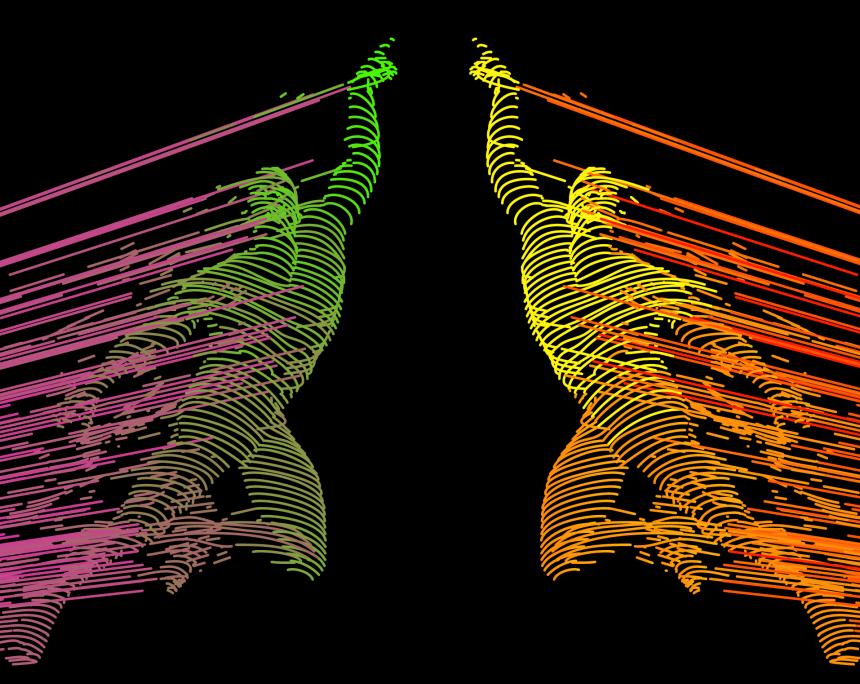
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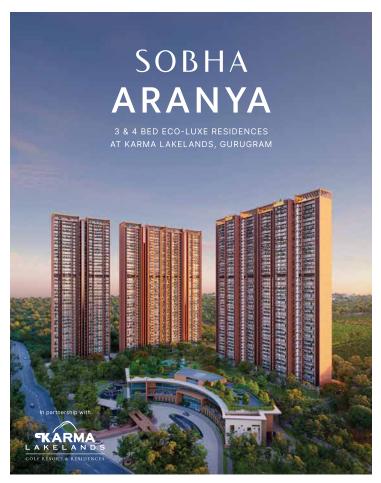
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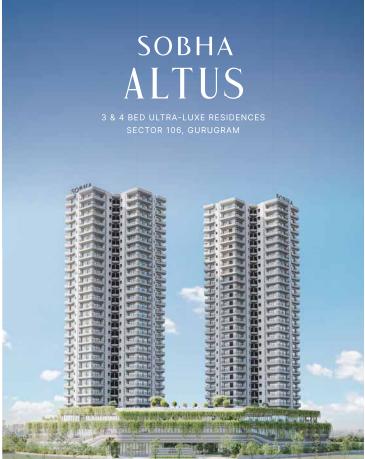


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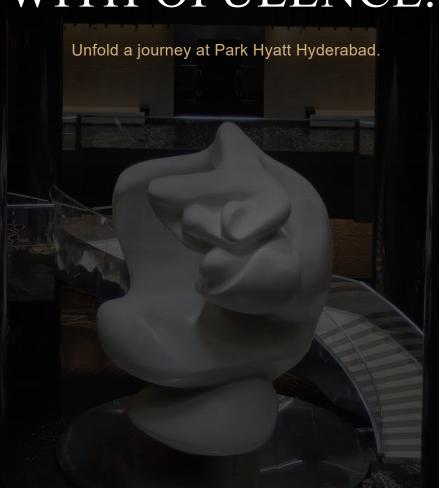
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Celebrating 27 Years - Collector's Issue 2024

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# FDITOR'S DESK

elcome to Today's Traveller Collector's Issue 2024 - Strategists of Success. This issue is a tribute to the dreamers, the doers, and the leaders who navigate the complexities of today's world with resilience and vision.

At its core, success is not just about reaching a destination but mastering the journey—learning, adapting, and thriving through every twist and turn. The path to success today is more intricate than ever, requiring a unique blend of confidence, leadership, and adaptability.

True strategists lead with conviction, inspiring those around them even in the face of uncertainty. They think critically, not only to foresee challenges but to embrace them as opportunities for growth.

Their ability to communicate clearly and purposefully aligns teams and ignites shared ambitions. Above all, they embody a profound adaptability, constantly evolving with the changing tides of commerce and innovation.

Yet strategy, like travel and tourism is not just about envisioning a goal or destination and charting a path to get there—it's about heart. It's about connecting with people, understanding their collective emotions, and sharing personal experiences.

It's about the courage to journey beyond the familiar and the ability to learn about other cultures, successes and learnings. It's about sharing a vision so compelling that it motivates others to turn dreams into reality.

From curating moments that leave travellers with unforgettable memories to opening the doors of new luxury hotels that redefine indulgence, we remind ourselves that it is these immersive experiences that resonate deeply with people, fostering connections that transcend time and place.

Travel and hospitality have always been about more than destinations; they are about the stories we create along the way. Each new hotel, each reimagined journey, tells a tale of innovation and an unyielding commitment to excellence.

As you explore this issue, may you find ideas that resonate and stories that inspire you to shape your own narrative of success.

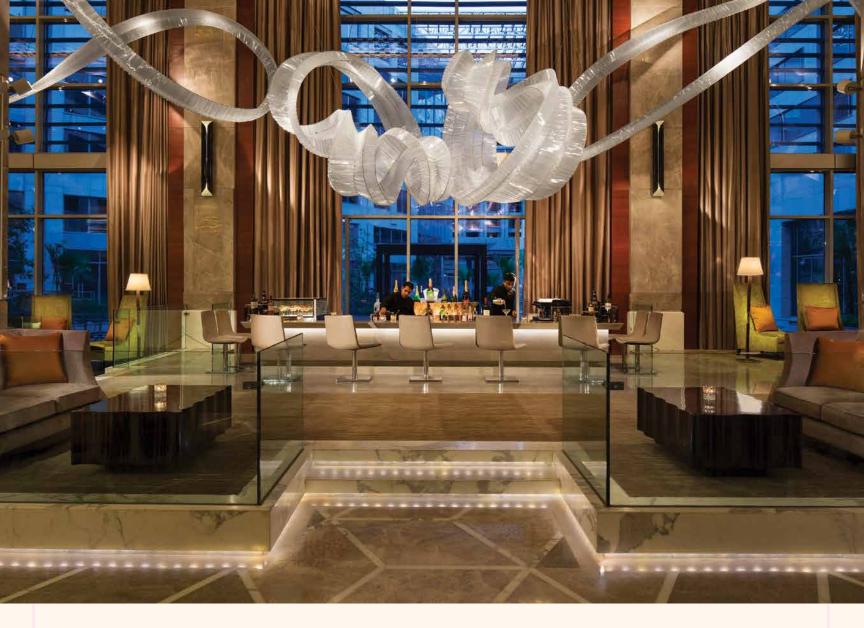
Together, let us continue to build legacies that inspire, destinations that captivate, and experiences that redefine the essence of travel and hospitality.

Together, we lead the way forward.

Kamal hill

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# CELEBRATION OF COLOURS AND SHOPPING: THE AHMEDABAD SHOPPING FESTIVAL

Aligned with the vision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Chief Minister of Gujarat, the Ahmedabad Shopping Festival aims to establish Ahmedabad as a premier shopping destination









Ahmedabad Shopping Festival

ne of the biggest events of the year, the Ahmedabad Shopping Festival (ASF) commenced on 12 October and will be celebrated till 14 January 2025. The festival attracts some of the highest numbers of domestic and international visitors. The city of Ahmedabad is hoping this initiative will enable it to help support local businesses and create increased employment while at the same time also raising global awareness and reputation of the city's shopping culture as it aspires to be in the same conversation as Singapore's or Dubai's shopping festivals.

The ASF will take place across the city but there will be a special focus on four of the largest shopping districts and 14 designated hotspots where visitors can experience some of the best retail offerings of Ahmedabad. The festival is closely supported by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, the Government of Gujarat, and the city's business community. Participation has been with over 2500 shops and retailers joining the festival already and is expected to see more additions over the upcoming days. Local businesses, artisans, and shop owners

are pulling out all the stops to showcase the best of Ahmedabad, from unique handicrafts and textiles to modern retail attractions, ensuring visitors of all ages and interests find something special.

#### **ASF PASS OFFERS EXCITING AND EXCLUSIVE OFFERS**

The Ahmedabad Shopping Festival offers the ASF pass which makes the event a more exciting experience for visitors. With the pass, visitors can avail of some exciting offers like discounts on restaurants and hotels and free bus rides. The pass also gives access to various events like music concerts, lucky draws and prize giveaways. Visitors can also get exclusive discounts on purchases with the ASF pass.

#### AHMEDABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION'S VISION

The Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) is one of India's wealthiest civic bodies. In recent years the city has made major strides in upgrading its infrastructure and public services, investing over Rs 12,000 crore to enhance the overall development across projects like the BRTS transit network and Sabarmati Riverfront. Now, the AMC has partnered with the



Government of Gujarat to organise and host the Ahmedabad Shopping Festival, India's own global shopping festival.

It has created clean, welcoming public spaces, vibrant lighting, and strong safety measures for the festival. By managing traffic and crowds, AMC has ensured ASF is an enjoyable experience, drawing in visitors and boosting Ahmedabad's reputation as a lively cultural hub. The entire city has been decorated and illuminated, adding to the festive atmosphere and creating a joyous experience for visitors.

#### **AUTHENTIC FLAVORS**

Anyone visiting the city of Ahmedabad will love the traditional cuisine which offers some of the most vibrant flavours that expertly blend sweet, sour, and spicy tastes to create a unique experience. We suggest one starts with the iconic Dhokla, then enjoy the famed Fafda with Jalebi breakfast combination. Ahmedabad is renowned for its street foods like the Dabeli, a local favourite that consists of a spicy potato filling, pomegranate, peanuts, chutneys and a bun. Other must-tries include the Khaman and Sev Khamani.

For a full meal, the traditional Gujarati Thali is a lavish treat that gets you roti, rice, seasonal vegetables, pickles, dal, kadhi, and mithai. Coupled with a refreshing glass of buttermilk, it is an essential experience to have in Ahmedabad.

#### AHMEDABAD: INDIA'S FIRST UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE CITY

Ahmedabad proudly holds the title of India's first UNESCO World Heritage City, recognised for its vibrant cultural heritage and historic landmarks. At the heart of this heritage is Sabarmati Ashram, once home to Mahatma Gandhi, where visitors can feel the deep-rooted spirit of India's freedom movement. The city's architectural treasures, like the Sidi Saiyyed Mosque and its intricate "Tree of Life" carving, highlight Ahmedabad's artistic legacy.



The marble Hathisingh Jain Temple, built in 1848, offers a peaceful retreat, while the 15th-century Bhadra Fort stands as a reminder of royal history. In the Old City, the narrow lanes and traditional Pols (gated neighbourhoods) reflect a preserved, timeless charm that truly concretises Ahmedabad's World Heritage status.

#### **CULTURE AND FESTIVITIES**

The cultural heritage of Ahmedabad is a vibrant blend of traditions with festivities unifying the community. Navratri is an important event as the city comes alive with locals dressed in traditional attire for Garba and Dandiya, celebrating with rhythm and colour. Another big event in Ahmedabad is Uttarayan during which families populate the sky with kites of varying colours while enjoying local delicacies.

During Diwali, the whole of Ahmedabad lights up as homes glitter with lamps, and sweets are shared to spread joy. In contrast, the Jain festival of Paryushan is a time of reflection and community prayer, focusing on compassion. These celebrations showcase Ahmedabad's spirit of unity and joy, where people from different backgrounds come together to honour each tradition with enthusiasm.

#### **GET THE ASF PASS**

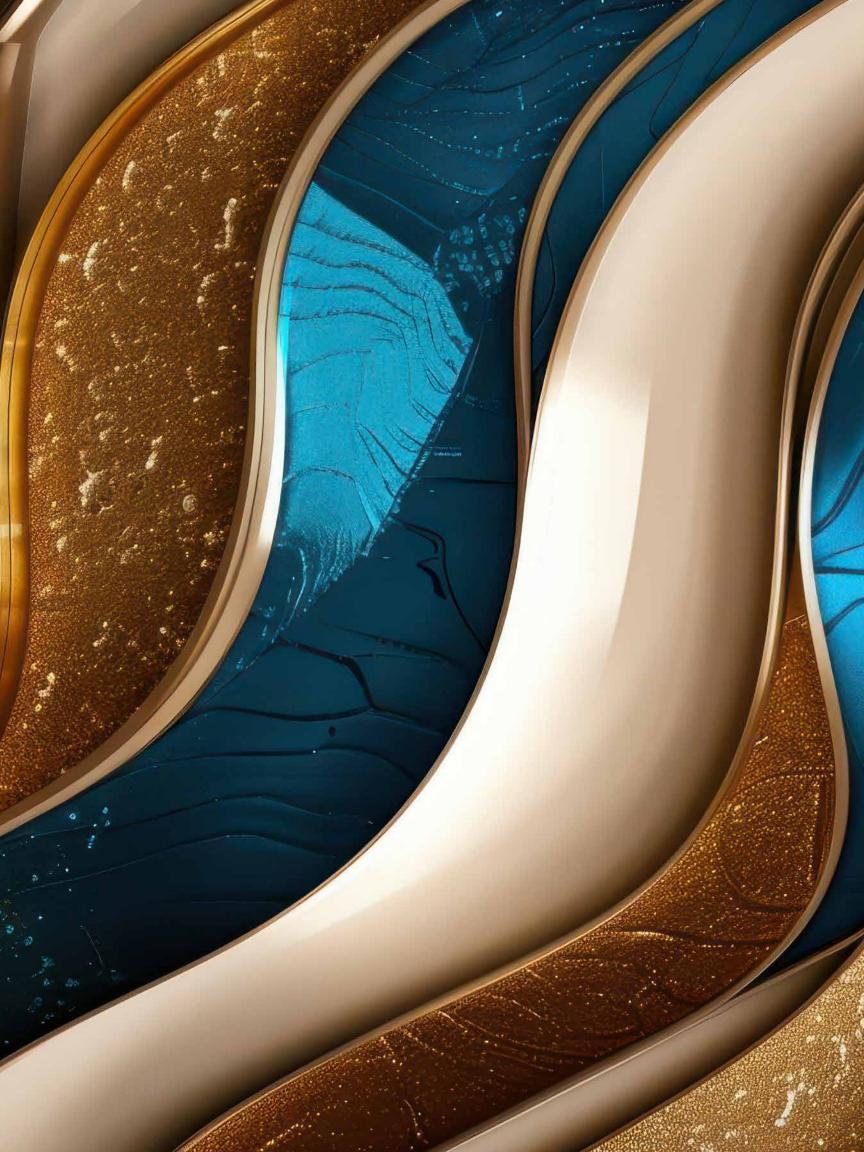
First, make sure to get the ASF Pass which offers discounts of up to 60% on shopping, and accommodation, plus free rides and concert access. Use it to discover and purchase authentic

handicrafts and textiles from over 2500 locations. The Ahmedabad Shopping Festival is a must-visit for everyone as it offers an experience that rivals other global shopping destinations like Singapore and Dubai.





Jama Masjid





## A LEGACY BEYOND TIME

Ratan Tata's legacy is a testament to the fact that business acumen and a commitment to social good can go together

#### **TT BUREAU**

t is difficult to summarize the legacy of a person, such as Ratan Tata, whose influence reached far and wide and impacted millions. Under Tata's tutelage, the Tata Group reached astonishing heights of success, establishing itself as a global brand and increasing its market value. Almost 65% of the company's profits went to charitable causes, while the remaining portion was routed back into the business, creating jobs for thousands of youth. His notable business achievements include streamlining the organisational structure of the conglomerate, acquisitions of global brands like Tetley, Corus Steel, and Jaguar Land Rover, and introducing Tata Nano – a compact saloon car aimed at revolutionising middle-class travel.

#### THE FORMATIVE YEARS

Ratan Tata was born in 1937 in a Parsi family who became wealthy primarily through investments in textiles, steel and hospitality. He was sent to the US to pursue higher education at the age of 17. At Cornell University, he dabbled in engineering, before pursuing architecture. Although he had originally vowed never to return to India, his love for his grandmother got the better of him and he returned to the country in the early 1960s. He began his career at Tata Steels, finally moving to other business interests, including textiles, electronics and finally passenger cars. After the death of JRD Tata, he took charge of the conglomerate, streamlining its existing companies and investing in new lines of business.







Late Ratan Tata: Former Chairman Emeritus, Tata Sons & Tata Group.

#### A STRING OF SUCCESSES

Ratan Tata, whose passion has been cars, ventured more deeply into the passenger car segment. After years of hard work, he came up with Indica - India's first indigenously designed car. This compact workhorse was a great hit that gave great mileage and came at an affordable price point. But Ratan Tata was not going to rest just yet. A chance encounter of a couple getting drenched on their bike at a street signal gave him the idea of introducing a compact saloon car that could be easily afforded by Indian middle-class families. The result was the birth of Nano – touted as the cheapest car in the world. Although the project failed, it nonetheless left a lasting impression on consumers, reflecting Ratan Tata's vision for both growth and accessibility.

#### A GLOBAL BRAND

Ratan Tata also focussed on his ambitious plan of global acquisition. The path was rough, to say the least. When he wanted to sell stakes of the troubled Tata Motors to Ford, it is said that the bosses of the American company ridiculed his decision to venture into an area he knew so little about. The deal did not fructify and Ratan Tata came back emptyhanded only to turn around Tata Motors into one of the most popular car brands. Other global buyouts followed, such as those of Tetley, Corus and the Jaguar Land Rover. While these businesses have not proven to be great successes yet, the Group has increasingly focussed on emerging and profitable sectors such as IT, green energy and, more recently, semiconductors.

#### **SOCIAL LEGACY**

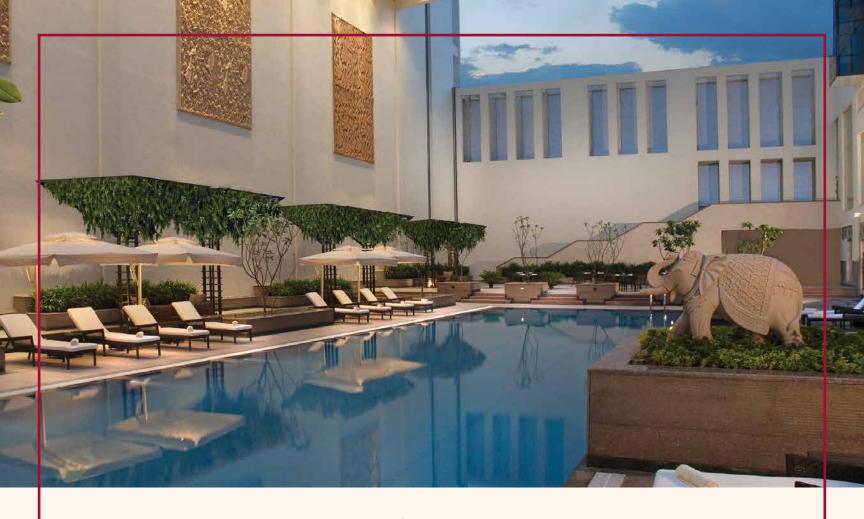
The enduring legacy of Ratan Tata goes way beyond corporate profits and balance sheets. He is seen as one of the

makers of modern India who led the country to growth and prosperity through a variety of business interests with a deep commitment towards social welfare.

The Group pioneered cancer care in India by establishing the Tata Memorial Centre (1941) and the Tata Medical Centre in Kolkata in 2011. The group has invested heavily in maternal and neonatal care, especially in rural India by partnering with non-governmental organisations and public health bodies. Throughout their history, the group has championed the cause of quality education by building some of India's most iconic educational institutions such as the Tata Centre for Technology at IIT Bombay, the renowned Indian Institute of Science, and the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research. The group has also launched the Transforming Rural India Initiative to empower rural communities, farmers and disadvantaged urban youth.

Through partnerships with environmental support groups, the company actively works towards conserving at-risk species and fragile ecosystems. But what stands out the most is Ratan Tata's commitment towards bringing meaningful changes in people's lives. In the aftermath of the Mumbai terror attack, Ratan Tata personally supported the victims through the Taj Public Service Welfare Trust. A lifelong lover of dogs, Ratan Tata opened a shelter for stray dogs at the Tata House and inaugurated a charitable animal hospital for stray animals in Mumbai, just months before he passed away.

Ratan Tata's legacy stands as a testament to the possibility that business excellence and social responsibility can not only coexist but thrive together. From transforming a national conglomerate into a global powerhouse to ensuring that corporate success translates into societal welfare, he has redefined the idea of what meaningful business ventures can achieve for society at large.





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### A TRANSFORMATIVE LEADER

Mukesh Ambani is spearheading a transformation in India, spanning retail, clean energy, digital services and a host of sustainable initiatives

#### **TT BUREAU**

hile there are many businessmen in India who have made the country proud by putting it on the world map, very few have shown visionary leadership like Mukesh Ambani, who currently serves as the Chairman and Managing Director of Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) – a conglomerate with businesses across sectors, such as energy, telecommunication and retail.

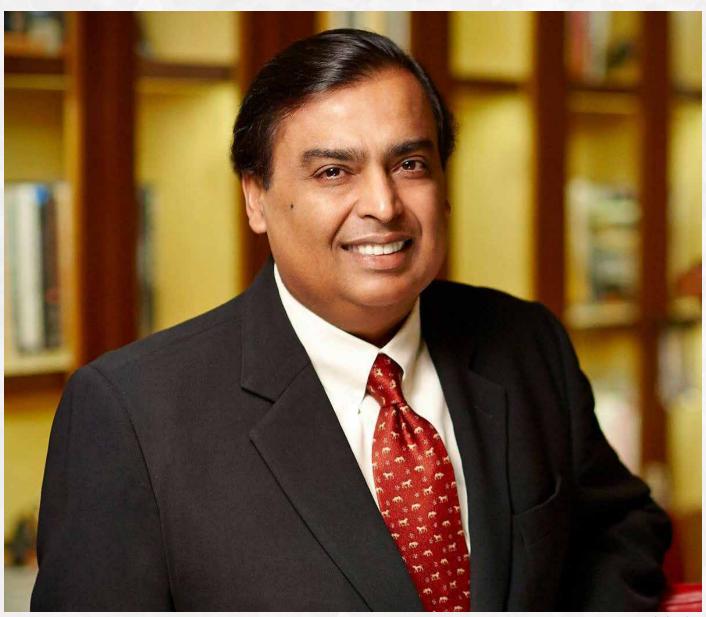
In his career spanning decades, he has shown an exceptional ability to foresee market trends, bring about a digital transformation

in India, and empower the country's growth through long-term sustainable development initiatives.

#### **BEGINNINGS AND BREAKTHROUGHS**

Born on April 19, 1957, Ambani joined Reliance in 1981, initially working under the guidance of his father, Dhirubhai Ambani, the founder of the company.

He played a crucial role in the company's rapid expansion into petrochemicals and refining, overseeing the construction



Mukesh Ambani



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of the world's largest grassroots petroleum refinery in Jamnagar, India.

In recent years, Ambani has spearheaded Reliance's ambitious foray into digital services through Jio, a telecom venture that revolutionized the Indian telecommunications market with its affordable 4G services, bringing high-speed internet access to millions. RIL has also expanded into retail, making it one of the largest retail players in India.

Mukesh Ambani has demonstrated an exceptional ability to foresee market trends and pivot his company's focus accordingly. He has consistently diversified Reliance Industries' portfolio, expanding from petrochemicals and refining to telecommunications, retail, and digital services. His vision for a digitally integrated ecosystem and a diversified business portfolio has positioned Reliance as one of India's most valuable companies.

#### **FUTURE ENDEAVOURS**

A visionary leader is one who thinks long-term, and Mukesh Ambani embodies this trait. He has laid out ambitious plans for RIL's future, including investments in renewable energy, with the aim of making the company a net carbon zero by 2035. This forward-looking approach towards sustainability and environmental responsibility reflects his commitment to not just the company's growth, but also its role in global environmental stewardship.

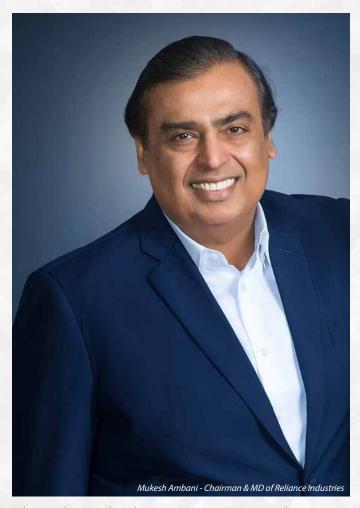
Reliance Retail, the retail arm of the company, aims to further expand its footprint in India, enhancing its online and offline presence. The company plans to grow its grocery, fashion, electronics, and digital services segments, leveraging its extensive supply chain and technology platforms. It is also exploring strategic partnerships and acquisitions to bolster its market position.

While continuing to strengthen its core business in petrochemicals and refining, the company is exploring ways to transition towards more sustainable practices. This includes the development of new chemical products, advanced materials, and circular economy initiatives that promote recycling and waste reduction.

#### **EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES**

Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries, through the Reliance Foundation led by Nita Ambani, carries out impactful Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities. In the 2023 fiscal year, the company allocated ₹1,271 crore to initiatives in rural development, healthcare, education, and disaster relief. The foundation's efforts have reached over 12 million people across 10,500 villages in India, with a focus on sustainable development and strengthening communities.

Through the Bharat India Jodo (RF-BIJ) initiative, the foundation focuses on creating self-reliant rural communities by ensuring income security, improved nutrition, and resilience to climate challenges. This program has introduced



advanced agricultural practices across more than 16,200 hectares, benefiting over 60,800 farmers.

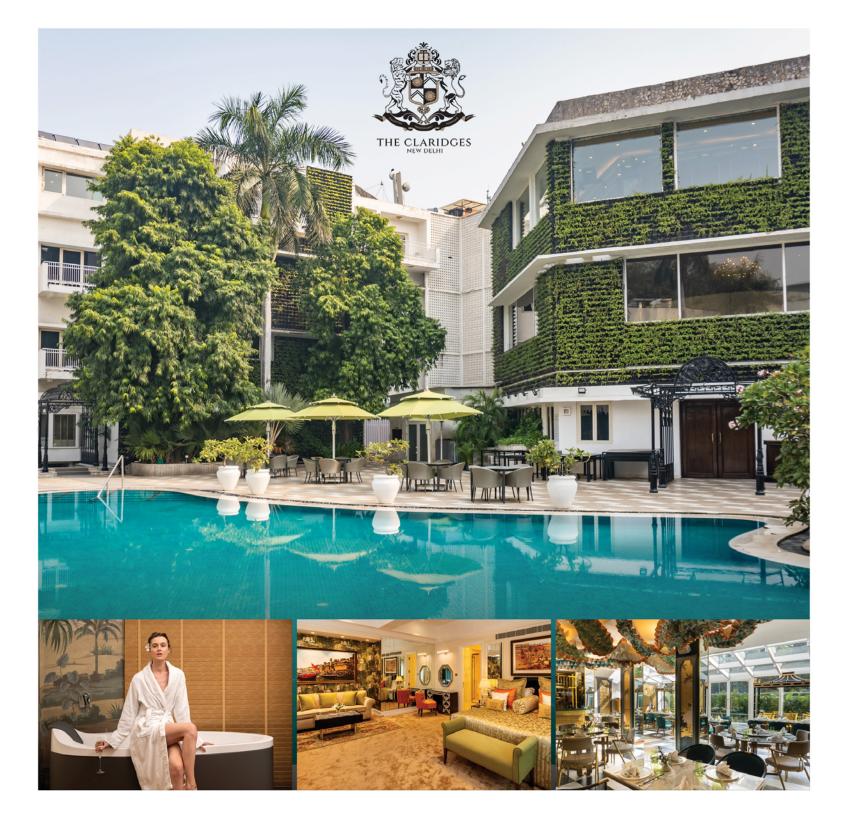
In addition to income and agricultural support, Reliance Foundation has made significant strides in water resource management. By increasing water harvesting capacity by nearly 285 lakh cubic meters and constructing over 100 community-led water structures, the foundation has improved irrigation for 650 acres in Madhya Pradesh, contributing to better water availability for farming.

#### **CELEBRATING INDIA'S CULTURAL HERITAGE**

Mukesh Ambani's contribution to the country goes way beyond his business endeavours. Through the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre (NMACC), the company is celebrating and promoting Indian art and culture on a global stage.

NMACC hosts a wide range of exhibitions, performances, and events that highlight both traditional and contemporary Indian arts. This includes classical music and dance performances, theatrical productions, visual arts exhibitions, and more. In addition to physical events, NMACC leverages digital platforms to reach a global audience.

In a nutshell, Mukesh Ambani's visionary leadership is defined by his strategic foresight, commitment to innovation, focus on scale, resilience, long-term thinking, contribution to India's growth, and a global perspective. These qualities have not only driven Reliance Industries to new heights but have also positioned him as one of the most influential business leaders globally.



#### EXPERIENCE TIMELESS ELEGANCE WITH MODERN LUXURY

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Sam Altman

ew leaders balance the rapid, relentless drive of technological innovation with a deep commitment to societal betterment. Sam Altman is reshaping tech with Al advancements like ChatGPT as well as making a profound impact through responsible initiatives that champion the human side of progress.

#### FORGING CONNECTIONS IN SILICON VALLEY

Building a Silicon Valley career is no small feat, especially when your first venture aims to reshape how people connect. Sam Altman's journey began with Loopt, a location-sharing app that, despite limited success, highlighted his inventive spirit and set the stage for future leadership roles. In 2014, Altman became president of Y Combinator, the renowned accelerator behind giants like Airbnb and Dropbox, transforming it into a powerhouse that strengthened Silicon Valley's innovation. By 2015, Altman co-founded OpenAl to develop socially beneficial Al. As CEO, he led the creation of groundbreaking tools like ChatGPT, emphasising ethical Al and responsible progress.

#### **RESPONDING TO GLOBAL CRISES**

In times of global need, Altman always steps forward. During the COVID-19 pandemic, as the world scrambled to accelerate medical breakthroughs, Altman co-funded Project

Covalence. This initiative, a collaboration with the clinical trial platform TrialSpark, fast-tracked vital research by supporting new clinical trials on a condensed timeline. When Silicon Valley Bank faced a sudden depositor run in March 2023, Altman quickly mobilised his resources, providing immediate capital support to numerous startups struggling to navigate this financial storm.

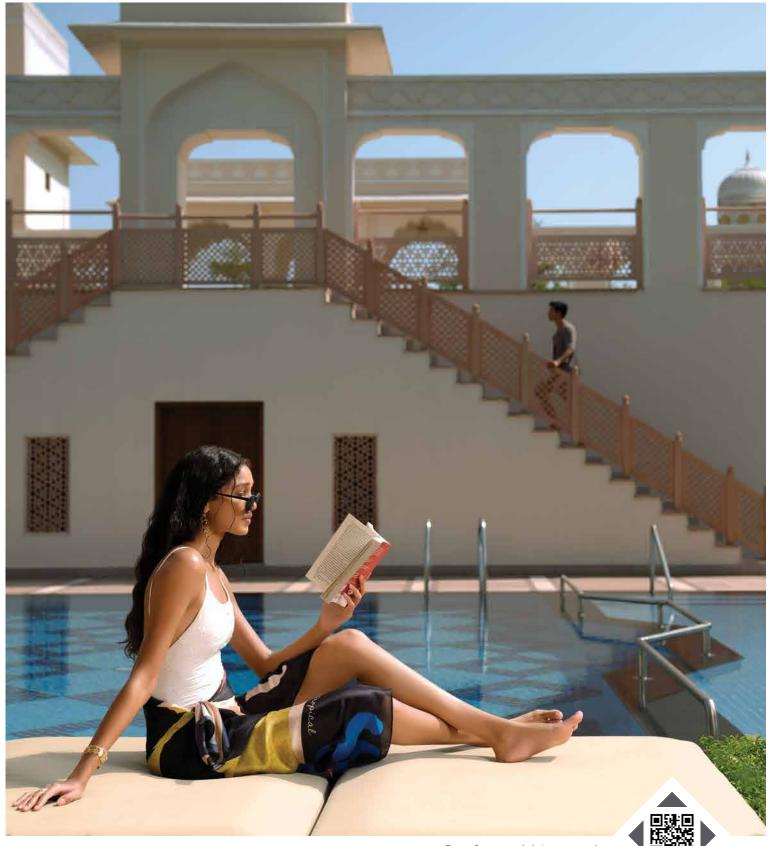
#### A PORTFOLIO OF POSITIVE CHANGE

Altman's investments are focussed on transforming industries that will impact the future. Known for his discerning eye for game-changing ideas, Altman's portfolio includes tech giants like Stripe, as well as companies innovating in areas with wide-reaching benefits, like nuclear energy and biotechnology. Altman believes in the potential for these fields to address some of humanity's biggest challenges, from clean energy solutions to advancements in human health.

In May 2024, he and his spouse joined The Giving Pledge, a philanthropic initiative created by Warren Buffett and Bill Gates that encourages the world's wealthiest individuals to commit the majority of their fortunes to social causes.

Altman's approach to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is woven into his vision of what a tech leader should be. His influence encourages a new standard of leadership, one that values ethical responsibility as much as innovation.

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#### **PROMOTION**

### TIME TRAVEL ON FOOT



Think you know the capital city? Think again! The Delhi Tourism Walk Festival is your chance to know the city's best-kept secrets.

Delhi—a city of heritage sites—often gets flak for its busy streets and crowded places. But if one persists, they are likely to stumble across a treasure trove of hidden wonders. Beneath the cacophony of modern Delhi lies a city that is historically rich. Every corner of the capital city, especially Old Delhi, narrates stories of bygone eras.

When you walk through the labyrinthine pathways of Old Delhi, you might feel as if you've stepped into another world altogether. The architecture of this part of the city is a living testament to the artistry of the past. Intricate carvings and ornate designs adorn buildings that have stood the test of time, each one recounting a tale of its own, offering a window into a world that once was. A visit to the old city reminds us of the importance of preserving our past, not just for ourselves, but for posterity.

The Delhi Tourism Walk Festival offers a unique opportunity for those looking to unearth the hidden histories of the city. The fest aims to celebrate Delhi's culture and history and invites participants to discover the city through a series of thoughtfully curated walks, each of which allows one to view the city through the lens of the past. Step back in time at the Mehrauli Archaeological Park, a site replete with ancient monuments from the medieval period. Or immerse yourself in the mystical world of Sufism with the Sufiana Dilli walk, which allows you to explore the spiritual side of the city. Want to experience a spine-tingling adventure? The Haunted Walks will take you to haunted sites such as Malcha Mahal and Feroz Shah Kotla Fort, where djinns and ghosts await. You can also





Heritage walk at the Qutub Minar complex; a walk at the Feroz Shah Kotla Fort

soak in the energy of Connaught Place with the Dekho Apna CP walk. Foodies will relish culinary delights of Old Delhi at the Zaike Purani Dilli Ke, while Purani Dilli Ke Bashinde lets you meet the residents of this neighbourhood.

The festival also offers other walks that give tourists insights into Delhi's architectural grandeur. For instance, the Roshan-e-Dilli is a walk through the Qutub complex while the Dastan Jalalatud-din Razia Ke walk is a special tribute to the legacy of Razia Sultan—the first woman ruler of Delhi. One can also retrace the steps of poet Mirza Ghalib in Shahjahanabad with another one of the walks that's part of this calendar.

Earlier this year, the Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation (DTTDC) organised a series of successful heritage walks in five heritage circuits for the prestigious 46th World Heritage Committee delegates from 195 countries between July 21 and 31. These delegates expressed their appreciation for the meticulously planned and executed walks, which highlighted Delhi's rich cultural heritage and historical significance.

The feedback from the delegates was overwhelmingly positive, praising the insightful narratives provided by the expert guides and how seamlessly the events were coordinated. This initiative not only showcased Delhi's historical landmarks but also enhanced the overall experience of these delegates.

These walks aren't just strolls—they can be called time-travel adventures, with Delhi as your guide. Whether you're a history buff, a curious traveller, or just someone who wants to witness the city with fresh eyes, the Delhi Tourism Walk Festival is your pass to explore a side of the capital missed by most. So, the next time you are in the capital, ditch the tourist spots—go where the real magic happens.

#### Delhi Tourism also organises famous LTC/Holiday Tour Packages such as:

- ·Haridwar-Rishikesh-Mussoorie (4 Days)
- •Delhi-Bhimtal-Mukteshwar-Delhi (3 Days)
- ·Delhi-Amritsar-Atari-Delhi (3 Days)
- ·Delhi-Jhansi-Gwalior-Delhi (4 Days)

#### For bookings please contact DTTDC

011-23363607, 011-23365358 Email: tourism@delhitourism.gov.in Website: delhitourism.gov.in



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### THE SAGA OF DELHI

Delhi, the captivating capital city of India, is a treasure trove of history, culture, and vibrant experiences. From ancient architectural wonders to tantalising street food, this metropolis offers an array of attractions. Spearheading the growth of tourism and transforming the transport infrastructure of the city, Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation (DTTDC) assumes a pivotal role in unveiling the finest gems that Delhi has to offer through various unique events and festivals, exciting sightseeing tours and through offbeat travel packages. It also operates the popular Dilli Haats, which showcase India's rich culture, food and handicraft. Let's walk down the lanes of Delhi with DTTDC.



#### **Celebrating Culture** and Crafts at Dilli Haat

DTTDC's unique initiative, Dilli Haat, offers an immersive cultural experience with vibrant open-air markets at INA, Pitampura, and Janakpuri. Based on three Cs - craft, cuisine, and culture these markets showcase traditional handicraft items, mouthwatering food, and provide a platform for artisans from across India.

#### **Kalam Memorial**

The Kalam Memorial pays tribute to former President of India Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam by showcasing his belongings and featuring a multimedia display that highlights his remarkable life and contributions.

#### **Guru Tegh Bahadur** Memorial

The Guru Tegh Bahadur Memorial is a 24-metre obelisk honouring the esteemed Sikh guru.

#### **E-film clearance portal**

A portal that simplifies the process of applying for and receiving required permissions to shoot films, TV shows, and other audio-video productions in Delhi.

#### **Garden of Five Senses**

One of the most serene escapes in the city, the Garden of Five Senses in South Delhi provides a unique experience with beautiful sculptures and lush greenery. Designed to stimulate all five senses—sight, sound, taste, touch, and smell—the well-maintained garden is a paradise for nature lovers with exotic trees and beautiful flower beds.

#### **Azad Hind Gram**

Azad Hind Gram. a memorial and museum complex in Tikri Kalan, pays homage to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

#### **Coffee Home**

Coffee Home in Connaught Place is a welcoming establishment where visitors can enjoy affordable South Indian delicacies.

#### Dekho Meri Dilli App

A mobile application that provides tourists all necessary information in one place.

#### Festivals and Cultural Celebrations

DTTDC organises fairs and festivals such as the Garden Tourism Festival, Dance Festival, Mango Festival, and Food Festival, etc., which celebrate Delhi's rich heritage.





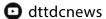




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## VANGUARD OF PROGRESS

Anand Mahindra is a visionary businessman who uses his wealth to support various social causes

#### **TT BUREAU**

n industrialist and a philanthropist with a vision of progressive India – that's Anand Mahindra for you, the chairman of the Mahindra Group that has business interests in a wide range of industries, including technology, car manufacturing, agribusiness finance and insurance.

Winner of several national and international awards, Mahindra is a visionary billionaire businessman, who uses his money for a host of philanthropic causes, using the CSR arm of his conglomerate – Mahindra Rise. He also wears his nationalism on his sleeve, taking on social media trolls who criticize his country. As a thought leader of his industry, his contribution to India's growth story has been immense.

#### **ROOTS AND BEGINNINGS**

Anand Mahindra, born on May 1, 1955, was part of the prominent Mahindra family and grew up surrounded by business and innovation. He pursued his early education at Lawrence School, Lovedale, and then graduated magna cum laude from Harvard College with a degree in film studies and architecture in 1977. He later earned an MBA from Harvard Business School in 1981.

Upon returning to India, Anand joined Mahindra Ugine Steel Company Ltd. (MUSCO) in 1981, a subsidiary of the Mahindra Group, as an Executive Assistant to the Finance Director. His early career was marked by a focus on building and diversifying the group's steel business. Over the years, his visionary leadership and strategic thinking propelled him to the forefront of the company, eventually leading to his role as the Chairman of the Mahindra Group, where he transformed the conglomerate into a global powerhouse across various industries.

#### **GLOBAL AUTOMOTIVE SUCCESS**

Anand Mahindra's transformative leadership was pivotal in turning Mahindra & Mahindra into a global automotive







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success story. When he took the helm as Managing Director in the early 1990s, Mahindra was primarily known for its utility vehicles, with a stronghold in the Indian market but a limited global presence. Anand recognized the need to innovate and expand the company's offerings to compete on an international scale.

Under his guidance, Mahindra launched the Scorpio in 2002, a game-changing SUV that marked the company's shift from being a useful vehicle manufacturer to a brand that could deliver style, performance, and quality. The success of the Scorpio was a turning point; it was entirely designed and developed in-house, showcasing Mahindra's growing R&D capabilities. This not only established Mahindra as a serious contender in the global automotive market but also built a strong brand identity centred around rugged, reliable vehicles.

Anand Mahindra also pushed the company toward global expansion, acquiring a South Korean motor company in 2010 and an Italian design firm in 2015.

These strategic moves enhanced Mahindra's technological expertise and design prowess, allowing the company to create vehicles that could compete with the best in the world. Additionally, Mahindra's foray into electric vehicles with the acquisition of Reva Electric Car Company in 2010 positioned the brand as a forward-thinking player in the evolving automotive landscape.

Throughout his tenure, Anand Mahindra emphasized innovation, customer satisfaction, and sustainable practices, all while maintaining the company's core values.

#### **BEYOND BUSINESS**

Anand Mahindra's illustrious career is marked by numerous achievements that extend beyond his role at Mahindra & Mahindra.

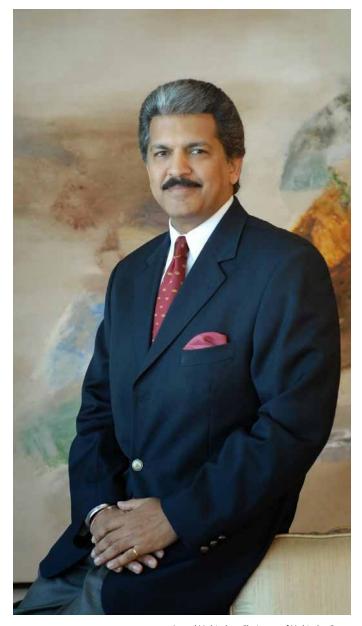
In April 2014, he joined the board of the US–India Business Council (USIBC), where he played a crucial role in promoting policy advocacy and advising senior leadership.

His influence also reaches Singapore, where in 2011, he was invited to join the International Advisory Council of Singapore's Economic Development Board, contributing to the nation's economic strategies.

As Chairman of the India Advisory Council at the Lincoln Center in New York and a Trustee of the Natural History Museum of London, Anand has significantly impacted cultural and educational institutions globally.

A staunch believer in the power of design to enhance human happiness, Anand leads the Governing Council of the National Institute of Design and serves as President of the India Design Council.

His passion for sports and entertainment led to the cofounding of the Pro Kabaddi League in 2014, revolutionizing the traditional Indian sport into a popular national league. Additionally, he co-founded EPIC, an Indian television



Anand Mahindra - Chairman of Mahindra Group

channel showcasing Hindi content, and later became its sole owner, demonstrating his commitment to promoting Indian culture and storytelling.

On the social front, Mahindra has launched the Nanhi Kali programme, which provides access to quality education for over a million disenfranchised girls.

He also serves as the Chairman of the Board of Naandi Foundation – a non-governmental agency that works with young people, offering them vocational training and upskilling support.

Anand's leadership and vision have earned him international recognition, including being named in Fortune Magazine's list of The World's 50 Greatest Leaders in 2014 and one of Asia's top 25 most powerful business people in 2011. His influence extends to global forums, such as his role as cochairman of the World Economic Forum in 2009.

Anand Mahindra's contributions to business, culture, and society undoubtedly reflect his multifaceted leadership and unwavering commitment to India's progress.

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## A JOURNEY THROUGH CULTURE AND ADVENTURE

Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board's curated list of events and experiences is a treat for every type of traveller

**TT BUREAU** 

adhya Pradesh, better known as the heart of India, is a veritable treasure trove of culture, history, and adventure waiting to be explored. From ancient temples and palaces to dense forests teeming with diverse flora and fauna, this enchanting state offers a unique blend of heritage and natural beauty.

The Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board has curated an exceptional range of cultural and adventure experiences that can cater to every type of traveller. From culture connoisseurs to adventure enthusiasts, there's something for everybody. Here are some of the top immersive experiences that must be on the bucket list of every traveller.

#### **CULTURAL FESTIVALS: A Kaleidoscope of Tradition**

Madhya Pradesh has vibrant cultural festivals provide a window into India's rich performing arts heritage. These events offer visitors a chance to witness the living traditions of the region and connect with its artistic spirit.

#### Khajuraho Dance Festival (Feb 20 - 26):

Held annually in February at the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Khajuraho, this festival brings the stunning sculptures of the temples to life through dance. The festival celebrates classical Indian dance forms, with the ancient temples serving as a dramatic backdrop. In its golden jubilee year, the Khajuraho Dance Festival witnessed a spectacular Guinness World Record as 1,484 Kathak



Khajuraho Dance Festiva



Ustad Allauddin Khan Sangeet Samaroh

dancers performed in unison, making it a must-see event for art and dance lovers.

#### **Ustad Allauddin Khan Sangeet Samaroh (March):**

March in Madhya Pradesh is synonymous with the Allauddin Khan Sangeet Samaroh, a celebration of Indian classical music, especially of the incredible contributions of Maihar Gharana. This annual festival honours the legendary Ustad Allauddin Khan, the founder of the gharana, and showcases performances by some of the most revered classical musicians in India. The melodies and rhythms created at this event are a testament to the profound musical legacy of the region.

#### Akhil Bhartiya Kalidas Samaroh (Nov & Dec):

Come winter, Ujjain decks up to host the Akhil Bhartiya Kalidas Samaroh, a festival dedicated to the literary genius of Kalidasa, one of India's greatest poets and playwrights. The festival offers a blend of theatrical performances, music, and intellectual discourse, drawing scholars, artists, and cultural enthusiasts from across the country. It's a cultural feast where history, art, and literature converge.

#### Tansen Samaroh (December):

Gwalior transforms into a hub of Indian classical music in December with the Tansen Samaroh, named after the legendary musician Tansen. This festival is a tribute to his extraordinary legacy and features performances by the finest vocalists and instrumentalists. The 99th edition of the festival saw 1,276 tabla players creating a harmonious symphony, setting a world record. For lovers of Indian classical music, this event is an absolute treat for the senses.

#### **DESTINATION PROMOTIONAL EVENTS:** Where Adventure Meets Luxury

Beyond cultural festivals, Madhya Pradesh also offers unparalleled adventure experiences, allowing visitors to explore the state's natural beauty without sacrificing luxury. The state's glamping festivals are the perfect fusion of opulence and the great outdoors, making for unforgettable getaways.

#### **Gandhisagar Festival:**

Set against the stunning backdrop of the Gandhisagar Dam in Mandsaur, the Gandhisagar Festival offers an unforgettable



Jal Mahotsav -Hot Air Balloon

blend of luxury and nature. Visitors can stay in fully furnished tents along the serene shores, with the sounds of the waves providing the perfect wake-up call. This glamping retreat combines outdoor adventure with cultural experiences, creating a unique and relaxing escape.

#### **Kuno Forest Retreat:**

October marks the Kuno Forest Festival, held in the Sheopur district's lush Kuno Forest. Kuno is a newly discovered wildlife destination where glamping tents allow visitors to experience the wilderness in luxury. Guests can embark on exhilarating jungle safaris, explore the historic Palpur Fort, and enjoy a peaceful starlit stroll along the forest path. Kuno's untouched beauty and vibrant wildlife make it the perfect destination for those seeking adventure.

#### **Chanderi Festival:**

In November, Chanderi hosts a festival that combines the town's rich textile heritage with luxury camping. Chanderi is renowned for its exquisite sarees, and visitors to the Chanderi Festival can explore this craftsmanship while staying in opulent tents by the Laxman Sagar Lake. This festival is ideal for travellers looking to combine heritage, culture, and luxury in one immersive experience.

#### Jal Mahotsav:

Held in the backwaters of the Indira Sagar Dam in Khandwa, Jal Mahotsav is a vibrant water festival where adventure and culture come together. The Hanuwantiya Tent City offers luxurious accommodations, while the festival provides thrilling activities such as parasailing, jet skiing, and hot air ballooning. Whether you're an adrenaline junkie or looking for a romantic retreat, Jal Mahotsav promises a unique and exciting experience.

#### **EMBRACE THE HEART OF INDIA**

Madhya Pradesh's allure lies in its ability to combine a love for adventure with a deep respect for cultural traditions. Whether you're drawn to the state's deep cultural roots or its untamed wilderness, Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board's curated list of events and experiences promises to leave you enchanted. So, pack your bags and get ready to dive into the wonders of a state, where culture, adventure, and luxury thrive in perfect unison.

# THE WOKE ICON

Musical prowess apart, Taylor Swift continues to touch the lives of millions through innumerable acts of kindness

TT BUREAU

ery few artists can influence the cultural zeitgeist of a generation through their incredible artistic contribution, philanthropy and transformative leadership. If the Beatles stood for the rebellious spirit of the Sixties and Michael Jackson for the liberalism of the Eighties, Taylor Swift can surely be considered someone who embodies the wokeness of her generation.

Beyond her stellar career as a best-selling artist, Swift has profoundly influenced music, fashion, and social change through artistic experimentation, humanitarian support, and political views. A holder of several records, she is one of the highest-selling artists, selling more than 114 million records worldwide.

Her famous Eras Tour has generated more than 2 billion dollars in revenue, making her the highest-grossing female touring star in history. Often considered one of the greatest musicians of all time by leading publications, she has been the only person from the field of arts to have been named Time Person of the Year 2023.



















#### A MUSICAL POWERHOUSE

Primarily a country musician, Swift has experimented with other genres, including electronic and hip-hop before finally creating a unique fusion of country and pop, laced with deeply personal autobiographical lyrics about love, loss and heartbreak. Early albums like Taylor Swift (2006) and Fearless (2008) were very heavily influenced by the country musicians of her generation, including Shania Twain, Faith Hill and Dixie Chicks. Later on, she ventured into other areas of music while retaining her innate ability to tell powerful personal stories through catchy melodies.

#### A SAVVY BUSINESS WOMAN

Beyond her chart-topping successes, Swift has proven her mettle as a savvy businesswoman, advocating for a fair share of revenue for recording artists and ownership of intellectual property rights over music. Swift's fight for the rights of music artists has inspired others to follow suit, prompting them to renegotiate better deals with recording companies and claim intellectual rights over master recordings.

#### **DEEP CULTURAL IMPACT**

Swift has ensured that her legacy surpasses the limited sphere of music and inspires millions of her fans (popularly known as Swifties) to embrace their selfhood and individualism. Fashion pundits suggest her casual, street-inspired dressing sense has made fashion accessible to the general public helping smaller fashion businesses to make a mark on the fashion scene.

At the same time, large fashion brands like Versace, Jimmy Choo and Schiaparelli have credited Swift for increasing their sales as a result of her red-carpet appearances. She has also been a vocal advocate of LGBTQ+ rights and voter's rights,

encouraging the younger generation to embrace their sexuality and take an active interest in politics.

Taylor Swift's music offers a powerful critique of traditional gender norms, addressing inequality and double standards, especially within the entertainment industry. Her song "The Man" serves as a poignant critique of gender inequality. Beyond these actions, her lyrics frequently explore themes of female empowerment and critique societal expectations.

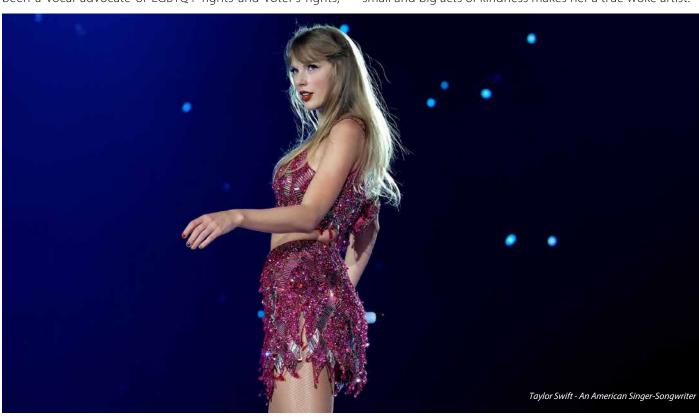
#### A GENUINE PHILANTHROPIST

While celebrities often give liberally to social causes, Swift backs her charities with her personal involvement. From disaster relief to the climate crisis to hunger alleviation, her charitable initiatives have been wide-ranging impacting millions. Education has a special place in her heart. When she moved to New York City in 2015, she donated 50,000 dollars to the public school system and helped refurbish Pennsylvania libraries with 70,000 dollars of new books.

While her tours have sometimes been criticized for contributing to the burgeoning carbon footprint, Swift makes sure the environmental impact of her tours is somewhat mitigated by her generous contribution to the local community, food banks, and purchase of carbon offsets – a tradable certificate that offsets the impact of climate change.

Her support for cancer research has also been impactful with her million-dollar donations benefiting large cancer research organisations like V Foundation as well as individual fans who are unable to afford medical treatment.

Given such an enviable resume, it should come as no surprise as to why a pop star has the whole world wrapped around her fingers. Her deep empathy that shines through small and big acts of kindness makes her a true woke artist.







### Enriching Experiences Await

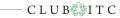
#### **NEAR CORBETT'S WILDERNESS**

Explore natures' pantones come alive at Welcomhotel by ITC Hotels, Jim Corbett. Set atop a hill, the resort property offers a birds' eye view of the picturesque valley below. Relax as you stay at this premium resort, and enjoy local Kumaoni cuisine, fortified with local millets and greens. Lounge at one of the best resorts near the Jim Corbett Park, away from all the stress of urban living at this stunning location, as the brightest hues of nature and cheery birdsong give you an instant boost of energy.























## THE CROSSOVER SUPERSTAR

Priyanka Chopra, the global superstar, has proved herself to be an accomplished actress, a profound humanitarian and a champion of social causes

#### TT BUREAU

n Hollywood - an industry obsessed with impossible standards of beauty - it is not easy to make a mark as an actress especially if one is a person of colour. Not many examples come to mind immediately. Priyanka Chopra certainly remains an exception to this trend, making her mark in the elite league of actresses who have successfully crossed over, winning the hearts of the American audience.

As an Indian-origin global superstar, she effortlessly manages a film career that spans geographies, supports a wide variety of social and charitable causes, and invests in business ventures that bring about real meaningful changes in the lives of people.







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#### **HUMBLE BEGINNINGS**

Chopra was born in Jamshedpur and came from a family of army doctors. In her biography, she wrote although her family frequently moved, she didn't mind travelling as she used this opportunity to meet new people and embrace multiculturalism. Chopra was catapulted to the limelight when she won the Miss World pageant at the turn of the century. Bollywood offers knocked at the door, but she made her debut with a Tamil Film, named Thamizhan (2002). Her initial few films were big office successes but did very little to highlight her acting prowess. It was only when she played an antagonist in the 2004 romantic thriller Aitraz (2004) that she got recognised for her acting chops. She went on to star in over a dozen successful projects including Krrish, Don (both in 2006), Kaminey (2009), Fashion (2008) and Bajirao Mastani (2015).

#### WHEN HOLLYWOOD BECKONED

While pursuing her Bollywood career, Chopra decided to venture into more unconventional territories such as music and released singles like "In My City" and "Exotic" in 2013. Although her singing left much to be desired, ABC Studios recognised her potential as a global superstar and featured her in Quantico – an American thriller series – as the main lead. The series that ran for three successive seasons launched her as a major superstar capable of commanding international projects on her own. Since 2015, Chopra has starred in a series of international projects including Baywatch (2017), The White Tiger (2019) and Citadel (2023 – present).

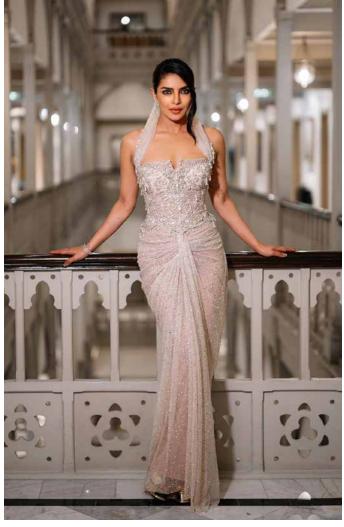
#### **EMPOWERING WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

Global successes have come hand-in-hand with her involvement with a range of social initiatives. As the UN Goodwill Ambassador, Chopra has worked closely with women, disenfranchised children, and refugees. Her own foundation for health and education supports the education of the girl child in India. She also initiated a fundraiser during the COVID-19 pandemic to raise donations for oxygen supply, the opening of medical centres, and testing and vaccination efforts. The fundraiser was able to raise over a million dollars, which was used to provide relief during the successive waves of the pandemic.

#### **MEANINGFUL BUSINESS VENTURES**

While her charitable work has brought her numerous awards and accolades, she has also used her talent to launch a range of business ventures that span various industries, including film production, beauty, and hospitality, each of which reflects her strategic vision and deep understanding of the modern consumer mindset. In 2015, Chopra launched Purple Pebble Pictures, a production house that has become a platform for promoting the often-neglected regional cinema in India.

In 2021, Chopra expanded her entrepreneurial portfolio with the launch of Anomaly, a haircare brand. The brand

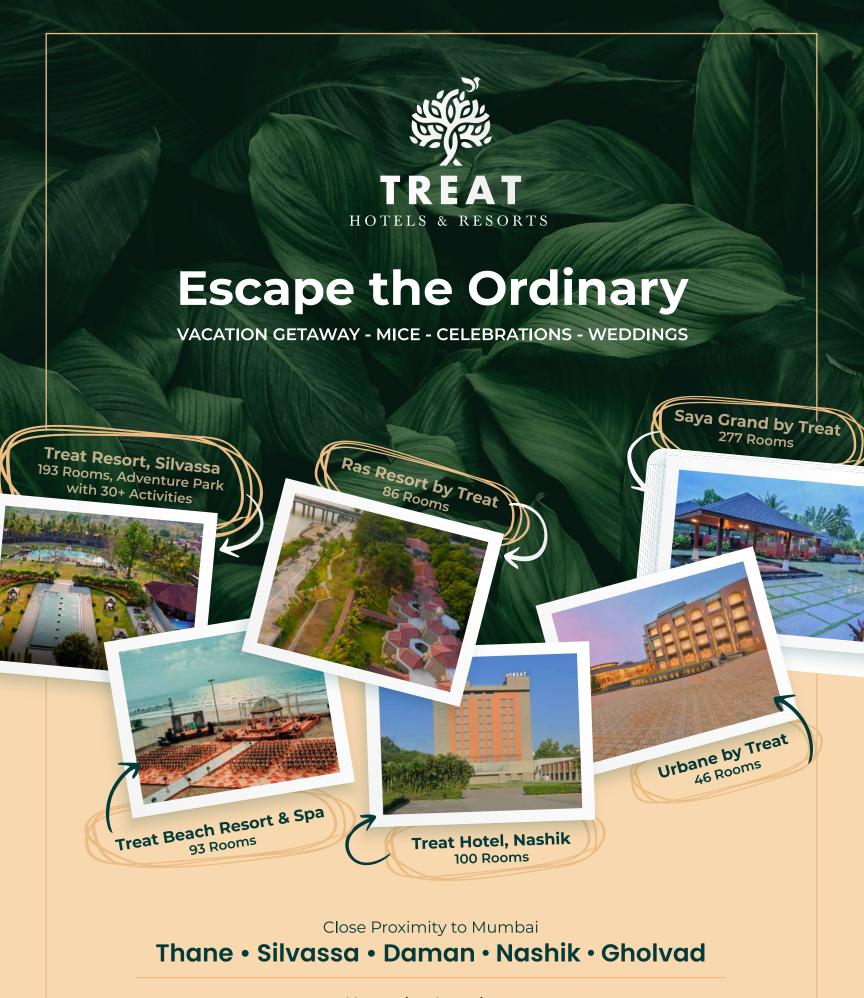


Priyanka Chopra - Hollywood & Bollywood Actresses

quickly gained popularity due to its commitment to clean, sustainable, and affordable products. In the same year, Chopra co-founded Sona, a contemporary Indian restaurant in the heart of New York City. Sona offered a modern twist on classic Indian flavours, presenting a refined culinary experience that appealed to both the Indian diaspora as well as international food enthusiasts.

Chopra has also invested in several tech and wellness startups, including Bumble and Holberton School. She became a partner and advisor for the dating app Bumble, helping it to launch in India with a focus on creating safe spaces for Indian women to connect and interact.

Chopra's journey to international fame is a testament to resilience, ambition, and the power of reinventing oneself. From a small-town girl in India to a global powerhouse, she has transcended borders and industries, proving herself as not only an actress but a savvy entrepreneur, humanitarian, and cultural icon. Her diverse ventures — whether through producing regional cinema, launching sustainable beauty products, or bringing the flavours of India to New York — highlight her ability to blend creativity with successful business strategy. Chopra's story is one of breaking barriers and building bridges, inspiring a new generation of women and people of colour to dream big and make it big.



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## ARCHITECT OF INDIA'S TECHIE VILLAGE

From humble origins to leading a global software empire, Sridhar Vembu has redefined the understanding of integrity and innovation

**TT BUREAU** 

ridhar Vembu isn't just building a tech empire; he's crafting a bridge between global innovation and grassroots empowerment. His journey shows that homegrown technology can drive real, inclusive progress while earning him India's prestigious Padma Shri and a place among Forbes' top 100 richest Indians.

#### **REVIVING RURAL INDIA THROUGH TECH**

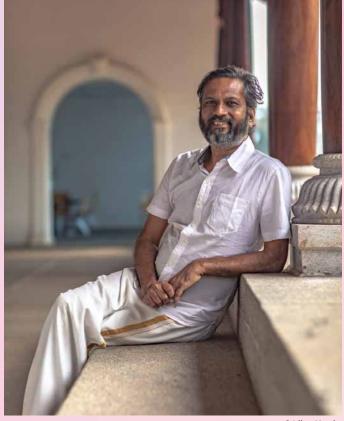
In an industry where success is often synonymous with urban hustle, Sridhar Vembu redefined the game by placing Zoho's headquarters in Tenkasi, a small village in Tamil Nadu. Embracing a "rural shoring" model, he sparked a local tech renaissance—creating jobs and injecting vitality into smaller towns.

His approach isn't just unconventional; it's a blueprint for sustainable growth that challenges urban congestion and high-stress environments. Known for his stance on worklife balance over burnout, Vembu is reshaping tech's future, showing that true innovation can grow where there's room for both progress and people.

#### **EMPOWERING TALENT BEYOND BORDERS**

Vembu's approach to nurturing talent is reshaping the tech industry in unexpected ways. Since founding Zoho in 1996, he has instigated alternative pathways to opportunity, believing that skills and determination matter more than formal qualifications. At Zoho, around 20% of the engineering team doesn't hold a college degree—a testament to the impact of Zoho University.

This unique program, which offers free training to young people from diverse backgrounds, has opened doors for thousands to step confidently into tech careers. By building a workforce rooted in talent and perseverance rather than credentials alone, Vembu is setting a new standard for inclusivity in tech.



Sridhar Vembu

#### **DRIVING ETHICAL GROWTH AND RESILIENCE**

To Vembu, growth is about more than profit. He has built Zoho on the principles of ethics and independence, repeatedly turning down venture capital to preserve its mission. This dedication was especially clear during the pandemic, when Zoho provided free digital tools to small businesses and remote workers, solidifying its reputation as a company that truly supports its community.

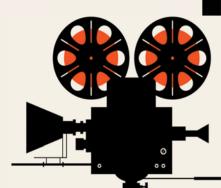
For him, innovation goes hand in hand with social responsibility. His unique leadership—balancing global ambitions with local impact—continues to redefine what it means to be a tech visionary. As Zoho expands, Vembu's commitment to ethical practices and community empowerment makes him a standout figure in an industry too often marked by relentless drive.





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## THE TECH CRUSADAR

Sundar Pichai's empathetic leadership rooted in corporate social responsibility and technological innovation has transformed one of the biggest tech companies in the world

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gentler work culture that underlines the importance of empowerment, collaboration and teamwork.

#### A STELLAR CAREER

Growing up in a middle-class family where he slept on the living room floor, Pichai excelled academically, earning a spot at IIT Kharagpur. His brilliance led him to Stanford on scholarship —a ticket to Silicon Valley's opportunities. He went on to obtain an MBA degree from the prestigious Wharton Business School and honed his skills as a consultant at McKinsey. In 2004, he joined Google as the head of product management. It was here that he found his true calling of developing innovative tech-based products that would change the way the world searches, operates and transacts. Some of the most important innovations of Google such as the Chrome, and the Andriod operating systems were spearheaded by him.

His incredible contribution to the company was richly rewarded when he first became the product chief and later its CEO in 2015. Under his tutelage, Google oversaw groundbreaking advancements in product innovation and strategic acquisitions – achievements that helped him clinch the top job at Alphabet, the parent company of Google.

#### **LEADERSHIP STYLE**

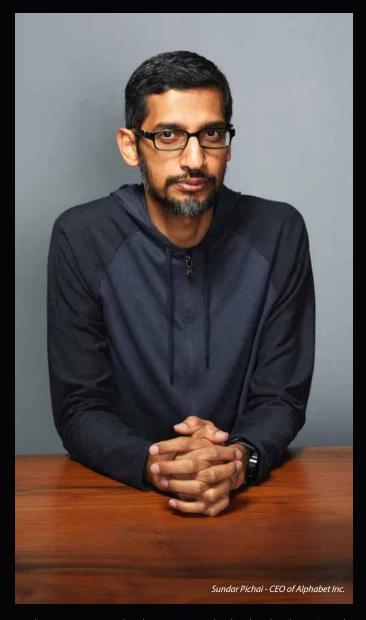
Acolytes of Pichai say that his working style and leadership style are key factors in Google's incredible rise as a tech powerhouse. It is said to be characterised by a combination of empathy, vision, and an inclusive approach. He is known for his collaborative nature, focussing on creating a positive work culture that values open communication and diverse perspectives.

Google employees recognise him for his calm and thoughtful demeanour, especially during challenging times. His ability to maintain a steady and composed leadership style, while focusing on sustainable growth and addressing societal responsibilities, has earned him respect both within the company and in the tech industry at large.

While he has been criticised for dropping the ball when it comes to artificial intelligence, Pichai's strategic thinking and focus on long-term innovations have been instrumental in expanding Google's product portfolio in other sectors like cloud computing and hardware. He has a penchant for simplifying complex challenges and making technology accessible to a global audience - a skill that has helped guide Google through major transitions. The company is currently focussing on a mobile-first approach and Al-driven strategies.

#### **CHARITABLE INITIATIVES**

Pichai, both in his personal capacity as well as the head of Google, has invested heavily in education and fighting the climate crisis. In a world where data's worth is often measured in gold, Pichai has allowed non-profits to freely use Google



tools, resources and volunteers. Under his leadership, Google also has granted USD 1 billion and contributed over 1 million employee volunteer hours. He has also announced a USD 120 million Global Al Opportunity Fund to make Al knowledge and training accessible worldwide, especially in developing communities. Fighting the climate crisis is another key area of Pichai's contribution.

As the decision-maker of the company, he has set a deadline of 2030 to go carbon-free. Investing in sustainable technologies like carbon capture and fusion energy, he has also taken the initial steps towards making Google offices carbon-neutral by ethically sourcing building materials and using green energy like solar power.

Pichai's 20-year stellar career in the tech ecosystem has been a reflection of his commitment towards bringing about meaningful technological changes that incorporate social commitment and ethical considerations. Beyond boosting the company's balance sheets and market dominance, Pichai's enduring legacy lies in his vision of a digital economy that prioritizes sustainability, responsibility, and equal access — one where technology serves many rather than a few.



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## BEYONCÉ: EMPOWERING THROUGH ART AND ACTION

From a Houston girl with a dream to a global superstar, Beyoncé Knowles has redefined what it means to balance artistry with purpose

**TT BUREAU** 



Beyoncé Giselle Knowles

ew artists navigate the spotlight with the same poise and determination as Beyoncé, whose work transcends music. With chart-topping albums, 32 Grammys, groundbreaking business ventures, and impactful philanthropy, she has become a beacon of empowerment and excellence, inspiring generations to pursue greatness while advocating for equity and justice.

#### **BREAKING BARRIERS IN MUSIC AND BUSINESS**

Beyoncé's career took off with Destiny's Child, but it was her solo work that cemented her as a cultural phenomenon. Albums like Lemonade and Renaissance are not just musical masterpieces; they are cultural touchstones that explore themes of identity, race, and resilience. Songs like Formation and Break My Soul celebrate empowerment and self-expression while reflecting her ability to merge art with activism.

Her influence isn't limited to music. Through her company, Parkwood Entertainment, Beyoncé has reshaped the creative landscape, producing visual spectacles like Black Is King and redefining how artists control their narratives. Her Ivy Park fashion line, in partnership with Adidas, champions inclusivity and body positivity, setting a new standard in fashion.

#### **VOICE FOR JUSTICE**

In moments of need, Beyoncé consistently rises to the occasion. During Hurricane Harvey in 2017, she launched BeyGOOD Houston, providing necessities and funding long-term revitalisation projects for affected communities. That same year, she became an ambassador for World Humanitarian Day, donating her song I Was Here to amplify the campaign's impact.

In her commitment to social justice, Beyoncé supported the End SARS movement in Nigeria, funding medical, legal, and essential services for protestors. Her efforts extend to economic empowerment as well. Through the Black-Owned Small Business Impact Fund, she provided \$7.15 million in grants to 715 Black-owned businesses. Known for combining action with advocacy, Beyoncé's initiatives reflect her dedication to addressing systemic challenges and empowering change.

Beyoncé's legacy is a witness to her vision, resilience, and unwavering purpose. She's more than a performer; she's a changemaker, redefining what it means to lead with both power and purpose.







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### THE PRAGMATIC INVENTOR

Elon Musk's use of technological innovation is fundamentally transforming human lives for the better

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dison once said that utility is the only marker of success. For Edison, the utility of an invention trumped all other considerations. It is this spirit of pragmatic inventiveness that underlines all the products developed by Elon Musk – often considered this century's most disruptive genius.

From revolutionising electric vehicles to developing low-cost space exploration, from championing the cause of renewable energy to democratizing the space of artificial intelligence, Musk uses technology to simplify and better human lives.

When he is not spearheading a dozen successful ventures, he spends his time and energy on a variety of philanthropic causes, including promoting renewable energy, advancing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education and modernising medical care.

He believes that technology has the power to alter human lives much more than impractical public policies and unmindful charitable ventures, and uses innovative excellence as a tool for the greater social good.

#### **EARLY YEARS**

Born in South Africa, Musk developed an interest in technology right from early childhood. Although he studied physics and economics as a graduate student, it was technology in which Musk found his true passion.

He started by developing an Internet city guide with maps, directions and information about local businesses. The









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technology was so good that Compaq acquired it for a hefty sum of 307 million USD. Musk later used this money to set up another company called X.com – an online financial services and email payments company. The company later changed its name to PayPal and was acquired by eBay.

Musk's first two ventures may have been short-lived, but they offered a glimpse into his visionary approach. Both companies were far ahead of their time with their innovative product offerings.

These early ventures paved the way for more sustainable and ambitious enterprises, beginning with SpaceX, a company he founded to make space exploration more affordable. The company already has several milestones to its kitty: It is the first private company to develop a liquid-propellant rocket, send a spacecraft to the International Space Station, and launch astronauts into outer space.

#### THE TESLA REVOLUTION

But it is Tesla that brought Musk incredible fame, catapulting him to the list of the wealthiest people in the world. Founded in 2003, the company made its debut with the first-generation Roadster — a battery-powered sports car capable of travelling 320 kilometres on a single charge.

Despite its premium price, the Roadster was a major success, benefiting from government incentives across many European countries. Tesla then shifted its focus to the mainstream market with the launch of two passenger cars, which quickly brought the company into the spotlight.

These models played a crucial role in Tesla's rise, enabling the company to launch its IPO, secure fresh rounds of funding, and ultimately achieve a trillion-dollar valuation. The company is now experimenting and perfecting driverless vehicles – a feat that Musk believes has the potential to change human travel.

Other innovations of Musk include the Hyperloop, a proposed high-speed transportation system that runs in a vacuum; developing OpenAI, a non-profit company dedicated to the development of user-friendly AI, and Neuralink, a startup that aims to connect AI with human intelligence.

#### PHILANTHROPIC ENDEAVOURS

Musk has also made notable strides in philanthropy, focusing on areas like education, renewable energy, and disaster relief. Through the Musk Foundation, established in 2002, he has supported a variety of charitable initiatives, particularly those aimed at advancing renewable energy research, human space exploration, and the development of artificial intelligence for the betterment of humanity.

Education is a significant focus of Musk's charitable work. The Musk Foundation has donated millions to educational projects, including providing funds for science and engineering programmes in underfunded public schools. He has also been involved in funding schools in poverty-



stricken neighbourhoods to enhance STEM learning. In 2021, Musk made headlines with a \$50 million donation to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, supporting their efforts to provide state-of-the-art medical care to children with serious illnesses.

Musk has also acted in support of climate action and environmental sustainability. Through the XPrize Carbon Removal competition, he has pledged \$100 million to inspire innovative solutions for carbon capture technology, encouraging global participation to combat climate change.

The Musk Foundation has contributed to disaster relief efforts, including the installation of solar energy systems in regions affected by natural disasters, such as Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria.

The career of Elon Musk exemplifies that technology can do good not only for a few but for the millions. Like the legendary Prometheus, he has unshackled technology from the burden of elitism, democratizing it for the betterment of humanity.





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## THE SILENT REVOLUTIONARY

Dilip Shanghvi is transforming Indian healthcare by putting patients' interests first instead of profits

**TT BUREAU** 

n idea can change one's life. It can also transform the lives of millions of people. Dilip Shanghvi's story exemplifies this truism through a decision that he took early on in his career that later made him the owner of the largest pharmaceutical company in India.

#### THE HEALING TOUCH

Sun Pharma today is a mammoth business establishment that produces a range of over-the-counter medications, generic

medicines, active pharmaceutical ingredients and antiretroviral medications. These products have cured the lives of many and played a cardinal role in managing scourges like HIV-AIDS in India and Africa.

While he presides over a business empire that generates 5.4 billion dollars of revenue every year, he continues to remain elusive in the media limelight and the unwanted attention that wealth often brings in India. Choosing to remain on the sidelines, he quietly works in the much-ignored area



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of mental health through the Shantilal Shanghvi Foundation Initiative – an NGO named after his late father – apart from a range of other public health and education-related areas to bolster local community development.

#### A STELLAR CAREER

Born in a Gujarati family, Shanghvi's story is nothing short of folklore. While working in his father's wholesale medical business, he got the idea of manufacturing his own medicines instead of selling those made by pharma giants. He borrowed a paltry sum of INR 10,000 (roughly USD 200) from his father to start his own business.

With little formal training in conducting business, let alone manufacturing medicinal drugs, he initially produced just one psychiatry drug.

However, he did it well enough to transform Sun Pharma into a leading drug company that even managed to acquire bigger players like Ranbaxy Laboratories in 2014 and Concert Pharmaceuticals in 2023.

Although, in 2021, he stepped down formally from the position of the Managing Director of Sun Pharma, he continues to function as the company's Chairperson and a Non-Executive Director.

#### **SECRET TO SUCCESS**

Shanghvi's secret to success lies in his transparency and his decision to put the patient's interests first – a rare trait among business leaders nowadays. He, for instance, insisted that his medical representatives be candid about the side effects of his medicines even though it may prove to be unprofitable from a business standpoint.

His biographer Soma Das lists certain other traits that make him different from his peers. Among them is a keen eye for details and an innate curiosity to find cures for obscure diseases.

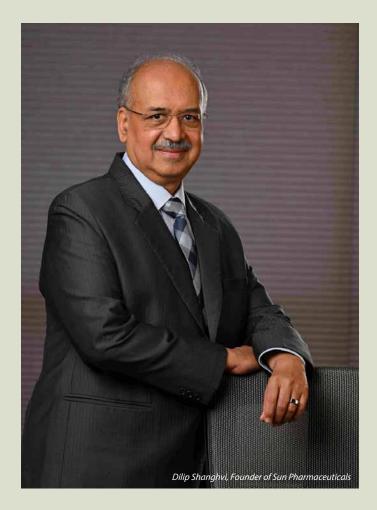
#### **MENTAL HEALTH AND MORE**

When Shanghvi is not managing his billion-dollar business empire, he likes to use his time and energy to make meaningful contributions to society.

As Chairman of Sun Pharmaceutical's CSR committee, Dilip Sanghvi has made impactful contributions to various social causes. In the fiscal year 2023-24, the company invested around ₹460.3 million in healthcare, education, environmental sustainability, and rural development. Major projects included establishing a Cancer Sanatorium in Mumbai and improving school infrastructure in rural areas.

The company also supported COVID-19 relief efforts and expanded its Mobile Healthcare Unit, reaching over 181,000 people. Sun Pharma consistently goes beyond the norm, showing a strong commitment to community welfare.

Mann Talks a charitable initiative managed by his Foundation offers a range of free services in the realm



of mental health. On the other hand, the CSR arm of Sun Pharma concentrates on developing local communities through a combination of economic, environmental and social initiatives.

The company has heavily invested in eradicating Malaria through partnerships with ICMR and the government of Madhya Pradesh and started mobile healthcare units for over 5 lakh people who live in the vicinity of the company's manufacturing plants.

Safe drinking water and sanitation are other priority areas that the company focuses on while supporting government schools in implementing technology-driven initiatives. Finally, the Sun Pharma Foundation – an independent non-profit organisation - encourages and rewards research in the field of medicine, particularly one that is related to the eradication of diseases.

#### A VISIONARY LEADER

Indeed, Dilip Shanghvi's journey from a modest wholesale business to building a global pharmaceutical empire exemplifies how vision, integrity, and perseverance can create a lasting impact on society.

His approach to business and philanthropy demonstrates that profit and purpose need not be mutually exclusive. As India continues to emerge as a global leader in pharmaceutical manufacturing, Shanghvi's legacy serves as a blueprint for future entrepreneurs.





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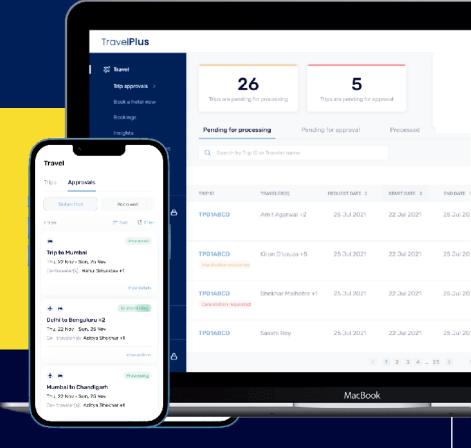






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## THE CONSCIENCE KEEPER

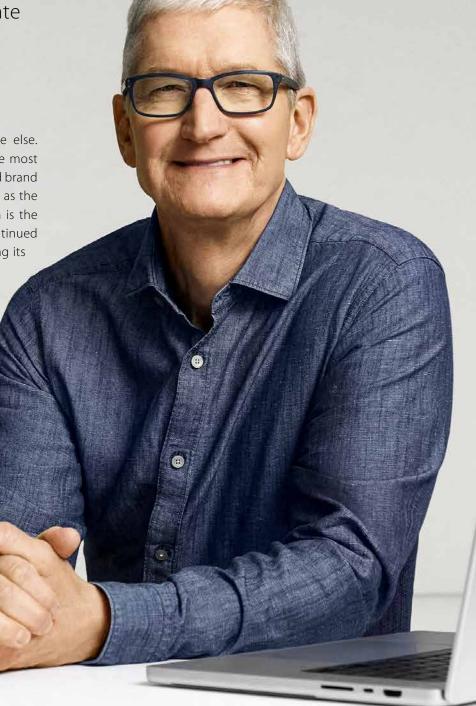
From environmental concerns to racial justice, Apple CEO Tim Cook uses his power position to advocate for all the right causes

#### **TT BUREAU**

t is not easy to step into the shoes of someone else. Especially, if that person happens to be one of the most iconic tech leaders who has created the most valued brand in the world. However, the succession of Tim Cook as the CEO of Apple after the legendary Steve Jobs's death is the perfect example of a successful transition that has continued the company's trailblazing innovation while expanding its market leadership.

#### **ENDURING CONTRIBUTIONS**

Over the last decade, Cook has been instrumental in doubling the company's revenue and profits while making Apple one of the most valued enterprises in terms of market capitalisation. He also serves as a board member for a variety of companies, public bodies and universities, using his leadership skills and acumen to influence policies and decision-making. A vocal advocate of LGBTQ rights and environmental preservation, Cook also uses his position to shed light on issues of discrimination, racial justice and gun violence. A true giver in every sense,



Tim Cook











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Cook has pledged to donate the entirety of his personal wealth to charity.

#### **RISE AT APPLE**

Tim Cook grew up in a middle-class Baptist family in Alabama, graduating with a science major and later earning a degree in business administration from Duke University. Before joining Apple, he served in a variety of companies, such as IBM, and Compaq, overseeing their computer divisions.

In 1997, he joined Apple, where his meteoric rise started. Reflecting on his decision to join the company – still a fledgling enterprise in the late 90s – Cook said that it stemmed purely out of a desire to serve a creative genius like Jobs who, he believed, would alter the tech landscape for eternity.

Several of Tim Cook's strategies for success would later go on to become textbook business case studies. He is credited with diversifying Apple's supply chain and introducing the practice of contract manufacturing.

Cook's contributions were quickly recognised by his bosses who entrusted him with overseeing most of Apple's day-to-day operations during the final days of Jobs. After his demise, Cook was seen as his natural successor and was invited to become the CEO in 2011.

#### **LEADERSHIP STYLE**

While Jobs was notorious for his authoritarian management style, Tim Cook introduced a more collaborative approach focused on sustainable growth and realistic targets.

Under Cook's leadership, Apple maintained its innovative excellence while strengthening its operations and underlining corporate social responsibility – cornerstones that have helped the brand become one of the world's most profitable enterprises.

#### SOCIAL ADVOCACY

Outside work, Cook uses his position to advocate for several social causes, many of which are deemed politically sensitive. For instance, Cook is a staunch advocate of zero-tolerance against gun violence and has called for more stringent background checks for gun owners.

In 2014, he openly came out as a gay person in an opinion piece and has since then called for the protection of the rights of sexual minorities.

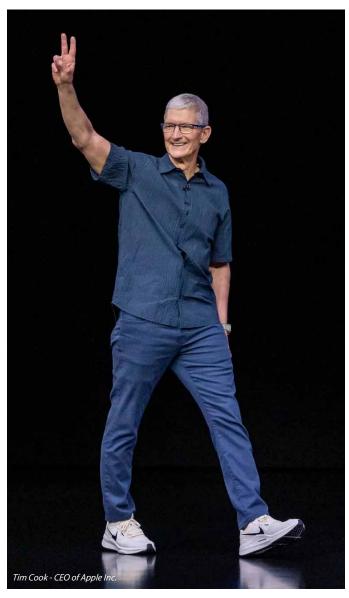
While business leaders across the world often play safe, steering away from political controversies, Cook regularly takes to social media to speak on issues of gender and sexuality, which he believes have a profound impact in shaping the worldview of vulnerable youth.

Under Tim Cook's leadership, Apple has made significant strides in advocating for racial justice and equality. Following George Floyd's death in 2020, Cook launched Apple's Racial Equity and Justice Initiative (REJI) with a \$100 million commitment, demonstrating the company's dedication to addressing systemic racism.

He has increased diversity in Apple's workforce, investing in Black-owned businesses and financial institutions, and funding coding and tech education programmes in vulnerable communities.

#### AN ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION

Environmental advocacy has been another key area of concern for Cook. Apple under his leadership has invested in a range of charities fighting global climate change. In states like Texas and Florida, Apple has promoted joint ventures to power local households with clean and solar-powered energy.



The aim, explains Cook in an interview, is to offset every bit of carbon emission caused by the manufacturing and shipping of Apple products.

It is evident that Tim Cook's legacy transcends mere business success at Apple. Through his collaborative leadership style, commitment to innovation, and fearless advocacy for justice and equality, Cook has redefined the role of a modern CEO —proving that corporate excellence and social responsibility can go hand in hand.



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## THE PURPOSEFUL PHILANTHROPIST

Ajay Piramal is a vanguard when it comes to using social entrepreneurship for the betterment of human lives

**TT BUREAU** 



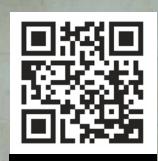
t is said that whatever is not given is lost. It is a talisman that Ajay Piramal – Chairman of the Piramal Group – holds dear to his heart. With business interests in a variety of sectors, such as pharmaceutical, financial services, real estate and packaging, Ajay Piramal has been able to bring about real change at the grassroots level by sharing his wealth with the needy.

Working through Piramal Foundation – the CSR arm of his business empire – he has been able to touch the lives of 11.3 crore people across 27 states in India. From tribal welfare to food security, from primary education to digital transformation, he has successfully transformed the lives of those often left out of India's impressive economic growth story.

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#### **CREATING A BUSINESS EMPIRE**

Ajay Piramal hails from Rajasthan and was born into a family with business interests in textiles. After losing his father and an older brother to cancer, Ajay Piramal took over his family business, transforming it through his business acumen, leadership skills and a string of profitable mergers and acquisitions. He breathed a new life into his old-school family business by pivoting it towards emerging sectors such as pharmaceutical, consumer retail and financial services.

With over two billion dollars of personal net worth, Ajay Piramal's successes speak volumes. His pharma division is now ranked fifth among pharma companies in India, having acquired Indian subsidiaries of Roche, Boehringer Manheim, Roche and others. The profits from his early investments in Vodafone were used to buy a 20% stake in Shriram Capital and Shriram Transport Finance Co.

Other successful ventures include profitable selloffs of his domestic formulations business to Abbott Labs in 2010 and Piramal Glass to the renowned venture capital firm Blackstone in 2020.

#### TRANSFORMING LIVES

However, for Ajay Piramal, life is worth far more than a string of business successes. For him, real impact involves building India through well-thought-out, structured investments in the areas of tribal development, women empowerment, and upskilling of the youth. He does this through what he eloquently describes as seva bhava (the act of unconditional and selfless service) towards the community at large.

His charitable enterprises stand out for their outstanding work. Annamaya is a tribal health collaborative that has set for itself an ambitious goal of improving the health outcomes of 10.4 crore tribal people and achieving sustainable development goals 2 and 3 by 2030. Operating in some of the poorest states in India, the collaborative works for TB eradication, integration of indigenous medical knowledge systems into modern-day bio-medical practices, developing culturally sensitive health systems, and supporting vulnerable tribal groups.

#### **FUTURE-FORWARD INDIA**

Hyper-local collaboration and improvement of last-mile convergence are themes of his Aspirational Bharat Initiative – a partnership that works with local district administration to address complex social and economic issues of some of the most backward districts of India. It aims to improve the lives of millions of rural citizens by ensuring that the benefits of the public welfare schemes reach those who need them the most.

Supporting the government's initiative on digitisation features big in his Digital Bharat Collaborative – an initiative that focuses on empowering people by leveraging digital technology. This initiative has already achieved remarkable

success in the field of healthcare in states such as Bihar. By using digital technology, the Foundation has improved health services, built an integrated health command and control centre in Patna, and created a digital repository of health records for over 65 lakh beneficiaries.

#### **CREATING FUTURE-MAKERS**

Finally, the Piramal School of Leadership was born out of the need to strengthen the leadership skills of government officials by strengthening institutional processes and



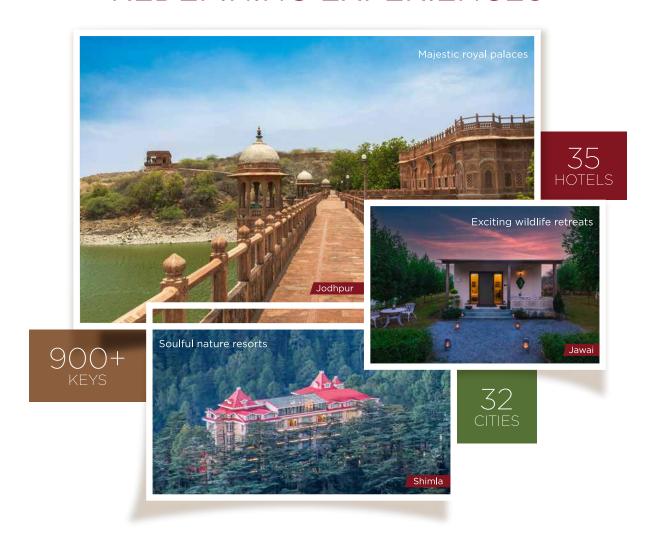
Ajay Piramal - Chairman of the Piramal Group

governance. It has the noble aim of transforming every public official by instilling seva bhava among them. Ajay Piramal believes that in doing so, it can build a future-ready India with a deep compassionate core.

There is no doubt that this pharmaceutical titan has his heart in the right place. His story is one of innovation, forward-thinking business decisions, and most importantly, impact contributions through charitable initiatives. Imbued with a deep sense of service, this purposeful philanthropist is on a mission to transform the lives of millions. While the road may seem treacherous, there's no stopping him just yet.



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### BEYOND THE MUSIC: RIHANNA'S REIGN

From chart-topping hits to groundbreaking philanthropy, Rihanna has cemented herself as a cultural force for change, creativity, and inclusivity

**TT BUREAU** 

ew artists have shaped global pop culture as Rihanna has, through her music, entrepreneurship, and social causes. Just as Madonna's daring style defined the '80s and Beyoncé's anthems resonate today, Rihanna embodies the bold, unapologetic spirit of the 21st century. With over 250 million records sold, she's among the world's best-selling artists. Yet her influence goes beyond music, extending into fashion, beauty, and social justice, making her a true icon.

#### A GLOBAL SOUNDTRACK

Rihanna's meteoric rise in the mid-2000s redefined pop music, with hits like Umbrella and We Found Love blending

her Caribbean roots with pop and R&B. Each album marks her evolution, with Anti showcasing her genre-blending mastery. Her fearless experimentation—from dancehall to hip-hop combined with raw storytelling has cemented her as one of her generation's defining voices. Her music, celebrated for its emotional depth, continues to resonate deeply with fans worldwide, solidifying Rihanna as an artist who connects across genres and cultures.

#### **EMPOWERING BUSINESS VENTURES**

Transforming an entire industry is no simple achievement, especially in the fiercely competitive realms of beauty and fashion. Yet in 2017, Rihanna did exactly that with the launch of Fenty Beauty. By upholding inclusivity and offering a





Rihanna

line, Savage X Fenty, reinforced this vision, celebrating body positivity and establishing Rihanna as a visionary in business.

Her dedication to independence is equally remarkable. By retaining ownership of her music catalogue, Rihanna embodies the empowered artist who balances creativity with strategic insight. This control over her work has made her a role model for others, showing that true success stems from both artistic freedom and business acumen.

#### **FASHION'S FEARLESS ICON**

Rihanna's influence on fashion is equally transformative. Her journey from streetwear to haute couture has continuously redefined fashion norms, with bold red-carpet looks that captivate audiences. Whether in Guo Pei's iconic yellow gown at the Met Gala or daring custom creations, she turns every appearance into a showcase of individuality.

Her impact extended to high fashion with her historic collaboration with LVMH, where she became the first Black woman to lead a luxury brand under the conglomerate Fenty Maison.

This partnership marked a turning point in fashion, encouraging fans to embrace their unique style and redefining luxury through diversity and inclusivity. Rihanna's presence in fashion is not only about setting trends but challenging norms.

#### PHILANTHROPY AND PURPOSEFUL ADVOCACY

Rihanna's philanthropic efforts reflect her profound sense of responsibility. Through her Clara Lionel Foundation, named for her grandparents, she channels resources into education, healthcare, and disaster relief. The foundation's Global Scholarship Program supports students from underserved communities, while her swift responses to natural disasters have raised millions for recovery, embodying her dedication to meaningful change.

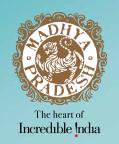
During the COVID-19 pandemic, Rihanna's foundation contributed millions to support frontline workers and food banks. Her charitable efforts also span cancer research and accessible healthcare, helping organisations and individuals in need. Beyond philanthropy, Rihanna has used her platform to champion social justice, speaking out on issues from police brutality to LGBTQ+ rights. At the 2020 NAACP Image Awards, she delivered a powerful call for unity in the fight against injustice.

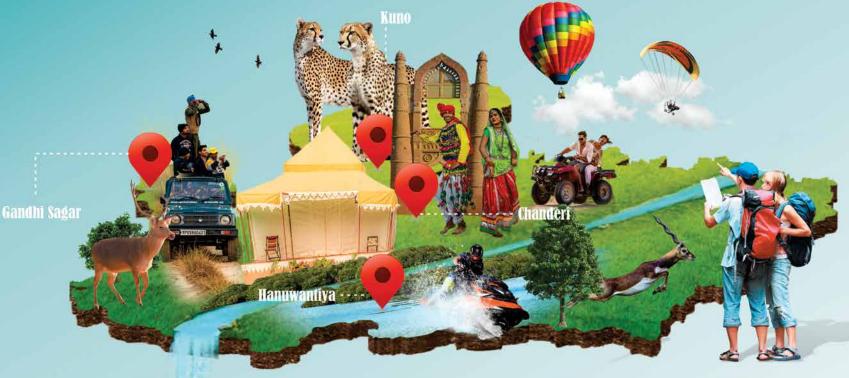
Rihanna's commitment to addressing systemic issues and supporting vulnerable communities shows her impact goes far beyond her music and business ventures. Her dedication to social justice and philanthropy proves that fame can indeed be a force for positive change.

#### AN UNSTOPPABLE LEGACY

Rihanna's journey from a young girl in Barbados to a global superstar, business mogul, and humanitarian is a testament to resilience, purpose, and vision. She has not only transformed music but has also revolutionised beauty and redefined socially responsible artistry. Her influence reaches beyond her music, embodying inclusivity, justice, and empowerment.

With an empire that spans music, fashion, and philanthropy, Rihanna proves that power and purpose can coexist to create meaningful change. Her story is a reminder that true influence uplifts and inspires, leaving a legacy that builds a better future on a global scale.





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FROM SPONTANEITY
TO STARDOM

When a name is synonymous with a product, it has reached peak success. Just like Xerox is for the photocopy machine, Louboutin is for heels

#### **TT BUREAU**

hristian Louboutin, the legendary French designer turned billionaire, who launched his eponymous brand at 27, captivating the world with his iconic red-soled shoes, has become a symbol of luxury and style in the fashion world.

The brand gained global fame when Princess Caroline of Monaco became a patron. Louboutin's prestige soared further with the brand's expansion into New York, enhanced by celebrity endorsements and appearances in films and TV. Today, Louboutin remains a leader in luxury footwear while diversifying into makeup, perfumes, and accessories, solidifying its place in the global fashion elite.

Beyond fashion, Louboutin is deeply committed to philanthropy, supporting social causes that reflect his passion for art, heritage, and empowering communities. His charitable work showcases his dedication to making a positive impact on the world.

#### THE PATH TO THE RED SOLE

Christian Louboutin was born in a culturally diverse neighbourhood of Paris in 1963. Growing up, he quickly fell in love with the mixing pot of various cultures and art. Louboutin is particularly fond of cabaret, especially the elaborate, glamorous costumes of performers, and his frequent visits to the Folies Bergère (where he interned as well) would later serve as a pivotal inspiration in his work.

Louboutin's foray into design came upon happenstance during his adolescent years: while visiting a museum, he saw a sign prohibiting high heels that could damage the floors.

The sign implanted an idea that would become his passion and profession—to design shoes that would both empower and mesmerize.







The greatest luxury is time

Following stints at iconic fashion brands such as Charles Jourdan, Chanel, and Yves Saint Laurent, Christian launched his own label in Paris in 1991, where his shoes quickly gained attention for their audacious designs and peerless craftsmanship. Louboutin's place in the fashion industry was cemented in 1993 when he decided to paint the sole of a prototype shoe with red nail polish, creating an instantly recognizable design element that has become his trademark element.

#### **DEDICATION TO GIVING BACK**

Over the decades, Christian Louboutin has extended his position as an influencer beyond the world of fashion, using his considerable resources and platform to make a meaningful difference through philanthropy and other social causes. While his designs are celebrated globally for their bold elegance, Louboutin's approach to giving reflects a commitment to social issues such as cultural preservation, women's empowerment, and LGBTQ+ rights.

Among Louboutin's most notable philanthropic efforts is his commitment to preserving traditional craftsmanship. Across the world, he has worked with multiple artisans to sustain age-old techniques, providing them with the resources and connections needed to reach a global audience. This effort is more than a nod to fashion heritage; it's a pathway for economic stability, allowing artisans to flourish and sustain their communities.

Christian Louboutin is also a passionate advocate for women's empowerment, supporting various programs that

provide education, healthcare, and economic opportunities for women in underserved communities. His philanthropy in this area reflects his brand's celebration of femininity and strength, making tangible contributions that enable women to gain independence and security. Furthermore, as a strong supporter of LGBTQ+ rights, Louboutin also uses his brand as a benchmark in promoting inclusivity and acceptance. He has contributed immensely to anti-discrimination and mental health organizations within the LGBTQ+ community, championing a more inclusive world.

#### THE "WALK A MILE IN MY SHOES" CAMPAIGN

Since 2021, Christian Louboutin has been teaming up with ldris and Sabrina Elba on a charitable capsule collection (codesigned by the three members) that aims to support several organisations working towards social equality.

Louboutin launched the "Walk A Mile In My Shoes" collection three years ago to re-raise attention around issues of racial injustice, which had surged into the global spotlight following George Floyd's death in 2020 but subsequently faded out of focus. Over the past two years, this initiative has raised \$2 million, with all profits from this year's collection dedicated to six organizations supporting social equality and nurturing creative opportunities for young people across the U.S., U.K., France, Ghana, Somalia, and Sierra Leone.

Christian Louboutin's immeasurable contributions to fashion, diversity, and society are also a poignant reminder of his cultural roots and dedication to helping the underprivileged.



Christian Louboutin



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## DILJIT UNPLUGGED

From soulful music to meaningful philanthropy, Diljit Dosanjh has established himself as a cultural icon, a voice for unity, and a symbol of resilience

#### **TT BUREAU**

ust as BTS brought K-pop to a global audience and bridged cultures through music, Diljit Dosanjh has taken Punjabi music far beyond its roots. His influence was solidified in 2022 when he became the first Punjabi artist to perform at Coachella, where he energised the crowd with his signature line, "Punjabi aa gaye oye."

Diljit's journey in music began in the early 2000s, and he quickly became one of the most celebrated voices in Punjabi music. Songs like Proper Patola and Laembadgini capture the essence of his sound—joyful, energetic, and unmistakably rooted in Punjabi culture. His collaborations with global artists have pushed Punjabi music onto the international stage, and his versatility allows him to flow effortlessly from folk to hiphop and Bhangra. With each new track and album, Diljit reinforces his connection to his roots while embracing the global appeal of his music. Through raw emotion and joyful rhythms, he has become a voice of pride and celebration for Punjabi culture worldwide.

#### A VISIONARY ENTERTAINER

Diljit has expanded his influence beyond music, making a strong mark in the Indian film industry. In Bollywood, he brought an authentic presence that resonated deeply, particularly in films like Udta Punjab, Good Newwz, and the recent superhit Chamkila, which earned him acclaim as an actor unafraid to address sensitive topics. This crossover from music to cinema was natural for Diljit, who sees his role as both an artist and a storyteller. His ability to connect with audiences across languages and cultures has made him a beloved figure, reinforcing his commitment to bridging cultures through creativity.





#### **CHANGE THROUGH SAANJH FOUNDATION**

For Diljit Dosanjh, creating a meaningful impact goes beyond his success in music and entertainment. For him, his true purpose lies in uplifting those in need through focused and compassionate efforts within his community. In 2013, on his birthday, he founded the Saanjh Foundation—to support underprivileged children and the elderly, aiming to bridge social divides. His foundation contributes actively to orphanages and old age homes, extending care to those who are most vulnerable.

Yet, Diljit's vision reaches further. Through the Saanjh Foundation, he advocates youth empowerment by addressing crucial issues such as self-confidence, mental well-being, anti-bullying, and career guidance. His emphasis on empowering youth mirrors his belief that a boost in confidence and access to opportunities can transform lives—an ethos rooted in his own journey from modest beginnings to worldwide fame.

Diljit's work in social advocacy has become as integral to his identity as his music. In an era where public figures are increasingly vocal about their social responsibilities, he's shown that genuine change requires more than words; it demands action, commitment, and compassion. Saanjh Foundation is an attestation to his dedication to making a lasting difference and inspiring others to follow in his footsteps.

#### **REDEFINING FASHION WITH PUNJABI PRIDE**

Diljit's style is as bold as his personality, effortlessly blending streetwear with traditional Punjabi elements. From his turbans in vibrant colours to high-end street fashion, his looks are always unique and unapologetically him. His style reflects both his heritage and forward-thinking approach, merging global fashion trends with his roots. Whether gracing the covers of international fashion magazines or making statements on Instagram, he redefines what it means to be stylishly Punjabi, making traditional wear cool and accessible to a global audience.

His influence has gone beyond music and film, carving out a unique space in the fashion industry that resonates with the younger generation. By embracing his heritage and promoting it on an international scale, Diljit has become a style icon who connects cultures and generations through fashion.

#### **AN ENDURING LEGACY**

From his heartfelt lyrics to his compassionate philanthropy, Diljit Dosanjh's journey is a story of passion, authenticity, and purpose. He has redefined Punjabi music on a global scale, made his mark in cinema, and created real change through his social work. But his legacy goes beyond these achievements—it lies in his ability to unite people, celebrate culture, and inspire hope. Diljit has become a powerful voice for inclusivity and community, embodying the belief that success can serve a greater purpose.

As he continues to expand his influence across music, cinema, fashion, and philanthropy, Diljit proves that true impact is built on a foundation of sincerity and dedication. His journey from the heart of Punjab to international stardom reminds us that cultural pride, compassion, and creativity can shape the world for the better.

# PIONEERING THE FUTURE OF TRAVEL

Shikhar Aggarwal, Joint Managing Director of BLS International, spoke to Today's Traveller on the company's role in shaping the future of cross-border travel

#### **TT BUREAU**

n a rapidly globalizing world, the demand for efficient and secure visa, passport, and consular services is paramount. Having a trusted partner helps in reducing the risk of application errors, saves time for the applicant and helps in navigating the complex bureaucratic terrain of visa application.

BLS International Services Ltd, a globally trusted techenabled service partner, has been at the forefront of this sector for over 19 years. In a candid conversation with Today's Traveller, Shikhar Aggarwal, Joint Managing Director of BLS International, shares insights into the company's journey,

its role in shaping the future of cross-border travel, and its unwavering commitment to quality and innovation.

#### A LEADER IN VISA AND CONSULAR SERVICES

Since its inception in 2005, BLS International has established itself as a leader in the visa, passport, consular, and citizen services industry. The company has built a robust reputation for delivering comprehensive solutions, including e-governance, attestation, biometrics, and retail services. "Our focus has always been on providing efficient, secure, and customer-centric services," says Aggarwal. "We understand the unique needs



Shikhar Aggarwal, Joint Managing Director, BLS International

of both governments and applicants and strive to maintain sustainable growth while ensuring high standards of service."

#### STRATEGIC GROWTH AND GLOBAL FOOTPRINT

BLS International's strategic growth is evident in its expanding global footprint. The company collaborates with over 46 client governments, including diplomatic missions, embassies, and consulates. With operations in 66 nations and more than 50,000 centers worldwide, supported by 60,000 employees and associates, BLS International has processed over 232 million applications to date. Speaking on the large volume of visa and consular services regularly handled by the company, Aggarwal says, "We have scaled our operations significantly to meet the growing demand for visa and consular services. Since 2021, we have expanded our Visa Application Centers, which has helped reduce waiting times and improve overall service efficiency."

#### INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION

In an era where technology plays a crucial role in service delivery, BLS International has embraced cutting-edge solutions to enhance its offerings. The company has integrated advanced technology and robust processes to ensure the highest level of data security and operational efficiency.

"We are proud to hold certifications such as CMMI DEV L5 V2.0 & SVC L5 V2.0, ISO 9001:2015, ISO 27001:2013, and ISO 14001:2015, among others," says Aggarwal. "These certifications reflect our commitment to maintaining international standards and delivering top-notch services."

### FUTURE VISION: THE EVOLUTION OF VISA REQUIREMENTS

Discussing the future of visa requirements, Aggarwal highlights several key trends that will shape the industry. "The demand for international travel is set to grow, driven by factors such as Covid-19 recovery, tourism promotions, increased globalization, stricter border control requirements, and evolving migration policies," he explains. "Countries are enhancing tourism recovery efforts by revamping visa policies, introducing Digital Nomad Visas, and adopting contactless technology at airports."

BLS International is well-positioned to capitalize on these trends. The company's expansion and strategic initiatives have led to impressive financial performance, with revenue growing at a 52% CAGR and net profit at 86% CAGR from FY21 to FY24.

"Our all-around service portfolio, from digitization and identity management to passport operations and consular services, positions us as a comprehensive solutions provider for client governments and visa applicants," Aggarwal adds.

#### COREVALUES:TRUST,INTEGRITY,ANDTRANSPARENCY

At the heart of BLS International's success are its core values of trust, integrity, and transparency. "These values are fundamental to how we connect with our client governments and applicants," says Aggarwal. "Maintaining clear and honest communication



Shikhar Aggarwal, Joint Managing Director, BLS International

channels is essential to our business ethics and helps us build long-lasting relationships with our stakeholders."

#### A BRIGHT FUTURE AHEAD

As BLS International continues to expand and innovate, its leadership in the visa and passport processing space is poised to grow even stronger. The company's unique status as the only publicly traded firm in this sector, with stock market symbols BSE: 540073, NSE: BLS, and MSE: BLS, underscores its leadership position and commitment to excellence.

With a forward-looking approach and a deep understanding of the evolving needs of the global travel industry, BLS International is not just keeping pace with change — it's in fact leading it. As the world moves towards greater interconnectedness, BLS International remains dedicated to providing exceptional service, leveraging technology, and upholding the highest standards of quality and security. "We are excited about the future and look forward to continuing to support our clients and applicants with innovative solutions and unparalleled service," concludes Aggarwal.

BLS International's journey is a testament to its resilience,

adaptability, and unwavering dedication to excellence. As it navigates the complexities of the global travel landscape, the company is set to remain a trusted partner for governments and citizens worldwide, ensuring a seamless and secure experience for all.









# ELEGANCE REDEFINED: PARK HYATT HYDERABAD

Architectural masterpiece seamlessly blends modern opulence at Park Hyatt Hyderabad

**TT BUREAU** 

n the bustling heart of Hyderabad's upscale Banjara Hills, a new standard of luxury has been set for the discerning travellers. Park Hyatt Hyderabad stands as a testament to modern opulence and sophisticated design, offering a haven for travellers seeking an extraordinary experience in the City of Pearls.

#### A MODERN SANCTUARY OF LUXURY

As you step into the grand foyer of Park Hyatt Hyderabad, you're immediately greeted by an atmosphere of refined elegance. The striking white structure known as The Sculpture, crafted by renowned architect John Portman, captures the essence of tranquility and artistic imagination. This architectural marvel sets the tone for the hotel's dedication to blending contemporary design with local cultural influences. Art and artifacts from celebrated global artists adorn the property, creating a visual feast that reflects Hyderabad's rich heritage.

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS OF UNPARALLELED COMFORT**

Park Hyatt Hyderabad offers a range of accommodations designed to cater to the tastes and needs of its international guests. Each room, suite, and residence is a sanctuary of luxury, combining tasteful furnishings with cutting-edge amenities. Floor-to-ceiling windows offer breathtaking views of Hyderabad, allowing guests to immerse themselves in the city's dynamic energy.

The Presidential Suite, a highlight of the hotel, spans an impressive 2,422 square feet. This expansive suite boasts a private dining area and contemporary decor that harmonizes natural light with hand-laid walnut flooring and white marble tiles. The spa-inspired bathroom features a soaking bathtub, an oversized rain shower, and an exterior city view that enhances relaxation.

Business travelers will find the Diplomat Suite ideal, with its dedicated workspace and modern amenities designed to seamlessly blend work and leisure. For longer stays or family visits, the top two floors of the eight-story building house residences complete with walk-in closets and fully equipped kitchens. These residences offer a perfect retreat for those seeking both comfort and convenience.

#### **REVITALIZING SPA AND SALON EXPERIENCES**

The Wellness Spa and Salon at Park Hyatt Hyderabad is where the opulent traditions of Nizami culture meet contemporary wellness practices. The spa offers an array of bespoke treatments, including invigorating massages, revitalizing facials, and specialized therapies tailored to individual needs. The salon complements this experience with a full range of beauty services, ensuring every guest leaves feeling refreshed and rejuvenated.

#### A CULINARY SYMPHONY

For those who appreciate fine dining, Park Hyatt Hyderabad offers a rich culinary experience. Tre-Forni, the award-winning signature Italian restaurant, invites guests to enjoy communal dining, select from an international wine list, and savor dishes like tuna tartare, duck tortellini and burrata panzanella salad. The restaurant's passion fruit panna cotta and classic tiramisu are standout desserts.

The vibrant- Rika provides a modern Asian twist to the city, featuring creative dishes and respiced mixology. It's an ideal spot to unwind and enjoy a nightcap while overlooking the city's evolving landscape. The Dining Room, the hotel's signature all-day dining venue, offers a global gastronomic journey. With its stunning sculpture centerpiece, The Living Room serves Hyderabad's street food-inspired cuisine in a relaxed setting, perfect for a coffee break or casual bite.

#### THE PERFECT VENUE FOR CELEBRATIONS

Park Hyatt Hyderabad is ideal for celebratory gatherings, and exclusive business or social events. The hotel's state-of-theart ballrooms and meeting rooms are equipped with the latest technology, making them perfect for both corporate meetings and exclusive celebrations. With personalized service and curated culinary offerings, every event hosted at the hotel is designed to be a cherished memory.



Hotel Exterior View

#### IMPECCABLE SERVICE

What truly sets Park Hyatt Hyderabad apart is its firm commitment to exceptional service. The staff is expertly trained to anticipate every need, ensuring a seamless blend of comfort and luxury. Personalized concierge services, bespoke spa treatments, and customized menus are all part of the hotel's dedication to creating memorable experiences.

Shrikant Wakharkar, Area Vice President and General Manager of Park Hyatt Hyderabad sums it up in the following words: "Our colleagues, guided by the ethos of Hyatt, embody the spirit of Care, ensuring that every interaction is not just a service but a heartfelt gesture that creates lasting memories for our guests."

#### **COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY**

Beyond luxury, Park Hyatt Hyderabad is dedicated to environmental sustainability. The hotel supports the HyBees Project to protect local bee populations and operates a water bottling plant to reduce plastic usage. Additionally, EV charging stations and fuel-efficient vehicles further underscore the hotel's commitment to eco-friendly practices.

Park Hyatt Hyderabad is more than just a luxury destination; it is an embodiment of elegance and sophisticated hospitality. Every detail, from its striking design to its unparalleled service, weaves together a story of refined grandeur. For those seeking an exceptional travel experience that transcends the ordinary, Park Hyatt Hyderabad is the ultimate sanctuary where luxury becomes personal.



Rika Cocktails



Chairman Suite - Lounge & Study Area

## TASTE THE NATION

Take a journey through the great kitchens of India with the new menu at Le Meridien New Delhi

#### TT BUREAU

estled in the heart of India's capital, Le Meridien New Delhi is an icon of luxury and sophistication. This 5-star hotel, recognized as one of the 100 Icons of Delhi, has been a beacon of world-class architecture, cuisine, design, and fashion for over three decades. Its striking glass façade, set against the backdrop of Lutyens' Delhi, offers a visual feast that hints at the culinary delights waiting inside.

Le Meridien New Delhi's prime location puts guests within easy reach of the city's most important facilities and institutions. Surrounded by ministries, government buildings, and historical monuments, it's an ideal base for business travellers and tourists alike. The proximity to popular shopping hubs like Connaught Place and Janpath Market adds to its appeal, making it a true traveller's paradise.

#### MOUTHWATERING DINING OPTIONS

Le Meridien New Delhi has long been celebrated for its diverse dining options, each offering a unique culinary experience. Le Belvedere, the city's highest rooftop restaurant, elevates dining to new heights with panoramic views of the capital. Longitude offers a cosy ambience for enjoying handcrafted seasonal coffees and delectable éclairs. Nero, with its gothic overtones and extensive cocktail menu, brings a spirited flair to evenings. The One, an all-day dining restaurant, takes guests on a fine culinary voyage through international and local cuisines. For those seeking a departure from traditional Indian fine dining, eau de Monsoon presents a modern take on contemporary Indian cuisine.



Bhatti Ka Mura



#### **NEW MENU UNVEILED**

While each of these dining venues has its charm, it's eau de Monsoon that's currently creating a buzz in Delhi's culinary scene. The restaurant has recently unveiled "A Culinary



Baahare Bainaan



Kozhi Chettinad

Odyssey Through India," a new menu that promises to take diners on an unforgettable journey through the country's rich and diverse gastronomic landscape.

This newly curated menu is a labour of love, reflecting authentic recipes passed down through generations. It's designed to showcase the myriad flavours and traditions of Indian cuisine, offering a truly immersive dining adventure that goes beyond mere sustenance to tell stories of culture and heritage.

#### A TASTE OF THE STREETS

The culinary journey begins with appetizers that pay homage to India's vibrant street food culture. Dilli Ki Palak Patta Chaat offers a crispy, tangy start with its blend of spinach leaves, yoghurt, and chutneys. Agra Ke Chowk Ki Tikki brings the flavours of Agra's bustling streets to the table with its potato and peas galette. Benaras Ki Tamatar Chaat provides a refreshing mix of flavours that captures the essence of the holy city.

As the journey continues, diners can warm up with soups like the Bhuna Asparagus Shorba or the aromatic Murg Yakhni. The kebab selection is a testament to India's grilling traditions, featuring delicacies like Teen Mirchi Jhinga (king prawns with a coriander and saffron marinade) and Nimbu Achari Paneer Tikka (smoky cottage cheese with a lemon pickle marinade).

#### FROM THE KITCHENS OF INDIA

The main course is where the menu shines, offering a panoramic view of India's regional specialities. From the coastal flavours of Goan Crab Xacuti to the rich, creamy textures of Traditional Butter Chicken, each dish is a carefully crafted representation of its region of origin. Vegetarian options are equally enticing, with dishes like Bharwan Gucchi (Kashmiri morels in saffron korma) and Khubani Anjeer Kofta showcasing the diversity of India's meat-free cuisine.

No Indian meal is complete without bread and rice, and eau de Monsoon doesn't disappoint. From fragrant biryanis to an array of Indian breads, the accompaniments are designed to complement the main dishes perfectly. The culinary



Dum Parda Biryani (Lamb)

journey concludes on a sweet note with desserts that span the country, from the creamy Phirni (rice pudding) to the warm, syrupy Kala Gulab Jamun served with vanilla ice cream.

#### A STORY IN EVERY MORSEL

What sets this menu apart is not just the quality and authenticity of the dishes, but the story each plate tells. Every bite is an exploration of a different region, a different tradition,

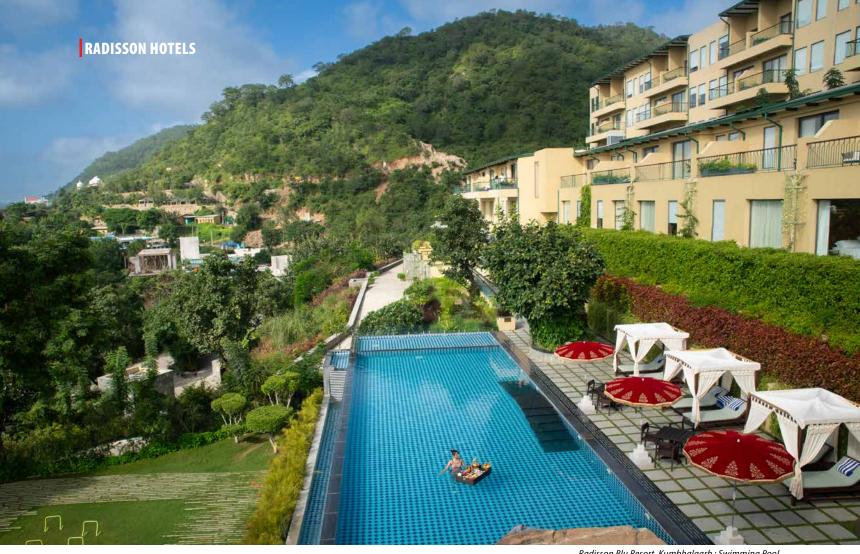


Dilli Ki Palak Patta Chaat

and a different aspect of India's vast culinary heritage. It's a menu that educates as much as it satisfies, offering diners a chance to explore India without leaving their table.

For travellers and food enthusiasts, "A Culinary Odyssey Through India" at eau de Monsoon presents a unique opportunity to experience the diversity of Indian cuisine in one sitting. It's a chance to taste the fiery curries of the North, the delicate seafood of the South, and everything in between, all crafted with the finest ingredients and time-honoured techniques.

Le Meridien New Delhi has always been more than just a place to stay; it's a destination in itself. With the launch of this new menu, it has further cemented its position as a must-visit for anyone looking to explore India's rich culinary traditions. So, the next time you find yourself in Delhi, reserve a table at this legendary restaurant. Embark on this culinary journey through India and let your taste buds explore the flavours of this diverse nation.



Radisson Blu Resort, Kumbhalgarh: Swimming Pool

## A TOUCH OF THE **EXTRAORDINARY**

From showcasing Maratha glory to capturing the beauty of the mountains, each property of Radisson Hotels offers an immersive experience

**TT BUREAU** 

n a world where travel has been commercialized beyond recognition, there are a few brands that still believe in old-school hospitality taking time and making an effort to connect each stay with the local history, culture, and stories.

Among such brands, Radisson Hotels South Asia stands tall with a range of unique properties spanning the length and breadth of the country. From showcasing Maratha glory at Radisson Resort & Spa Lonavala to offering tranquil escapes for jaded urban dwellers at Radisson Blu Resort Dharamshala, each property offers an immersive experience that is nothing like the ordinary. Here are some highlights from the brand's extraordinary league of hotels.

#### **RADISSON RESORT & SPA LONAVALA: REVIVING MARATHA HERITAGE**

The golden age of the Marathas may long be over but that doesn't mean travellers can't relive their greatness. Radisson Resort & Spa Lonavala ensures that the glorious bygone era is neatly packaged with a mix of tranquil luxury and premium comfort.

At Radisson Resort & Spa Lonavala, the experience begins from the moment you arrive. Be prepared to witness an authentic Maratha welcome with traditional instruments like Tutari and Nagada echoing through the air, while ceremonial rituals of aarti, teeka, and garland offering a welcoming

ushering. Luxuriate in the beautifully decorated rooms and suites that complement the natural beauty of the locality. Gastronomic delights, in the form of delicious cocktails at Malhari, the traditional fare at Hirkani, and the lavish traditional Maharashtrian thali at Khema await lovers of flavours.

And the fun and excitement do not stop there. A heritage trek to Lohagad Fort, complete with a Mashaal Ceremony, brings to the fore the stories from the yore. Dinner under the stars, in Khema tents, is reminiscent of the way Maratha emperors dined when they travelled.

For those seeking a deeper connection with the local culture, live story-telling sessions provide insights into the architectural heritage of the hotel and the local culture. Nature lovers can enjoy the beauty of the Sahyadri Mountains through activities such as cycling adventures. Spend lazy afternoons enjoying local delicacies at high teas and picnics curated by the hotel and experience live karaoke sessions and relaxing spa therapies during evenings.

### RADISSON RESORT PONDICHERRY BAY: THE CONFLUENCE OF CULTURES

Cross-cultural influences, the vast expanse of the sea, and lazy, small-town vibes make up your Radisson Resort Pondicherry Bay experience. Combining a unique blend of Tamil and French influences – such as colonial-style constructions and the famed Chettinad Athugudi floors – the property strategically located on the gorgeous Bay of Bengal coastline offers 46 breathtaking chalets and 5 villas.

The Franco-Tamil Masterclass, led by Chef Rakesh Sethi, introduces guests to innovative dishes that combine the rustic charm of Tamil cuisine with the sophistication of French delicacies. Guests can enjoy the Splendid South Indian Dinner alongside live music or sample the Fantastic France Lunch while soaking in the coastal vibes. The indoor-outdoor meeting areas allow guests to hold weddings, conferences and performances while a short drive from the hotel will take you to the heart of the coastal town where narrow alleyways lined with traditional French colonial houses and lively local bazaars beckon travellers with their quaint charm.

### RADISSON BLU RESORT KUMBHALGARH: A TASTE OF TRIBAL TRADITIONS

Flanked by the majestic Aravalli Range, Radisson Blu Resort Kumbhalgarh offers a taste of the Rajputana while ensuring modern-day comforts and conveniences are present in equal measure. Guests can unwind in style in any one of the hotel's 86 rooms and suites, relax with a drink or two at the lounge, and end the day with a lavish dinner while admiring stunning views. The Tribal Kitchen of Mewar, led by Chef Rakesh Sethi, serves an elaborate thali featuring dishes from the local Bhil tribe. Visitors can also enjoy a guided visit to the nearby Kumbhalgarh Fort or a trip to the local Molela Village to learn the age-old craft of terracotta.





Cooking Sessions



### RADISSON BLU RESORT DHARAMSHALA: WHEN NATURE CALLS

When the mountains call, Radisson Blu Resort Dharamshala offers travellers the perfect Himalayan retreat. Overlooking the gorgeous Kangra Valley, the hotel boasts 120 charming rooms and suites with individual balconies to soak in the fresh air. Guests can enjoy freshly baked pizzas at the Pizzeria Italian Crust Restaurant, and savour local cuisine at the Edge. For those seeking to experience the local culture, meditation sessions at the Dalai Lama's monastery, unique sound therapy sessions at Dharamkot, and immersive yoga and meditation experiences round up the stay. The hotel offers exceptional MICE facilities, including three halls and an open-air banquet deck for exclusive weddings and meetings.

#### **CREATING MEANINGFUL STAYS**

Pioneering the trend of slow travel, Radisson Hotels offers curated stays with immersive experiences that are steeped in culture and history. Each property urges travellers to form meaningful connections with the local culture, people and above all else the destination. In a world of fleeting pleasures, Radisson Hotels invites guests to foster bonds and create lifelong memories that are sure to rekindle the love for travel.

## A GREEN NEW ADDRESS

Surrounded by lush vegetation, the all-new Storii by ITC Hotels Devasom Resort & Spa offers the ideal nature-inspired retreat

**TT BUREAU** 



Swimming Pool

or weary urban travellers, dreamy wanderlusts and avid nature lovers, the City of Joy now has a brand new address – Storii by ITC Hotels Devasom Resort & Spa. Spread across three acres of lush greenery in the South City Retreat District, a short 20-minute drive from the Eastern Metropolitan (EM) Bypass in Kolkata, this blissful retreat shelters travellers from the cacophony of the urban jungle, serenading them with therapeutic spa treatments, curated yoga sessions, meditation classes and reflective nature walks. From staycations to spa-infused holidays, from solo trips to weekend getaways with loved ones, Storii Devasom Resort & Spa offers the ideal boutique experience immersed in luxury and hospitality.

#### **HOMAGE TO LOCAL CULTURE**

In tune with the brand's commitment to responsible luxury, the resort showcases local elements from Bengal's rich local culture. Traditional architectural elements are seamlessly blended with modern amenities to create a calming environment that prioritises wellness by restoring the balance between the mind, body and soul. The entire space is a sheer architectural delight,

a treat for the aesthetically inclined. Sheltered walkways, elegant overhangs and lush gardens filled with multi-hued flora greet visitors as they are invited to indulge in various bespoke treatments, culinary delights and mindful activities.

Anil Chadha, Chief Executive, ITC Hotels, said, "Brand Storii has arrived in the City of Joy! The launch of Storii Devasom Spa & Resort in Kolkata strengthens our presence in eastern India and is a significant addition to our bouquet of offerings in West Bengal. Each of our distinctive brands and hotels, be it ITC Sonar, ITC Royal Bengal, or Brand Fortune, offer a diverse selection of experiences for our guests. Storii Kolkata too shall tell its own unique story. The launch of this property embodies our commitment to enhancing the state's tourism landscape."

Speaking on the launch, Ravi Todi, Director, South City Group, said, "Experience our luxurious Spa Resort, beautifully designed with inspirations from nature. Nestled near yet away from the city and between stunning landscapes, enjoy rejuvenating treatments and elegant facilities. Savour gourmet cuisine in a serene ambiance. The prime location of Storii Kolkata offers the perfect retreat for relaxation and revitalization. Yet another magnificent



Couple Therapy room

development by South City Group. We have chosen ITC Hotels to manage the property given their excellence in hospitality."

#### **ROOMS AND SUITES**

The resort features an exciting mix of spacious rooms, suites and villas. Every room presents a stunning vista of the lush green surroundings of the property. Furnished with contemporary comforts and modern accents, these graceful spaces are not just accommodations, they are healing quarters, where wellness takes centre stage. The Deluxe Room features a private step-out area where you can enjoy your morning cuppa while hearing the birds declaring the advent of dawn. The Villas stand apart in a secluded section and offer spacious living and dining areas, intimate bedrooms and a kitchenette. The Suites, bathed in muted tones and contrasted with pops of bold colours, feature big living spaces, bedrooms and two private step-out areas.

#### A CULINARY EXTRAVAGANZA

Storii Devasom Resort & Spa's culinary offerings promise guests a delightful gastronomic experience. The highlight is the much-loved Breakfast ATM (Anytime), which gives visitors the luxury of all-day breakfast at their preferred time from the comfort of their rooms. The resort's all-day dining restaurant, Baarique, features creations by master chefs using fresh, locally sourced produce that captures the essence of the region's seasonal bounty.

For those seeking a more immersive culinary journey, the resort offers the Storii Box - a celebration of the regional thali that features dishes like Chingri Malai Curry (prawns smothered in a rich coconut gravy), Kosha Mangsho (slow-braised tender mutton curry), Basanti Pulao (an ochre-coloured rice pilaf with cashews and raisins) and Aloo Dum (Bengali-style potato curry). There's also Storii in a Bottle – a refreshing welcome drink made with GondhoRaj Lebu (King Lime) known for its distinctive aroma and tart taste.

Guests can indulge in the resort's signature Ketli & Kahaani experience, which invites them to a selection of local snacks, beverages, piping hot teas, and coffees - a perfect way to unwind after a day of exploration.

#### **HOLISTIC HEALING**

Storii Devasom Resort & Spa offers a sanctuary of tranquillity and holistic well-being to guests seeking escape from the grind



Suite Livina Room



Yoga At Storii Kolkata

of urban life. K by Kayakalp – ITC's award-winning spa – offers an all-encompassing experience of renewal and rejuvenation. Embracing the elemental gifts of nature, such as the sunlight and the water, the spa offers international treatments, destressing hot tub baths and Ayurvedic massages.

The resort features 12 expansive therapy rooms, a specialized 'yogashala', dedicated meditation spaces, a swimming pool, a fitness centre and additional leisure facilities – each one meticulously curated to invite a state of deep relaxation and revitalisation.

#### THE STORII EXPERIENCE

Curated experiences in and around the property take inspiration from nature and the rich cultural tapestry of the region. Masterclass with chef offers guests a chance to whip up a culinary storm with locally sourced ingredients under the masterful watch of expert chefs. Guided nature walks across the property with commentary on the botanical features of the local flora are on the cards for nature lovers. Personalized yoga and meditation sessions round up the Storii experience with an emphasis on all-around wellness.

For individuals and corporates looking to host private events or special occasions, the resort offers charming banquet spaces that combine style with functionality. The picturesque resort offers the perfect backdrop to celebrate a birthday, a corporate retreat or even a fairytale wedding that is sure to wow your guests.

In essence, Storii Devasom Resort & Spa emerges as a thoughtfully crafted haven that seamlessly weaves together luxury, wellness, and local culture. This newest addition to ITC's portfolio stands as a testament to their commitment to sustainability while providing a much-needed escape to nature.

# A PITCH-PERFECT SHOWCASE OF MODERN LUXURY

Surrounded by scenic hills and soothing waters, Taj Lakefront Bhopal is a retreat where luxury blends seamlessly with nature, creating moments that inspire and rejuvenate

#### **TT BUREAU**

n Bhopal, where heritage and modernity intertwine, the Taj Lakefront stands as a distinguished emblem of luxury. Poised on the backwater of the Upper Lake, this property encapsulates the spirit of the city—rich in tradition, yet embracing contemporary elegance. From the moment you arrive, the seamless blend of culture, cuisine, and comfort is evident, providing an experience that is as immersive as it is refined.

#### A MAJESTIC SETTING

Overlooking the expansive backwater of the Upper Lake, Taj Lakefront Bhopal offers stunning views. Its location allows guests to explore the historic and natural treasures of Bhopal, starting with the revered Sanchi Stupa and the ancient Bhimbetka Rock Shelters, followed by the vast landscapes of Ratapani National Park. Closer to the city, visitors can discover the architectural wonder of Taj ul Masjid and delve into the region's rich cultural heritage at the Tribal Museum.

#### A REFLECTION OF HERITAGE

Taj Lakefront Bhopal is a tribute to Madhya Pradesh's rich artistic heritage, blending traditional craftsmanship with modern luxury. Upon arrival, guests are welcomed by decor that celebrates the region's culture—walls adorned with Tikamgarh's earthy bell metal crafts, vibrant textiles, and striking murals, along with rustic tribal terracotta art that adds unique character. These handcrafted details, combined with plush interiors and modern amenities, create a luxurious yet culturally immersive atmosphere.

Featuring 152 rooms, each room at the Taj Lakefront is thoughtfully designed to provide comfort with sophistication. Guests can get a soothing and breathtaking view of the lake from both the higher and lower floors. With its luxurious and varied facilities that elevate the staying experience, the hotel ensures that every stay is as memorable as it is comfortable.

#### **CULINARY EXCELLENCE**

The dining experience at Taj Lakefront Bhopal is crafted to impress, offering a range of gastronomical delights at its various state-of-the-art outlets. Machan, the all-day dining venue, is often regarded as the finest in the city.

Its eclectic à la carte menu combines artistic touches with regional delights, all enjoyed alongside sweeping views of the lake. While the House of Ming brings the vibrant contrasts of Chinese cuisine to the table, featuring a tantalizing array of Cantonese and fiery Sichuan dishes, from tender meats to fresh seafood.





Infinity Poo

For a relaxed vibe, the Infinity Sky Lounge offers an ideal spot to unwind with a beverage of your choice, along with a diverse selection of Indian, Asian, and Continental cuisines. Meanwhile, Emperor Lounge offers an inviting retreat for a leisurely afternoon, serving freshly brewed artisanal coffee and decadent baked goods, perfect for satisfying late-day cravings.

#### A SANCTUARY FOR WELLNESS

The J Wellness Circle at Taj Lakefront, Bhopal, is a sanctuary of holistic healing where ancient Indian traditions like Ayurveda and Yoga meet luxurious spa experiences. Drawing inspiration from the five sacred elements—Akash (ether), Vayu (air), Agni (fire), Jal (water), and Prithvi (earth)—every treatment is thoughtfully designed to align the mind, body, and soul.

Guests embark on a journey of inner discovery with therapies like Svastha for pain relief, Nidra for restful sleep, and Shodhana for detoxification, as well as signature treatments such as Jivaniya for vitality, Trupti for deep contentment, and Pehlwān Mālish for rejuvenation.

Inspired by the ancient wisdom of Yoga, J Wellness Circle brings together physical, mental, and spiritual elements, providing a place for people to go beyond their limits. Visitors can personalize their wellness journey with as many treatments as desired, over any length of time. For those who seek fitness on the go, a fully equipped gym is available, while the infinity pool, overlooking serene lake views, complements this experience of renewal, inviting guests to reconnect with themselves and the world around them.



Rajmahal Banquet



Luxurv Grande

### IDYLLIC WEDDING VENUES AND LUXURIOUS EVENT SPACES

Taj Lakefront Bhopal offers a range of exceptional meeting and event spaces, each surrounded by majestic mountains and scenic hill tops. For outdoor events, Vindhya offers 2,000 square meters of manicured lawns, providing the perfect setting for evening galas and sophisticated soirées. While Satpura offers a spacious terrace with panoramic views of the hills providing a charming backdrop for private gatherings.

If looking for an indoor arena, step into refinement and opulence with Raj Mahal, the most sought-after pillarless ballroom which can accommodate up to 800 guests easily. Ornate chandeliers, lush carpeting, high ceilings, and elaborate interiors give it an unmatched air of royalty, making it the perfect setting for landmark occasions like royal weddings or leadership summits.

Sheesh Mahal, with its plush carpeting, refined furnishings, and glamorous chandeliers, is another ideal choice for intimate gatherings, offering a touch of royal grandeur for social soirées.

For those seeking a more intimate space, Narmada provides a compact, state-of-the-art setting ideal for hosting business seminars, corporate workshops, or group training sessions. Tapti, a more intimate venue, features minimalist décor and neutral tones, creating a conducive environment for high-level meetings and discussions among senior management. Each space at Taj Lakefront Bhopal is designed to combine functionality with luxury, ensuring that every event is as seamless as it is unforgettable.

Taj Lakefront Bhopal offers guests a sophisticated retreat in the heart of one of India's most storied cities. From fine dining to curated wellness treatments and immersive local tours, every detail is thoughtfully designed to make each stay unforgettable.



House of Ming



## WHERE BUSINESS MEETS BRILLIANCE

Novotel Hyderabad Convention Centre & Hyderabad International Convention Centre (HICC) is a beacon of excellence in hospitality and MICE management

TT BUREAU

n the city of Hyderabad, where the bustle of the metropolis meets the quaint charm of Nizami culture, business and MICE travel gets a new meaning at the Hyderabad International Convention Centre (HICC) and the seamlessly connected Novotel Hyderabad Convention Centre.

The hotel offers a blend of world-class event facilities and top-notch accommodations that cater specifically to discerning business travellers. But leisure travellers need not worry as there's plenty to soak in at this world-class hotel.

#### A SYMPHONY OF SPACE AND STYLE

As you step into HICC, you're immediately struck by the sheer grandeur of its design. The crown jewel is undoubtedly the main hall – a pillarless expanse capable of hosting over 6,000 delegates.

But it's not just about size; it's about smart design. The 12.5-metrehigh ceiling, equipped with trusses for heavy suspensions, allows for truly spectacular event setups. This versatile space adapts to whatever event you choose to host – from global conferences to product launches to high-stakes board meetings.

With 37 breakout rooms at your disposal, you can also seamlessly transition from large plenary sessions to intimate strategy meetings. Each room is a blank canvas, ready to be transformed to suit your needs.

#### **TECHNOLOGY AT YOUR FINGERTIPS**

In today's fast-paced business world, connectivity is king. HICC understands this implicitly. Service pits every six metres ensure that wherever you are in the venue, you're never far



Executive Suite

from a power source or network connection. State-of-the-art audiovisual equipment stands ready to bring your presentations to life, while comprehensive security systems provide peace of mind for even the most sensitive corporate gatherings. The 500-capacity reception area, complete with multiple registration terminals, ensures that even the largest events start smoothly, setting the tone for success from the moment attendees arrive.

#### **COMFORT MEETS CONVENIENCE**

After a day of intense meetings or networking, you need a space to unwind and recharge. This is where the Novotel Hyderabad Convention Centre truly shines. Directly connected to HICC, this business hotel offers 287 rooms that strike the perfect balance between comfort and functionality.

Each room is a haven of tranquillity, designed with the business traveller in mind. High-speed Wi-Fi keeps you connected to the office, while ergonomic workspaces allow you to prep for the next day's presentations in comfort. When it's time to relax, plush bedding and modern amenities ensure a restful night's sleep.

#### **CULINARY DELIGHTS FOR EVERY PALATE**

Even the most dedicated business traveller needs nourishment, and Novotel HICC ensures you do so in style. Multiple gourmet restaurants offer a culinary journey that spans the globe.

#### **BEYOND THE BOARDROOM**

All work and no play? Not at Novotel Hyderabad & HICC. The hotel understands the importance of work-life balance, even on business trips. Take a refreshing dip in the swimming pool, surrounded by lush greenery – it's the perfect way to clear your mind after a day of meetings. The well-equipped health club offers a chance to maintain your fitness routine, while the spa provides indulgent treatments to melt away stress.

#### A COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY

In today's environmentally conscious world, Novotel Hyderabad & HICC stands out for its commitment to sustainable practices. From energy-efficient lighting to water conservation measures, the property strives to minimize its

environmental footprint without compromising on luxury or service quality. As a business traveller, you can rest easy knowing your stay aligns with global sustainability goals.

Situated in HITEC City, Hyderabad's premier IT and business district, Novotel Hyderabad & HICC puts you at the heart of the action. Major tech campuses and corporate offices are just a stone's throw away, minimising travel time and maximizing productivity.

#### A PARTNER IN YOUR SUCCESS

What truly sets Novotel Hyderabad & HICC apart is its people. From the moment you begin planning your event or stay, you'll be supported by a team of seasoned professionals dedicated to your success. As Rubin Cherian, General Manager, puts it:

"At the Hyderabad International Convention Centre and Novotel Hyderabad Convention Centre, we are committed to delivering unparalleled service and world-class facilities. Our goal is to create an environment where every event, from global conferences to intimate board meetings, is executed with precision and excellence. We take pride in being a catalyst for innovation and economic growth, while also championing sustainable practices."

In the competitive world of business, every advantage counts. By choosing Novotel Hyderabad Convention Centre and HICC for your next business trip or corporate event, you're not just selecting a hotel or a venue – you're partnering with a team dedicated to elevating your business experience to the next level.



## A TOUCH OF ROYALTY

Mementos by ITC Hotels, Jaipur offers a collection of enchanting experiences that truly capture the spirit of the royal city



estled in the Kukas region of Jaipur, Mementos by ITC Hotels offers a captivating blend of Rajasthan's royal heritage and modern amenities. This elegant property, set against the backdrop of the Aravalli Hills, invites travellers to experience the magic of the Pink City in a serene and exclusive setting.

#### A TRIBUTE TO RAJASTHANI SPLENDOUR

The first thing that strikes you about the hotel is its architectural grandeur. The property's design reflects Rajasthan's rich cultural legacy, seamlessly integrating traditional elements with modern aesthetics. Intricate jharokhas (overhanging enclosed balconies) and jalis (latticed screens) adorned with exotic motifs catch the eye while sprawling courtyards bathe the interiors in natural light.

The hotel's commitment to showcasing Rajasthani heritage is evident in every corner. From the moment you step into the lobby, you're transported to a world where the state's royal past comes alive through carefully curated

artefacts, vibrant colour schemes, and elegant furnishings that echo the region's artistic traditions.

#### **SUITES AND VILLAS FIT FOR ROYALTY**

This magnificent hotel boasts 64 villas and suites, each offering a unique perspective on Rajasthani opulence. The rooms are thoughtfully designed to provide guests with both comfort and a sense of place. Large windows frame picturesque views of the Aravalli Hills or the meticulously landscaped gardens, bringing the beauty of Jaipur indoors.

Guests can choose from various accommodations, including Deluxe, Premium, and Royal Villas. Each category promises a distinct experience, but all share a common thread of elegance and attention to detail. The Royal Villas, in particular, stand out with their two private sit-outs, allowing guests to enjoy the outdoors while maintaining privacy.

For those seeking an even more exclusive experience, the Aravali Suites and Mementos Pool Suites offer unparalleled indulgence. The Aravali Suites feature specially crafted



Mayur Baar

jharokha window bay beds, providing a cosy nook to admire the surrounding hills. Meanwhile, the Mementos Pool Suites come with private courtyards and plunge pools, perfect for a refreshing dip under the Rajasthani sky.

#### **CULINARY JOURNEYS**

Dining is elevated to an art form at this hotel. The property houses two restaurants and a bar, each offering a unique culinary experience. Amber Pavilion, the all-day dining restaurant, draws inspiration from the historic Amber Fort and Palace. Here, guests can savour a diverse menu that celebrates Jaipur's rich culinary heritage in a regal setting.

Kebabs & Kurries should be on the top of your wishlist of upcoming dining destinations to visit. This restaurant exemplifies ITC Hotels' commitment to preserving and showcasing India's diverse culinary traditions. The menu, crafted after years of research by renowned chefs, will offer a journey through the country's diverse flavours and cooking techniques.

To round off the evening, the Mayur bar provides an intimate setting for guests to unwind. The bar's innovative cocktails and carefully curated selection of spirits make it the perfect spot for a nightcap.

#### **CELEBRATING SPECIAL MOMENTS**

Mementos Jaipur isn't just a place to stay; it's also an ideal venue for celebrations. The property boasts impressive event spaces that can accommodate gatherings of various sizes. Shahi Bagh, a sprawling 5,600 square-meter open-air venue, is perfect for grand weddings and large-scale events. Its centrepiece, inspired by majestic Rajasthani architecture, provides a stunning backdrop for unforgettable celebrations.

For more intimate affairs, Jalsa Mahal offers 2,000 square feet of indoor space, complemented by a pre-function area and an expansive lawn. The events team at Mementos Jaipur prides itself on attention to detail, ensuring that every celebration is executed flawlessly.

#### **REJUVENATION AT KAYA KALP**

No stay at the hotel is complete without a visit to Kaya Kalp - The Royal Spa. This wellness sanctuary brings together



Bathroom Mementos Suite



Aravali King

ancient Indian healing traditions and modern therapies to offer a truly restorative experience. The spa's serene ambience and skilled therapists work in tandem to help guests achieve balance and rejuvenation.

#### **BEYOND THE HOTEL**

While the property offers plenty to keep guests entertained within its premises, its location also makes it an excellent base for exploring the Pink City. The hotel's concierge can arrange visits to Jaipur's famous landmarks, such as the City Palace, Hawa Mahal, and Jantar Mantar. For those interested in Rajasthan's artistic traditions, trips to local markets and artisan workshops can be organized.

#### A MEMORABLE SOJOURN

Mementos by ITC Hotels, Jaipur offers an incredible experience steeped in Rajasthani culture and hospitality. From its thoughtfully designed rooms to its diverse dining options and world-class spa, every aspect of the hotel is crafted to create lasting memories.

As you depart from the hotel, you'll carry with you not just incredible memories, but a collection of rich experiences that capture the essence of this enchanting city. It's more than a stay; it's a journey through time, culture, and unparalleled hospitality in the heart of Rajasthan.

# A TREASURE TROVE OF UNMATCHED HOSPITALITY



Rooms with gorgeous views of Cubbon Park and UB City combine with impeccable service at JW Marriott Hotel Bengaluru

#### **TT BUREAU**

ndowed with a welcoming climate, a lively and entrepreneurial youth culture, and a thriving cosmopolitan atmosphere, Bengaluru, the epicentre of the IT industry, has witnessed a remarkable increase in the number of travellers in recent years. For business travellers seeking accommodations in Bengaluru, the JW Marriott Hotel Bengaluru stands as the ultimate choice, seamlessly merging business convenience with unparalleled luxury.

Situated at the heart of this vibrant city, this esteemed hotel is more than just a place to lodge; it is a destination in itself, offering a realm of exquisite experiences, a diverse range of comfortable lodging options, and an enticing selection of dining experiences to ensure your satisfaction throughout your stay.

#### A HOTEL WITH A VIEW

Imagine waking up to the serene beauty of Cubbon Park - a sprawling 300-acre oasis, right outside your window. At JW Marriott Bengaluru, this dream becomes a reality. The hotel boasts 281 rooms and suites with panoramic views of Cubbon Park, creating a tranquil and picturesque backdrop for your stay.

You can choose from the hotel's wide variety of rooms that come in various configurations. From comfortable guestrooms to executive suites with lounge access, the hotel offers plush accommodation armed with modern-day amenities, customised bath products, complimentary Wi-Fi services and evening cocktails served under canopies.

#### A CULINARY JOURNEY THROUGH SIX PIT STOPS

Indulge your senses in a sensory journey through the hotel's six lifestyle dining experiences. From the internationally inspired delights at JW Kitchen to the exquisite Italian creations at ALBA, the hotel offers a diverse culinary palette to satisfy every palate.

Spice Terrace and The Merak Brewhouse invite you to savour regional Indian specialities and award-winning brews by the poolside. Here you can savour tempting appetizers to be washed down with chilled beer and enjoy lovingly prepared Indian fare with microbrews after a hectic day.

Bengaluru Baking Company tantalizes your taste buds with a fusion of traditional and modern culinary styles. UNO Izakaya adds a touch of Japanese flair to your dining experience with its upscale take on a Japanese Izakaya bar (an informal eating joint serving alcohol and snacks).

#### **AWAKEN YOUR SOUL**

At the JW Marriott Bengaluru, relaxation and well-being are given utmost priority. The hotel's in-house Spa by JW offers a range of rejuvenating treatments inspired by Indian, Western, and Asian therapies, ensuring that you leave feeling refreshed and revitalized. With a dedicated Wellness Floor, the hotel prioritises maintaining your mental and physical balance during your stay.

#### **MEETINGS AND EVENTS REDEFINED**

Whether you're hosting a corporate meeting or a grand celebration of your marriage anniversary, the JW Marriott Bengaluru's 24,000 square feet of unparalleled meeting and banquet spaces provide the perfect setting. The latest technology and impeccable service combine effortlessly to ensure your event is a resounding success. The hotel's attention to detail is reflected in the wide range of services offered to business guests. These include copy and fax services, printout services, secretarial services, overnight pickup and delivery and much more.



JW Lawns, Weddings at JW Marriott Bengaluru



Exterior Shot, JW Marriott Bengaluru

#### FITNESS AND RECREATION

All work and no play makes one dull and the hotel imbibes this mantra through its fitness and recreation facilities. Maintain your fitness routine with the state-of-the-art techno fitness centre and an outdoor temperature-controlled swimming pool. After an invigorating workout, relax in the sauna, steam room, Jacuzzi, or the cross-fit studio at the spa.

#### THE JW TREATMENT

At JW Marriott Bengaluru, you can immerse yourself in the renowned Marriott hospitality that has earned global acclaim. The hotel's devoted team is unwaveringly committed to delivering an extraordinary experience, with personalized service and unwavering attention to detail that not only distinguishes it from the rest but also makes your stay truly special.



Deluxe Room



# A NEW-AGE URBAN SANCTUARY

Hyatt's first lifestyle hotel in India, Andaz Delhi is an oasis of serene hospitality

**TT BUREAU** 

estled in the heart of Aerocity, sheltered from the bustle of the capital, Andaz Delhi stands as a testament to new-age urban hospitality. This serene oasis, Hyatt's first lifestyle hotel in India, seamlessly blends efficiency with style, making it an ideal choice for those seeking to transit through the city or explore the vast sprawl of the metropolis.

#### **VIBRANT ROOMS AND SUITES**

As you step into Andaz Delhi, you're immediately enveloped by an atmosphere that's both warm and sophisticated. The hotel boasts 401 spacious guest rooms, including 45 suites, each designed to provide a tranquil retreat from the bustling city outside. Rooms offer either city or runway views, allowing guests to feel connected to Delhi's vibrant energy or watch the comings and goings of international flights.

One of Andaz Delhi's most thoughtful touches is the complimentary in-room bar. Stocked with healthy snacks and artisanal beverages, it's a welcoming gesture that sets the tone for a stay focused on comfort and well-being.

#### **ANDAZ MEANS BUSINESS**

For those in Delhi who are on business, Andaz offers unparalleled convenience. Its proximity to major business hubs like Gurugram and Worldmark means you're never far from where you need to be. The hotel is well-equipped for corporate needs, boasting over 37,000 square feet of flexible meeting spaces. This includes one of Delhi's largest pillarless ballrooms, perfect for conferences, product launches, or large-scale corporate events.

#### WHOLESOME FOOD

But Andaz Delhi truly shines when it comes to dining experiences. The hotel's eateries are a celebration of mindful, innovative cuisine that caters to a variety of tastes and dietary preferences. Soul Pantry, the hotel's health-focused eatery, offers a menu brimming with wholesome, seasonal ingredients. For those seeking a more expansive culinary journey, AnnaMaya is a must-visit. This artisanal food hall draws inspiration from global flavours while staying true to its roots by sourcing ingredients locally.

#### FROM PAN TO PLATE

A recent addition to the hotel's dining repertoire is the innovative "Pan to Plate" service. This interactive buffet experience elevates the usual fare by featuring live cooking stations where chefs prepare dishes on the spot. It's particularly appealing to those with busy schedules who don't want to compromise on quality or flavour.

#### **UPLIFTING SPIRITS**

As the day winds down, Juniper Bar beckons with its impressive selection of over 40 gin infusions. As India's first gin bar, Juniper offers a unique experience for spirit enthusiasts and casual drinkers alike. Signature cocktails like the Delhi Snapper showcase the bar's creativity and craftsmanship. The bar's open layout makes it an ideal spot for casual meetings or relaxed socializing.

#### MIND, BODY AND SOUL

Wellness takes centre stage at Andaz Delhi, with the Andaz Spa serving as a haven for relaxation and rejuvenation. The spa's treatment menu draws inspiration from ancient Indian healing practices and contemporary global trends, offering a comprehensive range of massages, facials, and therapies. For those who prefer to maintain their fitness routines while travelling, the hotel provides a fully equipped gym, a serene yoga studio, and even in-room fitness equipment.

The outdoor swimming pool adds another layer of serenity to the Andaz Delhi experience. It's not just a place for swimming laps or sunbathing; the pool area comes alive during the weekly 'BBQ By The Pool' evenings. These events transform the poolside into a culinary destination, with the aroma of grilled delicacies wafting through the air. The a-la-carte menu, featuring homemade marinades and catering to various dietary preferences, perfectly complements the refreshing pool atmosphere.

#### **WALK THE TALK**

Andaz Delhi goes beyond providing a place to stay; it offers a gateway to exploring the rich tapestry of India's capital. Through a collaboration with India City Walks, the hotel has introduced a tech-enabled experience booking system. This innovative feature allows guests to easily arrange immersive



Andaz Delhi Lounge



city tours inspired by the hotel's '401 Reasons' book. From the bustling streets of Old Delhi to the majestic Qutub Minar, these curated experiences offer a deeper connection to the city's vibrant history and culture.

#### **CREATING LASTING MEMORIES**

For those planning special events, Andaz Delhi proves to be more than just a venue — it's a partner in creating unforgettable memories. The hotel's versatile spaces and dedicated team of event specialists work tirelessly to tailor every detail to the client's vision. From intimate gatherings to grand celebrations, each event is infused with personal touches that reflect the hotel's commitment to bespoke experiences.

As you explore Andaz Delhi, you'll find that it's more than just a hotel—it's a destination in itself. It invites you to immerse yourself in an atmosphere which matches the energy and the vibrancy of India's capital in equal measure.



Andaz Delhi Poolside

# LUXURY AT THE HEART OF THE PINK CITY

Discover Jaipur Marriott Hotel's harmonious blend of traditional Rajasthani charm and modern hospitality

TT BUREAU

aipur, the enchanting Pink City of India, is where the past and present coexist in mesmerising harmony. Famed for its regal palaces, vibrant bazaars, and aweinspiring forts, this city is a gateway to Rajasthan's royal heritage and architectural marvels.

Amidst this cultural richness, stands the Jaipur Marriott Hotel, a luxurious retreat that complements the city's beauty with its blend of elegance and modern comfort. Every moment at Jaipur Marriott Hotel is designed to offer you an unparalleled stay, where comfort, elegance, and warm hospitality all collide in seamless harmony.

#### A GATEWAY TO CULTURAL SPLENDOUR

The hotel's proximity to iconic attractions such as the Amber Fort, City Palace, and Hawa Mahal allows guests to immerse themselves in the vibrant history and architecture of Rajasthan. Stroll through Jaipur's bustling bazaars, discover

the city's famed handicrafts, or marvel at the grandeur of its palaces – all just minutes away from the comfort of your room.

Designed to reflect the beauty of Rajasthan while offering modern amenities, Jaipur Marriott Hotel strikes a perfect balance between luxury and tradition. The hotel's architecture and interior design evoke the region's regal past, making your stay not just a visit but an experience of Jaipur's royal essence.

Every room and suite in this elegant establishment boasts panoramic views of Jaipur's captivating cityscape. After exploring the vibrant streets and cultural attractions of the Pink City, guests can return to their accommodations and unwind in comfort. Each room features a sumptuous pillowtop mattress adorned with premium bedding, providing the perfect sanctuary to rejuvenate and prepare for another day of adventures in this historic city.





#### A CULINARY JOURNEY OF FLAVOURS

Jaipur Marriott Hotel invites you to embark on an unforgettable culinary voyage. The hotel's dining options cater to every palate, offering an array of flavours from around the world as well as authentic local specialities. At Okra, the hotel's award-winning all-day dining restaurant, indulge in diverse global cuisines expertly crafted by renowned chefs. If you are craving a gourmet international meal or Indian delicacies, Okra is the perfect destination for a lavish dining experience.

For those looking to savour the rich flavours of Rajasthan, Saffron offers an exquisite array of North Indian and Rajasthani dishes. Each meal at Saffron is a celebration of the region's culinary heritage, prepared with the freshest ingredients and the finest spices.

If you have a sweet tooth or simply need a pick-me-up after a hectic day of sightseeing, Jaipur Baking Company serves artisanal pastries, freshly brewed coffee, and a variety of light bites, making it the perfect spot for a relaxing break. As the day winds down, head to Lounge 18, where handcrafted cocktails and a refined ambience set the stage for a perfect evening.

#### **WELLNESS AND RECREATION**

At Jaipur Marriott Hotel, relaxation and rejuvenation are at the forefront of your experience. The hotel's state-of-theart fitness centre is fully equipped with the latest workout technology, ensuring you can maintain your fitness regime even while travelling. For a more leisurely retreat, unwind at the hotel's serene swimming pool.

#### SPACES FOR EVERY OCCASION

Jaipur Marriott Hotel is also a premier destination for events and gatherings, offering expansive spaces that cater to both professional and social occasions. No matter if you are planning



a corporate conference, a wedding, or a lavish celebration, the hotel's grand 70,000-square-foot banquet area and versatile meeting rooms can accommodate up to 800 guests. Equipped with the latest technology and supported by a dedicated events team, every detail of your event will be flawlessly executed, ensuring an unforgettable experience for your guests.

#### **UNMATCHED HOSPITALITY**

At the heart of Jaipur Marriott Hotel's charm is its unwavering commitment to delivering exceptional hospitality. From the moment you arrive, you are welcomed with genuine warmth and care. The hotel's attentive staff is dedicated to ensuring that your every need is met, making you feel at home from the moment you step inside. With a legacy of personalized service, Jaipur Marriott Hotel elevates hospitality to an art form, where every interaction leaves you with cherished memories of your stay.

#### **EXPERIENCE THE PINK CITY**

If you are visiting Jaipur to explore its historic wonders, celebrate a special occasion, or simply relax in the lap of luxury, Jaipur Marriott Hotel offers an extraordinary experience that will linger long after your stay.



ORKH Facade

## THE CROWNING JEWEL

Oakwood Residence Kapil Hyderabad offers the best-in-class hospitality with outstanding service for travellers to the city of pearls

**TT BUREAU** 

he city of Hyderabad, known by its moniker the city of pearls, has emerged as the favoured Indian destination for both business and leisure travellers.

Steeped in rich history and culture, the city is not only a delight for lovers of ancient structures but also for new-age travellers for whom this IT capital holds the promise of prosperity and entrepreneurship.

Located in the vibrant quarters of the Gachibowli, Oakwood Residence Kapil Hyderabad offers a harmonious blend of comfort, luxury, and convenience. Their serviced apartments provide a welcoming retreat for business travellers, families, and tourists looking for a longer stay. With a prime location, top-tier amenities, and outstanding service, Oakwood Residence Kapil Hyderabad is undoubtedly the top choice for visitors.

#### A JEWEL OF THE IT HUB

In Gachibowli, the heart of the city's IT and business district, Oakwood Residence Kapil Hyderabad offers easy access to major corporate offices, educational institutions, healthcare facilities and shopping malls. It's a convenient choice for several international travellers, being just a short drive from Rajiv Gandhi International Airport. One can easily explore nearby attractions like Golconda Fort, Charminar, and HITEC City with ease. Day trips to Ananthagiri Hills, Warangal, Nagarjuna Sagar and Karimnagar are also recommended.

#### **SPACIOUS AND WELL-APPOINTED APARTMENTS**

Oakwood Residence offers a variety of studio, one-bedroom, two-bedroom, and duplex apartments, all thoughtfully designed for maximum comfort and functionality. Each unit has a full kitchen, modern furnishings, and state-of-the-art appliances, ensuring a comfortable and convenient stay. These apartments come with a range of amenities that set the bar of hospitality a notch higher.

#### **WORLD-CLASS AMENITIES**

From a state-of-the-art gym to an indoor swimming pool, from conferencing facilities to hold events, big and small, to restaurants serving delectable delights, Oakwood Residence

leaves no stone unturned when comes to making its guests feel at home. Here are some of the highlights:

**Fitness Center:** The state-of-the-art gym has all the latest exercise equipment for cardio and strength training.

**Indoor Swimming Pool:** Relax and unwind in the serene indoor pool area after a hectic day.

**Restaurant:** Looking for a quick bite? Or seeking to sample the local flavours? Oakwood Residence has just the thing for you! Enjoy a diverse menu of local and international dishes at the on-site restaurant, prepared with the freshest ingredients by talented chefs.

**Banquet Facilities:** Host successful events in elegant banquet rooms, ideal for business meetings, conferences, and social gatherings.

#### **EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE**

Oakwood Residence prides itself on delivering exceptional service. The residence's dedicated team of staff members are available 24/7 to assist with any requests, from travel arrangements to laundry services, ensuring your stay is as comfortable and enjoyable as possible.

#### **COMBINE BUSINESS WITH PLEASURE**

From staycations to short business stays, from individual travellers to large travel groups, Oakwood Residence offers a wide range of options. For business travellers, it offers a quiet and comfortable working environment, with high-speed internet and ample workspace. Located in the business district, it makes it easy for guests to attend meetings and conferences.

The spacious apartments are also great for families, allowing for relaxation and the convenience of meal preparation in fully-equipped kitchens. For extended stays, the apartments offer a home-like environment with regular housekeeping, laundry facilities, and a range of amenities for a hassle-free experience.

#### A CITY OF DELIGHTS

No stay in Hyderabad is complete without exploring the attractions of the bygone Nizami culture. Steeped in history and bustling with people, the old quarters of the city throw up a gamut of immersive experiences.



1 BR Executive

The more modern quarters of the city house upscale malls, cafes and restaurants – perfect for unwinding after a hectic day of sightseeing. Some of the unmissable attractions of the city include:

**Golconda Fort:** A historic fort offering stunning city views.

**Charminar:** An iconic monument in the heart of the old city, surrounded by vibrant markets and street food stalls.

**HITEC City:** A modern hub for multinational corporations, dining, and entertainment.

**Ramoji Film City:** One of the world's largest film studios, offering guided tours and live performances.

With its prime location, luxurious apartments, and exceptional service, Oakwood Residence Kapil Hyderabad offers an unparalleled experience to those looking to discover the hidden delights of this wonderful city.



Oakleaf Live Counter



Oakleaf Bar Counter



Gym

# REVOLUTIONIZING CORPORATE TRAVEL



Trusted by 1,000+ large corporates, TravelPlus is redefining Indian corporate travel and the MICE ecosystem

#### **TT BUREAU**

ravelPlus was conceived in 2020 during the Covid-19 pandemic, as a sister brand to FabHotels, a budget hotel chain with more than 1800+ properties nationwide. Since its launch, TravelPlus has registered strong growth and is on its way to becoming India's most preferred corporate travel solution provider.

The brand is currently managing corporate travel for more than 1,000 businesses nationwide and is expanding into other emerging sectors and coming up with new and exciting service offerings. Having found the right product-market fit for corporate travel, the company entered the growing MICE sector a year back. It has made significant strides and has already won numerous awards.

As businesses seek unique ways to engage employees and clients, the MICE sector is poised for continued expansion, with projections indicating robust growth in the coming years. TravelPlus is riding high on this surge of MICE travel, providing a comprehensive suite of travel-related solutions with a keen eye on innovation and excellence.

#### **COMPREHENSIVE CORPORATE TRAVEL SOLUTIONS**

TravelPlus positions itself as the ultimate destination for all travel-related needs, offering a one-stop shop for corporate travel requirements. Their comprehensive range of services includes:

Accommodations: From budget-friendly options to luxury hotels, TravelPlus caters to all preferences and budgets. The brand offers corporates access to over 40,000 domestic hotels and countless international hotels. Transportation: The company handles bookings for flights, trains, cabs, and buses, ensuring seamless travel experiences. International Travel Services: TravelPlus assists with visa applications and other international travel requirements. MICE Services: Specializing in Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions, TravelPlus offers end-to-end solutions for corporate events.

What sets TravelPlus apart is its suite of workflow tools designed to streamline corporate travel management:



- **Travel Policies:** Helping companies establish and enforce travel guidelines.
- **Approvals:** Implementing efficient approval processes for travel requests.
- **Bookings:** Simplifying the booking process for all travel needs
- **GST Invoicing:** The only travel management company that offers 100% GST invoicing support to corporates for hotel bookings, thereby helping them claim returns and increase savings.
- **Reports & Analytics:** Providing insights into travel spending and patterns.
- Expense Management: Facilitating easy tracking and management of travel expenses.

#### **OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE**

TravelPlus also prides itself on its operational excellence, which is evident from its footprint in several key areas:

**Managed Hotel Supply:** Ensuring a wide range of quality accommodations.

**Integration via Proprietary Technology:** Streamlining processes through innovative tech solutions.

**Preventive Calling:** Proactively addressing potential issues before they arise.

**24x7 Live Support:** Offering real-time assistance to travellers. **Custom Sourcing:** Tailoring solutions to meet specific client needs.

**Inventory Quality Management:** Maintaining high standards across all offerings.

#### TRANSFORMING CORPORATE EVENTS

The MICE division of TravelPlus has made significant strides in the industry. Led by a team of experts with over two decades of experience, TravelPlus MICE has redefined corporate events by focusing on creating experiences that go beyond mere logistics.

In just seven months, the MICE team has achieved impressive milestones, such as:

- Managing over 5,000 passengers
- Operating across 10+ international and 25+ domestic destinations
- Handling group sizes ranging from 20 to 1200 participants

Nupur Chandra, Head of MICE at TravelPlus, emphasizes the team's mission: "Our goal is to elevate every journey, transforming routine corporate travel into memorable stories that inspire and resonate."

The MICE team's focus on quality and customization has set them apart in the industry. They work to ensure that each event delivers a great Return on Event (ROE), bringing professionals from various sectors together in exceptional, tailored hospitality settings.

#### **FABHOTELS**

As mentioned before, TravelPlus also has a private label offering called FabHotels. This chain of over 1,800 economy hotels across India has gained recognition for its quality and value. FabHotels extends TravelPlus's commitment to quality accommodations into the budget sector, ensuring that even cost-conscious travellers can enjoy reliable and comfortable stays.

#### LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

As TravelPlus continues to grow and evolve, the company remains committed to pushing boundaries and pursuing excellence in all aspects of corporate travel and event management. By combining cutting-edge technology, industry expertise, and a customer-centric approach, TravelPlus is well-positioned to maintain its status as India's leading corporate travel and MICE solution provider.

The success of TravelPlus demonstrates the growing sophistication of India's travel industry and the increasing demand for comprehensive, high-quality corporate travel solutions. As businesses continue to expand globally and recognize the value of face-to-face interactions, the role of companies like TravelPlus in facilitating seamless travel and memorable events will only become more crucial.

With its robust suite of services, commitment to operational excellence, and dedicated MICE division, TravelPlus is not just meeting the current needs of corporate India – it's anticipating and shaping the future of business travel and events in the country and beyond.



## REIMAGINING HOSPITALITY

With a focus on elevating the guest experience, empowering hotel owners, and introducing new brands, BWH Hotels is redefining the hospitality sector

**TT BUREAU** 

WH Hotels, which oversees brands like, WorldHotels, Best Western Hotels & Resorts and SureStay Hotels, has established itself in the hospitality industry as a company focused on providing guests with comfortable and convenient accommodations while offering immersive experiences across a range of exciting destinations.

#### A BRAND WITH A GLOBAL REACH

The company has a global network of over 4,300 hotels, with a presence in more than 100 countries and territories. The company's extensive portfolio is impressive, offering 19 distinctive brands that cater to every segment of the hospitality industry, from luxury to premium economy. Each brand under the BWH Hotels umbrella is designed to adapt

to local market trends while maintaining the company's core values of comfort, quality, and innovation.

A key figure in the company's expanding footprint in South Asia has been Atul Jain, who serves as the Chief Operating Officer (COO) for India, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka. With over two decades of experience and a background as a Chartered Accountant, Atul's journey is more than just professional — it is a mission to redefine the guest experience, drive growth, and empower hotel owners in South Asia.

#### A JOURNEY OF LEADERSHIP AND VISION

Atul's rise to the position of COO for India, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka is a testament to his deep understanding of the hospitality industry in the subcontinent. His financial acumen,



Atul Jain, Chief Operating Officer (COO) for India, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka



coupled with his operational insight, has allowed him to lead BWH Hotels with a strategic vision that effortlessly combines guest satisfaction and business growth.

Under his leadership, the brand has expanded its footprint, opening over 55 hotels across the region and introducing new luxury and boutique brands that elevate the hospitality landscape in South Asia.

Atul's leadership is marked by his unwavering commitment to improving the guest experience. From the meticulously designed rooms to the thoughtful amenities, his focus remains on creating memorable stays and immersive experiences.

His work extends beyond operational success — he fosters an environment of growth for hotel owners, empowering them to deliver exceptional service while maintaining strong profitability.

### THE SOUTH ASIAN STORY

In South Asia, the brand has cemented its position as a reliable choice for travellers with properties across key locations such as Ambala, Amritsar, Hyderabad, and Visakhapatnam.

Each Best Western hotel in the region offers a seamless blend of modern style and traditional hospitality, ensuring the utmost satisfaction for every guest.

Best Western Plus, another standout in the portfolio, takes luxury to the next level. Hotels in Indore, McLeodganj, and Mohali, among other cities, offer enhanced amenities and elegantly appointed guest rooms, creating an elevated guest experience.

Meanwhile, Aiden by Best Western —currently available in Bengaluru — caters to a more boutique and lifestyle-oriented traveller, with each property reflecting the unique character of its neighbourhood.

Finally, the SureStay brand, on the other hand, focuses on offering wallet-friendly stays without compromising on quality.

In cities like Amritsar and Lucknow, SureStay provides a dependable and no-frills accommodation option for budget-conscious travellers.

### A STRATEGY FOR SUCCESS

Atul's visionary leadership has not only enhanced the guest experience but has also expanded BWH Hotels' presence in South Asia.

The brand, once primarily recognized in the midscale segment, is now experiencing growth in upscale and lifestyle segments with brands like Best Western Premier and Aiden by Best Western.

The success of these new brands is a reflection of the evolving needs of the South Asian market. Travellers today are looking for more than just a place to stay—they want personalized experiences, seamless service, and a brand they can trust.

Atul has positioned Best Western Hotels to meet these expectations, ensuring that each property under his leadership delivers consistent and exceptional service.

### **ENHANCING THE GUEST EXPERIENCE**

One of the key aspects of Atul's leadership is his focus on rewarding guest loyalty. Best Western Rewards, the brand's award-winning loyalty program, plays a crucial role in this strategy.

With over 60 million members globally, the program offers guests the flexibility to earn points with every stay and redeem them for free nights, gift cards, and more, with no blackout dates. This approach to loyalty reflects the brand's commitment to putting the guest at the heart of every decision.

### THE FUTURE AHEAD

Atul's leadership has positioned BWH Hotels as a leading player in the South Asian hospitality market. The brand's strategic focus on elevating the guest experience, empowering hotel owners, and introducing new brands ensures that BWH Hotels will remain at the forefront of hospitality innovation in the region.

As Atul continues to lead BWH Hotels into the future, his vision for the brand is clear: to create a hospitality experience filled with unforgettable moments for every guest.

## A TIMELESS OASIS

The Claridges seamlessly blend the charm of colonial architecture with contemporary comforts for new-age travellers

### **TT BUREAU**

n the bustling metropolis of New Delhi, where ancient history mingles with modern dynamism, there lies a haven of tranquillity and elegance that has stood the test of time. The Claridges, nestled in the prestigious Lutyens Delhi, has been a beacon of luxury since it first opened its doors in 1955.

This iconic hotel seamlessly blends the charm of colonial architecture with contemporary comforts, offering visitors a unique glimpse into India's rich heritage while pampering them with world-class amenities.

### A STEP BACK IN TIME

As you enter The Claridges, the first thing that strikes you is its imposing yet graceful facade. The hotel's design, with its imposing white walls and lofty arches, harks back to the era of British colonial architecture, setting the stage for the experience that awaits within. Stepping into the lobby feels like entering



Lobby

a bygone era, with antique artwork adorning the walls and classical paintings transporting you to a more genteel time.

### **ACCOMMODATIONS FIT FOR ROYALTY**

The Claridges offers a range of rooms and suites, each designed to cater to different tastes and needs. From the charming Boutique and Heritage Rooms that exude old-world elegance with their Lutyens-style furnishings to the opulent Luxury and Presidential Suites that redefine indulgence, there's something for every discerning traveller.

### A GASTRONOMIC JOURNEY AROUND THE WORLD

One of the highlights of staying at The Claridges is undoubtedly its diverse culinary offerings. The hotel boasts



an impressive array of restaurants and bars, each with its own distinct personality and cuisine.

Foodies can embark on a global gastronomic adventure without ever leaving the hotel premises. Savour authentic North Indian flavours at Dhaba, a restaurant that has been delighting patrons for over three decades.

For those craving Oriental cuisine, Jade offers exquisite Chinese and Cantonese dishes in an atmosphere reminiscent of ancient China.

Sevilla, with its charming alfresco setting, transports diners to the Mediterranean with its Spanish-inspired menu.

And for a truly special experience, Erawaan serves up delectable Thai cuisine crafted by Master Chef Tarathip Nooriengsai, bringing the vibrant flavours of Thailand to the heart of Delhi

### **WELLNESS AND RECREATION**

After a day of exploring the capital city, guests can unwind at the Cinqtuair Spa, where expert therapists offer a range of treatments designed to rejuvenate both body and mind. For those who prefer to maintain their fitness routine while travelling, the hotel's state-of-the-art gym, Sumaya, provides a comprehensive wellness program with top-notch equipment and professional guidance.

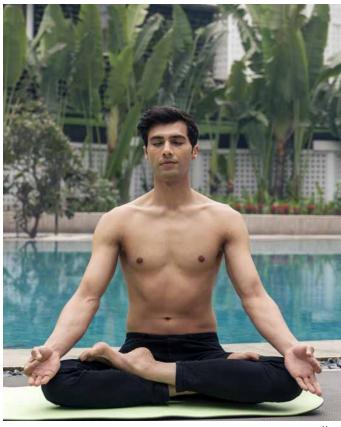
The outdoor pool, surrounded by lush greenery, offers a serene retreat from the city's hustle and bustle. For a bit of excitement, guests can take a dip in the indoor wave pool or practice their swing at the Golf Simulator, which allows virtual play on some of the world's most renowned courses.

### **BEYOND ACCOMMODATION**

What truly sets The Claridges apart is its commitment to creating memorable experiences for its guests. The hotel's recently launched Food & Beverage Concierge Service is a testament to this philosophy. This unique offering provides personalized assistance to help guests navigate Delhi's diverse culinary landscape, ensuring that every meal is an adventure in itself.



Pickwick Ambience



Yoga

### A TIMELESS LEGACY

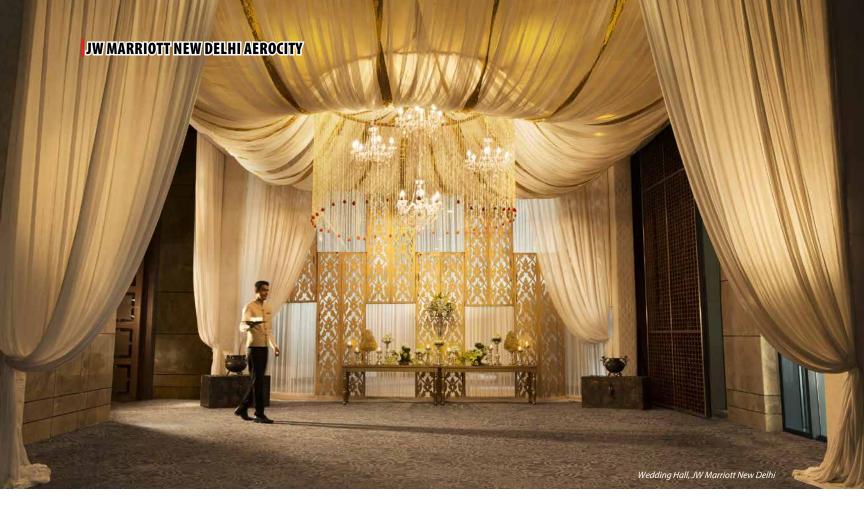
As Delhi continues to evolve and grow, The Claridges stands as a testament to timeless elegance and impeccable hospitality. It's not just a place to stay; it's a destination in itself, offering a glimpse into the grand history of India's capital while providing all the luxuries of a modern five-star hotel.

No matter if you're a history buff, a foodie, or simply someone in search of a tranquil oasis in the heart of a vibrant city, The Claridges New Delhi promises an experience that will linger in your memory long after you've checked out.

In a world of constant change, this grand old dame of Delhi's hospitality scene remains a constant, inviting travellers to step back in time while enjoying the best of contemporary luxury.



Aura Ambience



### FAIRYTALE WEDDINGS

Personalized wedding services and opulent venues make JW Marriott New Delhi Aerocity the perfect place to conduct nuptials

**TT BUREAU** 

eddings in India are a grand affair, often celebrated with elaborate ceremonies and receptions that leave lasting memories for everyone involved. As the desire for destination weddings grows, JW Marriott New Delhi Aerocity has emerged as one of the most soughtafter venues in Delhi-NCR. Combining opulence with impeccable service, this hotel offers a perfect blend of luxury and elegance, making it the ideal location for couples looking to tie the knot in style.

### **PERFECT LOCATION**

Located conveniently near the Indira Gandhi International Airport, JW Marriott New Delhi Aerocity offers a perfect venue for weddings. Whether you're a local resident or a couple coming from another part of the country or the world, the hotel's location makes it easily accessible for guests arriving

from all corners. The proximity to both Central Delhi and Gurugram further enhances its appeal, providing guests with the chance to explore the bustling city before or after the wedding celebrations.

### **VERSATILE VENUES**

The key to a great wedding venue is its ability to adapt to the couple's vision, and JW Marriott New Delhi Aerocity excels in offering versatile spaces for weddings of all sizes and styles. The crown jewel of the hotel is its Grand Crystal Ballroom which boasts a regal ambiance and state-of-the-art facilities. This pillarless ballroom can accommodate 1,400 guests, making it the ideal setting for grand celebrations. Whether you're planning an intimate ceremony or a lavish reception, the ballroom's grandeur adds a touch of magic to the occasion. The best part about the ballroom is that it can be broken up into smaller rooms for more intimate affairs.

In addition to the ballroom, the hotel offers a variety of other spaces, both indoor and outdoor, that can be tailored to your specific needs. Smaller ceremonies and pre-wedding functions can be hosted in the hotel's lush gardens, intimate banquet halls, or sophisticated lounges.

### PERSONALIZED WEDDING PLANNING

What sets JW Marriott New Delhi Aerocity apart from other venues is its commitment to personalized service. Planning a wedding can be overwhelming, but the hotel's team of Marriott Certified Wedding Planners works closely with each couple to curate every detail of their big day. From designing bespoke floral arrangements to organizing entertainment and coordinating menus, the planners take care of everything, leaving couples free to enjoy the excitement of their wedding day.

No two weddings are the same, and the team ensures that every element, from décor to timing, reflects the couple's preferences and cultural traditions. From military to ethnic weddings, the planners are qualified to coordinate all kinds of ceremonies.

### A CULINARY EXPERIENCE LIKE NO OTHER

Food plays an essential role in weddings, and at JW Marriott New Delhi Aerocity, the culinary experience is nothing short of extraordinary. Helmed by the Director of Culinary Chef Anuraag Narsingani, the hotel's catering team brings together the best of Indian and international cuisines to create a wedding menu that delights every guest. From traditional Indian dishes to contemporary global flavours, the chefs use fresh, locally sourced ingredients to craft a gourmet journey that will be remembered long after the wedding is over.

The hotel's signature restaurants, K3 – New Delhi's Food Theatre and Adrift Kaya, offer guests a chance to experience the best of what JW Marriott's culinary team has to offer. Whether it's a grand buffet for a large reception or a more intimate multicourse dinner for a smaller group, the dining experience at JW Marriott New Delhi Aerocity is designed to impress.

### **LUXURIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS**

Hosting a destination wedding means ensuring that guests are comfortable and well taken care of, and JW Marriott New Delhi Aerocity excels in providing luxurious accommodations for the wedding party and attendees. The hotel features 511 well-appointed rooms and suites, each equipped with modern amenities to ensure a comfortable stay. For those looking for the ultimate in luxury, the hotel's Presidential Suite offers opulent accommodations with breathtaking views of the city.

Beyond the rooms, the hotel's amenities, including a Quan Spa, outdoor heated swimming pool, and modern fitness centre, ensure that guests have plenty of opportunities to relax and rejuvenate before and after the wedding festivities.

### **REPUTATION ONE CAN TRUST**

Over the years, JW Marriott New Delhi Aerocity has built a reputation as a premier wedding destination, attracting couples from across India and around the globe. The hotel's commitment to excellence in service, combined with its luxurious setting and bespoke wedding experiences, has solidified its place as one of the most coveted wedding venues in the region.







### A GATEWAY TO ENRICHING EXPERIENCES

With a diverse portfolio of hotels, Wyndham ensures that every stay is not just memorable but also enriching.

**TT BUREAU** 

hen it comes to embarking on a journey through the vibrant tapestry of India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, Wyndham Hotels & Resorts emerges as the quintessential choice for travellers seeking both comfort and adventure. With a diverse portfolio spanning over 30 cities across various tiers, from upscale to economy categories, Wyndham ensures that every stay is not just memorable but also enriching.

Wyndham Hotels & Resorts has firmly established itself as a beacon of hospitality excellence, boasting over 60 hotels in operation and a promising pipeline of 40 more slated to open soon.

### **UNVEILING WYNDHAM'S GEMS**

Let's explore some of Wyndham's standout properties that promise an unforgettable stay:

### RAMADA BY WYNDHAM GOA ARPORA

Located amidst the sun-kissed beaches and vibrant nightlife of North Goa, Ramada by Wyndham, Goa Arpora epitomizes comfort and convenience. This newly opened hotel offers not just proximity to Baga Beach but also a serene retreat with wellness facilities, ensuring a perfect balance of relaxation and exploration. Guests can delve into Goan culture at the Houses of Goa Museum or try their luck at the Deltin Royale, Asia's largest floating casino.

### RAMADA BY WYNDHAM GOA VAGATOR

Nestled near the iconic Vagator Beach, this hotel is a gateway to Goa's historical charm and natural wonders. With luxurious accommodations, a fitness center, and an outdoor pool, Ramada by Wyndham Goa Vagator promises both relaxation and adventure. Explore nearby Chapora Fort or unwind at the vibrant markets of Anjuna Beach, making every moment in Goa truly special.

### THE EARTH AMRITSAR, TRADEMARK COLLECTION BY WYNDHAM

Stepping into the heart of Amritsar, The Earth Amritsar is a recent addition that blends modern amenities with heritage charm. Located near the revered Golden Temple, this property offers a glimpse into Sikh spirituality and Punjab's rich cultural tapestry. Guests can enjoy a whiskey lounge, explore the Partition Museum, or witness the Wagah Border's Beating Retreat Ceremony, all while indulging in unparalleled comfort.

### RAMADA ENCORE BY WYNDHAM AMRITSAR AIRPORT ROAD

Conveniently situated near Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport, this hotel is a gateway to Amritsar's spiritual and historical landmarks. Guests can start their day with a sumptuous buffet breakfast before immersing themselves in the city's spiritual devotion, exemplified by the Golden Temple. With modern amenities and warm hospitality, Ramada Encore is an ideal choice for travelers seeking convenience and cultural immersion.

### RAMADA BY WYNDHAM GORAKHPUR GORAKHNATH MANDIR ROAD

Discover Gorakhpur's cultural richness at the stylish Ramada by Wyndham Gorakhpur. With spacious rooms, a multicuisine dining experience, and extensive event spaces, this hotel caters to both leisure and business travelers. Explore the revered Gorakhnath Temple or delve into the city's history at



Ramada Encore by Wyndham Kathmandu Thamel - Pool

the Government Buddha Museum and Nehru Park, all within easy reach from this centrally located property.

### **WYNDHAM REWARDS: YOUR PASSPORT TO MORE**

Beyond luxurious stays, Wyndham Rewards stands out as a beacon of loyalty, boasting approximately 110 million members globally. Earn points with every stay and unlock exclusive benefits, including access to thousands of hotels and vacation rentals worldwide. Whether you're planning a family vacation, a solo adventure, or a getaway with friends, Wyndham Rewards ensures that every journey is rewarding in more ways than one.

### PLAN YOUR JOURNEY WITH WYNDHAM

As you plan your next escapade across the subcontinent, Wyndham Hotels & Resorts beckon with a promise of unparalleled hospitality and memorable experiences. Whether you're unwinding on Goa's pristine beaches, exploring Amritsar's spiritual heritage, or immersing yourself in Gorakhpur's cultural tapestry, Wyndham Hotels & Resorts ensure that every destination is as extraordinary as it is diverse.

In the realm of travel, where every moment counts, Wyndham Hotels & Resorts promises not just accommodation, but an unforgettable journey through the rich landscape of India, peppered with incredible experiences.



Ramada By Wyndham Goa Vagator



The Earth Amritsar, Trademark Collection by Wyndham

## THE HEART OF INDIA'S HERITAGE



WelcomHeritage Bal Samand Lake Palace, Jodhpur

Firmly grounded in the rich cultural tradition of the country, WelcomHeritage Hotels offer modern conveniences like no other

### **TT BUREAU**

n a world that embraces the new at the cost of the old, the team at WelcomHeritage invites you to step into a realm where time slows down and the soul is nurtured. As guardians of India's rich cultural legacy, WelcomHeritage offers travellers a chance to immerse themselves in the country's timeless tradition, while indulging in modern comforts that make the experience wholesome.

From its humble beginnings in 1997 with just five properties, WelcomHeritage has blossomed into a collection of 35 unique hotels and resorts, boasting over 1,000 keys across India. This remarkable growth is a testament to the brand's unwavering commitment to preserving the essence of India's diverse history and landscapes, while seamlessly integrating the luxuries and conveniences that today's discerning travellers seek.

### **WEAVING THE THREADS OF INDIA'S TAPESTRY**

Every WelcomHeritage property is a living, breathing chapter in the grand story of India. From the regal grandeur of a historic fort to the elegant charm of a palace to the serene tranquillity of a nature retreat, each destination offers a unique window into the country's vibrant cultural heritage.

Take, for instance, the iconic WelcomHeritage Bal Samand Lake Palace in Jodhpur, where the magnificence of a bygone era mingles with the comforts of modern hospitality. Or venture to the WelcomHeritage Mandir Palace in Jaisalmer, where the golden hues of the Thar Desert provide the perfect backdrop for an unforgettable journey through time.

For those seeking a more intimate encounter with India's natural wonders, the WelcomHeritage Cheetahgarh Resort & Spa in Jawai beckons, offering guests the chance to witness the majestic leopard in its own habitat. In the serene Kashmir region, the WelcomHeritage Gurkha Houseboats in Srinagar promise a truly unique experience, where houseboat living blends seamlessly with the breathtaking beauty of the surroundings.

### **EXPANDING HORIZONS, ENRICHING EXPERIENCES**

As WelcomHeritage's footprint has grown, the brand has remained steadfast in its commitment to curating experiences that capture the essence of each destination. In the last



WH Gurkha HouseBoats, Srinagar

financial year, the addition of three exceptional properties - WelcomHeritage Ayatana in Ooty, WelcomHeritage Grand in Srinagar, and WelcomHeritage Santa Roza in Kasauli – has further consolidated the brand's expanding footprint in the Indian hospitality market.

The WelcomHeritage Ayatana, nestled amidst the lush Nilgiri hills, offers a tranquil retreat that invites guests to slow down and savour the beauty of their surroundings. The stunning WelcomHeritage Grand in Srinagar, meanwhile, is a testament to the brand's dedication to preserving the vibrant spirit of Kashmir, while providing all the modern comforts one could desire.

Adding to this impressive portfolio, the WelcomHeritage Santa Roza in Kasauli provides yet another idyllic escape, where the stresses of everyday life melt away, and guests can immerse themselves in the rich cultural tapestry of the region.

### **EMBRACING SUSTAINABILITY, EMPOWERING** COMMUNITIES

At the core of WelcomHeritage's mission lies a deep commitment to sustainability and community empowerment. Across its properties, the brand has implemented a range of eco-friendly practices, from utilizing sustainable materials and energy-efficient lighting to harnessing renewable energy sources and installing electric vehicle charging stations.

Properties like the WelcomHeritage Jungle Home in Pench, the WelcomHeritage Cheetahgarh Resort & Spa, and the WelcomHeritage Tadoba Vanya Villas Resort & Spa have earned prestigious TOFT certifications, reflecting their dedication to responsible tourism and the preservation of the natural environment.

But WelcomHeritage's commitment extends far beyond certifications. The brand actively works to conserve water, optimise energy consumption, and manage waste responsibly, all while collaborating with local artisans and sourcing materials from the surrounding communities. This holistic approach not only minimises the brand's carbon footprint but also empowers the people who call these regions home, ensuring that the cultural heritage of India is celebrated and shared.



WH Cheetahgarh Resort & Spa, Bera



### **ELEVATING THE GUEST EXPERIENCE**

As WelcomHeritage continues to evolve, the brand has seamlessly integrated technology to enhance the guest experience. From contactless check-in to convenient payment options, including "Buy Now, Pay Later" solutions, the brand is committed to making every aspect of the journey as smooth and effortless as possible.

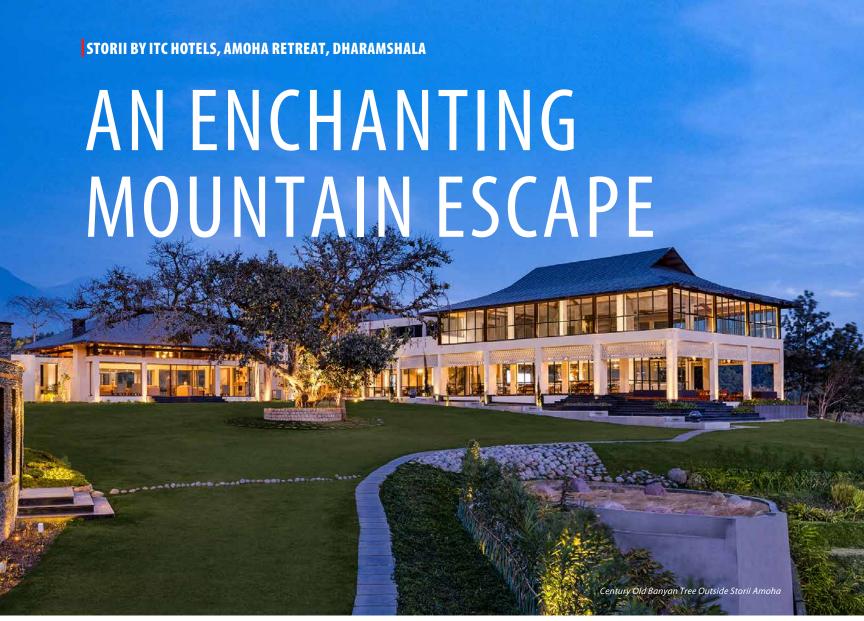
By leveraging Online Reputation Management tools, WelcomHeritage gathers valuable insights that inform the tailoring of services to meet the evolving needs and preferences of its quests. With the introduction of chatbots on the website and WhatsApp, the brand ensures that customer interactions and booking processes are streamlined and efficient.

### **EMBARKING ON A CULTURAL JOURNEY**

Reflecting on the brand's expanding ambitions, Abinash Manghani, the CEO of WelcomHeritage Hotels, eloquently states, "Our journey is not just about expanding our property portfolio, but about deepening the cultural and historical experiences we offer." This guiding principle is evident in every aspect of the WelcomHeritage experience, from the meticulously curated spaces that invite guests to immerse themselves in the essence of their surroundings, to the bespoke experiences that facilitate a deeper understanding and appreciation of local traditions and artisanry.

In short, WelcomHeritage will take you on a cultural rollercoaster ride that will leave an indelible mark on your heart and soul. So, come, and discover the heart of India's heritage with WelcomHeritage - a brand that seamlessly blends the timeless with the modern.

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Storii by ITC Hotels, Amoha Retreat, Dharamshala offers an immersive stay with bespoke engagements, season-inspired culinary delights and nature-inspired activities

### **TT BUREAU**

ituated amid the lush hills of Dhauladar, in the quaint town of Dharamshala, Storii by ITC Hotels, Amoha Retreat, Dharamshala evokes a vision of the mountains one only hears in fairy tales. Here, the breathtaking beauty of the majestic mountains, the crisp alpine air, the pristine water bodies, and the verdant greenery of the Kangra Valley seamlessly blend to create an incredible experience, elevated by the famed ITC Hotel's hospitality.

Storii Amoha Retreat is a unique boutique property that offers guests bespoke engagements, curated culinary delights and modern conveniences.

The property is built around a 100-year-old Banyan tree and has been made with locally sourced materials, thereby ensuring harmony with the surrounding nature. Every experience at this hotel is carefully crafted to give experiential travellers a chance to reconnect with nature and escape the mundanity of urban life.

### **ROOMS & DÉCOR**

The property features 37 plush rooms spread out across two zones - namely Indrahar and Minkiani that offer pleasing mountain views while offering tasteful decorative accents and modern amenities. The warm, wood-panelled interiors bathed in warm hues offer a striking contrast to the brooding beauty of the mountains outside. Guests are welcome to choose from four categories of rooms - including Deluxe, Superior, Premium and Junior Suites. Ranging between 36 square metres and 80 square metres, each of these rooms offers a taste of the outdoors with its windswept balconies and stunning views of the towering mountains and the valley. Complete with classic furniture, bright and colourful durries and high attic-style ceilings, the rooms offer all the comforts that a modern-day traveller can ask for. Perfect for both short weekend breaks and long, extended stays, the hotel offers signature breakfasts, a choice of lunch or dinner, and deep discounts on laundry and spa services with bookings.



Deluxe Room With Majestic Snow Capped Mountains

### LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL GASTRONOMIC DELIGHTS

Indulge in a mix of global and local culinary delights prepared by the hotel's expert chefs. Feast on a selection of native recipes and international favourites at Foodlogue, where comfortable interiors are matched with gorgeous mountain views. All dishes at this multicuisine dining destination are locally sourced and freshly picked, thereby adding to their health quotient. Tipsy Trails is the outdoor bar, where leisurely evenings come to life over signature cocktails and classic wines. The evocative Kaytli – an outdoor tea shack – serves a wide selection of herbal teas and delectable snacks, including finger food, cakes, pastries and local favourites.

### A TASTE OF CULTURE AND NATURE

Storii Amoha Retreat leaves no stone unturned when it comes to offering guests a taste of local culture and a chance to connect with nature. From picnics to local Himachali thalis, from gardening to nature walks – each Storii experience is tailor-made to create lasting memories. Guests can kickstart their day with a trekking experience that includes visits to the local orchards, villages and tea estates. On their way, they can discover the hidden gems of Dharamshala and be awestruck by the lush beauty of this sleepy town. For the languid afternoons, a short hike to a nearby stream will bring guests to a local picnic spot, where they can enjoy a delicious spread prepared by the hotel staff.

Equally alluring is a painting activity of the great Banyan tree that represents protection, longevity and the balance of



Restaurant Outside

the universe. Guests can paint their version of the tree under the open sky while enjoying the panoramic vistas of the distant mountains. The hotel also offers a unique gardening activity – guests can work with an experienced horticulturist to plant a sapling and get their photograph clicked adjacent to it. Dham – an ethnic mid-day feast served on special occasions – is another distinctive experience that gives guests a taste of local flavours.

### **EXPLORING DHARAMSHALA**

Beyond the hotel premises, the quaint town of Dharamshala offers plenty to keep you engaged. From the delightful Norbulingka Institute that showcases traditional Tibetan art forms to the residence of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, from the Gothic St. John Church to the tranquil Gyuto Monastery, the town of Dharamshala, along with its close cousin Mcleod Ganj, presents a veritable wonderland of spiritual vibes and scenic beauty.

Storii by ITC Hotels, Amoha Retreat, Dharamshala stands as a testament to the idea that travel can be in perfect harmony with nature. From seeking spiritual enlightenment in the nearby monasteries to embarking on nature walks through pristine landscapes, guests will find that the hotel provides an ideal gateway to enjoy the soul-stirring beauty of the hills and rich cultural tapestry of the Kangra Valley. Here, every stay transforms into a story worth telling, and a memory worth cherishing.



## AN ESCAPE INTO THE WILDERNESS

Welcomhotel by ITC Hotels, Jim Corbett offers travellers the perfect retreat to experience the majestic beauty of the Inner Himalayas accentuated with mesmerizing views of soaring mountains

**TT BUREAU** 

erched on a verdant hill overlooking the picturesque Kosi River valley, Welcomhotel Jim Corbett offers an idyllic retreat for those looking to escape the hustle of urban life. The resort is spread across over 14,000 square metres of lush green Sal Forest and is the gateway to the famed Jim Corbett Park – home to hundreds of varieties of flora and numerous wildlife species.

With plush accommodations, leisurely al-fresco spaces and modern conveniences, the retreat seamlessly blends comfort with hospitality, offering guests a unique immersive experience.

### A SCENIC BACKDROP

Situated in the quaint village of Kyari in the Almora district of Uttarakhand, Welcomhotel Jim Corbett is just 45 kilometres from India's first national park. Surrounded by the majestic mountains

of the inner Himalayas, and offering stunning views of the meandering Kosi River, this property is ideal for an indulgent weekend getaway, a celebration of a milestone or even a destination wedding. Visit Corbett Tiger Reserve to admire the Royal Bengal Tiger or the Asiatic Elephant, pay homage to a local deity at the sacred shrine of Garija Devi or be one with nature at Bhowali – a natural wonderland filled with lakes, forests, orchards and tea estates. Call it a day with a relaxing dip at the hotel's expansive swimming pool or a pampering spa treatment.

### **UNFORGETTABLE STAYS**

Once you have checked into the property, settle into one of the hotel's 62 well-appointed guest rooms, including 9 Suites and 8 Club Rooms. Bathed in natural sunlight and covered in warm wooden floorings, these rooms have 24-hour room





service, a complimentary tea- and coffee-making facility, a Smart TV and in-room safes for your valuables. Ranging between 32 square metres and 76 square metres, each room offers dazzling views of the distant meadows, the lush forests and the turquoise-blue waters of the Kosi River below. Stay connected with the world outside with the hotel's high-speed internet connection, or enjoy a staycation with an inclusive stay, meals, free internet, happy hours and more.

### **GRAND CULINARY OFFERINGS**

Relish an array of Kumaoni delicacies, carefully crafted cocktails and delectable snacks, served with a side of exquisite mountain views at Welcomhotel Jim Corbett. WelcomCafe offers an alfresco-style dining experience overlooking the Kosi Valley. Guests can enjoy a sumptuous local meal, made healthy with the use of nutritious millets and greens.

Bid adieu to your day's exhaustion with signature cocktails and curated savouries at Swizzle – the charming colonial-style bar with aristocratic bottle green décor and wooden accents. Cosy up with a piping hot drink at the hotel's open-air pool bar where the warmth of a cherry bonfire and stunning mountain views will keep you company.

### **WELLNESS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

The hotel invites guests to immerse themselves in the ultimate state of well-being at the award-winning K by Kaya Kalp spa, where eclectic massages, beauty treatments and therapies are administered by expert masseurs and therapists.

For a relaxing dip head straight to the swimming pool where the gleaming waters will wash away the weariness from a morning hike. Keep up with your daily fitness routine at the hotel's fitness centre, which comes with state-of-theart equipment for an active cardio or weight training session.

### A VENUE FOR EVERY OCCASION

Dreamy weddings, intimate celebrations, and corporate gatherings get an elevated treatment at the hotel's



banqueting facilities, which include a sprawling outdoor area, spacious ballrooms and a pre-function area to welcome your guests. Set against a backdrop of majestic mountains and pristine valleys, these event spaces are ideal for both grand celebrations as well as intimate, bespoke affairs managed by the property's expert staff.

### **ENRICHING EXPERIENCES**

Experience the vibrancy of the local culture and the beauty of the mountains at Welcomhotel Jim Corbett, where the glory of nature comes alive. Home to the endangered Royal Bengal Tiger, the Asiatic Elephant and 450 other exotic species, the Jim Corbett National Park offers an unforgettable safari experience. Get lost in the wilderness of the Sal Forest with an outdoor picnic with your loved ones or set your foot on a nature trail that involves trekking through twisted forest roads, leading to a local temple built by villagers.

Welcomhotel Jim Corbett offers its guests a chance to experience nature's loving embrace in the state that is often known by the moniker, Devbhumi or the land of gods. Here, in the state of myths and mountains, Welcomhotel offers captivating experiences and immersive recreational activities, ensuring that each stay provides the ultimate escape from the routine of our busy lives.



### DISCOVER INDORE: WHERE TRADITION MEETS MODERNITY

ndore, the commercial capital of Madhya Pradesh, is a city where the echoes of time harmoniously blend with the pulse of progress, crafting a captivating narrative that intertwines history and promise. Narrow lanes adorned with ancient temples and majestic palaces coexist with bustling business hubs and vibrant shopping arcades, presenting a unique juxtaposition that draws travelers from near and far.

In the heart of this dynamic city lies WOW Crest, Indore - IHCL SeleQtions, a luxurious hotel that promises an exceptional experience of grandeur and comfort. As India's cleanest city, Indore offers an environment that is both inviting and invigorating, making it the perfect backdrop for your stay.

### A LUXURIOUS OASIS AMIDST THE CITY'S VIBRANCY

WOW Crest, Indore - IHCL SeleQtions is strategically situated, providing convenient access to corporate and entertainment centers, historic edifices, and revered temple sites. This remarkable property reflects the vibrant spirit of Indore through its décor, inspired by the majestic peacock, a symbol of beauty and grace.

Upon entering the hotel, guests are enveloped in an atmosphere of classic elegance. The lavish furnishings and

thematic elements feature vivid emeralds, soothing cobalt blues, brilliant turquoises, and majestic golden hues, creating an ambiance that resonates with the cultural richness of the region.

Covering an impressive area of 8,965 square meters, the hotel boasts 125 opulent rooms, elegantly designed banquet halls, versatile meeting spaces, and authentic multi-cuisine restaurants. Guests can maintain their fitness routine at the state-of-the-art gym or take a refreshing dip in the serene rooftop pool, where panoramic views of the city unfold.

### A LUXURIOUS OASIS AMIDST THE CITY'S VIBRANCY

Whether you choose the refined elegance of the SeleQtions Suite or the comforting embrace of the Executive Rooms, each space at WOW Crest envelops you in a cocoon of tranquility. The accommodations are designed not only to offer luxurious amenities but also to provide an inviting haven where impeccable hospitality reigns supreme.

The SeleQtions Suite is a testament to luxury, featuring spacious layouts and exquisite furnishings that reflect the hotel's commitment to quality and comfort. Guests can unwind in the plush ambiance, enjoying a perfect blend of style and functionality.



### AN ARCHITECTURAL MARVEL

As you step into our high-rise open atrium, you're instantly greeted by a breath of fresh air and the gentle embrace of natural skylight. The reception area, adorned in gold-marbled splendor, stands in elegant contrast to a backdrop of soothing deep blue, creating an inviting first impression.

A majestic, ceiling-high mural inspired by the poise of peacocks graces the walls, setting the tone for an enchanting journey. Chic wooden flooring adds a touch of sophistication, while the inviting plush furnishings usher you into a cozy sojourn.



### **CULINARY DELIGHTS: A GASTRONOMIC JOURNEY**

For connoisseurs of cuisine, WOW Crest offers a plethora of dining options that cater to diverse palates. At The Constellation, indulge in an array of signature delights where our talented chefs masterfully fuse authentic Indian flavors with gourmet creations, tantalizing your taste buds in every bite.

Twilight, a secret realm within the hotel, invites you to embark on an enchanting culinary journey. Here, the night unfolds in whispers and wonders, offering captivating concoctions and international bites in an atmosphere of intimate elegance.



### PERFECT VENUES FOR EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

Our stylish and flexible event spaces provide the perfect setting for corporate events and grand weddings. With a dedicated event team, WOW Crest ensures that every detail is meticulously taken care of, creating a seamless and memorable experience tailored to your specific requirements. Whether it's a business meeting, a lavish wedding, or a personal celebration, our venues are designed to impress.



### WELLNESS AND LEISURE: ELEVATE YOUR EXPERIENCE

At WOW Crest, we believe in holistic well-being. Maintain your fitness routine at our well-equipped gym, which features the latest equipment and offers a motivating environment for your workouts. After a productive day, take a refreshing dip in our rooftop pool, where you can relax and unwind while enjoying stunning views of Indore's skyline.

For those seeking rejuvenation, our spa services provide the perfect escape. Indulge in a range of treatments designed to refresh and revitalize your body and mind, allowing you to experience true relaxation.



### **EXPERIENCE UNMATCHED HOSPITALITY**

Whether you're here for business or leisure, WOW Crest, Indore - IHCL SeleQtions provides a unique opportunity to experience the inimitable hospitality that the IHCL brand is renowned for. Our dedicated staff is committed to ensuring your stay is nothing short of exceptional, catering to your every need and exceeding your expectations.

In conclusion, WOW Crest, Indore - IHCL SeleQtions is not just a hotel; it's a destination in itself. From its luxurious accommodations and exquisite dining options to its stunning architecture and impeccable service, every aspect is designed to create unforgettable memories. Embrace the charm of Indore while enjoying the comfort and elegance of one of the best hotels in the city.



## REDEFINING NEW-AGE HOSPITALITY

With a brand refresh, TreeHouse Hotels & Resorts, is setting new trends for the new-age Indian travellers

**TT BUREAU** 

n a dynamic shift that perfectly captures the spirit of contemporary travel, TreeHouse Hotels & Resorts is revolutionizing the hospitality landscape for the new-age Indian traveller.

With a brand refresh unveiled in March 2024, this renowned hospitality chain, managed by Karma Hospitality LLP, is not merely keeping up with trends but in fact setting them. The new logo, emblematic of a modern, bold, and vibrant image, marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter for the brand, resonating powerfully with India's youthful and adventurous audience.

### **NEW HORIZONS**

TreeHouse Hotels & Resorts is embarking on a rapid expansion journey, enhancing its footprint across India with

a meticulous focus on prime locations. Over the past three months alone, the brand has signed four new properties, and more are on the horizon.

From the bustling streets of Sonipat in Haryana to the historic significance of Gujarat's Vithlapur, each new addition promises to uphold TreeHouse's commitment to delivering exceptional experiences. Whether you seek a convenient stopover or a luxurious escape, TreeHouse Hotels & Resorts is poised to welcome you with open arms.

### A BRAND FOR ALL

TreeHouse Hotels & Resorts understands that every traveller has unique preferences and needs. The brand's offerings are thoughtfully segmented into distinct categories, ensuring a perfect fit for everyone:

**Th.e Luxury Selection:** Th.e Luxury Selection features boutique hotels and resorts in unique locations with breathtaking views. Perfect for those seeking to reconnect with nature and immerse in local culture, properties like the Luxury Villas in Goa and Nahan offer curated experiences, including meditation sessions, private pools, and bonfires. Guests can indulge in all-day breakfasts and enjoy the serene environment.

**TreeHouse Exotic:** Ideal for grand weddings and significant meetings, TreeHouse Exotic properties exude upscale luxury. These hotels and resorts offer spacious rooms, fine dining restaurants, bars, spas, swimming pools, and fitness centers.

**TreeHouse:** Representing the core of the brand, TreeHouse offers midscale, comfortable, and clean hotels at great value. The "Dil-Se" service concept is a hallmark of this category, providing a consistent and welcoming experience for the value-conscious domestic traveler.

**Nest by TreeHouse:** A new addition to the TreeHouse family, Nest is an economy, limited-service brand designed for budget-minded travelers. With a focus on clean, comfortable stays, excellent Wi-Fi, vibrant community spaces, and a self-service model, Nest by TreeHouse caters to young explorers. Upcoming properties in Bhiwadi and Panjim will soon introduce this exciting concept.

### **CRAFTING UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCES**

TreeHouse Hotels & Resorts goes beyond providing mere accommodation; they are dedicated to crafting memorable experiences. Central to their philosophy is the "TreeHouse Service Dil-Se," which emphasizes heartfelt hospitality and genuine warmth. This approach ensures each guest feels truly welcomed and cared for.

For those planning their dream wedding, TreeHouse Hotels & Resorts offers bespoke wedding packages under the "DilSeSaath" initiative. Whether it's an intimate gathering or a grand celebration, their personalized services cater to every vision and budget.



TreeHouse Achrol Niwas

### **Strategic Focus**

TreeHouse Hotels & Resorts is keenly aware of the importance of location. Their strategic expansion includes key business hubs like Pune, Bhopal, Varanasi, and Lucknow, making them accessible to business travelers. Additionally, they are dedicated to serving underserved markets with the launch of Nest by TreeHouse in Tier 2 and 3 locations, addressing the demand for quality hospitality in these areas.

### A CULINARY DELIGHT

For food enthusiasts, TreeHouse Hotels & Resorts is adding a new flavor to their offerings with the launch of "Poee and Co" a restaurant chain dedicated to Goan cuisine. Set to open in Panjim in August 2024, this culinary venture will highlight the rich flavors of Goa, which they lovingly refer to as "Panjim cuisine" with a special focus on the traditional Goan bread, Poee, offering a fresh twist on classic dishes.

### INNOVATION MEETS SUSTAINABILITY

TreeHouse Hotels & Resorts is committed to both innovation and sustainability. Their ongoing tech upgrades streamline distribution, property management, marketing, and sales, enhancing the guest experience. The brand's 'Go Green' initiative reflects their dedication to eco-friendly practices, including the use of solar energy, glass bottles, and linen reuse programs.

Proudly "Made in India," TreeHouse Hotels & Resorts is quickly emerging as a leading hospitality chain in the country. With over 24 operational hotels and a robust leadership team boasting more than 100 years of combined experience in the hospitality industry, TreeHouse Hotels & Resorts is poised for continued growth and success, perfectly catering to the evolving needs of the modern traveler.

As TreeHouse Hotels & Resorts continues to expand and innovate, they remain steadfast in their mission to offer not just a place to stay but a gateway to exceptional experiences. Whether for business, leisure, or special occasions, the brand stands as a beacon of quality and hospitality in India's ever-growing travel landscape.

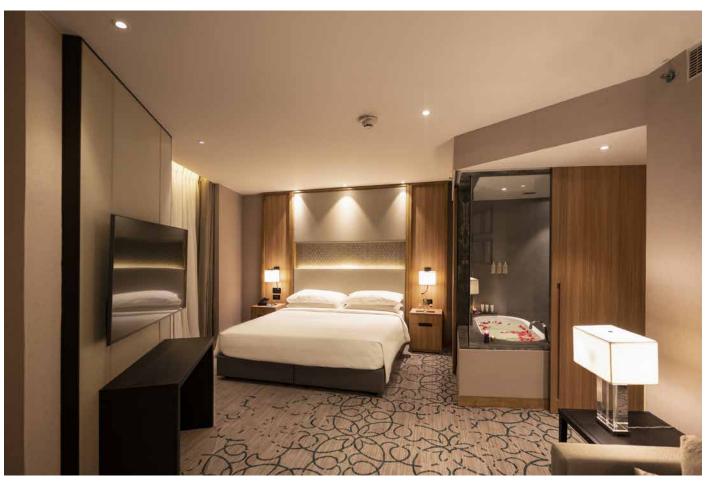


TreeHouse Blue

## AN EXPERIENCE OF THE EXTRAORDINARY

Lyfe Hotels Bhubaneswar embodies luxury wrapped in warm hospitality

**TT BUREAU** 



Bedroom

fluxury represents a lifestyle, then Lyfe Hotels Bhubaneswar embodies this lifestyle in all its glory. Every moment at Lyfe Hotels is crafted to offer guests an unparalleled blend of comfort and indulgence, creating a warm and cosy atmosphere to relax and rejuvenate. Lyfe Hotels Bhubaneswar portfolio uniquely reflects the local culture and environment, combined with a sumptuous sophistication that defines the identity of the brand.

One of the crowning jewels of the brand is the Lyfe Hotel in Bhubaneswar – a city steeped in rich tradition and history. Situated at the heart of this bustling metropolis, the hotel offers not only easy access to major attractions and business centres but also an immersive experience filled with gastronomic delights, plush accommodations and impeccable service.

### **SAY HELLO TO OPULENCE**

As one steps into Lyfe Hotels Bhubaneswar, one is immediately enveloped in a warm embrace of hospitality. The lobby, adorned with plush furnishings and subtle opulent accents, sets the tone for the stay. Here, luxury isn't just about grandeur; it's also about creating a home away from home that caters to every guest's needs.



Restaurant



Event Hall

### **ROOMS THAT SPEAK OF COMFORT**

Lyfe Hotels offers a range of accommodations to suit every traveller's preference. The Studio Suites, spanning 450 sq. ft., are a haven of modern elegance. With carefully selected furnishings and ample space to work and relax, these suites featuring king-sized beds are perfect for those seeking an extra touch of luxury.

For the discerning business traveller, the Deluxe Rooms offer a perfect blend of style and functionality, promising a night of absolute relaxation. At 325 sq. ft., these rooms feature state-of-the-art amenities wrapped in tasteful décor.

The Standard Rooms, available with king or twin beds, provide a welcoming retreat for solo travellers and those with family and friends. Thoughtfully designed and tastefully decorated, these rooms ensure comfort without compromising on style.

### A CULINARY JOURNEY

Gourmands are in for a treat at Lyfe Hotels Bhubaneswar. Sweet Basil, the hotel's premier Thai restaurant, offers an authentic taste of Thailand. With its elegant décor and vibrant tapestries, it's not just a meal; it's a visual and culinary adventure. The restaurant's curated menu features traditional Thai dishes highlighting the best of seafood, poultry, and fresh vegetables.

For those who appreciate the art of mixology, Mojo is a mustvisit. Located within Sweet Basil, this chic bar serves up exotic spiced cocktails that capture the essence of local flavours. Enjoy a pre-dinner drink to work up an appetite or simply relax after a busy day at this cosy watering hole with friends and family.

Lyfe's Kitchen takes you on a multi-cuisine culinary tour with its array of Indian, Western, and Asian delicacies. From



Pool

aromatic Indian spices to balanced Pan-Asian flavours, there's something to satisfy every craving. Finally, for a quick bite or a casual work session, Café Deli offers a range of grab-and-go options in a comfortable setting with free Wi-Fi.

### RELAX, REJUVENATE, REPEAT

After a day of exploration or business, The Spa at Lyfe offers a sanctuary of tranquillity. Skilled therapists use only the finest products to induce a feeling of relaxation. For those who prefer to unwind with a view, the Infinity Pool is a sight to behold. Offering breathtaking vistas, it's the perfect spot to lounge by the poolside or enjoy a refreshing swim.

### **CELEBRATE IN STYLE**

Lyfe Hotels Bhubaneswar isn't just about individual experiences; it's also a premier destination for hosting events. With some of the most elegantly designed ballrooms in the city, it's the perfect venue for weddings, corporate events, and social gatherings. State-of-the-art audiovisual systems, customizable lighting, and flexible seating arrangements ensure that every event is a resounding success.

### A SYMPHONY OF EXPERIENCES

What sets Lyfe Hotels apart is not just its luxurious amenities, but the dedication of its staff to create memorable experiences. Every interaction is infused with genuine care, ensuring that one's stay is not just comfortable, but truly exceptional. At Lyfe Hotels, every stay is an opportunity to live life to the fullest, indulge in the finer things, and create lasting memories.

### A BEACON OF BLEISURE TRAVEL

As a hub of modern hospitality, Expolnn in Greater Noida offers a unique blend of elegance and convenience

**TT BUREAU** 



PS Bedroom

elcome to Expolnn Suites and Convention, the ultimate destination for luxury and comfort in the vibrant heart of Greater Noida, Delhi/NCR. As a standout in modern hospitality, Expolnn combines elegance, convenience, and exceptional service to provide a memorable experience for both business and leisure travelers.

### STRATEGIC LOCATION

Perfectly situated within the India Expo Mart precinct, Expolnn Suites and Convention is at the epicenter of the country's most significant trade shows, exhibitions, and conventions. The location is more than just a point on the map—it's a gateway to unparalleled opportunities. With the bustling city of Delhi just 30 minutes away and within walking distance of a metro station, the hotel's strategic placement ensures seamless connectivity to the capital.

Furthermore, the location at the intersection of the Yamuna Expressway offers easy access to popular attractions like Vrindavan and Agra. The Eastern Peripheral Expressway provides quick links to the Mumbai Expressway and the upcoming Noida International Airport, which is a mere 25 minutes away. The proximity to the Grand Venice Mall, Advant Navis Business Park, and the Budh International Motor Racing Circuit further enhances the convenience of your stay. Whether you're here for business or leisure, the prime location offers the perfect blend of accessibility and tranquility.

### A SANCTUARY OF COMFORT

At Expolnn Suites and Convention, the foundation of a great stay is a restful environment. The hotel's meticulously designed rooms serve as an oasis of relaxation amidst the hustle of business and travel.



CAFF AMARIS

The Deluxe Rooms offer a spacious retreat, featuring plush bedding, an ergonomic workspace, and large windows that fill the room with natural light. For those seeking an elevated experience, the Executive Suites provide additional living space, a separate sitting area, and premium amenities tailored to the discerning traveler. Each suite is crafted to ensure ultimate comfort, whether you're here for a short visit or an extended stay.

For the pinnacle of luxury, the Presidential Suite spans 940 sq. ft. and offers an unmatched level of opulence. With a separate living and dining room, two elegant bathrooms, a well-appointed pantry, and a spacious dressing room, this suite is designed for the highest standards of comfort. The master bathroom features a luxurious bathtub and a modern shower cubical, offering a sanctuary of relaxation.

Every room is equipped with high-speed Wi-Fi, flat-screen TVs, and minibars, ensuring you stay connected and entertained. The modern bathrooms, adorned with plush towels and contemporary fixtures, provide a spa-like experience that rejuvenates and refreshes.

### **CULINARY DELIGHTS**

Dining at Expolnn Suites and Convention is a culinary adventure. The hotel's diverse array of restaurants offer a delightful range of dining options, each with its own unique ambiance.

Cafe Amaris is a vibrant hub, perfect for a leisurely breakfast, business lunch, or intimate dinner. With an innovative menu featuring both international and local cuisines, Cafe Amaris ensures a memorable dining experience with freshly brewed coffee, hearty main courses, and delectable desserts.

For a more refined dining experience, Paprika offers a sophisticated atmosphere paired with gourmet dishes crafted from the finest ingredients. Ideal for business dinners or special occasions, Paprika celebrates both traditional and contemporary culinary arts.

Poolside Bar and Grill is the place to unwind after a busy day. Located by the outdoor pool, it offers light bites, refreshing cocktails, and a relaxed setting perfect for soaking up the sun.

Tuscan Lane is an exquisite outdoor cabana restaurant, ideal for evening get-togethers. With elegant décor and comfortable seating, it offers a delightful ambiance under the stars, complemented by a diverse menu and impeccable service.

To conclude your evening, Altus Lounge provides a sophisticated atmosphere for leisurely conversations and premium cocktails.



Conference Hai



Swimming Pool

### **CUSTOMER-CENTRIC EXCELLENCE**

At Expolnn Suites and Convention, the team takes pride in their customer-centric approach. From the moment you arrive, the dedicated team is committed to providing personalized service that ensures your stay is nothing short of exceptional.

Concierge Services are available to assist with everything from arranging transportation to booking local tours and activities. Whether you need a late-night snack or an early morning wake-up call, the team can cater to even the tiniest of your requests. For those hosting events at the venue, the property offers customizable event solutions to ensure every detail is perfect. From personalized catering to bespoke event setups, the hotel's team collaborates with you to create an experience that aligns with your vision.

### **IMPECCABLE SERVICE**

The ever-smiling staff of the hotel is trained to provide personalized service that caters to your every need, ensuring a seamless and enjoyable stay. With a 5-star rating on TripAdvisor, a 4.8-star rating on Google, and commendable scores across other platforms, their reputation for outstanding service is well-established.

### **EXPERIENCE THE BEST OF HOSPITALITY**

Expolnn Suites and Convention offers an unparalleled blend of luxury, convenience, and sophistication. Strategic location, elegant rooms, diverse dining options, and world-class facilities make this property the ideal choice for travellers seeking an exceptional stay in Greater Noida. Whether you're visiting for business or leisure, you can't afford to miss Expolnn Suites and Convention—where every detail is crafted to exceed your expectations.

### LUXURY ESCAPADES

Treat Hotels and Resorts' signature blend of refined experiences and sophisticated luxury is rewriting the rules for contemporary hospitality

**TT BUREAU** 



Saya Grand by Treat

estled amidst the tranquil landscapes of some of India's most picturesque destinations, Treat Hotels and Resorts beckons travelers seeking a perfect blend of luxury, comfort, and adventure. As a distinguished hospitality brand, Treat Hotels and Resorts has carved a niche for itself with its diverse portfolio of properties, each promising unique experiences, exceptional amenities, and unforgettable memories. Let's embark on a journey to explore the essence of luxury and adventure offered by Treat Hotels and Resorts.

### TREAT RESORT SILVASSA: WHERE TRANQUILITY MEETS ADVENTURE

In the serene enclave of Dadra and Nagar Haveli lies Treat Resort Silvassa, sprawling over 24 acres of verdant landscape. This resort is a sanctuary for families, couples, and corporate retreats alike. Boasting 193 elegantly designed rooms and suites, each equipped with modern amenities, the resort ensures a luxurious stay amidst nature's tranquility. Dining at Treat Resort

Silvassa is an experience in itself, with three restaurants offering a tantalizing array of local and international cuisines.

Adventure enthusiasts are spoiled for choice with the Treat Adventure Park nestled within the resort grounds. From thrilling activities like zip-lining and paintball to more leisurely pursuits, such as wellness treatments at the hotel's award-winning lyasya Spa, every moment at Treat Resort Silvassa promises to be enriching and rejuvenating.

### RAS RESORT BY TREAT: SERENITY BY THE RIVER

Set against the picturesque backdrop of Silvassa on the banks of the Daman Ganga River, Ras Resort by Treat offers a serene escape amidst nature's bounty. With 86 well-appointed rooms offering views that soothe the soul, Ras Resort provides a perfect blend of relaxation and recreation. Guests can indulge in delectable dishes at the resort's multi-cuisine restaurant or unwind with a dip in the swimming pool. For those seeking more active pursuits, the fitness center and indoor games offer ample opportunities for recreation.

### TREAT BEACH RESORT & SPA: COASTAL LUXURY AT ITS FINEST

In the quaint coastal town of Gholvad, Treat Beach Resort & Spa stands as a luxurious oasis just 500 meters from the pristine Bordi Beach. This beachfront property offers 93 lavish rooms and suites, each designed to provide the ultimate in comfort and relaxation. Dining options include a variety of local and international cuisines served amidst breathtaking views. The resort's wellness spa beckons with rejuvenating treatments, while the swimming pool and expansive lawn provide ample space for leisurely pursuits under the sun.

### TREAT HOTEL, NASHIK: A BLEND OF HERITAGE AND MODERN COMFORT

Steeped in history and surrounded by natural beauty, Treat Hotel in Nashik offers a seamless blend of luxury and comfort. With 100 well-appointed rooms offering panoramic views of the city, this hotel caters to both business and leisure travelers. Guests can savor culinary delights at Zaika restaurant or enjoy panoramic views at the Cloud 25 Rooftop Lounge. The hotel's comprehensive facilities include the biggest ballrooms and lawns in the whole of Nashik, and recreational amenities, such as a gymnasium and an infinity pool.

### URBANE BY TREAT: CONTEMPORARY CHIC IN VIBRANT DAMAN

For those seeking a chic and modern stay experience, Urbane by Treat in Daman is the ideal choice. With 46 stylishly designed rooms and suites, each equipped with modern amenities, Urbane by Treat offers comfort and luxury in equal measure. Guests can indulge in a culinary journey at the hotel's fine-dine restaurant or unwind by the rooftop pool overlooking the vibrant cityscape. The central location of Urbane by Treat ensures easy access to Daman's bustling nightlife, adding an extra dimension to the stay experience.

### SAYA GRAND BY TREAT: LUXURY REDEFINED IN THANE

Spread across 16 acres of landscaped gardens, Saya Grand by Treat in Thane epitomizes elegance and luxury. Featuring 277 luxurious rooms and suites with stunning views, the hotel caters to discerning travelers looking for sophistication and



RAS by Treat Resort

comfort. Dining options at the fine-dine restaurant promise a gastronomic delight, while the hotel's extensive facilities including multiple ballrooms, banquets, and recreational areas ensure a memorable stay. Whether for weddings, corporate events, or leisurely getaways, Saya Grand by Treat offers a perfect setting for every occasion.

### WEDDINGS & CORPORATE EVENTS: CELEBRATE IN STYLE

Beyond providing luxurious stays, Treat Hotels and Resorts is renowned for its expertise in hosting memorable weddings and successful corporate events. With grand ballrooms, elegant banquets, and expansive lawns, each property offers versatile venues that can be tailored to suit any occasion. Experienced event planners ensure meticulous planning and flawless execution, whether it's a fairy-tale wedding or a high-profile conference. State-of-the-art conference facilities equipped with modern technology further enhance the appeal for corporate gatherings, ensuring a productive and enjoyable experience for all attendees.

### **EXPERIENCE LUXURY REDEFINED**

Treat Hotels and Resorts stands as a beacon of luxury, comfort, and exceptional service across its diverse properties. In addition to the above locations, Treat Hotels and Resorts is also expanding its domestic footprint with upcoming properties in lgatpuri, a picturesque hill station on the Western Ghats, the vibrant city of Surat, the textile capital of Gujarat – Rajkot, and the serene coastal town of Dahanu in Maharashtra. Embark on a journey with Treat Hotels and Resorts and discover the true essence of hospitality amidst some of India's most enchanting destinations. Your next unforgettable vacation awaits with Treat Hotels and Resorts.

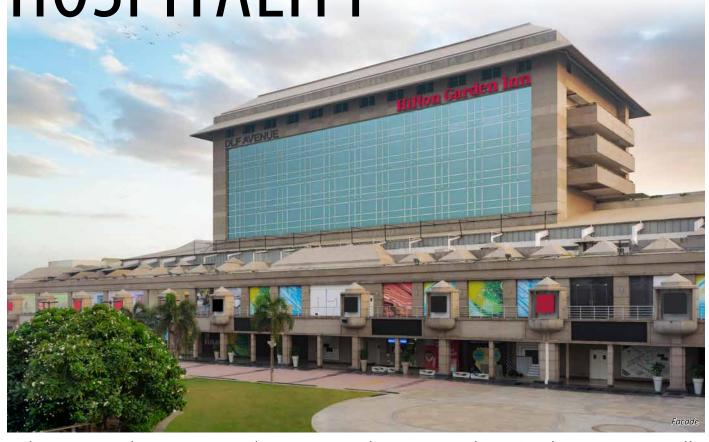


Urbane by Treat



Treat Beach Resort & Spa

A PARADIGM OF HOSPITALITY



Balancing sophistication with exceptional services, Hilton Garden Inn New Delhi Saket is among the capital's finest hospitality destinations

### **TT BUREAU**

n the heart of South Delhi, amidst the vibrant energy of DLF Avenue Mall, lies the Hilton Garden Inn New Delhi Saket — a preferred destination for modern-day travellers. This 4-star gem masterfully combines exceptional service with a prime location, catering perfectly to the needs of those seeking to combine business with pleasure.

### PRIME LOCATION AND ACCESSIBILITY

The Hilton Garden Inn New Delhi Saket enjoys a coveted position within the bustling DLF Avenue Mall, placing it at the center of South Delhi's commercial and residential districts.

Saket, which is renowned for its upscale locales and dynamic commercial centers, offers a strategic advantage for business travellers. The hotel's proximity to key commercial areas such as Saket District Centre, Nehru Place, Okhla, and Qutub Institutional Area ensures easy access to all the business

hubs of Delhi. Additionally, with Indira Gandhi International Airport just a 35-minute drive away, international guests will find the hotel's location highly convenient.

### **WELCOMING AMBIENCE**

Reflecting the modern and sophisticated aesthetics of DLF Avenue Mall, the Hilton Garden Inn stands out with its uberchic façade. Guests are greeted by a stylish lobby that exudes warmth through its elegant furnishings and ambient lighting. This inviting atmosphere provides a seamless transition from the bustling city to a serene retreat, setting the stage for both relaxation and productive business engagements.

### **ELEGANT ACCOMMODATIONS**

The Hilton Garden Inn New Delhi Saket boasts 115 well-appointed rooms and suites. The rooms feature plush bedding,

ergonomic workstations, and high-speed internet access, creating an ideal environment for both relaxation and work. With modern amenities and thoughtful touches, guests are assured a comfortable and productive stay, whether they are winding down after a busy day or preparing for the next.

### **DELECTABLE DINING OPTIONS**

Culinary experiences at the Hilton Garden Inn are anchored by the India Grill, the hotel's all-day dining restaurant. Here, guests can savor a menu that harmoniously blends international flavors with local cuisine, crafted from the finest locally sourced ingredients. For those preferring the privacy of their rooms, inroom dining offers a convenient, around-the-clock service. The Pavilion Pantry, on the other hand, provides snacks, beverages, and essentials for any time of day.

### **BUSINESS FACILITIES**

True to its reputation as a business hotel, the Hilton Garden Inn New Delhi Saket excels in providing comprehensive meeting and event facilities. The hotel features versatile venues equipped with state-of-the-art audio-visual technology, making it an ideal location for small conferences, seminars, and corporate events.

### **RECREATIONAL AMENITIES**

For moments of leisure, the Hilton Garden Inn offers a range of recreational amenities. The well-equipped fitness center allows guests to maintain their exercise routines, while the rooftop swimming pool provides a tranquil escape with panoramic views of Delhi's skyline. The hotel also offers spa services, providing a relaxing retreat after a day of business or exploration.

### **PERSONALIZED EXPERIENCES**

Understanding that each guest has unique preferences, the hotel offers personalized experiences to enhance their stay. The concierge team is adept at arranging curated city tours, special dietary accommodations, and bespoke recommendations, ensuring that every guest's individual needs and interests are catered to with care.

### **SAFETY AND WELL-BEING**

In today's world, health and safety are paramount. The Hilton Garden Inn New Delhi Saket prioritizes guest well-being with



Restaurant

stringent health protocols. Regular sanitization, contactless check-in and check-out, and adherence to social distancing guidelines are integral to the hotel's operations, providing guests with peace of mind throughout their stay.

### SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

The hotel's commitment to sustainability is evident in its environmentally friendly practices. Efforts such as energy-efficient lighting, water-saving fixtures, and innovative waste reduction programs highlight its dedication to minimizing environmental impact. These initiatives not only contribute to global sustainability efforts but also offer guests a responsible and eco-conscious stay.

### **OTHER HIGHLIGHTS**

The Hilton Garden Inn's location within DLF Avenue Mall further enhances its appeal. Guests have immediate access to a variety of high-end fashion stores, gourmet dining options, and entertainment venues, adding an extra layer of convenience to their stay. This strategic location ensures that both short-term and long-term guests can enjoy a rich array of amenities right at their doorstep.

The Hilton Garden Inn New Delhi Saket truly embodies the essence of contemporary business hospitality, offering a blend of elegance, comfort, and functionality in one of Delhi's most dynamic districts. Whether traveling for business or leisure, guests can expect a seamless experience that balances sophistication with exceptional service. With its stylish accommodations, versatile meeting spaces, diverse dining options, and comprehensive wellness facilities, the Hilton Garden Inn New Delhi Saket no doubt sets a new standard for hospitality in South Delhi.



**Board Room** 



Bedroom

### ELEVATING HOSPITALITY TO NEW HEIGHTS

Xenious Hotels is redefining the hospitality landscape with its comprehensive offerings for hoteliers

**TT BUREAU** 

n the ever-evolving hospitality landscape, one name that stands out as a beacon of excellence and innovation is Xenious. With over a decade of experience, Xenious has established itself as a premier hotel management consultancy that doesn't just meet industry standards — it redefines them.

From conducting seamless feasibility studies to implementing world-class standard operating procedures, Xenious has been enabling hotel owners to scale up their businesses, expand their footprint, and turn around stagnant operations, all the while ensuring that guests' expectations are met.

### **BUILT ON EXCELLENCE**

At its core, Xenious is driven by a singular mission: to elevate hospitality from good to great. This philosophy permeates every aspect of its operations, from its comprehensive management and consulting services to its portfolio of diverse hotels – each catering to a distinct target group. Xenious offers various services designed to address every facet of hotel management and operations. Roughly speaking, the service lines are divided into four divisions – process, product, services and customers.

**Services:** From conducting feasibility studies to managing operations, Xenious ensures that every new venture is built on a solid foundation. The consultancy also deals with training staff members,

helping hotels find the best talent in the industry, managing day-to-day operations, and overseeing food and beverage operations.

**Product:** The company excels in creating optimized layouts, incorporating energy-efficient elements, and integrating cutting-edge technology to enhance operational efficiency and guest satisfaction. To enable brand amplification, Xenious offers brand and marketing support, along with comprehensive media outreach help.

**Process:** Xenious guides projects from conception to successful completion through expert planning, resource allocation, and quality control. It conducts CSAT surveys, puts in place SOPs, collaborates with hotel owners in pre-opening and launches, and even deals with inventory and turnaround management.

**Customer:** To ensure that hotel owners always have their fingers on the pulse of the market, the company does market and customer research drawing actionable insights. It also supports enhancing hotel ratings and managing databases.

### THE XENIOUS HOTEL PORTFOLIO

While Xenious excels in consulting and management, it also showcases its expertise through its own collection of distinctive properties that span across various categories:

**Xenious Hermitage:** These religious destination hotels located near some of the most sacred sites offer comfortable stays along with pertinent offerings like local food and planned tours.



Xenious Hotel - Amritsar



Xenious Hotel - Naranag



**Xenious Eco Resorts:** The brand embraces sustainable living and wellness at these eco-friendly resorts. Based on ergonomically planned properties and sustainable practices, these hotels offer relaxed and comfortable stays for those who seek refuge in nature.

**Xenious Opulent:** As the name suggests luxury gets a new meaning at Xenious Opulent. Situated in stunning locations, these upscale and premium properties offer lavish rooms, curated experiences and exclusive dining options – all designed to make for an unforgettable stay.

**Xenious Biz:** New-age business travellers can stay productive and comfortable at these mid-scale and business hotels. Conveniently located near business centres, these properties offer modern amenities and efficient services to cater to professional needs. The properties offer free Wi-Fi connection, comfortable workstations and express check-in and check-out services.

**Xenious Micro:** Boutique-style hospitality gets a new meaning at these budget-friendly hotels. These properties come with smaller inventories but do not compromise on the comfort and style quotient. Despite their smaller size, these properties offer exceptional comfort and value for discerning travellers who are on a budget. Presently, the brand has several properties across India and Bhutan that are delighting guests.

**Xenious Hermitage Koshal Puri:** A serene retreat in the sacred city of Puri, Xenious Hermitage Koshal Puri offers easy access to cultural sites such as Puri and Konark temples and scenic destinations like Chilika Lake. The hotel offers unique services such as a travel desk, doctor-on-call, temple visits with priests, swimming lessons in the sea with lifeguards, and 24x7 room services.

**Xenious White House Eco Resort, Naranag:** An ecofriendly haven in Jammu & Kashmir, this resort is perfect for nature enthusiasts and pilgrims alike. Nestled in the picturesque village of Naranag, it helps travellers to be close to nature while ensuring easy access to a revered Hindu pilgrimage site. This eco-resort is built by sourcing all its material from the local community, thereby helping in its upliftment and empowerment.

**Xenious Micro White Tara, Bhutan:** This charming hotel in the scenic town of Thimpu is known for its seamless blend of traditional Bhutanese design and modern comfort. The hotel is close to the Tiger's Nest Monastery, making it perfect for spiritual exploration. It features comfortable rooms, with cosy



beds and private bathrooms, not to mention stunning views of the mountains. Guests can enjoy a wide selection of cuisines, including traditional Bhutanese fare and international delicacies.

**Xenious Micro, Dharamshala:** Flanked by majestic mountains, Xenious Micro, Dharamshala features 27 rooms with breathtaking views of the Dhauladhar Range. Guests can unwind at the open terrace café, where the fresh mountain air enhances every sip. Business meetings and personal events are made even more special with well-equipped conference rooms and event areas.

**Xenious Micro Vista Elite, Chail:** Equipped with the latest amenities, this luxury property in Chail offers a holiday experience like no other. It offers a serene escape from the daily grind of life and an opportunity to be one with nature. The state-of-the-art banqueting facilities with mountain views elevate business meetings and corporate events to a new level.

**Xenious Micro, Amritsar:** A modern, convenient hotel near Gumtala Bypass, Xenious Micro is ideal for pilgrims as well as business travellers seeking comfort and accessibility to the city of Amritsar. From spacious and plush rooms that are easy on the pocket to 24-hour room service and Wi-Fi connectivity, this hotel is the best pit-stop for weary travellers seeking a brief respite.

Xenious Cashew Leaf Eco Resort, Goa: Nestled in an idyllic valley surrounded by verdant cashew trees, this charming resort offers stunning river views. Guests can either choose to relax and unwind or enjoy a range of adventure activities, including hiking and swimming. Pamper yourself in style at the hotel's spa, whet your appetite with mouthwatering local delicacies, or activate your chakras with yoga classes conducted by the hotel's experienced instructors. From intimate escapes to relaxing weekend getaways, this resort is the perfect choice for creating unforgettable memories amidst luxury and tranquillity.

Along with the establishments mentioned above, the hotel group is set to open new properties in Goa, Srinagar, and two more in Bhutan. Each Xenious property embodies the brand's commitment to excellence, sustainability, and guest satisfaction. Together with its hospitality management and consulting services Brand Xenious is no doubt well on its way to becoming an iconic leader in the space of hospitality.

# THE RENAISSANCE OF HEIRLOOM JEWELLERY IN INDIA

India's heirloom jewellery carries not just beauty but also history. Each piece reflects centuries of heritage, from Raani Haars and intricate chokers to Nizaminspired jewels and templestyle ornaments

**TT BUREAU** 



hese pieces, handcrafted with techniques like jadau, meenakari, and polki, evoke the essence of royal India and are making a vibrant comeback. Preserved by families or meticulously adapted by jewellers, they are treasures of tradition, capturing attention across generations with timeless elegance.

### THE SACRED ROLE OF HEIRLOOMS IN INDIAN WEDDINGS

Indian weddings are incomplete without jewellery, especially heirlooms passed down from one generation to the next. This practice is a cherished tradition; every inherited piece represents family values, stories, and connection to one's roots.

For brides, the jewellery they wear on their big day holds a depth of significance that goes beyond ornamentation. Among the must-haves are Raani Haars, chokers, bajubands, kamarbandhs, and the mangalsutra—all meticulously crafted by master artisans from the finest materials. Each piece adorns the bride with layers of meaning, representing her family's legacy and traditions.

### **MAJESTIC ELEGANCE THROUGH THE AGES**

The Raani Haar, a grand multi-layered necklace often worn by brides, epitomizes sophistication and grace. Adorned with uncut diamonds, emeralds, or pearls, it showcases intricate polki and kundan artistry.



Creating these pieces is a labor of love, with artisans embedding each stone in layers of gold, sometimes spending months to complete a single necklace.

Bollywood stars like Deepika Padukone and Sonam Kapoor have donned Raani Haars in their bridal looks, further popularizing the piece.

In modern collections by jewellers like Sabyasachi and Amrapali, the Raani Haar is now made adaptable, with detachable elements that allow wearers to shift from ceremonial grandeur to simpler styles effortlessly.

Similarly, influenced by the grandeur of the Nizams, Hyderabadi jewels like the Nizam choker and jhumkas are admired for their symmetry and lush detail.

Crafted using basra pearls, rose-cut diamonds, and emeralds, these pieces exude a sense of royal finesse. Alia Bhatt is known to favour these intricate chokers, often combining them with contemporary outfits.

Jewellers like Kishandas & Co. for Sabyasachi have reimagined the Nizam-inspired choker with modern settings that offer traditional grandeur with added comfort, making these pieces adaptable for both ethnic and Western styles.

### EMBRACING LEGACY: THE SENTIMENT BEHIND **HEIRLOOM JEWELLERY**

For brides, wearing heirloom jewellery is not just a fashion choice; it's a cherished moment steeped in nostalgia. Radhika Anant Ambani, for example, left guests mesmerized on her wedding day in a custom Abu Jani Sandeep Khosla lehenga paired with a striking gold and polki set from Roopchand Jewels.

Celebrities like Soha Ali Khan, who wore her family's regal emerald Raani Haar and an antique passa, and Athiya Shetty, who adorned her grandmother's chandbali earrings for her mehendi, show how these inherited pieces add personal







### DIAMONDS: TIMELESS RADIANCE IN INDIAN HEIRLOOMS

Indian artisans have long embraced diamonds in intricate designs such as polki, kundan, and jadau, where uncut diamonds, often sourced from historical mines, are crafted into mesmerizing, vintage-style pieces that have captivated generations.

The art of polki, for instance, involves setting raw, unpolished diamonds in layers of gold foil, giving these stones a rustic charm that pairs beautifully with antique designs. This style, often associated with Rajasthani royalty, has been revived by luxury jewellers.

Indian jewellery houses like Tanishq, Hazoorilal Legacy, and Birdhichand Ghanshyamdas Jewellers have redefined the use of diamonds in heirloom-inspired jewellery. This adaptation includes diamond chokers, bangles, and earrings designed to fit both ethnic and Western attire.

Kundan settings, where diamonds are set with enamel in elaborate patterns, showcase skilled craftsmanship that allows each diamond to stand out against a vibrant gold background. This style, popular among Mughal emperors, is now worn by brides and celebrities alike, adding a vintage allure to modern ensembles. Bollywood stars like Priyanka Chopra and Deepika Padukone have been seen wearing kundan necklaces, making these pieces icons of timeless luxury.

### **INNOVATIVE ADAPTATIONS BY LEADING JEWELLERS**

Iconic jewellers such as Sabyasachi, Amrapali, and Manish Malhotra are finding innovative ways to make heirloom designs appealing for today's aesthetics. For instance, Sabyasachi's creations often include detachable layers or

elements, allowing a single piece to be worn in multiple ways. Amrapali's polki earrings have been made lightweight without sacrificing traditional allure. Manish Malhotra reimagines the classic Maang Tikka with minimalist, modern designs, infusing a timeless piece with contemporary appeal suitable for varied styles and occasions.

Heirloom jewellery is not just precious; it's deeply personal. Restoring heirloom pieces, a delicate process undertaken by skilled artisans, ensures these precious items remain as strong as their sentimental value.



CRAFT, LEGACY, AND STATUS

The world of high-end luxury collectors of expensive watches never had it so good as in 2024! The year has stood out as a landmark year as auction prices have soared and rewritten records at private sales

**TT BUREAU** 

t this elite level, timepieces aren't just instruments to measure time; they represent the intersection of art, engineering, heritage, and status. Today, we take a closer look at some of the most expensive watches to be sold in 2024 and marvel at their intricate craftsmanship, storied histories, and the allure they hold for collectors.

### PATEK PHILIPPE GRANDMASTER CHIME

The Patek Philippe Grandmaster Chime Ref. 6300A is at the top of watchmaking sophistication. The watch features an extraordinary 20 complications, this model holds two faces—a rose gold and a black dial—that allow it to be worn in multiple ways, offering both versatility and elegance. Taking 11 years to develop and produce, each dial displays different complications, including minute repeaters, alarms, a perpetual calendar, and a rare four-digit year display.

The Grandmaster Chime blends Patek Philippe is a celebration of the brand's prestige and rarity with only 7 units



Rolex Daytona "Paul Newman"



Patek Philippe Grandmaster Chime

ever produced, this particular unit, which went at an auction for \$35 million, making it among the most expensive watches to be sold, is the only one in stainless steel and says "The Only One" on the watch face.

Sold for: \$35 Million

### **ROLEX DAYTONA "PAUL NEWMAN"**

The "Paul Newman Daytona" is a legendary timepiece among watch enthusiasts and collectors. Known formally as the Rolex Oyster Perpetual Cosmograph Daytona, it includes models with reference numbers 6239, 6241, 6262, 6263, 6264, and 6265.

What sets these watches apart are their "exotic dials" featuring unique colour schemes, such as the "panda" (white dial with black subdials), "reverse panda" (black dial with white subdials), and anthracite variants. These dials were initially less popular, but their distinct look and association with Paul Newman transformed them into coveted items.

The connection to Paul Newman came about due to his personal Daytona watch, given to him by his wife, Joanne Woodward. She engraved it with "Drive Carefully, Me"—a thoughtful reminder reflecting his passion for motorsport. This connection, along with his fame and the model's rarity, elevated the watch's desirability.

Newman's actual Daytona, featuring the rare panda dial, became the most expensive wristwatch ever sold when it fetched a stunning \$17.75 million at auction in 2017.

Sold for: \$17.75 Million



Richard Mille RM 56-02 Sapphire

### AUDEMARS PIGUET ROYAL OAK CONCEPT "BLACK PANTHER"

Merging luxury watchmaking with pop culture, in 2021 Audemars Piguet unveiled the Royal Oak Concept "Black Panther," drawing inspiration from the iconic Marvel superhero. The watch's design pays homage to the iconic Marvel superhero, featuring a dial that resembles the Black Panther character in intricate, three-dimensional detail. Constructed from titanium and ceramic, the model combines modern materials and trademark Audemars Piguet craftsmanship with a bold cultural reference.

The Black Panther watch was sold privately for \$10 million in 2024, making it one of the most expensive watches to be ever sold. Royal Oaks are already pretty hard to get one's hands-on, but with this edition limited to 250 units only, it has an even higher desirability factor for not only watch collectors but also pop culture enthusiasts as well.

Sold for: \$10 Million

### **RICHARD MILLE RM 56-02 SAPPHIRE**

Richard Mille's RM 56-02 Sapphire is a striking demonstration of futuristic design and cutting-edge materials. The watch's



Audemars Piguet Royal Oak Concept "Black Panther"

case is crafted entirely from sapphire crystal, giving a full, transparent view of its intricate mechanics.

Within the case, the movement is suspended by cables in a unique tourbillon structure, showcasing Richard Mille's pursuit of innovative engineering.

The model fetched \$8.5 million in 2024, driven by the brand's appeal among watch collectors who want a bold design and exclusivity as only 10 units have been made.

### **JACOB & CO. BILLIONAIRE ASHOKA**

Jacob & Co.'s Billionaire Ashoka is an iconic piece in the brand's history. It has over 188 carats of Ashoka-cut white diamonds seamlessly covering its bracelet and case while its skeleton movement reveals a fascinating one-minute tourbillon with a vertically aligned structure, which is handled by a total of 167 components.

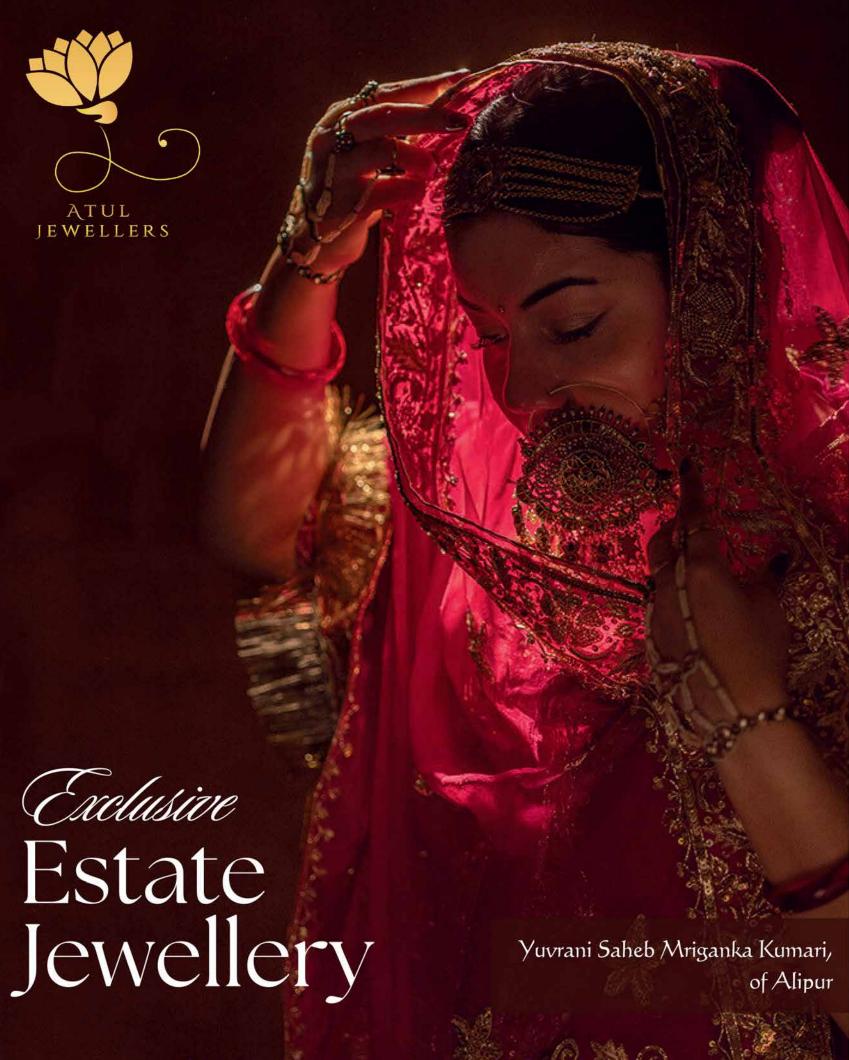
Since less than 1% of all diamonds were eligible for the timepiece, the brand has stated that it will produce only a single unit of the Ashoka. The watch last exchanged hands for \$7 million in 2024.

Sold for: \$7 Million



Jacob & Co. Billionaire Ashoka





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