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VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

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*The Summerscapes
Issue*

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Best Indian Restaurant

The Great Kabab Factory
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ROOMS

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FOOD & BEVERAGES

This wonderful property is the most cherished destination for food lovers, travelers and is home to award-winning restaurants. The all-day restaurant, NYC brings with itself an eclectic mix of cuisines from all over the world. Sōy x Neung Roi-a proud recipient of Condé Nast Best 50 restaurants in India, is authentic Thai & Pan Asian food theatre. The Great Kabab Factory is the iconic and famous casual dining restaurant to savor the most succulent kebabs along with exotic spirits of your choice. The restaurant has been serving for the last 21 years and is a must try when in Delhi NCR. The tipling cocktails at Savannah Bar tickle your taste buds and make you rejoice every dime you spend at the hotel.



From Vistara to you...

I'M WALKING ON SUNSHINE... goes the refrain of a popular summer song. As the world spreads its arms, beckoning one and all with the allure of white sandy beaches, glistening blue waters, and undulating green hills—all awash in the golden glow of the sun—we're guessing that's going to be a much sought-after desire. This April, we bring to you our sizzling *Summerscapes* issue, filled with stories and journeys sure to fulfil all your summer dreams!

In our cover story, join us on a trip around the world as we follow the sun across continents, highlighting the best summer destinations for every month of the year. Just pick your travel dates, and we'll find the sunshine for you! Craving some beach time? Check out our list of the world's best beach resort getaways for a luxurious experience alongside rippling blue waters. And if you're a mountain person, then get ready to enjoy the green vistas at the best offbeat hill stations in India.

Discover the gastronomic delights of London on a culinary tour like none other. Our Luxe Picks section recommends the best in grooming essentials for those long-haul flights. A must-read for all as we resume our scheduled international operations. Find all the international destinations we're flying to on page 74.

With the world inching towards normalcy, it's time to reclaim the skies and Vistara hits all the right notes with *#TheSoundtrackOfTravel!* This composition is sure to rekindle your love for travel while paying homage to our teams that work in tandem to deliver the experience you have grown to love—the hustle-bustle at the airport, the clink of dishes in the kitchen preparing the delicious inflight meals, and the roar of the aircraft engine propelling us into the sky. Make sure to check it out on our official YouTube channel!

Stay Happy! Stay Safe!

The mesmerizingly picturesque environs of a beach in New Zealand.

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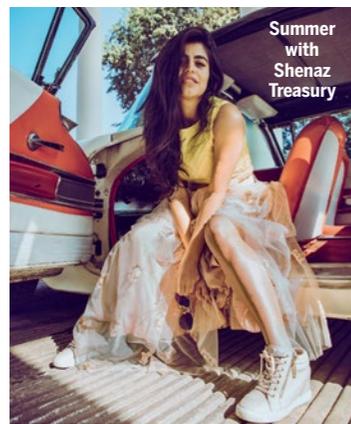
westelm.in | [@westelm_india](https://www.instagram.com/westelm_india)

C O N T E N T S

THE SUMMERSCAPES ISSUE



Inviting summer destinations for an endless vacation through the year



Summer with Shenaz Treasury

Best luxury picks of the season



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Actor turned full-time travel content creator, **Shenaz Treasury** shares her experience of living life on the go

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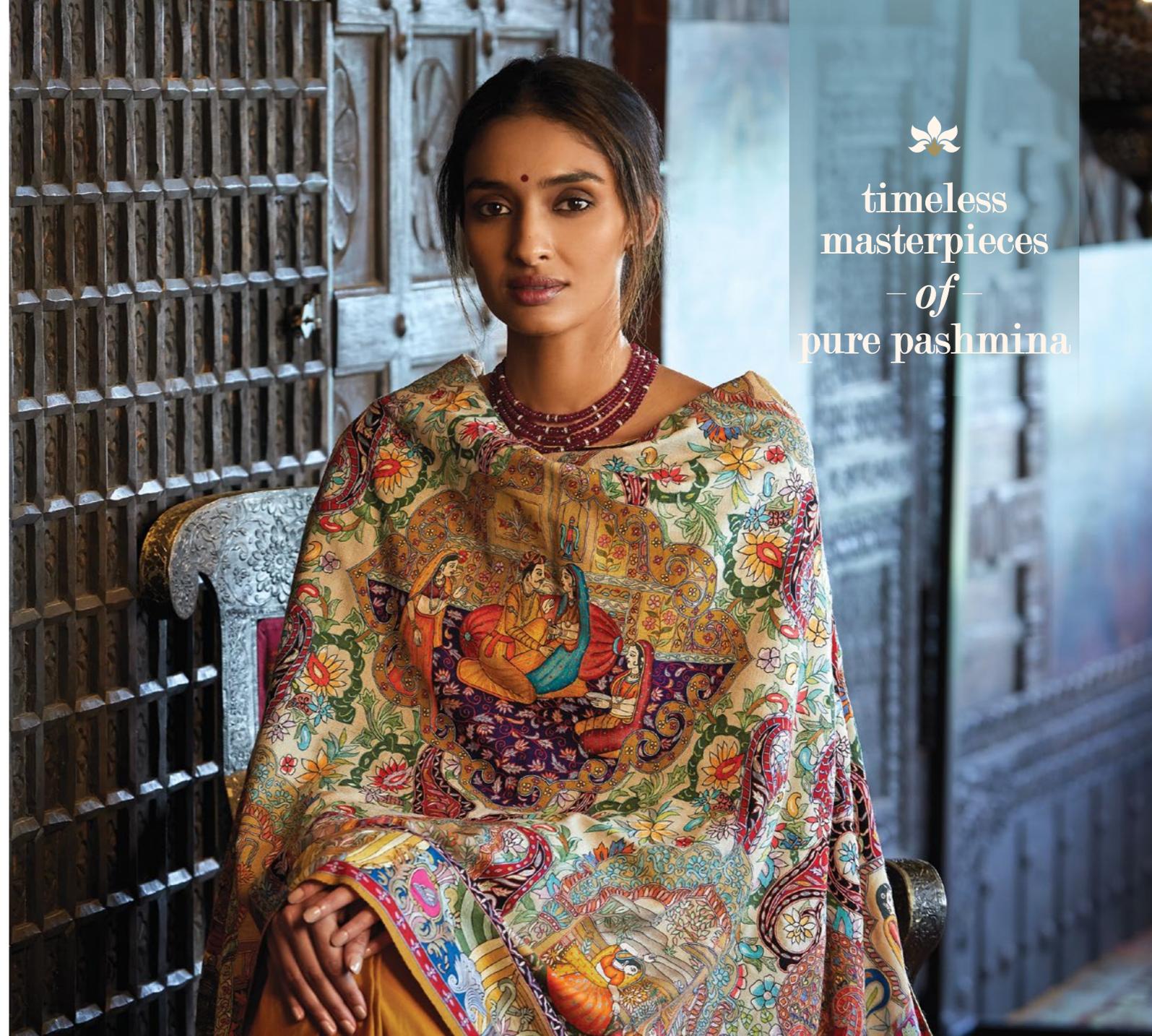
Take a road trip with these best-in-class motorcycles

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Cover Story

A visual journey across the world through 12 breathtaking summer destinations

ON THE COVER A beautiful sunset casts a warm glow over lush lavender fields in France.



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#TRENDING

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Fun ideas for a patio revamp

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Check out our list of seven luxurious beach resorts for your next summer getaway

ESCAPE

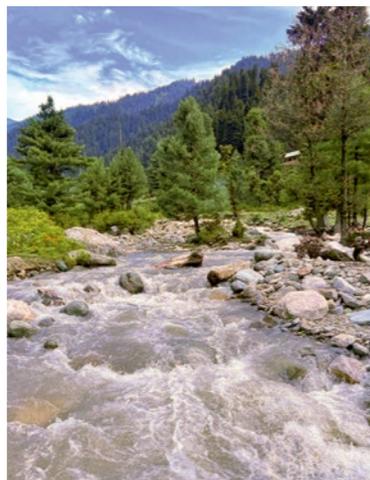
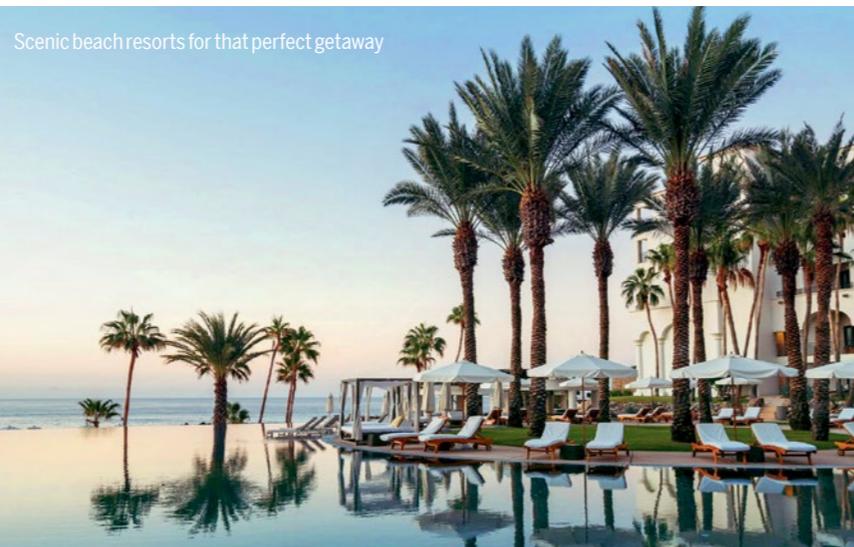
56 Celebrations
A look at the Swedish tradition of Midsummer celebrations

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NavAlt uses solar power to transform the marine industry

The Ministry of Civil Aviation has upgraded its Air Sewa portal which is accessible through an interactive web portal and a mobile app. The new version includes the following features:

- Secure sign up and log-in with social media
- Chatbot for travellers' support
- Improved grievance management, including social media grievance
- Real-time flight status and detailed flight schedule

Air Sewa is available at www.airsewa.gov.in



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Hill Stations
Escape into the heart of nature at India's offbeat hill stations



80
The Last Word
Designer **Bibhu Mohapatra** shares his love for all things summer

DISCLAIMER:

While this issue might inspire you to travel, we ask that you thoroughly research the destination and its regulatory pre-requisites, and travel only if it is safe to do so. Please continue to cooperate with government advisories for the safety of yourself and your co-travellers.

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VISTA

PERSPECTIVES ON AWE-INSPIRING LANDSCAPES

UDAIPUR

This City of Lakes is surrounded by the greenery of the Aravali range and dotted with scenic waterbodies that send a refreshingly cool breeze wafting through the air. A beautiful blend of regal forts, lush gardens, and colourful bazaars make for an unmatched romantic setting. The Udaipur City Palace and the Lake Palace are awe-inspiring reflections of Udaipur's grandeur and charm.



“Soak in the city's laid-back charm by heading to a lakefront and taking some time to simply breathe and introspect. Or walk through the streets and get intoxicated by the aroma of *laal maas* at a nondescript eatery; I like Upre for its great ambience and fantastic food.”

VAIBHAV VISHAL
Scriptwriter



DOHA

Home to the FIFA 2022 World Cup, Doha is a global venue for sports, shopping, and entertainment. One of the Seven Wonder Cities of the World, there is much to admire here, including the uber-luxurious Pearl-Qatar, a man-made architectural marvel in West Bay Lagoon.



Try a paratrike adventure, shop along the marina, or experience a lavish spa session. The Katara Village, Souq Waqif, and Design District are great places to visit."

BHAVANA PANDEY
Costume Designer

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BANGKOK

Known for its trendy shopping hubs, delicious street food, and busy nightlife, Bangkok is the perfect summer getaway. Offering a more ethereal experience, the city's stunning temples provide a soothing respite for the eyes and the soul.



“Being a chef and a foodie, I make it a point to savour the street food and never miss a plate of Khao Man Gai (Thai-style Hainanese rice). No visit to the city is complete without a trip to the night markets.”

SEEFAH KETCHAIYO
Chef and co-founder of Seefah Restaurant

Southtown.com - Images / 50th floor stacks courtesy of Stephen Thomas



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#TRENDING

YOUR WORLD THIS MONTH

Escape to some of the most exciting summer festivals taking place around the world in April. Be sure to mark your calendars so you don't miss them!

CALIFORNIA, USA

Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival

15 to 17 April & 22 to 24 April 2022

Named after the arid valley where it is held every year, this wildly popular live music event has become a cult festival of sorts, attracting fans from all over the world. Hardly surprising then that it features a massive line-up of renowned artists—from Billie Eilish and Harry Styles to Fatboy Slim, Swedish House Mafia, and more—as well as colourful art installations and sculptures that make it a visual treat.

coachella.com



Disclaimer: Please check online for the latest Covid-19 updates pertaining to the event before visiting or making a booking.



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CHÂTELAILLON-PLAGE, FRANCE
The International Kite and Wind Festival

16 to 18 April 2022

Hosted by Châtelailon-Plage, a beautiful French resort, this three-day event is a great way to unwind and enjoy summer by the beach in France. Be enthralled as more than 800 kites of all shapes and sizes crowd the crisp blue sky, and participate in exciting activities such as kite-making and kitesurfing—it's the perfect family-friendly getaway!

chatelailon-plage-tourisme.fr

AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS
King's Day Street Festival

27 April 2022

Immerse in a sea of orange-coloured celebrations with this national holiday, held in honour of the Dutch Royal family since 1885. The King's Day festival hosts several exciting events, including a bustling *vrijemarkt* (open market), decorated boats sailing through the canals, live music, carnival-like parades, and several food stalls.

holland.com



SRINAGAR, INDIA
Tulip Festival

3 to 30 April 2022

Experience the beauty of the Kashmir Valley in full bloom! Held at the Tulip Garden, overlooking the Dal Lake, this annual festival showcases Asia's most extensive display of tulips. The vibrantly colourful varieties include parrot tulips and the exquisite Rembrandt range. The cherry on top? Visitors can purchase handicrafts and enjoy Kashmiri delicacies outside the garden area. srinagar.nic.in



DELHI, INDIA
India Art Fair

28 April to 1 May 2022

One of the most prestigious art fairs in the country is back to captivate us with its exploration of contemporary South Asian art. The best exhibitors from India and select international participants converge to present exquisite artwork. The fair also hosts artist-led talks and workshops to make art an inclusive space for all.

indiaartfair.in



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#TRENDING SOCIAL FEED

WHAT'S UP ON SOCIAL?

Tune into all the Vistara chatter on social media.



Shishir Dhulla



Harshit Goel

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TWEET ON POINT

Anamika Dey
@Anamikardey

#happywomensday #thankyou #clubvistara #tata #vistara women in ground staff are all dressed up in pretty attires & as a single woman traveller I got an upgrade!

@Anamikardey

Sukriti Somnani
@sukritisom

Really enjoyed reading the current edition of @airvistara in-flight magazine. What a great curation of high quality content around conscious living, travelling and being! Loved it.

#vistara #content #sustainabletravel

@sukritisom

Vows For Eternity

A Modern Take on Traditional Matchmaking

Vows For Eternity (VFE) is a global, bespoke matrimonial service that prioritizes a highly personalized approach, utter discretion, and a thoughtful, involved process to help each member find their life partner. Helmed by Founder and CEO, Anuradha Gupta, a global citizen herself - Vows For Eternity is a product of Anuradha's "East meets West" mindset - strongly rooted in Indian heritage, yet reliant on arranged introductions with a modern approach that fits in with the contemporary mindsets and lifestyles of her members.

What makes Vows For Eternity so unique in today's day and age of matchmaking services galore, is the brand's commitment to offering a personalised, purely offline service. There are no algorithms used to make matches, or standardized questionnaires that can then be aligned with others that sound similar. Matchmaking at Vows For Eternity happens only after the core team spends time getting to know and understanding their members, and the needs of each one. Anu and her team doesn't work with biodatas.

Through numerous interactions with the team and herself, they help

members narrow down on what is most important - shared values, upbringing, and personality fit. This form of matchmaking also allows members to hold up a mirror to themselves and ask themselves honest questions - about who they are, and ultimately what they want in a life partner.

This well-rounded approach to understanding a member's requirements results in members often wanting to focus on all areas of their lives, identifying where they themselves may need to change or create better habits.

As a result, Vows For Eternity will soon introduce a first-of-its-kind Wellness Panel, featuring experts from a variety of fields, like fitness, nutrition, healing, life coaching and much more, available exclusively to their members and their families, for personal appointments and consultations.

What's more, buoyed by their success in India and the United States, Vows For Eternity is now turning its attention towards new markets, like Canada and the UK, amongst others. "While cultures around the world are markedly different, and working in new markets is always a thrilling learning

experience, what never changes is a member's desire to find The One. We are keen to explore new opportunities in so- far-unexplored markets, and utilize our ever-growing international networks, to help people find their life partners," says Anuradha.

Another new area of focus will be second marriages - catering to those who may have gone through a divorce, or the loss of a spouse, and who are looking for love again. Anuradha stated, "Our most senior member is 65 years old - it's a wonderful reminder of how love can and should happen at any age! We are looking forward to helping make connections for a more mature audience, that comes with its own set of specific requirements, very different to those seeking a spouse the first time around."



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SUMMERTIME FLICKS

Check out our three summer-special movie recommendations for your next binge session.

By AAKRITI JASWANT

JUNGLE CRUISE

ADVENTURE/ACTION 2H 7M

This rollicking fantasy-adventure film is based on Disneyland's eponymous theme park ride and is a great throwback to the era of Indiana Jones. Starring Dwayne Johnson and Emily Blunt, it follows a boat captain and his companions on their journey through the Amazon jungle as they try to find a supernatural tree, the flowers of which can cure illnesses and lift curses. But first, they must fight off competition as a German prince is also set on finding the mysterious flower. A fun watch with family and kids. Watch on: Disney+Hotstar

BARB AND STAR GO TO VISTA DEL MAR

COMEDY/DRAMA 1H 47M

Head out on a fun-filled rollercoaster ride with this American comedy, directed by Josh Greenbaum and starring Kristen Wiig and Annie Mumolo. When two middle-aged best friends, Barb and Star, who have never stepped outside their homes in Soft Rock, Nebraska, decide to take a trip to Vista Del Mar, Florida, for the first time in their lives, little do they know the crazy adventures awaiting them. Watch for some great comedy and stunning visuals of Florida. Watch on: Amazon Prime

LUCA

FANTASY/ADVENTURE 1H 35M

Step into the world of gelato, pasta, and Vespa rides as this Pixar animated film takes you on a vibrant summer adventure. Set on the Italian Riviera, the film follows Luca Paguro, a sea monster with the ability to transform into human form while on land. After an altercation with his parents, Luca and his friend Alberto run away to experience life as humans. The result? A series of hilarious misadventures. Lively and sweet, the visuals of this coming-of-age film are a treat to behold. Watch on: Disney+Hotstar

All images courtesy of respective brands



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SUMMER READS

Whether you're heading to the beach or simply unwinding at home, cosy up with these engaging reads that are sure to keep you hooked.

By AAKRITIJASWANT



MALIBU RISING

by Taylor Jenkins Reid

The year is 1983, and famous supermodel Nina Riva and her siblings are hosting a lavish end-of-summer party in Malibu. Over the course of the party, as music plays and drinks flow, secrets that have been hidden for generations surface and change the lives of everyone involved. In just one unforgettable night!

TRAVEL NORTH AMERICA (AND AVOID BEING A TOURIST)

by Jeralyn Gerba and Pavia Rosati

Looking to rediscover North America in the new post-pandemic, sustainable travel phase? With a focus on the US, Canada, Mexico, and the Caribbean, this new-age book is filled with helpful travel-planning advice and destination suggestions from a network of people, including chefs, designers, musicians, and many more.

BOMBAY BALCHAO

by Jane Borges

A collection of 12 interconnected narratives that closely examine the lives of the Goan Catholic populace in Mumbai. A brilliantly researched perspective on the complexities of community life, each story provides an insight into the characters and their lives. A great mix of pathos, passion, and bittersweet humour.

THE PAPER PALACE

by Miranda Cowley Heller

A summer dinner party in Cape Cod serves as the backdrop of this highly complex book on relationships. Fifty-year-old Elle Bishop is a married woman and mother to three. But a secret rendezvous with a past lover forces her to make a life-changing decision that will put everything she has at risk. Passion or Stability. Which will she choose?

BEACH READ

by Emily Henry

A romance writer who no longer believes in romance and a literary writer with a writer's block end up living next to each other in neighbouring beach houses. The fun starts when the two undertake a summer-long challenge and swap genres. Witty and warm, Henry's book is about two scared and heartbroken people who end up finding what they have been seeking.

A SLOW FIRE BURNING

by Paula Hawkins

Another riveting mystery by *The New York Times* bestselling author. When a 23-year-old man is found dead in his houseboat in London, three women—Laura, Miriam, and Carla, each with their own secrets and motives—become the prime suspects. This brilliantly layered and character-driven whodunnit is an invigorating summer read.

All images courtesy of respective publishers

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SIZZLING SUMMER SALADS

Jazz up your brunch get-together with these colourful, power-packed salads. By NASRIN MODAK SIDDIQI



LENTIL FALAFEL AND STARFRUIT WITH YOGURT-IMLI DRESSING

"Crunchy, light, yet filling, this salad spells summer and packs in the power of desi goodness!"

Chef Rohan D'Souza

INGREDIENTS

For Falafal

- Brown lentil 1 cup
- Chickpeas 1/2 cup
- Garlic cloves (peeled) 2
- Cooked spinach a handful
- Lemon zest from 1 lemon

- Cumin powder 1 tsp
- Coriander, mint and flat leaf parsley 1/2 cup
- Salt/pepper for seasoning to taste
- Oil for frying

Yogurt-Imli Dressing

- Greek yogurt 1 cup
- Runny tamarind pulp 1 tbsp
- Dried mango powder a pinch
- Olive oil 15 ml

For Salad

- Black quinoa cooked 1/4 cup
- Shredded red cabbage (pickled) 1/4 cup
- Cherry tomatoes 5 to 6
- Starfruit or black jamun 2
- Mixed leaves (romaine, Iceberg and baby spinach) plateful

Whisk the dressing ingredients until smooth. In a pulveriser, grind all the falafel ingredients into a coarse paste, shape into circular balls, and deep-fry to a golden-brown colour. Place the falafal and all the salad ingredients in a mixing bowl, drizzle the yogurt-imli dressing, and garnish with slices of starfruit or jamun.

ALMOND OIL, PEAR, AND NUTS SALAD

"Using indigenous walnut, almond, and apricot oils is more nutritious than olive oil, which isn't native to India. This salad is the perfect choice when you want something healthy yet filling."

Shubrata Anil, Founder, Trikuta Oils

INGREDIENTS

- Onion, broccoli, and cherry tomatoes 1 cup
- Pear cut into thick, quarter-inch slices 1
- Raw walnuts and almonds 1 cup
- Pumpkin and chia seeds 1/2 cup

For Dressing

- Sweet almond oil 2 tbsps



- Balsamic vinegar 1 tbsp
- Honey 1/2 tbsp
- Dijon mustard 1/2 tbsp
- Sea salt and black pepper a pinch each

Add all dressing ingredients to a jar and shake vigorously to combine. To serve, add the ingredients in a large mixing bowl, drizzle the dressing, toss and garnish with pears and walnuts.

GRAINS AND GREENS

"A beautiful medley of grains, greens, and a whole lot of goodness come together for the perfect salad that's refreshing, hearty, and so very moreish."

Chef Karishma Sakhrani

INGREDIENTS

- Cooked pearl barley 1 cup
- Cooked red and black quinoa 1/2 cup
- Fresh mint, curly parsley, basil, and microgreens 1 cup
- Red onion 1/4 cup
- Medjool dates 2-3
- Feta cheese 1/4 cup
- Roasted chickpeas 1 cup
- Fresh orange and cucumber chopped 1 each

For Dressing

- Extra virgin olive oil 2 tbsps
- Lemon juice 2 tbsps

- Honey 1 tbsp
- Crushed garlic 1/4 tsp
- Salt to taste

Combine the ingredients for the dressing in a small mixing bowl. Toss the ingredients for the salad with the dressing and keep it aside at room temperature. Serve the salad chilled, topped with roasted chickpeas, and some more greens.



All images courtesy of respective brands

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SUMMER IN A GLASS

Lazing by the pool or lounging at home, beat the summer heat with these cool, refreshing drinks.

By NASRIN MODAK SIDDIQI

BASIL AAM PANNA SPRITZ

"Raw mangoes and basil are a great combination. This is our tribute to this Goan delight." Karan Khilnani, Founder, Elephant & Co, Pune and Goa

Ingredients

Lime juice	15 ml
Sugar syrup	20 ml
Raw mango puree	45 ml
Basil	8-10 leaves
Tonic	to top up

Blend all ingredients with ice. Then double strain over more ice. Top up with tonic. Garnish with a mango leaf.



BLACK CURRANT MARGARITA

"Drink up this summer fruit by making it into a margarita and sip it on a lazy afternoon." Atul Chopra, Director and Partner, Yazu Mumbai and Goa

Ingredients

Black currant (falsa berry) puree	25 ml
Lime juice	10 ml
Gomme (or sugar) syrup	25 ml
Egg white (optional)	15 ml

In a shaker, combine the ingredients well and serve in any funky serveware. Garnish with fresh rosemary sprigs.



CITRUS SELTZER

"Basil makes it refreshing and citrus is great to replenish electrolytes—the two together make a perfect summer cooler."

Vijay Prakash, Beverage Manager, Impresario Handmade Restaurants

Ingredients

Fresh orange	10 gm
Fresh basil	5 leaves
Sweet and sour mix	15 ml
Fresh orange juice	150 ml

A lime-flavoured carbonated drink to top up
Blend all ingredients along with ice and top up with the carbonated drink. Garnish with a slice of orange.



All images courtesy of respective brands



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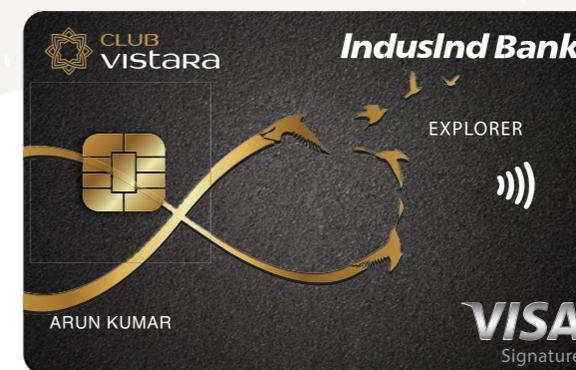
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5 DÉCOR IDEAS FOR A SPARKLING OUTDOOR BRUNCH!

April is perfect for hosting outdoor soirées. Plan a charming al fresco brunch on your lawn or the terrace with these simple décor tips.

By AAKRITI JASWANT

1 THE RIGHT FURNITURE

Choose comfort. Wicker and wood furniture are ideal options—sturdy patio tables are handy, sofas with footstools are comfy, and swings and hammocks are fun!



2 PLAY WITH COLOUR

Throw in plush cushions in hues of purple, orange, and pink. Add a beach vibe with classic cabana stripes and keep the crockery quirky.



4 OF FLORAL TREATS

Brighten up the space with fresh palms, potted succulents, and fresh flowers. Arrange them in glasses, jam jars, or old teapots to create beautiful table decorations.



5 LET THERE BE LIGHT

Pillar candles or citronella tea lights placed in jam jars lend a cosy, romantic vibe. Add strings of bunting or fairy lights to dress up the venue.



3 A DIY FOOD CART

Transform an old cart into a food table. Use colourful crockery and glassware, keep baskets for food, and make this the focal point of your affair.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Mint Images/Mint Images RF/Getty Images; Linda Burgess/PhotoDisc/Getty Images; Anastasia Chipysheva/Moment/Getty Images; Claudia Paulussen/Shutterstock; Westend61/Getty Images



Inspired Spaces

Sunday Design, the sophisticated home décor brand, is the brainchild of leading creative minds, Iram Sultan and Gautum Baid. With a focus on ergonomic comfort, superior design, and high utility, Sunday brings together designers from Italy and expert artisans from India to create pieces that are par excellence. With five collections already in tow, the brand has meticulously curated products that suit a modern yet elegant taste. The pieces are available at their flagship store in Ghitorni, Delhi, which is an experience in itself. Iram speaks about the brand's philosophy: "I want our space and products to invoke a sense of joy, comfort and warmth. I want someone who walks into our space to feel like it's Sunday, no matter what day it is!" Additionally, the brand will soon be launching a brand-new range of tableware and bespoke lights.



SUMMER LOVING!

VJ-actor turned travel content creator **Shenaz Treasury** is living her best life, one destination at a time.

By NASRIN MODAK SIDDIQI

Summer Means...

That it's hot and I must head out of Mumbai. As a kid, it meant heading to Gulmarg and taking skiing lessons with my parents—it's my most-loved summer memory.

Fire and Ice

Growing up, summer vacations were all about backpacking through Europe—Switzerland is a favourite. Or spending time at Central Park in New York. It's buzzing! With free-for-all concerts, queues at the public pool, skaters, joggers, artistes, and people being themselves—it's a great vibe.

Mountains vs Beaches

Although I am a clumsy hiker, I love watching sunsets from a mountain top

or hiking with my dog; however, I am partial to the beach. My dad was a sailor and I'm comfortable spending hours swimming, surfing, scuba diving, and snorkelling in the ocean.

Living the Luxe Life

One expects parties on a yacht, but recently, while sailing in Goa, I had this beautiful meditation experience called the 'Sea Within You'. It involved sound meditation and the hum of the rippling waves had an incredibly calming effect on the mind—it was surreal.

The Travelling Pause

Except during the first lockdown in 2020, I never stopped travelling. I lived in Goa for

three months, then headed to Himachal, Meghalaya, Andamans, and have been on the move since. It's great to see full flights again with happy travellers. I do miss travelling abroad, but I got to explore my country better in the last two years.

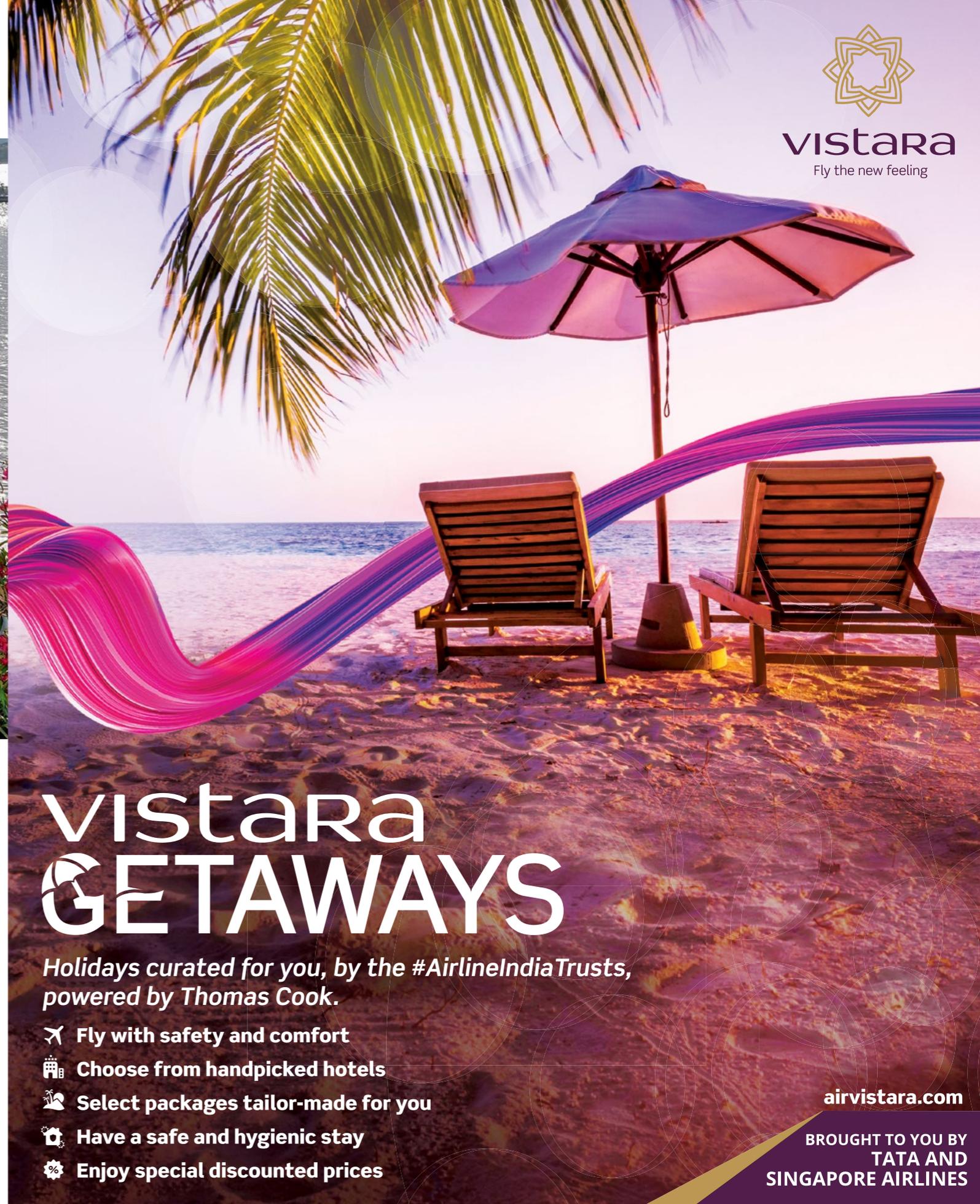
Collecting Adventures

Instead of an expensive handbag, I'd rather pay for an experience—like a business class ticket, bungee jumping, scuba diving, snorkelling, surfing lessons, staying at a beautiful resort, or attending a concert. I enjoy finding new places to eat—Goa is a culinary paradise—and I like doing offbeat things like going to the Bullet Baba temple in Udaipur or meditating under a banyan tree at Arambol Beach in Goa.

Images courtesy of Shenaz Treasury



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Must-Visit Destinations

Himachal Pradesh, Kashmir, and Uttarakhand in India; Sweden, Norway, Switzerland, and Denmark internationally. I love Copenhagen—there are fewer cars, more cycles, beautiful cafés, and a hip vibe.

Packing Styles

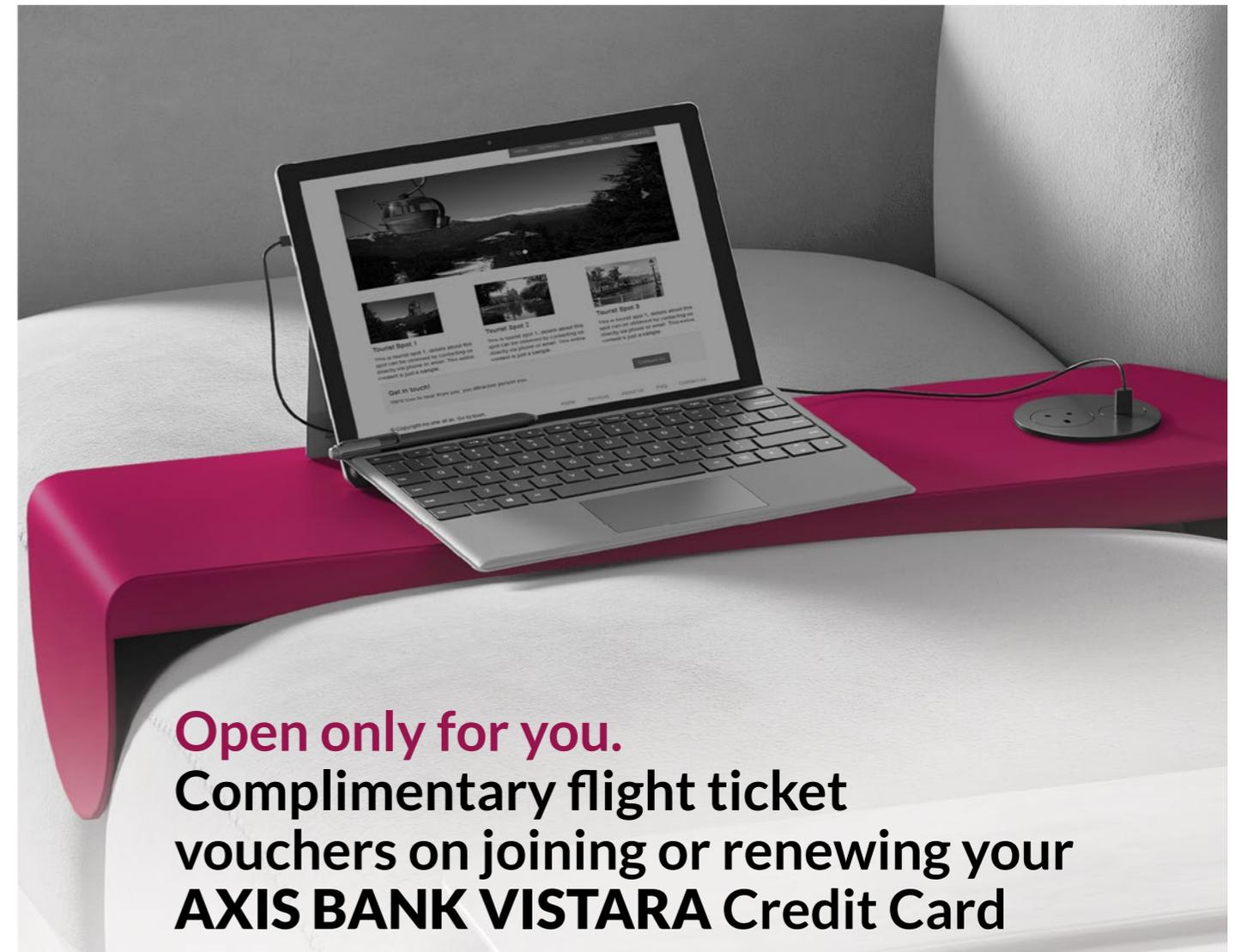
I usually travel for long stays, hence, it's hard to pack light but I try. I keep three pants, 10 tops, and a few accessories that I mix-and-match; and I carry dresses that can go from morning to evening. A pair of sneakers and two pairs of flip-flops takes care of footwear. For summer, it's dresses, bikinis, sunscreens, good moisturisers, books, and hats.

A Crazy Travel Memory

Worried that my flight from New York to Puerto Rico would get cancelled due to a hurricane, I travelled a day before to the island. When we landed, everyone else was leaving. The hurricane in New York caused a mosquito epidemic in Puerto Rico. So instead of rubbing sunscreen on our bodies while at Culebra, the world's most beautiful beach, my friend and I were spraying mosquito repellents on each other and had huge insect bites all over our bodies. As much as I wanted to stay, we decided to head back to NY. Now we have a good laugh over it.

Summer Fashion Advice

My personal style is casual glam. I love pretty dresses and colourful clothes. I can look at other women wearing boots and heels, but I can't put myself through any discomfort to look good. I am a sneakerhead and I love breathable, cotton, flared clothes. For summer, I prefer to keep it easy-breezy, colourful, floral, and fresh. ⚙️



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LONG-HAUL ESSENTIALS

Check out these inflight must-haves for staying well-groomed during your next trip.

By RIAAN JACOB GEORGE



◀ FEELING FRESH

A creation by Jo Malone, the quintessential London perfumer, **English Pear and Freesia** is an ode to autumn with its floral and fruity notes. The soft fragrance of the eponymous key ingredients is accentuated by subtle nuances of melon, rose, and musk.

Pick up the perfume from a Jo Malone store for a chance to imprint your own monogram on the bottle!

jomalone.in

▶ BEAT DRY LIPS

Lips often feel chapped and dry on long flights, but we have the perfect solution.

Try **Juicy Chemistry's Blood Orange and Rosehip Lip Balm**—the ingredients themselves sound utterly delicious. An organic solution infused with Vitamin C to keep chapped lips at bay, this handmade lip balm is cruelty-free and features zero sulphates and dye compositions. Ideal for those looking for clean beauty solutions.

juicychemistry.com



All images courtesy of respective brands

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GOODBYE PUFFY EYES

Packed with love, **Estée Lauder's Advanced Night Repair Eye Supercharged Complex Synchronised Recovery** comes in a travel-friendly mini container of 5ml. All you need is a dot-sized amount, gently applied under your eyes to treat fatigue, puffiness, and dark circles.

esteelauder.in



SOFT HANDS

There's no denying it. We simply love **L'Occitane's Lavender Hand Cream**, a cult product made in France with essential oil sourced from fresh lavender from Provence. This non-sticky formula is enriched with shea butter, and it gently nourishes the hands, leaving them mildly perfumed. Interesting to note that the lavender used in this formulation is PDO (Protected Designation of Origin), guaranteeing you a sustainable and quality product.

in.loccitane.com



UV PROTECTION

Be sure to carry a high-quality sunscreen lotion for use at airports or during your commutes. **Clarins UV Plus Anti-Pollution SPF 50** has the perfect texture and feels like second skin, offering a non-oily lightness after application. Infused with a moisturiser and antioxidants, it leaves your skin feeling plump and luminous.

nykaa.com



SPRITZ ON

An indispensable item when you're on the go! For that instant spritz of freshness and hydration, try the **Caudalie Grape Water** face mist. Made by the iconic French brand, this product is rich in antioxidants and uses grape water to lend goodness to the face and soothe irritated skin. It can be applied all day and is ideally sized to place in your travel bag.

nnnow.com

HYDRATE

Long-haul flights call for that extra boost of hydration for your skin as it tends to get dry in the cabin. The high-performing **Ilana All Time Moisturiser** is ultra-light and packed with green tea and hyaluronic acid, which plumps and tones the skin, without leaving a sticky residue. Apply a layer of this clean, sulphate- and paraben-free gel on your skin every couple of hours and let it work its magic.

ilana.shop



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Awarded the 'Best International Vastu Guru' in Thailand by Bollywood Queen Kangana Ranaut.



Awarded in Dubai as the Most Influential Vastu Expert under 50 years of age.

Internationally Renowned Vastu Expert Vimal Jhajharia, along with his son Vikas Jhajharia, has created a revolution in the field of Vastu Shastra. Their expertise in providing 'Vastu Remedies without Demolition' has earned them the faith and praise of millions of people in more than 40 countries across the globe.

Vimal Jhajharia and Vikas Jhajharia (MBA from Australia) have delivered many lectures, conducted workshops, seminars and have widely travelled and provided consultancy on major projects already in operation without any changes or modifications. They are currently providing consultancy in the USA, UK, Australia, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, South Africa, UAE, and South America, among others.

Both of them have been felicitated several times for their outstanding knowledge on Vastu and have also won several awards of national and international repute.

Here is an extract of an interview with them and their client testimonials:

What exactly is your famous Vastu Shankha Yantra and how cost-effective is it?

Based on the principles of Vastu, the Vastu Shankha Yantra is an original conch shell used to potentially rectify any kind of land, Vastu or energy defects without making any modifications. It can potentially save a lot of time and money as it is used to create positive energy in places having major Vastu defects without changing the looks and beauty of the place.

Does the Vastu Shankha Yantra really work for prosperity in factories and industries?

Yes, we have a big list of successful clients including businessmen, entrepreneurs, doctors, scientists, professionals, architects, interior designers, etc giving testimonials on our website. Endorsing the **Vastu Shankha Yantra** is industrialist **Sushil** from New Delhi. He says, "My son and I are running a factory but were not getting the desired results. We came to know about **Vimalji and**

Vikasji through one of their articles in flight magazines. Upon showing them the factory, we immediately realised our north was blocked and all the heavy machinery was placed along the north wall. We then got the Vastu Shankha yantras placed at certain places on **Jhajhariaji's** recommendation. Now, every new factory of ours is made under their able guidance and we also recommend them to all our friends and relatives."

Can Vastu Shankha Yantra also help in selling a property?

Yes, we do a lot of Vastu correction for builders and developers and also individuals whose properties have been stuck for a long time and which are not getting sold because of some or the other Vastu defect. Vouching for success is **Satish** from Bangalore who was trying to sell his four acres property for two years. When we saw the property, we saw it had multiple corners and it was not a proper rectangle or a square. We then positively charged this property by placing our **Vastu Shankha Yantras** in various corners to help correct the magnetic field of the property and hence creating positive energy in the atmosphere.



Vastu Shankh yantra 'A divine gift from The great Himalayan Saint, Swami Murghanand Ji'

What is Vastu?

Vastu is protection against unforeseen circumstances. It is used to increase personal energy in health, wealth and relationships of a person



ON SITE PLACEMENT OF VASTU SHANKH YANTRA

What are the benefits of the Vastu Shankha remedy?

In an office, it is used in the north to increase money inflow. In a house, it is used in the east direction for better health and relationship among family members.



For Further Details Contact Mr. Vikas Jhajharia on +91 - 9839704470, +91 - 7388578888 and +91 - 6393744022
e-mail: enquiry@vastukalp.com Website: www.vastukalp.com
FB: www.facebook.com/Vastukalp; Instagram: Vastukalp_vikasjhajharia

COOL RIDERS

Enjoy riding and travelling? Then head out on these motorcycles for the coolest road trip ever. By ANINDA SARDAR



- **Engine type:** Liquid cooled, 2 cylinders, in V
- **Bike weight:** 375 kgs
- **Colour options:** 3
- **Fuel tank capacity:** 22.7 litres

HARLEY-DAVIDSON STREET GLIDE SPECIAL >>

Even though Harley-Davidson has officially ceased operations in India, their bikes continue to be sold here, with the top-of-the-line Street Glide Special being launched in April 2021. The mighty machine is powered by a giant 1868-cc, V-twin engine that puts out a tidal 163 Nm of torque. Note, Harley doesn't bother with power figures, because, well, power is of little consequence when highway cruising is your thing to do. Super cushy seats, a stereo system, a full-colour, multi-information screen, Bluetooth connectivity, and a softish suspension to soak up all the irregularities of an Indian highway, and you're all set for your journey. And with cornering ABS, cornering traction control, and hill hold, you can be assured safety is at the top of the priority list.

Price: ₹37.66 lakh (ex-showroom); harley-davidson.com



- **Engine type:** Liquid cooled, 4 cylinders, inline
- **Bike weight:** 238 kgs
- **Colour options:** 2
- **Fuel tank capacity:** 19 litres

<< KAWASAKI NINJA 1000SX

This bright-green motorcycle comes in straight from Japan for those who love fast-paced sports touring. Powered by a 1043-cc, four-cylinder engine that puts out 140 HP and 111 Nm of peak torque, the Ninja 1000SX is great for riding cross country at speed. There's a whole bunch of electronic trickery, including Kawasaki's cornering management system, ABS, cruise control, traction control, USB and 12V power sockets for charging your essential gadgets, and bungee hooks for tying down luggage. Alternatively, you can opt for lockable pannier boxes. Naturally, there's Bluetooth connectivity and a 4.3-inch, full-colour TFT fully digital instrument panel. What's not to love?

Price: ₹11.51 onwards; kawasaki-india.com

HONDA CB500X >>

Rubbing shoulders with the giants in this list is Honda's half-litre adventure tourer. Simple, friendly, and a hoot to ride, the CB500X is extremely likeable and a great beginner's bike. It is powered by a 471-cc, parallel-twin engine that puts out 47.5 HP and 43.2 Nm of max torque. While those figures might not look too impressive, they are more than capable of keeping you munching miles at healthy cruising speeds all day. Plenty of ground clearance, moderately long-travel suspension, LCD instrumentation, and LED lights all around is what you'll get for your money. Not a whole lot, but not too little, either. A big advantage of this bike is that it's not intimidating and will ease you into your touring dreams.

Price: ₹5.79 lakh (ex-showroom); hondabigwing.in



- **Engine type:** Liquid cooled, 2 cylinders, inline
- **Bike weight:** 199 kgs
- **Colour options:** 3
- **Fuel tank capacity:** 17.7 litres

All images courtesy of respective brands



- **Engine type:** Liquid-cooled, 2 cylinders, horizontally opposed
- **Bike weight:** 216 kgs
- **Colour options:** 4
- **Fuel tank capacity:** 20 litres

◀ BMW R 1250 GS

The big daddy of adventure motorcycles is built around BMW's trademark 1254-cc, horizontally opposed, twin-cylinder engine that pumps out a robust 136 HP and 143 Nm of peak torque, which can push this beast past 200 kmph. It's tech-savvy with a full-colour, digital TFT instrument panel and Bluetooth connectivity. There are several riding modes and electronically adjustable suspensions for various riding conditions. In its newest avatar, it comes with brand new LED headlamps. What makes the R1250 GS truly luxurious is the level of customisation available from BMW—ranging from a simple Comfort Package to a Tour Package and the off-road-oriented Enduro Package.

Price: ₹20.55 lakh (ex-showroom) onwards;
bmw-motorrad.in

DUCATI MULTISTRADA V4 >>
This Italian mean machine is powered by a 1158-cc, twin-cylinder engine that produces a peak output of 170 HP and 125 Nm of torque. This gorgeous bike is equipped with a full-colour, fully digital TFT instrument panel with Bluetooth connectivity. In addition, there is Adaptive Cruise Control and Blind Spot Detection! This is the world's first-ever motorcycle to offer radar-based blind spot detection for safer highway touring. After the BMW, the Multistrada V4 is one of the most iconic adventure-touring motorcycles in the world. Besides, Ducati has made it even easier to live with by increasing the service intervals to 15,000 kms and valve clearance intervals to 60,000 kms.

Price: ₹18.99 lakh (ex-showroom) onwards;
ducati.com



- **Engine type:** Liquid cooled, 4 cylinders, in V
- **Bike weight:** 243 kgs
- **Colour options:** 2
- **Fuel tank capacity:** 22 litres

SUITCASE

YOUR GO-TO GUIDE FOR OFFBEAT ITINERARIES

The Beach or the Mountains... what's your choice?

TRY THIS FUN QUIZ TO SEE WHAT YOUR PICKS AND PERSONALITY SAY ABOUT YOUR PREFERRED DESTINATION FOR A VACAY!



Mostly A: A 'Beach' Person | Mostly B: A 'Mountain' Person

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Beach Daze...

Head to our selection of the world's top seven beach resort getaways for the coolest summer vacay! By SATARUPA PAUL

WITH THE MERCURY INCHING UPWARDS and summer holidays around the corner, it's time to start planning that much-awaited vacation of the year. While the mountains may still be the first choice for many, beach destinations are becoming increasingly popular as that perfect getaway—especially when they come with some of the finest luxury resorts offering a host of amenities and special experiences. So, pack your swimwear and sandals, grab those shades and sunscreens, and head to one of these beach resorts for the most relaxing summer holiday ever.

Four Seasons Resort Seychelles

Bathed in verdant tropical greenery and lined by white-sand beaches, the enchanting Indian Ocean archipelago of Seychelles has captured many a wandering heart. Nestled in the lush tropical hillside overlooking the turquoise waters of the Petite Anse Bay on the main island of Mahé, the Four Seasons Resort offers an endless selection of experiences, from marine education to beachfront yoga sessions. Whether you opt to relax in your own private pool or sunken bathtub that come with all accommodation types, or lounge at the pristine shores of the sheltered, horseshoe-shaped bay,

FROM TOP LEFT: Adel Newman/Shutterstock; Radjoka Ika/Shutterstock; Timo Goetz/Shutterstock

R&R options are aplenty here. The in-house Le Syel Spa offers a range of relaxing therapies with the most spectacular views in all of Mahé. *Doubles from ₹1,22,000/night; fourseasons.com*
Nearest airport: Mahé. Fly to Mahé with Vistara's interline partners Emirates and Etihad.

Galle Fort Hotel, Sri Lanka

Originally a Dutch mansion and warehouse from the 18th century, the magnificent Galle Fort Hotel is one of Sri Lanka's most uplifting cultural experiences. Rescued from neglect and painstakingly restored in 2003, the property retains its historical

authenticity while boasting several modern luxuries. The destination of Galle itself entices with its stunning beaches, the 16th-century UNESCO World Heritage Site of Galle Fort, the National Maritime Museum, and numerous Portuguese- and Dutch-era buildings. Besides culture vultures, foodies are sure to have a gala time, too, in the city with fine restaurants offering delectable menus designed around fresh produce and abundant seafood. *Doubles from ₹27,000/night; galleforhotel.com*
Nearest airport: Colombo; Vistara operates direct flights six times a week from Mumbai and Delhi.

Clockwise from left: Sparkling blue waters tempt at Four Seasons Resort Seychelles; Colonial décor of Galle Fort Hotel, Sri Lanka; Galle's iconic lighthouse overlooks its scenic beach.

Rayavadee, Thailand

Situated in the heart of Krabi's beautiful Phranang Peninsula and bordering the Krabi Marine National Park, renowned for its natural beauty and rich marine life, the luxurious Rayavadee Resort was built with the idea of living in balance with the environment. Two-storey pavilions and luxurious villas with Thai-inspired design details are nestled amongst the property's thick coconut groves and tropical gardens, none of which was cut or cleared during the construction process. High on sustainability, Rayavadee regularly organises beach cleaning, mangrove planting, and marine life repopulation activities. Personalised experiences include speedboat cruises to Phi Phi Islands or Phang Nga Bay, kayaking through pristine mangrove forests, rock climbing, nature hikes to waterfalls, scuba diving, and Thai cooking classes.

Doubles from ₹23,000/night; rayavadee.com

Nearest airport: Bangkok. Vistara operates direct flights to Bangkok five times a week from Delhi.

One & Only Reethi Rah, Maldives

The stunning islands-nation of Maldives has become every Indian's dream beach destination, especially in the last few years with direct flights and exclusive offers from the many luxury resorts. Surrounded by the dazzling Indian Ocean and located on one of the largest islands in North Malé Atoll, One & Only Reethi Rah offers an unrivalled selection of inspiring journeys for summer. Their six-km-long private coastline includes 12 pristine beaches, two swimming pools, and 37 private pools with each of their Beach Villas. A selection of luxuriously appointed Water Villas, eight world-class restaurants, water adventures such as diving and snorkelling, a host of wellness experiences at the bespoke spa, and cultural immersion activities make for a complete vacation package.

Doubles from ₹1,35,000/night; oneandonlyresorts.com

Nearest airport: Malé. Fly to Malé with Vistara's interline partner SriLankan Airlines.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: foke barasa/shutterstock.com; One & Only Reethi Rah, Maldives; scodem/shutterstock.com; Taj Exotica Resort & Spa, Goa

Taj Exotica Resort & Spa, Goa

Arguably everyone's favourite domestic beach destination, Goa has its own share of luxury beach resorts, of which the Taj Exotica is one of the most resplendent. Located in Benaulim, on the southwest coast of Goa and overlooking the Arabian Sea, this Mediterranean-inspired resort is sprawled across 56 acres of lush greenery. It features stunning old-world architecture, flower-lined patios, and a sunshine-laden atrium that make for the perfect romantic getaway or family holiday. The resort is an ideal destination for those wish to enjoy a lazy vacation filled with endless sunbathing and swimming at the private beach, and indulge in some wining and dining at the fine establishments or casual all-day

eateries. If you prefer a more active holiday, the concierge can plan city tours to Goa's historic sites, spice plantation and bird sanctuary visits, or help you choose from several water-sports adventures.

Doubles from ₹28,500/night; tajhotels.com

Nearest airport: Goa. Vistara operates daily direct flights from Mumbai and Delhi.

Hilton Los Cabos, Mexico

The sparkling blue waters of the Sea of Cortez create the perfect backdrop for all kinds of getaways in Los Cabos or Cabo San Lucas, a resort town located on the southern tip of Mexico's Baja California peninsula. At the luxe Hilton Los Cabos, inviting oceanfront rooms and suites—some with private plunge pools—allow you to savour the expansive views while



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Clockwise from top left: A couple enjoying the view from the beach at Rayavadee Resort, Thailand; Clear waters surround the pretty setting of One & Only Reethi Rah, Maldives; Scenic environs of the luxurious Taj Exotica Resort & Spa, Goa.



From top: Romantic setting for a dinner for two on the beach at InterContinental Mahabalipuram; Palm trees dot the skyline at Hilton Los Cabos, Mexico.

preparing for the adventures ahead. Award-winning restaurants offer contemporary interpretations of Latin American, Mexican, and Mediterranean cuisines, while the new Enclave Beach Club provides a vibrant seaside setting with a bar, fire pits, plush lounges, and personal butler service. Spend your days golfing, snorkelling, or at dive-in movies. Or go for an all-out wellness vacation with spa treatments, floating yoga classes, Outrace TRX workout sessions, and more.
Doubles from ₹31,000/night; hiltonloscabos.com

Nearest airport: Los Cabos. Fly to Los Cabos with Vistara's interline partner American Airlines.

InterContinental Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu may not be everyone's first choice for a summer holiday, but it can certainly be a memorable one. Situated along the scenic East Coast Road, the InterContinental Chennai Mahabalipuram Resort is tucked away amidst expansive casuarina groves and gardens. The property boasts its own private beach and a outdoor pool for the luxurious 100-plus rooms and ocean-view suites. Three fine dining restaurants feature global cuisines, while a casual seaside tiki shack offers picturesque views of the Bay of Bengal, along with tapas, beach classics, and coastal curries inspired from Peninsular India. Couples can opt for private dining experiences for two under a star-spangled sky with serenading waves for company. The Amrtam Wellness Studio offers holistic treatments inspired by Eastern medicine, naturopathy, and Ayurveda.
Doubles from ₹10,500/night; ihg.com

Nearest airport: Chennai. Vistara operates daily direct flights from Mumbai and Delhi. ✨



Disclaimer: In light of the current scenario, flight schedules are dynamic. Please check www.airvistara.com for the latest flight schedules before planning your trip.

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All images courtesy of respective properties

LONDON IN *Seven Dishes*

A veritable melting pot of cultures, London is brimming with iconic dishes that have become representative of the gastronomically diverse city. Check out these seven mouth-watering options.

By ANAND KAPOOR

"THE BEST WAY TO KNOW A CITY IS TO EAT IT."
SCOTT WESTERFELD, *AFTERWORLDS*

Arguably one of the world's most versatile destinations for international cuisines and flavours, London is a treasure chest of epicurean discoveries. Often it's not just the food that's unique, but also the history behind it and the experience that binds it to a city. And as I embark on an culinary journey through London, my starting point is Fortnum & Mason and its Executive Pastry Chef Roger Pizey, who has worked closely with the world's best chefs, including British restaurateur Marco Pierre White.



1 ALL DAY ENGLISH BREAKFAST AT A GREASY SPOON: ANDREWS RESTAURANT

A typically English phenomenon, a greasy spoon is basically a café that has no pretensions but serves great basic, non-health-conscious food. Think Harry Potter and the café in which the gang is attacked in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*. Without a doubt, the best thing to order here is a full

English breakfast and hot sweet tea. *Did you know?* A typical English breakfast is often known as a 'fry-up'; it includes fried eggs, bacon, sausages, mushrooms, tomatoes, fried bread, and often a slice of white or black pudding.



2 THE SCOTCH EGG AT FORTNUM & MASON

It's hard to believe that the humble Scotch egg found in nearly every service station up and down the UK had prestigious origins. Interestingly, the dish has nothing to do with Scotland but was potentially inspired by the *Nargis Kofta*, a recipe brought back by the East India Company from India. The Scotch egg consists of sausage meat wrapped around a soft-boiled egg and then coated with breadcrumbs and fried—a truly delicious treat, whether eaten hot or cold. *Did you know?* The name Scotch comes from the process of preparing the sausage meat wherein anchovies were added to 'scotch' (cut through) the fattiness of the meat.

3 AFTERNOON TEA AT THE PALM COURT, THE LANGHAM HOTEL

There's nothing more quintessentially English than British Afternoon Tea at the Palm Court. Invented by the Duchess of Bedford and introduced to the elite classes by The Langham in 1865, it instantly sparks visions of classic finger sandwiches and cakes served with excellent tea. Recently, Chef Michel Roux Jr. and

Executive Pastry Chef Andrew Gravett at The Langham reinterpreted it to celebrate traditional British biscuits.

Did you know? There is a difference between High Tea and Afternoon Tea—High Tea is an after-work meal, whereas Afternoon Tea is served around 4 pm to satiate one between lunch and dinner.



4 PIE AND MASH AT M.MANZE BERMONDSEY

Pie and Mash first came to prominence in the late 19th century and originates from the docks and their workers in London. One of the original places to try this is M.Manze at Tower Bridge—a favourite haunt of David Beckham. The pies consist of a flaky pastry case filled with meat. Traditionally, as in the Cornish pasty, the pastry was there just to protect the filling; now, the pastry is an equally delicious part of the experience.

Did you know? Pie and mash is usually served with liquor, which is actually a parsley sauce prepared using the liquid from another working class London dish, stewed eels.



5 CHICKEN TIKKA MASALA

A true example of food diplomacy and cultural mixing, this is arguably Britain's favourite dish. Interpretations of this exist in every single restaurant, takeaway, and supermarket ready meal—Indian Michelin Chef Vineet Bhatia has created a version and Marks & Spencer's have two or three variants. Great places to try this include Brick Lane and one of the Dishoom restaurants across London.

Did you know? Chicken Tikka Masala is popularly referred to as UK's national dish.



7 SANDWICHES AT BOROUGH MARKET

There's something very English about the humble sandwich. Some of the best options can be found at the historic Borough Market, one of London's oldest food bazaars. Hot roasted meat served with a delicious sauce is the way to go, and my particular favourite is the roast pork and

applesauce at Hobbs Roast. You can also try the chorizo and rocket sandwiches at Brindisa or the toasted cheese sandwiches at Kappacasein. *Did you know?* The common sandwich we all love owes its origins to the Earl of Sandwich who wanted a snack to eat whilst gambling.



6 FISH AND CHIPS, TOFF'S MUSWELL HILL

For me, Fish and Chips have to be made using cod. And while many recipes use haddock, plaice, and sole, I still prefer the meatiness of cod. Served with fresh chips and drenched in chip-shop vinegar is the only way to eat it. It is traditionally served with mushy peas; a more recent addition is curry sauce, which is a delicious accompaniment, but not very easy to find outside the north of England.

Did you know? Fish and Chip shops are commonly known as the 'Chippy'. The dish has been mentioned in literary classics such as *Road to Wigan Pier* by George Orwell and *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens.

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Images courtesy of respective brands; eitorres/Shutterstock; Ezume Images/Shutterstock; Lara Bar/Shutterstock



FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD

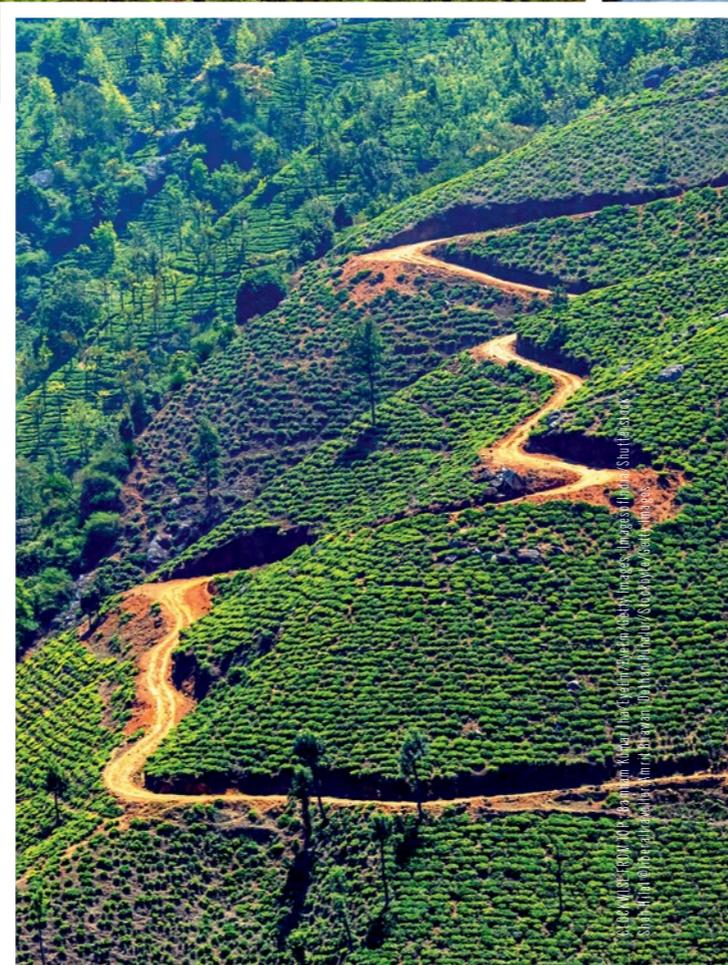
Beat the summer heat and the holiday rush in India by escaping to the cool environs of these four offbeat hill stations packed with inviting offerings. By ANITA RAO KASHI

1 KUDREMUKH | KARNATAKA

On any given early morning, the snaking road making its way up to the Kudremukh peak in Chikmagalur district is a surreal vision. Located at a height of nearly 1,900 metres, the route is shrouded in a heavy curtain of mist, creating a magical atmosphere. And as the sun rises, this misty curtain lifts to reveal stunning views of undulating hills and valleys stretching out into the horizon. Kudremukh, which literally translates to 'horse-faced' in Kannada, is a rugged range located within the eponymous national park. The chilly, crisp mountain air here is ideal for the intrepid traveller looking to explore the region along its many trekking paths, flanked by green forests. These routes lead into stretches of verdant grasslands, punctuated by several streams and waterfalls. *Stay: Bhagarawathi Nature Camp; junglelodges.com*

2 KOTAGIRI | TAMIL NADU

Surrounded by popular neighbours in the Nilgiris, Kotagiri is often overlooked, which actually works in its favour as the ideal, uncrowded getaway. Nestled amidst eye-catching environs—valleys carpeted with vast tea plantations, dotted with pretty colonial-era houses and bungalows, set against the backdrop of blue-green mountains from where the range gets its name—this scenic hill station is a lovely combination of nature and culture. The setting is perfect for long, languid, romantic walks deep into a green wonderland. A short ride away, Kodanad View Point offers spectacular views of the Nilgiri hills, while the 250-metres-high Catherine Waterfalls are certain to take your breath away with their pristine beauty. The dense forests of nearby Longwood Shola are ideal for trekking and birdwatching. *Stay: Nahar Retreat and Spa; naharretreat.com*



3 RAISON | HIMACHAL PRADESH

Sandwiched between the towns of Kullu and Manali, Raison sits on the banks of the fast-flowing Beas River and is often bypassed by the crowds. At nearly 1,500 metres, with breathtaking views of the towering Himalayas, this little hill station is a favourite amongst adrenaline-junkies making a beeline for white-water rafting in the region; the many tented camps that come up during rafting season (April to June) are proof of this. Not interested in rafting? No problem. Taking a walk along the tumbling river is also quite exhilarating; mix it up with long walks amidst tall trees and apple orchards, or through the nearby village clusters. You can even hire a bike and cycle along the mountain roads; better still, pack a picnic and spend a day communing with nature or follow a trekking trail and see where it takes you. *Stay: Ramgarh Heritage Villa; contact: 09816248514*



Located by the Ganges River, in the quiet neighbourhood of Kanakhal, Haridwar, **Amrit Bhavan** has the vibe of an old-world family home. With just eight rooms, and a private ghat, it is ideal for a tranquil holiday. amritbhawan.in



4 CHATPAL | JAMMU & KASHMIR

Tucked away in a tranquil corner and endowed with nature's richness, Chatpal is perfect for a quiet holiday. About 90 kilometres southeast of Srinagar, at a height of around 2,250 metres, this little town sits amidst towering mountains covered either with snow or an expansive carpet of grass speckled with white and yellow flowers. Still off the main tourist grid, it has a sense of untouched beauty. Take a leisurely walk along the mountain roads, weaving through pine forests, along meandering streams flanked by rocky beds or apple orchards. *Stay: J&K Tourism offers basic, furnished bungalows; jktcd.co.in*

Opposite page (from top): Clouds waft across the hills of Kudremukh, Karnataka; A road weaving its way through the picturesque setting of Kotagiri, Tamil Nadu
Clockwise from top left: River rafting on the cool, blue waters of the Beas, Raison, Himachal Pradesh; Agushing rivulet flows alongside lush green trees in Chatpal, J&K

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THE ART OF TRAVELLING LIGHT

Breeze through your travels with these tips on packing light.



IT'S ALL IN THE LIST

Instead of packing on the go, make a list of your essentials and stick to it. Leave out the just-in-case items, or you may end up packing for an army.



NO BAGGAGE LUGGAGE

Lugging heavy suitcases is a drag. Literally! Go for sturdy, lightweight carry-ons that are easy to manoeuvre. *And* you'll end up packing only what you need.



WHEN LESS IS MORE

Visualise your look beforehand and carry a couple of statement pieces that can be used with different outfits.

NEAT TREAT

Travel pouches are a great way to keep your belongings organised! The compression ones are incredibly handy as they create a lot of space.

WEARING IT WITH STYLE

Opt for outfits in neutral colour palettes; these can be mixed and matched easily. Wear your outers—jackets and stoles—while travelling.



IT'S A SMALL WORLD

Standard-size toiletries simply add volume to your luggage. It's best to carry sample-size bottles to keep things light and mess-free.





OF MIDSUMMER DREAMS!

Beautiful flower wreaths, folk songs and dance, maypoles, the onset of summer, and centuries-old traditions. In Sweden, they call it Midsummer.

By NASRIN MODAK SIDDIQI

SITTING IN HER TERRACE apartment, Anna Lekvall, Consul General of Sweden in Mumbai, recalls the many Midsommers celebrated back home in the countryside. “It’s a long, bright summer night and a highlight of our Swedish traditions,” she tells us. “Friends and family come together and celebrate that summer has arrived. Typically, we pick flowers for wreaths, eat traditional food, and make or find a common maypole where people gather for dances. We are lucky to stay on an island where some of the elders know how to play

the traditional instruments, sing drinking songs, and organise dancing around the maypole. My favourite is *uppå källarbacken*, a Swedish folk song. Our teenagers find it embarrassing (and some grown-ups too) and usually stay by the sidelines, but the kids love it. They enjoy the *raketen* (fireworks) the most. After the dance, we often go for a swim in the still cold waters of the sea and then continue to meet, eat, and play for a summer night that feels like it never ends. Sometimes, we skip some of the traditions and just meet up with

friends, eat, and hang out together. In any case, the Midsummer night is special and lovely.”

Since no celebration is complete without food, there’s much to delight and choose from there, as well—many varieties of pickled herring, boiled new potatoes with fresh dill, sour cream and chives, a grilled dish of a spare rib or salmon. And for dessert, it’s always the first strawberries of summer, with cream, of course!

It was the stark difference in seasons in the Nordic and Baltic countries that led to celebrating the

summer solstice in a big way in this region. In fact, these traditions predate Christianity. However, since 1954, Midsummer has been celebrated on the Saturday that falls between 20 and 26 June, each year.

Camilla Laag, a Swede living in India since 2008, celebrated Midsummer with family and friends in the countryside back home. “It’s an entire day of celebrations—from dancing around the Midsummer pole (maypole) to lunch, games and chatter, and more food and wine and snaps in the evening. We even went boating in the early hours at sunrise.”

Proud of her Swedish heritage and traditions, she enjoys sharing it with her friends in Mumbai, bringing in a sense of community, laced with fun and laughter. “If we can’t be in Sweden, we bring Sweden to India, celebrating Midsummer with flowers in our hair, dancing around the terrace to *Små grodorna* (The Little Frogs), a Swedish dance and song traditionally performed at this time.

OF MYTHS AND LEGENDS

Midsummer is also known for its customs and superstitions related to weather, wealth, and weddings. Demons and witches were believed to be on the move on this day and had to be driven away with loud noises and bonfires. These have now been replaced with maypoles, decorated with pretty foliage.

Predicting the weather was also once a big part of this special day, and farmers often looked for signs for the forthcoming harvest. Rooms were decorated with flower garlands, greens, and birch branches to bring the fresh forest aroma indoors. Midsummer is also considered a favourable time to find a suitable partner and marry. That’s why several weddings take place on this day. According to one tradition, if a young person picks nine different flowers and puts them under their pillow, they’ll get to see their partner in their dream. Now that seems like the perfect end to a fairy tale kind of day! 🌸

Clockwise from far left: Wearing colourful flower wreaths is a popular tradition; Most Swedes head to the countryside by the lake to celebrate Midsummer; The first strawberries of summer come just in time for Midsummer; Flower picking is a much-loved activity on this day.



SUNNY NIGHTS IN SWEDEN

Catch the midnight sun! With 24 hours of sunlight during June and July, Sweden is bathed in a warm glow throughout the day. It’s a great time to indulge in a midnight swim, go boating, or even play golf.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Johnner Images/Getty Images; Images courtesy of Sweden.se; BDK; Alex Dreamliner/Shutterstock

WHERE THE SKIES ARE *Blue*, AND THE WEATHER IS *Perfect*

Let the world be your oyster because it's always summer somewhere! Catch the sunshine and heed the call of beckoning blue waters through the year by picking the ideal summer destination to match your dates of travel. Here are our favourite picks as we follow the sun from January to December.

BY SHIBANI BAWA

January
AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

The perfect mix of nature at its pristine best, stunning architectural marvels, and adrenaline-pumping activities—that's Auckland for you! From lazing on gorgeous beaches, enjoying a barbecue, to cruising around the Tiritiri Matangi Bird Sanctuary, and sky-jumping from the city's highest, free-standing tower, there's literally something to suit every whim. Don't miss the SkyCity New Year's Day Races for a day of wholesome family entertainment!
IDEAL FOR: Adventure lovers, families
STAY: Sofitel Auckland Viaduct Harbour
Doubles from ₹22,973/night; sofitel-auckland.com



February
CHIANG MAI, THAILAND

February is a particularly good time of the year to visit this tropical paradise. For a change, skip the beaches and head north to Chiang Mai. While the ancient temples set amidst lush surroundings are an attraction on their own, you can also enjoy the Flower Festival, a three-day extravaganza with floral floats, live music, and cultural displays. The weather is ideal for strolling along Chao Phraya River and exploring the Old City on foot. Visit the nearby town of Mae Hong Son, along Myanmar's border, for a lovely mix of heritage of both countries.

IDEAL FOR: Culture buffs
STAY: Rachamankha Boutique Hotel
Doubles from ₹8,900/night; rachamankha.com

March

DUBAI,
UAE

March in Dubai is so pleasant that it literally brings the entire city out, with everyone enjoying the beautiful beaches and outdoor eating venues. Currently, one of the biggest attractions, not only in the UAE but in the entire world, is the Museum of Future. Easily the most futuristic cultural landmark, it offers an immersive fantasy world for adults and children, alike. Also, with some of the world's hottest restaurants and coolest bars, this cosmopolitan city's nightlife is simply unparalleled.

IDEAL FOR: Families, honeymooners
STAY: Raffles The Palm Dubai
Doubles from ₹30,043/night; raffles.com



May

PRAGUE,
CZECH
REPUBLIC

If we were to pick our favourite European cities, Prague is certain to feature amongst the top five. The Czech capital is a melting pot of cultural diversity—you can explore Gothic, Baroque, and Renaissance architectural styles, all within the Old Town Square. Even the list of things-to-do includes a gamut of venues and activities, from underground bars and ghost tours to beer spas and rocking nightclubs. Make sure to catch the three Frozen Saint days, when morning temperatures dip to freezing levels in the middle of the warm month!

IDEAL FOR: Groups of friends
STAY: The Emblem Hotel
Doubles from ₹20,800/night; emblemprague.com



April

CAIRO,
EGYPT

April is possibly the perfect time to visit Cairo, just before it gets too hot. A trip during this 'shoulder season' means thinner crowds, better hotel rates, and a peaceful exploration of the archaeological sites. While a visit to the Pyramid of Giza and the Great Sphinx should definitely be on your itinerary, this is also the ideal weather to hit the beaches and go sailing on the Nile River. To complete a royal Egyptian experience, book a sunset camel tour and be transported to a mystical, bygone era.

IDEAL FOR: History buffs
STAY: Four Seasons Hotel Cairo at Nile Plaza
Doubles from ₹22,900/night; fourseasons.com



June

LADAKH,
INDIA

Post the long, harsh winter, Ladakh becomes easily accessible in June, as the snow finally melts. While it is still 'jacket weather', the long drives to Khardung La Pass and onwards to Nubra Valley, or to the famous Pangong Lake delight the senses. This remote area has winding roads, harsh mountains, scenic saltwater lakes, and sparse greenery that looks almost fluorescent against the greyish-brown backdrop. A truly surreal experience.

IDEAL FOR: Adventure enthusiasts
STAY: Stok Palace Heritage Hotel
Doubles from ₹32,000/night; stokpalaceheritage.com

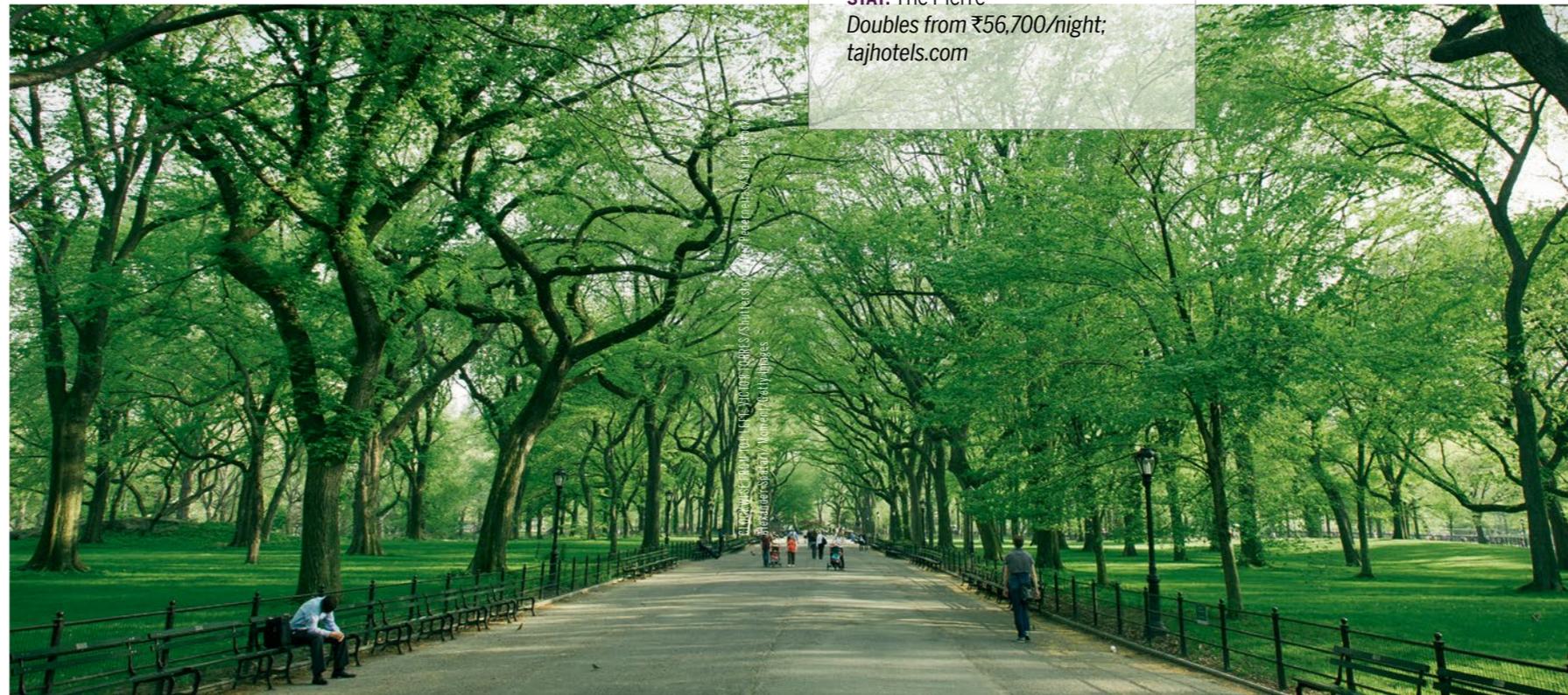




July
**MARSEILLE,
FRANCE**

The beauty of Marseille in July is breathtaking. While the vast fields of lavender in bloom offer a glorious vista, we urge you to go beyond to the gorgeous vineyards, explore the chateaux, and experience the beautiful life of French villages in Provence. While exquisite wine and food leads you into a luxe stupor, the classical architecture awakens you into a bygone era. This is also the month when Tour de France is scheduled and the excitement is palpable. All in all, a great time for a holiday.

IDEAL FOR: Gourmets, couples
STAY: InterContinental Marseille – Hotel Dieu
Doubles from ₹24,400/night; marseille.intercontinental.com



August

**NEW YORK CITY,
USA**

New York! New York! There's never a wrong time to be in New York. But in August, the city is buzzing with excitement. In the first half of the month, try to catch a production by Shakespeare in the Park in Central Park. The Harlem Week festival carries on for the entire month and brings with it a host of cultural performances, sports activities, and even a special children's event. Finally, enjoy Summer Streets on three Saturdays in August, when all vehicular traffic from Brooklyn Bridge to Central Park stops from 7am to 1pm. This is the best time to explore the city on foot or rent a bike.

IDEAL FOR: Families, friends
STAY: The Pierre
Doubles from ₹56,700/night; tajhotels.com



September
**SÃO PAULO,
BRAZIL**

Brazil's cultural heart, São Paulo is home to an impressive array of food, art, architectural, and fashion influences owing to a diverse populace of Spanish, German, African, Portuguese, and Japanese ethnicities. On Sundays, Paulista Avenue becomes a vibrant space for runners, cyclists, and tourists making the most of vehicle-free roads. Street-art buffs will love the Vila Madalena district where a winding street called Beco do Batman (Batman Alley) features magnificent murals.

IDEAL FOR: Art enthusiasts
STAY: The Emiliano
Doubles from ₹32,000/night; emiliano.com.br

October

CAPE TOWN,
SOUTH AFRICA



The innumerable Bollywood movies shot in Cape Town have already popularised its turquoise-hued coastline. But what makes this city even more special is its vibrant pulse, reflected in its avante-garde culinary offerings, indigenous fashions, and adventure activities that include hiking up the famous Table Mountain. Visit Robin Island, from where Nelson Mandela orchestrated the freedom movement, or head out to the exciting Kruger National Park to get a glimpse of Africa's wild side.

IDEAL FOR: Nature lovers, trekkers
STAY: Belmond Mount Nelson
Doubles from ₹56,000/night; belmond.com



November

HAVANA,
CUBA

'Havana Ooh La La' sang Camila Cabello, perfectly encapsulating the fun vibe of this city. Cuba's fascinating blend of old with the new, its vintage cars, and brightly coloured Spanish colonial architecture lend it a unique dramatic flavour. And then there's the dance and music! Catch a show, join a parade, and simply let your hair down in this inimitable city. November is a great time to plan your holiday, before the tourist rush starts from December to February.

IDEAL FOR: Groups of friends
STAY: Saratoga Hotel
Doubles from ₹20,400; hotel-saratoga.com

December

SYDNEY,
AUSTRALIA



Ending the year Down Under is a super idea, since this is where the sun first rises in the New Year! New Year's Eve in Sydney is legendary. One of the most gastronomically advanced cities, it is a delight for gourmands. And the spectacular New Year Fireworks that take place in and around the Sydney Harbour have children as well as adults excited. The view is best enjoyed with a picnic somewhere along the harbour's foreshore.

IDEAL FOR: Families, couples
STAY: Pullman Quay Grand Sydney Harbour
Doubles from ₹33,570; pullmanquaygrandsydneyharbour.com

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Rekindle the joy of travelling with #TheSoundtrackOfTravel

It's no secret that the travel and tourism industry took a hit due to the pandemic. Impulsive travel plans became a rarity, celebrations turned virtual, and in-person meetings were far and few. However, with the situation gradually improving and a rising confidence in air travel, we can see light at the end of the tunnel.

It's time to truly reclaim the skies and we are celebrating this special occasion with our new #TheSoundtrackOfTravel! No more missed vacations, no more being strangers to the skies, no more excuses—we are ready to soar and have a groovy track to complement the journey!

Made with a perfect blend of sounds that would entice you to pack your bags and book that perfect vacation of your dreams, this original soundtrack reflects one of the finest experiences in the sky. The hustle-bustle at the airport, the clink of dishes in the kitchen as we prepare delicious inflight meals, the roar of the aircraft engine propelling us into the sky, the splash of hot coffee being poured

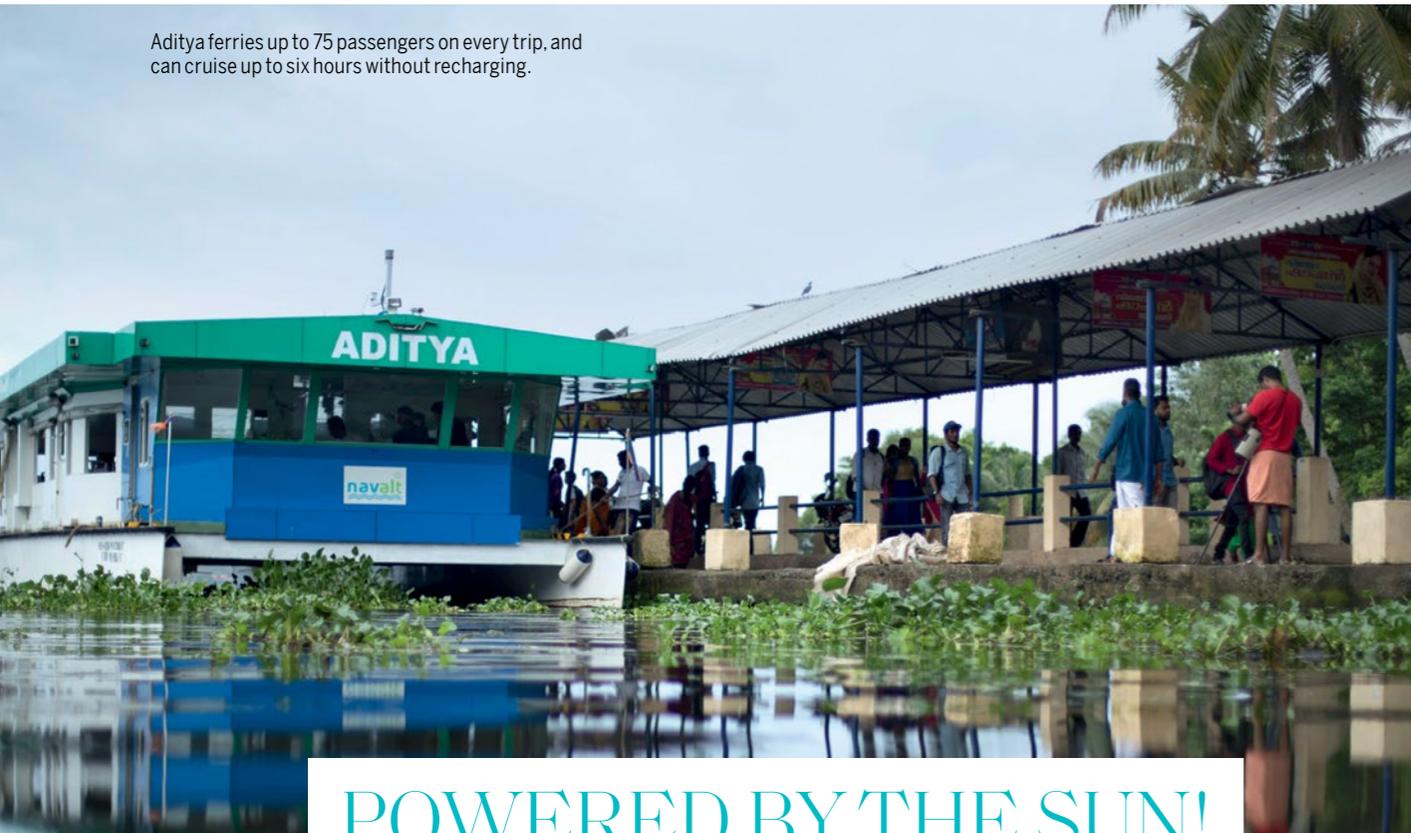
as we cruise at 35,000 feet and the ding of the seatbelt sign turning off when we land—mix them together and you have an upbeat and intriguing melody we call #TheSoundtrackOfTravel.

With this track as your travel companion, we welcome you to take to the skies and savour the joys of travelling and of discovering new places. The evocative composition will remind you of not only the Vistara experience, which you have grown to love, but also the palpable excitement of getting on a flight set to take you to your much-anticipated vacation. In addition, we continue to expand our domestic and international network so you can keep exploring the new feeling!

We are also excited to launch our official Spotify channel (Vistara Official) in April that includes this track, our highly sought-after boarding and landing music playlist, and the trendiest audio from Vistara World. You can also head to our YouTube channel or our official website to tune in to #TheSoundTrackOfTravel.



Aditya ferries up to 75 passengers on every trip, and can cruise up to six hours without recharging.



POWERED BY THE SUN!

With the introduction of a more efficient water transport system—one that doesn't rely on fossil fuels—NavAlt has launched the era of solar-powered maritime vessels. And the future looks bright.

By AAKRITI JASWANT

PLYING THE VAIKKOM-THAVANKKADAVU route in Kerala's Alappuzha district is India's first solar-powered, zero-emission ferry. Launched in 2017, Kochi-based NavAlt Solar and Electric Boats' Aditya has prevented the release of more than 420 tonnes of CO2 emissions into the air by avoiding 1,65,000 litres of diesel—leaving no carbon footprint at all. In fact, it holds the distinction of being the world's first commercially viable mode of transport, powered by solar energy. In addition, it has acted as the saviour of the state's Vembanad Lake's ecosystem that was, for long, in critical danger because of intense pollution.

A joint venture between the Indian firm Navgathi and the French company AltEn, NavAlt combines advancements in electric technology, naval architecture, and photovoltaics to build electric boats and ferries that run on solar energy. The story behind Aditya's launch began with the Kerala State Water Transport Department (KSWTD), which relies heavily on plying hundreds of ferries, operating on diesel engines, across its water channels. These old boats were often beset by problems like fuel stench and high-noise vibrations, which contributed to air and water pollution. A bigger challenge was



Sandith Thandasherry, CEO, Navgathi



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the high operating cost. To counter these issues, the department was on the lookout for eco-friendly alternatives, and it entrusted the task to NavAlt. And Aditya was born. Since its inception, it has saved the KSWTD thousands of litres of diesel and the immensely high corresponding expenditure each year.

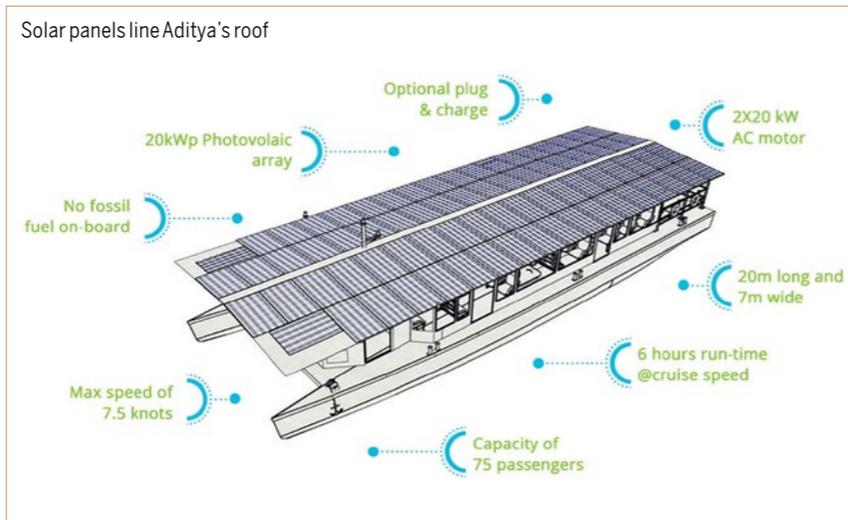
A GREENER EARTH

A few years ago, NavAlt embarked on a mission in Gujarat to make the local fishing boats (*pillana*) more eco-friendly and energy efficient. They achieved their goals by adding solar panels to the vessels and replacing the traditional propulsion system with electric outboard motors. Taking cues from this research, the company plans to introduce solar-powered fishing boats to help the fishing community of Vypeen and Kodungallur in Kerala, who rely heavily on conventional diesel boats that invariably emit several harmful substances in the air and water. The idea is to cut manufacturing costs so that the fishermen can afford it, with the help of government subsidies. As the solar-powered vessels run on renewable energy, the maintenance cost is minimal, and the fishing community can save up to lakhs on fuel each year and reap long-term benefits.

Under NavAlt's Green Earth initiative, the company actively promotes and spreads awareness about reducing carbon emissions and holds many workshops on the importance of solar energy. Practising what they preach, their office and yard are solarised, and plastic is prohibited in the office. They have also pledged to plant trees and have distributed saplings to their employees.



Aditya proclaims its special status



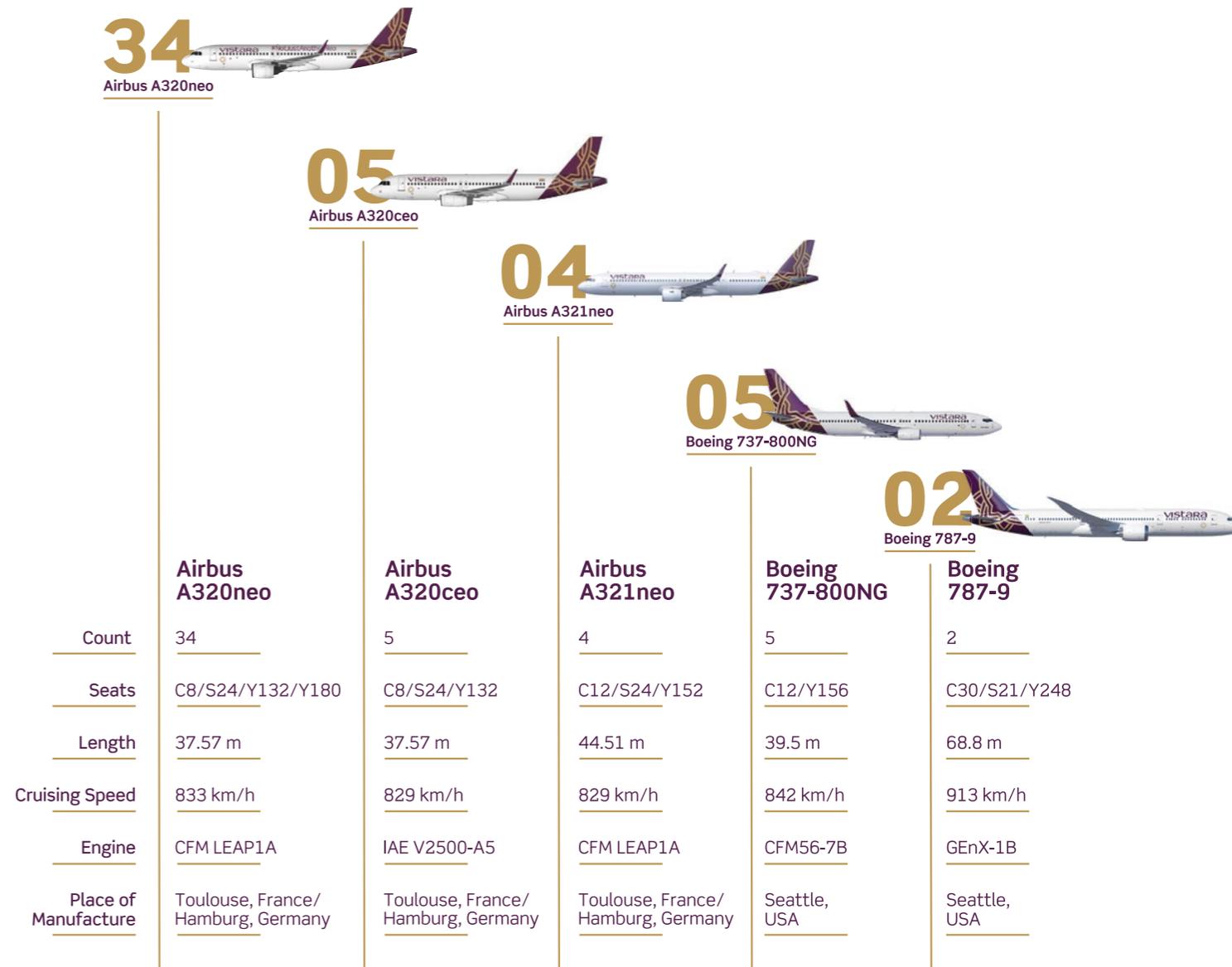
THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT AND FAST

NavAlt's solar-powered leisure boats and ferries have revolutionised the tourism industry in terms of environment-friendly operations and handling. Feeling optimistic about upcoming projects, Sandith Thandasherry, CEO, Navgathi says, "Attaining high speeds with electric vessels is never a hurdle when you harness the idea of hybrid technology. We are entering a new world of amazing watercraft—it has

been our dream to build a completely solar-powered RORO (roll-on roll-off) vessel. Once deployed, it will be the world's fastest solar-electric RORO vessel."

Next up, NavAlt is on a mission to develop an amphibious electric motorcycle, which will be their first step towards an on-road electric vehicle. In addition, they are currently researching the development of wind-propelled ships, to be launched in the near future. Now here's a space that's worth watching!

OUR FLEET



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



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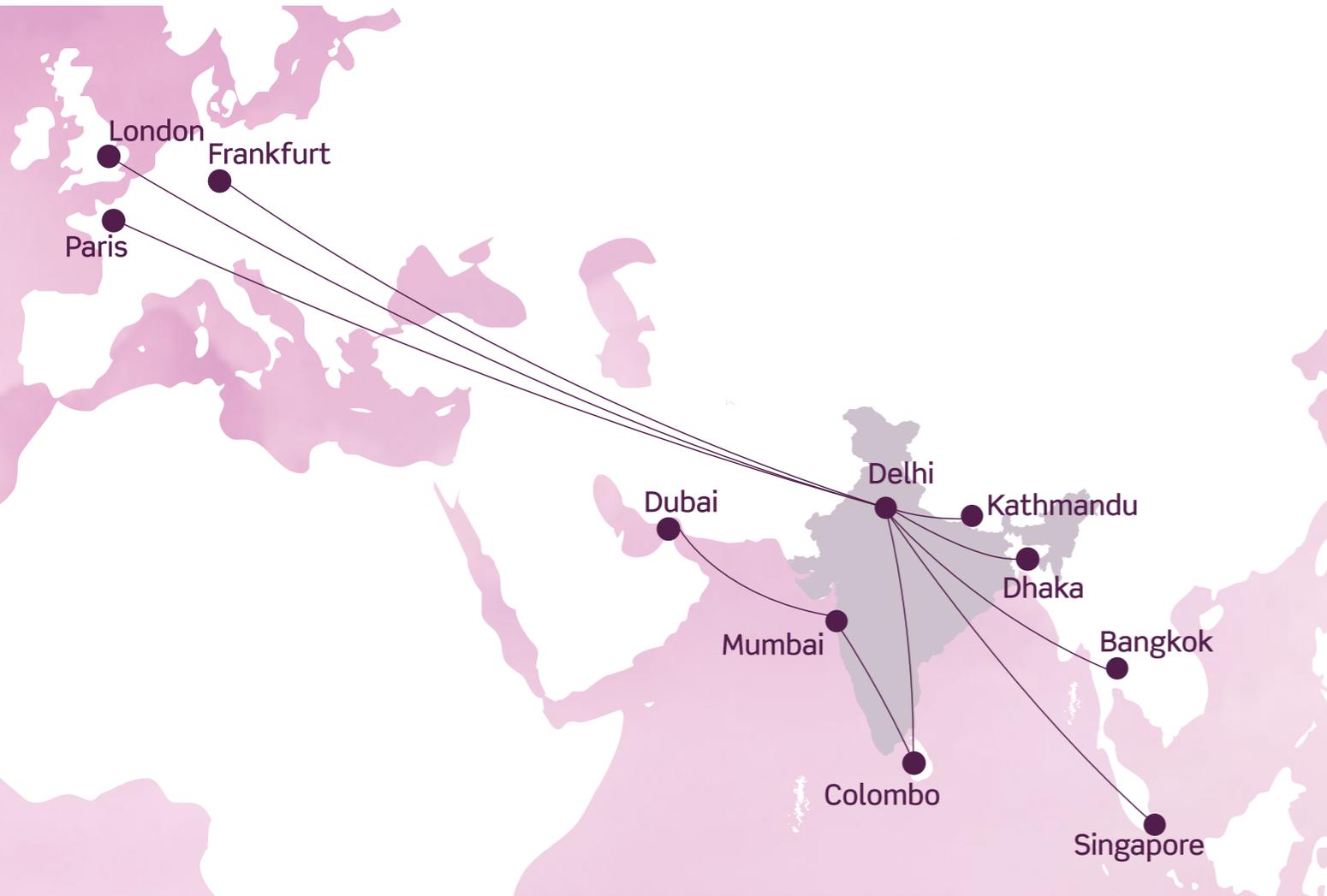
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Route Map - International

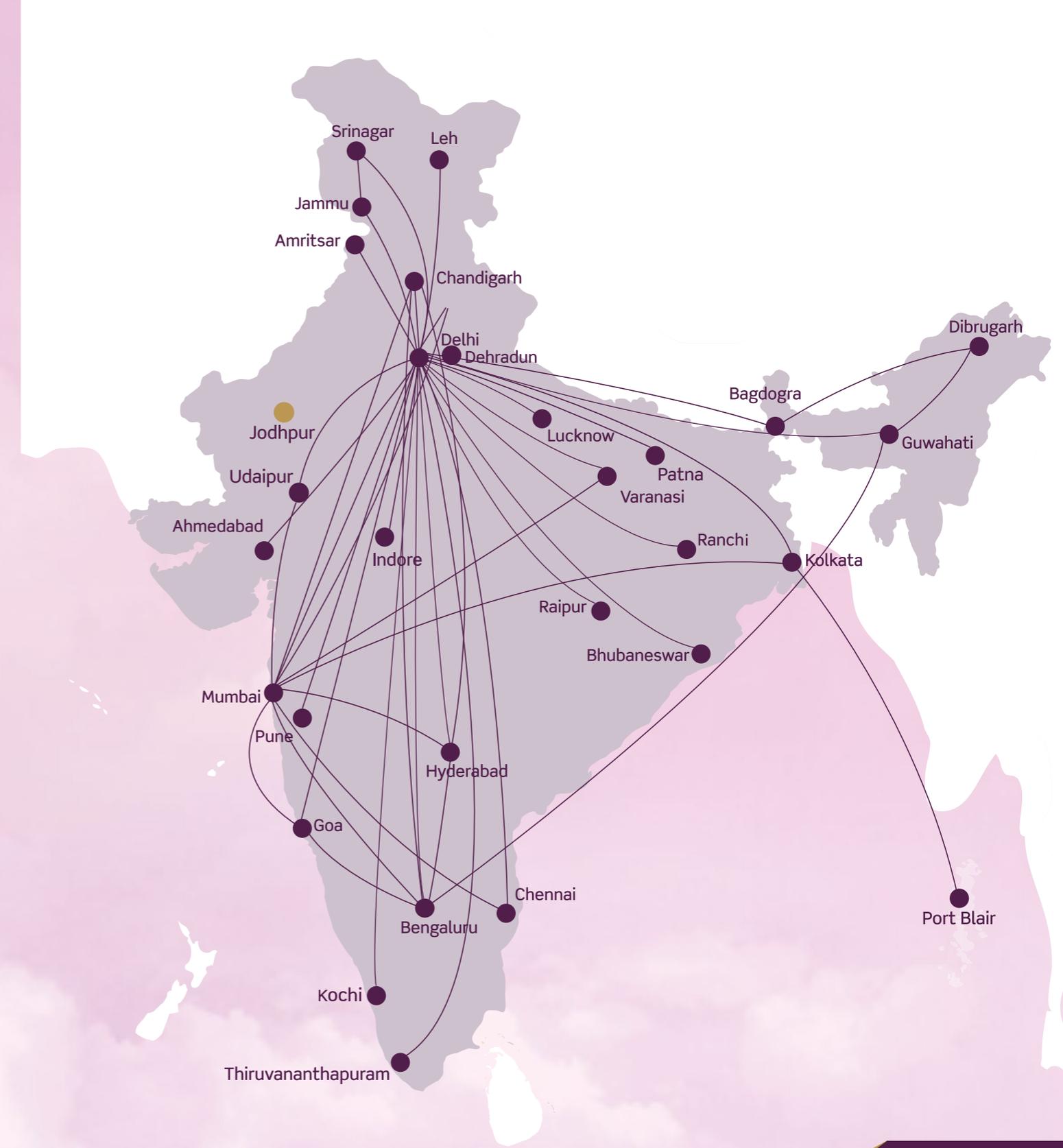


- Winter Season only
- Temporarily suspended routes
- Regular route

Network is subject to change without prior notice.
 Schedule for April' 22.
 Map is not to scale.



Route Map - India



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Complimentary Vistara Select				✓

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ALL THINGS SUMMER!

US-based Indian designer **Bibhu Mohapatra** shares his love affair with the season.

By NASRIN MODAK SIDDIQI



What does summer mean to you?

Summer is a happy memory from my childhood—long, sun-filled days where the land meets the sea. The colours are vivid and the air is light—it's a time to recharge and rejoice.

Your favourite childhood memory...

Being with my family at our farm in Kalipur, Odisha. Rice fields, saltwater, fresh seafood, and endless laughter are some indelible happy memories from my childhood.

What's in your travel bag?

Music, books (paper and digital), a good sunscreen, my Kolhapuri chappals, and my Persol sunglasses.

Your favourite summer travel destination?

Alternating between ancient European cities and islands, one does not get tired of the summers on the Greek isles. But if I had to pick one, I would say Patmos, Greece.

Your top three adventures...

The mystical caves of Cappadocia, Turkey; the pretty hill stations of Himachal Pradesh, India; and historic Tangier, Morocco, with the majestic Mediterranean on one side and the vast Atlantic on the other.

What's on your travel bucket list?

Antarctica.

An ideal travel partner is...

Someone curious and keen on exploring new cultures and ideas.

Your favourite summer-inspired design from Odisha?

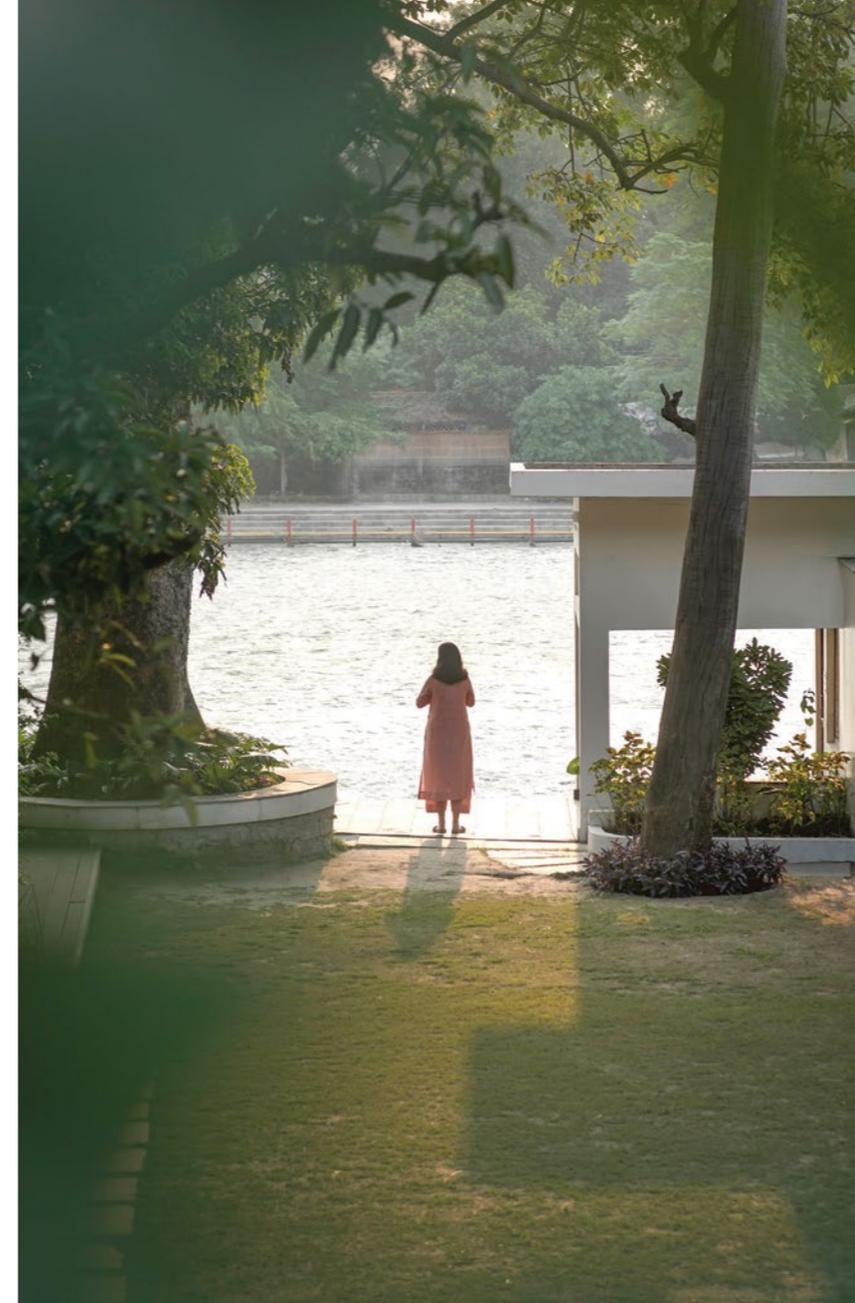
Odisha is a gold mine of experiences. My favourite summer designs from there are the fine cotton tunics made of Ikat textiles from Sambalpur, Bargarh, and Nuapatna. These are my most-loved summer staples.

A must-visit in Odisha...

Coastal Odisha and the incredible Sun Temple in Konark. I've travelled the world, but I'm yet to find a place that is more transformative and intriguing than Konark.

Your take on summer fashion in India and its future...

The summer/resort season is the most important one in the fashion cycle in India. The rich heritage of incredible textiles plays a massive role in summer collections. It's a language that is used to express the visions of designers—collection after collection. With the vast reserve of craft, finest textiles, incredible artisans, and a sharp outlook, the Indian fashion businesses are about to become prominent players in the global arena. ✨



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