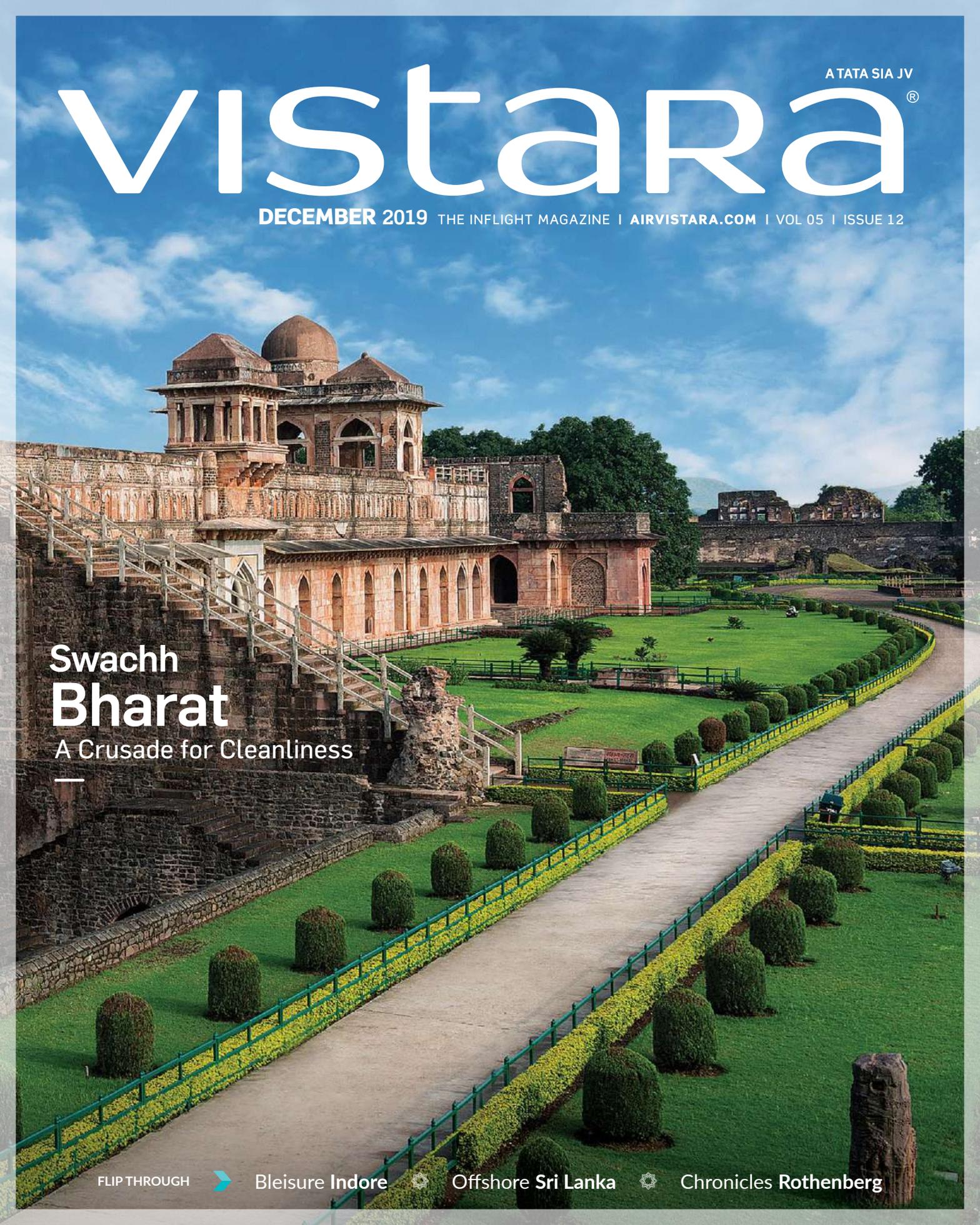


A TATA SIA JV

# VISTARA®

DECEMBER 2019 THE INFLIGHT MAGAZINE | AIRVISTARA.COM | VOL 05 | ISSUE 12



## Swachh Bharat

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FLIP THROUGH



Bleisure Indore



Offshore Sri Lanka



Chronicles Rothenberg

30  
YEARS

they said  
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magic  
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hands...





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## Giving Flight to Dreams

2019 has been a remarkable year for Vistara in many ways. While we continued to densify our domestic network, we forayed into the international arena providing our globally applauded services to travellers on the Singapore, Bangkok, Dubai, and Colombo routes, with more to follow soon. And we are humbled to see the ever-increasing number of travellers who love to fly the new feeling with us.

Through this magazine, it has always been our endeavour to enthrall our customers with engaging stories and captivating pictures that can virtually transport them to their dream destinations and those charming fairy tale cities that are straight out of the pages of a storybook. Picturesque little towns, magnificent castles and surreal landscapes that exude an enchanting fairytale-like aura, find a place in the edition you are holding. These magical destinations will have you planning your next vacation even before you land.

Our Offshore feature on pages 34-42 is a discovery beyond the usual beach towns and

surf scenes that have usually been the Sri Lankan highlights. We bring to you, in this edition, the beautiful coastal city of Galle, a magical paradise and an archaeological wonder. With the holiday season upon us, discover postcard-perfect winter landscapes in our Story Frames feature on pages 96-108. Our Bleisure feature on pages 24-32 is a tryst with the cultural heritage and history of the city of Indore. Take a walk through the trio of Mandu, Maheshwar and Omkareshwar that offer a sneak peek into Madhya Pradesh's history and culture. Somebody once said, fairy tale towns exist only in a perfect world. But what if we were to tell you that our Travel Leisure feature on pages 72-78 will whisk you away to dreamy medieval towns in Slovenia surrounded by snow-covered mountains where you can live your Alpine fantasy.

As we inch closer to the end of a wonderful year, we thank you for believing in our brand and hope to continue inspiring you to discover new places.

Happy holidays!

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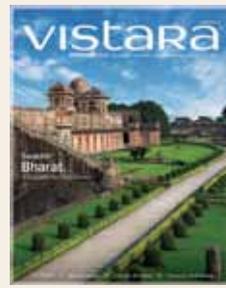
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— DECEMBER 2019 —



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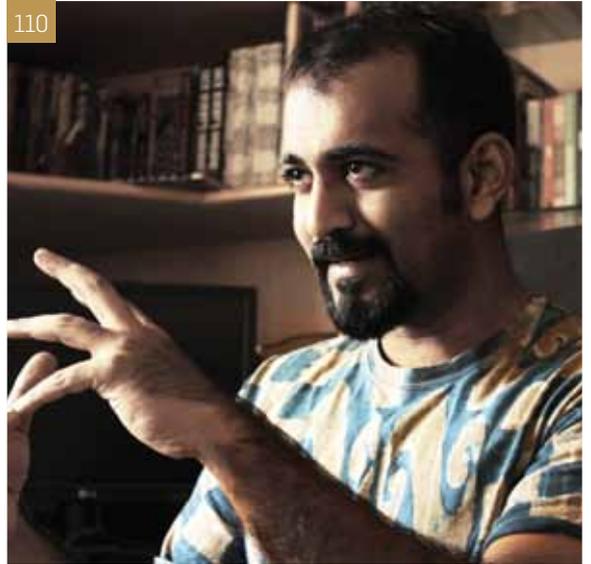
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# THE SOCIAL BUZZ

The 'new feeling' has spread its wings in social media and our followers can't stop talking about Vistara



Photo credit: @desiTraveler

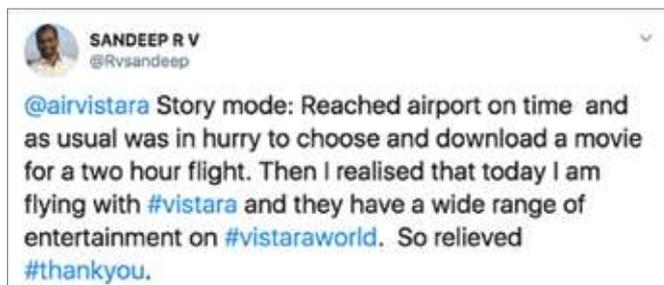


Photo credit: @Deepankar8



## Winners of the Vistara Quiz (November 2019 issue)

Answer 1:  
**Enterprise**

Rajesh Bilwani  
Vasim Ahmed

Answer 2:  
**Roald Dahl**

Sagar Pittala  
Vandana Jena

Answer 3:  
**India**

Sujaya Kashyap  
Modini Yantrapati



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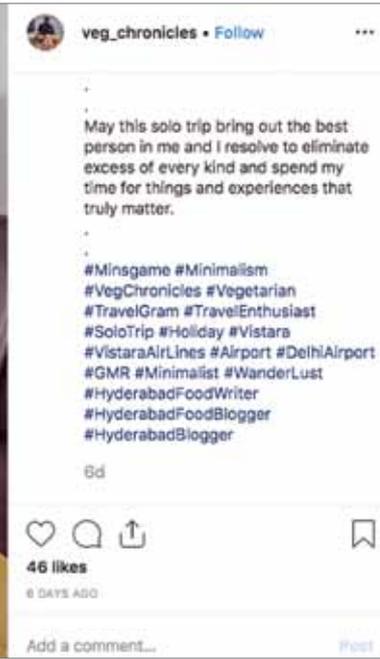


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## POTPOURRI

A collage of happenings from the world of travel, entertainment, technology and current affairs



### Tashkent's Artsy Subway

Uzbekistan's capital city Tashkent's best kept secret till recently was the visually stunning subway system of the city. One of the only two actively running subway systems in Central Asia, the walls and ceilings are adorned with artworks that pay homage to Uzbek heritage and noted figures of Uzbek history. At some stations, there are mosaics that honour the fact that the country is one of the leading producers of cotton globally.



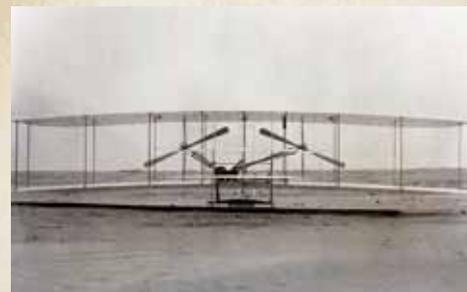
### VISTARA QUIZ

Question 1: In 2003, which U.S. state was officially declared the birthplace of aviation?

Answers in the next issue of Vistara magazine.

Share your answers at [inflightmag@airvistara.com](mailto:inflightmag@airvistara.com). Two winners for each question will be eligible for prizes.

### This Month, That Year



On December 17, 1903, Wilbur and Orville Wright created history by successfully creating the first airplane in the world. While Orville took the first flight which lasted for 12 seconds covering 120 feet, Wilbur took the fourth and final flight for 59 seconds covering 852 feet.

### World's First Christmas Card up for viewing



World's very first Christmas card, dating all the way to 1843, is on display at the Charles Dickens Museum in London. The card that was designed by Henry Cole and illustrated by John Callcott Horsley, shows a family at a table enjoying wine, with the message, "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you." The card came out in the same year when Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* was published.

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## MOVIE OF THE MONTH



### Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker

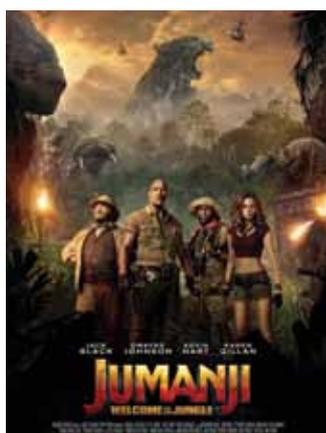
Director: **J.J. Abrams**

Cast: **Billie Lourd, Adam Driver, Daisy Ridley**

Release date: **December 20, 2019**

The surviving resistance faces the first order once more in the final chapter of the *Skywalker* saga.

## BOLLYWOOD / HOLLYWOOD



### Jumanji: The Next Level

Director: **Jake Kasdan**

Cast: **Dwayne Johnson, Jack Black, Kevin Hart**

Release date: **December 13, 2019**



### Dabangg 3

Director: **Prabhu Deva**

Cast: **Salman Khan, Sonakshi Sinha, Sudeep**

Release date: **December 20, 2019**



### Good Newwz

Director: **Raj Mehta**

Cast: **Akshay Kumar, Kareena Kapoor, Diljit Dosanjh, Kiara Advani**

Release date: **December 27, 2019**

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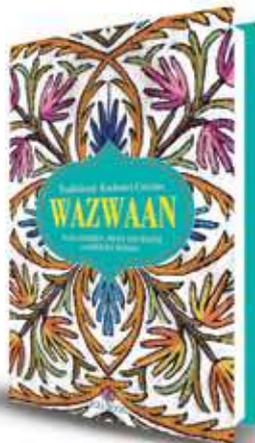
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## ON MY KINDLE

Rocky Mohan's *Wazwaan*, co-authored by Waza Sharief, Shafi and Rafiq, and published by Roli Books, takes you on a culinary journey through the family-owned recipes of some of Kashmir's best chefs, to create the lavish 36-course meal from the valley.



**Tell us a little bit about yourself and your history with Kashmiri cuisine.**

I have been associated with food, cuisine and its history, science and taste for the last 40 years and it all originated through the influence of my father and grandfather, who were both great cooks. My link with Kashmir comes from my maternal side, a large part of which continues to live there. This led to me visiting Kashmir, almost every year with the family, exposing me to both, home-cooked cuisine in addition to *wazwaan*.

**What exactly is Wazwaan?**

*Wazwaan* is an elaborate preparation of a lavish meal, often made up of 36 courses, served on festive and special days. It is a celebratory offering of the *waza* to his guests.

**Who are the collaborators for this book and how did the idea for this book come about?**

Abdul Ahad Waza, the patriarch of the Ahad Waza family was a man with immense talent that he ably passed down to his three sons, Shareif, Shafi and Rafiq. I was fortunate to have worked closely with them to be able

to document this treasure, which I believe cannot be replicated by another author.

**You have featured many old recipes in your book. How have you collected all of these recipes?**

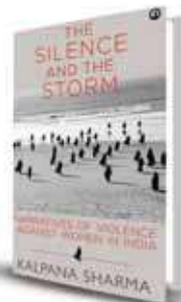
Shareif, Shafi and Rafiq helped me out with recipes, extensively going through each from the collection passed down to them by their father.

**Which of these dishes do you personally like the most?**

As the number of dishes is limited, one really cannot have favourites. However, the exceptional ones that come to mind are *Rogan Josh*, *Rista* and *HaakKong Firin*.

**What are some culinary ingredients that are unique to Kashmir and this region?**

*Pran* is a type of onion which cannot be consumed raw. It's like a shallot and must be fried to extract the best of its taste. *Mowal* is dried cockscomb flower, which is used as a cooling ingredient and imparts a special red colour to the dish it's used in. Saffron, which is grown locally is also used extensively in the preparation of dishes.



***The Silence and the Storm***

**By:** Kalpana Sharma

**Published by:**  
Aleph Book Company

**Price:** ₹599



***Red Panda***

**By:** Ruskin Bond

**Published by:**  
Westland Publications

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### Santastic Fair

**When:** December 14 – 23, 2019

**Where:** Colombo, Sri Lanka

It is a Christmas Market where there are over hundred stalls, considered as one of the largest fairs in the city.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Bronze – Single Edition

Art Exhibition by Tapas Sarkar

**When:** December 8, 2019 – February 8, 2020

**Where:** Chawla Art Gallery, New Delhi



### Rasas of Indian Art

Art Exhibition

**When:** Till January 3, 2020

**Where:** The Metropolitan Hotel & Spa, New Delhi



### Mevlana Whirling Dervishes

**When:** December 10 – 18, 2019

**Where:** Konya, Turkey



### Wonderfruit Festival

**When:** December 12 – 16, 2019

**Where:** Pattaya, Thailand



### Food For Thought Fest

**When:** December 14 – 15, 2019

**Where:** Aerocity, New Delhi



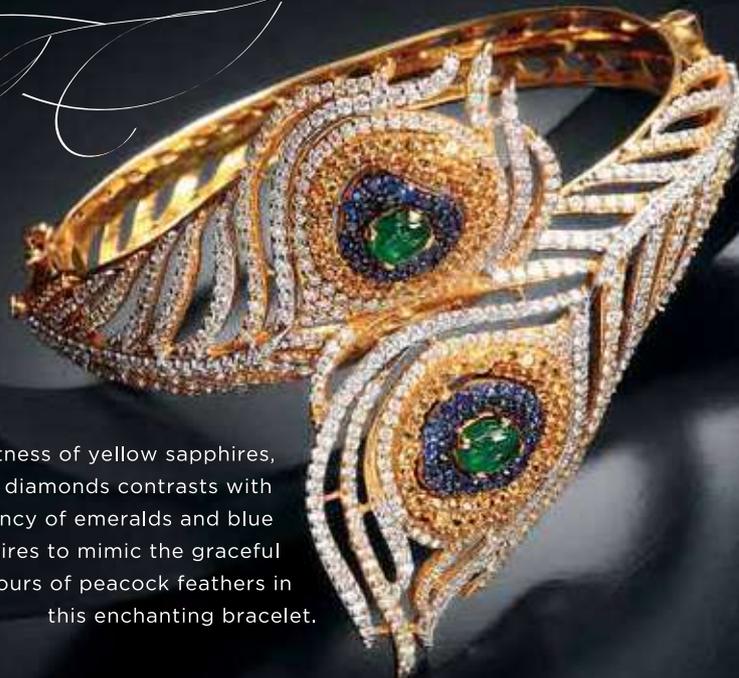
### The Taste of Tasmania- Food Festival

**When:** December 28, 2019-January 3, 2020

**Where:** Hobart, Tasmania, Australia

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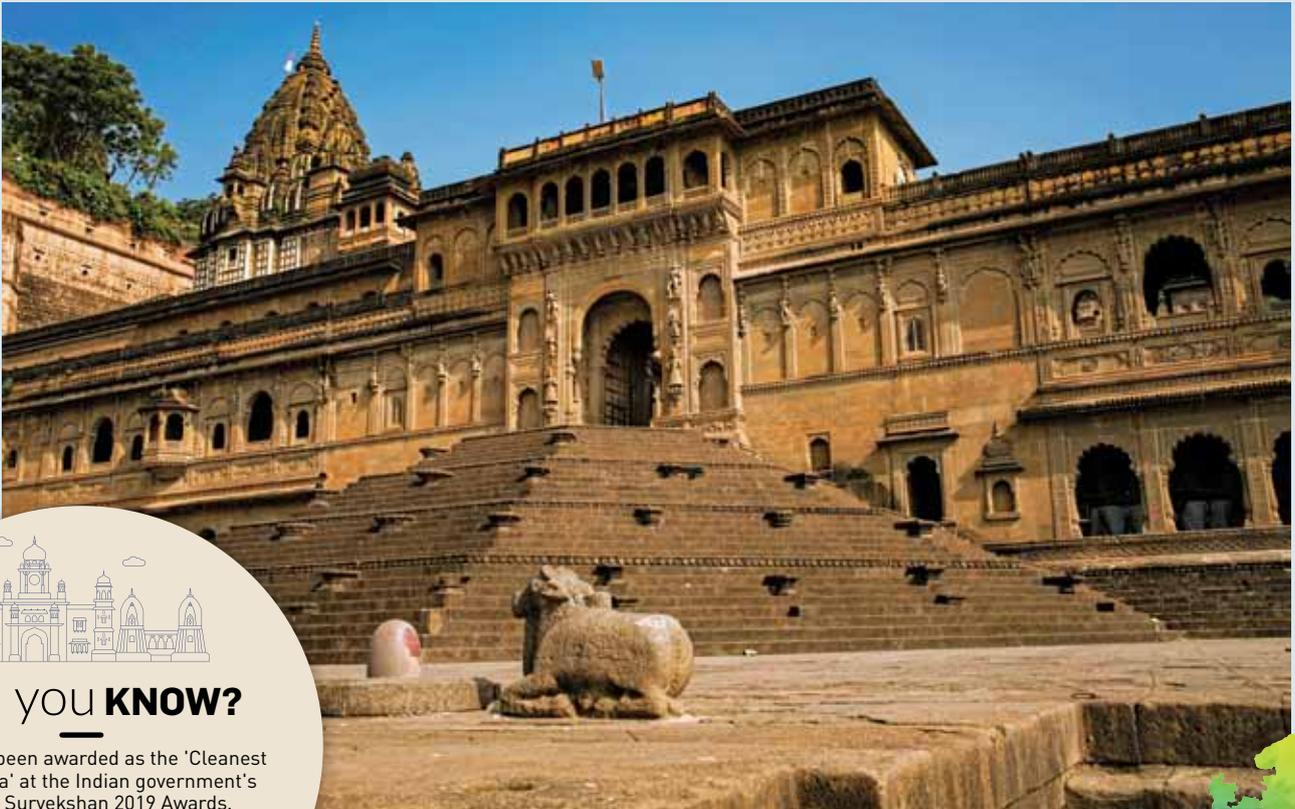
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## A Tryst with History

# Indore's Heritage Triangle

The crux of power of the Malwa Kingdom and the gem of the Holkar Dynasty, Indore and places around it, have always shown what true royal life in India meant. Take a walk through the trio of Mandu, Maheshwar and Omkareshwar, that will give a taste of Madhya Pradesh's bygone era and heritage.

words // Edwina D'souza



### Did you **KNOW?**

Indore has been awarded as the 'Cleanest City in India' at the Indian government's Swachh Survekshan 2019 Awards. Conversion of wet waste into compost at home and plastic waste treatment facilities to convert plastic waste into diesel are some methods deployed that made this city the cleanest in the country.



Madhya Pradesh

Map not to scale

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**A** commercial centre, an education hub and a foodies' paradise – Indore has it all.

Madhya Pradesh's largest city has embraced development to become an up and coming cosmopolitan, while holding on to its history. Indore enjoyed a respectable position as the capital of the Malwa Kingdom before the focus shifted to Maheshwar, a quick drive away from the city. Discover more such stories from the bygone era on an interesting heritage trail from Indore that is a treat for lovers of architecture and history, and those seeking a spiritual getaway.

#### **ARCHITECTURAL DELIGHTS OF MANDU**

Drive into the countryside, 100

kilometres from Indore, to explore the architectural wonders of Mandu. This 6<sup>th</sup> century township in the Malwa region of Madhya Pradesh has been ruled by the Paramaras, the Khilji dynasty, Bahadur Shah of Gujarat, Mughals and later the Marathas. The architecture, hence, is an amalgamation of several styles, right from Pashtun to Afghan, Islamic and Hindu.

Rani Roopmati's Pavilion inside Mandu's heritage complex stands witness to the eternal love of Baz Bahadur for his beloved queen. Baz Bahadur, the last sultan of Malwa, built the Pavilion at the behest of his beloved, who's only condition to marry him was that she should be able to see the

Narmada River and offer prayers every day. The pavilion was thus constructed at the highest point in the heritage complex from where Rani Roopmati could comfortably view the sacred river. Below the pavilion, Baz Bahadur built a reservoir called Rewa Kund that supplied water to the structure. The 16<sup>th</sup> century Baaz Bahadur Palace is equally stunning with its large courtyards where the Sultan enjoyed songs and dance performances.

Further down, the Hindola Mahal was the audience chamber for the Royals and is prominent for its peculiar style of sloping walls that give the illusion of them swinging. The Hoshanga Tomb was India's first marble



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#### HOW TO GET THERE

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mausoleum and a prototype to build the Taj Mahal. In fact, Shah Jehan sent his architects to Mandu to study this structure, and there's an inscription outside the Tomb to support this claim. Another structure, Jami Mosque, is built on the lines of the Umayyad Mosque of Damascus in Syria.

But perhaps, Mandu's star attraction is the Jahaz Mahal. This 15<sup>th</sup> century architectural marvel, built by Ghiyas-ud-din Khilji, stands beautifully on a strip of land between two lakes, Munj Talao and Kapur Talao, giving the illusion of floating like a ship in the sea.

#### LESSON IN HISTORY IN MAHESHWAR

From Mandu, head west towards the historic town of Maheshwar, erstwhile capital of the Malwa kingdom. While the region saw

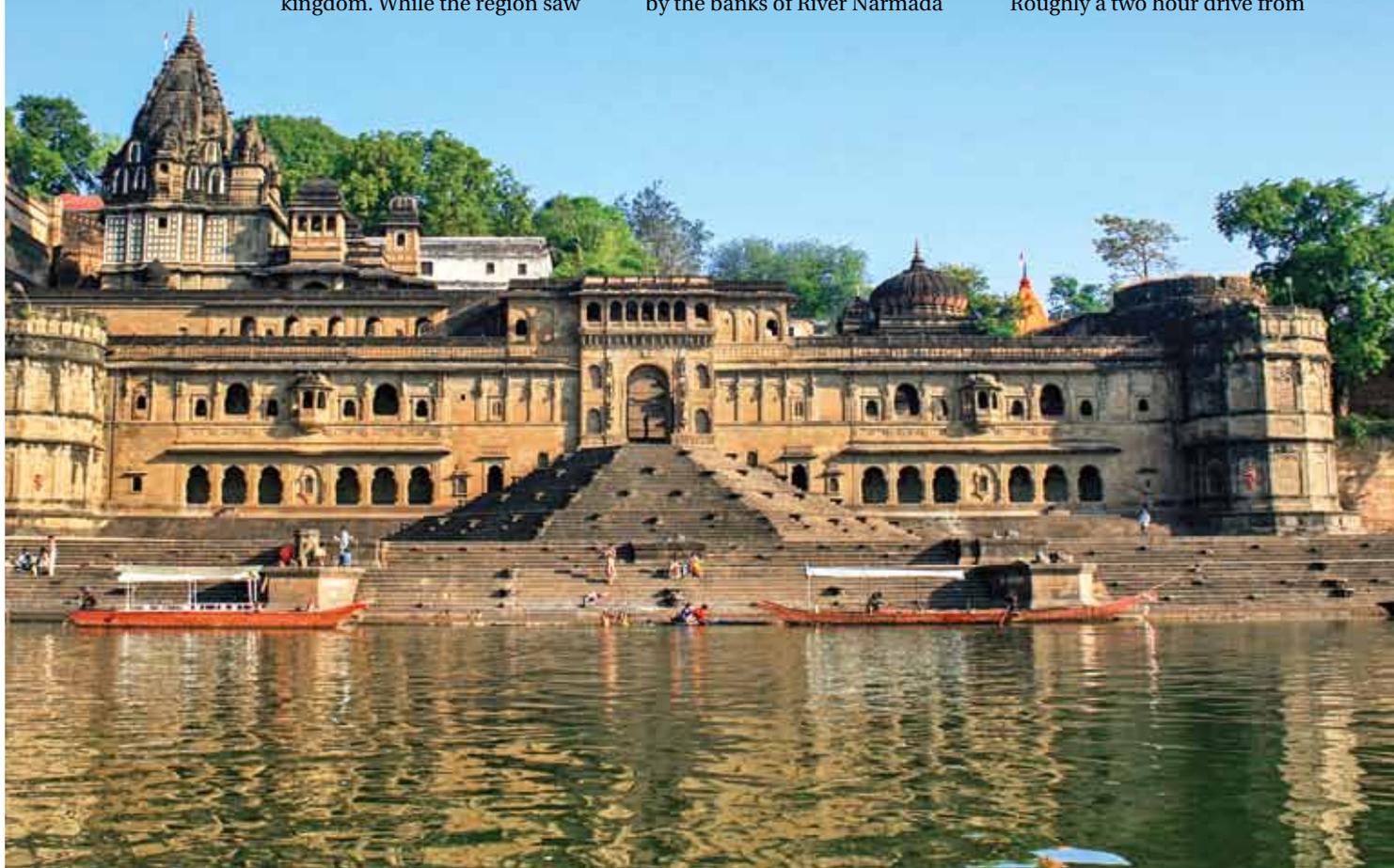
several kings, the township flourished the most under the rule of a queen – Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar. At the height of her rule, Devi Ahilya controlled half of Madhya Pradesh. She moved the capital from Indore to Maheshwar and built the stunning Ahilya Fort on the banks of the Narmada River. Her tenure as the ruler is considered the most prosperous period for the Malwa kingdom where she built several schools and colleges and donated generously to construct temples, *dharamshalas* and *baoris* (wells) across India.

A section of Devi Ahilya Bai's Rajwada or residence has been opened to tourists, mainly the *darbar* hall where the queen conducted meetings with the administration. Walk towards the stairway leading to the Ahilya fort by the banks of River Narmada

where one is greeted to intricately carved *chhatris* of the Holkar rulers. Evenings at the *ghat* are calm and peaceful. Devotees come here to take a dip in the river; others sit along the stairway to watch the sunset. There are small temples and shrines dotting the entire stretch of the *ghat*. Boatmen offer to take tourists for a leisurely ride in the Narmada and promise beautiful views of the Ahilya Fort from the other side. The Maheshwar Ghats are a favourite with many filmmakers including the 2018 Hindi feature film *Padman* that was shot here.

#### SPIRITUAL RETREAT TO OMKARESHWAR

Much like Varanasi, Omkareshwar ticks all the boxes – a temple town, spiritual vibe, sacred river, *ghats* and colourful streets and by-lanes. Roughly a two hour drive from



A yellow roller coaster car with several passengers is shown in motion on a track. The car is tilted, and the passengers are leaning back. The track is white and curves upwards. The background is a clear blue sky with a light gradient.

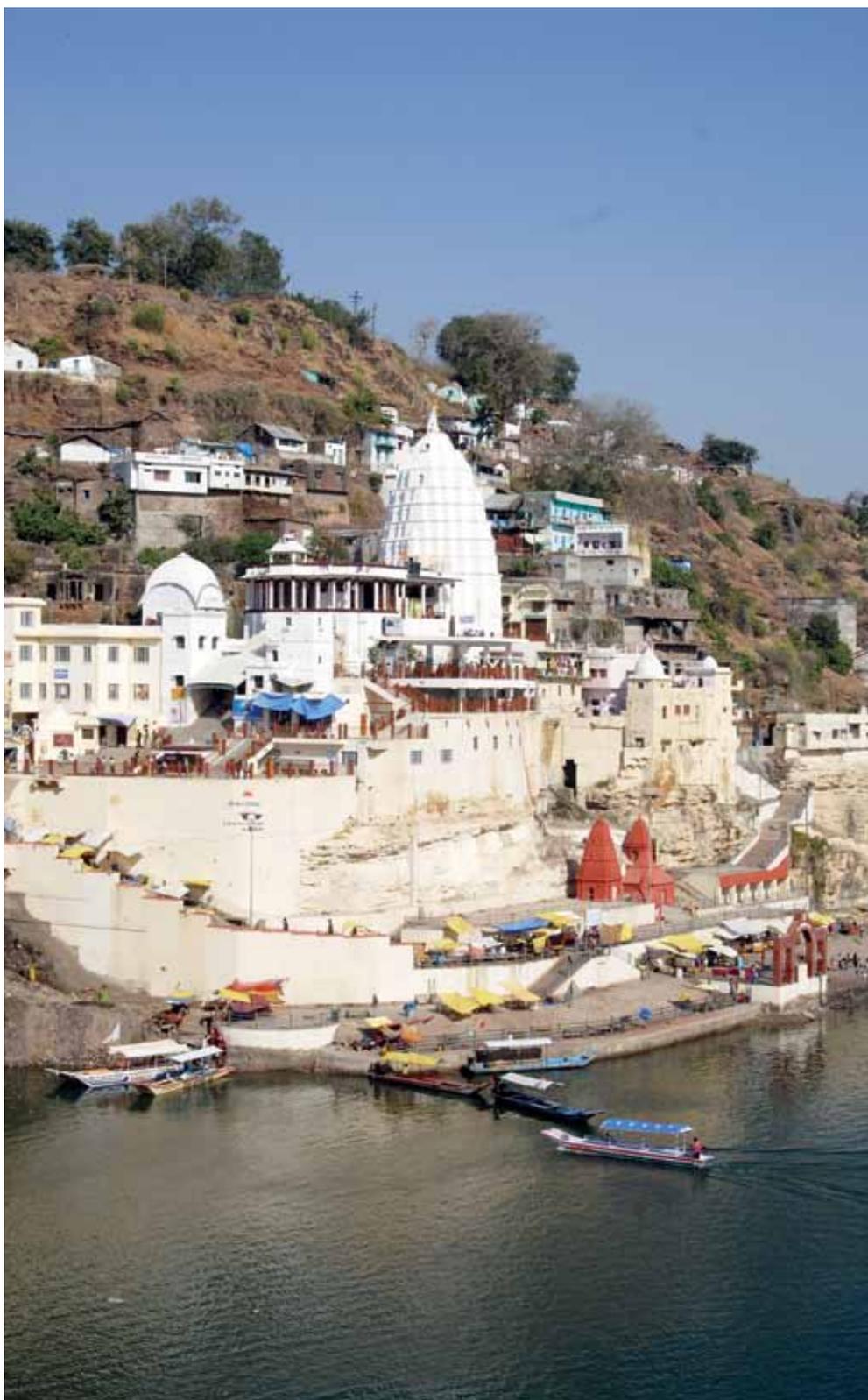
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## Make time to see the evening *arti* at Omkareshwar that is a pleasantly serene experience.

Indore, Omkareshwar is a great getaway for those seeing a spiritual break. This temple town finds its mention in the *Puranas* and Holy Scriptures. Historically, the region has been ruled by the kingdom of Malwa, Chauhans and the Marathas.

Omkareshwar is a site for one of the 12 Jyotirlingas in India and hence an important place of worship for the Hindus. The river island is shaped like an 'Om' on the banks of the Narmada River. Streets here are abuzz with shops selling religious photos, stone idols and offerings like flowers and coconuts, while devotional songs jar in the background.

Pilgrims cross the river on foot using the suspension bridge or rent a boat for a leisurely ride. The Maleshwar temple on the south side of main sanctum sanctorum is said to house the other half of the *Jyotirlinga*, and hence pilgrims consider it auspicious to pay their visits there. Make time to see the evening *arti* at Omkareshwar that is a pleasantly serene experience.

For the ardent devout, 6 kilometres *parikrama* of the island leads you to discover many 11<sup>th</sup> century temple ruins and archways built by the kings from the bygone era. Do visit the Mandhata Palace of the Holkars that sits atop a hill enjoying an aerial view of Omkareshwar town. ✨



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## EXPLORE THE CITY

The bustling cultural hub has many facets for travellers to explore



The 18<sup>th</sup> century Rajwada, built by the Holkars, is perhaps Indore's most popular structure. Head here for a glimpse into the personal collection of artefacts owned by the royals.

### VISIT

The Lalbagh Palace, built by Tukoji Rao Holkar, had one of the largest rose gardens in the country at one point. The Palace, which is considered as the grandest monument of the Holkar Dynasty, has now been converted into a museum.

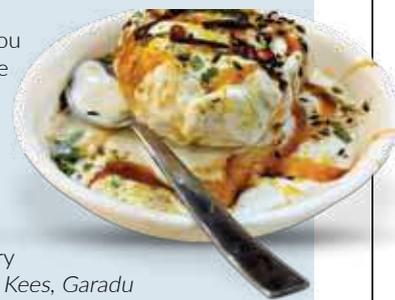
Choral Dam beckons nature lovers and water sports enthusiasts. The dam makes an excellent spot for picnics, while those looking for a kick of adrenalin, can enjoy a ride in speed or paddle boats.

At Chhappan Dukaan (called so because of a lane with 56 eateries), try the *Shikanji* at Madhuram, Egg and Mutton Benjo at Johny Hotdog and *chhole tikki* at Young Tarang.



### EAT

No trip is complete if you haven't checked out the food scene in Indore. Begin the morning like the locals do with a staple breakfast of *Poha Jalebi*. Head to the Sarafa Bazaar night street food market to try originals like *Bhutte Ka Kees*, *Garadu* (fried Yam), *Raj Kachori*, Coconut Pattice, *Joshi's Dahi Bada*, *Jaleba*, *Mawa Bati* and *Indori Gundi Paan*.



### SHOP

Traditional markets in Indore are abuzz with textiles. The famous Maheshwari sarees, popularised by Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar, are worth the price; and so are the Chanderi sarees.

For a food souvenir, take the *khatta - meetha namkeen* and onion and garlic flavoured *namkeen* from Om Namkeen.



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# Galle

**The Dutch city with a Lankan soul**

On the curvy southwest edge of the pearl-drop island of Sri Lanka, 130 km from Colombo, sits the country's fourth largest city - Galle - flaunting its irresistible colonial legacy.

words // Punita Malhotra



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**G**alle was once a flourishing port that lured Persians, Arabs, Greeks, Romans, Malays, Indians and Chinese through exotic treasures such as ivory, jewels and cinnamon as far back as 1400 BC. Curious visitors like King Solomon and Ibn Batuta and world invaders, from Portuguese, Dutch to British, all explored the unique treasure chest of Galle for its endless gems of precious heritage. There's

enough lushness in the green countryside to soothe the senses along the impeccably laid-out Colombo-Galle expressway, so the pleasant 2-hour cruise appears to end abruptly with a first glimpse of Galle's main road. The sharp contrast stuns. It's an endless coastline fringed with soft sand, tilting palms, frothy waves, fishmongers displaying wares and slow clattering *tuk tuks*.

### **THE DUTCH TOUCH**

For those keen to dive into the culture canvas immediately, the colonial-era Galle Fort offers a perfect introduction. First steps through the threshold of the grim, unscathed brick ramparts and one is transported into medieval Europe with neatly cobbled roads, mansions with brick-tiled roofs, a large central square with Dutch-style buildings and a Gothic cathedral. 52 hectares of unique UNESCO-

**The first step through the threshold of Galle Fort's main gate feels like time-travelling into a medieval European town.**





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*Be REMEMBERED for GOOD*



A colourful wooden mask decorating the front of a craft store in Galle

protected world heritage. Silent reminders of Galle's Dutch supremacy stand everywhere, yet Sri Lanka peeps unabashedly through stone and every bend. On the wide streets lined by leafy suriyas, shady paramaras and flowering frangipanis typical of the region; against the pain-chipped dull ochre archway of the National Maritime Museum which bears the 1669 Portuguese rooster coat-of-arms (Gallus is Latin for rooster); under the ancient 300-year-old Banyan trees in the Court Square, where teens indulge in their favourite game of cricket. Galle is a happy marriage of foreign influences and indigenous culture. And the harmony shows.

#### **EXPLORE ON FOOT**

The labyrinth of narrow streets is a sensory explosion. Rows and rows of airy old mansions huddle side by side, sporting a fusion of colonial decor and Asian sensibilities. A cornucopia of sloping terracotta roofs, ornate gables, decorative doorways, pretty shuttered windows and pillared verandahs keeps architecture-lovers and avid photography enthusiasts hooked. Light and shadow play hide-and-seek in exotic tropical gardens of homes reincarnated as chic cafe-retreats, funky home decor stores and tiny art galleries. Quirky distractions call from every direction...from hot-pink *tuk tuks* and vintage Morris Minors to historic hotels and old-world Ceylon-poster

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### Turtles hatching

Five of the seven turtle species in the world are found in Sri Lanka. At Habaraduwa Turtle Hatchery, one can watch eggs being hatched and turtles being released into the ocean. 13 kilometres from Galle.

### Wooden mask tradition

The town of Ambalangoda is famous for an ancient wooden mask-making tradition. Fascinating legends and rituals surround these masks believed to have healing and protective powers. 33 kilometres from Galle.

## Galle Fort is a smorgasbord of dining experiences...classy restaurants, fun pavement eateries, flower-shaded courtyard tables and swinging chairs in corridors.

shops. And there's an abundance of retail therapy...vibrant resort-wear to brilliant blue Ceylon sapphires to the world's best cinnamon. An iconic walk along the sloping moss-green wall fort ramparts comes highly recommended. The ideal route starts from the Clock Tower, over a glorious star-shaped circuit of 3 kilometres, sandwiched between the ocean waves and red-tiled rooftops of tiny houses. One cannot help but marvel at sophisticated brick-lined underground drainage, flawlessly designed to avoid flooding by the tide, highlighted by a sunset spectacle near the white Lighthouse that guards the eastern end of the ramparts.

### A FLAVOURFUL FEAST

The mood is infectious in this expat haven, where writers, photographers, designers and boutique hoteliers adapt effortlessly to loose linen garments, whirring ceiling fans and barefoot-at-home lives. Can food be far behind? Galle Fort is a smorgasbord of dining experiences... classy restaurants, fun pavement eateries, flower-shaded courtyard tables and swinging chairs in corridors. As if the options weren't overwhelming enough, one stumbles across the chalky colonnades of the former Dutch hospital, where fusion restaurants offer culinary temptations of reinvented string hoppers, coconut relish and sour fish curries.

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## **SOUL OF THE SRI LANKAN RIVIERA**

1340 kilometres of the Indian Ocean coastline dangles bait to appeal to every travel personality, whether active adventurer, laid-back lazy or photo-enthusiast. West of Galle, in the throes of unadulterated Sri Lanka, the romance starts to creep in. An endless road unabashedly shows off dazzling, tan-gold tropical sands, wave-drenched rocks and emerald palm clusters. Red-roofed houses peeking from palm groves drip 'destination envy' from white-columns and cool verandahs. Sleepy villages, sarong-clad fishing folk, cheerful red *tuk tucks* and suntanned backpackers on hired mobikes add to the 'far-away' atmosphere. *Saree* clad women dry fish on blue tarpaulin and men in short-sleeved shirts chat near curry stalls. It's pure serenity, still untouched by mindless tourism. There is a wide

range of accommodations to cater to solitude seekers...modest home-stays to elite eco-retreats and charming boutique hotels to boho-luxe villa sanctuaries.

Each beach stretch comes with its own vibe. Unawatuna, for instance, is synonymous with vibrancy. This is the place for popular nightlife, straw-roof cabanas and adventurous shipwreck dives. Wijaya Beach, on the other hand, does solitude with panache. A secret beach with palms bending over the rhythm of froth and foam, dangling yellow king coconuts, a rocky cove and heavenly prawn mango curry on rustic benches on the terrace of Wijaya restaurant.

## **AN ANCIENT FISHING TRADITION**

Further ahead, Koggala is a playground of yesterday's magical traditions. Stilt fishermen perch

skilfully on crossbars tied to slim poles in shallow water, so that they cast minimal shadows and fool fish to come closer. Witness the fish frenzy at Welingama Bay, where enthusiastic fishermen teams are pulling the vessels ashore, baskets of fish being hauled away and noisy fishmongers are negotiating with gusto. Or an unexpected colour explosion at the Mirissa fishing harbour, where hundreds of docked boats and catamarans jostle for space. This is also the go-to place for an adrenaline rush. From blue-whale watching cruises to surfing-snorkelling escapades...a bunch of active oceanic pursuits materialise here.

A perfect day ends with a cliff-top climb to a secluded vantage point. The vision of a seductively curved beach, gust-blown palms, rolling sands and paths cutting into age-old cliffs induces a deep sigh of contentment. ☺





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# This Christmas Eat, Drink and Be Merry!

The onset of Christmas has cities setting up Christmas markets. While the first Christmas market may have started in Europe, Christmas markets can now be found spreading joy all around the world.

words // Julian Ryall

**T**he festive season is upon many cities of the world, with the twinkle of baubles and tinsel on the traditional Christmas tree, the scent of pine and mulled wine hanging in the crisp air and the sounds of carollers.

In many parts of the world, a highlight in the days leading up to celebrations on December 25 is the Christmas market, a tradition that is widely believed to have started in the Late Middle Ages in the German-speaking areas of the continent, known as the Christkindlmarkt. The tradition soon spread and now Christmas markets can be found around the world.

Here are some of the best to visit.



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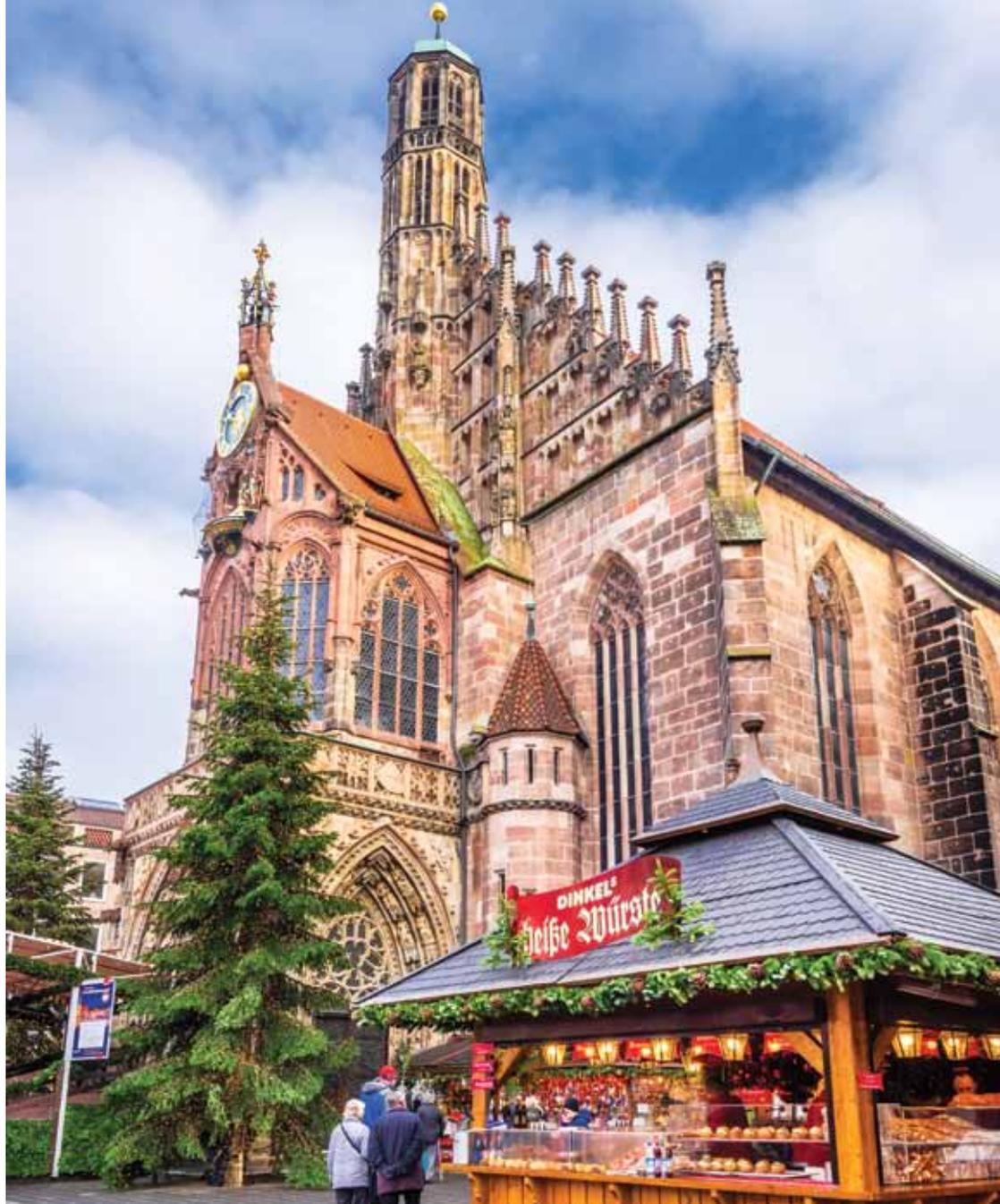
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# 01 NUREMBERG

The market that fills the narrow, cobblestoned streets of the old town of Nuremberg may not be the oldest in Germany, but it attracts more than two million visitors every year, making it one of the largest in the country and arguably the most famous in the world. The exact origin of the market, which opens at the beginning of the month and ends on Christmas Eve, is unknown.

Traditionally, the market opens with a speech by the *Christkind*, or Christ Child, from the balcony of the Frauenkirche Church, overlooking the Hauptmarkt, or central square. Every year the *Christkind*, a young woman with curly blonde hair, who wears a robe of white and gold with sleeves that are reminiscent of an angel's wings and a tall gold crown, is elected among local women between the ages of 16 and 19.

Visitors can explore the stalls in the main square and the warren of narrow roads and lanes leading off the central area. Enjoy pretzels and *gluhwein*, a mulled wine made with red wine and a selection of mulling spices.



## Did you KNOW?



### DRESDNER STRIEZLMARKT

One of the oldest Christmas markets in Germany, the Striezelmarkt in the eastern German city of Dresden, claims to be the first genuine Christmas market ever held, in the year 1434. The earlier versions of this market were more commonly known as December Markets or Winter Markets. While the market lasted for just a day, it started a long-lasting tradition that has people from all across the globe visiting it. The first Striezelmarkt was known to sell meats for Christmas dinner when families were breaking their Advent fast, a tradition that still continues in the market with delicious grilled meat available at food stalls. The highlight of this market is the Dresden Stollen event, where the world's largest Stollen cake is baked.

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## 02 STRASBOURG

A former German community, this city in the Alsace region of France has adopted the Christmas market with enthusiasm since 1570, making it one of the oldest in Europe. In the local Alsatian dialect, the festivities are known as *Christkindelmarik* and last for 38 days until Christmas Eve. This annual market sprawls through the Place Kleber, the Place Broglie and the old market place around the city's cathedral.

Tradition also calls for the Great Christmas Tree to be raised on

**While traditions at the heart of the market remain Germanic, Strasbourg adds a dash of French taste.**

Place Kleber at the outset of the market. The city's elders go to great lengths to ensure the tree becomes a landmark, the imposing 30-metre-plus illuminated and generously hung with sparkling decorations. Every year, more than two million people flock to the city to explore the Christmas market.

And while the traditions at the heart of the market remain very Germanic, Strasbourg adds a good dash of French taste and colour to the proceedings. Market stalls sell crepes as well as hot waffles and there are French wines in addition to the mulled wines.

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## 03 CHICAGO

Over the decades, thousands of émigrés from central Europe made their way to the United States, with many of them settling in the communities of the Midwest. As a result, the largest Christmas market in North America is held every year in the city of Chicago at the Daley Plaza, adorned with a beautifully decorated Christmas Tree that takes pride of place in the centre of the plaza.

Firmly established, Christkindlmarket is now paired with the Magnificent Miles Lights Festival in the month-long run up to Christmas, with all the trappings of Germany transported to Chicago. The scent of roasted chestnuts mingles with freshly baked pretzels, bratwurst sausages, baumkuchen cake and, inevitably, beer and hot wine.

Artisans from as far away as Europe, as well as local companies, sell a wide range of food and drinks, holiday ornaments, toys and festive decorations. Also gracing the market are local brass bands playing traditional tunes, Christmas choirs and dance groups.

**Christkindlmarket, with the Magnificent Miles Lights Festival in the month-long run up to Christmas, has all the trappings of Germany transported to Chicago.**

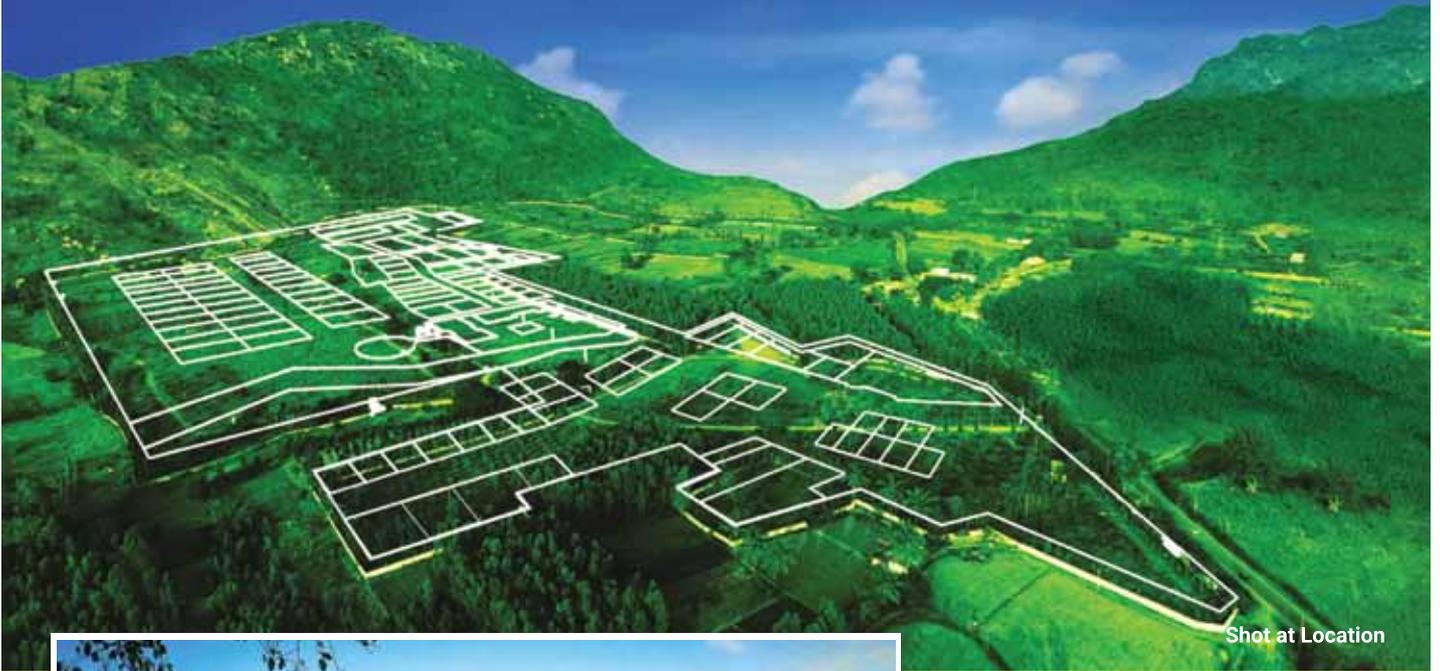




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## 04 SAPPORO

Perhaps surprisingly, the northern Japanese city of Sapporo considers itself to have a lot in common with the German city of Munich, an affiliation that it has extended to hosting the largest Christmas festival in Japan. Sapporo's German Christmas Market was first held in 2002 to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of sister city ties with Munich, which date back to 1972.

The Christmas market opens in late November, coinciding with the city's White Illuminations event, and runs until December

24. The majority of the attractions associated with the event take place in Odori Park, the long public space that is bright green through the summer months but completely white for the winter season.

Attractions include performances of traditional German music and dancing, as well as countless stalls selling Christmas items and decorations. And topped with the true Germanic Christmas market flair of beer and spicy mulled wine.

**Sapporo's German Christmas Market was first held to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of sister city ties with Munich.**

### Local **INSIGHTS**



#### **SAPPORO WHITE ILLUMINATION**

Since 1981, Odori Park has become grounds for sparkling light installations for the Sapporo White Illumination light festival. The festival that started with just 1000 lights to lit up the park, has grown larger each year, with unique light artwork by artists from all over the globe adorning the park and surrounding trees in Eki-mae Dori and Minami-1 Jo Dori.

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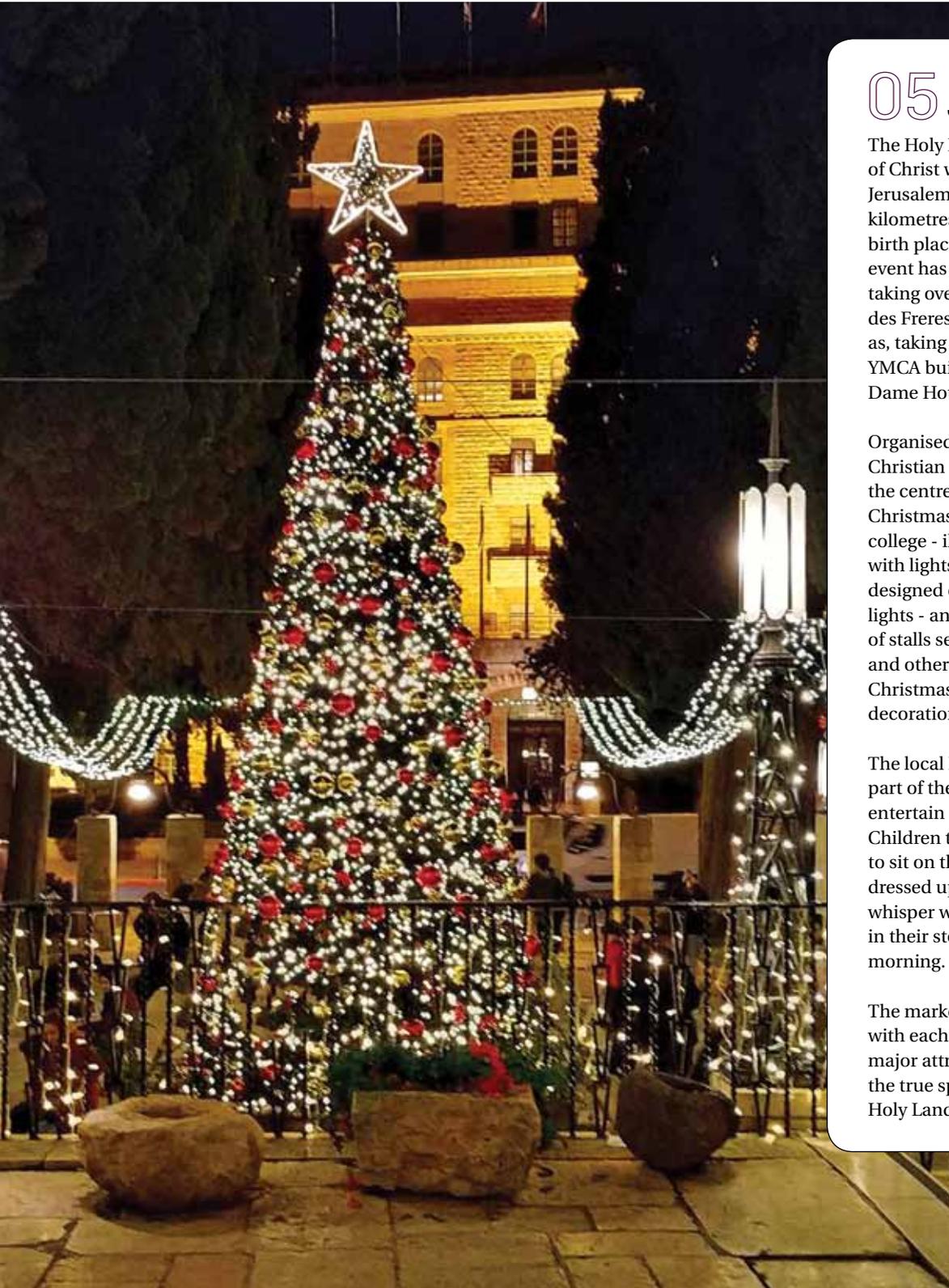
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## 05 JERUSALEM

The Holy Land celebrates the birth of Christ with a festive market in Jerusalem - which is less than 10 kilometres from Bethlehem, the birth place of Jesus Christ. The event has the Christmas market taking over the yard of the College des Freres near New Gate, as well as, taking place in the nearby YMCA building and the Notre Dame Hotel.

Organised by the Old City Christian Quarter Committee, the centrepiece is a always a large Christmas tree in the yard of the college - illuminated spectacularly with lights and ornaments designed out of different coloured lights - and surrounded by dozens of stalls serving food and drinks and others selling a wide range of Christmas gifts, toys, clothing and decorations.

The local Boy Scouts parade as part of the festivities, while clowns entertain the young visitors. Children take this opportunity to sit on the knee of a local man dressed up as Santa Claus and whisper what they hope to find in their stockings on Christmas morning.

The market gets bigger and bigger with each passing year, making it a major attraction for experiencing the true spirit of Christmas in the Holy Land. ✨

# THE GRACE AND SPACE OF BESPOKE ART



It's the art of bespoke that completes the essence of quality tailoring. The charms of a well-stitched suit need no other language to express its statement. History is the best example to tell us how much of a suave did the fashion of tailor-made clothing have. And how integral was it, to the uniqueness of a person's own self. True to the definition, history made clothing speak for itself, by making clothes tailor-made for individual preferences.



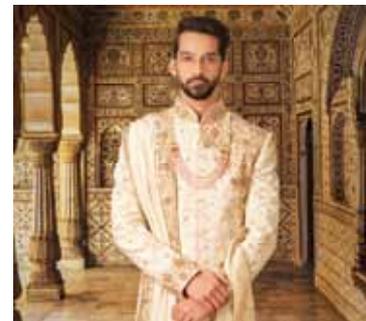
The true connoisseurs of fine clothing know how to match the conventions of the classic with the trends of evolving style. While for many people, this cord may seem to snap with time, only the masters of the craft know the art of making a certain craft as also keeping it alive. Fashion is a language, style is a voice and to bring them together into a tone of perfect communication is what the art of tailoring is all about.



With 38 years of experience in tailoring art and international expertise, The Darzi was founded on the vision of giving the people of India a bespoke tailoring experience. From imported fabrics to the latest techniques, this one tailoring shop has kept abreast of all the latest trends while keeping true to the essence of the immortal art form that is the master craft of bespoke tailoring. With this kind of experience comes the rich understanding and wisdom of seasoned tailors who know exactly

what the modern customer demands, because it is their styles that have built the legacy of fashion all these years.

A Delhi-based brand, the Darzi has been the master craftsman of exceptional and unparalleled suits for men, including internationally acclaimed brands of accessories and fabrics solely to keep the man every ready for his every milestone of success. The Darzi deals with international fabric brands like Zegna, Loro Piana, Scabal, Dormeuil, Reda and Ariston and accessory brands like Zilli, Italo Ferreti, Fidelli, Eton, Magnani, Moreschi, Lanvin and Panthrella to name a few that have decades of fame in shaping men and their aura in keeping with the contemporary and classic trends together seamlessly.



Today, all these years later, that one bold step has been transformed into a giant leap for the world of suiting in Delhi. With this legacy, The Darzi has given a seismic shift in the realm of bespoke tailoring and customized fashion and unique styling. Cutting through every inch and corner of fashion and style to add newer jewels of achievements in their crown is just one of the reasons to love them. They don't just sell fashion, they create them from scratch; with clothes that are "Be-Suited, Be-Spoke(n)".



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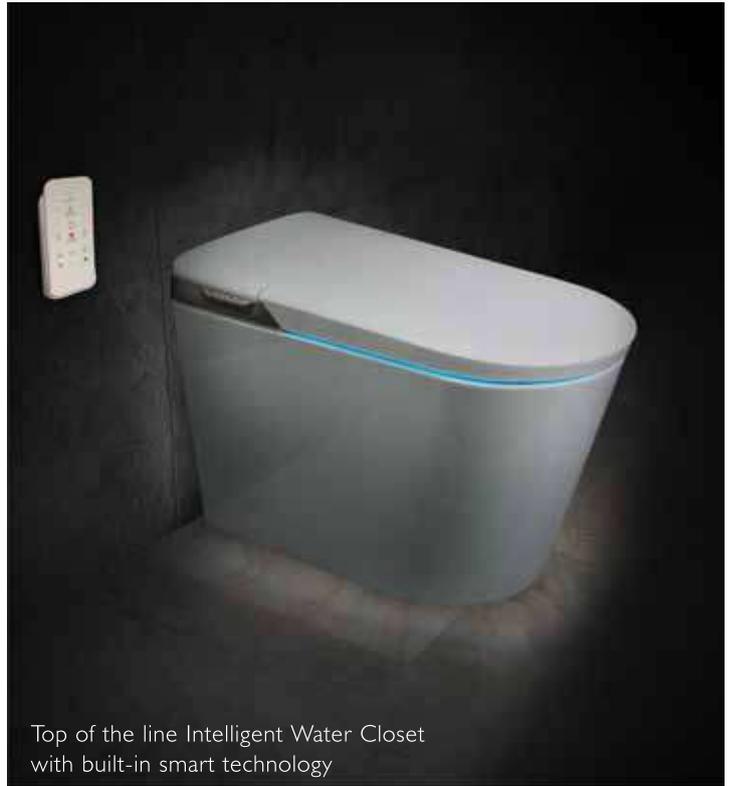
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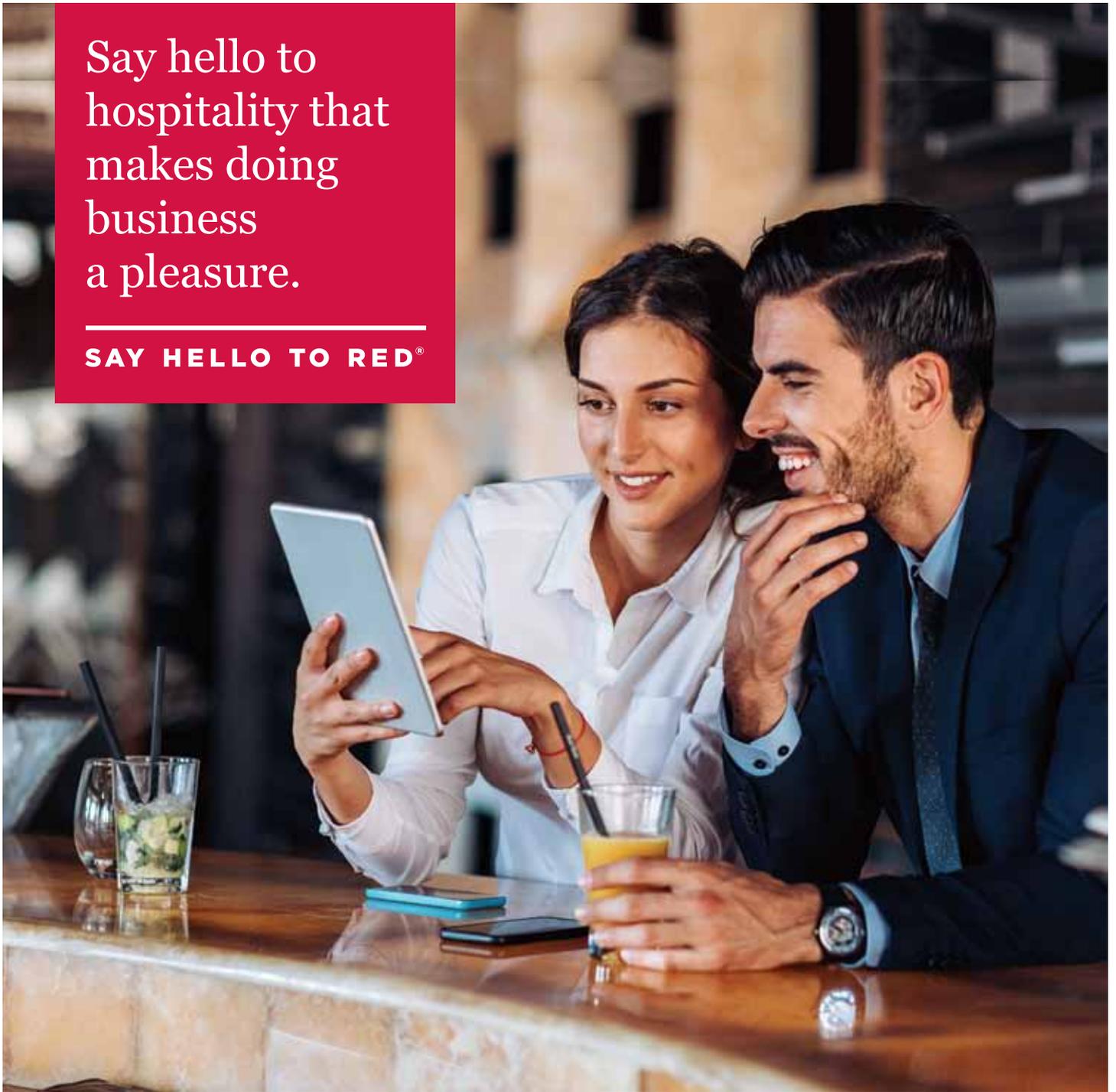
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# Wish upon a Star in Rothenburg

The dreamy town of Rothenburg ob der Tauber ('red fort on the River Tauber'), remotely tucked away in an inviting blanket of earthly glory, has over a thousand years of history packed between its cobbles. Germany's best-preserved medieval town is the very epitome of mythical beauty.

words // Punita Malhotra

There are three Rothenburgs in Germany, but only one Rothenburg ob der Tauber, so a double-check comes in handy before planning a trip. Two train changes from Munich or Nuremberg lead to a deserted little station in the middle of nowhere, just five minutes away from the formidable fortress walls of a delightful doll-house town. Interestingly, this used to be Germany's second largest city during the middle ages, with 6,000 residents then.





  
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The Gerlachtschmiede building at Rothenburg ob der Tauber is an instantly identifiable landmark

**The charm quotient skyrockets at Gerlachtschmiede, an iconic pitstop, thanks to a crooked, ochre-hued, half-timbered building sitting on the fork of Plönlein (Little Square).**

**SENSORY DELIGHT**

No surprise that Walt Disney's Geppetto village in Pinocchio was inspired by this little wonderland. It's eye-candy overload...a maze of narrow twisting alleys dripping old-world charm, stuffed with misaligned gabled houses in pretty pastels, red slanting roofs, wooden plank facades and vibrantly flower-bunched windows sills. Each fine detail begging to be captured in the pages of memory.

The charm quotient skyrockets at Gerlachtschmiede, an iconic

pitstop, thanks to a crooked, ochre-hued, half-timbered building sitting on the fork of Plönlein (Little Square). This most photographed location in Rothenburg was reconstructed in 1951, after the original building was destroyed in 1945. Its unique position by the Kobolzell Gate and Siebers Tower, marks the entrance to the town.

Speciality shops and traditional hotels converted out of old houses tempt with their hand-painted signages, ornate iron door knockers, unusual porch

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Colorful smokers and nutcrackers at a traditional Christmas market in Rothenburg, Germany

adornments, rare oak floor, ceiling beams, ancient doors, creaky stairs and exposed old stone-work. It is easy to be transported into the past at Herrengasse, the popular shopping street, where a cattle market flourished once. Upper floor have bars sticking out with pulleys, used to hoist sacks of grain up and stock food supplies during war or siege. At Käthe Wohlfahrt's flagship store, Christmas Village and Museum, one can learn about the many age old Christmas traditions followed worldwide that originated in Germany, including decorating of Christmas trees.

The ultimate way to soak the senses in the town's thousand-year past is by indulging in a walk along the 12<sup>th</sup> century, 3-km long wall. What a showcase with roof-level views of the jumble of houses, pierced by wooden gables and steeples towering over the streets. Along the wall, several stone plaques memorise donations of people who sponsored its restoration after the tragic WW II bombing. Those seeking a special flashback can hunt out the famous blacksmith shop (now a private residence) near the Woodsman Tower. Dating from second part of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, it proudly displays a coat of arms made up of blacksmith tools.

Local  
**INSIGHTS**



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**LOCAL AND SEASONAL DELICACIES**

An organic culinary initiative titled 'Taste of the Tauber', named after the region's primary river, has been launched by many restaurants. Most menus now have a section dedicated to special wines, desserts and food created using fresh seasonal produce from the region.

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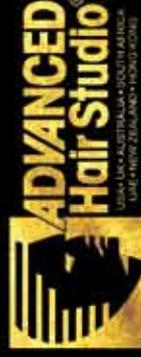
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**During the Imperial City Festival, thousands of costumed locals, parade through the cobble streets, singing, chanting and playing musical instruments.**



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#### **HISTORIC ENIGMA**

The modest Franciscan Church at Herrengasse is one of the oldest basilicas in Rothenburg, dating back to 1309. Pristine interiors and wooden-slat ceiling, excellent acoustics and an original, wooden rood screen, used to separate the monks from the people back then. A few steps away is the entry gate to the imperial family castle complex of the Hohenstaufens. Only expansive English-style gardens and grey stone ruins survive from the 1356 earthquake destruction. But the highlight is the vantage points with 'pinch-me-is-it-real' views of the green valley, river Tauber weaving through and

the entire townscape with all its red-roofed houses, steeples, towers and turrets. The Rathaus (Town Hall), a grand Gothic-Renaissance styled building and the yellow coloured Clock Tower with its unflinching daily Glockenspiel show have drawn throngs since forever.

The 14<sup>th</sup> century St Jakobskirche (St. Jakob's Church) has fascinating attractions like the Altar of the Holy Blood, Twelve Apostles Altar and 700-year-old stained glass in the East Choir. Outside, people pull the extended left index finger of the statue of James, official saint of the town, to ensure good luck and protection. The finger seems

polished to a gold with endless touches. The scene is enlivened with a spattering of souvenir shops, open-air cafes, gelateries shops and typical German taverns.

#### **ETERNAL TIME TRAP**

Rothenburg takes retro to its chimerical climax during the first weekend of September each year, with the three day long Imperial City Festival. This huge medieval camp features thousands of costumed locals (knights on horseback, masked warriors, monks, kings and queens), carrying torchlights parade through the cobble streets, singing, chanting and playing musical instruments. Spectacular firework displays, historical plays, night concerts, coin pressing sessions, rope weaving lessons, food and crafts stalls at the medieval market, make it a living time-capsule of history to experience hands-on. ✨



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# Uttar Pradesh: Towards Steady Transformation

Under the able leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the state of Uttar Pradesh is witnessing massive changes in governance which have led to the creation of an environment of security, development and a proactive Government system.

**E**ver since taking over as Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, Yogi Adityanath has introduced a new work culture and a transparent system that has earned widespread trust of the people. The Chief Minister has made it clear that his government would not tolerate any corruption and officials found indulging in graft would be jailed and their properties confiscated. He has reiterated that the Government is committed to establishing corruption-free governance.

## MULTIPLE BENEFITS FOR FARMERS

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- No.1 in setting-up Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- No.1 in Construction of Toilets under the Swachh Bharat Mission
- No.1 in payment of subsidy to farmers through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Scheme
- The First State to implement the Skill Development Scheme
- The First State to implement the State Health Scheme
- Awarded for 100% implementation of the e-Tendering System.
- Awarded Krishi Karman Puraskar for highest production of oilseeds in the country

who had taken agricultural loan. Such relief under the Kisan Rin Mochan Yojna has been provided to more than 86 lakh small and marginal farmers for agricultural loans amounting to about Rs 36,000 crore. The State Government achieved a record in the procurement of wheat and paddy by government agencies. Now, there is no role of middlemen in wheat procurement and the support price of the produce is being directly transferred in the bank accounts of farmers. The State Government has substantially increased MSP of wheat, paddy, pulses and oil seeds and there has been a record procurement of cereals by government.

The State Government is determined to give top priority to the welfare of farmers. Essential inputs such as seeds, fertilisers, and other farming inputs as well as technical knowhow are being made available to farmers across the state in a time-bound manner. Several measures have been initiated for doubling the farmers' income by the year 2022. Eight irrigation schemes pending for several years have been completed in the past two and a half years such as the Baansagar Project, proposed in the year 1973 and started in 1976. This scheme was completed and dedicated to the nation by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, on July 15, 2018. This has increased the irrigated area to 1.5 lakh hectares, and is benefiting 1.70 lakh farmers of Allahabad and Mirzapur districts.

## HOUSING FOR ALL

The state has taken the lead in the entire country in the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (PMAY). 12,45,000 houses have been constructed under PMAY (Rural) whereas construction of 12,97,212 houses



sanctioned under PMAY (Urban) is in progress. Under the Mukhyamantri Awas Yojana (Rural) 16,700 houses have been made.

### **BETTER HEALTHCARE**

To meet the shortage of doctors, the Government has expedited the creation of medical colleges in the state. From the year 1947 to 2016, there were only 12 medical colleges established in the state whereas work of 15 new medical colleges is in progress, out of which in 7 medical colleges batches of MBBS students have been started. In addition, construction work is in full swing on the two AIIMS being established at Gorakhpur and Rae Bareilly. For the first time, the State Government launched the Advanced Life Support (ALS) Ambulance in all districts.

Under the ambitious Ayushman Bharat-National Health Protection Mission, 1 crore 18 lakh poor families have been provided a medical cover of up to Rs 5 lakh. Around 10 lakh 56 thousand poor families in the state have been brought under the ambit of state funded Mukhya Mantri Jan Arogya Abhiyan to benefit the eligible beneficiaries deprived of Ayushman Bharat-National Health Protection Mission.

The Government has been successful in curbing epidemics like dengue, malaria and preventing spread of encephalitis in the State. The State Government ran a massive campaign with the help of UNICEF named 'Dastak' against Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) and Japanese Encephalitis (JE) in AES and JE affected districts in eastern UP to eradicate these deadly diseases from the state. Awareness was spread about the diseases through mass media communication, provide clean drinking water, initiate sanitation drive, and ensure vaccination and early treatment so that disease should be nipped in the bud. There has been a steep downfall of 35 per cent in the spread of JE/AES and the number of deaths has dropped by 65% compared to previous years in the state.



### **EXPRESSWAYS CONSTRUCTION**

The state will soon have world-class expressways and prominent among these is the 341 km long Purvanchal Expressway which is under construction. The much-awaited 297 km long Bundelkhand Expressway's construction is to begin soon which will start from Jhansi and will pass through Chitrakoot, Banda, Hamirpur, Auraiya and Jalaun. From Jalaun it will connect to Etawah and reach Naseempur through Bateshwar in Agra before joining the Agra-Lucknow Expressway. Another important expressway to come up is the 92 km, four lane Gorakhpur link Expressway, for which land acquisition is currently being done. The State Government has also decided to construct a 640 km long Ganga expressway from Meerut to Prayagraj.

### **DEFENCE CORRIDOR**

The Defence Manufacturing Industrial Corridor has been planned in Bundelkhand area with a target of Rs 20,000 crore in investment and creation of about 2.50 lakh jobs. It will prove to be a game changer for the economy of Uttar Pradesh. The small and the medium industry in UP will be specifically benefited by this corridor. With the focus of the Centre on indigenisation and 'Make in India', the promotion of indigenous technology for accelerating the pace of arms production in India will be given a push. The Uttar Pradesh

Government is expediting work on land, infrastructure and related matters.

### **ENSURING MORE POWER**

Electricity supply is being ensured for at least 24 hours in district headquarters, 20 hours in tehsil headquarters and 18 hours in villages. Around 2,91,76,000 new electricity connections have been provided in the state. 1,78,168 village hamlets have been electrified in the state.

### **SAUBHAGYA YOJANA**

The scheme launched by the central government intends to provide electricity to each and every non-electrified home. UP has set a shining example before other states since 100 per cent households have been electrified under this scheme. Around 1.09 crore free connections have been given from April 2017 to July 31, 2019.

### **UJJWALA YOJANA**

Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) aims at safeguarding the health of women & children by providing them with a clean cooking fuel – LPG, so that they don't have to compromise their health in smoky kitchens or wander in unsafe areas collecting firewood. Ujjwala Yojana was launched by PM Narendra Modi on May 1st, 2016 in Ballia, Uttar Pradesh. The state has also topped the list in Ujjwala Yojana, with over 1,35,00,000 LPG cylinders having been distributed in the state.



# Slovenia

A scenic view of a Slovenian landscape. In the foreground, a calm lake reflects the sky and the surrounding greenery. A small boat with a striped canopy is on the left, and a person is visible in the water. The middle ground is dominated by a steep, forested hillside. At the top of the hill, a castle with a red-tiled roof sits on a rocky outcrop. The background shows more forested hills under a sky with soft, white clouds.

## The Fairy Tale Escape

Embark on a magical journey  
in Slovenia filled with hiking  
adventures, wellness retreats  
and culinary surprises.

words // Sunami Paigankar

**O**nce upon a time there was a tiny country in central Europe blessed with diverse and picturesque panoramas. From snow-capped Julian Alps to the Mediterranean Sea, from medieval villages to meadows, from mountain rivers to pristine lakes; Slovenia is bound to cast a spell on you with its natural beauty. If you don't believe in fairy tales, then a visit to Slovenia might change your perception.

### LOVE-STRUCK IN LJUBLJANA

With a towering castle, a meandering river, ornate bridges and the 'dragon' as the city symbol perched on a bridge, the capital city of Ljubljana sets the tone for your fairy tale holiday. A walk along the cobbled streets past the cotton candy coloured buildings with the Ljubljanica River peeking out every now and then, is a dreamy experience.

The Franciscan Church in

Preseren Square with its pop of pink stands tall and proud by the iconic Triple Bridge and is perhaps the city's most photographed locale. Walk around Old Town and admire the architecture from different historic periods and the works of Jože Plečnik who played a major role in shaping Ljubljana's architecture. The majestic Ljubljana castle is only a funicular ride away and offers commanding views of the city. Alternatively, you can also visit the Nebotičnik



#### ESSENTIALS

**CAPITAL**  
Ljubljana

**LANGUAGES**  
Slovene, Hungarian  
& Italian

**CURRENCY**  
Euro

**TEMPERATURE**  
26°C (max), -2°C (min)

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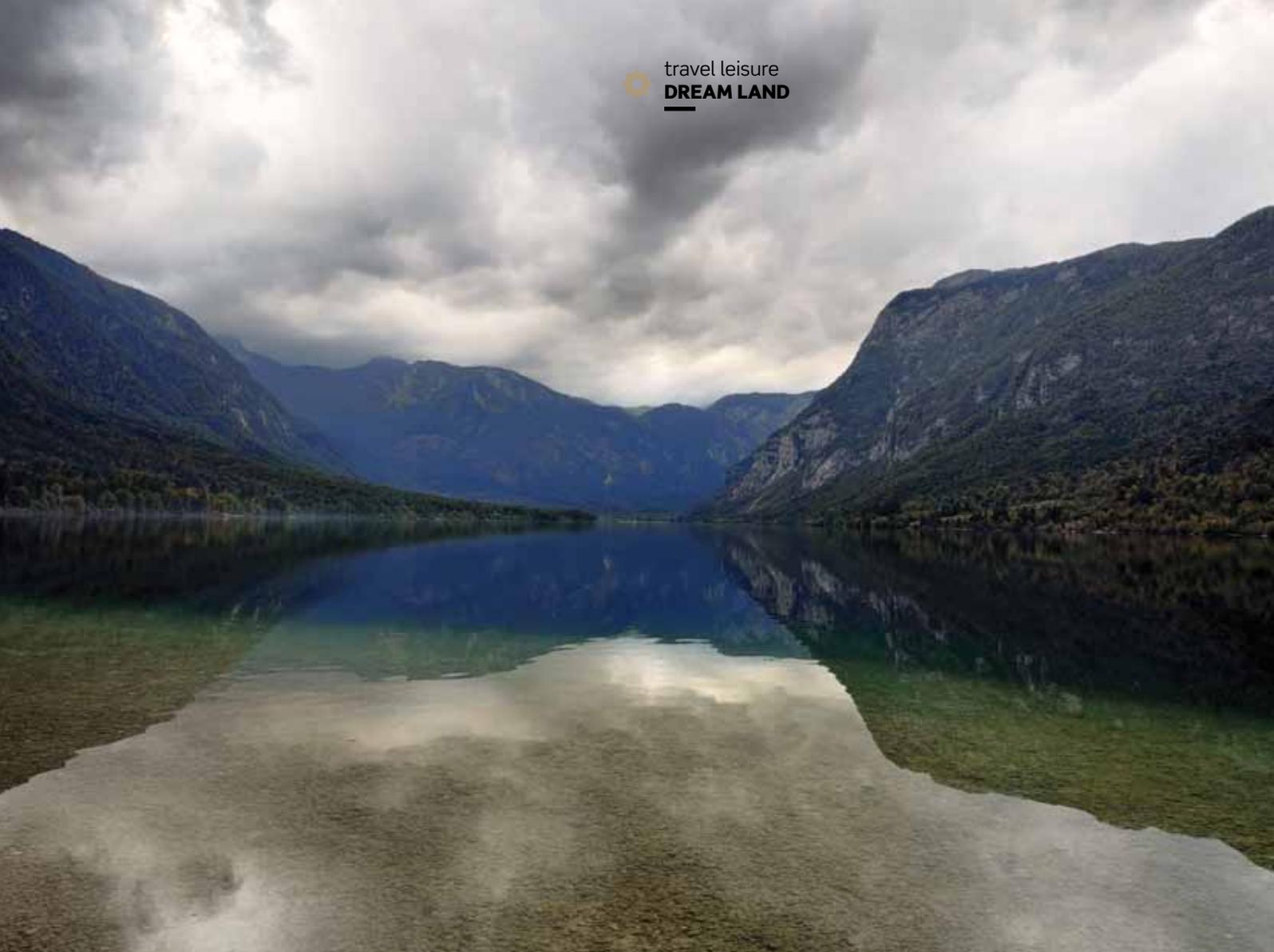
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skyscraper and enjoy a gorgeous view of the castle and the city, especially at sunset.

Several cafés dot the Petkovšek Embankment and you can spend the afternoon people-watching while enjoying a cup of coffee or a gelato. Head over to the Central Market and browse through the stalls selling fresh fruits, homemade olive oils, organic honey and milk on tap. Every Friday from spring to autumn, Ljubljana hosts an Open Kitchen market in Pogačarjev trg Square which serves both Slovenian and international cuisines. Given

Slovenia's proximity to Croatia and Italy, you will see a lot of Istrian and Italian influences in its cuisine. Grab a traditional *strukjli* (dumplings with either savoury or sweet fillings) and a glass of local wine and soak up the fun. As the holiday season kicks-in, the square transforms into a sparkling Christmas market and the aromas of sinful desserts and hot mulled wine fill the air.

#### **EXPERIENCE BLISS IN BLED AND BOHINJ**

The highly Instagrammable Lake Bled is definitely worth a visit. The turquoise lake nestled in the Julian

Alps with an idyllic church on a tiny island is picture-perfect. Adding to the charm is the medieval Bled Castle perched high above the lake.

One of Slovenia's best kept secrets is its thermal and mineral springs. Bled has always been known for its natural healing treatments, with Europeans in the late 1800s travelling to Bled to seek natural healer, Arnold Rikli's naturopathic and hydropathic healing regimes. So do hit the spa or relax in a thermal pool as the water is said to have positive healing effects.

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Walk along the six kilometre perimeter of Lake Bled, swim in the azure water, or row a traditional pletna boat to the island to visit the church and the 'wishing bell'. You can also hike up to the castle and visit the museum that traces the lake's history and sip on a glass of Rosé while enjoying the lovely views. But the most magnificent view of the lake is through a treacherous trek on the Osojnica trail that will leave you awe-struck.



You can fly to Ljubljana with Vistara's interline partners Air France, Aeroflot, and Turkish Airlines.

Just when you think that the beauty of Lake Bled can't be superseded by anything else in Slovenia, Lake Bohinj will happily surprise you. Raw, rugged and flanked by the Julian Alps, the largest lake in Slovenia might lack the charm

of Lake Bled but has a dramatic appeal. Pack a picnic and spend the day at Bohinj taking one of the many hiking trails, walking up to Savica waterfall, and taking the Vogel cable car for amazing views of Triglav National Park.

**TRIGLAV NATIONAL PARK TREASURES**

A gem within Triglav National Park is Vintgar Gorge which is four kilometres north-west from Bled. The canyons and waterfalls over the emerald green Radovna River paint a 'gorge-ous' picture offering

tons of photo opportunities for your Instagram feed. Adventure enthusiasts can also try white water rafting in Soca river or skydiving from Mount Vogel which offers panoramic views of the Julian Alps and the Slovenian countryside.

Your trip to Slovenia is incomplete without trying the decadent cream cake - a puff pastry with layers of vanilla custard and cream and dusted with powdered sugar. It's best savoured at the Park Hotel Bled which has been serving this celebrated cake since the 1950s. Experience heaven in every bite and combined with the view of Lake Bled, this might just be the sweetest memory of your holiday! ✨

**The canyons and waterfalls over the emerald green Radovna River paint a 'gorge-ous' picture.**



# Still Lovin' it!

## Have you been to the NEW McDonald's

**W**e all know McDonald's as the brand that introduced India to Burgers and Fries. Almost all of us have some nuggets of McDonald's memories – be it the birthday parties or the indulgent treats! Twenty-three years on, McDonald's continues to be everyone's favourite comfort food, but it has evolved to become cooler, stylish while it continues to offer an amazing variety of food along with great coffee!

### A NEW CHIC LOOK

Your good old McDonald's has got a superb makeover. While the brand still brings back that warm fuzzy feeling, it now has a contemporary look and feel, plush interiors, and vibrant colors that make it the perfect hangout for all instagrammers. There are also gaming tablets on the table and air chargers to keep your phones juiced up.

### A MENU THAT WILL SPOIL YOU FOR CHOICE

For years, McAlooTikki has continued to be the house favourite. But now you have a tray full of new delicious products like Grilled Chatpata Aloo Burger, Chatpata Naan, American Cheese Burger and Maharaja Mac. There are also Spicy Rice Bowl and Cheesy



Rice Bowl that will give you your favourite staple in a uniquely McDonald's way.

### THE PERFECT CUPPA

What makes McDonald's even more inviting is McCafé. The in-house coffee chain boasts of one of the best cappuccino in 15 exotic hot and cold options, accompanied by hot muffins and sliced cakes. You can also try their fruit splashes, shakes and smoothies.

### GOOD FOOD STORY

For the past few years, McDonald's has been relentlessly working to get you more wholesome and nutritious food. Did you know that

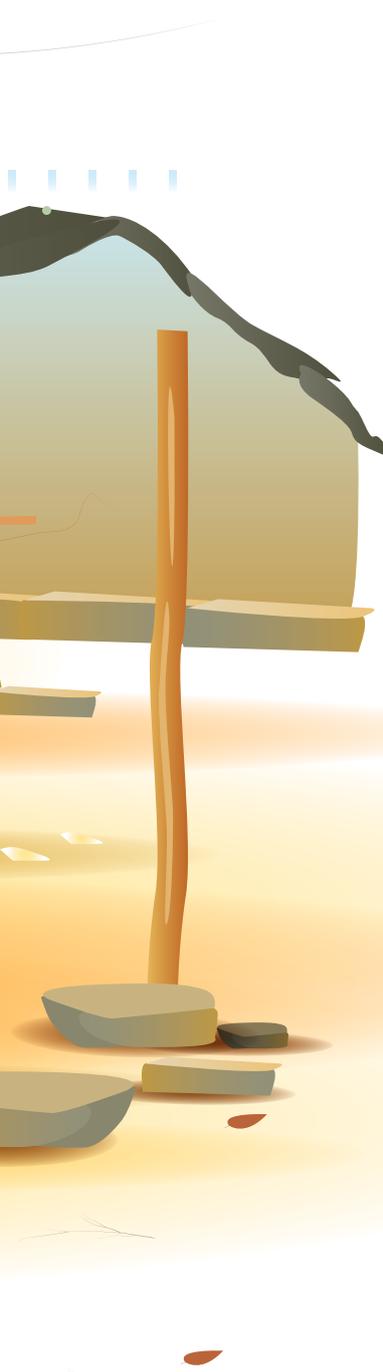
- There are no preservatives or artificial flavors in almost all McDonald's patties.
- The patties have been fortified with natural dietary fiber to make them wholesome.

- The Soft Serve is made of 100% milk and is 96% fat free.
- The sodium content in McDonald's sauces and fries has been cut by 20%
- All McDonald's wraps are whole grain.
- The pizza McPuff is now 100% Trans-fat free, with the goodness of five vegetables.
- The oil content in mayonnaise has been reduced by 40%, the first-ever in the Indian Quick Service Restaurant industry

Your favorite McAloo Tikki Burger is now a balanced meal with the right balance of carbs, protein, and fat (as per NIN standards).

So, all in all, great food, great coffee, great hang-out place. Isn't this a reason for you to love it even more!





# The Swachh Bharat Revolution



एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

Emphasising on the need for sanitation and clean living conditions for the citizens of India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Swachh Bharat Mission - a campaign aimed at making India open defecation free and keeping cities, towns and villages clean.

**O**n August 15, 2014, in his maiden Independence Day address to the country, Shri Narendra Modi became the first Indian Prime Minister to address the challenge of open defecation on a national platform. And he declared a firm resolve to eradicate it in the next five years. Since 2014, India has invested over \$20 billion for the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), arguably the largest ever sanitation budget for five years, anywhere in the world. Over 55 crore people have changed their sanitation habits. More than 10 crore toilets have been constructed, and all 6 lakh villages of India have declared themselves Open Defecation Free (ODF) during the process.

## **MASS SCALE BEHAVIOUR CHANGE: SWACHH BHARAT MISSION-GRAMIN**

The Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G) has become an unprecedented mass movement and has changed the age-old habits of millions of people. SBM-G adopted a host of information, education and communication (IEC) strategies, and strengthened implementation down to the village level by giving states the flexibility to design delivery mechanisms that consider local cultures, practices, sensibilities and demands. Recent studies have shown that SBM has managed to leverage over \$3.5 billion in IEC spends from all stakeholders, and that every rural Indian has been exposed to sanitation messaging on an average of 2500 times in the past five years.

## Sustainability **GOALS**

Sustainable Development Goal 6 is one of 17 Sustainable Development Goals established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015. It calls for clean water and sanitation for all people.



In addition to massive national mass media campaigns featuring several eminent national personalities, nearly 6,50,000 grassroots sanitation champions or 'swachhagrahis' were trained to deliver sanitation messages in their villages. They worked to motivate and inspire communities to build and use toilets through community approaches to sanitation, thereby triggering a behaviour change.

Large scale campaigns like the 'Swachhata Hi Seva' in the past few years have seen participation of over 200 million people who personally carried out sanitation and cleanliness messaging in their communities. Under the 'Swachh

Sundar Shauchalaya' campaign, over 1.3 crore households across the country painted and beautified their toilets, evoking a sense of pride in their 'Izzat Ghar' (House of Honour).

### **CROSS-SECTORAL IMPACTS OF SWACHH BHARAT MISSION-GRAMIN**

SBM has had a positive impact on the life, health, wealth and dignity of rural communities. Amplifying these benefits is SBM's impact on the market economy and on job creation. The massive improvement in India's sanitation coverage has resulted in direct employment opportunities for masons, labourers and industries

involved in supplying sanitaryware, and indirect opportunities for several associated sectors. A recent study by UNICEF has estimated that SBM has resulted in the creation of more than 75 lakh full time jobs in the past five years and is likely to continue to create more jobs in the future. In another study, UNICEF estimated that in an ODF village in India, each household saves an average of about ₹50,000 per year on account of avoided medical costs, time savings and lives saved. As per an estimate by World Health Organisation, SBM has already saved three lakh lives. Countries like Nigeria have announced their own national open defecation free campaigns modelled on SBM. India's position as the undisputed global leader of advancing global sanitation has been recognised by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation with Prime Minister Modi being honoured with the prestigious Global Goalkeepers Award.

SBM has also contributed significantly to the country's

## Tata Group and the Swachh Bharat Mission



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**Large scale campaigns like the ‘Swachhata Hi Seva’ have seen participation of over 200 million people who personally carried out sanitation and cleanliness messaging in their communities.**

productivity. SBM’s impact on reducing malnutrition had been studied through the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation which found that in Open Defecation Free (ODF) areas, there were 32 per cent fewer cases of diarrhoea among children, 15 per cent fewer cases of stunting, and 32 per cent fewer cases of women with below normal BMI. Better nutrition and better health for women and children directly contributes to higher school attendance and improved learning outcomes. The effectiveness of other flagship programmes of the Government like Integrated Child Development Services, Skill India, Beti Bachao

Beti Padhao, Make in India, among others, has increased manifold simply by improving the nutrition intake capacity of children and improving overall productivity.

**THE WAY FORWARD:  
SUSTAINABILITY AND ODF PLUS**

SBM is now focusing heavily on its sustainability and ensuring that no one is left behind, as it actively moves to the next level – ODF Plus. ODF Plus is the broader goal of overall cleanliness in India’s villages. The key factors in becoming ODF Plus are ODF-Sustainability, Solid Waste Management (biodegradable

and plastic) and Liquid Waste Management (Grey Water and Faecal Sludge Management), as required. A village would be considered ODF Plus if it continues to sustain its ODF status and safely manages its solid and liquid waste.

On August 15, 2014, we witnessed a defining moment in India’s modern history – a tipping point which led the country to a sanitation revolution, and on August 15, 2019, we witnessed the same for water. The Prime Minister announced the government’s goal of achieving piped water supply for all households by 2024. The government has also taken a momentous step by creating the Ministry of Jal Shakti by merging of two entities- the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation and the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation. This sets the stage for an integrated approach to manage water more efficiently, preventing its wastage and maximising its utility. This Ministry is working towards bringing piped water supply to all households by 2024, with mandatory source sustainability and grey water reuse and recharge measures for an integrated and holistic approach to water and sanitation. This is being done through the Jal Jeevan Mission, an ambitious programme designed along the lines of SBM as a *jan andolan*, a people’s movement, with integrated water demand and supply management at the grassroots.

SBM is a fascinating story of political leadership like no other, harnessing the power of people, and how the people of a nation, inspired by a leader, can come together and achieve the seemingly unachievable. ✨



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# Tales from Taiwan

Each page of the journey through this East Asian island, throws a whimsical twist.

words // Reem Khokhar

**T**ravelling for new and surprising experiences is what evokes magic in our imagination. When Jo, Fanny and Bessie climbed the magical tree in Enid Blyton's iconic *Faraway Tree*, it appealed to every child's fantasy. They travelled to magical lands, unknown to those around them and met new people unlike any they had known. Exploring your way through Taiwan is just like discovering the new lands

when the children got to the top of that tree, where every turn and corner has something unexpected and whimsical, waiting for you to discover— old streets filled with all things curious and wonderful; sweet shops and cafes crammed with every imaginable goodie; picturesque lakes with legends of mythical creatures; a little village of colour and imagination; and, a landscape that evokes romance and fantasy.

## MIXED BAG OF WONDERS IN TAIPEI

The capital city of Taipei is a blend of the modern and traditional, with several historic attractions and trendy neighbourhoods. There is the glitzy Taipei 101 where one can soar up what was once the world's tallest building and look down on the glittering city below. Then there are pockets like the bustling Dadaocheng, sometimes known as Old Taipei, the erstwhile tea trading zone with Chinese,

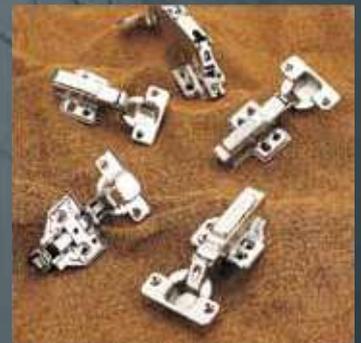


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Taipei 101 Tower in Taiwan

Japanese and Western influences. This multicultural impact is most prominent at Dihua Street – a delightful mix of Chinese food shops, tea salons, trendy boutiques and art galleries, all crammed within a glorious mishmash of Baroque and Modernist architecture interspersed with traditional shopfronts.

Wander into historic tea shops filled with the heady aroma of roasted tea leaves; browse through sacks bursting with everything from dried mushrooms to strings of beady eyed octopuses, tentacles upright within translucent bags, and a shop dedicated to just herbal throat candy! The entertaining Taipei Eye, a theatre with ninety-minute shows combining traditional dance, opera, acrobatics and more, makes for a great evening. The minute you enter, you are welcomed into a world of fantasy and wonder with actors in elaborate costumes and makeup, performing gravity defying acts; traditional opera with martial arts; dance and songs about snakes, sorcerers and scheming monks. Visitors can also play dress up with the costumes and accessories.

#### **SWEET OFFERINGS OF TAICHUNG**

Traveling out of Taipei and further south to central Taiwan, is the city of Taichung with a dazzling architecture, public art and artsy cafes. Just on the outskirts of the city is Rainbow Village, a small cluster of huts, vibrantly painted ceiling to floor with figures of

#### **ESSENTIALS**

**CAPITAL**  
Taipei

**LANGUAGES**  
Mandarin,  
Hokkien, Hakka

**CURRENCY**  
New Taiwan Dollar

**TEMPERATURE**  
35°C (max), 10°C (min)



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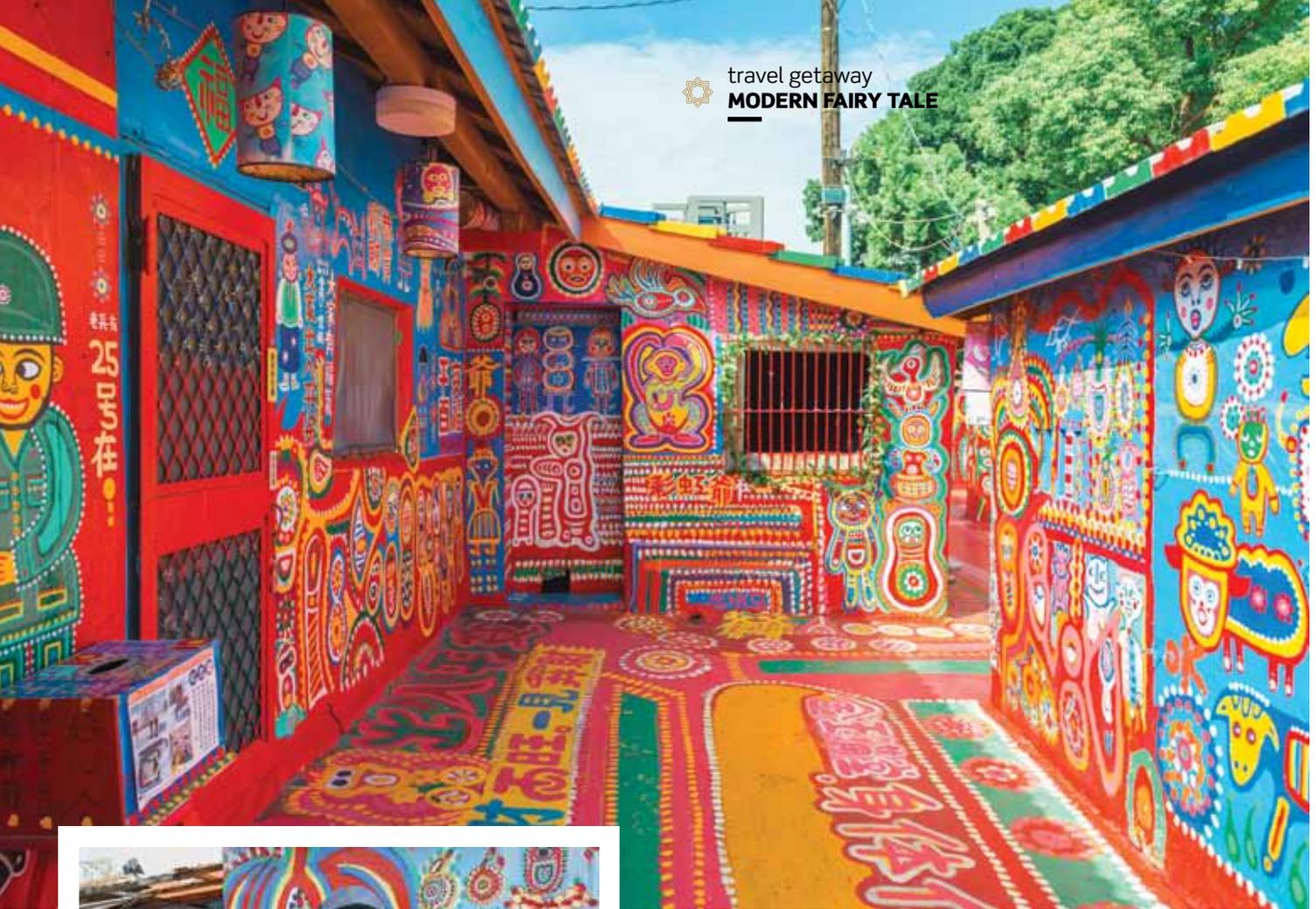
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**Rainbow Village has become a popular tourist attraction where 'Grandpa Rainbow' can often be spotted.**

animals, children, dolls, aeroplanes and more. And it has a riveting backstory. This old military veteran settlement was meant to be demolished and the residents to shift to alternate government housing. However, one of the veterans, Huang Yung-Fu, was reluctant to leave and began to fill the space with colourful paintings. Attracting local support, the demolition was stopped and since then Rainbow Village has become a popular tourist attraction where 'Grandpa Rainbow', as Mr. Huang is called affectionately, can often be spotted.

From shaved mango ice and bubble tea to pineapple and sun and moon cakes, Taiwan is quite the 'land of goodies'. And Miyahara in Taichung is a delightful place where one literally feels like a

kid in a candy shop! The distinct red brick building - a former ophthalmology clinic - now houses the Dawn Bakery. It's not just the mounds of sweet delights that draw attention, but the interiors that are reminiscent of Hogwarts from the famed Harry Potter series. High ceilings with shelves lined with leather bound 'books', long counters behind which friendly staff greet customers, metal deers suspended high above appear like Patronus charms, and wide wooden staircases that look like they may change direction once you try to step on them! A stop at Chui Shui Tang, where Taiwan's famous bubble tea reportedly originated from, makes for a pleasant visit where one can try a variety of different flavours, with chewy tapioca pearls clustered



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Owls sculptures in Formosan Aboriginal Culture Village in Nantou County, Taiwan

## Local INSIGHTS



### HIKE UP THE ELEPHANT MOUNTAIN

The Xiangshan Hiking Trail up the Elephant Mountain leads to a spectacular bird's eye view of the entire city of Taipei. The best view is post sunset, when the entire city skyline lights up.



### SPIRIT AWAY IN JIUFEN

For anyone who has watched Hayao Miyazaki's *Spirited Away*, the village of Jiufen will be a visual treat as it feels just like the one in the popular film. Walk through the streets and visit the Lantern Tea House.



You can fly to Taipei with Vistara's codeshare partner Singapore Airlines and interline partners ANA (All Nippon Airways), Emirates, Korean Air and Malaysia Airlines.

within the tall glasses of chilled milky tea.

### BEWITCHING TALES OF SUN MOON LAKE

About an hour from Taichung is the glittering expanse of the Sun Moon Lake, an alpine water body and the largest in Taiwan. The lake is roughly shaped like the sun and the moon at either end and taking a boat ride or cycling around on the bikeway, reportedly in the top 10 scenic bike routes in the world, are some of the ways to enjoy the scenery. The area is also home to one of the island's indigeneous communities, the Thao tribe. Thao legends abound on the lake's origins and significance. Like the one about a pair of thieving dragons that plunged the area into darkness by stealing the sun and the moon from

the sky. A determined Thao couple set out to defeat them, restoring the sun and moon to their rightful place.

The neighbouring Formosa Aboriginal Village is part-museum with nine aboriginal village replicas and part-amusement park with fun rides and a gorgeous European garden. A ten-minute cable car ride along the Sun Moon Lake Ropeway which soars high above a lush canopy of trees, will take you to the village. As the emerald green forest passes by below, before the steep descent into the village, the view of the lake and mountains twinkling below is absolutely magical. A beautiful reminder that this destination is full of wondrous surprises, no matter where you see it from! ✨



### VISTARA QUIZ

Question 2: In Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, what was Mr. Scrooge's first name?

Answers in the next issue of Vistara magazine.

Share your answers at [inflightmag@airvistara.com](mailto:inflightmag@airvistara.com). Two winners for each question will be eligible for prizes.

# A Modern Take on Traditional Matchmaking



**V**ows for Eternity is an ultra-premium, personalised and confidential global matchmaking service that brings life partners together on the basis of mindsets, values and personalities. Headquartered in New York City, it has an established presence in Mumbai, Delhi and London. The members, usually in the age group of 22-65 years, are affluent, well educated, upwardly mobile global individuals who are seriously looking to get married. They are based across the world with the largest number of members from US and India, besides a smaller number in Europe and Asia. What truly binds them together is the fact that whilst they are successful, well-travelled, progressive thinking, cosmopolitan in their outlook and belong to extremely cultured families, they are missing that one special person to share their life with, to make it even more meaningful.

Anuradha Gupta, CEO of Vows for Eternity, lives in Manhattan, New York but having also lived in Los Angeles, London, Melbourne and Delhi brings not only years of matchmaking experience, but also a global perspective whilst being strongly rooted to her Indian values. Anuradha started Vows for Eternity years ago based on her own experience of looking for a life partner. She recognises that people are looking for a partner who will also become their soulmate and confidante - a rare combination that is difficult and unique to find and that is why



Vows for Eternity aims at providing a global outreach whilst still maintaining a very personalised and confidential approach. The focus is quality over quantity with a strong eligibility criteria that needs to be met in order to qualify to become a member.

Vows for Eternity offers a couple of membership options: Privilege suite is the signature bespoke service - designed for members for whom success and affluence are a given and the baseline is

"nothing but the best". It sets the bar very high for members who tend to be industrialist families, celebrities and extremely successful professionals. The second offering - the Premium membership is designed for individuals who are extremely driven and accomplished - they can either be self-made or those born with a silver spoon.

Anuradha believes that a strong marriage is built on four pillars - friendship, trust, respect and loyalty. As people are delaying getting married, the personality fit and the connect of values between two people and their families has become even more important and difficult. She does not work with biodatas as people are so much more than what can be conveyed on paper. Instead, the focus is on engaging with members to better understand their personalities, their childhood, life experiences and family background. Only then is it possible to successfully connect them with other like-minded individuals.

*"When I was younger, I could never understand the pressure to get married because "it was time to". I didn't "feel ready" and always thought I will find someone when I am, and things will just fall into place. But I couldn't be more wrong. I got so busy, with my job and building a career, that time just flew by. Before I knew it, I felt as though something very important was missing in my life. Yes, I had good friends but that didn't fill the vacuum in my life. Over time, most of them got married and I felt even more alone and wished I had that "someone special" in my life too.*

*I often asked myself was there anyone for me? Everyone my age was already married, when would it be me? I had all these dreams that I wanted to share with someone special. Was that too much to ask for?*

*One can be in the best place in the world, but if one is alone it means nothing. And then it all changed..."*

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## **Cinderella's tale first made an appearance in China around 850 AD.**

In this tale, her name was Yeh-Hsien and she wore a sea-green silk dress, a cloak made of kingfisher feathers and gold shoes, instead of glass slippers, and she goes to the New Year Festival, instead of the royal ball.

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# Winter's Snowy Magic

There is something magical about winters. And, the pristine white snow adds to this storybook vision, making it enchanting to the eye. Here is a list of Winter Wonderlands where you can make your dream of seeing Narnia for real, come true.

**Pahalgam, Jammu and  
Kashmir, India**

Jammu and Kashmir is known as 'Heaven on Earth', and the snowy paradise in Pahalgam proves this moniker right. Hop on a pony, soak in the sights and get fun insights from the locals over a cup of steaming hot *kahwa*.



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**Lapland, Finland**

Santa Claus has always been a fascinating element of Christmas. But wouldn't it be even more fascinating to visit Father Christmas' very own village? This Finnish town of Lapland is known for its 'Santa Claus Village'.





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**Neuschwanstein Castle, Germany**

Nestled in the Bavarian Alps, Germany's Neuschwanstein Castle is the idyllic storybook castle brought to life. This 19<sup>th</sup> century castle even inspired Walt Disney for Cinderella's castle in the 1950 film, as well as, the Walt Disney Pictures logo and Sleeping Beauty's castle at Disneyland Paris.



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**Harbin, China**

You do not need to walk through a cupboard in order to get inside this real-life Narnia in Harbin. Hosting the annual Harbin International Ice and Snow Festival in January each year, the city sees sculpted ice castles that would give even the White Witch a run for her money.





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**Shirakawa-go, Japan**

The Historic Villages of Shirakawa-go in Japan's Gifu prefecture are UNESCO declared World Heritage Sites, due to the beautiful gingerbread houses built using the distinct *gassho-zukuri* style. And, winter transforms this village into a postcard-perfect sight.





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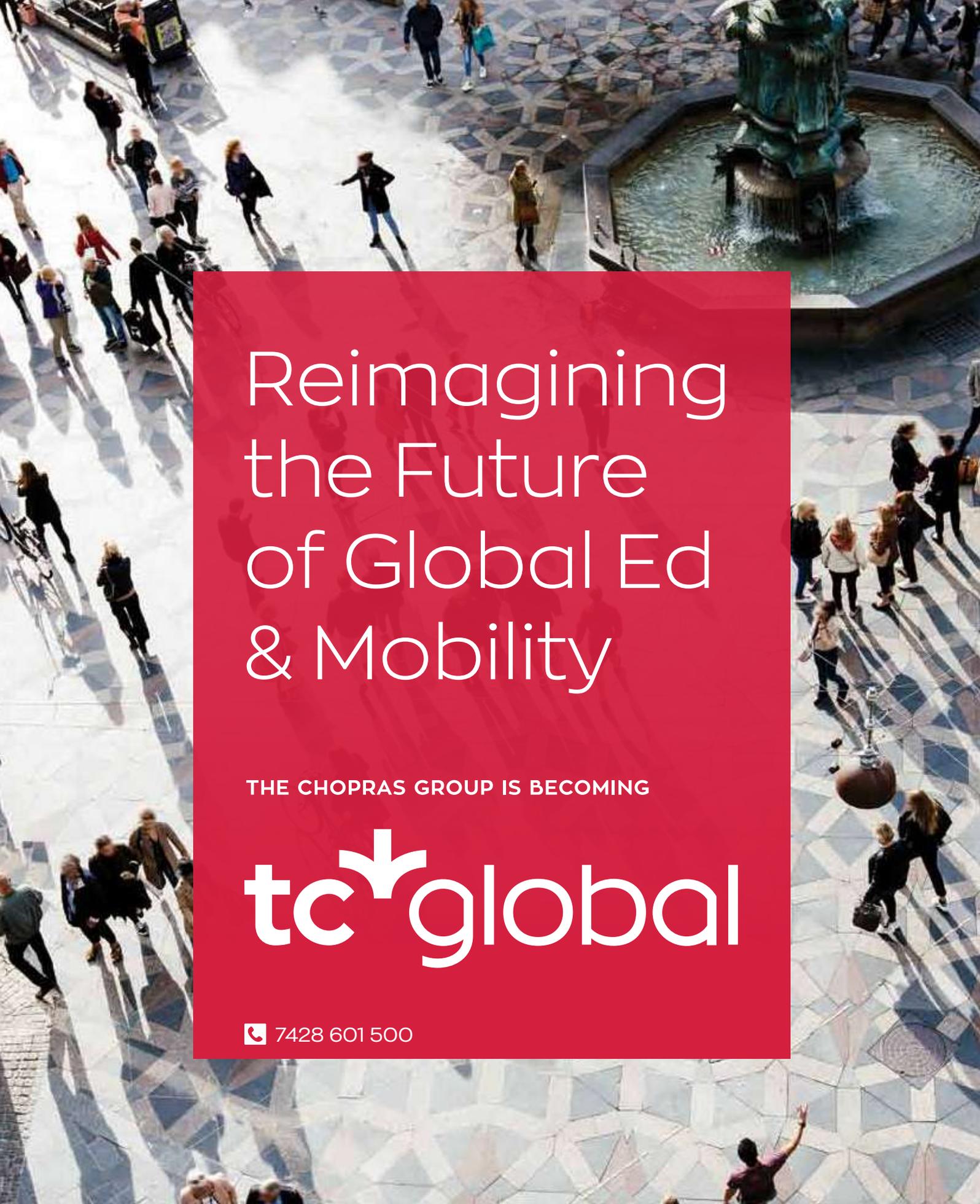
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**Tallinn, Estonia**

One of the best places to experience European winter is the Estonian capital, Tallinn. The magic of this UNESCO-protected Old Town, with its cobblestone pathways and medieval-era houses covered in snow, transports you back in time.





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## A Peek into The Fantasy World of Appupen

George Mathen AKA Appupen transits between Bengaluru and his comic world *Halahala*. Through his stories, based in parallel worlds, he hopes to move people to action in these times when it is needed the most.

words // Ruth Dsouza Prabhu



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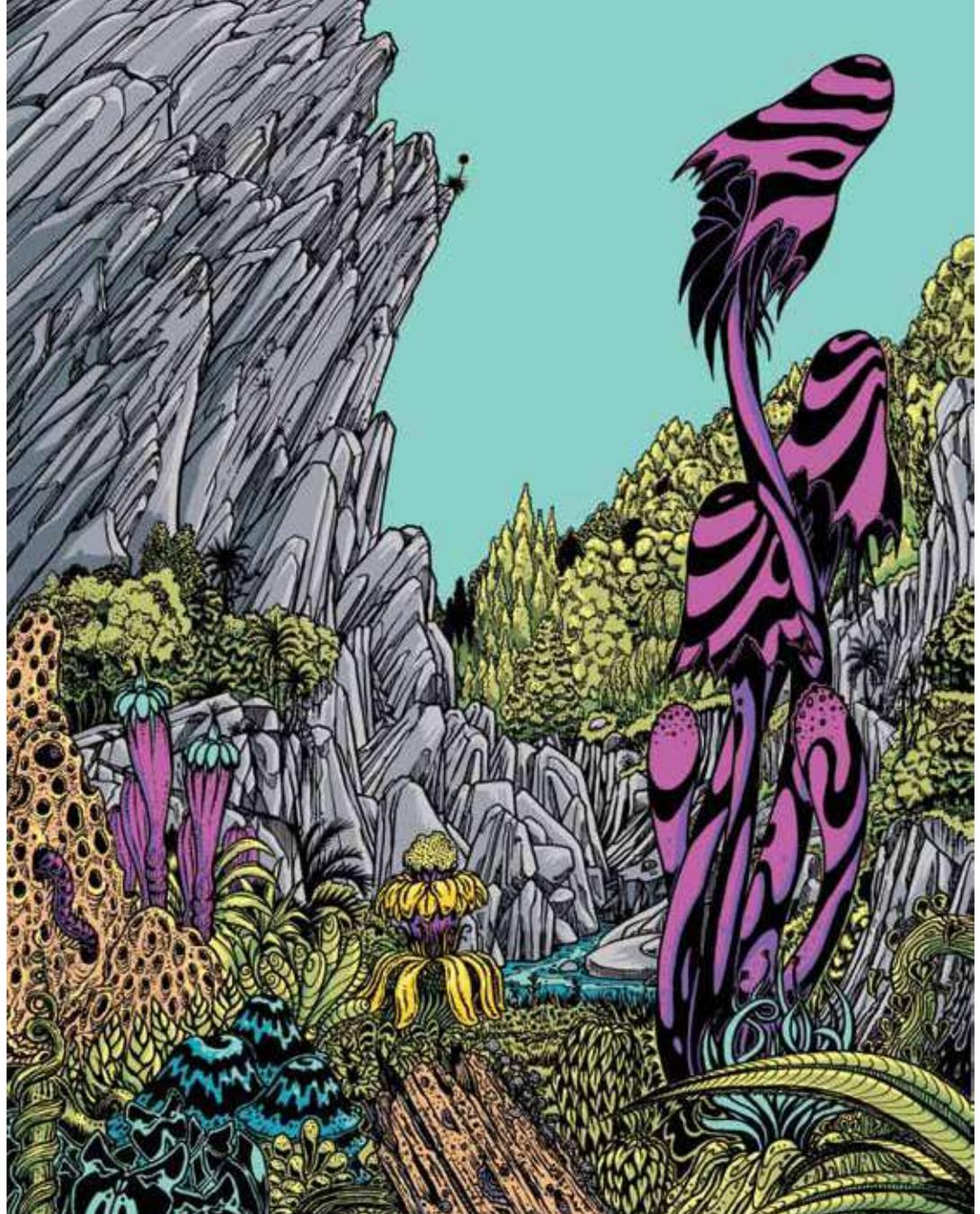
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**I**n the annals of India's comic world history, George Mathen's work as a visual and graphic novel artist commands attention, just like the parallel universe of *Halahala* that he has created. Appu, as he is fondly called (which inspired the name Appupen – meaning 'from the pen of Appu'), always knew he wanted to tell stories and tried various forms of media – from films to graphics, tattooing to music and advertising – but found that he best expressed his ideas in the form of comics.

He started by releasing these comics online in 2005, telling stories from a base of *Halahala*, a mythical dimension that sometimes darkly mirrors our own views – “There was no right wing view of things back then and I was quite taken with the name of the poison that earned Lord Shiva the name *Visakantha* (the one who holds poison in his throat).” *Halahala* grew to include the country, Rashtriya and White City, each with their own stories; and characters, like the popular political character, Rashtraman.

#### THE WORLD OF APPUPEN

George's work was spotted and first published in 2009 with *Moonward*, a dark and grey work on the birth and journey of life on *Halahala*. In a bid to bring out a lighter aspect of *Halahala*, his second book, *Legends of Halahala*, was a collection of five silent *Halahala* love stories, with dark humour in varied settings of time and space. *Aspyrus*, the third graphic novel saw a dreamy story with very few words, all narrated with pen, ink and water colour drawings. The book questions the nature and origin of the dreams that we follow. The latest, in this series is the



Art from *Garden of the Snake*

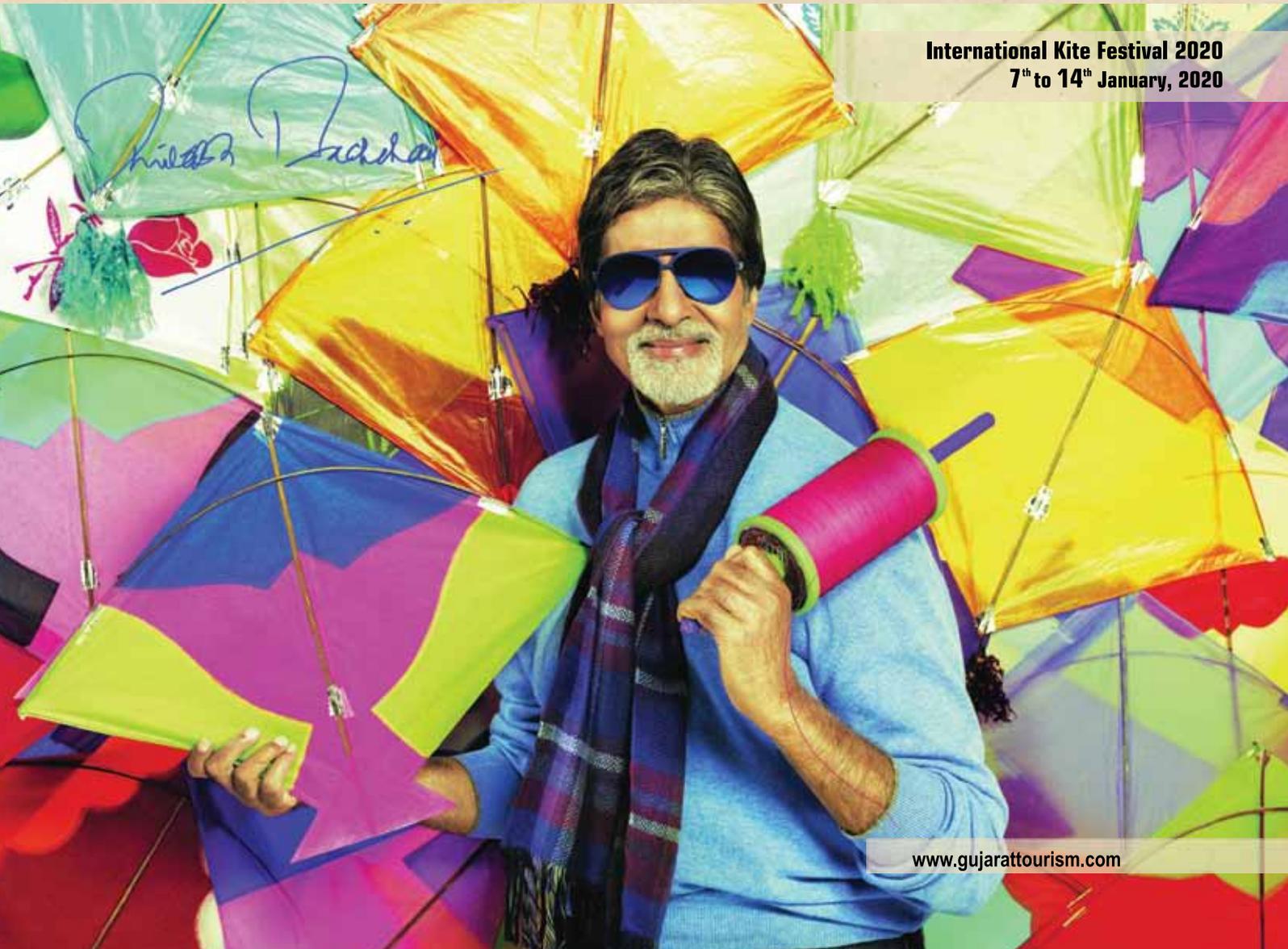
*Garden of the Snake* – a complete fantasy based creation.

George has several commissioned art works to his credit right from restaurants, to music bands, to sportswear and a host of publications. His 62 feet graphic story, titled *Legends of the Lake* at the central metro interchange station of Majestic in Bengaluru, is touted as India's longest silent

comic strip. “The Majestic Metro station stands at the site of a dried up lake called Dharmambudhi. I tried to imagine the spirits of the past and future coming up and witnessing the present. The station is a portal, where many windows open up to these imagined realities,” explains Mathen.

# Incredible! ndia

*I visited Gujarat during Uttarayan. I saw adults draped in childhood, decorating the canvas of the sky with colourful kites that soared, drifted and dipped at the flick of one's wrist. In all the pulling and cutting of the kite strings I didn't realize when the excitement and affection started tugging at my heartstrings. Nowhere else had I witnessed such amazing bonding among competitors but here. Next time too, the kites will fly high, painting the sky. Will you be there?*



**International Kite Festival 2020  
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Left: The Totem of Halahala; Above: Self Portrait of Appupen.

Over time, George's works have seen it all – going from colour to black and white; the use of words or none at all. His realms have gone into the environment around us, delving into the mind and finding our inner child. While he is a huge fan of mythology, he believes that it was never his intention to retell these stories from different perspectives. "This is the mythology of that time and we can learn a lot from it and build on it to create new mythology. Those stories encapsulated a reality of that time and we could

look at creating a modern take on mythology for present times," he says.

#### TELLING A STORY

George believes that it all starts with being able to laugh at yourself and then getting the reader to laugh along with you – it's about the connect that you are able to make. "When I created *Halahala* as a parallel universe, I wanted the same for myself, as the creator, and so I took to the name Appupen. It's unique and can bring a smile to your face," he shares.

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Above: Cover art spread for *Garden of the Snake*; Below: *Spirit of Dharmambudhi*

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**Favourite city**

Kottayam

**Favourite place to work on comics**

My head

**Favourite holiday spot**

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**Favourite cuisine**

Anything, as long as it lasts long in my stomach

**Favourite way to relax**

To spend time with comics

Mathen strongly believes that art work today needs to reflect a message. “I am concerned about issues like personal freedom, of thought and expression. When these things get controlled or limited, I get upset, because that is where art speaks. I am definitely against excessive consumption and the sort of lifestyle we worship now. Everyone knows it, but we continue doing it, ignoring the implications. I get caught up in many different themes and I know I will continue to engage in such topics. The idea is to bring your attention to it, tickle your thoughts and make you a bit uncomfortable by shaking that comfort space.



“I try to put in messages in my work, but we are targeting a comfortable crowd. I know books languish on shelves and this ate me up. That’s why I started the online platform for comics - Brainded. With this, you don’t have to buy comics, instead you would get small chunks of comics. It’s an attempt to reach out to more people,” explains Mathen.

George acknowledges that the Indian comic scene has a long way to go. “We don’t have an industry per se. What we have is an attempt to create something that would have the potential of a movie franchise. We need to find a language of our own and then we will have a voice on the comic scene”, he concludes. ✨

**“The idea is to bring your attention to it, tickle your thoughts and make you a bit uncomfortable by shaking that comfort space.”**



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Since 1998, the Gramin Vikas Evam Chetna Sansthan (GVCS) has been working for upliftment and welfare of women and marginalised communities in Barmer region. The NGO empowers local women artisans to make handicrafts that have gained fame beyond borders.

Text // Archana Sharma

**O**n July 7, 1998, GVCS was established in Barmer region with the main aim of providing means of livelihood to the poverty-stricken women of the region. With the belief that true development of a village community get actively involved in the decision-making process, GVCS has gone forth to set live examples of women empowerment by creating jobs for around 22,000 rural women till date. GVCS has set up a network of artisans through formation of Self Help Groups. These artisans are trained and capacitated to develop quality products. The organisation also possesses an in-house workshop for training and skill development of these artisans and new design development as per the market needs and aspirations.

## Gramin Vikas Evam Chetna Sansthan

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only get married and depend on their husbands and in-laws for all their needs.

Along with this, GVCN also works towards creating employment opportunities by setting up small and micro enterprises. They work extensively in the area of providing assistance during relief operations in places affected by natural calamities. They have also organised programs aimed at education of the girl child and women; and the security and empowerment of 'Women of Thar Desert'.

### SETTING NEW TRENDS

On changing rules and breaking traditions, President Ruma Devi, a woman of substance herself who has challenged age-old societal norms, says, "In Barmer, women travel miles in veil, with faces hidden under their *chunri*. I had also started working with a *ghoonghat*. However, this led to mistakes while working on a delicate stitch that ultimately resulted in a lot of complaints. Realising this, my family allowed me to come out of *ghoonghat*.

GVCN has actively worked on preservation and promotion of traditional embroidery, patchwork, applique work, *kantha* stitch and fabric printing techniques, that have been indigenous to the region for centuries. The work of GVCN has garnered attention from renowned designers in India, as well as globally, including Anita Dongre,

Abraham and Thakore, Bibi Russell and many renowned names from the USA too.

Presently, around 22,000 women are working with GVCN who belong to different age groups from 17 to 70. The young girls dream of doing something creative, whereas earlier, in a veiled world, they could



**GVCN has worked on preservation and promotion of traditional embroidery, patchwork, appliques, kantha and fabric printing techniques.**



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## President's **PROFILE**

Born in a financially weak family; Ruma Devi has a tragic past. Her name was dropped from school when she was in class VIII. Each day, she used to travel around 10 km to fetch water. At 17, her family got her married in a family where poverty was her companion. Eventually, under immense financial crisis, she created a group of 10 women and collected ₹100 each from them to buy raw material to design hand embroidered bags. "The bags were sold like hot cakes when we went to market to sell them. Then we created more products and sold them in nearby villages too. Much to our surprise, the result was fabulous," she recalls. "With this initiative, I was trying to set new traditions by using the art (embroidery) my grandmother taught me years back when I was a kid," she shares.

She joined Gramin Vikas and Chetna Sansthan in Barmer in 2008. In 2010, she was appointed as the president of this organisation. Due to her grit persistence and dedication for women empowerment, Ruma was also awarded with the biggest award for women, 'Nari Shakti Award' by President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, in 2018. She recently appeared in the show 'Kaun Banega Crorepati' with legendary actor Amitabh Bachchan.



When I was permitted, my girls followed me and now *ghoonghat* is a bygone era in our lives."

Ruma Devi and her team members work hard, even in extreme weather conditions. "Our earnest designs with delicate and beautiful stitch bespeaks how we put our heart and soul into it. Alongside, we also manage our daily household chores and trudge several kilometres to fetch water. We also walk distances overcoming various obstacles to deliver raw materials to the homes of our team members, most of which are scattered across different localities separated by sand dunes. Life is not easy for us," she says smilingly.

### SHINING HOPE

GVCS now has bigger plans of launching their own brand under Ruma Devi's guidance.

"Presently, we are not working with big brands as they look at their personal gains, rather than giving our artisans, who are the real artists behind the beauty of design, the opportunity to take their work ahead. Soon, we are going to launch our own brand. This will definitely encourage women to work hard," Ruma adds.

On gaining recognition worldwide, which is a big milestone for all the women employed under GVCS, Ruma says, "Our innovation and approach to experimentation made us different. We worked on every category of cloth be it *saree*, cushion, *dupatta* or *kurti*. This variety in work took us to bigger platforms. And now, renowned fashion designers from across the world are visiting us in Barmer to incorporate our work in their designs." ✨



### VISTARA QUIZ

Question 3: What name did Princess Aurora use to hide her identity while living in the cottage in the woods?

Answers in the next issue of Vistara magazine.

Share your answers at [inflightmag@airvistara.com](mailto:inflightmag@airvistara.com). Two winners for each question will be eligible for prizes.



# The MAYFAIR Lake Resort

## *A one of it's kind luxury island Resort*

The Mayfair Lake and Golf Resort, located in the heart of Naya Raipur, in the state of Chattisgarh - just a 10 minute drive away from the Airport, was soft launched on 27th of August' 2019 - has introduced a new Central Indian travel circuit featuring Central India's largest marriage and corporate events venue and the first 18 hole Golf course in the region, while complementing it with a state of the art luxury resort, offering a holiday experience second to none.

This island resort located within the serenely tranquil and naturally formed 500 acre 'Jhang lake', an ecological biospace, has 125 keys, featuring luxe interiors in rooms which graduate from a more than modest 750 sq.ft 'Executive' rooms, spaced out 'SPA' suites of 1140 sq.ft, 'Deluxe' suites of a expansively luxurious 1440 sq feet and an outrageously indulgent 'Presidential' suite of 7500 sq.ft, featuring two bedrooms, private bar and butler services, ultra chic living and dining areas, steam and Jacuzzi equipped bathrooms, a private office space, a jealously guarded private swimming pool opening into a 10000 sq.ft well manicured lawn,

complete with a gazebo and a barbeque area.

A wellness and feel good Spa, spread over an independent area offers holistic and indulgent therapies for those who need to pamper their senses or chase their stress away.

Alongside this resort is a 95000 sq.ft 'Al Fresco' lawn area, a 9000 sq.ft designer ballroom with well equipped break away rooms and a car parking for over 700 cars, which completes the requirement of the largest captive event space available in Central India - which will undoubtedly reinvent and transform the way first class events are held.

It's a once-in-a-while revelation of a luxury destination that caters to the romance of a honeymoon, the joy of a family vacation, the lifetime memories of a destination wedding, the dream tee off of the avid golfer and lastly the place where corporate brain storming sessions could never be more productive.

Alongside the lake on offer is a lush green Golf course 'The Mayfair Golf Club' spread over 138 acres,

which offers a plush 45 keys accommodation, with a relaxed laid back club house offering food and beverage outlets, and sports options like a indoor badminton court, squash court, Tennis courts, a modern world class Gym and a

swimming pool. This island resort will certainly earmark a new beginning in the regions hospitality sector and will leave its footprints in the sands of time while establishing a benchmark in its inimitable style and class.



Promotion

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## India Post honors 20 years of EbixCash World Money



T C Guruprasad  
CEO & Managing Director

Ebix, Inc., a leading international supplier of On-Demand software and E-commerce services to the insurance, financial, healthcare and e-learning industries announced

that India Post has unveiled a corporate customised stamp to commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ebix's foreign exchange, remittances, payment solutions' Indian subsidiary company - EbixCash World Money.

EbixCash is a global player in travel, remittances, payment services and foreign exchange solutions besides being the largest issuer of prepaid cards in the country. The release of the stamp



is a celebration of the company's commitment to expand its India story and offers a diverse bouquet of travel, foreign exchange and financial solutions globally.

"We are happy to associate with EbixCash World Money and release a stamp commemorating their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They are the leaders in travel, foreign exchange and prepaid solutions, and thus we are happy to engage with them and be a part of their growth story," says Swati Pandey, Director General of India Post.

### ABOUT INDIA POST

The Department of Posts, commonly known as India Post, is a government-operated postal system in India, which is a subsidiary of the Ministry of Communications. Generally

called 'the post office' in India, it is the most widely distributed postal system in the world.

### ABOUT EBIX, INC.

With 50+ offices across six continents, Ebix, Inc., (NASDAQ: EBIX) endeavors to provide On-Demand software and E-commerce services to the insurance, financial, healthcare and e-learning industries. In the Insurance sector, Ebix's main focus is to develop and deploy a wide variety of insurance and reinsurance exchanges on an on-demand basis, while also providing Software-as-a-Service ('SaaS') enterprise solutions in the area of CRM, front-end & back-end systems, outsourced administration and risk compliance services, around the world.

For more information, visit the Company's website at [www.ebix.com](http://www.ebix.com)



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**HOME DECOR | DINING | ACCESSORIES | FASHION | WALLPAPER | WALL ART**

# MONTHLY FORECAST



## ARIES

Tensions will ease off and you will have a renewed sense of clarity about yourself and the world around you. You will also experience career satisfaction, recognition and improved financial conditions.

**Lucky colour:** Yellow

**Lucky number:** 2



## TAURUS

Business is going to take an upward swing and you will enjoy being productive and reaping returns on investments and new enterprises. You may suffer from anxiety attacks or will have problems with your legs.

**Lucky colour:** White

**Lucky number:** 1



## GEMINI

You'll come together with someone on an idea or partnership in order to increase your earnings or make your returns more lucrative. A romantic union, due from a long time, is on the cards.

**Lucky colour:** Blue

**Lucky number:** 7



## CANCER

A situation will arise with one who will exert a great deal of power or influence over you. You will be fortunate in money matters and in resolving business and emotional dilemmas.

**Lucky colour:** Black

**Lucky number:** 8



## LEO

You will have problems with business associates. In matters of heart, you will fear that things are not going to work out. You will get unexpected assistance in your finances, professional or social life.

**Lucky colour:** Green

**Lucky number:** 3



## VIRGO

You will want to make it on your own and a new direction or course of action is going to be proposed which will encourage that wish. Take care of your health and refrain from eating and drinking too much.

**Lucky colour:** Red

**Lucky number:** 2



## LIBRA

This is a very good time for embarking on new projects. Problems will be solved and you'll attract whatever you need in the way of help or assistance. Important discussions will take place between you and a family member.

**Lucky colour:** White

**Lucky number:** 9



## SCORPIO

Directing your energies towards profit will soon begin a new venture. You will buy yourself a new car or consider a change in job. A health condition especially related to joints needs medical attention. An overseas travel is indicated.

**Lucky colour:** Turquoise

**Lucky number:** 2



## SAGITTARIUS

Your finances will improve soon. Be patient as things are not under your control and don't compromise your self-esteem. A health condition will need attention.

**Lucky colour:** Pink

**Lucky number:** 6



## CAPRICORN

Sudden activity, unusual correspondence and movement in your affairs will lift your spirits. New ideas or opportunities concerning your business will put a new slant in life.

**Lucky colour:** Orange

**Lucky number:** 9



## AQUARIUS

You will be relieved about a financial matter and would receive payments, cheques or money orders. A weight-related issue could bother you, but it could be minor.

**Lucky colour:** Blue & Black

**Lucky number:** 7



## PISCES

Your work will be well received and you will be praised for its quality and thoroughness. You will get the opportunity to advance your position. Your romantic life will take a surprising turn.

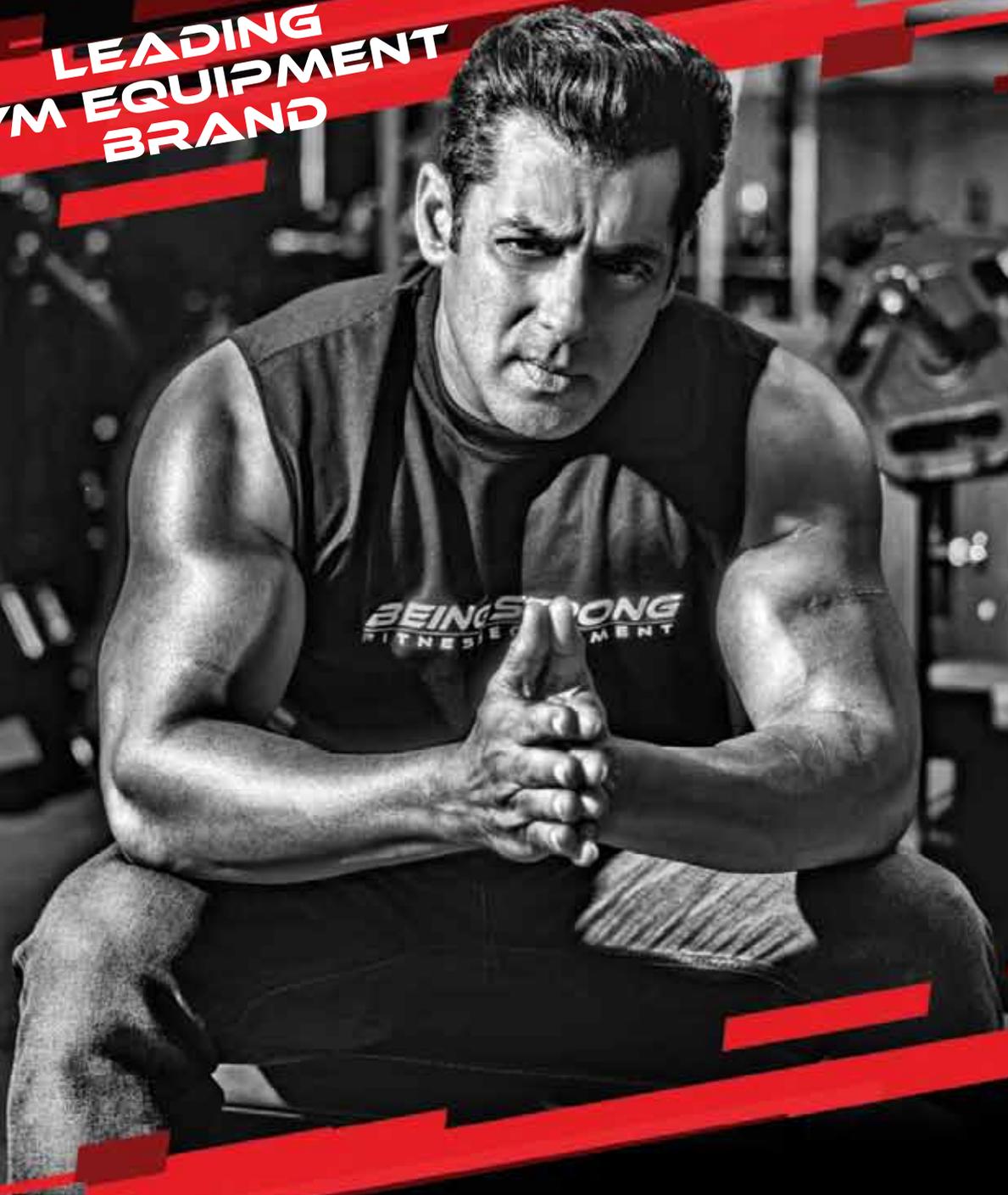
**Lucky colour:** Purple

**Lucky number:** 4



**POONAM SETHI** is an internationally-acclaimed Tarot card reader, Reiki healer, colour therapist, Feng Shui practitioner, crystal healer, a specialist in removal and balancing the negative energies and a rudraksha consultant. She can be contacted at [poonamsethi27@hotmail.com](mailto:poonamsethi27@hotmail.com)

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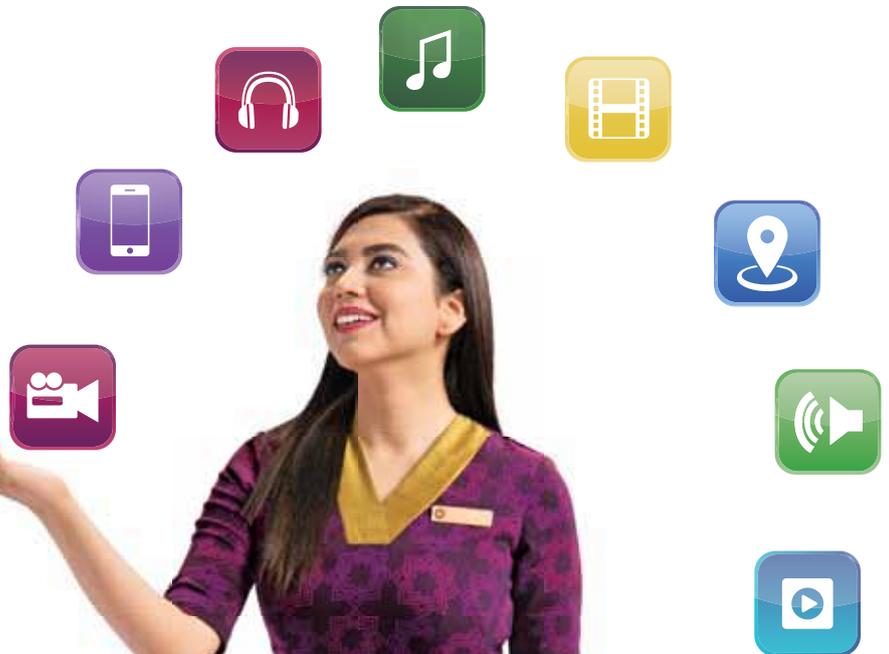


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# EXPERIENCE

Pg  
**132**

Enjoy Vistara's playlist that has been specially curated for boarding and landing

Pg  
**134**

Explore the options available for inflight entertainment when flying with Vistara

Pg  
**136**

Make your travel a truly personalised flying experience

Pg  
**140**

The fastest rewarding Frequent Flyer Program is here



The new feeling arrives in Colombo, Sri Lanka

## Breaking New Ground

2019 has been a special year for Vistara as we fulfilled our long-cherished dream of taking the Vistara brand to global frontiers with the launch of international operations to Singapore. Vistara has now taken the count of destinations in its network to 34, with the recent launch of its fourth international destination, Colombo, Sri Lanka with a daily (except Wednesdays) direct service between Mumbai and Colombo. This route is being serviced by our Airbus A320neo aircraft with three-class cabin configuration, which makes Vistara the first airline to offer the choice of Premium Economy class for travel

on the India and Sri Lanka route, in addition to Economy and Business Class.

Our growth story has been nothing short of exciting this year. We expanded our fleet and network by close to 50% each this year and are set to almost double our fleet size by the end of the current financial year ending March 2020, when compared to the fleet size at the start of FY19-20. We've also recently added four new Airbus A320neo from our latest order of 50 aircraft from the Airbus A320neo family, placed earlier this year in July. The new aircraft come with enhanced operational performance and

cabin features including in-seat AC Power Outlet, USB Charging Ports, PED (Personal Electronic Device) holders and higher range capability enabling us to fly them on longer regional international routes. In addition, anticipating demand for greater connectivity between Delhi and Indore, we've doubled the frequency and are flying twice daily with morning and evening departures from both cities. This expansion has led Vistara to operate nearly 1400 flights a week, served by a fleet of 27 Airbus A320 and nine Boeing 737-800NG aircraft.

In our journey of growth, being consistently acknowledged by

**Clockwise:** Our new A320neo aircraft with enhanced cabin features and operational performance; Vistara has been voted India's Favourite Domestic Airline at the Condé Nast Traveller Readers' Travel Awards 2019; Vinod Kannan, Chief Strategy Officer, Vistara receives the 'Regional Airline of the Year' award at CAPA's 16th annual Asia Pacific Aviation Awards for Excellence



various credible forums for our service and operational excellence is a rewarding feeling. From being recognised for our exceptional service delivery with the Best Airline Staff – Central Asia and India second time in a row at the coveted Skytrax World Airline Awards 2019, to being named a Five Star Airline by passengers in

the 2020 Official Airline Ratings™ by APEX (the Airline Passenger Experience Association), these accolades have encouraged us to keep challenging ourselves. And we're ending the year on a high note with awards across various categories on both national and global platforms: Regional Airline of the Year – CAPA's 16<sup>th</sup> annual

Asia Pacific Aviation Awards for Excellence, Best Overall in Central Asia - APEX, Best Airport Lounge - Travel + Leisure India's Best Awards 2019 and Favourite Domestic Airline - Condé Nast Traveller Readers' Travel Awards 2019.

As we near the end of this year, it is important to remember and cherish the memories we have created together. Thank you for being a part of our journey and we look forward to creating more such memorable moments together in the future. ✨

**We expanded our fleet and network by close to 50% each this year and are set to almost double our fleet size by March 2020.**



# VISTARA'S DECEMBER PLAYLIST

From soft rock to bluesy jazz tunes, explore the December playlist played during boarding and landing.

America



Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band



Bee Gees

Pink Floyd



## Shine On You Crazy Diamond

*Pink Floyd*

One of the most iconic songs of the band, this ballad is a tribute to Syd Barrett, which can also be seen from the name of the song - Shine On You Crazy Diamond. An original member of Pink Floyd, the lyrics of the song are a tribute to the big influence that Barrett had on the music they played. Barrett's legacy as a great innovator in music lives on through this song.

## Here We Go Again

*Ray Charles & Norah Jones*

Originally recorded by Ray Charles for his 1967 album 'Ray Charles Invites You to Listen', this version was re-recorded by him and Norah Jones as a duet, as part of the last studio album he completed before his death.

## Turn the Page

*Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band*

Turn the Page released in 1973 on Seger's Back in '72 album. This song talks about living life on the road and the difficulties that come

with it. It talks about the other side of fame, which is negative, and not many people see.

## You Belong To Me

*The Doobie Brothers*

This song was written by Doobie's singer Michael McDonald with Carly Simon. The Doobie Brothers recorded it first and it was a part of their last album 'Farewell Tour' (1983).

## Anisina

*Pink Floyd*

Undoubtedly one of the most meticulous and beautiful song in the album 'The Endless River', Anisina is based on reflection, regret and hope.

## More Than A Woman

*Bee Gees*

This song was written by the Bee Gees for the movie Saturday Night Fever. Tavares recorded their own version of the song which became a massive hit and was used in the movie as well!

## You Can Do Magic

*America*

'You Can Do Magic' is about a skeptic who doesn't believe in love until he meets a girl who changes his heart. This song was written by Russ Ballard for the duo Gerry Beckley and Dewey Bunnell, who created melodious harmonies together.

## Get Closer

*Seals and Croft*

Title track from the duo's eighth studio album 'Get Closer', this song was written by Jim Seals and Dash Crofts together, during the peak of their success. It reached No. 6 on





Steely Dan

Louis Armstrong



Thin Lizzy



Bruce Springsteen



Gerry Rafferty



During Christmas season we would be adding some festive songs to our playlist.

the Billboard Hot 100 and No. 2 on the Adult Contemporary Chart. Billboard even ranked it as the No. 16 song of 1976!

### **Baker Street**

#### **Gerry Rafferty**

A profound Gerry Rafferty song about a man who dreams of owning a house and living away from his neighborhood but is not able to achieve that goal. 'Baker Street' refers to a real street in London where Rafferty often stayed with a friend.

### **Still In Love With You**

#### **Thin Lizzy**

'Still in Love with You' was originally recorded by Thin Lizzy and first released on their 1974 album 'Nightlife'. It is widely considered to be Thin Lizzy's greatest, most romantic ballad.

### **Do It Again**

#### **Steely Dan**

'Do It Again' is a song composed by Walter Becker and Donald Fagen, performed by American rock group Steely Dan. This was a breakout hit from their first album that featured an unusual sound using various unique instruments.

### **What A Wonderful World**

#### **Louis Armstrong**

Louis Armstrong was able to nail the sentiment of this popular song perfectly when he recorded it in August 1967. Written by George Weiss, the song was inspired by Armstrong's ability to bring people of different races together.

### **It's What We Do**

#### **Pink Floyd**

This song appears in the band's 15<sup>th</sup> and last studio album 'The Endless River' that released in November 2014. Following

'The Division Bell' (1994), it is the third Pink Floyd album recorded under the leadership of guitarist David Gilmour.

### **Too Much Heaven**

#### **Bee Gees**

'Too Much Heaven' was originally the band's contribution to the "Music for UNICEF" fund. Inspired by the sad state of starvation, the line 'I can see a new tomorrow' urges one to move forward, even when times are bad.

### **My Hometown**

#### **Bruce Springsteen**

A popular single by Bruce Springsteen from the album titled 'Born in the U.S.A.'. This song is about Springsteen's experiences growing up in Freehold, New Jersey. Springsteen paints a bleak portrait of life for the working class and sheds light on the complexities of the common man. 🌟

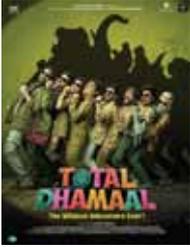
Please note that this playlist will be available on Boeing aircraft progressively.



# vistara world

## MOVIES

### BOLLYWOOD



**DRAMA**  
Batti Gul Meter Chalu  
Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara  
Why Cheat India  
Manikarnika: The Queen of Jhansi  
Baazaar  
Shaadi Mein Zaroor Aana  
Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham...  
Gold

**ROMANCE**  
Manmarziyaan  
Dhadak

**COMEDY**  
Total Dhamaal  
Mubarakan  
Fanny Khan

**ACTION, COMEDY**  
Amar Akbar Anthony  
Simmba

**ROMANCE, DRAMA**  
Malaal  
Kedarnath

**ACTION, DRAMA**  
Sonchiriya



**COMEDY, ROMANCE**  
Luka Chuppi  
Zero  
Shaandaar  
Meri Pyaari Bindu

**ACTION**  
Thugs of Hindostan  
Uri: The Surgical Strike  
2.0

**THRILLER**  
Romeo Akbar Walter  
Fan  
Detective Byomkesh Bakshy!

**COMEDY, DRAMA**  
The Fakir of Venice  
Padman  
Hindi Medium

**COMEDY, THRILLER**  
Stree  
Andhadhun

**THRILLER**  
The Tashkent Files



### HOLLYWOOD

**ACTION, ADVENTURE**  
Shazam!  
X-Men: Apocalypse  
Pokemon Detective  
Pikachu  
Once Upon a  
Deadpool  
Aquaman

**COMEDY, ROMANCE**  
Isn't it Romantic

**ROMANCE, DRAMA**  
The Notebook

**COMEDY**  
How to Be Single



## TV SHOWS

### INDIAN TV SHOWS

**COMEDY**  
The Kapil Sharma Show  
Aadat Se Majboor  
Office Office  
Khichdi  
Family No. 1

**DRAMA**  
CID  
Crime Patrol Dastak  
Malgudi Days  
The Reunion  
Hip Hip Hurray!  
Stories By Rabindranath

Tagore  
**ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE**  
Meri Real Life  
Tyohaar Ki Thaalii  
Jab We Met  
Foodie & The Feast  
Health Tips  
Style Tips  
Aspire  
Hello Bollywood  
Indipedia  
Meri Real Life

Tape Cast S2  
**DIGITAL SERIES**  
Filtercopy  
Gobble  
**BUSINESS**  
The Mutual Fund Show  
**KIDS**  
Luv Kushh  
Super Bheem

### ENGLISH TV SHOWS

**COMEDY**  
Friends  
New Girl  
Young Sheldon  
The Big Bang Theory

**DRAMA**  
Lucifer

Gilmore Girls  
**ENTERTAINMENT & LIFESTYLE**  
Supercar Megabuild  
Gordon Ramsay:  
Uncharted  
Untamed Costa Rica

**KIDS**  
DC Super Hero Girls  
Tom & Jerry Kids Show

## AUDIO

### Indian Music

Genre	Bollywood Anthems, Vol. 1	Various Artists
Indian Music	Now Playing! Greatest Ghazals of Bollywood	Various Artists
	Disco Bollywood	Various Artists
	FM Hits - All Time Radio Hits	Various Artists
	FM Hits - All Time Radio Hits, Vol. 2	Various Artists
	The Greatest Driving Classics, Vol. 1	Various Artists
	Together	Niladri Kumar & Talvin Singh
	World Music By Indian Maestros	Various Artists
	Best of Bollywood: Sufi	Various Artists
	Piya Milenge	Various Artists
	Musical Legacy	Various Artists
	Best of Bollywood: Shreya Ghoshal	Shreya Ghoshal
	Karan Johar Music Midas	Various Artists
	The Ravi Shankar Collection	Ravi Shankar
	Best of Bollywood: Shah Rukh Khan	Various Artists
	Best of Me	Shankar-Ehsaan-Loy
	Master Works - R. D. Burman	R.D. Burman
	Best of Bollywood: Wedding Beats	Various Artists
	Ghazal Ka Safar, Vol. 1	Jagjit Singh, Alka Yagnik & Hariharan
	MasterWorks - Javed Akhtar	Various Artists
	Master Works - Asha Bhosle	Asha Bhosle
MasterWorks - Lata Mangeshkar	Lata Mangeshkar	
Cafe Classics, Vol. 1	Various Artists	
Your's Truly Arijit	Arijit Singh	
From the NCPA Archives: Vilayat Khan (Remastered)	Ustad Vilayat Khan	
Masterworks From the NCPA Archives: M. S. Gopalakrishnan (Remastered)	M. S. Gopalakrishnan	

# AUDIO

## Indian Music

Indian Music	Masterworks From the NCPA Archives	Pt. Kumar Gandharva
	Masterworks From the NCPA Archives: Ustad Bismillah Khan	Ustad Bismillah Khan
	Masterworks From the NCPA Archives: Balamuralikrishna (Remastered)	Dr. M. Balamuralikrishna
	Greatest Carnatic Legends	Various Artists
	Double Mandolin	U. Srinivas
	The Definitive Collection	A. R. Rahman
	Bollywood With Love - 90s	Various Artists
	Bollywood Retro Fresh - 80s Hits	Various Artists
	Bollywood Fresh-70s Served Chilled	Various Artists
	Making Music	Zakir Hussain
	Land of Gold	Anoushka Shankar
	Vision Of Peace - The Art of Ravi Shankar	Ravi Shankar
	Master Blaster - Mohammed Rafi	Mohammed Rafi
	Master Blaster - Kishore Kumar	Kishore Kumar
	75th Anniversary Collection	R.D. Burman
	Magical Moments	Jagjit Singh
Dear Zindagi	Amit Trivedi & Ilaiyaraaja	

## English Music

Genre	Album Name	Artist
International Pop	Romance: Songs from the Heart	Frank Sinatra
	Every Kingdom	Ben Howard
	Oracular Spectacular	MGMT
	Younger Now	Miley Cyrus
	One Nite Alone... Live!	Prince
	Shawn Mendes	Shawn Mendes
	52 <sup>nd</sup> Street	Billy Joel
	She Is Coming	Miley Cyrus
	DNA	Backstreet Boys
	Fever	Kylie Minogue
	The Ultimate Bee Gees	Bee Gees
	The Love Train	Meghan Trainor
	Expectations	Bebe Rexha
	After Laughter	Paramore
	Love (Deluxe Edition)	Michael Bublé
	Voicenotes	Charlie Puth
	÷ (Deluxe)	Ed Sheeran
	24K Magic	Bruno Mars
	Random Access Memories	Daft Punk
	Icarus Falls	ZAYN
	Meaning of Life	Kelly Clarkson
	Camila	Camila Cabello
	This Is Acting (Deluxe Version)	Sia
	Elvis Presley	Elvis Presley
	Dangerously in Love	Beyoncé
	Thriller	Michael Jackson
	Dangerous Woman (Deluxe)	Ariana Grande
	1989	Taylor Swift
	Lust for Life	Lana Del Rey
	Alive & Rockin' (Live)	Foreigner
	Nervous System	Julia Michaels
	Melodrama	Lorde
Views	Drake	
ANTI (Deluxe)	Rihanna	
Purpose	Justin Bieber	
ABBA Gold	ABBA	
EDM (Electronic Dance Music)	Moon Safari	Air
	Toast to our Differences (Deluxe)	Rudimental
	Kids in Love	Kygo
	Sick Boy	The Chainsmokers
Rock	TRUE	Avicii
	Anthology	Bryan Adams
	Smoke + Mirrors	Imagine Dragons
Heavier Things	John Mayer	

## English Music

Rock	The Concert In Central Park (Live)	Simon & Garfunkel
	Stop the Clocks	Oasis
	Us and the Night	3 Doors Down
	War	U2
	Sigh No More	Mumford & Sons
	Church Mouth	Portugal The Man
	Triplicate	Bob Dylan
	Goodbye Yellow Brick Road	Elton John
	"Let's Rock"	The Black Keys
	Morning View	Incubus
	Western Stars	Bruce Springsteen
	Rumours	Fleetwood Mac
	A Rush of Blood to the Head	Coldplay
	Pet Sounds	The Beach Boys
	Social Cues	Cage The Elephant
	Trench	twenty one pilots
	Breakfast in America	Supertramp
	Forever Man: The Best of Eric Clapton (Deluxe Edition)	Eric Clapton
	Sultans of Swing - The Very Best of Dire Straits	Dire Straits
	Distance Over Time (Bonus Track Version)	Dream Theater
	Hybrid Theory	LINKIN PARK
	Greatest Hits	Red Hot Chili Peppers
	Led Zeppelin IV (Remastered)	Led Zeppelin
	L.A. Woman	The Doors
	Both Sides of the Sky	Jimi Hendrix
	WALLS	Kings of Leon
	The Stranger	Billy Joel
	Ten	Pearl Jam
	Toys in the Attic	Aerosmith
	(What's the Story) Morning Glory?	Oasis
	Born In the U.S.A.	Bruce Springsteen
	The Dark Side of the Moon	Pink Floyd
Sheer Heart Attack	Queen	
The Very Best of Sting and the Police	Sting & The Police	
U218 Singles	U2	
I Still Do	Eric Clapton	
Blue & Lonesome	The Rolling Stones	
Stevie Wonder: Greatest Hits	Stevie Wonder	
Free Spirit	Khalid	
The Queen of Soul	Aretha Franklin	
H.E.R.	H.E.R.	
Suncity	Khalid	
Starboy	The Weeknd	
Whitney	Whitney Houston	
Come What May	Joshua Redman Quartet	
Kind of Blue (Legacy Edition)	Miles Davis	
The Essential Herbie Hancock	Herbie Hancock	
Giant Steps	John Coltrane	
The Questions	Kurt Elling	
Culcha Vulcha	Snarky Puppy	
The Blues Is Alive and Well	Buddy Guy	
King of the Electric Blues	Muddy Waters	
His Best: The Electric B.B. King	B.B. King	

## Indian and International Compilations

Album Name	Artist	Album Name	Artist
U2 Essentials	New	Pop Queen: Madonna	Holdover
Anoushka Shankar	Holdover	Straight from the 80s	Holdover
Essentials	Holdover	Straight from the 70's	Holdover
Jazz Hits	Holdover	Coldplay Essentials	Holdover
Platinum Playlist	Holdover	Grammy Nominees 2019	Holdover
Straight from the 90's	Holdover	Powerful Female Vocalists	Holdover
Wake Up Hour	Holdover	The Legacy of Queen	Holdover
Best of Rock	Holdover	The Great Indian Pop	Holdover
Jashn-e-Ghazal	Holdover	Songs of Love	Holdover
Acoustic Sessions	Holdover		

# ENHANCE THE NEW FEELING

At Vistara, we strive to make your travel memorable in more ways than one. Personalise your flying experience by logging on to [airvistara.com](http://airvistara.com), contacting our Customer Service Center at +91 9289228888 or by visiting Vistara's airport ticketing office. You can pre-purchase the following services at prices that are significantly lower than the airport rates, up to 60 minutes prior to the departure.\*

## FLIGHT PASS

Purchase Vistara Flight Pass to enjoy a host of attractive benefits. Apart from multiple destination bookings, you can choose your class of travel and conveniently pre-purchase flights at a lower price. The more flights you buy, the cheaper it gets. This option helps you avoid future increase in fares and pay only 20% upfront and the rest later when you travel. Buy a Flight Pass for as low as ₹1700 for Economy, ₹3600 for Premium Economy and ₹7200 for Business.



## PRE-PURCHASE EXCESS BAGGAGE

Why pay more at the airport when you can pre-purchase excess baggage online? Simply log on to [airvistara.com](http://airvistara.com) and choose the excess baggage slab for up to 30% lesser rates than at the airport.



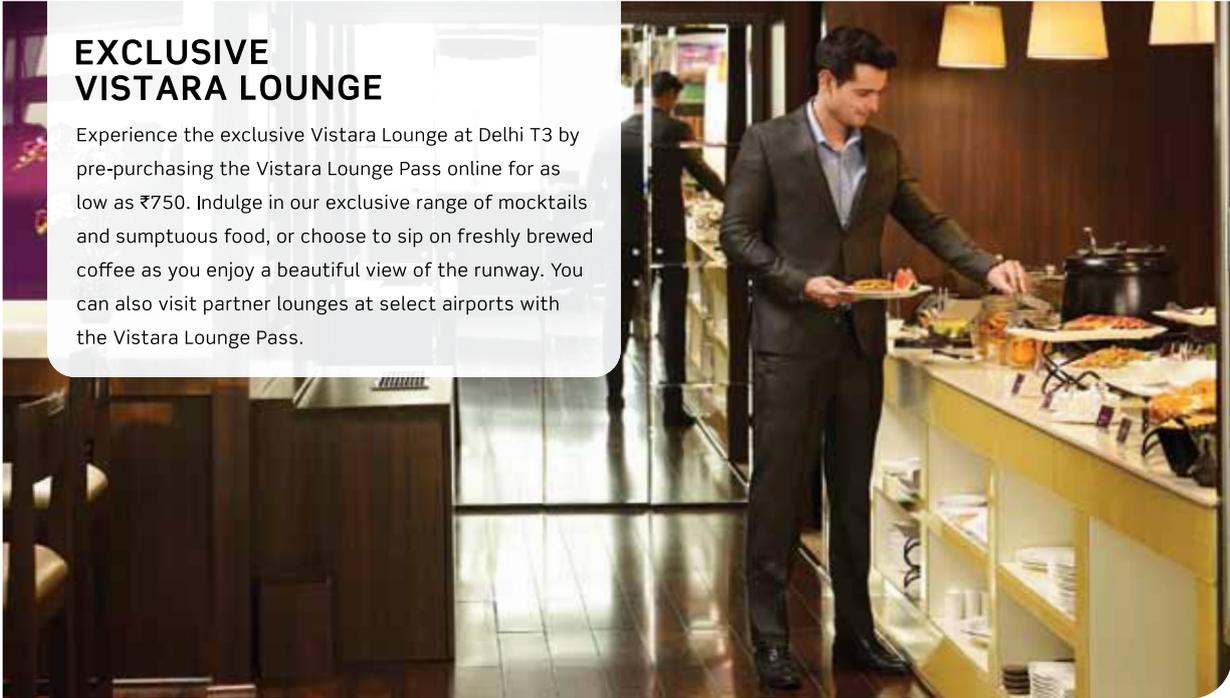
## EASY FLIGHT UPGRADES

Experience India's only Premium Economy or the Best Business Class without burning a hole in your pocket. You can either choose Confirmed Upgrade which immediately upgrades you to the next cabin class or you can choose Standby Upgrade which gives you a chance to get upgraded at substantially lower price. However, the availability of this upgrade is limited.

Only select services are available on international travel \*T&C apply

## EXCLUSIVE VISTARA LOUNGE

Experience the exclusive Vistara Lounge at Delhi T3 by pre-purchasing the Vistara Lounge Pass online for as low as ₹750. Indulge in our exclusive range of mocktails and sumptuous food, or choose to sip on freshly brewed coffee as you enjoy a beautiful view of the runway. You can also visit partner lounges at select airports with the Vistara Lounge Pass.



## VISTARA PRIORITY PRIVILEGE

With Vistara Priority, enhance your Economy Class experience with Priority Check-in, Baggage Handling and Boarding Access for ₹400 only! As part of Vistara Priority, eliminate the stress of waiting in long queues and expedite your journey.



## CONVENIENCE OF CARRY-ON PLUS

Why check-in your bag for a few extra kilos? With Vistara's Carry-on Plus, you can now carry up to 12 kg in hand baggage and keep your belongings close to you while you travel. Your post-arrival experience will be quicker too, with no need to wait for your bag at baggage claim. Simply pay ₹240 per kg for Carry-on Plus service online and carry everything you may need!

For more information regarding our products and services, please visit [airvistara.com](http://airvistara.com)

Download the Vistara app:



[airvistara.com](http://airvistara.com)

## EXPERIENCE THE NEW FEELING

We constantly push the boundaries of air travel, keeping you at the center of everything we do. Our enterprising spirit, blended with traditional Indian hospitality will ensure every journey you take with us, is a truly enjoyable experience and a feeling like no other. When you fly Vistara, you fly the new feeling. Welcome aboard.



### LUXURIOUS BUSINESS CLASS

Just sit back and relax in our ultra-luxurious seats which offer you a comfortable recline, extendable footrest, adjustable winged headrest and personal storage space. All this combined with our elaborate menu, exquisite dining experience and unparalleled service, will make you reach your destination feeling rejuvenated.



### COMFORTABLE ECONOMY CLASS

Enjoy a new benchmark in style and comfort with our specially designed seats which are not only upholstered in genuine leather, but also have been styled to maximize legroom. Our intuitively thoughtful services ensure you travel in utmost luxury.



### EXCLUSIVE PREMIUM ECONOMY

Be a class ahead when you fly India's only Premium Economy and embrace the feeling of personal space with extra legroom, specially designed seat bottom cushions, winged headrest and long armrests. Our intuitive services also promise a superior inflight experience.

(Not available on select aircraft type)



### DELICIOUS COMPLIMENTARY ONBOARD CUISINE

Give your senses a delightful feeling by indulging in our tastefully-picked culinary selections. Prepared by experts, our menu is designed to satiate even the most selective taste buds. Business Class customers are treated to a fine dining experience amongst the clouds with the use of linen and Bone China tableware. Our Premium Economy and Economy customers can look forward to wholesome and satisfying meals along with a range of beverages, all served by our engaging cabin crew.

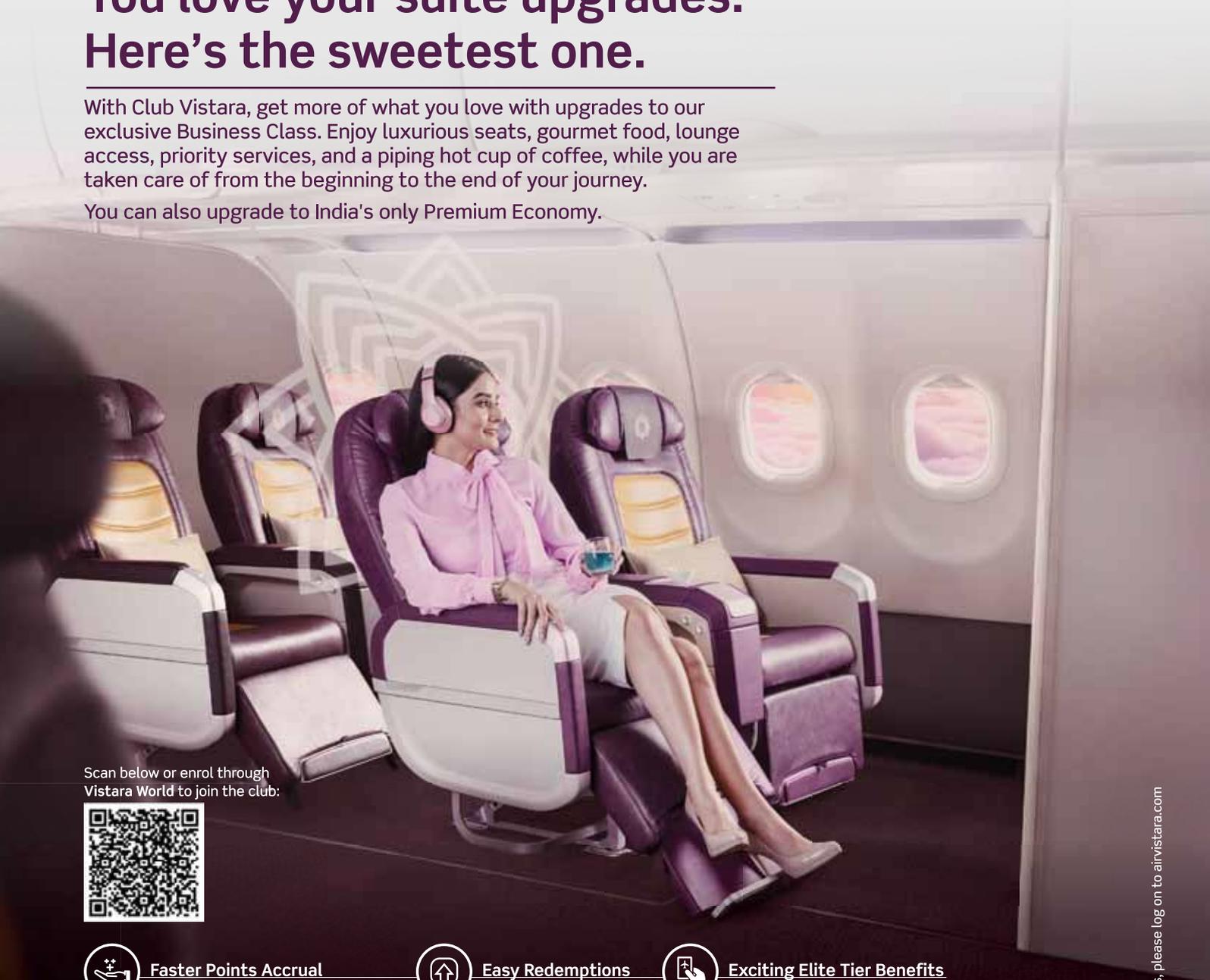

  
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With Club Vistara, get more of what you love with upgrades to our exclusive Business Class. Enjoy luxurious seats, gourmet food, lounge access, priority services, and a piping hot cup of coffee, while you are taken care of from the beginning to the end of your journey.

You can also upgrade to India's only Premium Economy.



Scan below or enrol through Vistara World to join the club:



**Faster Points Accrual**  
Through flights and partnerships



**Easy Redemptions**  
Easily available  
Award Flights and  
Upgrade Awards



**Exciting Elite Tier Benefits**  
Added perks, Priority Services, and  
complimentary CV Gold membership  
for Elite Tier members of other  
frequent flyer programs



**World Class Airline Partners**  
Singapore Airlines and SilkAir,  
with more coming soon



**Attractive Lifestyle Partners**  
Axis Bank Vistara Credit Card  
and other curated partnerships

\*For detailed T&Cs, please log on to [airvistara.com](http://airvistara.com)

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## INDIA'S FASTEST REWARDING FREQUENT FLYER PROGRAM

Take your Vistara experience to greater heights with a host of benefits. As part of the unique frequent flyer program, you earn Club Vistara Points based on the value of ticket purchased. It's simple - when you spend more, you earn more.

### KEY FEATURES

#### FASTER EARNINGS

Earn up to 11 CV Points per INR 100 spent, basis your tier.

#### FASTER REDEMPTIONS

Upgrade Awards starting from 500 CV Points and Award Flights starting from 2000 CV Points.

#### FASTER ELITE TIER QUALIFICATION

Reach Elite Tiers faster basis the amount of Tier Points or flights flown in a 12-month period, whichever is earlier.

#### ENJOY PRIORITY STATUS

Priority check-in, boarding and baggage handling for elite tiers.

#### CARRY-ON PLUS

Carry up to a total of 12 kg hand baggage for elite tiers.

#### LOUNGE ACCESS

Access to the exclusive Vistara Lounge and partner lounge for CV Platinum and CV Gold members. CV Platinum members can also bring one companion to lounge when flying international

#### COMPLIMENTARY UPGRADE AND LOUNGE ACCESS VOUCHERS

These vouchers can be used for self or can be passed onto your friends and family.

#### RESCHEDULING FEE WAIVER

CV Platinum members can make up to 2 changes for travel within and outside India and CV Gold members can make 1 change per booking for travel within India at no additional fee. (Fare difference applicable).

#### INCREASED CHECK-IN BAGGAGE

Enhanced baggage allowance of 5-15 kgs over and above the limit, basis elite tier status.

### HOW TO JOIN

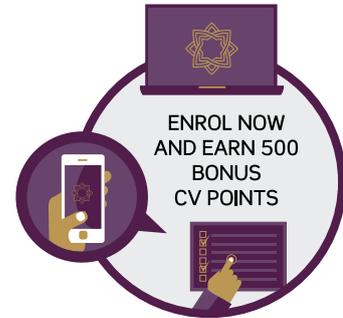
Becoming a Club Vistara (CV) member is simple and quick. Register with CV by:

- Visiting our website [www.airvistara.com](http://www.airvistara.com) or downloading our mobile app.
- Filling the enrolment form on Vistara world app under Club Vistara enrolment section
- Filling the enrolment form available with our cabin crew.



Once enrolled, the CV membership ID will be sent to your registered email ID.

You can access your CV account through our website and mobile app, to keep track of all your transactions.



### ELITE TIER QUALIFICATION

Tier evaluation is in terms of Tier Points or the number of Vistara flights taken in a 12 month period, whichever upgrades or maintains your tier status faster. Refer to the tier evaluation criteria below:

Tier	Tier Points required for upgrade	Flights required for upgrade
CV Silver	15000	20
CV Gold	25000 OR	30
CV Platinum	35000	40

### TIER EVALUATION PROCESS

Elite Tier Qualification Process evaluates your tier status every day by checking the number of Tier Points earned or the number of flights flown in the past 365 days. As soon as a member achieves the criteria, the member will be upgraded to the next Elite Tier. In case of a tier upgrade or renewal, your Elite Tier status will be valid for 12 months. On the day of expiry of your tier, if you are unable to move up to the next Elite Tier or maintain your current tier, you will be moved to a lower tier for the next 12 months.



PRIVILEGES & BENEFITS	CV Base	CV Silver	CV Gold	CV Platinum
Earn Tier / CV Points	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tier / CV Points (per INR 100 spent)	8	9	10	11
Priority Airport Standby			✓	✓
Priority Waitlist Clearance		✓	✓	✓
Priority Airport Check-in		Premium Economy Counter	Business Class Counter	Business Class Counter
Increased Check-in Baggage Allowance (Weight)		+5 Kg	+10 Kg	+15 Kg
Carry-On Plus			✓	✓
Priority Boarding			✓	✓
Lounge Access			✓	✓
Lounge Access Vouchers		1	2	4
Companion Lounge Access				✓
Priority Baggage Handling			✓	✓
Exclusive Offers And Promotions	✓	✓	✓	✓
One-Class Upgrade vouchers on Tier Upgrade		1	2	3
One-Class Upgrade vouchers on Tier Renewal		1	3	5
Rescheduling Fee Waiver			1 change per booking for travel within India	2 changes per booking for travel within & outside India

\*Fare difference applicable | Please visit [www.airvistara.com/trip](http://www.airvistara.com/trip) for details.

## EARNING CV POINTS

A higher point earning structure ensures that you are aptly rewarded every time you fly with us.

When you enter your CV ID while booking and checking-in, your points will be auto-credited in your CV account within 24-48 hours. Your CV Points are valid for 36 months from the date of flight. Please refer to the table to know the CV Point accrual for Vistara flights.

Tier	CV Points per INR 100 spent
CV Base	8
CV Silver	9
CV Gold	10
CV Platinum	11

## COMPLIMENTARY TIER MATCH

We invite you to enjoy a complimentary 3-month CV Gold membership, if you are a Gold or above tier member with any other frequent flyer program.

Here's how you can apply:

-Enrol with Club Vistara

-Share your copy of Gold or above Tier Membership Card/Statement at [statusmatch@clubvistara.com](mailto:statusmatch@clubvistara.com)

## REDEMPTION OF CV POINTS

With Award Flight redemptions starting as low as 2000 CV Points and Upgrade Awards starting at 500 CV Points, rewards could not be any faster.

### VISTARA AWARD FLIGHTS

To redeem CV Points for Vistara Award Flights, visit [www.airvistara.com](http://www.airvistara.com) and select the "Redeem CV Points" checkbox or call our Customer Service Centre at +91 9289228888

### VISTARA UPGRADE AWARDS\*

To redeem CV Points for Vistara Upgrade Awards, call our Customer Service Centre at +91 9289228888 or contact our Airport Ticketing Office (ATO) for instant upgrades.

\*Not redeemed on Economy Lite & Economy Value fares.

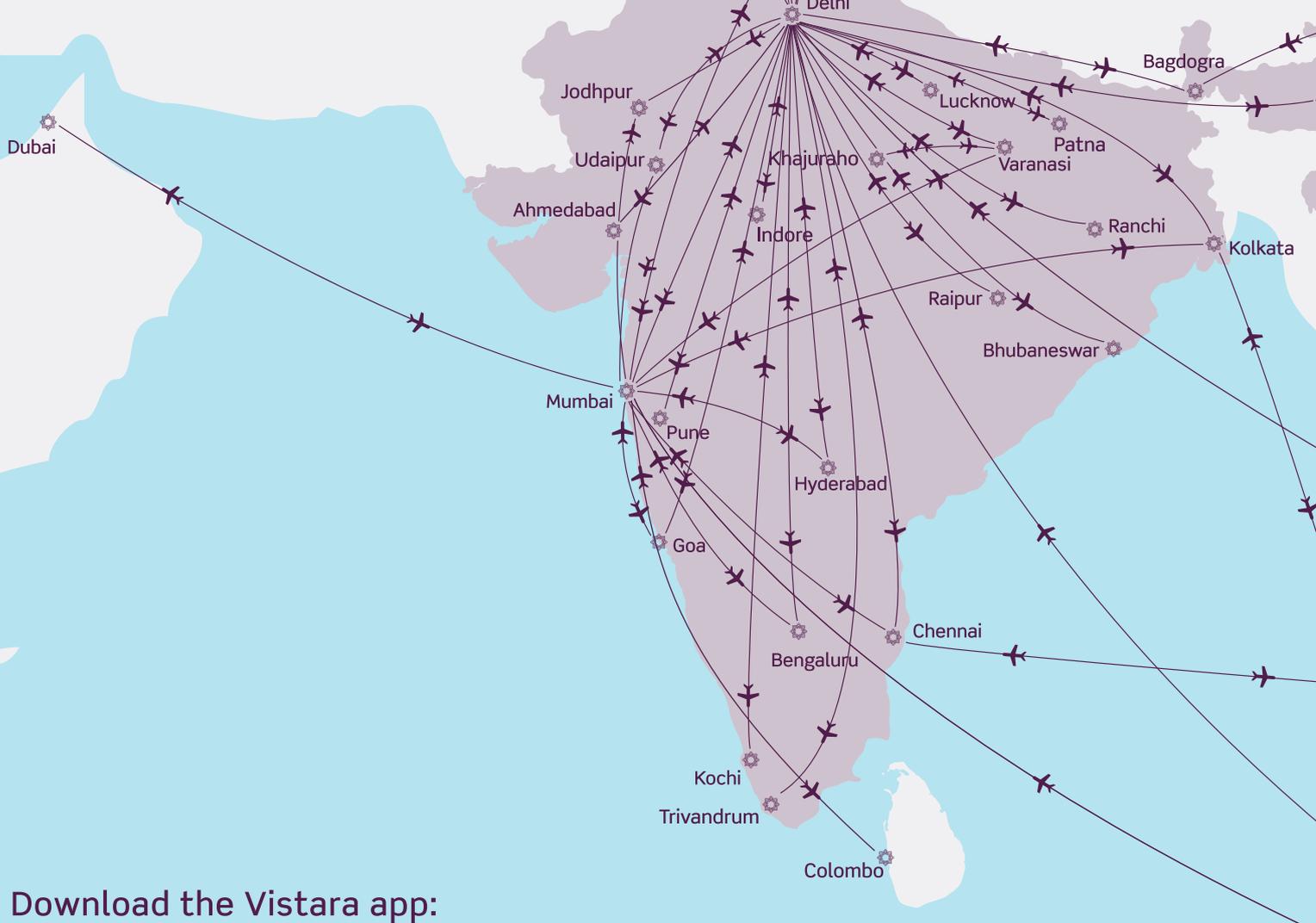


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Code-share flights subject to regulatory approvals.

Schedule for December 2019. Terms and Conditions apply.

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Vistara codeshare routes operated in partnership with Singapore Airlines and SilkAir via Singapore



# OUR FLEET

Airbus A320ceo



Airbus A320neo



Boeing 737-800NG



	<b>Airbus A320ceo</b>	<b>Airbus A320neo</b>	<b>Boeing 737-800NG</b>
<u>Count</u>	13	17	9
<u>Seats</u>	8C/24S/132Y	8C/24S/132Y (14); 8C/24S/126Y (2); 180Y (1)	12C/156Y
<u>Length</u>	37.57 m	37.57 m	39.5 m
<u>Cruising Speed</u>	829 km/h	833 km/h	842 km/h
<u>Engine</u>	IAE V2500-A5	CFM LEAP1A	CFM56-7B
<u>Place of Manufacture</u>	Toulouse, France/ Hamburg, Germany	Toulouse, France/ Hamburg, Germany	Seattle, USA

Note: \* C = Business Class / S = Premium Economy / Y = Economy Class



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# CLUB VISTARA PARTNERS

## AIRLINE PARTNERS



Earn and redeem CV Points with our airline partners.  
Also, elite tier members can enjoy enhanced privileges on Singapore Airlines.

## NON-AIRLINE PARTNERS

### CO-BRAND CREDIT CARDS



- ✿ Earn up to 5 complimentary Business class tickets in a year
- ✿ Get up to 10,000 bonus CV Points as activation bonus
- ✿ Complimentary Club Vistara Elite tier



- ✿ Earn up to 5 complimentary Premium Economy tickets & Hotel gift vouchers up to INR 10,000
- ✿ Free cancellation of Vistara flight tickets & up to 3,000 bonus CV Points as activation bonus
- ✿ Complimentary Club Vistara Elite tier

### CONVERSION



Convert American Express Membership Rewards®  
Points to CV Points



Convert your Axis eDGE  
Reward Points to CV Points



Convert your HDFC Diners  
Points to CV Points



Convert your Indusind Credit Card Reward  
Points to CV Points



Convert YES BANK Reward  
Points to CV Points



T&C apply

# CLUB VISTARA PARTNERS

## CAR RENTAL



Earn 10 CV Points on every INR 100 spent

## PUBLISHING



Earn up to 25,000 CV Points

## RETAIL

### BERLEIGH

Earn 10 CV Points on every INR 100 spent

**HEEL & BUCKLE**  
LONDON

Earn 10 CV Points on every INR 100 spent



**THE MAN COMPANY**  
premium grooming essentials for men

Earn 8 CV Points on every INR 100 spent

## STAY

**Booking.com**

Earn 2 CV Points on every INR 100 spent



**LUXURY ESCAPES**  
THE WORLD'S BEST HOLIDAYS

Earn 5 CV Points on every INR 100 spent



Earn 9 CV Points on every INR 100 spent



T&C apply

**Book on [hotels.airvistara.com](http://hotels.airvistara.com)  
and earn 2X\* CV Points.**

**Booking period:** 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019

**Stay period:** 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020

Please mention your CV ID at the time of booking

\*Earn 4 CV Points per ₹100 spent

POWERED BY **Booking.com**

# Vistara Direct

An exciting array of benefits available only for bookings made on

**[airvistara.com/Vistara app](http://airvistara.com/Vistara app)**

- ⚙ Free change/cancellation within 24 hours of booking (only through our call center)
- ⚙ 100 bonus CV Points for Club Vistara members
- ⚙ Maximum refunds for all other cancellations
- ⚙ 10% **MobiKwik** SuperCash up to ₹1200\*\*

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T & C apply. \* Vistara Direct benefits are not applicable for Economy *Lite* fares or for travel outside India.

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# How was the new feeling?

We welcome your feedback. If you have any suggestions or comments about your experience with Vistara, please email us at [custrelations@airvistara.com](mailto:custrelations@airvistara.com)

You may also contact:

- Nodal Officer | Ms. Preeti Dadheech | [nodalofficer@airvistara.com](mailto:nodalofficer@airvistara.com)
- Appellate Authority | Ms. Pooja Paul | [appellateauthority@airvistara.com](mailto:appellateauthority@airvistara.com)
- [dgca.gov.in](http://dgca.gov.in) | [www.airsewa.gov.in](http://www.airsewa.gov.in)
- If you are denied boarding or your flight is delayed/cancelled, please ask for passenger rights statement from staff. You may also view this information at: [www.airvistara.com/trip/terms-and-conditions#](http://www.airvistara.com/trip/terms-and-conditions#)



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## PARTNER AIRLINES

Vistara partners with 28 airlines to provide seamless connections within India

### CODESHARE



### INTERLINE



### PRIVILEGES

- Single check-in to final destination (on select airlines only)
- Seamless same terminal transfers at Delhi T3 & Mumbai T2
- International baggage allowance (if on single booking)
- 3-class cabin including India's only Premium Economy
- Complimentary meals in all classes
- Accrual & redemption of frequent flyer points (on select partners)

\*T&Cs apply. These privileges are for partner airlines only.

There are no straight  
lines in nature.

- *Antoni Gaudi*

Intelligent and minimal, the Marics integrates a full reclining mechanism into its structure, creating a versatile chair with clean lines and an ultra-light appearance.



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INTRODUCING

# XLE

FEELS JUST RIGHT



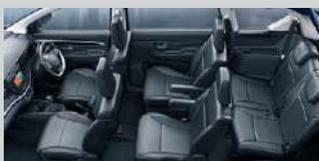
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All-black Interiors with Captain Seats



Smartplay Studio



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- PEDESTRIAN PROTECTION COMPLIANT
- FULL FRONTAL IMPACT COMPLIANT, FRONTAL OFFSET IMPACT COMPLIANT, SIDE IMPACT COMPLIANT
- ISOFIX
- HEARTECT PLATFORM

T&C Apply. Features and accessories shown may not be part of standard fitment. Black glass shade on the vehicle is due to lighting effect. Images used are for illustration purposes only.