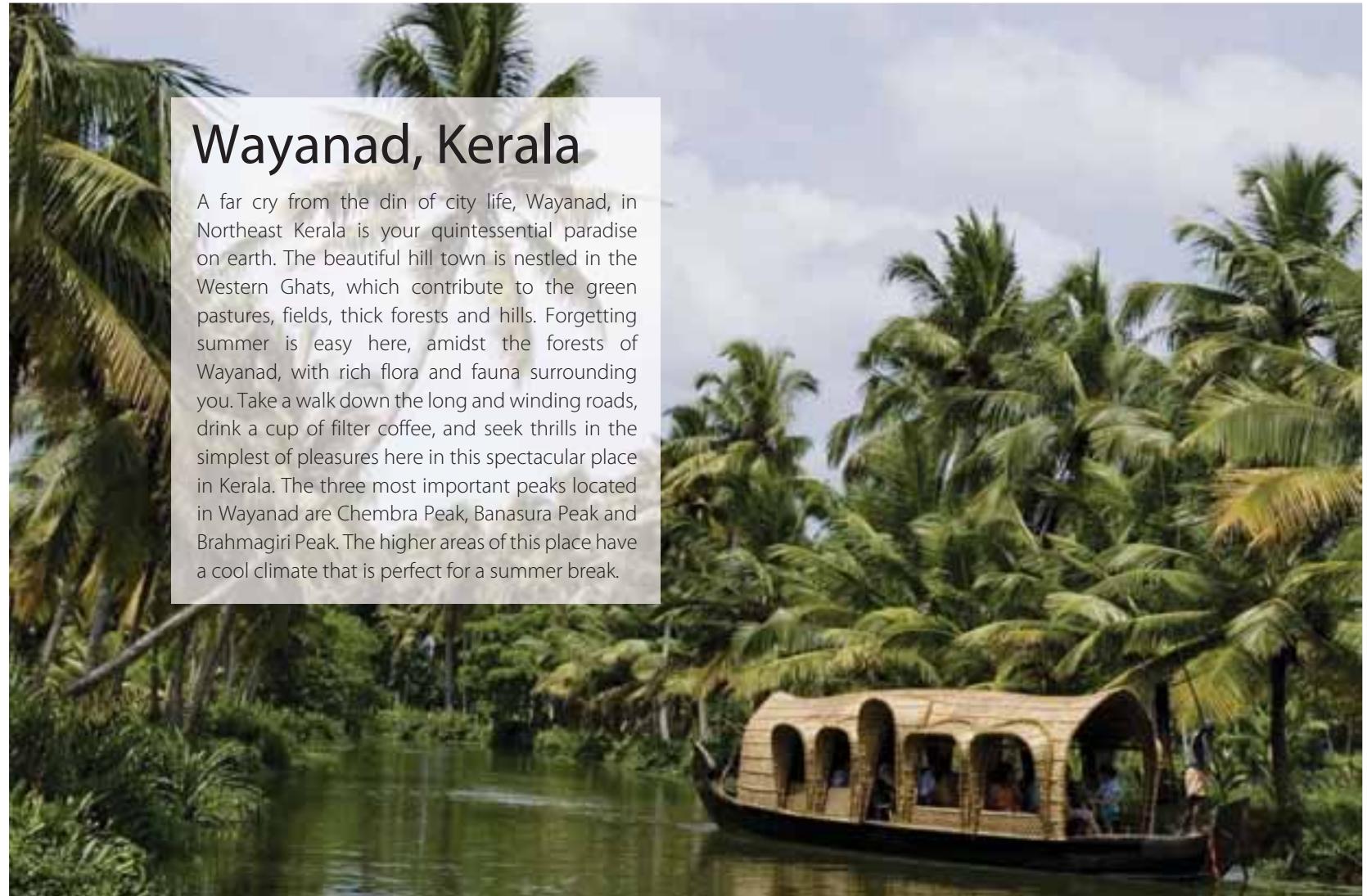
The incredible Indian summer is finally coming in, and there is not much you can do other than locking yourselves in air-conditioned rooms. But, if you can take a break from your busy schedule chances are that you could have a lot more adventure than that your air-conditioned room has to offer. Here are our top five summer destinations, for you to enjoy this summer.

Andaman Islands

Visit the Andaman Islands for the perfect getaway this summer. The Andaman group of islands consists of 52 islands, and 36 of them are inhabited. Can you imagine the sheer beauty that the rest of the 16 untouched and virgin islands possess? The Andaman archipelago has rich flora and fauna, with Havelock island being the most famous of all. Havelock Island has one of the best beaches in this part of the world, the Radha Nagar Beach, unspoilt and magnificent. Besides lazing around the beach, tourists can also try water sports such as, snorkelling, diving, kayaking and scuba diving. April is the best time to be there, so how about a water destination sans the sound and fury?

Wayanad, Kerala

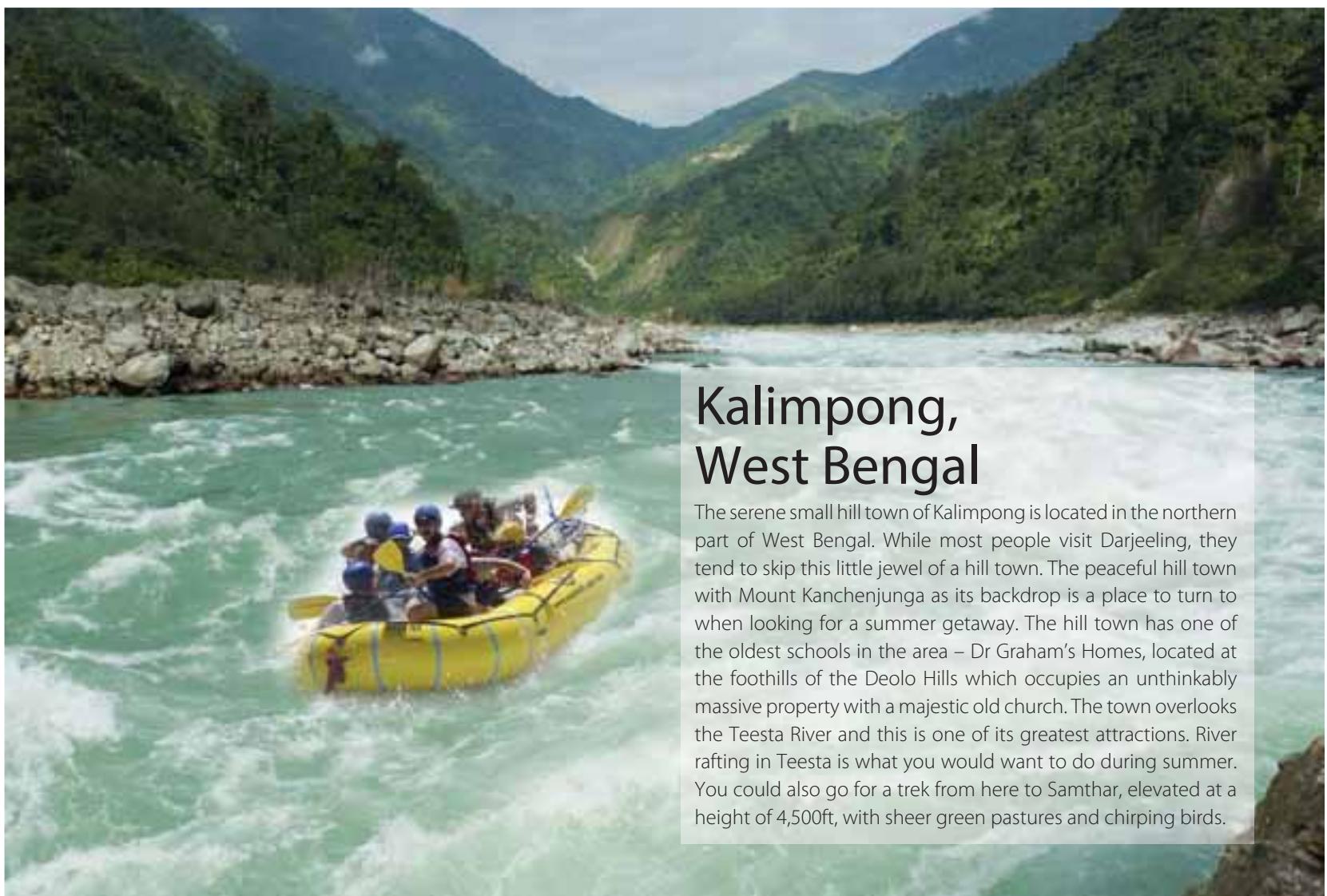
A far cry from the din of city life, Wayanad, in Northeast Kerala is your quintessential paradise on earth. The beautiful hill town is nestled in the Western Ghats, which contribute to the green pastures, fields, thick forests and hills. Forgetting summer is easy here, amidst the forests of Wayanad, with rich flora and fauna surrounding you. Take a walk down the long and winding roads, drink a cup of filter coffee, and seek thrills in the simplest of pleasures here in this spectacular place in Kerala. The three most important peaks located in Wayanad are Chembra Peak, Banasura Peak and Brahmagiri Peak. The higher areas of this place have a cool climate that is perfect for a summer break.



Nubra Valley, Ladakh

This high-altitude cold weather valley is guaranteed to take your breathe away. Popularly known as the Orchard of Ladakh or Ldumra, meaning, 'Valley of Flowers,' the Nubra Valley stands as a spectacular scenic place that is naturally beautiful and unharmed by external influences. Reaching Nubra would take you through the Khardung La Pass, which is the highest motorable pass in the world. Nubra Valley is frequented by travellers mainly because of Hunder and Panamik; while Hunder is known for its artsy sand dunes, Panamik is known for its sulphur springs and monastery. The serene Nubra River that flows through this valley adds to its glory. Nubra Valley in Ladakh is just one of those places which you ought to see to believe.





Kalimpong, West Bengal

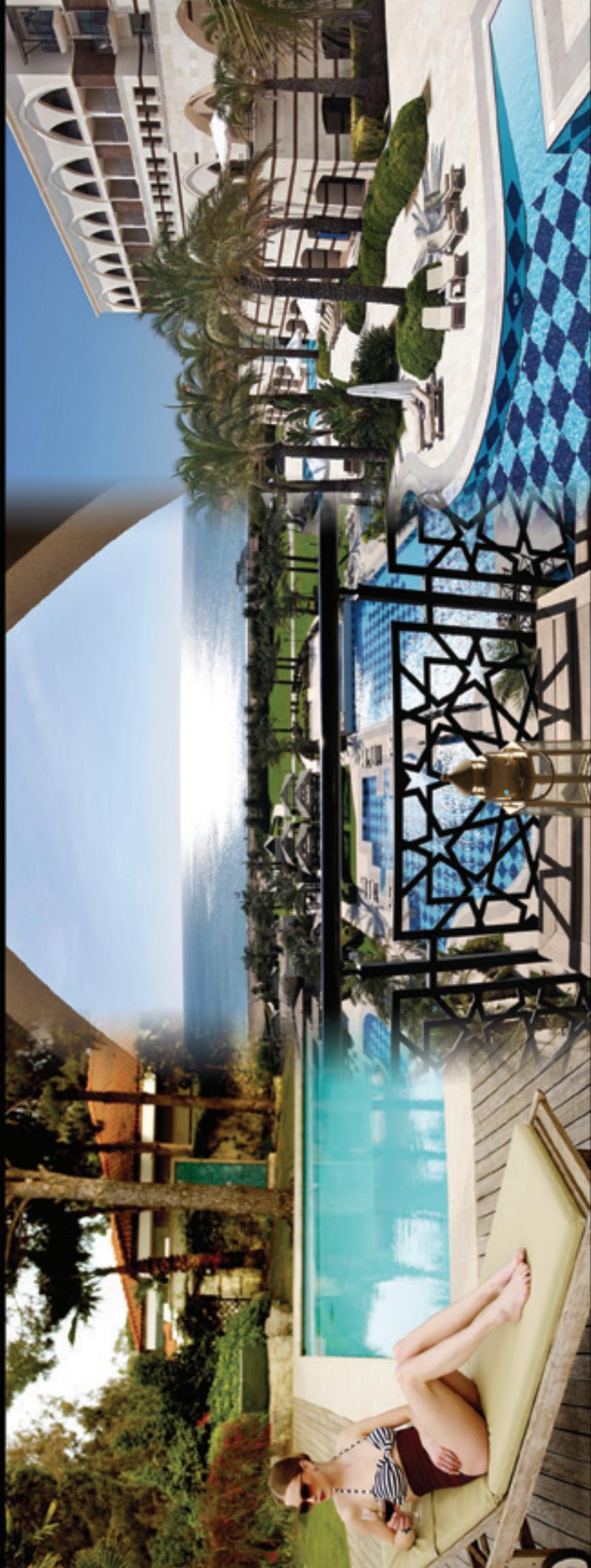
The serene small hill town of Kalimpong is located in the northern part of West Bengal. While most people visit Darjeeling, they tend to skip this little jewel of a hill town. The peaceful hill town with Mount Kanchenjunga as its backdrop is a place to turn to when looking for a summer getaway. The hill town has one of the oldest schools in the area – Dr Graham's Homes, located at the foothills of the Deolo Hills which occupies an unthinkably massive property with a majestic old church. The town overlooks the Teesta River and this is one of its greatest attractions. River rafting in Teesta is what you would want to do during summer. You could also go for a trek from here to Samthar, elevated at a height of 4,500ft, with sheer green pastures and chirping birds.

Mahabaleshwar, Maharashtra

The state of Maharashtra has a gem hidden within. Mahabaleshwar, with its peaks, valleys and beautiful environs, is the perfect place to be this summer. The cool, crisp air of Mahabaleshwar makes it one of the most sought after destinations for those looking to beat the summers. The place is a mixture of old-world charm and modernity, with Malcolm Peth, the town bazaar, at its heart. There is also Venna Lake, which is a short drive away from the town, where one can go fishing, boating, and pony riding. Moraji Castle in Mahabaleshwar is also the place where Mahatma Gandhi had lived in 1945. Steeped in culture and heritage, Mahabaleshwar is also famous for Arthur's Seat, Kate's Point, Needle Hole Point, Wildon Point, Three Monkey Point and Pratapgad. The points have breathtaking views. Mahabaleshwar which is famous for its strawberry fields.



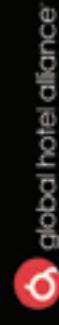
Kempinski Hotel
The Dome
BELEK, TURKEY



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



Kempinski
HOTELIERS SINCE 1897



VICTORIA MEMORIAL

This great white structure was designed to commemorate Queen Victoria's 1901 Diamond Jubilee, and today it is famous for the Museum it houses. Those not inclined to enter the building can take a horse carriage ride down the main road around the building.

TT BUREAU

BHOJOHORI MANNA

When in Kolkata, eat what the Bengalis eat. So, without giving it much thought, enter any branch of Bhojohori Manna and enjoy a typical Bengali spread. The menu has a vast variety of fish prepared in various styles, meat cooked in typical Bengali style called, "Kosha Mangsho." Do not forget the sweets – the "MishtiDoi," and "Roshogolla."

HOWRAH BRIDGE

The quintessential image that defines the heritage of the city, the Howrah Bridge is 705m long and runs above the mighty Hooghly River. This architectural icon could be in your itinerary if you are catching a train from the massive Howrah Railway Station.

OLY PUB

In the heart of the city lies Kolkata's most famous pub. Oly Pub caters to young and old alike; you will find college goers and old timers sitting side by side drinking beer and gorging on delicious beef steak. The pub has quite dramatically left its look and feel just like the way it was since the beginning of time.



KALIGHAT TEMPLE

A visit to the temple of Goddess Kali, who is greatly revered by the entire city, should be part of the trip to witness where the spirit of this city lies. Kolkata's holiest spot was first built in 1809, but today, stands as a modified version.

Thousands of people throng the temple just to catch a glimpse of Goddess Kali.

TAGORE HOUSE

Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore's family mansion is much like a shrine for Bengalis and Indians in general. This 1784 mansion also has an art gallery of paintings by his family and contemporaries, and an exhibition on the poet's Japanese link. There are a lot of things to see here, so keep time in hand.



COLLEGE STREET

This is where everybody gathers, from students to old timers, to women wanting to shop for a gorgeous silk saree. College Street is famed for its row of book stalls that sell all the books in the world in low prices, from educational to fictional. Also, it is home to the famous Coffee House which was once thronged by writers and filmmakers.

Finally, it is also home to the prestigious Presidency College. While you are here, it is also recommended that you take a tram ride!

CHINA TOWN

A sizeable Chinese population lives in China Town, at a place called Tangra. If you are here in the early hours, then opt for Chinese breakfast, or choose from the numerous Chinese restaurants that are always open. It claims to be the only China Town in India and celebrates the Chinese New Year like no other Indian city.



COUPE RELOADED

The all new Mercedes-Benz AMG-GT is ready to take on the Indian roads, promising a ride to remember

TT BUREAU

Iconic luxury car maker Mercedes-Benz is all set to launch the new AMG-GT in India. The car is a successor of SLS AMG and is more vibrant and thrilling than before. The new model comes with a 4.0-litre V8 Bi-turb engine which can go up to speeds of 300kmph. The performance car is certain to create a storm in the Indian market with its launch. With promises of a great driving experience, the car comes with good changes, from a large tail light to frameless front-hinged openings, delivering sheer style. Sophistication is the key-word here with a body and engine that speaks volumes of its feel. Here is a look at what we can expect from it.

Exterior

The car is 4546mm in length, 1939mm in width and 1289 in height, thereby coming only 92mm shorter and 27mm taller than the SLS, while retaining the same width as the SLS. The AMG-GT has the same aluminium body structure like that of the SLS and has a 50-mm shorter wheelbase. The body structure has been produced by German construction specialist Thyssen Krupp, who builds the body structure components for McLaren and Lamborghini. The coupe is made of lightweight aluminium and therefore weighs 231 kg. The material used tends to cut the weight, while at the same time, reduces the centre of gravity. The car even has regular doors, as compared to the usual Mercedes gullwing doors. Mercedes has truly reinvented the spirit of a stylish coupe with the new AMG-GT. The car also has optional carbon-ceramic discs fitted, with 402-mm in diameter at the front and 360-mm at the back.

Buyers have eight colour options, namely, black, yellow, two shades of red, silver, grey, white and blue.



Engine

The new Mercedes has a front mid-engine layout. The car has a twin-turbocharged 4.0-litre V8 engine, and produces 510bhp of power at 6,250rpm and 650Nm of torque that ranges between 1,750rpm and 4,750rpm. The car's engine sits behind the front axle, delivering power to the rear wheels via a seven-speed dual-clutch transmission. It can run up to 100kmph in 3.8 seconds and has a top speed of 310kmph. The car has a motor that is Euro 6-compliant and is the latest of Blue Direct engines. The engine is developed in-house and it goes under the code name, M178.





Interior

Mercedes-Benz AMG-GT has continued its tradition and has made sure to go top notch with the interior. The use of extensive leather and carefully designed interior with dual colour tone scheme makes the car stand out. There is a red and black colour scheme that is in contrast with the red stitching as seen on the dashboard, door panels and the seats. There are plenty of chrome and aluminum insets on the centre fascia, and the central console has round-shaped control buttons that have red illumination, much like there are on the dashboard. The steering wheel has three spokes and is flat bottomed, while being wrapped in leather, with controls for various functions. The car has a stylish driver information instrument cluster which features analog meters that contain spotty red dials. The car has airbags, three-point seat belts with pre-tensioner and load limiter, anti-theft device alarm, engine immobiliser and many other advanced facilities. There is a possibility of the coupe being equipped with Parktronic parking assistance system in addition to COMAND online function.

Experience

The Mercedes-Benz AMG-GT definitely proves to be a great ride, providing one of the best coupe experiences. The accuracy and feel of the car makes it easy to place in corners, and together with its fluidity, it is reassuring in every sense. The car performs well even when you turn off the electronic safety net, thereby making it a much greater performer with a refined riding opportunity. The truth is that the AMG-GT is an all-rounder that can comfortably take on most types of roads, be they urban, motorway cruising, back roads, race track, etc.

However, the new Mercedes-AMG model (in GT S form especially) is up against some stiff supercar competition. It is priced to rival the Porsche 911 Turbo, and it is also likely to feel the heat from the upcoming second generation Audi R8, which is due to arrive after the GT S model hits Indian showrooms. The AMG Mercedes-Benz is a brilliant shift of supremacy from its predecessor; it is good to drive and is a logical machine. It is a very user-friendly sports car and it should really feel like a top notch ride when on a particularly exciting terrain.



युगजयी योद्धा (रुद्र)
THE LEGENDARY WARRIOR (RUDRA)



हिन्दुस्तान एरोनॉटिक्स लिमिटेड
Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

देखें/visit : www.hal-india.com

THE HUMMING OF SPRING

Follow nature's season of renewal in some of the greatest cities of the world

ARKA ROY CHOWDHURY

*"Welcome, sweet season of delight,
What beauties charm the wond'ring sight
In thy enchanting reign!..." – Elizabeth Bentley, Ode to Spring*

Spring comes with a bundle of delight, caressing the body and mind after winter's harsh stay. It is this time of the year when under the roof of dancing leaves the enormity of life is duly noted, and nature is found lying nude and askew. Set out to get lost in the humming of this coming spring.



Sognefjord, Norway

A UNESCO World Heritage site, the Sognefjord in Norway is the longest fjord in the country, and stands as the third longest in the world. This magnanimous art of nature is best experienced during the spring time. People visiting the Sognefjord can explore the area by car or by partaking in a day excursion. Once in the fjord, you could enjoy boat trips, hiking, glacier walks, kayaking, fishing, and a host of other outdoor activities. While indulging in all these activities, do not forget to try out the world-famous morello cherries of Sognefjord. Let nature hold your hand and take you along its fantastical path.

Casablanca Valley, Chile

This Chilean city is a fascinating work of nature that has gained immense popularity the world over for producing top-class wines. The valley is one of the fastest growing wine regions of the country and is just an hour's drive, northwest of the capital city, Santiago. The fairytale-like scenic beauty of Casablanca Valley will ease the heart of weary travellers as they walk amidst the green hues of new grass, and freshly blooming daisies. One of the best ways to enjoy the beauty of this place is by taking a day or overnight trip that will allow you to see the magnificent beauty of nature. Wine tours could be another great attraction for those who have a yen for fine liquor.



Sicily, Italy

Immortalised by Mario Puzo for setting the Corleone family's roots in the Corleone town of Sicily in his epic novel, 'The Godfather,' this is a definite spring delight. Sicily's lush green landscape and the forgotten sea waves of its Southeastern shores are sure to mesmerise visitors. Homer's 'Odyssey,' is largely based on this Mediterranean marvel; with its beautiful ancient temples, Sicily is one of the most charming places you can be in this spring. The island is home to some of the most obscure, and undiscovered villages perched atop the highlands. Add a sumptuous authentic Italian cuisine and you have the best of spring.



Paris, France

The quintessential romantic city where poetry seems to be second nature to men. Spring is the best time to visit Paris. The city's vibrant parks can tune your spring sensibilities, delicately engulfing you into its alluring romantic charm. Visit the largely popular Tuileries and Luxembourg gardens, or you could simply look for a lesser known green space for some solitude. Needless to say, Paris entralls with its alfresco dining ambience – nothing would possibly be better than sipping a cafe au lait, biting on a croissant and breathing the spring air of love.



Seville, Spain

A Spanish sojourn can never disappoint, and that is absolutely true for the largest city of Andalusia. Steeped in history, legend has it that its founder is the great Hercules. After going through several eras and phases in history, today, Seville stands as a magnificent city with a glorious past. All this adds to its charm and makes it a fantastic destination for spring. Also, the Feria de abril de Sevilla or the "Seville April Fair," is something of a spectacle, so even more reasons for you to visit this marvelously anachronistic city.



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

TODAY'S
traveller

escape

IN ALL DIRECTIONS
WITH TODAY'S TRAVELLER



Assured savings with every subscription

Tenure	No. of Issues	Stand Price	Subscription Price	Saving%
1 Year	12	600	540	10%
2 Year	24	1200	960	20%
3 Year	36	1800	1260	30%

Gill India Communications, No-504, 5th Floor, Sheetla House, Building 73-74, Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110019
Tel: +91 11 41029079, 41029979, Email: publications@gillindia.com

*conditions Apply

SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM - Yes, I would like to subscribe

Payment should be made in favour of GILL INDIA COMMUNICATIONS (Use CAPITAL LETTERS only)

TODAYS TRAVELLER foryear(s). Enclosed is a DD/Cheque with n.o.....

Dated.....For Rs.....(Add Rs 10 For Non Delhi Cheques) drawn on.....

Bank Name.....Designation.....

Company Name.....Address.....

.....

City.....State.....Pin.....Tel.....

Fax.....Email.....

EVENTS

What? When? Where? Who? Why? How?

PRIYANKA CHOPRA TO PLAY LEAD ROLE IN AMERICAN TV SHOW

Bollywood actress Priyanka Chopra is making her way into the promised land of Hollywood. The actor will soon be taking up the lead role in a show for the American Broadcasting Company (ABC). ABC runs successful shows such as Scandal, Grey's Anatomy, and Modern Family. Chopra joins the league of Indians making their presence felt on American TV shows, such as, Kunal Nayyar of Big Bang Theory fame, Nimrat Kaur and Suraj Sharma who starred in the latest season of Homeland. The show supposedly revolves around Chopra's character and she happens to be the first Indian to be signed for a lead role on the network.



GAURI KHAN COLLABORATES WITH SATYA PAUL

Satya Paul stores would soon be adorned with new designs cooked up by interior designer Gauri Khan for its 30th anniversary this April. The theme titled, 'A Tropical Wonder,' is inspired by the idea of an exotic holiday. This means drapes with poetic words, grassy green, watercolour, and much more colour and vigour. Gauri Khan mentioned in a statement, "My signature line of clothing for Satya Paul will showcase a distinctive aspect of my own personal style. Co-creating and endorsing a line for one of India's finest brands will be a new experience for me."

FARHAN AKHTAR BECOMES UN WOMEN'S FIRST MALE AMBASSADOR

Indian actor/director Farhan Akhtar has joined the ranks of eminent women leaders, such as, Nicole Kidman, Emma Watson, Sania Mirza and Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol of Thailand to become UN Women's first male ambassador. The agency is known to focus on gender equality. The actor is also the advocate for UN's HeForShe campaign which encourages men to stand up for gender equality. In November last year, Akhtar was appointed as UN Women's Goodwill Ambassador to South Asia.





RIHANNA AS THE NEW FACE OF DIOR

27-year-old singing sensation Rihanna has been confirmed as the face of Dior's Secret Garden campaign. The singer will star in the fourth installment of Secret Garden, and was seen shooting for the brand at the Palace of Versailles in Paris earlier in the week. Rihanna will star in a short film and print ad set to debut this spring. It has been said that she will be the first black woman to be featuring for Dior. Also, in the past each installment of the Dior campaign had only involved models rather than celebrities.



CELEBS AT LAKME FAHION WEEK 2015

The 15th edition of Lakme Fashion Week was as glamourous and exciting as it has been for all these years. From celebrities on the front row to the ones setting the ramp on fire, from Cricket star Irfan Pathan to Nargis Fakhri and Deepika Padukone, et al. The designers included the finest ones such as, Sabyasachi Mukherjee and Manish Malhotra, to debutants such a Gauri Khan!



WHAT: Baisakhi
WHEN: 14 April, 2015
WHERE: Several parts of India

A harvest festival, Baisakhi also commemorates the beginning of the Sikh religion. Folk music, dance, food and fairs make for a carnival-like atmosphere. Decide which part of Punjab you want to visit, then combine this with a trip to Amritsar and witness the celebration at the Golden Temple. If you happen to be in Assam, the Baisakhi equivalent, Bihu, is celebrated with tremendous fanfare in the state.



WHAT: Aoling Festival
WHEN: 1-6 April, 2015
WHERE: Mon District, Nagaland

The Konyaks of Mon district in Nagaland are considered the fiercest tribe. Nagaland's Aoling festival, is a celebration of spring, when the countryside explodes into green – a perfect time to visit the state. The experience is far removed from the orchestrated touristic festivals; this one urges you to immerse in the local culture.

WHAT: Thrissur Pooram
WHEN: 28-29 April, 2015
WHERE: Kerala

One of Kerala's most famous elephant festivals, the Thrissur Pooram festival is held in Swaraj ground, at the Vadakkunnathan Shiva Temple. The nearby Bhagavathy and Krishna temples also participate in this. The highlight of the festival is the elephant face-off that happens between the two sides (Bhagavathy and Krishna), at the Shiva temple. Midnight fireworks and day-long festivities amp up the energy in the air.

WHAT: Songkran Water Festival (Thai New Year)
WHEN: 13–15 April, 2015
WHERE: Throughout Thailand

The Lunar New Year in Thailand marks a time when the country literally goes to water. Part a time of respect and part riot, Songkran is an occasion when images of the Buddha are ‘bathed’ and young Thais seek the blessing of their elders. After that, it’s a water-throwing free-for-all-affair.



WHAT: Queen's Day
WHEN: 30 April, 2015
WHERE: Amsterdam, Netherlands

This nationwide holiday in Amsterdam is a crazy, wonderful madhouse celebration. There's a free market throughout the city (anyone can sell anything they like), street parties, live music, dense crowds and lots of beer. The canals fill with boats and the streets with people, who come from all around the country and beyond.



WHAT: Bisket Jatra (Nepali New Year)
WHEN: Khalna Tole, Bhaktapur, Nepal
WHERE: Mid-April (the beginning of the Nepali month of Baisakh)

Bisket Jatra heralds the start of the Nepali New Year and is celebrated with pomp in Bhaktapur. In one of the most exciting annual events in the Kathmandu valley, a huge and ponderous chariot carrying images of the god Bhairab is hauled by dozens of villagers to Khalna Tole.

PICK OF THE MONTH

Pick your favourite from this month's all-new collection of books, games, audio CDs and DVDs



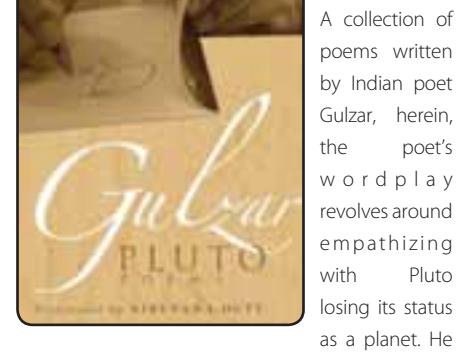
DVD: GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY

Unleashed by Marvel Comics, *Guardians of the Galaxy* is any comic lover's movie. The awe-inspiring film adaptation stars Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana, Dave Bautista, Vin Diesel and Bradley Cooper. The film is brought to you by the same studio that had created masterpieces such as *The Avengers*, *Iron Man*, *Thor* and *Captain America*. Its storyline revolves around a crew of individuals, mostly aliens and who need to save the galaxy from a villain who is about to destroy it.

Genre(s): fantasy/superhero



PLUTO POEMS



A collection of poems written by Indian poet Gulzar, herein, the poet's wordplay revolves around empathizing with Pluto losing its status as a planet. He

compares his poems to the planet and recognises them as tiny objects from far away. Gulzar touches upon various themes, such as, relationships, God's presence and absence, time, nature, and mixes them up with his wit. The collection has been translated into English by Nirupama Dutt. Gulzar is a highly honoured Padma Bhushan and the Sahitya Akademi Award winning poet and lyricist.

Genre(S) : Poetry



CALLOF DUTY: ADVANCED WELFARE

The game is set in the year 2054 where KVA, an international terrorist group has weakened militaries of nations all across the world. This is countered by Atlas Corporation, a private military organisation under a leader who fights to promote global democracy.

Gamers will take on the role of Jack Mitchell, a covert operations expert and ride through this action packed game that has been given some added mechanics as compared to the older version.

Genre(s): Action



MUSIC: CHETAN ANAND

A visionary film-maker, Chetan Anand is one of the most talented personalities of Indian cinema. This collection of music has been compiled from some of his greatest films, such as, "Kudrat," "Kala Bazaar," "Aakhri Khat," and "Neecha Nagar." The pack of 2 CDs has songs from some of the most iconic Indian singers, such as Lata Mangeshkar, Kishore Kumar, and Asha Bhosle. This is a must have collection for any die hard Indian movie fan.

Genre (s): Bollywood

Always a little better than the last time.

Just when you thought you've seen the best of luxury, along comes the RS 5. And, with it, a host of features precision-crafted to raise your eyebrows by several pleasant notches. Go ahead, give in to a luxury experience that's exactly how you'd imagined it to be. **Only, better.**

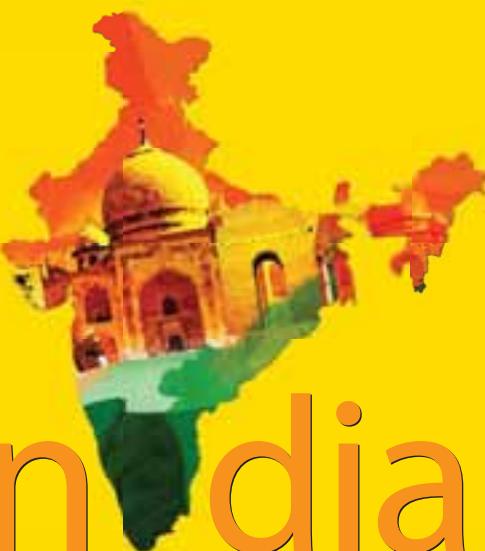


India – a great MICE destination

With an unparalleled choice of venues, India has emerged as a favoured destination for various MICE events. India VENUES is a book which will facilitate the end user into selecting ideal venues for any event, be it personal or related to business. The book is designed to give event organisers access to the best knowledge and expertise and help them save time and money while planning and operating events in India. India VENUES is all about providing information for the best training, meeting and conference rooms; for private board meetings with state-of-the-art facilities; for finding the right space to be effective and achieve successful results.

Contents:

- Hotel Venues
- Airports, Airport Hotels & Duty-Free Shopping
- Convention & Exhibition Venues
- Golf Venues
- Amusement and Theme Parks
- Shopping Venues
- Restaurants
- Destinations
- Ground Handlers



India VENUES

India's only Meeting, Incentive, Convention,
Exhibition, Wedding, Golf, Shopping &
Corporate Event Facilities Guide

Advertising enquiries:

Email: publications@gillindia.com
 Contact: Arjun Gill +91-9899233331
 Vagish Mishra +91-995866552
 Safal Saalwar: +91-9953701567
 Prakhar Bhardwaj: +91-9311234537

A Publication of Gill India Concepts Pvt. Ltd.

