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As we continue to work towards expanding our network and strive to take you to newer destinations, as travellers, we encourage you to meaningfully engage with the culture, people, history and cuisine of a destination. When you travel, you see new things, but to truly experience a place is a completely different feeling. To get under the skin of a place by seeking authentic and local experiences – be it a cultural excursion, a culinary lesson or a homestay goes beyond your Instagram feed and is much more valuable. It gives you a true sense of how the world functions in that part of the globe.

Experiential travel is a trend that is fast gaining momentum. Travellers worldwide are treading the

off beaten path in their quest for immersive travel experiences and personalised travel itineraries.

In this edition of our inflight magazine, we look to intrigue you with some remarkable experiences you can find while travelling to different destinations around the globe. All of us have heard about Vincent van Gogh and perhaps seen some of his masterpieces, but how about being able to step into his shoes and understand the way he worked and lived? Walk in the footsteps of the legendary master in Arles, France, where he created more than 300 artworks, on pages 68-74. The Offshore section on pages 36-40 gives a sneak peek into Kathmandu's Freak Street and its vibrant past. Discover the Leisure section on pages 76-82 that gives you a flavour of Oman's best-kept secret - its gastronomic delights. And the Chronicles section on pages 60-66, acquaints you with the age-old tradition of public saunas in Finland.

We hope that these novel experiences will help shape your travels in 2020 – inspiring you to go beyond the ordinary and connect with the local culture, traditions and people. Happy reading!



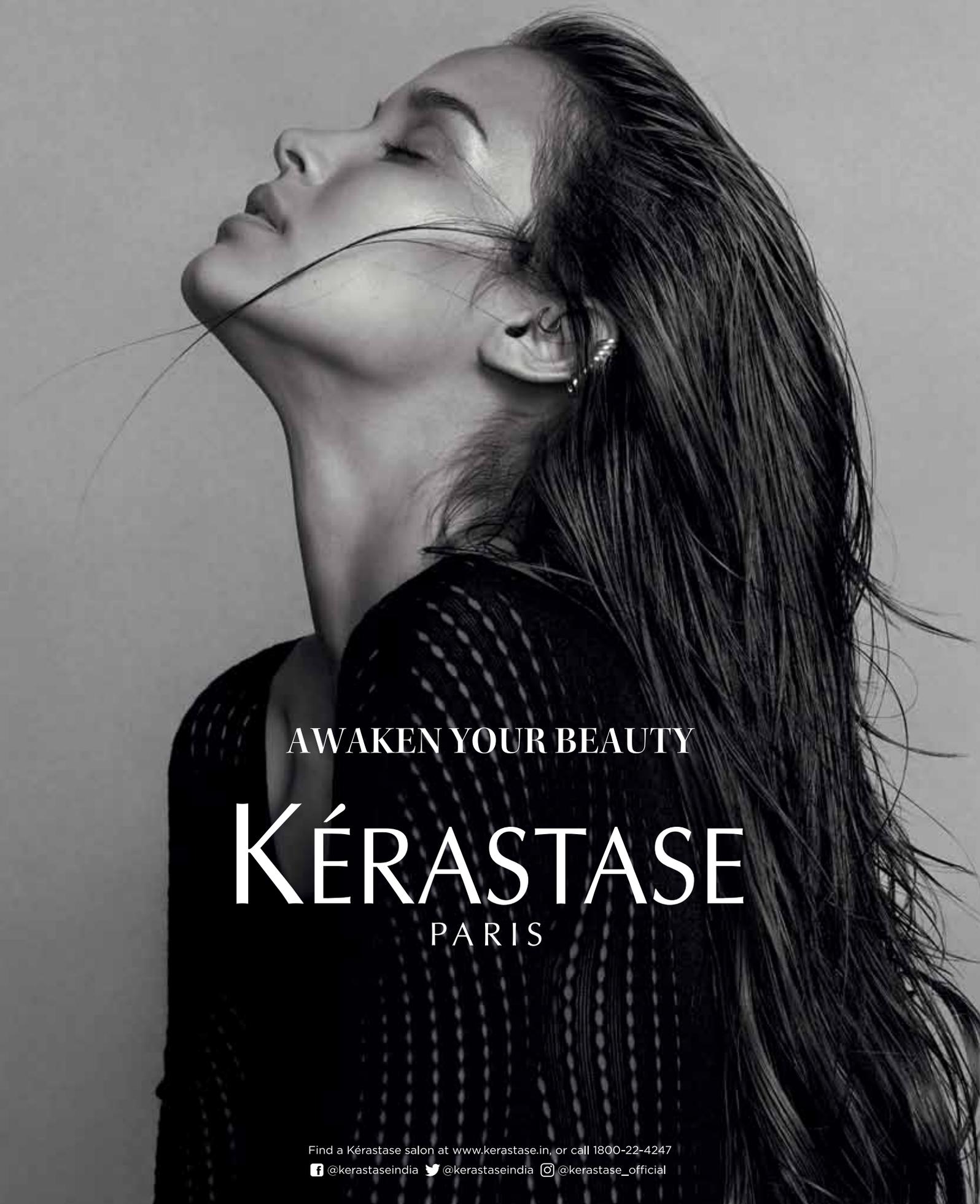
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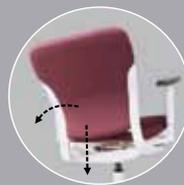
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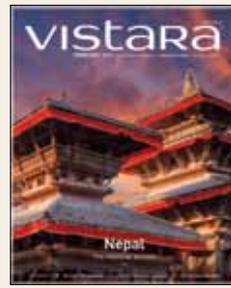
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Heritage Site



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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



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Winners of the Vistara Quiz (January 2020 issue)

Answer 1:
Helicopter

Kashvi Rathod
Avnesh Yadav

Answer 2:
Psycho

Yogesh Jain
Mona Goel

Answer 3:
Triple H

Miriam Abraham
Aqueel Ahmad



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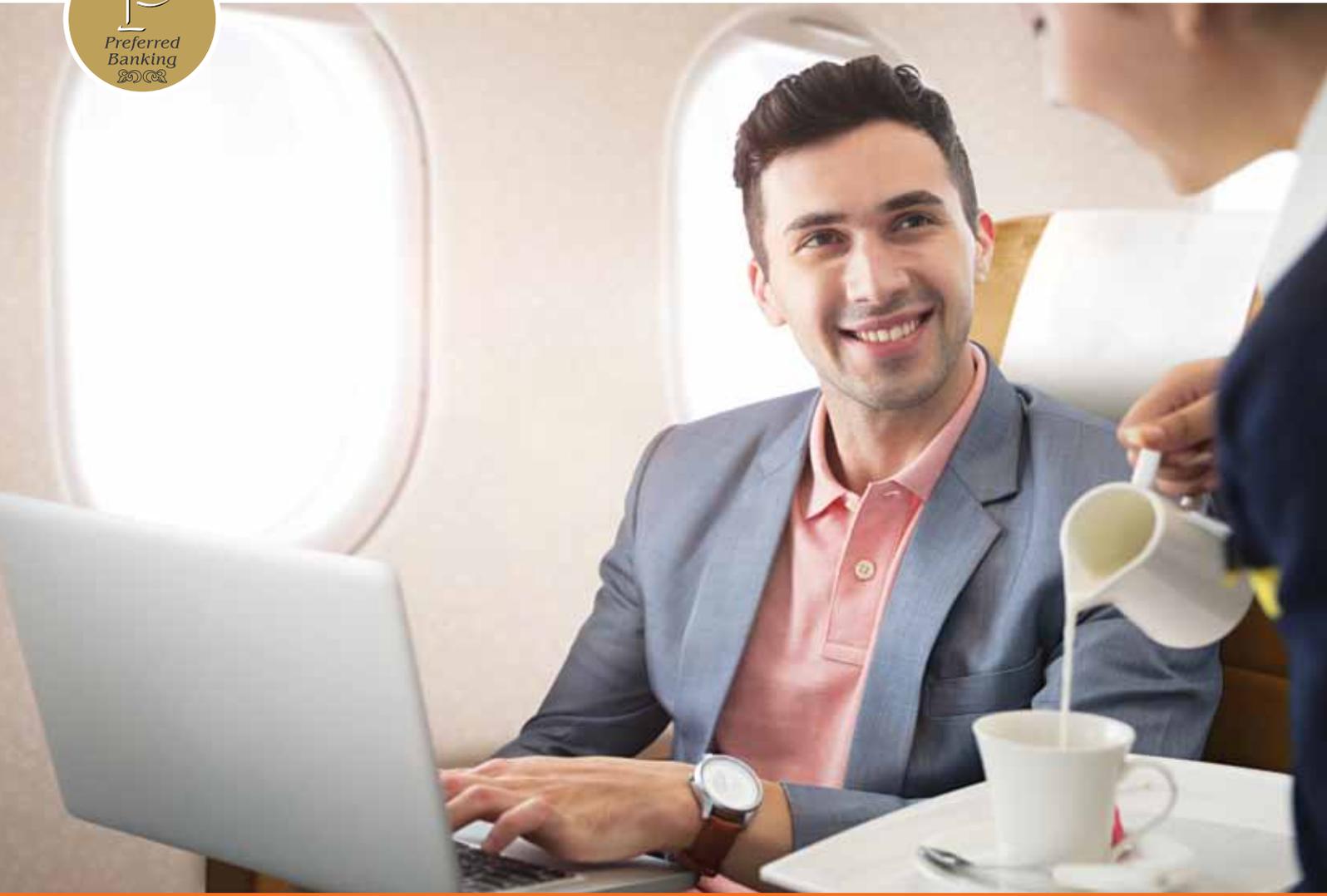
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POTPOURRI

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



Forest of sign posts

Deep within the woods of Yukon's Watson Lake in Canada, lies a forest of sign posts. It is the largest collection of sign posts in the world, and has been constantly growing since 1942. The first sign post was hand-made and said 'Danville, Illinois, 2,835 miles.' It was placed by a homesick US soldier, Carl K. Lindley, while he was helping out with the construction of the Alaska Highway'. Soon many followed and today there are over 91,000 signs.



VISTARA QUIZ

Question 1: What was the original name for John F. Kennedy Airport in New York?

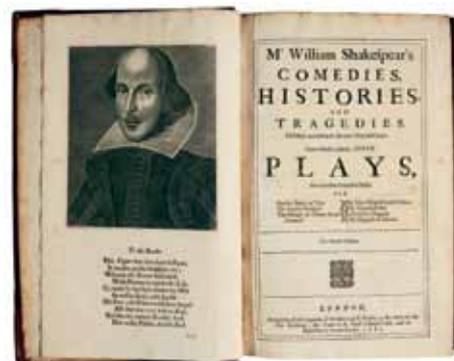
Answers in the next issue of Vistara magazine.

Share your answers at inflightmag@airvistara.com. Two winners for each question will be eligible for prizes.

This Month, That Year



On February 12, 1847, American inventor Thomas Edison (1847-1931) was born in Milan, Ohio. Throughout his lifetime, he acquired over 1,200 patents including the incandescent bulb, phonograph and movie camera. His best known quote is, "Genius is one per cent inspiration and ninety-nine per cent perspiration."



Shakespeare's First Folio for bidding

A rare 1623 book of William Shakespeare's plays called *Comedies, Histories and Tragedies* will be going for auction for the first time in April this year. Known as *First Folio*, this book is one of the only known six complete copies that are with private collectors. The book comprises 36 of Shakespeare's plays, including *Macbeth*, *The Tempest* and *As You Like It*.



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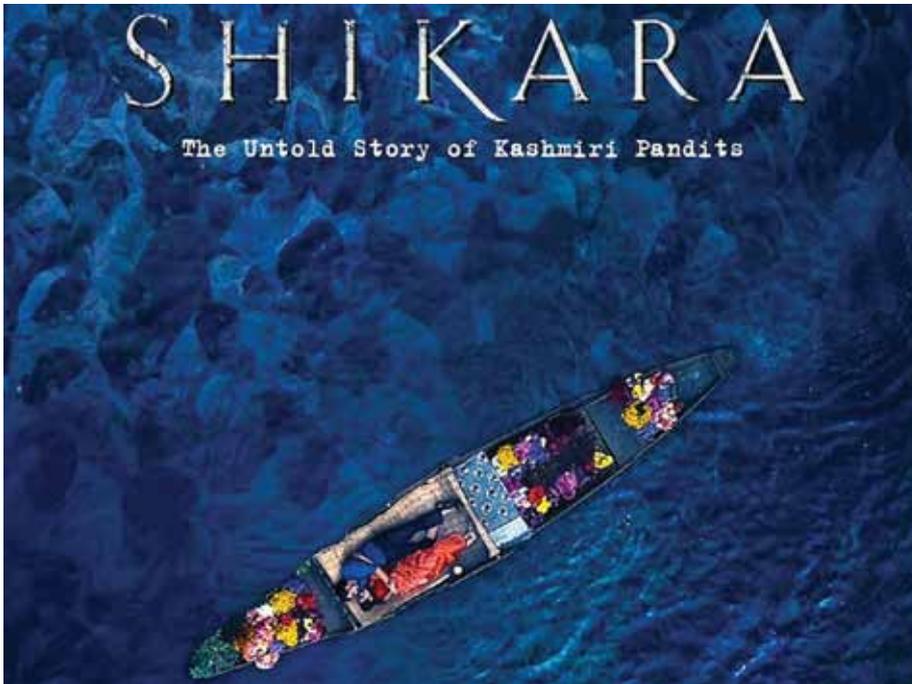
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MOVIE OF THE MONTH



Shikara

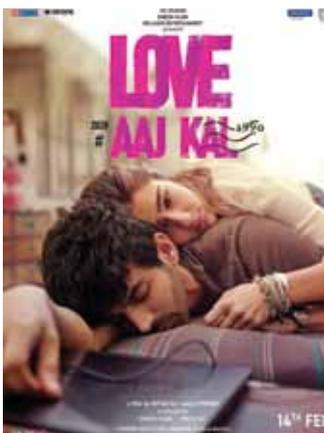
Director: **Vidhu Vinod Chopra**

Stars: **Aadil Khan, Sadia**

Release date: **February 7, 2020**

It is a timeless story of love that remains unextinguished through 30 years of exile.

BOLLYWOOD / HOLLYWOOD



Love Aaj Kal 2

Director: **Imtiaz Ali**

Cast: **Kartik Aaryan, Sara Ali Khan**

Release date: **February 14, 2020**



Bloodshot

Director: **Dave Wilson**

Cast: **Sam Heughan, Eiza González, Vin Diesel**

Release date: **February 21, 2020**



Shubh Mangal Zyada Saavdhan

Director: **Hitesh Kewalya**

Cast: **Ayushmann Khurrana, Jitendra Kumar**

Release date: **February 21, 2020**

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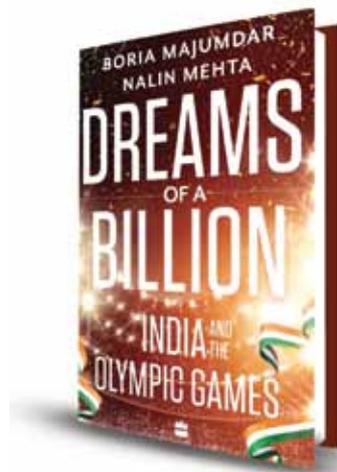
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ON MY KINDLE

'Dreams of a Billion', written by Boria Majumdar & Nalin Mehta and published by Harper Collins Publishers India, gives people a real insight into India's Olympic sport scene as the country gears up for 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

What is different about this book?

For the first time, I think, it is an effort to take every reader backstage with India's Olympic athletes. So far what people know is academic knowledge. But for the first time, you will see athletes opening up and giving us the real stories...exactly what transpires, what happens. For example, how did Abhinav Bindra deal with epilepsy, what did Mary Kom exactly do when she won the London Medal, how P. V. Sindhu reacted when she won the Rio medal, and so on. These are really important questions that we have answered in this book.



Indian athletes have fared much better in last few years at international arenas. What do you think has changed?

About 10 years back we did not have systems and structures in place. Abhinav Bindra is an individual example of an Olympic champion, coming out from a stable which did not have a system. He became Abhinav Bindra thanks to his father and thanks to his own efforts.

Today, we finally have a system in place, at least in some sports for sure. Take for example, badminton. If you go and see both the academies in Hyderabad, they are professionally run, there is sports science, there is nutrition, there is proper management, there is a proper sense of discipline with a 24x7, 365-day cycle.

Take a look at the number of medalists from the youth Olympic games and the world championships, be it Manu Bhaker or Saurabh Chaudhary or Yashaswini Deswal.

You have been associated with sports for so many years, what do you think are the reasons for these drawbacks? Was it because of lack of money or lack of opportunities?

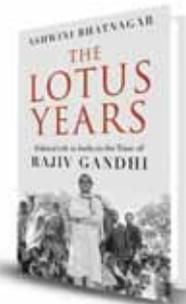
It is not about money. It is about the will, the commitment, the passion, the dedication and the determination to produce Olympic champions. That I think was lacking in India. Today, we can think of a public-private

partnership coming into force. The government is also keen and individual associations and private partners like Gosports Foundation, OGQ, the Gagan Narang Foundation, the Abhinav Bindra Target High Performance Centre, have come forward and we can now see a synergy that is instrumental in bringing about a profound change.

Lastly, how well do you think India will perform in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics?

I'm extremely optimistic about India's performance in Tokyo. I'm actually predicting anywhere between 7 and 9 medals which will be a great performance. In Rio we had 2, in London we had 6, so I'm predicting the best ever Indian performance in Tokyo. If you want the breakdown, I'm predicting between 4-5 in shooting, wrestling, boxing, badminton. Yes, there is Olympic luck. Yes, there is the big stage. Yes, there is pressure. But if our athletes perform to their fullest potential, there is every reason to believe that Tokyo will be a real game-changer in the history of India's Olympic scenario.

UPCOMING
releases

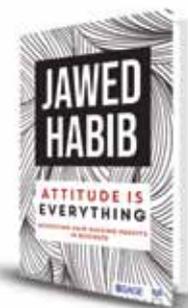


The Lotus Years

By: Ashwini Bhatnagar

Published by:
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Price: ₹499



Attitude is Everything

By: Jawed Habib

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perspective
IN PASSING

The Mirror Crack'd

When: January 30 - February 9, 2020

Where: Mumbai, India

The National Centre for the Performing Arts stages the Indian adaptation of Agatha Christie's famous murder mystery. Directed by Melly Still, adapted for the stage by Rachel Wagstaff and reimagined for an Indian audience by Ayeesha Menon, the play is set in Goa of the 1970s and features Denzil Smith, Shernaz Patel and Sonali Kulkarni.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Elephant Boat Race & River Festival

When: February 28 - March 1, 2020

Where: Thon Buri, Bangkok



Desert Festival

When: February 7 - 9, 2020

Where: Jaisalmer



Art of the Automobile (Exhibition)

When: February 13 - 16, 2020

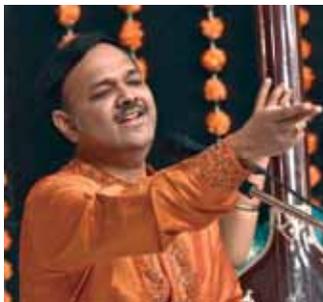
Where: Bikaner House, New Delhi



Dubai Food Festival

When: February 21, 2020

Where: Dubai



Mahashivratri Concert (music concert)

When: February 21, 2020

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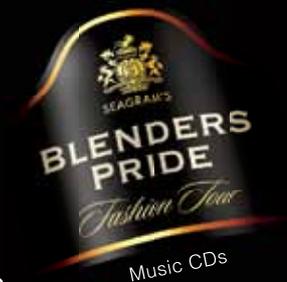
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words // Edwina Dsouza



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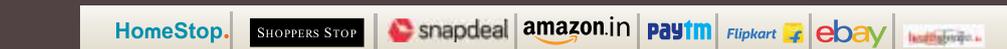
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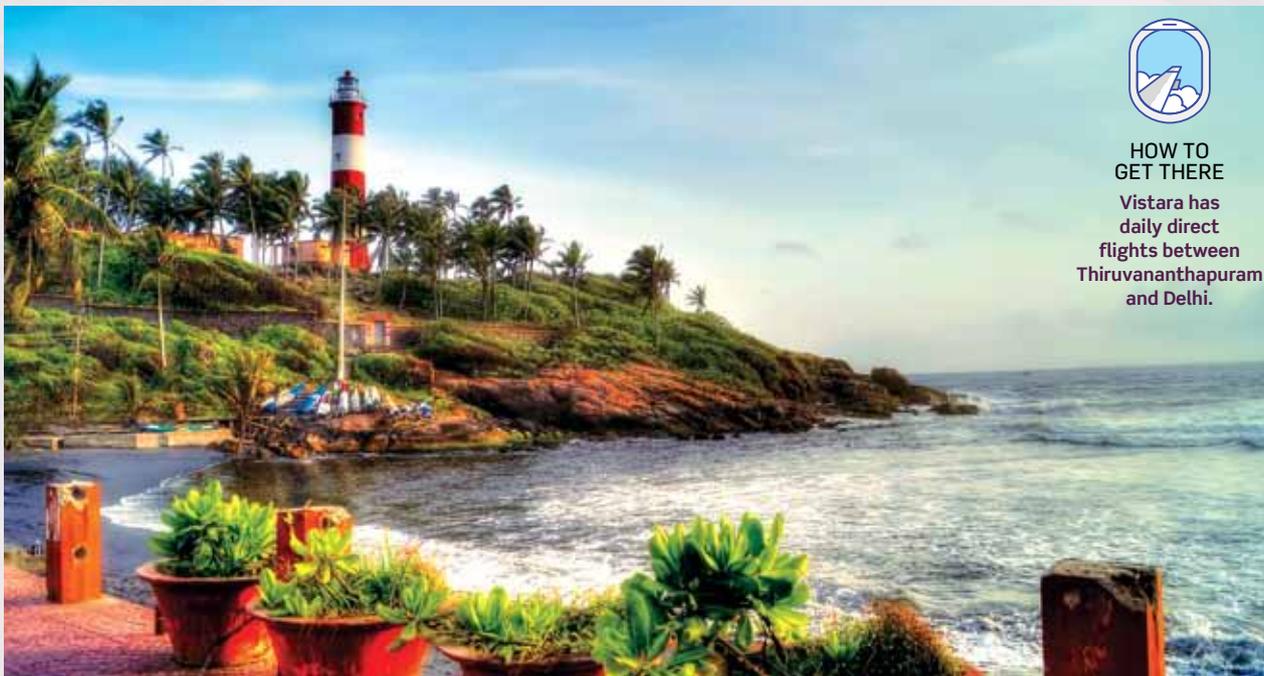
CAPITAL, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM HAS MANY FACETS – THE COMMERCIAL NERVE CENTRE OF THE STATE, A RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL HUB AND A CULTURAL HOTSPOT FROM THE TIMES OF THE TRAVANCORE KINGDOM. EVEN MORE EXCITING IS THE TOWN'S ENVIABLE LOCATION BY THE SEA, WHICH MADE IT A PROMINENT TRADING POST FOR SPICES AND IVORY.

Today, Thiruvanthapuram is an excellent base for a getaway to some of the most vibrant beaches and tranquil backwaters in God's Own Country. Get a taste of Indian tropics on this coastal road trip from Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala to the southern tip of India in Tamil Nadu.

KOVALAM

Once a tiny fishing hamlet, 18 kilometres from the capital, Kovalam has evolved into a truly global beach destination. But it still has a distinct charm of its own. Think clear waters, white sands and a cobbled beach promenade dotted with shops and shacks.

Kovalam's warm waters, low tides and perfect surf-breaks make it an ideal spot for surfing and swimming. For those in the mood to simply unwind, there's always a sun-bed. The red and white Vizhinjam lighthouse, perched on a rock at the edge of the sea, adds a nice touch to the blue of the ocean, giving you postcard like photographs. Make sure to climb the 142 steps to the lighthouse (closed on Mondays) to grab a spectacular view of the beach town. Treat yourself to some roasted mussels and cashew prawns at a seaside café, while downing beers in coffee mugs. Do visit the German Bakery along the promenade not only for its menu, but a brilliant terrace view of the sea. Later, stroll by the many shops along the shore and pick up quirky souvenirs like sea-shell accessories and pen stands



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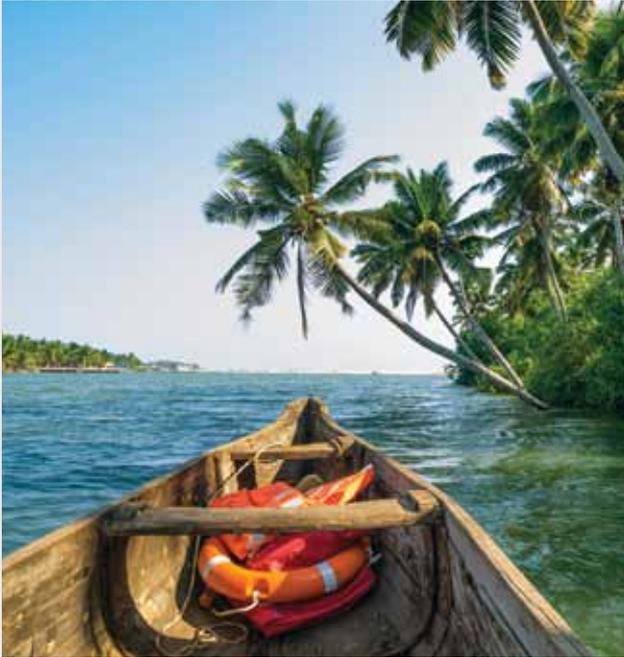
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in the shape of a monkey, handmade from a single coconut shell.

POOVAR

Drive another 16 kilometres further down from Kovalam to Poovar Island for a destination completely off the mainstream tourist radar. Marthanda Varma, a former ruler of Travancore, was so enthralled by this small island in Southern Kerala, that he named the place Poovar – meaning 'a string of flowers'. This tiny fishing village has a very unique setting, sandwiched between the backwaters of Kerala, Neyyar River and the Arabian Sea.

Poovar is a world in itself, away from the hectic city lives. Stay at one of the luxurious properties by the backwaters overlooking the canal, separated from the sea by a thin sandbar. Take a boat-cruise through the canal, spotting exotic birdlife. And pamper yourself with a relaxing Ayurvedic massage after a leisurely stroll on the Poovar beach devoid of people. If that isn't all, take a drop to the mainland by speed boat through the island's backwaters.

KANYAKUMARI

Head back on the road for 70 kilometres, hopping

multiple towns before reaching Kanyakumari, the southernmost tip of India, in Tamil Nadu. Kanyakumari's location is a matter of envy for any Indian town with the confluence of three water bodies – Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean at Triveni Sangam.

Begin the day early with a walk to the water's edge at Kanyakumari beach to catch one of the most beautiful sun rises you'll ever see. Take a ferry to the twin structures of the Vivekananda Rock Memorial and Thiruvalluvar Statue, while marveling at the busy coastal town from the other side. It is said that Swami Vivekananda attained enlightenment at the site of the Vivekananda Rock Memorial, before his famed visit to Chicago for the Parliament of the World Religions in 1893. Its neighbour, the 40 metres tall Thiruvalluvar Statue is an icon of Kanyakumari, named after a Tamil poet and philosopher from the 4th century BCE. Drop by at the Gandhi Memorial Mandapam that housed the urn of Mahatma's ashes before immersing them in the Triveni Sangam. At sundown head to the sunset viewpoint for an incredibly beautiful view of the sun setting into the horizon that'll mark the close of day and an end to a spectacular road trip.



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EXPLORE THIRUVANANTHAPURAM



VISIT

The iconic Padmanabhaswamy Temple in Thiruvananthapuram is the city's biggest draw and one of the richest religious institutions in South India. The Kuthiramallika Palace Museum of the royal family of Travancore displays rare antiques. Stop by at the adjoining art gallery that displays over 1100 paintings from the Travancore dynasty. The 1855 Napier Museum has a collection of arts and artefacts related to the kings and queens of Travancore as well as some fine Raja Ravi paintings.

EAT

The India Coffee House near the central railway station is one of the oldest coffee houses in Thiruvananthapuram and a landmark in itself for its unique spiral structure. Sip *karikku* (tender coconut) and *sambharam* (spiced buttermilk) from street side vendors to beat the tropical heat of the city. For a royal dining experience, visit Villa Maya – an 18th century Dutch manor now converted into a heritage restaurant. Try fusions like seafood *rasam* and sundried bashed meat in a betel leaf.



SHOP

Thiruvananthapuram is dotted with gold shops aplenty, so a gold souvenir for those who can indulge is a nice memoir. Soak in the pulse of the city at Chalai market – Kerala's busiest street bazaar and find great bargains on fresh fruits, dates, sandalwood, handicrafts, quirky accessories and textile. ✨

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A stitch in time

A well-fitted garment is not just something that you wear – it is a language you speak when without words. And the final word when you speak of bespoke fashion comes from The Darzi Group. A brainchild of Mr. Sunil Mital, The Darzi Group was established in 1981. It grew from a humble tailoring house in Rajouri Garden, New Delhi, to a brand synonymous with fashion and fine craftsmanship. With a degree from London's Tailoring and Design Centre, Mital revolutionised the tailoring industry by computerising. A perfect blend of traditional art and modern machinery, The Darzi has cemented a solid reputation for itself amongst its clients, over four decades of its operation.

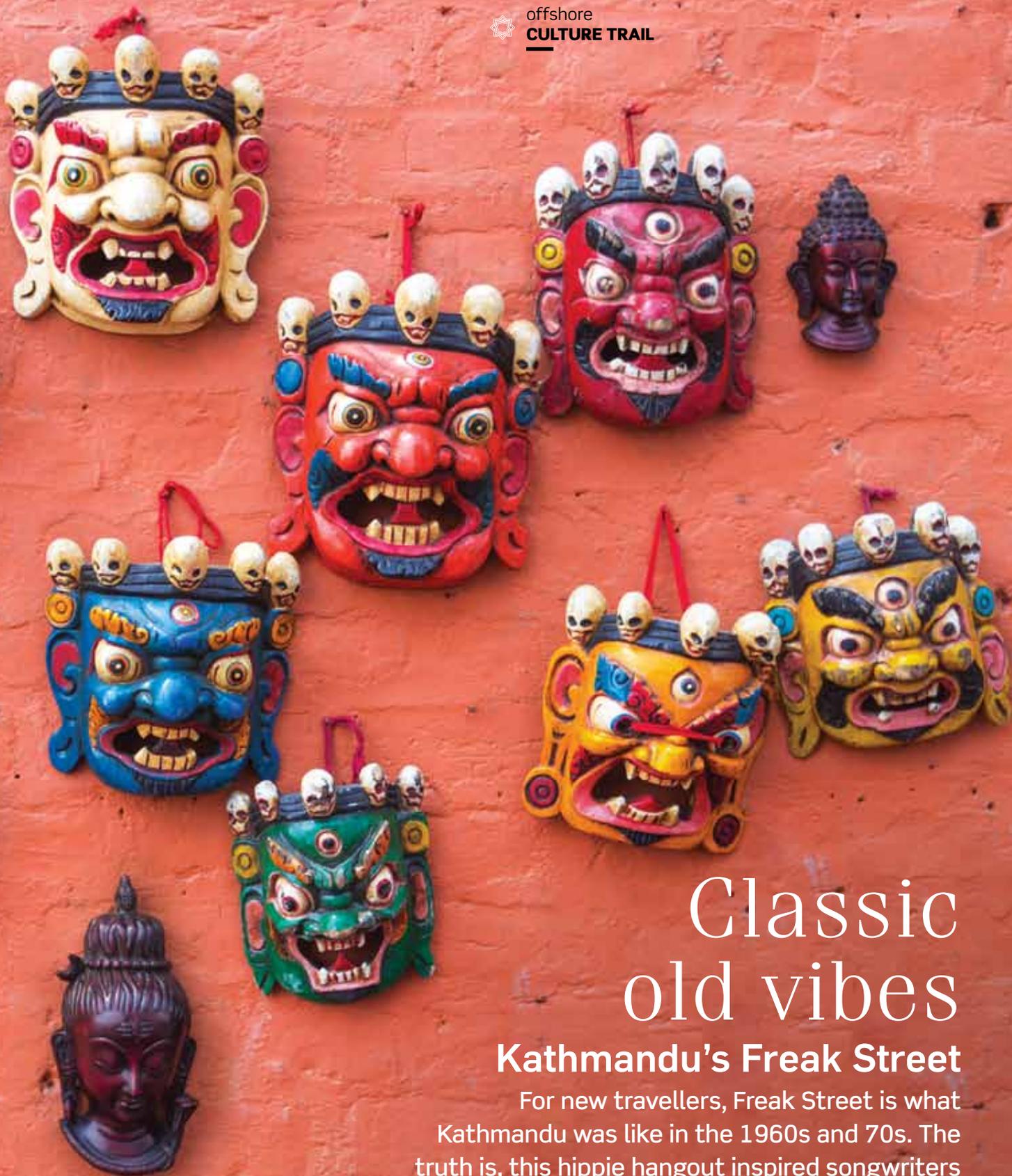
As the industry grew, he sensed an increasing need for international fabric and ethnic wear market as well. As Darzi Group's answer to this demand, Studio Firang was established in 2001.

In 2013, his son Sushain Mital joined the group with the vision of taking the business to higher avenues. Enamoured with the world of bespoke tailoring since childhood, he gained an Honours degree in Bespoke Tailoring and a Masters degree in Pattern Design and Garment Technology from London College of Fashion. Sushain is India's first and only professionally-qualified bespoke tailor.

In 2016, the father-son duo sensed that the Indian market was looking for more international, rare and high-end fabrics. To cater to this rising need, they founded Mirasu that delivers to its clients international, understated and personalised luxury, with the world's most exclusive and high-end fabrics.

Today, The Darzi operates with a team of over 100 tailors, pattern cutters and craftsmen ensuring finesse and attention-to-detail ensure the delivery of the perfect outfit.





Classic old vibes

Kathmandu's Freak Street

For new travellers, Freak Street is what Kathmandu was like in the 1960s and 70s. The truth is, this hippie hangout inspired songwriters and travel writers who immortalised it.



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Located off Durbar Square, Freak Street adapted to its extraordinary identity with ease decades ago and proudly carries the name today. Originally Jhronchen Tole, this street bustles with tourists reliving the memories of the famous hippie-trail of the 1960s. Once the epicenter of the mystic east and a place to find enlightenment, today's Freak Street is, however, beginning to show signs of transformation. The hippies stopped coming, but the attraction continues to grow.

REMINISCING THE PAST

Freak Street is reviving, but to truly appreciate its place in Nepal's history, visit the Snowman Café which may as well be what

Freak Street is all about. It holds the key to cultural changes that began in the 1960s with the arrival of the hippies who added an international vibe to this mountain-country. Suraj Maharjan, a local tour operator had fond memories of Freak Street. "It is a legend", he says, "We are glad it is regaining its allure. It is an integral part of our city and history."

A ten minutes end-to-end walk of Freak Street on its smooth stone slabs will unfold its rather checkered past. A Tibetan mask centre, one of the last remaining face-masks shops in the city, a second-hand bookstore pushing its limits to stay alive in the vanishing book-store culture, countless carpet, pashmina and

local clothes stores add to the charm of this street.

Bookstores, filled with trekking maps and guidebooks, are the newest arrivals to the scene in an increasingly vital period of Nepal's transition to a trekking and adventure haven. Today, new cafés and eateries entertain trendy locals and tourists on mobiles, instead of hippies living in a state of exuberance.

The name 'Freak Street' was given by locals owing to the hippies that used to congregate in the popular cafés here. Today, rock-and-roll might not be heard on the streets blaring from heavy duty tape-recorders, but the street is alive with the sound of happy travellers reliving a moment of yore.



The storied heirloom

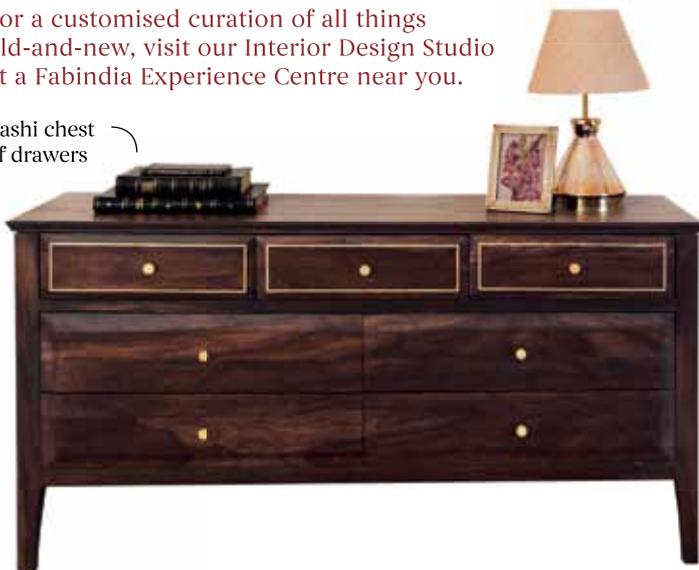
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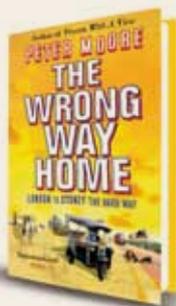
Kashi chest of drawers



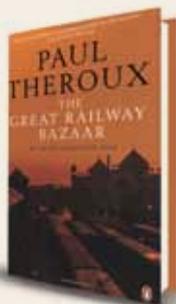
Cuddle Lorn chair



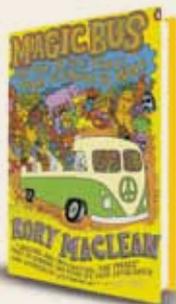
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Starting February 11, 2020, Vistara will operate daily flights between Delhi and Kathmandu with convenient one-stop connections from other cities.

David Ways, a travel veteran who has written a number of books on Nepal sums it up nicely, “Walk back in time to the 70s by visiting Freak Street (while munching on a slice of apple pie). It is a beautiful blend of Nepal’s present and past.”

LEGENDS OF FREAK STREET

Steadily serving up delicious apple pies and *chai* since 1960s, the Snowman Café is an important landmark, a window into the past. A dimly-lit joint with a handful of tables, it has the kind of ‘cool’ vibe that never goes out of fashion. This café continues to attract both locals and foreign visitors - some who come to soak up the atmosphere of the 60s, admire the psychedelic paintings, sip on a cup of *chai* and find nirvana in a slice of their famous apple pie. Now, after 55 years of standing proud, the café may not have as many people visiting as it once did in its heyday, but its old charm and spread of cakes continues to lure people in.

Eden Hotel, another legendary

hangout at the end of the street (renovated in 2017) has an interesting history. It was the first hotel in Kathmandu to have an elevator installed.

Among the host of multinational and renowned travellers who arrived here in search of the mystic and free life and made Freak Street their home, albeit temporarily, were the Beatles and Cat Stevens. The latter even wrote the song ‘Katmandu’ as a tribute to this eclectic city. One of the many guest houses here hosted a particularly infamous guest, Charles ‘the Cobra’ Sobhraj’.

COLOURFUL HISTORY

During the 60s and 70s, it was one of the most famous streets in the world – almost as well-known as Champs Elysees in Paris when *chai* and pie shops, restaurants, bookshops, tape-shops, second-hand stores, curio and souvenir shops lined the streets bursting with flower children from all over the world. It was the hippie hangout, a place that embraced these flower children. ✨

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words // Neeta Lal



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Set on the fringes of Lake Rotorua on New Zealand's North Island, the town of Rotorua is a natural wonderland. Nestling within the surreal landscape is also the Waimangu Volcanic Valley, the world's youngest geothermal system formed just 118 years ago by a massive volcanic eruption. Think bubbling volcanoes, hissing geysers, mud pools and misty lakes.

Autumn is the best time to explore the award-winning reserve and take a guided tour to truly enjoy and absorb the awe-inspiring ecology. Apart from comfortable shoes and water bottles, get equipped with a map that features

over thirty things to stop and look at during the eight-kilometre long walk through this pristine bushland filled with native plants, birds, fern-covered hillocks dotted with steaming fissures, mist-shrouded waterbodies and hot-water bubbling streams.

The word 'Waimangu', the guide explains starting off the tour, means 'black water' in the native Maori language. It is derived from the mud and rock-filled waters that were thrown up by the Waimangu Geyser to great heights.

The story of Waimangu Volcanic Valley, he adds, starts with the local Mount Tarawera, an active volcano that has erupted several times in

the last few millennia. "In 1870, when it erupted, a 16-kilometre long rift running southwest from the mountain opened up with 22 craters exploding from land, discharging molten lava and other liquids."

In the aftermath of the disaster, ash covered the entire town of Rotorua like a blanket. Plants and animals were exterminated. Entire villages were wiped out, killing 120 people. After the craters appeared, geothermal fluids found their way to the surface, bringing about tectonic shifts. This also gave birth to the Waimangu Geyser - the largest such formation in the world. Since then, the geyser has been erupting at regular intervals



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spewing rocks, black steam and boiling water, often to heights of 1476 feet.

“Living in and around Rotorua, you just never know when the next eruption will occur,” the guide adds. “One day you see solid ground and blue skies; the next day a boiling spring, mud pool and a fumarole (an opening in Earth’s crust which emits steam and gases such as carbon dioxide, sulphur dioxide, hydrogen chloride, and hydrogen sulphide) may appear!”

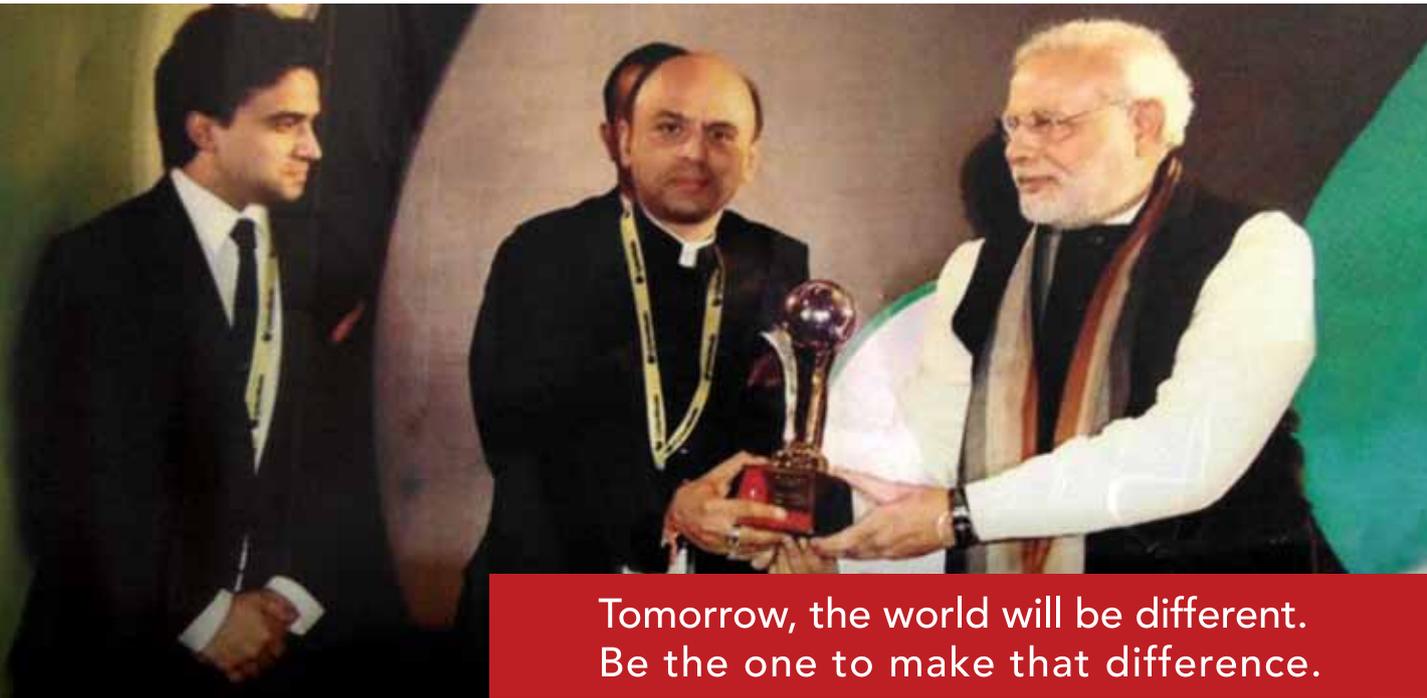
Despite the land’s past volatility, walking through Waimangu is a deeply therapeutic and immersive experience. The surround sound of twittering native birds and emerald green foliage embellished with flowers and fruits adds to its meditative quality.

However, action unfolds as you reach the spectacular Frying Pan Lake, the biggest natural thermal

The word ‘Waimangu’ means ‘black water’ in the native Maori language, derived from the mud and rock-filled waters that were thrown up by the Waimangu Geysir.



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Image credit: Destination Rotorua

Despite the land's past volatility, walking through Waimangu is a deeply therapeutic and immersive experience.

spring in the world. Capture the lake's swirling steam and rising vapours. The 55-degree Celsius water in the lake is acidic in nature and covers 38,000 square metres. The site is so otherworldly, that it looks like a dreamland!

Be that as it may, the highlight of any visit to Waimangu is the stunning coloured waters of Inferno Crater. You can call it fifty shades of blue. Or is it green? Considering the water of the crater was created when the eruption blew a hole in the side of Mount Hazard, it is incredibly

serene. This calm surface, however, belies tumultuous subterranean action as Inferno Crater is the world's largest geyser with frenetic geothermal activity hidden some 30 metres down.

One kilometre further into the trail, you will encounter more bubbling lakes, rushing streams of hot water and dramatic geology. The geysers along the lake shore at Fumarole Bay making weird and wonderful sounds make a perfect setup for shooting videos! A few metres below lies a small lake called Rotomakariri fringed by indigenous plants and bushes.

Waimangu is peppered with many other craters. The Southern Crater, a 50-metre deep water-filled hole, was born during the 1886 eruption while the Echo Crater bubbles with thermal activity from springs and vents. Just ahead these sites lies the intriguing 'Buried Soil', a cliff area which depicts the black band of soil that resulted from the erupting Mount Tarawera and a 2000-year old pumice layer underneath it.

The fabulous Pink and White Terraces, once considered the eighth wonder of the world, is one of Waimangu Valley's most thronged sites. Despite the destruction wreaked by the 1886 eruption of nearby Mount Tarawera, the terraces are still faintly visible. The guide points



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Along the trail, you will encounter more bubbling lakes, rushing streams of hot water and dramatic geology.



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to the multiple layers of rocks and the multi-hued stalactites and hot springs that surround it, breeding unusual lichens and mosses around it.

Waimangu has bagged an array of awards for eco-tourism, not least for the fact that it remains largely organic, and untampered by man. The valley is indeed raw nature at its best. No surprises then that scientists, geologists, volcanologists, and botanists flock here from all corners of the world to study its wonders.

As a rare eco-system completely and naturally re-established following a volcanic eruption,

Waimangu is protected as a 'Scenic Reserve', administered by New Zealand's Department of Conservation. "Many of Waimangu's geothermal features are ranked as 'Category A', meaning extremely important and of international significance," the guide explains.

The walk ends at the placid Lake Rotomahana which also offers a 45-minute cruise for those keen on a ringside view of the volcanic area. Or one can choose to just amble around the lakeside to soak in its breathtaking scenery, and contemplate the intriguing dynamics between man and nature. ✨



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Experience a centuries-old Swedish tradition dating back to the late 1700s when families used to gather to cook a meal over an open fire in a smoke room – the Halstringbodan.

words // Ruth Dsouza Prabhu

Dining in a smoke room

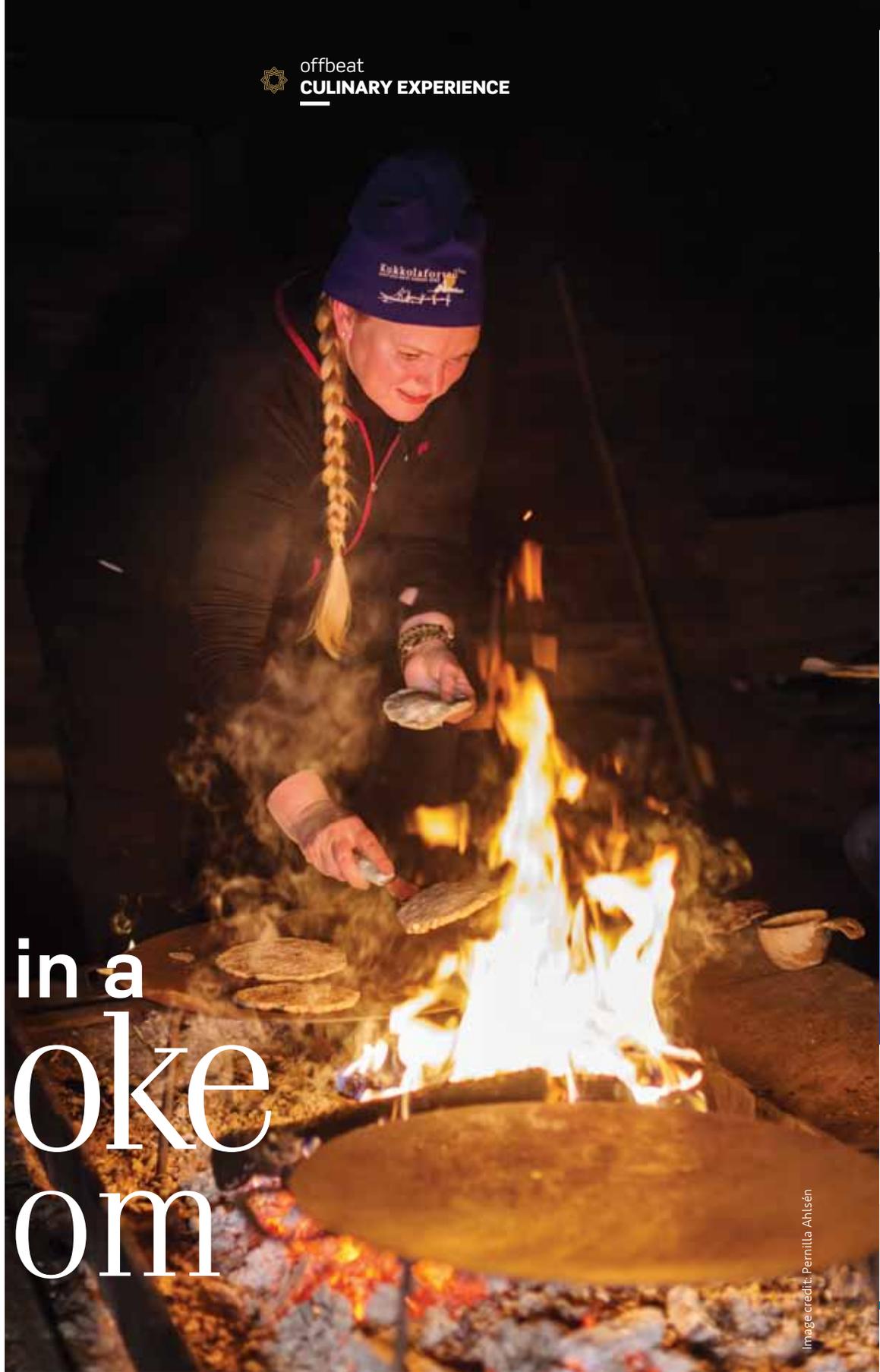


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Come winter and the landscape of the Swedish Laplands transforms into thick carpets of white. Long stretches of the highway flanked by snow-covered trees on either side are a common, and an almost never-ending sight. Driving along Highway 99 into Haparanda, a municipality very close to the Torne River, it takes a while for the mind to comprehend the idea of sunset at 1PM, the occasional reindeer running alongside the car, and snow from trailers on the two-way road rattling the windows of the vehicle.

Heading into Kukkola, a village right next to the Torne River, a rough 10 kilometres north of Haparanda in December, the

winter cold makes itself felt, reminding one of the proximity to the Arctic Circle.

What makes Kukkola unique is the fact that they are two villages, with the same name, split by the majestic Torne River – one half being in Sweden and the other in Finland. Each side is a perfect mirror of the other in terms of names and localities. With the rapids of the Torne River (Tornio in Finland) on a constant rumble in the background, a visitor here is welcomed to a place that has unique experiences on offer. The most soul satisfying of which is a fireside bread and fish meal.

Johannah Spolander, the owner of Kukkolaforsen Turist & Conferens welcomes her guests on cold winter

evenings to the reception-cum-restaurant with Finnish Schnapps in small frosted glasses. The cold shot, she assures, will instantly warm one up, which is much needed when coming in from -14 degrees Celsius temperature. Once warmed up, it's back out in the cold for a small trek to individual cabins to get into sub-arctic winter clothes – all in preparation for some hands-on cooking in a smoke room that dates back to the 1700s.

STORIES AROUND AN INDOOR FIRE

The culinary experience unfolds in a timber smoke room called Halstringbodan that dates back to the late 1700s. Wipe away some of the soot on the walls and one may just see some inscriptions dating centuries back. Dig into the fire





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pit in the centre and there will be evidence found of white fish being grilled there going back all the way to 1400 AD. The smoke room is a tradition among families from the olden times. This is a space to get together, cook over an open fire, share a meal and stories, and socialise during the cold months.

The teepee-shaped structure easily accommodates around 10 people. Stone seats around the fire are covered with reindeer pelts, instantly making for warm

places to settle down. Between the crackle and fizz of the fire and the rumble of the Torne River rapids in the background, the setting for a wonderful meal is in place.

It's from the rapids that thunder past that *sikfiske* (whitefish, from the salmon family) is caught and brought in for the meal. The fish is cleaned, gutted and scored and then skewered onto pine wood sticks. There is no marination or seasoning. The fish is placed upright, in a row next to the fire. As

the fire sings the fish, it begins to release oils that gradually drip, top down, covering the fish.

While this is being done, the *muurikka*, a circular iron pan that stands on metal legs is placed on the fire, a bit to edge. This is heated in preparation for the *gahkku* (the bread of the Sami traditional tribe of the Laplands).

The little mounds of bread dough are different from the conventional doughs seen, simply because

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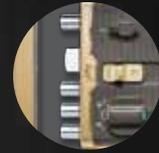
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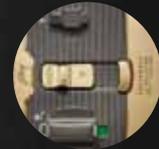
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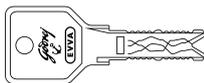
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Wrapping up a meal like this, with a sight like the Auroras ensures dessert is well taken care of.



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they are soft and spongy and are made with flour, fresh cream, fennel, whole wheat and some spices. Shaped into mounds, each person takes one and there is a friendly competition to see who can flatten the dough into the thinnest flat bread possible, by hand. Once done, it's slapped onto the *muurikka* for just 6-7 seconds on each side and pulled off. Onto this is slathered on, rather generously, garlic butter and then some fish salad, that is also made with *sikfiske*. It is then rolled up and eaten.

At this point, the appetites are whetted, the grilling fish smells divine, the body has adjusted to the warmth of the fire and the

occasional drafts of cold that tend to seep in through the timber walls. One *ghahkku* roll doesn't seem enough and more are made, stuffed, rolled and eaten.

With around 20 minutes given to the grilling fish, for each side, the skewers are pulled off from the fire and a few of them are together dunked into a bucket of salt water that is kept beside the fire. The fish is pulled out and few ladlefuls of the salt water is poured on it. The fish is un-skewered, placed on dried leaf plates and handed over to the guests. The eating is earthy, with each person digging in with their hands. Some beer or the popular Lingonberry juice – steeped in Christmas spices

during the festive season – is offered.

The meal, from the making to the eating takes around 3 hours, most of which goes by without one noticing it. Closer to 10 PM, guests are encouraged to step out and scout a bit for the Auroras. Right across in the Finnish Laplands (an hour ahead of Sweden), the street lights are turned off to facilitate a dark night for some Aurora viewing. Wrapping up a meal like this, with a sight like the Auroras ensures dessert is well taken care of. Each one carries with them well-fed bellies, some of the smoke and lovely memories of a rustic meal. ✨

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A steamy affair in Finland

Explore Finland's public sauna scene that radiates thousands of years of tradition.

words // Ronit Baugh



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I flew to faraway Finland in the dead of dark winters, and the highlight of my trip was not a visit to the Santa Claus Village, but one of the most rejuvenating experiences of my life: bathing in the traditional Finnish sauna. It's an extraordinary experience that tells you about the way of life of the country's locals and lets you participate in a centuries-old tradition. I talked to some Finns in a hot and humid cabin of a sauna and found out more.

FINLAND'S SAUNA CULTURE
Sauna is religion in Finland. Surely, it has got to do with the country's all year round cold climate. It is what the Finns invented to stay warm. Surprisingly, there are enough saunas in Finland (3.3 million+) for the country's 5.5 million people to be accommodated at the same time. It is said that in Finland, important decisions are more likely to be made in the sauna than in meetings, even political ones. Case in point: Eduskuntatalo,

the Finnish House of Parliament in Helsinki has a sauna inside. From babies to great grandparents, everyone goes to the sauna. The tradition dates back almost two thousand years, and it played a sacred role when it started being used for childbirth and washing the dead before burial. Things are a lot different in the present day, but the sauna is still an extremely important part of the Finnish life. If you're invited to dinner at a Finnish house in the countryside, don't be surprised if you end up in their private sauna.



Image credit: Löyly

If you're invited to dinner at a Finnish house in the countryside, don't be surprised if you end up in their private sauna.

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Sauna **ETIQUETTE**

- Nudity in the sauna is normal, but swimming costumes are a must in some of the modern saunas that have a more relaxed atmosphere.
- If you're sitting next to the bucket of water, you're expected to throw water on the stones to turn up the heat. But it's polite to ask those around you before you do.
- Usually, the Finns aren't very chatty and avoid making eye contact. That changes in the sauna where they like to socialise and don't mind striking a conversation.
- If you go to an old-school sauna, you're expected to behave like you're in a sacred place.



Image credit: Löyly

Unlike some of their European neighbours, the Finns aren't worried about getting fully naked in a quiet, dimly lit cabin with strangers. The only thing that matters is whether the sauna is hot enough or the Long Drink (Finland's ubiquitous alcoholic beverage) cold enough. Yes, it's part of the tradition to drink inside. It's a space where you enjoy the meditative atmosphere and all that's expected of you is to splash some water on blazing stones.

TYPES OF SAUNA

There are three types of saunas in Finland. The classic, wood-heated sauna is the most popular type for the traditional experience. Then, there are the electrically heated ones that are available almost everywhere. The third type



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Image credit: Löyly - Pekka Keränen



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is the oldest but also the rarest in Finland - the smoke saunas. They don't have chimneys and the smoke of the wood fire is trapped inside the cabin. The heat and steam rise from the stove and mix with the aromas of smoke, natural tar and fresh birch. The darkness makes the experience very calming and soothes all senses, making it a unique experience that first-timers and connoisseurs alike thoroughly enjoy.

TRADITION IN A MODERN SETTING

The importance of sauna in the Finnish culture is so significant that there is even a name for the quality of a sauna's atmosphere and steam: Löyly. And that is also the name of the trendiest sauna in Helsinki that I visited on my trip, where you can try the wood-burning as well as the smoke saunas. An exquisite pine structure made in quintessential, modern Finnish design, Löyly is an architectural marvel situated by the Baltic Sea. It has a fine-dining restaurant as well as a large year-round terrace for uninterrupted sea views (read venue for the chicest parties in town). Inside, there are public saunas and private sauna cabins. You sip cold beer or lemonade on the rocks, socialise with people and walk in and out of the wood-heated and the smoke saunas. In between, you can also go out to the terrace and take a dip in the icy water of the sea. The intense 'hot sauna, cold plunge' technique, often referred to as the Nordic Cycle, is part of the sauna tradition and has great health benefits, too—both physically and psychologically. The cold dip elevates blood pressure and the whole sauna experience eases muscle pains and makes your skin glow. ✨

Image credit: Löyly



<p>Other Saunas to try in Helsinki</p>	<p>Kotiharju Sauna A sauna warming up for over 90 years.</p>	<p>Sauna Hermann Housed in an unassuming flat with beautiful retro interiors.</p>	<p>Kaurilan Sauna An authentic sauna experience.</p>
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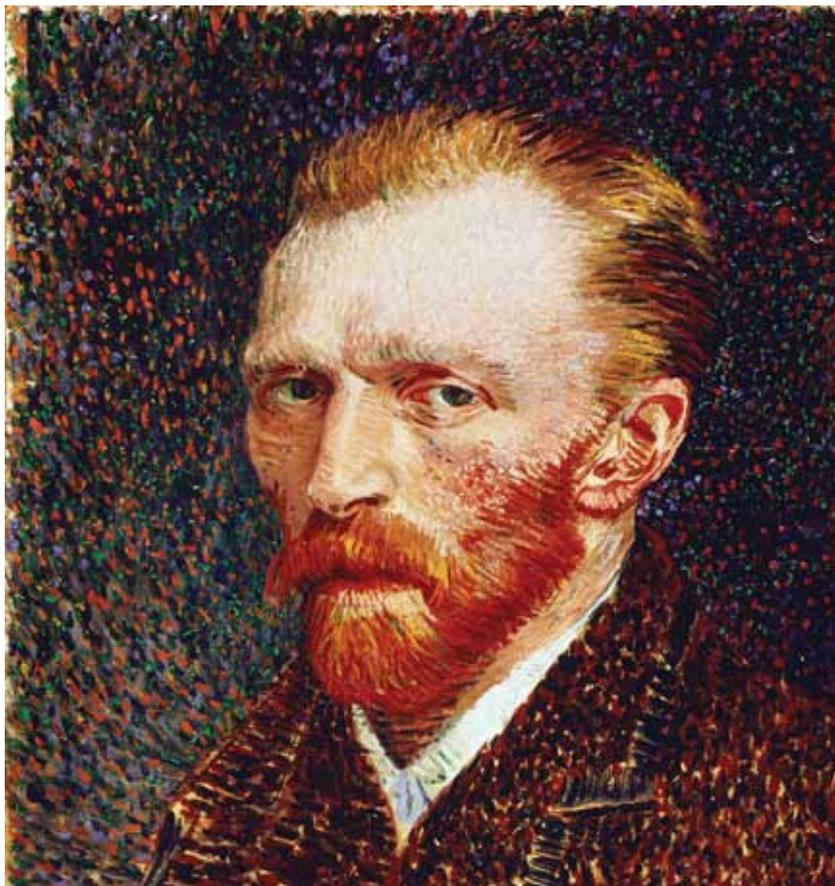
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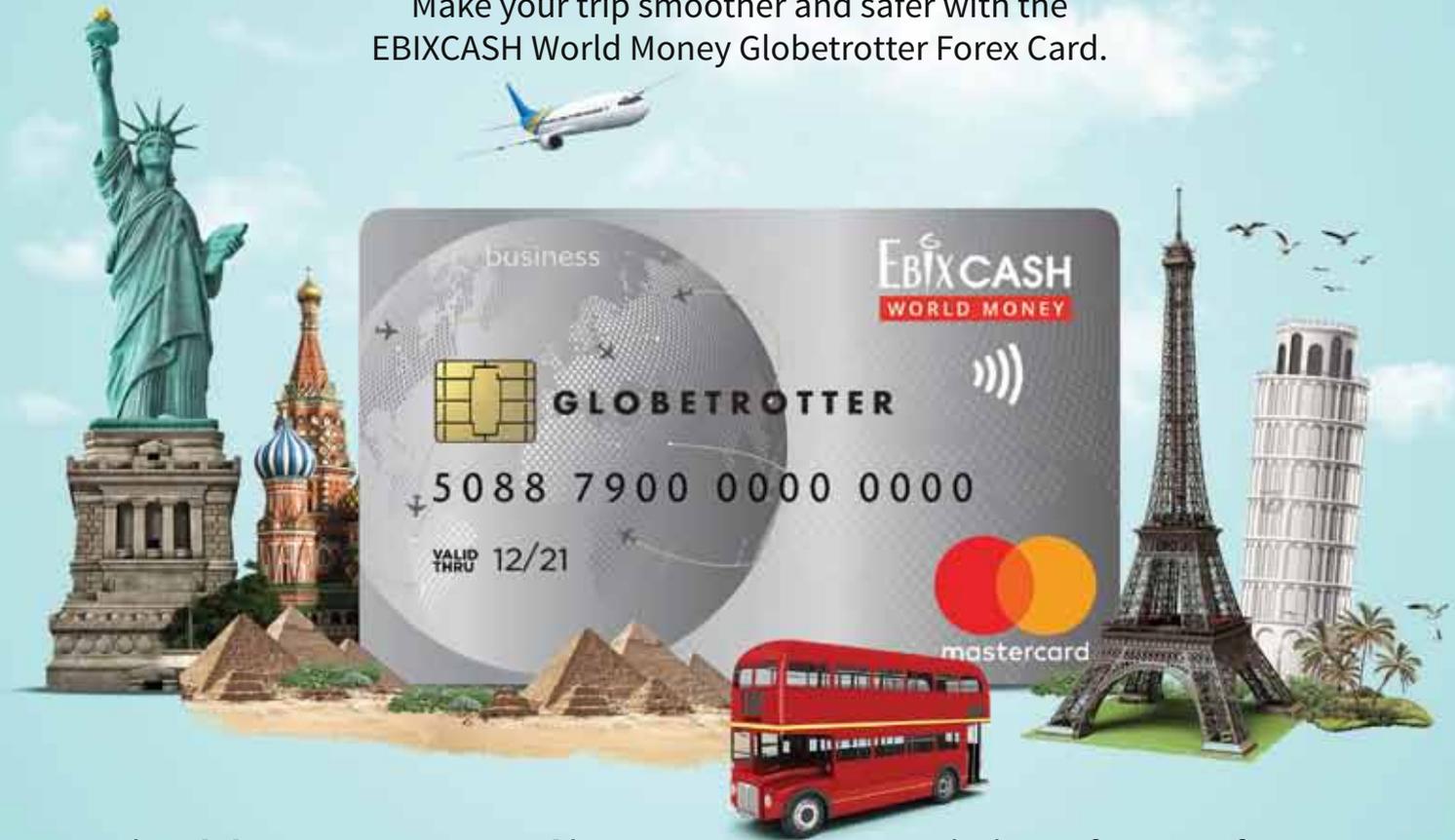
Tracing Vincent van Gogh's footsteps

'The Starry Night', 'Cafe Terrace at Night', 'Bedroom in Arles' – all invoke just one name whose artistic genius is unparalleled, Vincent van Gogh. Follow the artist's footsteps across the lavender fields of Provence, and get just as inspired as van Gogh himself in this walking tour in Arles.

words // Punita Malhotra

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Away from the high-heeled sophistication of Paris and the intoxicating vineyard vistas of Burgundy, lies another France...rural, rustic, real. Where 'pinch-me-is-it-a-dream' villages overlook fragrance-filled lavender fields and plain tree-lined roads wind through carpets of vibrant, happy sunflowers. Where the lush countryside flaunts abundance of wheat, vegetables, fruits, herbs, olives and truffle under brilliantly blue skies. For centuries, the precious paradise of Provence has been an inspiration for amateur

and accomplished artists, even legends like Cézanne, Picasso and most importantly, Vincent van Gogh.

FOR THE LOVE OF ARLES

Ironically, art buffs and critics alike, now swear by the genius of the post-impressionist legend, who never sold a painting in his life. Curiosity-stricken hordes gawk endlessly over some of his most admired canvases housed in the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam, the MoMA and the Met in New York. But, the more serious art aficionados, on the other hand,

can aspire for richer rewards. They can venture beyond the hushed, hallowed galleries into the sunny, cheerful pastures of Provence, where van Gogh once found his calling. To visualise the straw hat-clad Dutch painter, setting up his easel in the midst of Provençal landscape, furiously creating one bright and bold canvas after another, narrating his personal pain through the story of the changing seasons in his inimitable style, is a surreal experience. All his favourite subjects...blossoming flowers, sowing-reaping peasants and windswept fields...have



The serious art aficionados venture into the sunny, cheerful pastures of Provence, where Vincent van Gogh once found his calling.



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a permanent home here. The ultimate art fantasy comes to life in the ancient Roman town of Arles, where van Gogh lived and crafted over 300 passion-filled pieces within just 18 months. Ten steel-and-concrete easels mark the locations, coinciding with some of his most famous paintings, for those who prefer to wander around freely in a self-guided tour. It's a wonderful walk in the footsteps of van Gogh, breathing the same French countryside air he did.

CANVAS COUNTDOWN

Quintessentially Roman elements are scattered everywhere. The theatre, baths, aqueducts, sports arenas are all reminders of the lovingly preserved heritage of a town which was once a vital

Western Roman Empire port and link to the Mediterranean. From the ancient Roman ruins of Alyscamps Necropolis, where van Gogh painted four scenes in 1888, and the bright green grass of its urban park Jardin d'Été, to Rue Voltaire's lively awning-draped stone buildings, and the bridges of Trinquetaille and Langlois, every bit of Arles is an open art gallery. But some pitstops are almost obligatory, like the grand three-tiered Roman amphitheatre.

Standing inside the Arles Colosseum, one marvels at the architectural prowess of the Romans, who built it 2000 years before van Gogh's time. Its beauty with its wild emotions has been

captured flawlessly in 'The Arena at Arles', thanks to the unique jittery technique that he perfected with the influence of his close friend and contemporary, Paul Gauguin.

The most-wanted in all of Arles is the easel with a painting of 'The Yellow House', planted where van Gogh's home once stood. The sunflower-yellow painted, sun-drenched Provençal building has long gone, but its eternal spirit lives on. After all, this was where one of the world's most famous artists challenged his limits with masterpieces like 'Café Terrace at Night', 'Sunflowers' and 'The Sower'.

The quiet riverside quay is a far cry from its buzzing ancient version,

ESSENTIALS

COUNTRY

France

LANGUAGE

French

CURRENCY

Euro

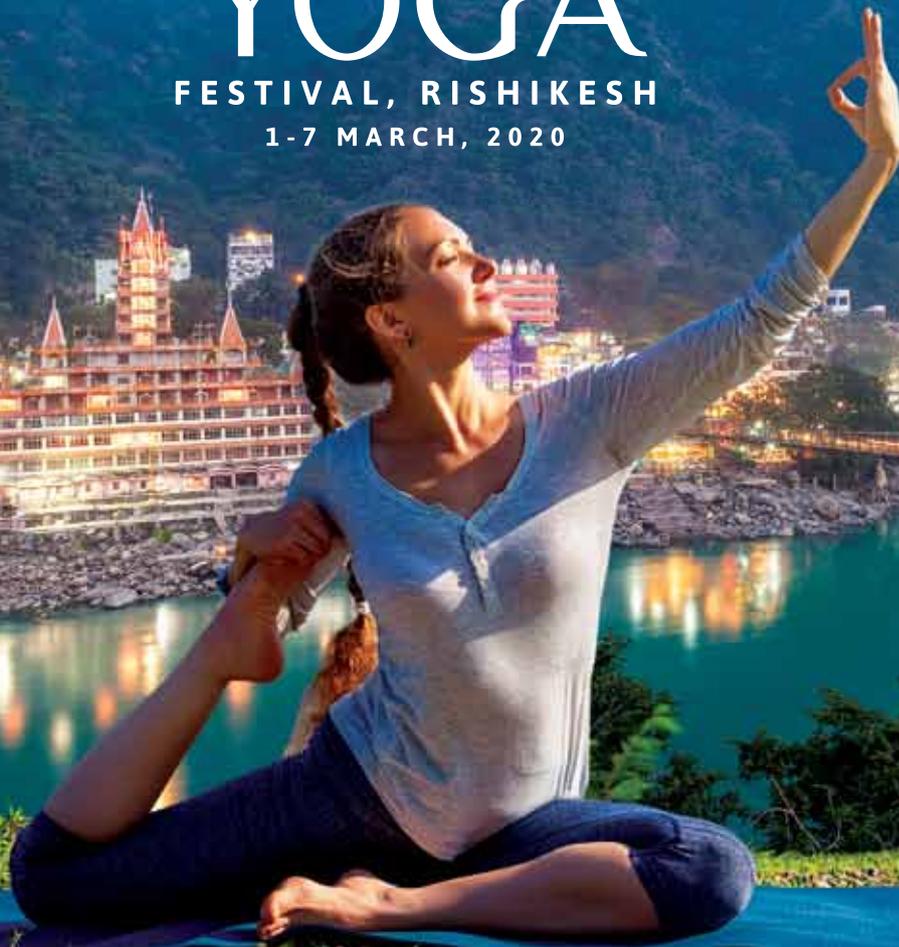
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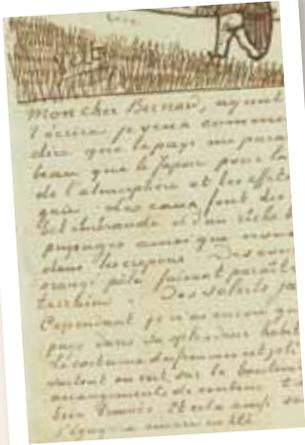
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THE LETTERS OF VINCENT VAN GOGH

Looking for a deeper insight into the artist's private life? A collection of letters exchanged between Van Gogh and his brother Theo, sister Wil, and fellow artists Paul Gauguin, Anthon van Rappard and Emile Bernard, is the answer to it.

The Letters of Vincent van Gogh is a collection of 903 surviving letters, out of which 820 were written by van Gogh and 83 were received. Published by Theo's widow Johanna van Gogh-Bonger, these letters are both a study of the artist's personal life and works of literature.



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when the Rhone was the centre of commerce for the thriving Roman empire. But it still looks like how van Gogh would have seen it, calm and soothing. It is fascinating to analyse how he exaggerated the scene in his depiction, 'Starry Night Over the Rhone'. The explosion of Prussian, ultramarine and cobalt blues, highlighted with deep orange-yellows of the gas lights reflecting in the water, seems more than justified.

His other memorable creation, 'Café Terrace at Night' morphs into reality at the iconic Le Café van Gogh. Though its not the original yellow cafe from his painting, the resemblance is remarkably close. Yellow in colour, illuminated from within, it stands in sharp contrast to the

dark night as it did then.

And finally, one can visit the location of the 'Courtyard of the Hospital at Arles', where he was treated for a partially severed ear, which he himself cut off after a tense episode with his friend Gauguin. The copy of his painting displayed in the courtyard captures the scene exactly, even today... flower bunches, shady trees, pillared corridor et al.

TOWARDS FULL CLOSURE

Satiety comes with closure at the nearby town of Saint-Rémy, where van Gogh lived during his last traumatic year at the psychiatric institution of Saint Paul of Mausole Monastery. But apparently, even in that state, the ambience was no less

inspiring, because he left behind a legacy of 146 oil paintings and 150 drawings here, including notables like 'Wheat Fields', 'Bedroom' and his star creation, 'Starry Night'. Copies of his art pieces are displayed on easels everywhere...in his austere bedroom, in the open fields, near the gnarled olive trees, close to the famous blue irises and flowering trees, and beside the tall cypresses. The distinctive, swirling brushwork and dense colours are, of course, a recurring theme. One leaves the asylum with vivid imagery... an unacknowledged genius in his mid-thirties desperately seeking respite and finding fleeting peace in the uplifting Provençal light. ✨

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FROM QAHWA



Whether it is traditional grilled meats infused with spices, saffron flavoured coffee or its own brand of sticky *halwa*, Oman's gastronomic offerings are waiting to be discovered at every corner.

words // Pallavi Pasricha

Omani cuisine is perhaps the country's best kept secret, rooted in Middle Eastern traditions, and adding its own magic with flavours that have lingered over generations.

In a country where the desert and mountains merge into a 1700-long kilometre coastline; meats, seafood and dates dominate the local palate. But since Oman lay on the famed spice route, one often stumbles upon the subtle nuances of Arabian, African and even Indian food as the delicate aroma of cinnamon and saffron drifted into Omani kitchens.

From street food like lamb, skewered fresh off the grill, to local delicacies such as the pit-roasted *Shuwa* and Omani *halwa* served at posh restaurants, the capital city of Muscat is perhaps the best place to sample Oman's time-tested recipes.

TO KEBABS



You can fly to Muscat with Vistara's interline partners Gulf Air, Emirates and Kuwait Airways.

KEBABS AND BARBEQUES

The aroma of meat grilling will hit you from a distance as food stalls on street corners busily skewer the country's favourite snack, *Mishkak*. This is meat cut into pieces, seasoned overnight with fragrant Omani spices, and served hot with chilli or a tamarind sauce. These impromptu barbeques offer a range of meats such as camel, lamb, chicken and squid. These are no ordinary kebabs – the slightly charred chunks of meat are spicier and tangier due to the unexpected addition of tamarind. One of the best places to cut your teeth on the flavoursome *mishkak* is Qurum Beach near Love Street, where

every evening people gather near the grilling stations.

QAHWA, CHAI AND BREAD

For a desert where temperatures often soar beyond 50 degrees celsius, Omanis take their hot drinks very seriously, be it *Qahwa* (Omani coffee) or *Chai Karak*. *Qahwa*, freshly brewed with rosewater, saffron and cardamom, is not coffee as many of us know it - there is no milk, and since sugar is never added, it is served with dates to balance the slightly bitter taste. An intrinsic part of Omani culture and hospitality, there is no getting away from the steaming, brown liquid handed to you—it is considered rude to refuse

***Qahwa*, freshly brewed with rosewater, saffron and cardamom, is not coffee as many of us know it - there is no milk, and since sugar is never added, it is served with dates to balance the slightly bitter taste.**





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the first cup of coffee offered to a guest. Also keep in mind that handing the cup back straight is a signal that you want more so they will pour more coffee. Otherwise, just shake the cup from side to side to indicate that you are done.

Chai karak is made with condensed milk and cardamom giving it a creamy, delicate flavour. A local favourite, consumed several times a day, there are various small tea shops and kiosks where you can relax over this brew.

But what steals the show is the paper thin Omani bread called *Khubz Rakhal*, the traditional accompaniment with *chai karak* at breakfast, which is somewhat like a crepe. Stuffed with cheese, eggs or honey, this crackly flat bread is best eaten hot off the pan. If you get a chance, watch how locals expertly spread the dough evenly with their hand on a hot cast iron griddle, break an egg on it and then swiftly take it out without breaking it – it is fascinating. The *rakhal* or stuffing has become innovative as Omanis adapt to modern times: think chocolate spread or the popular potato chips called ‘Chips Oman’.

A DATE WITH DATES

There is no escaping dates in Oman. This sweet, sticky fruit is omnipresent- offered at home, sprinkled on salads or turned into a sweet sauce for meat. But it is perhaps in the Omani bread, *Maldouf*, that dates truly take on the avatar of comfort food.



Bait Al Luban restaurant is one of the best places in Muscat to ask for a basket of these traditional date breads. Dates even have their own souk - the one in Nizwa, Oman's oldest town, which is an hour away from Muscat and is the best place to pick them up.

RICE DOES MATTER

When it comes to dining with families, Omanis prefer to eat in private, usually sitting on the floor. Hence, many restaurants have

family dining areas where they eat from a big communal platter in which the popular rice dish called *Majboos* or *Kabsa* occupies pride of place. In this, the meat is cooked separately with onion and garlic and then mixed with the rice prepared with saffron and cardamom resulting in an aromatic yellow and creamy dish. Chicken Kabuli is yet another popular rice dish which is rich in flavours due to the generous dash of spices like cardamom, cloves and cinnamon.

ESSENTIALS

COUNTRY
Oman

LANGUAGE
Arabic and
English

CURRENCY
Omani Rial
(OMR)

TEMPERATURE
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15°C (min)

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Omani *halwa*, made of corn flour, sugar, clarified butter and rose-water, is traditionally slow cooked over a wood fire and topped with spices like cardamom.

MEATS

The hero of Omani cuisine is pit-roasted *Shuwa*, the country's favourite dish, whose preparation is an art in itself. The cooking requires painstaking effort as the meat is rubbed with traditional spices and date juices and then carefully wrapped in banana or palm leaves and put in an underground sand oven for at least 12 hours. The result is the softest, juiciest, melt-in-the-mouth meat with a spicy crust and a smoky flavour. Served on a bed of rice and eaten communally, *shuwa* is an intrinsic part of festivals. Its taste will vary according to the spices in which it is marinated – some prefer them fiery with a generous splash of chillies while others like it more flavoursome. Among seafood, *Rabees*, from the southern part is a favourite dish prepared with shark, fried along with the liver.

SWEET ENDING

What makes the nation go weak in the knees (and those with a sweet tooth will follow suit) is Omani *halwa* which has acquired a cult status. This sticky dessert, made of corn flour, sugar, clarified butter and rose-water, is traditionally slow cooked over a wood fire and topped with spices like cardamom. Some variations are made with dates, but this fudge-like sweet is worth every calorie and the right note on which to wrap up your culinary odyssey in Oman. ❁

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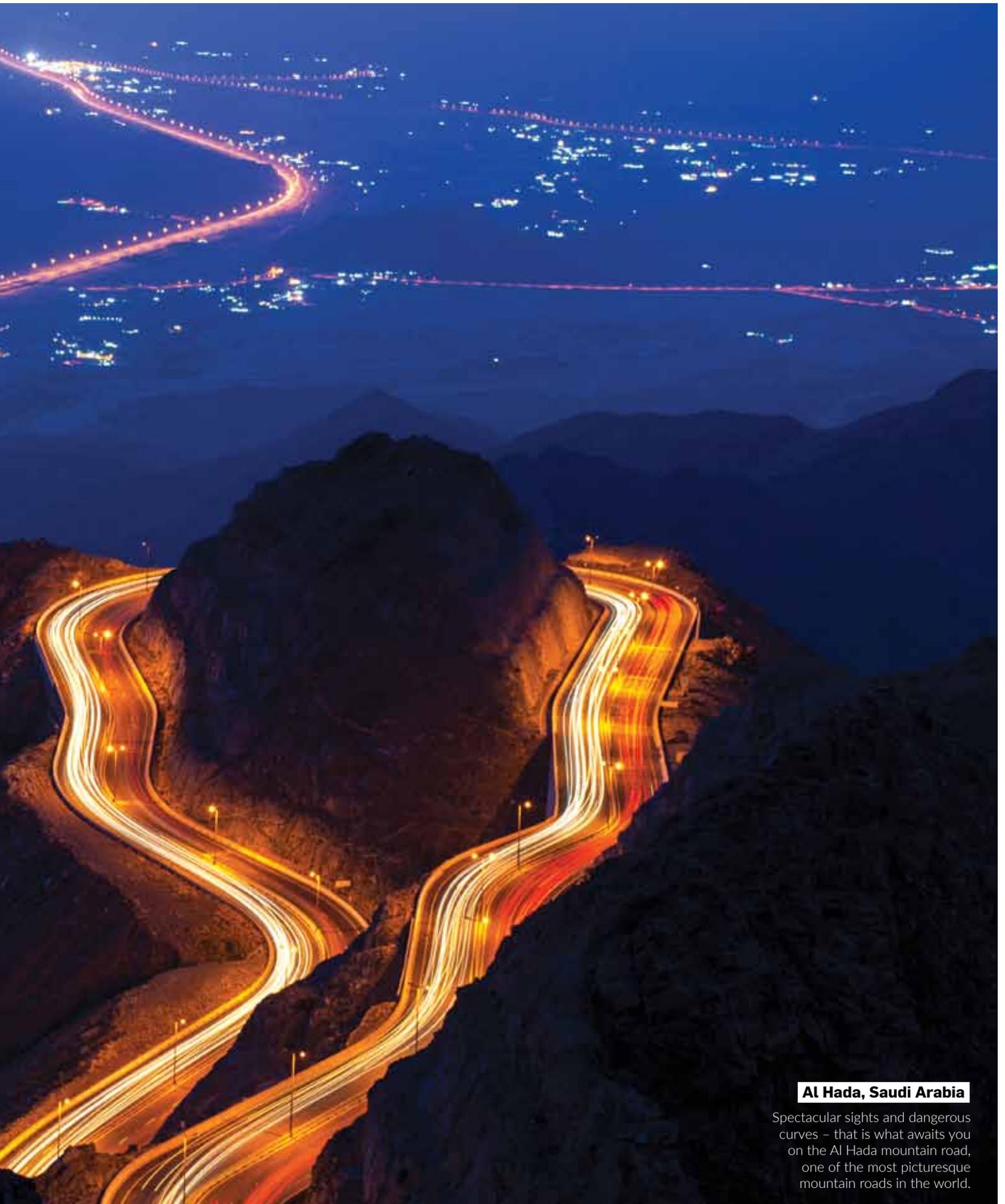
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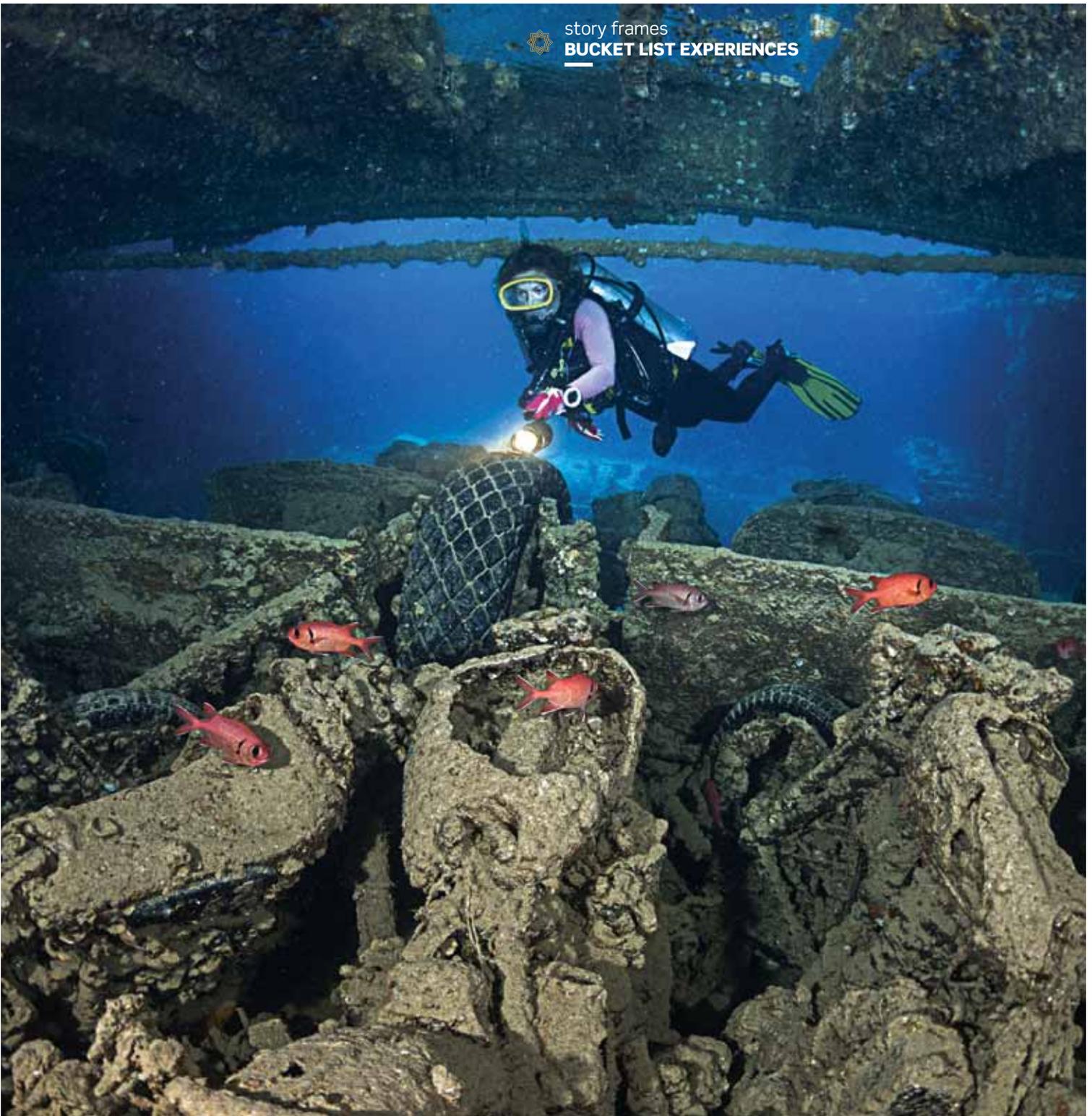
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Filmmaker turned farmer

Despite the phenomenal success of Bollywood movies like *Qayamat se Qayamat Tak* and *Jo Jeeta Wohi Sikandar*, director Mansoor Khan preferred to get away from city life and live off the land.

words // Ruth Dsouza Prabhu images // Mansoor Khan



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In the heart of Coonoor in Tamil Nadu, away from the din of the city, is Acres Wild, a farmstay that offers a rustic commune with nature. Here, adobe bricks made on the farm have been used in construction, solar power panels light up the property, a biogas plant provides energy and, rain water harvesting ensures a steady supply of water. Ricotta cheese made from the milk of cows on the farm is served for breakfast in the mornings, and nature in all its majesty invites you to take a walk on the bumpy pathways across the farm. And if the inclination encourages – one can learn to make over six kinds of

cheese as well. All of this comes together to spell the lifestyle that owner Mansoor Khan has always wanted to have – one where he is content living off the land.

FROM TINSEL TOWN TO FARM LIFE

In 1988, Mansoor Khan brought the musical romance genre to Bollywood with his directorial debut, *Qayamat se Qayamat Tak*, which launched the career of superstar Aamir Khan. He followed that up with another hit in 1992 *Jo Jeeta Wohi Sikander*. He made two more films before following on what was a life-long dream—to get away from the hectic film industry lifestyle.

In the midst of the beauty that is the Nilgiris, Acres Wild offers a true farm lifestyle with cows, calves, turkeys and geese.

“When we were in school, we had a farm near Panvel, Mumbai and unlike most kids, I loved the idea of planting and growing things. I always found the idea of rustic living more exciting,” explains Mansoor. “Being geeky took me to IIT-Bombay and to MIT and Cornell in the USA, but by the

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time I was in my third year there, I realised that I just couldn't picture myself in a 9-to-5 job. I took a shine to sailing and dreamed of having a beach house and sailing all day", he adds.

Returning to India as a rebel, Mansoor, however, realised that it would take some time to get away from it all and he turned to movies as a stop gap. Being the son of the famed Indian director and producer Nasir Hussain, he naturally internalised a lot about movie-making and channeled the story teller that he naturally was.

"I never thought that I would achieve the success I did in movies. But, that success never deterred me from wanting a life in a small town and on a farm", Khan says.

FROM MUMBAI TO COONOOR

Mansoor had been to Coonoor several times on shoots but never really saw it as a potential place to settle down. However, things changed when his father bought a home here to be closer and to visit Mansoor's nephew, Imran Khan who was in school there, back then.

"It was when I saw the house in 1997 that I felt this is where I want to be. In 2003, I made the move and a year later convinced my wife Tina to join me with our children. Since we were to have cows and milk, I felt cheese-making would be a great thing for Tina to take up. And that's what happened. We soon knew we needed more space and

"We have seen three types of guests—one kind comes to relax, detox and simply laze. Some come because they want to learn to make cheese. And, some want to connect with the person who has run away from the city and made a success of it."

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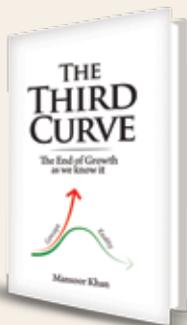
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Book: *The Third Curve*



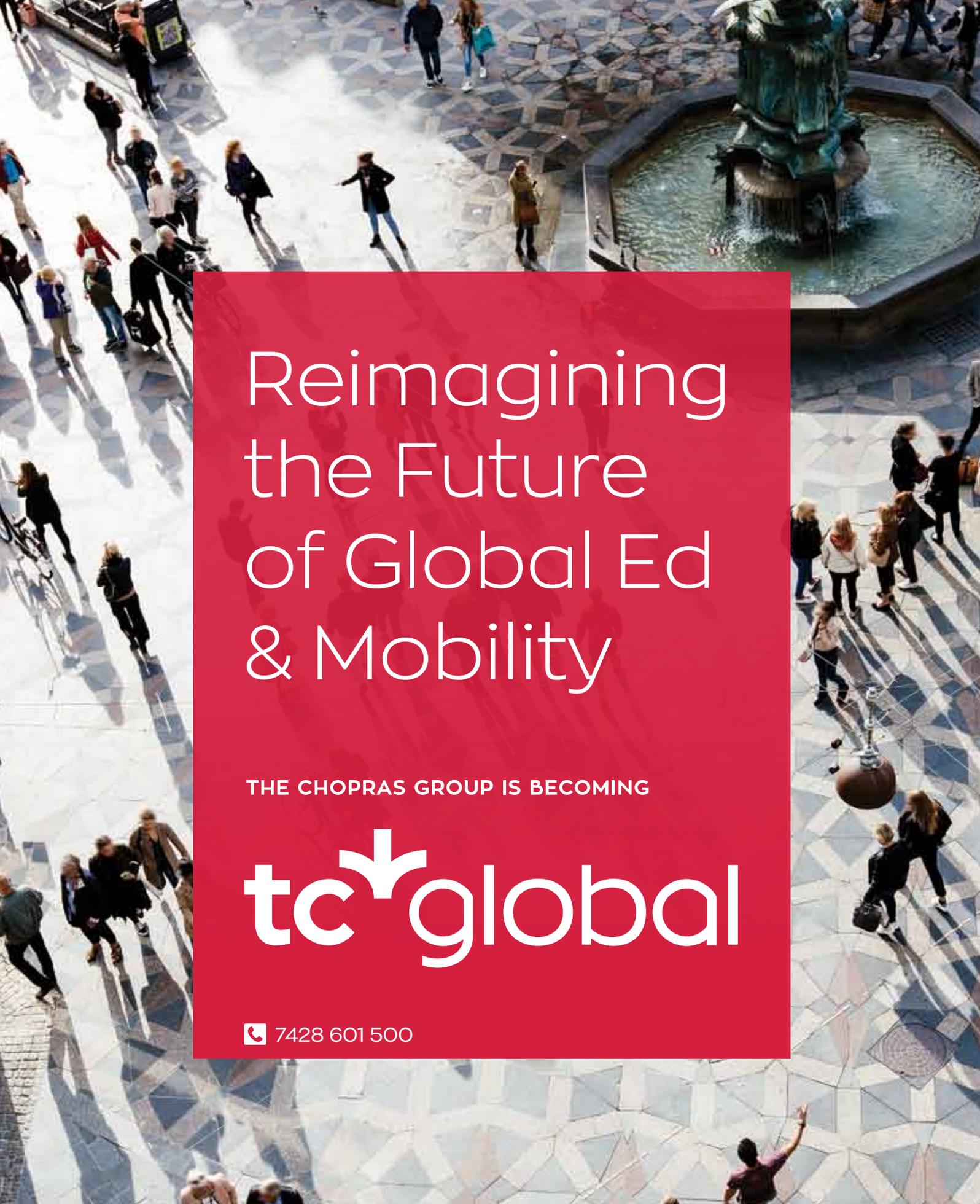
“What we share with our guests is a lifestyle, and not a fad. It is with the belief that the world is going to go this way soon.”

invested in a 20 acre plot which is today Acres Wild”, says Mansoor.

In the midst of the beauty that is the Nilgiris, Acres Wild offers a true farm lifestyle with cows, calves, turkeys and geese. The website informs one up front that this is a farm stay and not a hotel – there is no TV, no room service and that there is a good bit of walking to do to get to the dining area and around.

“We have seen three types of guests—one kind comes to relax, detox and simply laze. Some come because they want to learn to make cheese (Acres Wild makes six kinds of hard cheese and a few soft and flavoured ones as well). This is a paid course and is hands-on. And, some want to connect with the person who has run away from the city and made a success of it. These are the kind of guests who enjoy the experience at Acres Wild and it is one of the reasons that we do not work with travel agents,” asserts Khan.

It is an academic and a conscious lifestyle for Mansoor here on Acres Wild, the causes and need for which he delves into deeply in his book, *The Third Curve – The End of Growth as We Know It*. “What we share with our guests is a lifestyle, and not a fad. It is with the belief that the world is going to go this way soon. Globalisation and commercialisation are collapsing and farm life is going to be the way of life. We have started a bit early, but then on second thoughts, perhaps it’s not too early,” concludes Mansoor. ✨



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Craftsmanship with a conscience

Jaipur's Princess Diya Kumari Foundation is a case in point of incorporating creativity and arts, all for a good cause.

words // Riaan Jacob George

images // Diya Kumari Foundation

Here in the glorious pillared corridors of Jaipur's opulent City Palace, still home to the city's royal family, I catch up with a bunch of jolly Rajasthani village artisans, all women and dressed in rainbow-hued saris. Each of these women set up different stalls selling a host of locally crafted products ranging from stoles and bangles to saris and toys. You will find, courtesy these women, the age-old techniques of *gota patti* and *dabka*, perfected brilliantly by these artists. This set of women, proudly showcasing Jaipur's crafts

to travellers coming from across the world, have been given this platform by the Princess Diya Kumari Foundation (PDKF), to which they are attached. Founded in 2013 by Princess Diya Kumari, member of the former royal family of Jaipur (and also a Member of Parliament), the foundation works largely with disadvantaged and marginalised women and girls in Rajasthan, who seek to be economically independent. “I started this foundation to address the social and economic issues faced by our women in Rajasthan. While visualising this foundation, I had one primary objective—to empower disadvantaged women in villages. Another one of my missions was to increase female literacy and employability. This would, therefore, render these Rajasthani women financially independent,” says Diya Kumari.

To put it in a nutshell, the foundation helps to give these women a new skill set, and hence, they are trained in stitching, soft toy making, appliqué embroidery and thread work. “These products are then sold by PDKF on different platforms, to local and international travellers, thereby providing these women with a platform. Besides that, it is also a conscious and responsible way of showcasing local talent to the world and promoting Jaipur as a world centre of art and craftsmanship,” says Shivina Kumari, executive director of the foundation. “In addition to creating sustainable livelihoods for these women, we also facilitate much-needed health programmes and support education for girls,” adds Shivina. Thus, the women who come to the foundation are provided with infrastructure such as materials, tools, machinery and even links



to different means for marketing their products.

According to a recent survey of the women at PDKF, there was a 42 per cent increase in the annual household income of the women who participated in this skill acquiring initiative.

The foundation has managed to partner with leading platforms like the Rajasthan Heritage Week in 2018, where the state's traditional

“The foundation is a conscious and responsible way of showcasing local talent to the world and promoting Jaipur as a world centre of art and craftsmanship.”



LUXURY with a cause

One of the world's most talked about collaborations in recent times is the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Princess Diya Kumari Foundation and Airbnb, the world's leading community-driven hospitality company. As part of this collaboration, the royal family of Jaipur has put one of its palace rooms, the lavish Gudliya Suite, on Airbnb priced at USD 8,000 per night. Part of the proceeds from this Airbnb suite will be donated to PDKF. This suite, built within the City Palace dating back to 1727, offers a spectacular exhibition of local art and design elements and gives you access into parts of the palace, which are usually off-limit to outsiders. It comes with a personal butler and a guide to arrange curated shopping experiences through the city of Jaipur. At the core of this partnership between PDKF and Airbnb is a need to make luxury travel more sustainable, to promote homegrown talent and to ensure that stakeholders in the Rajasthan travel space can directly or indirectly give back to the state's highly talented women.



gota patti was translated into modern fashion silhouettes for the ramp. The collection was also showcased at the Bombay Times Fashion Week in 2019. The foundation is also doing a collection for the Miss Diva contest, where the contestants will don these creations.

Sustainability is a lifestyle

While the acquisition of skills remains the core mission of the foundation, there is a global approach to this initiative of empowerment. Apart from ensuring financial independence for these women, the foundation gives them training to manage their finances and initiate into basic banking and government schemes.

Girls' education is also a major cause spearheaded actively by Diya Kumari herself. She was appointed as the Rajasthan Brand Ambassador for the 'Save and Educate the Girl Child' programme. The foundation even launched the Shiksha Diya Project, where underprivileged girls are given scholarships, school material, computer education and coaching classes.

And finally, PDKF has put into place a number of health programmes to promote women's health. Shivina says further, "We work with medical partners to conduct education camps on menstrual hygiene, health and overall hygiene. We also conduct regular health camps and check-ups." ✨



VISTARA QUIZ

Question 3: Which is the best selling pop album of all time?

Answers in the next issue of Vistara magazine.

Share your answers at inflightmag@airvistara.com. Two winners for each question will be eligible for prizes.

Time Travel to The Jurassic Era In Gujarat



India's First and World's Third Largest

Home to many vistas of colourful culture and a wide variety of traditions, spirituality, cuisine and entertainment as well as the world's tallest statue, the latest and unique addition to Gujarat's attractions is India's first Dinosaur Museum and World's third largest Fossil Park at Raioli village near Balasinor town.

A Pre-historic Location

115 km away from the capital city of Gandhinagar, the Dinosaur Museum is spread across an area of over 25,000 sq. feet with 10 galleries spread across two floors depicting various forms of displays including static and dynamic installations. Raioli is the World's second largest hatchery and boasts of being fertile breeding ground for many species of dinosaurs 65 million years ago. Fossil remains, bones and eggs have been excavated here since early 1980s.

Fascinating Features

Nearly 50 sculptures of dinosaurs, including a life-size one of *Rajasaurus Narmadensis*, the indigenous breed that can be called the King of Dinosaurs along with displays that elucidate Evolution of Earth, World Dinosaurs, Dinosaurs of India and Gujarat and the KT Extinction Theory are showcased in the museum.

The museum installations include 3D Projection Mapping, 360 degree Virtual Reality, 3D Stereoscopic Projections, Interactive Kiosks, a vivid display of Triassic, Jurassic & Cretaceous times besides gaming consoles and much more. The Dinosaur Museum offers an informative, interactive and amusing experience for children and people of all ages.

Arrive to witness the Era of the Gigantic Reptiles

A visit to the Dinosaur Museum at Raioli deserves to be in your bucket list. It is endlessly amusing and enormously informative, giving your trip to Gujarat a new dimension!

Best time to Visit :

The Museum is open to Tourists for visit everyday from 10:00 am to 06:00 pm. The tickets can be purchased between 10:00 am and 05:00 pm, outside the museum. The museum remains closed on Mondays, so plan your trip accordingly.

How to Get There :

Closest Cities :

Ahmedabad (100 kms), Vadodara (110 kms), Gandhinagar (115 kms)

Closest Airports :

Ahmedabad (104 kms), Vadodara (105 kms)

Closest Railheads :

Nadiad (77 kms), Ahmedabad (97.5 kms), Vadodara (113 kms)



MONTHLY FORECAST



ARIES

Your heartfelt desires are going to be met through the entry of a kind spirit. A payment will not arrive at all but money will come in from another source. Don't try to assess situations and find solutions in advance.

Lucky colour: Grey

Lucky number: 4



TAURUS

Life will offer romantic opportunities but you might have to compete with stiff competition. A negative emotional condition will come to an end. Money will be acquired from a business or home.

Lucky colour: White

Lucky number: 3



GEMINI

Try to maintain emotional control when faced with bad news. If you are in business, you'll make money but only after certain concessions. Keep an eye on your health and stay positive in outlook.

Lucky colour: Purple

Lucky number: 2



CANCER

A sudden flight from home, but not a permanent one, is on the cards. You will hold off on an idea and there will be a complete reversal in your thinking. You need to focus on the important aspects of life.

Lucky colour: Orange

Lucky number: 7



LEO

You'll be pleasantly surprised by positive developments related to career and home.

Your emotional state will greatly improve through the intervention of another.

Lucky colour: Blue

Lucky number: 4



VIRGO

Financial agreements and spiritual matters are going to bring you lot of satisfaction, and something that you thought was dead in the past is going to spring back again.

Lucky colour: Yellow

Lucky number: 1



LIBRA

Plodding work, a sordid relationship, or an extramarital affair will trouble you. You will be surprised by unexpected progress and good fortune in financial matters.

Lucky colour: Indigo

Lucky number: 8



SCORPIO

Someone will help you collect money owed to you. You'll get together with someone for a partnership and will also be making revisions in your work or presentation.

Lucky colour: White

Lucky number: 9



SAGITTARIUS

You will want to share your deepest feelings with someone.

You might have superficial involvements with strangers. Someone will present an enticing opportunity for business.

Lucky colour: Red

Lucky number: 6



CAPRICORN

You'll feel nervous, agitated or confused, and will have a difficult time maintaining emotional balance. In money matters, a chain reaction of events will lead to a moderate degree of success.

Lucky colour: Pink

Lucky number: 2



AQUARIUS

You can expect fortunate changes in business and finance. You will think about mailing a letter but will put it off, or a letter will arrive that will make you angry.

Lucky colour: Violet

Lucky number: 6



PISCES

Look up and you'll find love is everywhere. Professionally, you will make important contacts, but will have to wait for things to unfold. Personally, you will be weighed down by responsibilities.

Lucky colour: Green

Lucky number: 5

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Bursting Myths around Aluminium



The most abundant metal in the earth's crust, Aluminium is consumed by humans on a daily basis in different forms - food, drinking water, air, medicines (antacids and adjuvants in vaccines), cookware, kitchen foil, antiperspirants, cosmetics and many others. Thus, it is important to know that usage of the metal in these forms have been deemed safe by the top medical research organisations around the world.

aluminium per cup. Thus, it is perfectly safe to use aluminium cookware in kitchens. According to Alzheimer's Association in Chicago, using aluminium pots and pans does not lead to Alzheimer's disease. Further studies have proven that there is no part that aluminium play in causing the disease. The American Cancer Society's has also stated no ties between breast cancer and antiperspirants.

The Expert Committee of the World Health Organisation along with the Food and Agricultural Organisation, United Nations, have stated that a weekly intake of 2 milligrams per kilogram of a person's body weight to be a safe amount. And as per an independent study conducted by America's Test Kitchen, tomato sauce cooked in an aluminium pot for two hours and stored in the same pot overnight, was found to contain just 0.0024 milligrams of

Furthermore, municipal water purification systems across the world use aluminium salts to remove impurities to provide safe, healthy and accessible drinking water. Thus, aluminium salts have been a major contributor to curbing innumerable water-borne diseases. It's a fact that we consume more aluminium through foods, both natural and processed, and medications. All the fears surrounding aluminium appear over-stated and exaggerated.

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BRIDGE



There is a catch

words // Hema Deora

Dealer : South
Vulnerable : East-West

NORTH

♠ AJ3

♥ J83

♦ A5

♣ KQ952

WEST

♠ 852

♥ AQ64

♦ Q98762

♣ ----

EAST

♠ 6

♥ 9752

♦ KJ104

♣ A1087

SOUTH

♠ KQ10974

♥ K10

♦ 3

♣ J643

The bidding :

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
P	4 ♠	P	2 ♠
P			P

Contract - Four ♠

Opening lead - ♦ 7

I wish my readers a very happy bridge reading! Hope you enjoy reading this column as much I enjoyed writing it.

Bridge was popular by the name of 'Whist' in the middle of the 17th century, but it was not until 1742 that the first book devoted to Whist appeared – Edmond Hoyle's famous *Short Treatise on Whist*. This rapidly became the best-seller, and many pirated editions appeared immediately afterwards. The word Whist itself is an old British equivalent of 'Shhh!', and was quite an appropriate name for a game that demanded silence from players. The game of Bridge was introduced to the United States some time around 1890. An important change from Whist was the exposure of one hand (dealer's partner) as the dummy, following the precedent of Dummy Whist, which originated as a game for three players. According to one popular theory, this idea evolved from a game played first in India by three British officers who were isolated and unable to find a fourth player during that time.

THE GAME

South opens a classic vulnerable weak two-bid and North takes a fair shot by bidding game.

West leads the ♦7. South wins in dummy and draws three rounds of trumps. West having three of them. How should you continue in order to make your contract?

This looks like an easy hand. You can knock out the ♣A and hope to make five if the opponents fail to take two heart tricks in the meantime. There is a catch though. What if clubs divide 4-0? Say you lead the ♣3 to the King, if East has all four clubs, he can let king win. You now have two club losers along with two possible heart losers.

Instead of risking a 4-0 club break you can attack hearts and set up dummy's Jack. This will give you ten sure tricks.

Alternatively, you can attack clubs if you do it carefully. Lead the ♣J from your hand. Whether East takes the Ace or not you have a sure club entry to dummy to cash the ♥J. Assume East ducks the ♣J. You will switch to Hearts leading the ♥K from your hand. By continuing with ♥10 at your next chance, you will establish dummy's ♥J and you will still have time to get to dummy with club. Note that your ♣9 will stop East from leading clubs and setting up a club trick for the defense.

Did you hear....

..about the man who wanted to learn bridge in one week? He ordered 35 copies of *Five Weeks to Winning Bridge!*

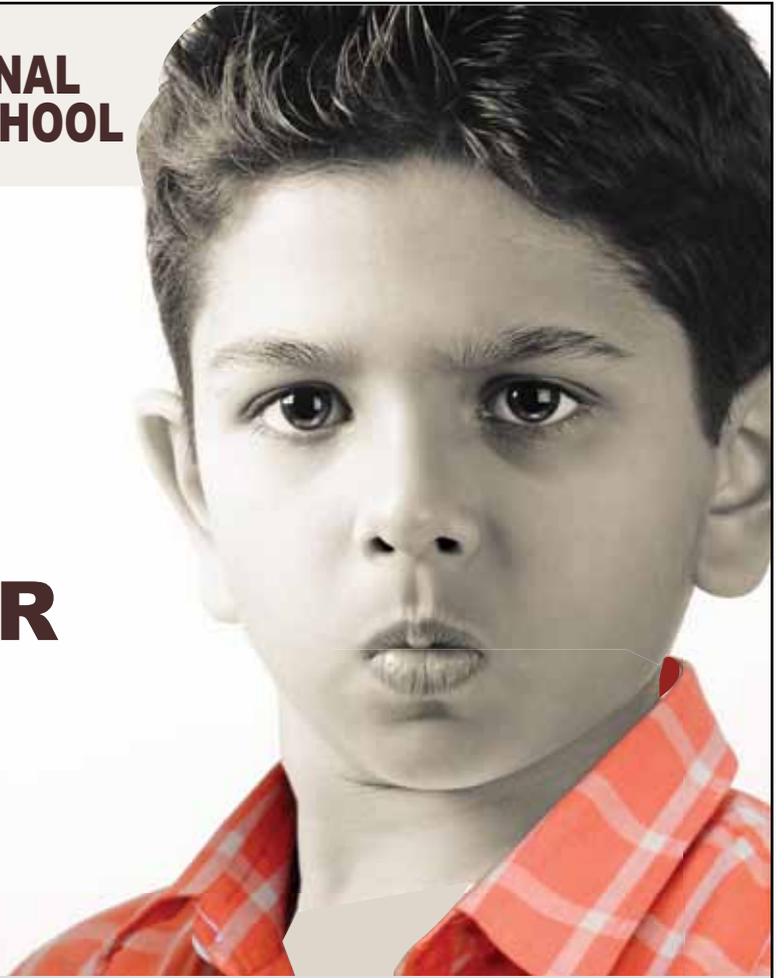


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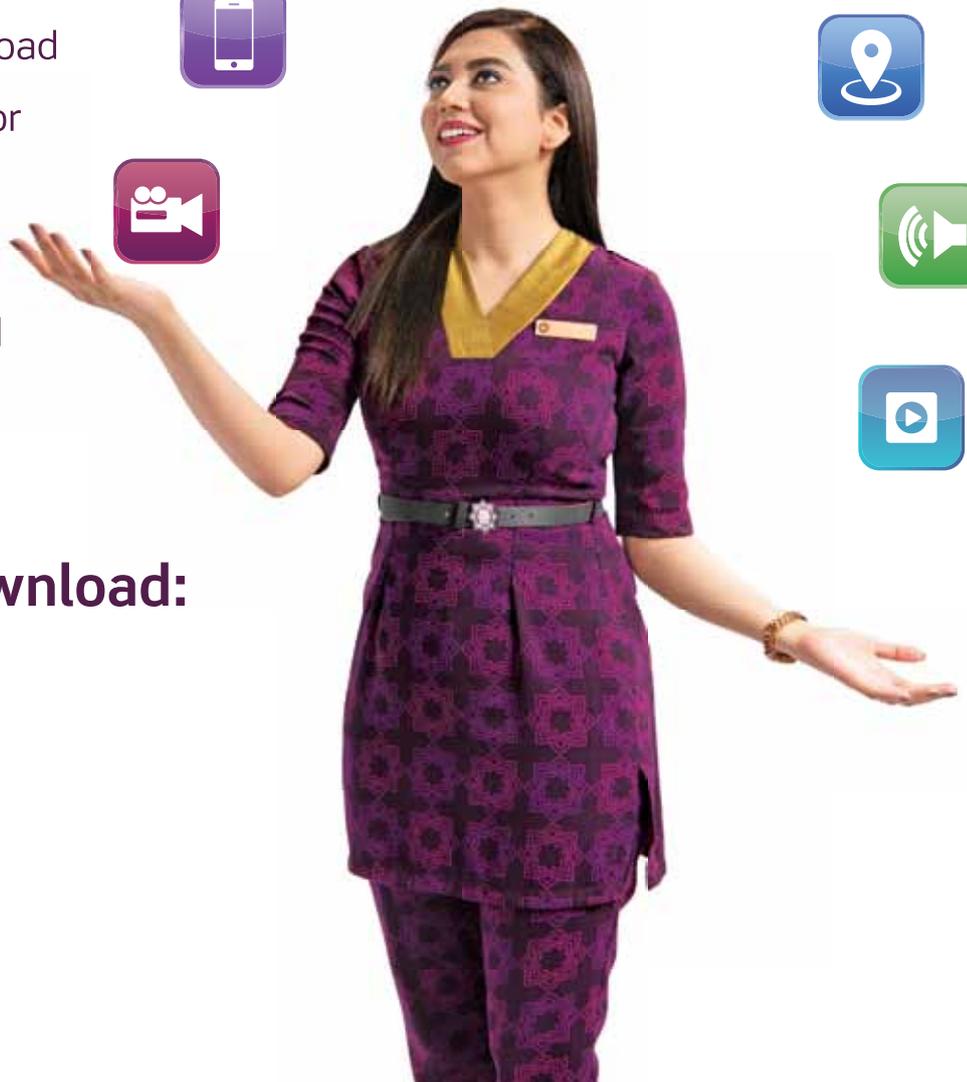


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Team Vistara celebrates the 5th anniversary milestone

Cruising to the next milestone

It has been five years since Vistara took off to transform air travel and redefine the way people fly. The journey has been incredible for us and we celebrated this milestone with our colleagues, customers, and the community. While the jingles of the holiday season gradually started to fade away, we rang in our 5th anniversary celebrations in style. In addition to launch the Anniversary Sale with exciting discounts on fares for customers and a big celebration with the entire staff who has worked hard to make the brand promise a reality, we supported our NGO partner Smile Foundation's endeavour by sponsoring the education and skill development of 10 underprivileged young adults.

It's because of our relentless efforts, our commitment to offer the best services and the love of our customers, that we have become the most favourite airline in India, and the country's only 5-star rated airline. We will not rest on our laurels but continue to move ahead with renewed exuberance. In 2020, we will further densify our network, keep innovating and set new industry standards.

Vistara recently signed a codeshare agreement with Lufthansa, further strengthening our existing interline partnership. Now passengers flying to India by Lufthansa can enjoy the premium services of Vistara for

their onward journey to ten Indian cities, namely Delhi, Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Goa, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Kochi, Mumbai, and Pune. This not only extends our international network but also lets inbound travellers enjoy the Vistara experience.

Taking its international destination count to five cities, Vistara has now added Kathmandu, Nepal, to its network map. Travellers will now enjoy world-class Indian hospitality when travelling on the Delhi-Kathmandu route, which also allows for convenient connections within India to/from Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad, Mumbai and Pune among other cities.



Clockwise: Vistara partners with Smile Foundation to support the education and skilling of ten underprivileged young adults; Team Vistara in Dubai conducts an engaging art & craft session for children on International Volunteer Day; Mr. Leslie Thng, CEO, Vistara and Mr Hardayal Prasad, MD & CEO, SBI Card unveil the Club Vistara SBI Card



To further elevate the joy of flying, Vistara partnered with SBI Card to launch premium credit cards for travel savvy urban Indians. The card is available in two variants, Club Vistara SBI Card PRIME and Club Vistara SBI Card. The new cards have been designed to offer a rewarding travel experience to cardholders, through unique benefits and an unmatched value proposition, on domestic and international travel spends.

While on one hand Vistara strives to improve the experience of travellers, there is much more to the brand. On International Volunteer Day, we came together towards our goal of promoting education and holistic development of children from diverse backgrounds. In New Delhi, Vistara joined hands with Smile Foundation, and a nine-year old budding social media influencer and aviation geek, Abeer Magoo for a fun session on art and aviation with the

children of one of the foundation's Mission Education Centres. Vistara employees across the network joined in to undertake book reading and art & craft activities with local NGO partners. We collectively volunteered a total of 180+ hours and positively impacted the lives of close to 500 children in India, Dubai and Singapore.

At Vistara, our mission is to add value to people's lives, and given the rich legacy that Vistara has inherited from its parent companies, we love to grow with our colleagues, partners, customers and the community. ✨

Taking the count of international destinations to five, Vistara has now added Kathmandu, Nepal, to its network map



VISTARA'S FEBRUARY PLAYLIST

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



Bee Gees



U2

Morning Glory

Oasis

This song talks about addiction and how people need to “wake up” and realize that they are ruining their lives and their future. It draws its parallel with the flower ‘morning glory’ that blossoms early morning.

One

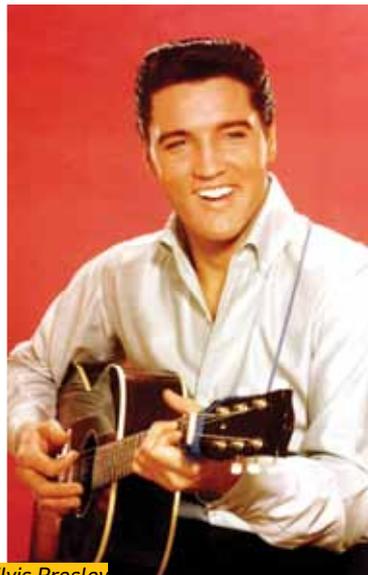
U2

The band wrote this song while in Berlin. After the fall of Berlin Wall, the band was hoping to find inspiration from the struggle and change that was coming to the region. This song rejuvenated the band creatively and became one of their biggest hits!

Walking On The Moon

Sting & The Police

This song came to Sting when he was visiting the German avant-garde composer Eberhard Schoener in 1979. The song is set in space, but it's a metaphor for how Sting felt when he was on the road, confined to hotel rooms and stages as the world kept turning.



Elvis Presley

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 as well which became a massive hit and was used in the movie too!

Take A Chance On Me

ABBA

Bjorn Ulvaeus enjoyed jogging and as he ran, the rhythm for this song came to him. This evolved into the line “Take a Chance on Me”, around which he wrote the rest of the words.

Run Wild

Barbra Streisand

This song, written and produced by Barry Gibb of the Bee Gees, appears in the 22nd studio album Guilty (1980) by the American singer.

Loving Arms

Elvis Presley

“Loving Arms” is a song written by Tom Jans and first recorded and released by Kris Kristofferson and Rita Coolidge as a duet in 1973. It was later covered by Elvis Presley in 1974.

With Or Without You

U2

In this song, Bono describes a tortured relationship that he can't escape. He wanted to write a love song that dealt with real issues. It went onto becoming a breakout hit in America!

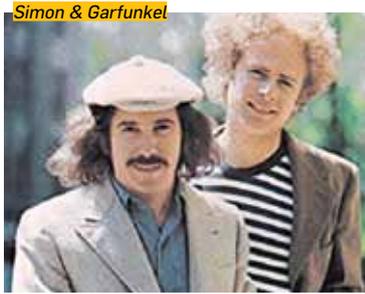
Fernando

ABBA

ABBA member Anni-Frid ‘Frida’ Lyngstad originally recorded the song in Swedish for her solo album Frida Ensam (meaning Frida Alone) in 1975. ABBA then recorded an English version the following year, that appeared on their greatest hits collections.



Billy Joel



Simon & Garfunkel



Michael Bublé



Dire Straits



Eric Clapton



Bruce Springsteen

Vienna

Billy Joel

Billy Joel wrote this song with the thought that one has their whole life to live and they should slow down and take it as it comes.

Drift Away

Dobie Gray

Originally sung by John Henry Kurtz, Gray later recorded this as a duet with Uncle Kracker. This track reached the Billboard Top 10 in 2003, almost 30 years later!

Layla

Eric Clapton

Layla is a song written Eric Clapton and Jim Gordon. It was inspired by a love story that originated in 7th-century Arabia and later formed the basis of 'The Story of Layla and Majnun' by the 12th-century Persian poet Nizami Ganjavi.

Homeward Bound

Simon & Garfunkel

Written by Paul Simon in 1965

on a scrap of paper while waiting for his train at the Widnes railway station, this song peaked at number 5 on the Billboard Hot 100. The duo also performed the song during the legendary 1981 reunion, The Concert in Central Park.

Night Fever

Bee Gees

"Night Fever" was a song written and performed by the Bee Gees. It first appeared on the soundtrack to Saturday Night Fever and debuted on the Billboard Magazine Hot 100 Chart at number 76.

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.

Brothers In Arms

Dire Straits

Inspired by the Falklands War, Mark Knopfler wrote this song about a soldier who is dying on the battlefield and is surrounded by his comrades, who remain by his side.

Wonderful Tonight

Eric Clapton

Eric Clapton wrote "Wonderful Tonight" in 1976 while waiting for his wife Pattie to get ready for a night out and even performed it live for her the day after they got married!

Piano Man

Billy Joel

This was inspired by Joel's experiences playing at The Executive Room, a piano bar in Los Angeles where he worked for six months in 1972.

You Make Me Feel So Young

Michael Bublé

This song features in "To Be Loved", the eighth studio album and sixth major label studio album by Canadian-Italian vocalist and songwriter Michael Bublé. 🌟

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BOLLYWOOD



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Aana
Why Cheat India
Gold

Judwaa 2

Andaz Apna Apna
Hera Pheri
Mubarakan
Total Dhamaal
Sonu Ke Titu Ki Sweetie

THRILLER

Raazi
Romeo Akbar Walter
Andhadhun
Badlapur
Badla
The Tashkent Files

ROMANCE, COMEDY

Bareilly Ki Barfi
Luka Chuppi
Kabhi Haan Kabhi Naa
Shaandaar

ROMANCE

Dilwale Dulhania Le
Jayenge
Jab We Met
Rab Ne Bana Di Jodi
Yeh Jawaani Hai
Deewani

COMEDY, DRAMA

Dil Chahta Hai
Zindagi Na Milegi
Dobara

DRAMA

Dil Dhadakne Do
English Vinglish
Gully Boy
Karwaan
Om Shanti Om
Rock On!!
Student of the Year 2
The Fakir of Venice
Bajirangi Bhaijaan
Baazaar
Manikarnika: The Queen
of Jhansi

Tanu Weds Manu
Returns
Love Aaj Kal
Dum Laga Ke Haisha
Band Baaja Baaraat
Chalte Chalte
Dil To Pagal Hai
Manmarziyaan
Meri Pyaari Bindu
Saathiya

COMEDY

Fukrey Returns
Gol Maal (1979)

ACTION/ADVENTURE

2.0
Kesari
Thugs of Hindostan
Simmba
Uri: The Surgical Strike

ACTION/ADVENTURE, DRAMA

Sonchiriya
Sholay

ACTION/ADVENTURE, COMEDY

Amar Akbar Anthony

COMEDY, THRILLER

Stree

REGIONAL MOVIES

INDIAN REGIONAL MOVIES

Sivappu Manjal Pachai (Tamil)
Thadam (Tamil)
The Great Father (Malayalam)
Kumbalangi Nights (Malayalam)
Ranarangam (Telugu)
Rakshasudu (Telugu)
Amar (Kannada)
Life Jotho Ondh Selfie (Kannada)

Vitamin She (Gujarati)
Reva (Gujarati)
Alinagarer Golokdhadha (Bengali)
Chalbaaz (Bengali)
Smile Please (Marathi)
Anandi Gopal (Marathi)
Guddiyani Patole (Punjabi)
Qismat (Punjabi)

HOLLYWOOD

ACTION/ADVENTURE

Spider-Man: Far from Home
Men in Black: International
Godzilla: King of the Monsters
John Wick: Chapter 3 - Parabellum
Captain Marvel
Logan

Baby Driver
Harry Potter and the Philosopher's
Stone
X-Men: First Class
Maleficent: Mistress of Evil
Charlie's Angels

HOLLYWOOD

KIDS

Dumbo
Mary Poppins Returns
Frozen
Happy Feet
The Lion King

ROMANCE, DRAMA

Five Feet Apart
A Star is Born

DRAMA

Bohemian Rhapsody
Crazy Rich Asians
The Sound of Music
The Great Gatsby
The Hurt Locker
American Hustle
Whiplash
The Theory of Everything
Downton Abbey
The Goldfinch

Once Upon a Time... in Hollywood

THRILLER

Gone Girl

ROMANCE

Valentine's Day
Pretty Woman
(500) Days of Summer

ROMANCE, COMEDY

The Proposal
There's Something About Mary

ACTION/ADVENTURE, THRILLER

Gemini Man

DRAMA, THRILLER

Joker

DOCUMENTARY

Amazing Grace

TV SHOWS

INDIAN TV SHOWS



COMEDY

The Kapil Sharma Show
Shrimaan Shrimati Phir Se
Aadat Se Majboor
Khichdi

Tyohaar Ki Thaali
Raja Rasoi Aur Andaaz Anokha
Yoga Ira
Bollywood Music Videos

DRAMA

Crime Patrol Dastak
Stories By Rabindranath Tagore
Savdhaan India
The Reunion
CID
Aapke Aa Jane Se

WEB SERIES

Filtercopy
Love Talkies
The Holiday
Mom & Co.
Health Tips
Style Tips
The New York Times Videos



ENTERTAINMENT, TRAVEL & LIFESTYLE

Koffee With Karan
The Love Laugh Live Show
Film Companion
Spill The Tea With Sneha
By Invite Only
India Today Unforgettables

STAND-UP COMEDY

How Insensitive!
Live Sketch Comedy - Go
Straight Take Left
Kenny Sebastian



Tape Cast
Meri Real Life
Jab We Met
Indipedia
Rocky & Mayur's Food Express
Plush Places with Rahul
Jagtiani

TIMELESS TV

Sarabhai V/s Sarabhai
Hum Paanch
Family No. 1
Office Office
Malgudi Days
Just Mohabbat



Umeed India
Foodie & The Feast
Indian Martial Arts - Ek Itihaas
3 Course With Pankaj
I Want To Bake Free

BUSINESS

The Mutual Fund Show
BQ Conversations

KIDS

Super Bheem

ENGLISH TV SHOWS



COMEDY

Friends
The Big Bang
Theory
Modern Family
Everybody Loves
Raymond
Brooklyn Nine-
Nine
Young Sheldon

2 Broke Girls

DRAMA

Suits
Killing Eve
You
Arrow
Deception
Doctor Who
Person of
Interest

TRAVEL & LIFESTYLE

Hostile Planet
Top Gear

BUSINESS

Shark Tank

KIDS

Big Hero 6
Tangled

AUDIO

Indian Music

Genre	Album Name	Artist
Bollywood Latest	Andhadhun	Amit Trivedi
	Article 15	Piyush Shankar
	Badla	Amaal Mallik
	Dhadak	Ajay-Atul
	Dream Girl	Meet Bros
	Drive	Tanishk Bagchi
	Gold	Arko
	Good Newwz	Various Artists
	Gully Boy	Various Artists
	Judgementall Hai Kya	Tanishk Bagchi
	Kalank	Pritam
	Kedarnath	Amit Trivedi
	Kesari	Jasbir Jassi
	Manikarnika - The Queen Of Jhansi	Shankar-Ehsaan-Loy
	Mission Mangal	Amit Trivedi
	October	Abhishek Arora
	Pataakha	Vishal Bhardwaj
	Raazi	Shankar-Ehsaan-Loy
	Sonchiriya	Vishal Bhardwaj
	Student of the Year 2	Vishal-Shekhar
Super 30	Ajay Atul	
The Sky Is Pink	Pritam	
The Zoya Factor	Shankar-Ehsaan-Loy	
Uri - The Surgical Strike	Shashwat Sachdev	
Veere Di Wedding	Shashwat Sachdev	
War	Vishal-Shekhar	
Bollywood Essentials	75th Anniversary Collection	R.D. Burman
	Aaja Nachle	Salim-Sulaiman
	Baahubali - The Beginning	M.M. Keeravani
	Baahubali 2: The Conclusion	M.M. Keeravani
	Baar Baar Dekho	Jasleen Royal
	Bachna Ae Haseeno	Vishal Shekhar
	Badmaash Company	Pritam
	Band Baaja Baaraat	Salim Sulaiman
	Bang Bang	Vishal-Shekhar
	Bareilly Ki Barfi	Tanishk Bagchi
	Befikre	Vishal-Shekhar
	Best of Bollywood: Shah Rukh Khan	Various Artists
	Best of Bollywood: Shreya Ghoshal	Shreya Ghoshal
	Best of Bollywood: Sufi	Various Artists
	Best of Bollywood: Wedding Beats	Various Artists
	Best of Me	Shankar-Ehsaan-Loy
	Bollywood Fresh-70s Served Chilled	Various Artists
	Bollywood Retro Fresh - 80s Hits	Various Artists

Indian Music

Bollywood With Love - 90s	Various Artists
Bombay Velvet	Amit Trivedi
Bunty Aur Babli	Shankar-Ehsaan-Loy
Cafe Classics, Vol. 1	Various Artists
Chak De India!	Salim Sulaiman
Dangal	Pritam
Dear Zindagi	Amit Trivedi & Ilaiyaraaja
Detective Byomkesh Bakshy	Madboy/Mink
Dhoom	Pritam
Dhoom:2	Pritam
Dhoom: 3	Pritam
Dil To Pagal Hai	Uttam Singh
Dum Laga Ke Haisha	Anu Malik
Ek Tha Tiger	Sajid Wajid
Fanaa	Jatin Lalit
Fukrey Returns	Prem
Half Girlfriend	Mithoon
Hichki	Jasleen Royal
Hum Tum	Jatin - Lalit
Ishaqzaade	Amit Trivedi
Jab Tak Hai Jaan	A. R. Rahman
Jhoom Barabar Jhoom	Shankar-Ehsaan-Loy
Kabul Express	Raghav Sachar
Karan Johar Music Midas	Various Artists
Ladies vs Ricky Bahl	Salim Sulaiman
Margarita with a Straw	Joi Barua
Mary Kom	Shashi Suman
Masaan	Indian Ocean
Master Blaster - Kishore Kumar	Kishore Kumar
Master Blaster - Mohammed Rafi	Mohammed Rafi
Master Works - Asha Bhosle	Asha Bhosle
Master Works - R. D. Burman	R.D. Burman
MasterWorks - Javed Akhtar	Various Artists
MasterWorks - Lata Mangeshkar	Lata Mangeshkar
Mere Brother Ki Dulhan	Sohail Sen
Mere Yaar Ki Shaadi Hai	Jeet Pritam
Meri Pyaari Bindu	Sachin Jigar
Mohabbatein	Jatin Lalit
Mujhse Dosti Karoge	Rahul Sharma
Neal 'n' Nikki	Salim-Sulaiman
New York	Pritam
Padman	Amit Trivedi
Piku	Anupam Roy
Piya Milenge	Various Artists
Pyaar Impossible	Salim-Sulaiman
Pyaar Ka Punchnama 2	Sharib Toshi
Qarib Qarib Single	Vishal Mishra
Rab Ne Bana Di Jodi	Salim Sulaiman
Raees	Ram Sampath
Rock On 2	Shankar Ehsaan Loy
Rustom	Arko
Saathiya	A. R. Rahman
Salaam Namaste	Vishal Shekhar
Shaadi Mein Zaroor Aana	Arko
Shaandaar	Amit Trivedi
Sui Dhaaga	Anu Malik
Sultan	Vishal-Shekhar
Tashan	Vishal Shekhar
The Definitive Collection	A. R. Rahman



Indian Music		
	Thugs of Hindostan	Ajay-Atul
	Tiger Zinda Hai	Vishal Shekhar
	Udta Punjab	Amit Trivedi
	Veer-Zaara	Madan Mohan
	Your's Truly Arijit	Arijit Singh
Ghazals	Ghazal Ka Safar, Vol. 1	Jagjit Singh, Alka Yagnik & Hariharan
	Magical Moments	Jagjit Singh
Indian Classical	Double Mandolin	U. Srinivas
	From the NCPA Archives: Vilayat Khan (Remastered)	Ustad Vilayat Khan
	Greatest Carnatic Legends	Various Artists
	Land of Gold	Anoushka Shankar
	Making Music	Zakir Hussain
	Masterworks From the NCPA Archives	Pt. Kumar Gandharva
	Masterworks From the NCPA Archives: Balamuralikrishna (Remastered)	Dr. M. Balamuralikrishna
	Masterworks From the NCPA Archives: M. S. Gopalakrishnan (Remastered)	M. S. Gopalakrishnan
	Masterworks From the NCPA Archives: Ustad Bismillah Khan	Ustad Bismillah Khan
	Musical Legacy	Various Artists
	The Ravi Shankar Collection	Ravi Shankar
	Vision Of Peace - The Art of Ravi Shankar	Ravi Shankar

English Music



Genre	Album Name	Artist
International Pop & EDM (Electronic Dance Music)	ABBA Gold	ABBA
	Moon Safari	Air
	Dangerous Woman (Deluxe)	Ariana Grande
	TRUE	Avicii
	DNA	Backstreet Boys
	Expectations	Bebe Rexha
	The Ultimate Bee Gees	Bee Gees
	Every Kingdom	Ben Howard
	Dangerously in Love	Beyoncé
	52nd Street	Billy Joel
	24K Magic	Bruno Mars
	Camila	Camila Cabello
	Voicenotes	Charlie Puth
	20th Century Masters - The Millennium Collection: The Best of Cher	Cher
	Random Access Memories	Daft Punk
	Views	Drake
	÷ (Deluxe)	Ed Sheeran
	Roman Candle	Elliott Smith
	Madman Across the Water	Elton John
	Elvis Presley	Elvis Presley
	Arc	Everything Everything
	Nervous System	Julia Michaels

English Music			
International Pop & EDM (Electronic Dance Music)	Purpose	Justin Bieber	
	Meaning of Life	Kelly Clarkson	
	Kids in Love	Kygo	
	The Abbey Road Sessions	Kylie	
	Fever	Kylie Minogue	
	Lust for Life	Lana Del Rey	
	If You Wait	London Grammar	
	Melodrama	Lorde	
	LOVE + FEAR	MARINA	
	The Love Train	Meghan Trainor	
	Oracular Spectacular	MGMT	
	Love (Deluxe Edition)	Michael Bublé	
	Thriller	Michael Jackson	
	Younger Now	Miley Cyrus	
	She Is Coming	Miley Cyrus	
	After Laughter	Paramore	
	Graceland (25th Anniversary Deluxe Edition)	Paul Simon	
	ANTI (Deluxe)	Rihanna	
	Toast to our Differences (Deluxe)	Rudimental	
	The Woman In Me	Shania Twain	
	This Is Acting (Deluxe Version)	Sia	
	1989	Taylor Swift	
	Sick Boy	The Chainsmokers	
	Icarus Falls	ZAYN	
	Rock	Us and the Night	3 Doors Down
		Toys in the Attic	Aerosmith
		Piano Man	Billy Joel
		The Stranger	Billy Joel
		Western Stars	Bruce Springsteen
		Born In the U.S.A.	Bruce Springsteen
		Anthology	Bryan Adams
		Social Cues	Cage The Elephant
		Parachutes	Coldplay
Viva La Vida or Death and All His Friends		Coldplay	
A Rush of Blood to the Head		Coldplay	
Sultans of Swing - The Very Best of Dire Straits		Dire Straits	
Distance Over Time (Bonus Track Version)		Dream Theater	
Goodbye Yellow Brick Road		Elton John	
Forever Man: The Best of Eric Clapton (Deluxe Edition)		Eric Clapton	
I Still Do		Eric Clapton	
Rumours		Fleetwood Mac	
The Very Best of Grateful Dead		Grateful Dead	
Something To Tell You		HAIM	
Smoke + Mirrors		Imagine Dragons	
Electric Light		James Bay	
Both Sides of the Sky		Jimi Hendrix	
The Best of Joy Division		Joy Division	
WALLS		Kings of Leon	
Led Zeppelin IV (Remastered)		Led Zeppelin	
Hybrid Theory		LINKIN PARK	
Sigh No More		Mumford & Sons	
(What's the Story) Morning Glory?	Oasis		
Pearl Jam	Pearl Jam		
Ten	Pearl Jam		
The Dark Side of the Moon	Pink Floyd		
Church Mouth	Portugal The Man		
Sheer Heart Attack	Queen		

English Music		
Rock	Greatest Hits	Red Hot Chili Peppers
	Greatest Hits: Simon & Garfunkel	Simon & Garfunkel
	The Concert In Central Park (Live)	Simon & Garfunkel
	Eyes Open	Snow Patrol
	The Very Best of Sting and the Police	Sting & The Police
	Breakfast in America	Supertramp
	Pet Sounds	The Beach Boys
	L.A. Woman	The Doors
	Direct Hits	The Killers
	Blue & Lonesome	The Rolling Stones
	Jailbreak	Thin Lizzy
	Damn the Torpedoes	Tom Petty
	Trench	twenty one pilots
	Vessel	twenty one pilots
	War	U2
U218 Singles	U2	
Soul, Jazz & Blues	The Queen of Soul	Aretha Franklin
	His Best: The Electric B.B. King	B.B. King
	The Blues Is Alive and Well	Buddy Guy
	H.E.R.	H.E.R.
	The Essential Herbie Hancock	Herbie Hancock
	Giant Steps	John Coltrane
	Come What May	Joshua Redman Quartet
	Free Spirit	Khalid
	Suncity	Khalid
	The Questions	Kurt Elling
	Kind of Blue (Legacy Edition)	Miles Davis
	King of the Electric Blues	Muddy Waters
	Culcha Vulcha	Snarky Puppy
	Stevie Wonder: Greatest Hits	Stevie Wonder
	Starboy	The Weeknd
Whitney	Whitney Houston	
Country	Who I Am	Alan Jackson
	Now	Shania Twain
Western Classical	Mozart: Piano Concertos Nos 22 & 23	Daniel Barenboim
	Franz Schubert: The Late Piano Sonatas	Franz Schubert
	Beethoven: Symphonies Nos. 5 & 7	The Philharmonia Orchestra
Kids	Frozen	Various Artists
	Moana	Various Artists

Vistara's Exclusive Playlist	
Vistara Boarding and Landing Music Playlist	Various Artists
Aretha Franklin Essential Collection	Aretha Franklin
Carpenters Essential Collection	Carpenters
Coldplay Essential Collection	Coldplay
Dave Matthews Band Essential Collection	Dave Matthews Band
Elton John Essential Collection	Elton John
Florence + The Machine Essential Collection	Florence + The Machine
Linkin Park Essential Collection	Linkin Park
Lynyrd Skynyrd Essential Collection	Lynyrd Skynyrd
Maroon 5 Essential Collection	Maroon 5
Pop Queen: Madonna	Various Artists
R.E.M. Essential Collection	R.E.M.

Vistara's Exclusive Playlist	
Santana Essential Collection	Santana
Steely Dan Essential Collection	Steely Dan
The Legacy of Queen	Queen
U2 Essential Collection	U2
Madonna Essential Collection	Various Artists
Madhuri Dixit Essential Collection	Various Artists
Sunidhi Chauhan Essential Collection	Various Artists
Shreya Ghoshal Essential Collection	Various Artists
Khan Hits	Various Artists
Acoustic Sessions	Various Artists
Straight From the '70s	Various Artists
Straight From the '80s	Various Artists
Straight From the '90s	Various Artists
Best of 2000-2009	Various Artists
Best of 2010-2019	Various Artists
Best of Alternative Rock	Various Artists
Best of New Age & Lounge	Various Artists
Best of Country	Various Artists
Take it Easy	Various Artists
Best of Pop	Various Artists
Best of Blues	Various Artists
Best of Jazz	Various Artists
Best of Rock	Various Artists
Best of Soul	Various Artists
Forever Classics	Various Artists
Dance Hits	Various Artists
Jashn-e-Ghazal	Various Artists
Platinum Playlist	Various Artists
Powerful Female Vocalists	Various Artists
Songs of Love	Various Artists
The Great Indian Pop	Various Artists
Wedding Songs	Various Artists
Valentine's Day Special	Various Artists
Wake Up Hour	Various Artists
Top Throwback Tracks	Various Artists
Arijit Singh Essential Collection	Various Artists
The Party Playlist	Various Artists
Amit Trivedi Essential Collection	Various Artists
Hits of 2019	Various Artists
Travel Getaways	Various Artists
Anushka Sharma Essential Collection	Various Artists

(Some of the content may not be available on certain routes.)

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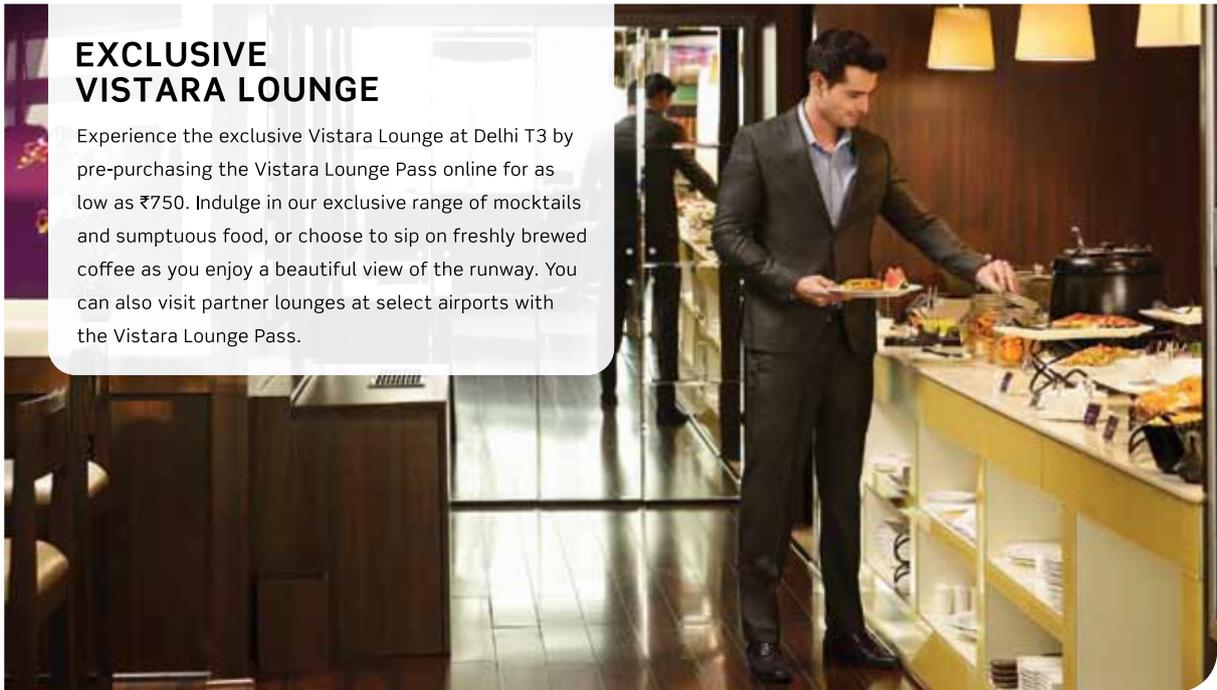
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OUR FLEET

13

Airbus A320ceo



19

Airbus A320neo



07

Boeing 737-800NG



	Airbus A320ceo	Airbus A320neo	Boeing 737-800NG
Count	13	19	7
Seats	8C/24S/132Y	8C/24S/132Y (16); 8C/24S/126Y (2); 180Y (1)	12C/156Y
Length	37.57 m	37.57 m	39.5 m
Cruising Speed	829 km/h	833 km/h	842 km/h
Engine	IAE V2500-A5	CFM LEAP1A	CFM56-7B
Place of Manufacture	Toulouse, France/ Hamburg, Germany	Toulouse, France/ Hamburg, Germany	Seattle, USA

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

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KEY FEATURES

FASTER EARNINGS

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- Filling the enrolment form on Vistara world app under Club Vistara enrolment section
- Filling the enrolment form available with our cabin crew.



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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 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

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 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.

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

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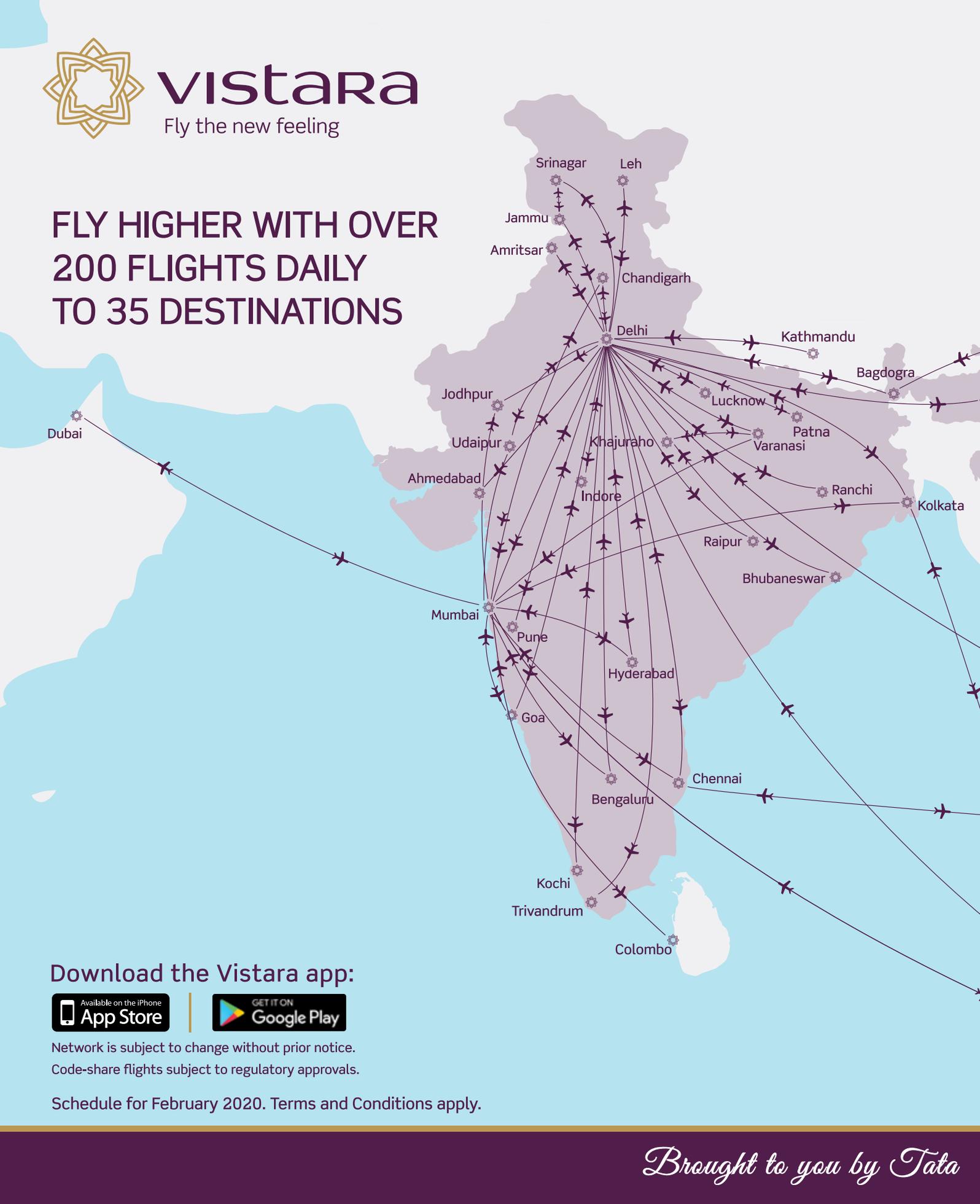
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Code-share flights subject to regulatory approvals.

Schedule for February 2020. Terms and Conditions apply.

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

You may also contact:

- Nodal Officer | Ms. Preeti Dadheech | nodalofficer@airvistara.com
- Appellate Authority | Ms. Pooja Paul | appellateauthority@airvistara.com
- dgca.gov.in | 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#



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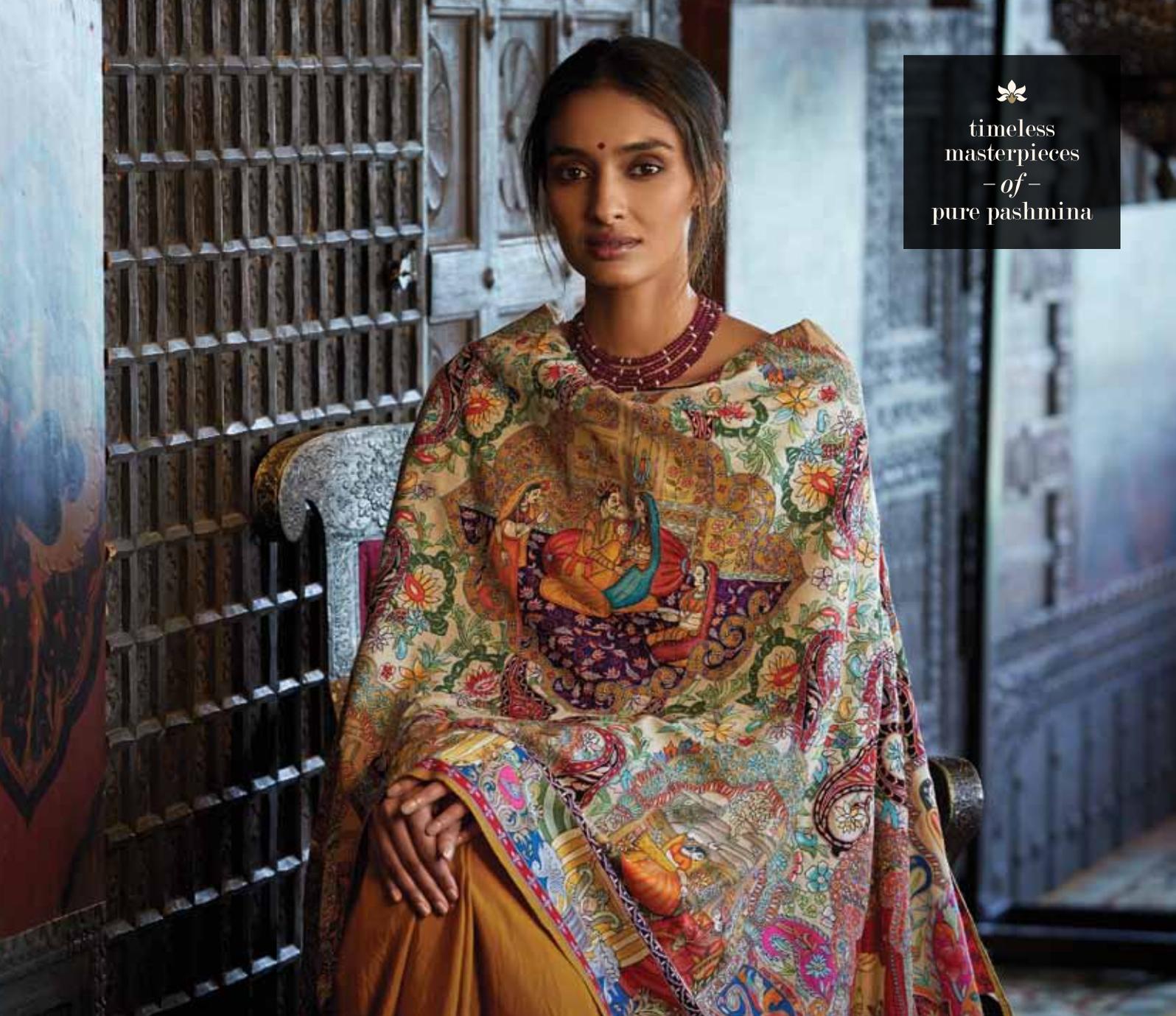
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T & C apply. * Vistara Direct benefits are not applicable for Economy Lite fares or for travel outside India.

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