The Design Issue

The City of Murals
Philadelphia
It's Love At Every Sight!

Artistic Adventures Abound
in Lovely London!
The Phoenix Shopping Festival is back, bigger and grander than ever before. Indulge in amazing deals, incredible offers and win awesome prizes. Shop for your favourite brands amidst a carnival atmosphere, where non-stop entertainment and dazzling décor elevate your experience. One iconic shopping festival at all iconic Phoenix destinations. Come start the celebrations!

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Every work of art tells a story—of times gone by and yet to come, of emotions and desires, and even the unexpected. This month, we weave tales of sensory delights in our special Design issue, as you experience and savour the imaginative creations around us.

We start our artistic journey in the ‘Mural Capital of the World’—Philadelphia! With passionate, inspiring wall paintings, sculptures, and other street art dotting every part of this expressive city, you’ll feel you’ve stepped right into a painting! Craving more? Then make your way to London with our art lover’s guide to witness the charms of this great city. From the Italian-Renaissance art and quirky fashion of David Bowie at the Victoria & Albert Museum and futuristic artwork at the Serpentine Gallery, to antiquities shopping at Portobello Road Market and Indian-aesthetic inspired eateries—it’s a feast for the senses! Continue your stimulating adventures here at home with a trip to Bhopal, where four erstwhile, incredible female rulers shaped the architecture, cuisine, and culture of this heritage city. And since every story deserves a delicious twist, we take you to Mumbai to relish its most-loved dishes and the heartwarming tales behind their creation.

The brilliant actor Tabu talks to us about her creative inspirations, while famed fashion designer Anita Dongre shares her love for classic Indian textiles. Travel in style as we help you create the perfect airport look you desire. Match that with must-have accessories—from the Gucci GG logo belt to the coolest pair of Air Jordans—sure to make heads turn. Be amazed by the latest innovative products making a buzz, and transform your living spaces into works of art with trending home décor ideas. It’s time to paint your world as you like it!

From Vistara to you...

Vistara brings home top honours by winning the ‘Best Airline in India & South Asia’ award for the fourth consecutive year and the ‘Best Airline Staff Service in India & South Asia’ award for the sixth time in a row at the coveted 2024 World Airline Awards by Skytrax. Thank you for your #VistaraLove!

- Team Vistara
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ON THE COVER
Colourful murals like this one in France’s Lyon liven up city streets all over the world.

GOA’S FIRST & ONLY UBER LUXURY, PRIVATE POOL VILLA RESORT
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- Luxury Bath Amenities
- Luxury Pillow Menu
- Spa Treatments on Call
- & more...

Baale Resort Goa
Arpora, North Goa 403516
baaleresortgoa.com
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a) Secure sign up and log-in with social media
b) Chatbot for travellers’ support
c) Improved grievance management, including social media grievance

d) Real-time flight status and detailed flight schedule

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

The largest mosque in India, Taj-ul-Masajid stands tall as a proud testament to the artistic ethos of Shahjahan Begum of Bhopal.

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Unlock your health with our Doctor-prescribed programmes, designed to address chronic and lifestyle ailments like Obesity | Gut Issues | Hypothyroidism | Diabetes | Stress & Fatigue | Disturbed Sleep | PCOS | Migraine | Emotional Healing

Community
Water For People India Trust changes lives by providing everyone with clean, safe access to this essential resource

The Last Word
Leading fashion designer Anita Dongre on the sustainable legacy she’d like to leave for future generations

Atmantan is a National Award winning, NABH (National Accreditation Board of Hospitals & Healthcare Providers of India) certified Wellness Centre

Think Wellness. Think Atmantan
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Leh
Where the multi-hued colours of the land and skies merge in kaleidoscopic glory.

“Tranquil, unearthly, divine: that’s Leh to me! It’s a great place to try Ladakhi delicacies like thukpa (noodle soup), momos (dumplings), khamir (local bread), and buttery gur-gur chai at restaurants like Namza Dining. And if you’re looking for a good meal with a stunning view, try Bon Appetit! Evening strolls in Shey village are a great way to burn calories after hearty meals. You can also head out on easy road trips to Pangong Tso and the Thiksey Monastery from Leh.”

SANJEETA BHATTACHARYA
Actor, singer-songwriter

Bengal’s living legacy
Journey to Charkhoo, a village where artisans breathe life into vibrant Chhou masks, an integral part of the centuries-old martial art dance form. Let rhythmic beats of the Jhumur dance and the soulful melodies of bhadu songs transport you to the world of tribal folk stories. Purulia beckons – a land where art breathes, traditions endure and unforgettable experiences await.

COME TO BENGAL
EXPLORE. EXPERIENCE. ENGAGE.
Budapest

Pulsating with historic charms, scenic vistas, and lively entertainment in the heart of Europe.

VARTIKA SINGH
Supermodel, Miss India Universe 2019

“Budapest is so very beautiful, magical, and dreamy. I had a great time strolling about the District V neighborhood—with its buzzing restaurants and cafés, as well as majestic monuments. I loved the area around the St Stephen’s Basilica for relaxed walks in the evening. And I still remember marvelling at the neo-Renaissance façade of this historic church! Do stop by Gelarto Rosa for cute and yummy rose-shaped ice creams once you’re done exploring. The city truly has my heart!”
Vancouver

Invitingly diverse. Irrespressibly friendly. Iridescently picturesque.

“Vancouver is a vibrant, scenic, and welcoming city. I often eat at Autostrada inside Vancouver House, my favourite Italian restaurant. For sightseeing, do make a trip to Stanley Park and Granville Island, or the VanDusen Botanical Garden, which is a charming hidden gem. As a chef, I love cooking the city’s locally sourced spot prawns. The blend of natural beauty and culinary delights, courtesy of its diverse population, makes this city truly awesome!”

VIKRAM VIJ
Chef, sommelier
Admissions
Open 2024-25
Pre-Nursery to Grade 9

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Realise Your Potential: Academic Excellence and Holistic Growth at Wellington College International Pune

At Wellington College International Pune we believe that education extends beyond academic excellence to the nurturing of each student in their journey. From August 2024, with admissions open from Pre-Nursery to Grade 9 (Year 10), we warmly invite you to join a community deeply committed to recognising, valuing, and fostering every student’s potential.

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We invite you to connect with our Admissions team to sign up for the campus tour, meet our world-class staff and experience first-hand the outstanding facilities and vibrant spirit of Wellington College International Pune. Discover a place where your potential is limitless and the journey to excellence begins.

Pioneering education
to serve and help shape
a better world.
In a crowded coliving market, what makes Housr shine out as a distinctive player in the industry?

Housr fortifies its position as a disruptive force in the coliving landscape through its unparalleled blend of luxury, community, and technology. Managed by top-tier professionals, our meticulously designed spaces ensure an opulent lifestyle refined by an array of upscale amenities. Beyond convenience, we also curate the most eclectic events, fostering meaningful connections among Housr’s vibrant community, thus bolstering our status as a leading luxury living player nationwide.

Is Housr planning to expand its horizons? What strategic acquisitions has the brand made recently to support this growth?

Housr is poised for significant expansion with plans to launch nine new state-of-the-art properties across strategic locations in multiple cities. We are poised to cross the 100 CR ARR mark, demonstrating our rapid growth and market leadership, inching us closer than ever to the overarching goal of enabling India’s working youth with a product tailored to perfection for all their housing needs.

How is Housr leveraging technology to enhance the living experience?

Housr leverages technology to elevate the living experience by integrating advanced, app-enabled features that cater to the dynamic preferences of its tech-savvy audience. Through the Housr App, residents can effortlessly manage every aspect of their living experience, including seamless rent payments, efficient issue resolution, and vibrant community engagement. We ensure the ultimate conscience with features like automated controls for lighting and security.

“We are poised to surpass 100 crores ARR, marking another feather in our cap. We’re fostering a rapidly growing community across locations, affirming our position as a formidable leader in the coliving industry.”

Deepak Anand
Founder & CEO
FETE FRENZY

Get ready for an aesthetic escapade around the world, where a plethora of artistic exhibitions, festivals, and cultural shows are sure to entertain you through the month!

By RHEA MULANI

MUNICH, GERMANY
CONCOURS OF ELEGANCE GERMANY
22 TO 27 JULY

Among the world’s most prestigious car collector shows, this event, originally based in the United Kingdom, is making its glamorous debut in Germany this year. Set against the picturesque backdrop of Gut Kaltenbrunn on Lake Tegernsee, it will see an extravagant presentation of the world’s 50 rarest cars alongside their owners, along with displays of 150 fine motor cars from specialist concours and car clubs. To add to this gorgeous exhibition are the special ladies and ‘junior’ concours showcases. Participants will also embark on a four-day driving tour across the bucolic Bavarian countryside. The thrill of seeing these classics in action, while savouring the tranquil culture and cuisine of this stunning region, is truly sublime! concoursdelegancegermany.com

KYOTO, JAPAN
GION MATSURI FESTIVAL
1 TO 31 JULY

This vibrant cultural festival takes place in Kyoto over the course of an entire month and pays homage to the Yasaka Shrine, located in the city’s historic Gion district. Locals will tell you about the grand procession of floats, for which a local boy is selected, as per tradition, to be a divine messenger. This child cannot set foot on the ground until the parade concludes four days later! Other highlights include the festive evenings, Yoyama, where the downtown area is closed to traffic and brims instead with a lively, fiesta vibe and food stalls selling fresh yakitori, taiyaki (fish-shaped pastry), and more. Do stop and admire the artefacts displayed in front of traditional machiya houses as you dance to the tune of classical instruments. Be sure to catch the magnificent Yamaboko Junkō parades on 17 and 24 July for an exceptional glimpse of Japanese splendour! gionfestival.org

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SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA
SYDNEY BASTILLE FESTIVAL
21 TO 14 JULY
Originally celebrated in France to mark the initiation of the French Revolution, Bastille Day makes its way across the world to Sydney in this four-day-long cultural revolution! Hosted in the city’s Circular Quay, the entry-free fest encompasses the best of French food, wine, and art, with an Australian twist. Oenophiles can assemble here for a taste of French wine, including beverages from Bordeaux, Loire, Provence, and Champagne. Enjoy an impressive line-up of entertainment featuring live music, dances, and art exhibitions for all age groups, so bring your kids along. Make a pit stop at any of the 70 pop-up stalls at the Food Feast to savour mouth-watering crêpes, cheeses, raclette, fondue, and much more. Visit bastillefestival.com.au

SAN DIEGO, USA
COMIC-CON ART SHOW 2024
25 TO 28 JULY
This extravagant celebration of the comic books, films, television, and multimedia world is back! Get ready to interact with writers, actors, producers, artists, and more from your favourite shows and series, as well as enjoy film screenings and games galore. Don’t miss the colourful Art Show—open to the public, it will include original drawings, paintings, sculptures, jewellery pieces, and more unconventional items, created and displayed by professional and amateur artists alike. Be sure to attend the ‘Masquerade’ to see some amazing creations. Marking its 50th anniversary this year, this onstage cosplay competition celebrates the importance of costumes in pop culture. An event that truly promises grand ‘comic’ relief! comic-con.org

PARIS, FRANCE
2024 SUMMER OLYMPICS
26 JULY TO 11 AUGUST
The greatest competition returns to the ‘City of Light’ after nearly a century for a series of sporting contests, ranging from artistic swimming and gymnastics to fencing, figure skating, freestyle skiing, and more! Make sure to mark your spot for this year’s Opening Ceremony, which will take place by the River Seine. May the best athletes win! olympics.com

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM
THE CHAMPIONSHIPS, WIMBLEDON
1 TO 14 JULY
The most prestigious tennis tournament is here! Get ready to witness Carlos Alcaraz, Coco Gauff, and others on the legendary lawns as they vie to win the coveted titles. Apart from courtside magic, don’t miss the iconic strawberries and cream and the Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum and Tour for a smashing day of serves and volleys! wimbledon.com

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SENSATIONAL STREAMS

Catch the best of the entertainment world with our selection of riveting shows, movies, and documentaries, each designed to engage and enthral.

By RHEA MULANI

MOVIES GALORE

LAAPATAA LADIES
Dramedy | 2h 21m

What happens when the groom erroneously brings home the wrong bride? Find out in this heart-warming tale, where the lives of Phool (Nitanshi Goel) and Jaya (Pratibha Ranta), intertwine under unexpected circumstances. While the groom, Deepak Kumar (Sparsh Shrivastava), is on the lookout for his true bride, she unknowingly embarks on a search for her own identity. Directed by Kiran Rao, this refreshingly simple story seamlessly captures the country’s rustic vibe, backed by a strong cast and captivating music score. Watch it for its understated comedy and art direction that reflects India’s ambience in the early 2000's era! Watch on: Netflix

ANATOMY OF A FALL
Thriller/Mystery | 2h 31m

Samuel Maloisi (Samuel Theis) is found dead by his partially blind son after he falls from a window high up in their secluded chalet in a snowy French village. But was it an accident or a murder? His wife, Sandra (Sandra Hüller), who was the only one at home during the fateful event, is now a prime suspect. This whodunnit legal drama explores the concept of marriage, attraction, mental health, and human emotions through stellar performances by the cast, including Messi, a border collie who plays a pivotal character, which won him the Cannes Film Festival’s prestigious ‘Palm Dog’ award! Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

WONKA
Family/Musical | 1h 57m

Timothée Chalamet stars as the titular character in this musical extravaganza set in Roald Dahl’s delectable Charlie and the Chocolate Factory universe. It follows the quest of a young chocolatier, Willy Wonka, as he sets out to fulfill his ambitious dreams of making it big in the confectionery world. Empowered with sheer grit, Wonka and his passion for his craft are truly inspiring. From police chases to meeting ‘Oompa Loompas’ and setting up a chocolate shop, the story keeps you enthralled till the end with its magnificent sets and costumes. Consider this your golden ticket to watch it now! Watch on: AppleTV+

TIGER
Adventure | Documentary | 2h 29m

Narrated by Priyanka Chopra, this exhilarating film chronicles the journey of a tigeress, Ambi, as she traverses the rugged paths of India’s forests with her four young cubs—Golu, luy, Charm, and Raju. Be prepared for an emotional roller coaster ride as you watch the mother protect her little ones from preying predators, including a python, and her unending struggle to find food for them every day. Aside from being visually captivating, the film also celebrates the revival of India’s dwindling tiger population in recent years. A gripping watch! Watch on: Disney+ Hotstar

LAAPATAA LADIES

ANATOMY OF A FALL

WONKA

TIGER

Continued

All images courtesy of www.imdb.com
**AN OTT EXTRAVAGANZA**

**THE NEW LOOK**  
Drama | 1 Season  
Set in Paris during World War II, this 10-episode series starring Ben Mendelsohn as Christian Dior and Juliette Binoche as Coco Chanel explores how the former overtook the latter’s mighty reign, catapulting him to fame in the fashion world. The insider stories on Dior’s many rivals along the way, including fashion houses Balmain and Pierre Cardin, add to the stylish intrigue. While the gripping soundtrack, produced by Grammy Award winner Jack Antonoff, alongside a strong portrayal of the city’s revival after the war, courtesy of its path-breaking designers, makes this show a stunning entertainer.  
Watch on: Apple TV+

**PAASHBALISH**  
Drama | 1 Season  
In the borderlands of Bengal, local warlord Mahadev (Shankar Debnath) is in conflict with the Paharbanshi tribe. His adopted daughter, Anchal (Ishaa Saha) is romantically involved with Swadesh (Sourav Das), who, incidentally, is a member of this rival clan. A suspenseful series of mysterious murders and incidents attracts the attention of the local police, especially when Anchal is attacked. Observing these events is Anchal’s childhood love Chandu (Suhotro Mukhopadhyay), who makes a sudden and intriguing reappearance in her life. But why is he here? Watch this show’s twists and turns to find out.  
Watch on: ZEE5

**THANK YOU, GOODNIGHT**  
Documentary | 1 Season  
Dive into the history of the iconic rock band, Bon Jovi, from its inception in 1983 to the present, in this intimate portrayal of artistes in the music industry. The series begins with Jon Bon Jovi in 2024, as he grapples with the physical challenges of being a rockstar at 60 years of age. His vocal struggles are highlighted, with unfiltered scenes of his road to recovery. As a true retrospective, it also portrays the group’s familial bond through archival footage and behind-the-scenes details on the band’s tours over the years. It’s their life, and now, it’s yours to watch!  
Watch on: Disney+ Hotstar

**BRIDGERTON**  
Drama | 3 Seasons  
Feast your eyes on this show’s ornate costumes and opulent sets reflective of London during the 19th-century Regency Era. Binge on the burgeoning romances that emerge as the eight close-knit siblings of the wealthy Bridgerton family search for love, while navigating strict societal norms, guided by the principles of Queen Charlotte. Stay tuned to find out the true identity of the city’s gossip columnist, Lady Whistledown, whose spicy words keep both the locals and viewers hooked, is revealed! Featuring modern storylines and an inclusive character roster, this series will transport you to high-society London and back, or better still, to an inviting romantic escapade of which we all dream. Its newest season, brimming with tales of young love, secrets, angst, and drama, is sure to charm you!  
Watch on: Netflix
DESIGNED TO DELIGHT!
If you’re in the mood for some self-indulgence, browse through these literary treasures, including quintessential nail-biters, nostalgic memoirs, coffee-table books, and more!
By RHEA MULANI

BEHIND THE SEAMS: MY LIFE IN RHINESTONES
By Dolly Parton
Equal parts superstar and fashionista, Parton’s celebrity status shimmers in this collection of her most memorable looks from the 1960s. Peruse through hundreds of exclusive full-colour photography (including pics from her private archive) of her costumes from stage and TV shows, as well as her sky-high heels, iconic wigs, eye-catching make-up, and more. Stitching the entire narrative together are Parton’s personal anecdotes, peppered with heart-warming moments, including the unique looks that caught the attention of Nashville and the world!

THE ASTRONAUT’S GUIDE TO LEAVING THE PLANET
By Terry Virts
Ready to lift off into the mysterious realm of outer space? Let Virts, a former NASA astronaut, be your guide across the universe as he shares his expertise on how to become an astronaut, the strenuous preparation it entails, space travel facts, and other engaging information! This child-friendly book is an inspirational read for kids looking to venture into the enticing field of space as a career.

WHAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR IS IN THE LIBRARY
By Michiko Aoyama
As a gifted librarian, Tokyo-based Sayuri Komachi has read not only every book that adorns the shelves of her space, but also the minds of the readers who visit. She can sense what her customers are looking for in their lives and suggest books that can help them seek it. From a mom who dreams of a career as a magazine editor to a retired man trying to give his life new meaning—many find respite in the titles recommended by the mystical librarian. Just how many people can she help? Read this uplifting tale to find out!

PRETTY THINGS
By Janelle Brown
When Nina’s fancy liberal arts degree does not reap the rewards she had expected, she turns to stealing from wealthy kids in Los Angeles. But when her ex-con artist mom falls ill, Nina plans her most dangerous theft yet to help her. It’s a plan to stealing from wealthy kids in Los Angeles. But when her ex-con artist mom falls ill, Nina plans her most dangerous theft yet to help her. It’s a plan to stealing from wealthy kids in Los Angeles. But when her ex-con artist mom falls ill, Nina plans her most dangerous theft yet to help her. It’s a plan.

THE BEST POSSIBLE EXPERIENCE: STORIES
By Nishanth Injam
An emotionally engaging read that addresses the question: is home a place or a feeling? Through a collection of 11 poignant short stories, Injam explores the themes of love, loss, belonging, and identity. From an immigrant family in the USA preparing to host their son’s white classmate to a man yearning for his Green Card interview—the book explores the contemporary climate of the Indian diaspora. Named ‘Best Book of the Year’ by the Chicago Review of Books, this perceptive portrayal of new settlers in America should be included in every bibliophile’s book list!

MAN-MADE WONDERS OF THE WORLD
By DK Publishing, Foreword By Dan Cruickshank
This book proves that humans do not simply build castles in the air; they actually go out there and make it happen! From UK’s Stonehenge to Dubai’s Burj Khalifa and the Great Pyramid of Giza, the tome explores the innovative developments and creative genius behind the world’s most iconic structures. It provides an international outlook on the motives behind different design patterns, including ones constructed for defensive purposes, such as the Great Wall of China. With breathtaking photographs, this insightful coffee-table book is beautiful to hold, read, and admire.

HELLO FUTURE!
The future of exterior cladding- Alstone Alcomb Honeycomb Panel is here, with superior strength-to-weight ratio and resistance to environmental stress, it offers architects a perfectly reliable, robust and sustainable facade solution to modern age design challenges.

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As a gifted librarian, Tokyo-based Sayuri Komachi has read not only every book that adorns the shelves of her space, but also the minds of the readers who visit. She can sense what her customers are looking for in their lives and suggest books that can help them seek it. From a mom who dreams of a career as a magazine editor to a retired man trying to give his life new meaning—many find respite in the titles recommended by the mystical librarian. Just how many people can she help? Read this uplifting tale to find out!

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MAN-MADE WONDERS OF THE WORLD
By DK Publishing, Foreword By Dan Cruickshank
This book proves that humans do not simply build castles in the air; they actually go out there and make it happen! From UK’s Stonehenge to Dubai’s Burj Khalifa and the Great Pyramid of Giza, the tome explores the innovative developments and creative genius behind the world’s most iconic structures. It provides an international outlook on the motives behind different design patterns, including ones constructed for defensive purposes, such as the Great Wall of China. With breathtaking photographs, this insightful coffee-table book is beautiful to hold, read, and admire.

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# Trending Home Décor

THE AESTHETIC FORECAST

Home is where the art is! Spruce up your space with these décor trends that are set to rule the entire year.

By RHEA MULANI

BLUE-TIFUL SHADES

A key décor look that’s been trending all year—the colour blue is here to stay and slay! With its universal charm and soothing appeal, experts predict the calm colour will continue to make waves in our spaces. Softer shades, such as powder blue, are ideal for comely corners like a bedroom, while the deeper hues are perfect for an office. If travel is on your mind, use it in furnishings against white walls for a true-blue Mediterranean effect!

SPECIALISED SANCTUARIES

Style has entered the space with special-interest rooms, designed to incorporate the owner’s personal touch. From extravagant wine dens for oenophiles to sprawling art escapes and interactive game lounges for recreation, designers are leaving no stone unturned to customise abodes as per utility. While the lockdown witnessed the emergence of multipurpose chambers, the post-pandemic world spreads its wings with these niche enclaves.

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ANOTHER BOOK IN THE WALL

Looking to add a touch of refined elegance to your home or office space? Then take a page out of the ‘bookshelf wealth’ manual that has taken social media by storm! Simply curate a selection of shelved articles that are not restricted to books. These can include art and collectables, all presented in an unstructured yet pleasing format. Think Dumbledore’s office (from the Harry Potter universe) decorated with portraits, instruments, and more. Forget the rules and let your natural instincts take over, with layered objects in tune with an aesthetic that’s authentic to you.

STATE OF THE ‘ART’
The best way to turn a house into a home is through meaningful artwork. This year, many are hopping onto the trend with archival photographs serving as vignettes of the past. There’s also a new-found appreciation for the human touch pertaining to artisanal work, including ceramic tiles, carved wooden furniture, and hand-blown glass—all ideal for upgrading your space into a work of art.
#TRENDING HOME DÉCOR

A MATERIAL WORLD
Cork is having a moment in the world of interiors and we can see why. This lightweight material, that's chemical-free, durable, and water-resistant, makes for a beautiful addition to any home. Gaining equal credence are terracotta tiles that will leave you floored with their rustic, earthy appeal. But, if you’re a stickler for classics, look no further than elegant herringbone wooden floors that have been declared ‘timeless’—and with good reason.

AN INDOOR EDEN
Some trends remain evergreen! It’s a known fact that adding a touch of nature to your home has a therapeutic effect on you and your loved ones. Bringing the outdoors indoors in a seamless fashion, biophilic elements such as plants, cool stones, and water or light features add an instant tranquil touch. Veteran mood boosters and anxiety busters, these additions create nurturing environments and foster a sense of lush well-being!

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SOFA, SO GOOD

Be it on TV shows like Friends or The Simpsons, couches have often posed as characters unto themselves. So let them spread the magic to your home, too. With soft edges and undulating silhouettes, curved sofas are pleasing to the eye and much on trend. Taking on from kidney bean-shaped furniture that’s been in the spotlight for a while, their ultra-comfy appeal makes them perfect for lounging and hosting guests.

A STEP AHEAD

Experts are making a case for staircases this year! First impressions matter and that’s why a statement flight of stairs near your entryway can make an impactful effect. Deemed the spinal cord of a home, designers can play around with it in endless ways, from custom-made handrails to risers and more. The ideal way to level up!
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A RAINBOW OF SENSATIONAL OFFERINGS AT PURPLE MARTINI!

Nestled in Goa’s tropical landscape, Purple Martini serves up delicious cuisine and cocktails amid chilled-out afternoons, gorgeous sundowners, and star-studded nights.

A beacon of culinary excellence, Purple Martini is a much-loved destination among locals, tourists, and celebrities. Founded by Saarthak Gupta, the restaurant began as a passion project and has since ascended to the pinnacle of Goa’s dining scene. Purple Martini is not merely a dining experience; it is a symphony of flavors, an embodiment of luxury, and a testament to Saarthak’s unwavering commitment to gastronomic innovation. With its stunning sunset views, eclectic menu, impeccable service, and an ambiance that fuses sophistication with a relaxed Mykonos-style vibe, Purple Martini, a gem along the Anjuna coast, remains a place where unforgettable memories are crafted.

Whether you’re seeking culinary delight or a brush with stardom, this lively resto-bar offers an experience that transcends expectations, making it an enduring icon of Goa’s culinary landscape.

Delicious Bliss
Be transported into a world of relaxation and indulgence as soon as you walk in! The bar features a wide selection of signature cocktails, including the famous Purple Martini, Stylish Turkey, Red Decor, and the Floral Whiskey Sour. The menu also boasts an impressive selection of wines, beers, and spirits from across the globe.

But it’s not just the drinks that make Purple Martini a must-visit spot in Goa. The kitchen also offers a delectable selection of cuisine that blends Indian and international flavors. From appetizers like the Peri-Peri Chicken Skewers and Recheado Prawns to entries like Banana Wrapped Snapper with fiery chilies and tamarind, the menu has something for every taste bud.

Purple Martini’s crown jewel, however, are its breathtaking sunset views. With its beachfront location, guests can enjoy a front-row seat to the spectacular hues of orange, pink, and purple that light up the sky during sunset—the perfect backdrop for a romantic dinner, a lively get-together with friends, or a relaxing evening alone.

No wonder it’s the top resto-bar in Goa!

About the Founder
Saarthak Gupta, an alumnus of The Doon School and the University of Leeds, has been recognised as a leading entrepreneur in the hospitality industry. With his passion for hospitality, astute leadership, marketing prowess, and an eye for detail, he has transformed Purple Martini into one of the most popular resto-bars in Goa. His commitment to excellence has been recognised by various institutions, and he has received several prestigious awards for his contributions to the hospitality industry, as well as being named amongst the Times 50 Most Influential Personalities.

Purple Martini has won several accolades including the Times Nightlife Award for the Best Sundowner Bar and The Most Popular Restaurant four years in a row. The restaurant has also been featured in various publications, including Conde Nast Traveller, Vogue India, and The Economic Times. And we expect many more under Saarthak’s leadership in the coming years!

SAARTHIK GUPTA
CEO/Founder, Purple Martini.

GETTING THERE
Vistara offers non-stop daily flights to Mopa, Goa from Delhi, Mumbai, and Hyderabad, and to Dabolim, Goa from Delhi, Mumbai, and Bengaluru.

DISCLAIMER: Connectivity details are subject to change. Please visit airvistara.com for the latest flight schedules.
THE CENTRE OF ATTENTION!

Make a style statement with these attractive centrepieces that will elevate your home décor and party hosting game with their spectacular designs and striking allure.

By RHEA MULANI

Tropical Centre Piece By Floral Art By Nandini

Let your table be the topic of discussion with this tropics-themed décor, where shades of amber and white blossom into a charming silk posy, reflective of an artist’s canvas. Pair it with the accompanying reusable wax-coated LED candle at Sunday brunches or late-night galas—it’s sure to claim the spotlight!

₹1,650; floralartbynandini.com

Colour Pop Floral Decor

By Coastal Habitat

Would you believe this vibrant arrangement of pre-curated dried florals comprises zero artificial colours? Featuring botanicals like star grass, lino, staticia, and broom grass, the made-in-India centrepiece is best displayed with a glowing candle in its midst for a complete VIBGYOR-themed look. The perfect dash of hues for your elegant space. ₹1,999; coastalhabitat.co
**# TRENDING**

**TABLE DÉCOR**

All images courtesy of respective brands

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**Abstract Soulmates Sculpture By The Artment**

Crafted with heart and soul, this ivory sculpture embraces the beauty of intimate human connections with thought-provoking flair. Flaunt the sophisticated resin figurines on your mantel, shelf, or tabletop. This embodiment of eternal love deserves a permanent spot in every home! $250; theartment.com

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**Draper Bronze Pillar Candle Centerpiece By Pottery Barn**

Meticulously designed using steel, this grand ornamentation, featuring a matte finish, exudes elegance with much élan. Decorate the base tray with shells or botanical sprigs for an added element of style and watch as the multi-armed candle holder fetches you compliments, leaving you glowing with pride! $269; potterybarn.in

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**Indomitus Leopard Crystal Brass Statue By Decorn Circle**

Featuring natural sea crystals, this striking statue made of high-quality brass showcases a leopard elegantly perched atop a glass globe. Its unique design is certain to enhance the appeal of your dining or living room table. Sure to be a roaring success! $18,500; thedecorcircle.com

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**Niraan Ecomix Vase With Handle By Ellementry**

Lend a stylish touch to your décor with this handcrafted vase. Featuring handles on both sides, it’s fairly easy to use, turning redecorating into a pleasant dream. Made with Ecomix, a sturdy material comprising leftover waste, this is a sustainable and worthy pick for your table! $1,090; ellementry.com

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**Concluded**
WHO’S THE BOSS?
These nifty gadgets, that’s who!
This selection of smartly-designed products is certain to make your life simpler, swifter, and oh-so-sensational!

By ANANYA BAHL

Foldable Linen Book Lamp By Fig Living
This über-cute bedside accessory is reminiscent of the sun rising or setting on the horizon. Crafted with European linen and mango wood, it features a unique foldable flat-pack design that transforms it into a ‘book’ when shut, making it ultra-portable. What’s more, it’s designed and made in India! ₹4,999; figliving.com

Pearl Wine Rack By Anything Personalize
A sure-shot way to wow your guests. This stand is as much a utilitarian product as it is a décor accessory. Cleverly crafted using stainless steel, it gives the effect of your bottle and a string of pearls floating mid-air! All you need to do is place your beverage in it and work your ‘magic’. ₹2,591; etsy.com

Bounty Elite By Aero Garden
Grow veggies and plants sans soil and at five times the speed with this hydroponic countertop garden that features a 50-watt LED grow light for full-spectrum light. To add to its bountiful allure, it comes with a ‘vacation mode’ that ensures your at-home garden is fresh as dewy grass while you’re away! Approx. ₹2,685; aerogarden.com

Disclaimer: All the prices listed are as given at the time of printing and are subject to change. Taxes and shipping costs may be extra.
Modern Freestanding Foldable Bathtub with Drain Hose and Cover By InArt

There's nothing quite like a relaxing bath after a long day. Take this soothing ritual up several notches with this foldable bathtub that can be stowed away when not in use. At just 32 kilograms, it's easily portable. And the segmented cover with accessible openings for your hands makes it convenient for you to enjoy pastimes like reading or watching your favourite show.

12,999; inart.co.in

Magsafe Trio Wireless Charging Dock By The Gadgets Mink

This 3-in-1 Qi wireless charger is perfect for charging your iPhone, AirPods, and Apple Watch at one go. With an impeccably thin design, it fits well into any home or office space. Equipped with low-temperature charging to avoid overheating, this one is a must-have accessory.

3,499; thegadgetsmink.com

SE3 Smart Riding Suitcase By Airwheel

Rewind to your childhood days with this luggage that can be ridden like a scooter! As the world’s first motorised, smart, and connected suitcase, it can get you around three times faster than by walking. Made with aviation grade aluminium, it has convenient internal partitions for your belongings, too.

Approx. 58,891; airwheel.net

Adjustable Exercise Cycle For Home By Fitspace

Workout and get ‘work’ done, too, with this convenient exercise cycle that has an adjustable desk attached to it. With eight levels of resistance, an LCD monitor to track your calories, and a compact and foldable build, it ticks all the convenience checkboxes.

19,999; amazon.in

Continued
Monkeyfeet By Animal House Fitness
Slip on this cool workout contraption, which lets you pump iron with dumb-bells at your feet! Allowing for a maximum weight of 72.5 kilogrammes per foot, its universal design fits most shoe sizes. Just fit your weights to it and go ahead with ‘leg day’ at the gym! Approx. ₹6,667; animalhousefitness.com

Nimbus Rain Cloud Humidifier By The Artment
Here’s a product for you from a brand that featured on Shark Tank India! This colour-changing bedside adornment works with multi-functional appeal as a humidifier and aroma oil-diffuser. The accompanying gentle sound of falling raindrops adds to the charm by facilitating a calm, soothing atmosphere for deep sleep. ₹4,499; theartment.com

Bookcase Safe By Original Book Works UK
Enter a magical realm of mysteries with this elegant decor element that resembles a bookshelf but actually conceals a safe for all your precious belongings. Made with strong steel, it boasts a high-security lock and 7 lever double bolted key lock, with hidden hinges. Eruditely secretive! ₹27,609; etsy.com

Led Flashlight Gloves By G.Fidel
Heading out on a monsoon trek and need all hands on deck? Put on these cool illuminating gloves for advanced dexterity. With a snug and comfortable fit coupled with a fingerless design, they will light the path in dark mountainous territory with ease. ₹295; amazon.in

Concluded

All images courtesy their respective brands
Feast Your Eyes on This!

Dive into a mouth-watering world where food meets art! From edible aesthetic pieces to stunning food-inspired designs, these one-of-a-kind creations are all set to make you hungry for more.

By SURINA SAYAL

Piece of Cake
Not only do these cake-slice-shaped soaps look yummy enough to eat, but they’re also great for your skin since they are crafted with coconut oil, cocoa butter, and sweet almond oil. Infused with fresh floral scents, these tasty-looking treats ‘(not to be eaten)! will leave you smelling delicious, too.

Food For Fashion
Montreal-based artist Gab Bois has a real knack for giving food items an unconventional twist. Take, for example, these invitingly buttery croissant heels and the lusciously green rhubarb handbag. The latter is also available to buy on her website, Canapés, which is focused on serving up an array of food-themed artwork.

Art on Toast
Talented Tokyo-based artist SAGAMANA creates beautiful works of art on toast. In a series that pays homage to the paintings by Japanese Ukiyo-e artist Eisen, she recreates the artwork by using veggies like purple cabbage and bell peppers for the kimono, squid ink for hair, and microgreens, baby corn, enoki mushrooms for hair ornaments. Your stomach’s going to say konnichiwa to this one!

Disclaimer: All the prices listed are as given at the time of printing and are subject to change. Taxes and shipping costs may be extra.

Continued...
Veritable Vegetables

Post-contemporary sculptor and photographer Klaus Enrique is world-renowned for his mind-boggling sculptures made from fruits, vegetables, flowers, eggshells, meat, and more. In a tribute series to Italian Mannerist artist Giuseppe Arcimboldo, he has recreated the 16th-century painter’s artworks with an impressive assemblage of actual fruits and vegetables. We’d say this is a worthy investment in your artistic health.

@klausenrique

Just Say ‘Yes’!

We won’t blame you for doing a double-take because this elegant engagement ring box is, in fact, a dessert-creation by French-Swiss pastry chef Amaury Guichon. A chocolate-coated cheesecake with blueberry cream sponge, blueberry compote, and lemon cheesecake mousse—it’ll be hard to say no to this one! Now you know what to carry with the real ring when you decide to pop that all-important question!

@amauryguichon

Frame-worthy Food

Indian plant-forward chef and content creator Surabhi Sehgal literally uses food platters as her canvas. Pickled onions, baby corn, and okra transform into flowers, while herbs represent branches and leaves in this daintily painted preparation of the uttapam (South Indian rice pancake). Picture perfect, we say!

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WHERE YOUR HOME IS YOUR HAVEN

Imagine a residence where tranquility blends with sophisticated design and comfort. Transforming this dream into reality is Elysian Escape by Diptti Khanna Designs. Lavishly spread across 2,250 square feet, this luxurious accommodation is an inviting retreat where home meets the heart.

Step inside this spacious residence and you’ll instantly be enthralled by its interiors, which boast intricate detailing at every turn, weaving a tapestry of understated elegance. The tone of the home is set at the very entrance with the heavily detailed white puja room on the left, where divine tranquillity meets intricate craftsmanship. The walls, adorned with meticulously carved patterns, create a symphony of intricate details that draw inspiration from sacred geometry. A sense of purity emanates from the pristine white surroundings, enhancing the spiritual aura of the space. Elaborate motifs along the edges of the altar, tell a story of devotion through their delicate intricacies. And soft ambient lighting casts a gentle glow, accentuating the ornate details and creating a celestial ambiance.

Transition seamlessly into the elegant living room that is a perfect blend of luxury and comfort, creating a haven for both relaxation and refined entertaining. The dining room steals the spotlight with a marble wall resembling a masterful painting, adding a touch of opulence to every meal. Anchored in the corner of the balcony, accessed beyond the sliding doors from the living area, is a gracefully suspended swing. This becomes the focal point, inviting moments of repose amidst the natural beauty. As the sunlight dances through the sheer curtains, the seamless transition between indoor and outdoor spaces transforms the living area into a serene retreat.

The daughter’s room in dreamy pink is where whimsy and elegance converge. The focal point, a luxurious round bed, beckons with its plush comfort, cocooning its occupant in a cloud of softness. The wall behind the mirror, adorned with pretty flowers painted in delicate hues, create an ethereal backdrop that seems to bloom with every passing moment. The guest room is minimal and sophisticated. The luxurious master bedroom features a dramatic accent wall with a deep, rich magenta upholstered headboard in a sunburst pattern, which serves as a vivid focal point. Detailing can be seen in each area across the room where the elements weave intricate patterns to bind the design together as a seamless and elegant whole.

A home as beautiful and serene as this is sure to ensure a precious sense of calm for everyone who lives here.
VISUAL TREATS!

These creative eateries across the country will charm you with both their striking ambience and delectable menus!

By RHEA MULANI

CARNIVAL BY TRÈSIND
Mumbai

This award-winning restaurant from Dubai is making flavourful waves in Mumbai with a tempting menu offering the best of modern Indian cuisine. Embark on an immersive culinary journey featuring bartenders in neon-lit masks and artistic dishes prepared before your eyes, transforming each plate into a veritable artwork. The colourful poke bowls, pretty kale salad, and regal Kebab À La King with nihari (spicy mutton stew) curry are a must-try. For experimental palates, there are jackfruit cutlets with a side of blue cheese chutney and chaat sundae (comprising yoghurt ice cream and tamarind granita). The creativity extends to the interiors that bring the eatery’s name to life with wacky wall art, intriguing carnival-themed elements, and a lively space that hosts DJ nights, among other fun events. The fiesta continues at the bar, which serves drinks based on the world’s most iconic events. Samba de Mundo, for instance, brings the Rio Carnival to the city with Cachaça rum and tart berry flavours. Open daily from 12 PM to 11:45 PM.

+91 9152100123; @carnivalbytresind_mumbai

FIREBACK
Goa

Concealed behind a vintage Portuguese bungalow in the Siolim village, this riverside Thai eatery serves picturesque vistas alongside mouth-watering platters of grills, including turmeric prawns and pomelo salad with toasted coconuts. The indulgences continue with a mix of fiery mains, such as Massaman lamb curry, deep-fried pumpkin, soft-shell crab, and a sour orange curry of river prawns with shredded green papaya. Seated inside a sleek glasshouse with an attached promenade overlooking the Chapora River, diners savour a meal with a view! A special beverage room serves a unique mix of Thai-inspired cocktails, including whiskey with pickled galangal brine and gin with Thai basil and custard apple. Open daily for lunch from noon to 3:30 PM, bar bites and drinks from 4 PM to 7 PM, and dinner from 7 PM to midnight.

+91 9209717970; @firebackrestaurant

THE SWINTON HOUSE
Jaipur

The Pink City adds another culinary jewel to its crown with this plush eatery that blends European elegance with Rajasthani’s cultural tapestry. Treat yourself to a plethora of global flavours infused with the essence of Indian dishes, including succulent Moroccan chicken kebabs, cottage cheese mousse nest with pickled kataifi (a Turkish pastry), London Fog Run tramisu, and more. The four-sided open bar features innovative cocktails crafted using local ingredients and global spirits, including the Disco Jamun and Velter Coffee Highball—perfect for sundowners! Guests are welcomed in via a grand entrance flanked by lush canopies, while the Victorian-themed lavish interiors adjoin an open courtyard with Roman arches and glass panes. Open from 1 PM to 11:30 PM. +91 7707088000/66000; @theswintonhouse

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What’s Life Without a Good Laugh?
I admire people with a sense of humour. I grew up in a family that loves a good joke, and I subconsciously compare others to my uncles and cousins who have a crazy sense of humour. And I also love watching movies that make me laugh! Angoor, the Amol Palekar-starrer Gol Maal, and Jaane Bhi Do Yaro are still my go-to films. Anees Bazmee’s Welcome is one of my all-time favourite comedies. When it comes to my filmography, I enjoyed working in comedies like Saajan Chale Sasural, Golmaal Again, Hera Pheri, and Biwi No. 1. Working with David Dhawan and Govinda—one of the most fun actors ever—was a dream!

Creative Bonds
The strongest professional associations I’ve had in my career are with Vishal Bhardwaj (Maqbool and Haider) and Gulzar sir (Maachis). We’re on the same wavelength where cinema and creativity are concerned. They have given me the maximum creative freedom when it comes to interpreting my characters and the way I perform them. There is mutual respect for each other, which helps us create work that people enjoy and look forward to.

Travel Diaries
One of the best advantages my profession has given me is the luxury to travel all over India and the world. It was my dream to become a flight attendant—which I fulfilled in a way by playing the part in my film Crew. And there are so many places I hold close to my heart. I love Rajasthan for its exquisite beauty. I got to explore Siliguri and its tea estates when I was shooting for a Bengali film in the region. I’d visited Kashmir as a child and I went back to shoot Haider; but I’m keen to explore the interiors of this pretty state, too. Abroad, I was captivated by Egypt and Seychelles. I’ve explored Koh Samui (and the rest of Thailand), Switzerland, Budapest, Turkey, and Venice, as well. The USA, however, is my favourite vacation destination! I’ve been going there every year since I was six because I have family there.
As you can see, I’m quite the frequent flier! And because of that, I have pretty specific preferences. For instance, I enjoy sitting on the aisle seat since it’s easier to get up and go out without jumping over a sleeping passenger. But I prefer the window seat when I fly to Kashmir because it’s the most beautiful landing amid snow-capped mountains and lush valleys.

I also do a lot of reading and writing on my flights. What I love about ‘leaving on a jet plane’ is that one is disconnected from the world for at least a couple of hours. Also, when you’re in an aircraft, you feel like you’re a part of this big community or a family traveling together. As I mentioned, I recently played the role of a cabin crew personnel and I really want to acknowledge the kind of work they do and the erratic hours they put in, all with a smile. Hats off to all of them!

Foodie’s Delight

To be honest, I’m not a typical foodie, but I certainly enjoy a good meal, especially Thai and Persian cuisine, Kerala fare, and the desserts from my native Hyderabad. I also do a lot of reading and writing on my flights. What I love about leaving on a jet plane is that one is disconnected from the world for at least a couple of hours. Also, when you’re in an aircraft, you feel like you’re a part of this big community or a family traveling together. As I mentioned, I recently played the role of a cabin crew personnel and I really want to acknowledge the kind of work they do and the erratic hours they put in, all with a smile. Hats off to all of them!

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Clothes Call!

I believe a person’s taste in clothes says a lot about them. Maybe that’s why I spend a lot of money and time on planning my clothes and wardrobe. My brief to my stylist is to not get me things that the whole world is wearing. I am not a fan of mass-produced and homogenised fashion. Generally speaking, I’m most comfortable in jeans and I simply love the blue denims-white shirt-denim jacket combo.

Up Next

My romantic thriller with Ajay Devgn, titled Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha, will hit theatres on 5 July. It’s directed by Neeraj Pandey and I am very excited about it. I am also thrilled to be a part of the global franchise, Dune. Prophecy, and to be working with some of the most brilliant creators, actors, and crew in the industry. Tonnes of exciting things coming up!*

*For corporate orders email ecommerce@potandbloom.com

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Get your travel wardrobe in order with this curation of airport looks to suit every mood and occasion. Take your pick for the next time you want to fly past the clouds in style!

By ANANYA BAHL

Athleisure Appeal
Go all out with the hottest fashion trend right now!

FOR HIM

CHUCK 70 CANVAS BY CONVERSE
Nothing spells classic athleisure attire like a pair of these premium canvas shoes! ₹5,499; converse.in

SOLID MID RISE REGULAR FIT TRACK PANTS BY UCB
These black, 100 per cent cotton joggers are the perfect travel companions, and super comfy too! ₹2,399; in.benetton.com

FOR HER

CARGO CAPRI TROUSERS BY H&M
A low-waist style, drawstring cord stoppers, and diagonal front and open back pockets make these bottoms conveniently trendy! ₹1,499; hm.com

Z.N.E. WINTERIZED FULL-ZIP HOODED TRACK JACKET BY ADIDAS
A smart yet sporty sartorial choice offering great ease of movement! Available in the brand’s ‘Legend Ivy’ and ‘Blanch Cargo’ colours. ₹6,999; adidas.co.in

POLY TRAINERS BY SOLETREDS
These adorable sneakers in a charming pink hue will complete the sporty look you crave for your next travel adventure. ₹2,299; solethreads.com

CRINKLE DOUBLE FABRIC POP OVER SHIRT WITH HOOD BY CHEMISTRY
Paint the airport gloriously red as you sashay from check-in to boarding gate in this cotton hoodie. ₹2,029; chemistryindia.com

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Formal Form
Stay ready for that all-important meeting before you land!

THREE PIECE NAVY TEXTURED FORMAL SUIT – BONTO
BY BLACKBERRYS
Men, you really can’t go wrong with this one—it means business, and how!

`11,197; blackberrys.com

WHITE STRIPED SLIM-FIT SHIRT
BY WARDROBE
A stylish polyester performer to ensure a successful meeting with clients.

`1,499; westside.com

THE LINEN SHIRT
BY CREATURES OF HABIT
This breathable top will go perfectly with your suit, especially for day-time flights. Choose from a range of colours. ₹1,999.

3,999; creaturesofhabit.in

CYLINDRICAL HEEL BACK STRAP SANDALS
BY CHARLES & KEITH
Embrace your most confident self and take a power walk in these strappy, cylindrical-heeled beauties. ₹5,999.

charlesandkeith.in

FOR HER

NOTCH COLLAR STRETCH PANT SUIT – DUSTY PEACH
BY POWERSUTRA
Lined with soft crêpe fabric, this two-piece suit epitomises professional, smart attire for the on-the-go businesswoman.

6,285; powersutra.co

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FOR HIM

ALPINE SAFARI LINEN SHIRT BY ANDAMEN
Stitched with one of the Earth's friendliest fibres—linen from European flax—this is a stylishly sustainable outfit choice.

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ALPINE SAFARI LINEN SHIRT BY ANDAMEN
Stitched with one of the Earth's friendliest fibres—linen from European flax—this is a stylishly sustainable outfit choice.

FOR HER

MEN'S 511 DARK INDIGO SLIM FIT JEANS BY LEVI'S
Uber cool for globetrotting adventures galore!

MEN'S 511 DARK INDIGO SLIM FIT JEANS BY LEVI'S
Uber cool for globetrotting adventures galore!

MEN'S 511 DARK INDIGO SLIM FIT JEANS BY LEVI'S
Uber cool for globetrotting adventures galore!

RANGER BOOTS (VINTAGE BROWN) GOODYEAR WELTED BY CRAFT & GLORY
A heritage pair featuring classic toe cap panel stitching and hand stitched commando rubber outsoles for a rugged escapade!

RANGER BOOTS (VINTAGE BROWN) GOODYEAR WELTED BY CRAFT & GLORY
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A heritage pair featuring classic toe cap panel stitching and hand stitched commando rubber outsoles for a rugged escapade!

BROOKE TOTE BAG BY MIRAGGIO
Flaunting a large rectangular compartment with a magnetic closure, this arm candy is perfect for all your in-flight needs.

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Flaunting a large rectangular compartment with a magnetic closure, this arm candy is perfect for all your in-flight needs.

BROOKE TOTE BAG BY MIRAGGIO
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Language
Footwear & Accessories

Handcrafted from Premium Leather, these Moccasins offer Unmatched Comfort and Elegance. Featuring a plush footbed and flexible outsole, the stylish slip-ons are light on your feet and essential for your workwear wardrobe.

FAUX LEATHER JACKET BY URBANIC
Stay mysterious and edgy in this groovy pick that features a round neck, pocket detail, and long sleeves.

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BLUE HIGH RISE DISTRESSED JADE STRAIGHT FIT JEANS BY VERO MODA
Knee rips, frayed hems, and ankle length design: this is every woman's dream of being effortlessly chilled come true!

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3,009; veromoda.in

3,690; in.urbanic.com

4,990; andamen.com

3,249; miraggiolife.com

4,454; levi.in

12,299; craftandglory.in

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Opened That Matters...

Stay Girly, Stay Stylish
Evoke your inner diva with these laid-back glam looks!

**FEMININE FIESTA**

- **YELLOW BE MINE, SUNSHINE DRESS BY KHARA KAPAS**
  Made with poplin, this sleeveless, A-line midi with soft pleat details is a gorgeous pick for an early morning flight to someplace sunny.
  ₹7,500; nykaafashion.com

- **U-NECK TANK WHITE BY FREE PEOPLE**
  Enjoy summer vibes with this carefree, relaxed tank-style top that fits with almost everything in your closet.
  ₹2,299; nykaafashion.com

- **MEDIUM BLUE SOLID STRAIGHT JACKET BY AND**
  Throw on this denim number with long sleeves and several pockets over your dress when it gets chilly mid-flight or to simply look nonchalantly chic.
  ₹2,580; andindia.com

- **HDC X EMILY IN PARIS TAN & WHITE WOVEN STRAW FLAT BRIM HAT BY HAIR DRAMA CO.**
  Heading to the beach? Not without your straw hat, please!
  ₹1,800; hairdramacompany.com

- **OPHELIA FLATS BY OCEEDEE INDIA**
  Boasting an invitingly warm tan shade, these comfortable heels will bring the right strut to your step!
  ₹3,999; oceedee.com

**BOHEMIAN BLISS**

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- **HDC X EMILY IN PARIS TAN & WHITE WOVEN STRAW FLAT BRIM HAT BY HAIR DRAMA CO.**
  Heading to the beach? Not without your straw hat, please!
  ₹1,800; hairdramacompany.com

- **RUST TAB BUTTONED HEM PANTS BY THE LABEL LIFE**
  These breezy cotton-linen pants will add a dash of colour to your outfit.
  ₹1,794; store.thelabellife.com

**FEMININE FIESTA**

- **YELLOW BE MINE, SUNSHINE DRESS BY KHARA KAPAS**
  Made with poplin, this sleeveless, A-line midi with soft pleat details is a gorgeous pick for an early morning flight to someplace sunny.
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- **OPHELIA FLATS BY OCEEDEE INDIA**
  Boasting an invitingly warm tan shade, these comfortable heels will bring the right strut to your step!
  ₹3,999; oceedee.com

Concluded
LUXURY LEGACY
Peruse through the most iconic accessories from around the world that have stood the test of time and fashion with their eternal charm!

By RHEA MULANI

TRINITY RING BY CARTIER
Embodying the trinity of grace, sophistication, and love, the Trinity ring is a promise of timeless grandeur. With 18k yellow gold, rose gold, and white gold intertwining, it features 144 brilliant-cut diamonds totalling 1.54 carats. The crowned jewel of exquisite craftsmanship!

21,80,000; cartier.com

MANHATTAN SUNGLASSES BY OLIVER GOLDSMITH
When it comes to chic-elegance, these iconic sunglasses worn by Audrey Hepburn in the film Breakfast at Tiffany’s is the pair to feast your eyes on! Handmade to perfection in Italy, with the date of its original production embossed on the frame, this dark tortoiseshell historical pair is bellissima!

34,337; olivergoldsmith.com

ORANGE H EPSOM BIRKIN 35 PALLADIUM HARDWARE BIRKIN BAG BY HERMÈS
A palladium-crafted, made-to-order accessory that fashion connoisseurs consider to be the epitome of immeasurable extravagance. Covered in the brand’s classic Orange H shade, many have attempted to bag it, and we can see why.

Price on request; sothebys.com

Disclaimer: All prices listed are as given at the time of printing and are subject to change. Taxes and shipping costs may be extra.
SLIM FIT MESH POLO SHIRT BY RALPH LAUREN
If it’s a polo, it’s got to be a Ralph Lauren! Stylishly cool in the Harbour Island Blue hue, it’s the ideal pick with a slim silhouette and two-button placket that exudes effortless sophistication. Pair it with trousers or denims to nail the look! ₹2,500; ralphlauren.global

BAROCCO SILK FOULARD BY VERSACE
Fashioned from pure silk, this striking scarf features Versace’s signature Barocco print, a beloved house code. First introduced by Gianni Versace in the early ‘90s, the print juxtaposes stylised acanthus leaves with a solid background. The foulard is sure to add a stunning finishing touch to your ensemble! ₹40,900; versace.com

AIR JORDAN 1 RETRO HIGH OG BY NIKE
Taking streetwear ensembles up a notch is this reimagining of one of the brand’s classic sneakers. The indisputable trendsetter is back with a renewed aesthetic and vibrant colours, with lightweight cushioning and rubber outsoles that ensure utmost durability. Go ahead and just flaunt it! ₹16,995; nike.com

GG MARMONT WIDE BELT BY GUCCI
Masterfully combining sophistication with contemporary style, this unisex accessory has elegance written all over it! Made with full-grain leather to create a boxier effect, the double-G belt is a status symbol that goes all too well with denim wear, cinching the deal for us! ₹43,242; gucci.com

Continued
CLASSIC BOODLES PLATINUM DIAMOND TENNIS BRACELET
BY BOODLES

A true treasure, this meticulously crafted piece with exquisite diamonds set in lustrous platinum is the very definition of glamour and refinement. Labelled the ‘tennis bracelet’ after making its presence felt on the courts, it’s the everyday luxury piece you’ve been looking for.

13,76,222; boodles.com

EAU SAUVAGE PARFUM BY DIOR

This intoxicating fragrance has us breathing a sigh of utter bliss with its refreshing citrus notes and woody undertones. A classic aroma that exudes sophistication and charm, it’s perfect for the modern gentleman who appreciates refined simplicity. Truly scintillating! €24,802; kiwla.com

ROYAL BENGAL TIGER CAPSULE CLUTCH BY SABYASACHI

Expressing the essence of untamed beauty, this wine-hued clutch proudly displays the royal Bengal tiger motif. Made with 24k gold-plated metal hardware, it features a conveniently detachable chain. Sashay across any room with this accessory, while your bag does all the talking!

79,500; azafashions.com

SPORTY KATE BY CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN

Step into luxury with these show-stopping red-bottom heels—Louboutin’s trademark design that has turned into a renowned symbol of exclusivity worldwide. This one boasts an 85-millimetre heel with a pointed toe that makes it perfect for evening soirees!

€10,252; us.christianlouboutin.com

Antoni Gaudí

Synonymous with Catalan Modernism, this Spanish genius’ modus operandi was nature-inspired with the widespread use of ceramic mosaic tiles and stained glass. His most iconic creation, Barcelona’s Basílica de la Sagrada Família, remains unfinished since 140 years and is all set for completion in 2026. After all, good things do take time!

Frank Gehry

A proud non-conformist and de-constructivist, Gehry’s experimental style often manifested as quirky structures, including the unconventional Dancing House in Prague. The maverick’s signature ‘liquid architecture’ style, dominated by abstract and undulating buildings, enabled him to rebuild the façade of modern structures, from the ground up.

Le Corbusier

Swiss-French architect Corbusier upgraded the inner framework of the city of Chandigarh, optimising urban planning along the way. A master of bold sculptural expressionism, he reimagined the entire space, turning it into a ‘Garden City’, complete with green spaces running across neatly aligned grids. A true architectural innovation in shape and form.
LONDON, BY DESIGN!

From sprawling art galleries and contemporary design centres, to stylish shopping streets and creative dining options, the British capital is a wonderfully aesthetic playground, with a surprise around every corner.

BY PRACHI JOSHI

“When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford.” These famous words uttered by English author Samuel Johnson about 250 years ago, ring true even today. From storied landmarks like the Buckingham Palace, Tower Bridge, and Westminster Abbey to vibrant cultural institutions like The National Gallery, London, British Museum, and the Tate—there’s plenty to gladden the heart of art enthusiasts. Add to that, its constantly evolving dining landscape, historic shopping streets, and a year-round calendar of events designed to enthral. So, if you’re inspired by creativity, aesthetics, and all things beautiful, here’s what you can’t miss out on when you visit London next.

CULTURAL EMBRACE

Chock-a-block with world-class museums and art galleries, London is a dream come true for the culture vulture. Begin with the venerable Victoria and Albert Museum (or V&A), known for its decorative arts and design collection. The museum building in South Kensington is impressive in itself, featuring a Victorian edifice with decorative mosaics, frescoes, and elaborate stained glass. The artistic vision continues within with its permanent collection showcasing an eye-popping 2.5 million objects spanning 5,000 years of history, and covering everything from architecture, painting, and sculpture to fashion, textiles, ceramics, and jewellery. While the museum is free to enter, some special exhibitions are ticketed, like the ongoing one on Tropical Modernism that includes examples of the architectural style’s expression in India (on till 22 September). Coming up in November is an exhibition on Mughal art and architecture that promises to be a stunner. And don’t miss Room 40, which holds the world’s largest textile and clothing collection and traces fashion through the ages. Another must-see is the David Bowie exhibit featuring photographs, album sleeve artwork, and memorabilia that traces the shifting styles of one of the most pioneering performers of our times. In fact, next year, the V&A is all set to open The David Bowie Centre for the Study of Performing Arts at its new outpost, V&A East Storehouse in Stratford’s Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. With more than 80,000 items, including photos, letters, sheet music, original costumes, and instruments, it’s sure to be a treat for music and fashion fans. Now that you’ve soaked in the splendours of the past, get ready to witness the best of contemporary design at the Design Museum on Kensington High Street (near Holland Park). Housed in a Grade II-listed modernist building, topped by a unique copper-clad, hyperboloid paraboloid roof, the museum traces the history of modern design through the works of some of the world’s best designers. Launching on 5 July, Barbie®: The Exhibition takes you on a colourful ride through the famous doll’s fashion, cars, houses, and more. And do drop by the complex’s beautifully curated shop to pick up a design-forward souvenir before you bid it adieu.

NEED YOUR MODERN ART FIX TO BE SATISFIED FURTHER? HEAD TO HYDE PARK (A MUST-VISIT IN ITSELF) AND MAKE A BEE LINE FOR THE SERPENLINE GALLERY NESTLED IN KENSINGTON GARDENS. COUPLED WITH THE ZAHA HADID-DESIGNED SERPENTINE NORTH (ACROSS THE SERPENTINE LAKE), THE TWO GALLERIES HAVE A FANTASTIC CALENDAR OF PROGRAMMING THROUGH THE YEAR. EACH SUMMER,
Clockwise from top left: The Serpentine Pavilion presents Archipelagic Void, a creation by Minsuk Cho, Mass Studies; A row of must-visit interior design shops line Pimlico Road; A digital rendering of Pumpkin, a sculpture by Yayoi Kusama; The pretty ‘Rhododendron’ plate by Raynaud evokes spring at the Design Centre.

the gallery invites an architect, whose work has never been shown in the UK, to create a pavilion in Hyde Park. This year’s creation, Archipelagic Void, is by Seoul-based Korean architect Minsuk Cho and his firm Mass Studies (open till October-end this year). This summer, the gallery also unveils a new large-scale sculpture by Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama—the 6-metre-tall, yellow-and-black Pumpkin (2024) is her tallest bronze pumpkin artwork to date (on display from 9 July to 3 November). Yet another testament to London’s high stature when it comes to contemporary art!

HOME AND AWAY
If all that gallery-hopping has given you some home décor inspiration, the Design Centre is a good place to start scouting. Housed under three glass domes in Chelsea Harbour by the Thames riverside, it has 130 showrooms and more than 600 of the world’s most prestigious luxury brands on offer. Let the centre’s personal shopping team take you through the various offerings—from Raynaud’s crockery designs to Jensen Beds’ sleek Norwegian-style upholstered beds, it’s a furnishing haven for décor lovers! For a more eclectic selection, the numerous interior designs shops on Pimlico Road should be your next port of call. After all, this is where all the London designers flock to, whether for fixtures like hand-made sculptural plaster cone hanging lights at Rose Uniacke Interiors or bespoke British craftsmanship at Howe, just across the street. Next door at Shyib Colefax & John Fowler’s, you’ll find elegant antiques like ceramic lamps, gilded mirrors, and decorative objects d’art. Speaking of period pieces, the Allies Antique Market in Marylebone is an essential stop. As London’s largest indoor antiques and vintage market, it’s spread over four floors in an Art Deco building, where you will find nearly 100 dealers offering everything from antique jewellery, vintage fashion, and fine art to textiles, ceramics, silverware, and much more. And that’s not all: if you’re truly craving it, there’s more vintage shopping on Portobello Road Market in Notting Hill. Said to be the world’s largest antique market, it has more than 1,000 stalls lining the road. It may require a bit of wading through crowds, but you may just snag a vintage

Continued →
designer outfit or a cool antique piece to take back home. While the street market is open on most days, the antiques section is open only on Fridays and Saturdays, with Saturday being the main trading day. Pro Tip: Arrive before 11:30 AM, if you want to avoid the crowds. After all, the early bird catches the—in this case, supremely vintage—worm!

OFF THE SHELF
Looking for some special luxury brands? Then Sloane Street is the place to go! Situated in Knightsbridge, this is one of the world’s most exclusive shopping destinations, with designer flagship stores interspersed with chic town houses and beautifully decorated private gardens. You’ll find all the iconic brands here, from Burberry, Bvlgari, and Chanel to Dior, Fendi, Gucci, and many more. Knightsbridge is also home to two of the most historic stores in London—Harrods and Harvey Nichols. Founded in 1849, the former is a 5-acre behemoth with an Edwardian Baroque façade, iconic green awnings, and hand-laid mosaic flooring. By comparison, Harvey Nichols feels more intimate. Founded in 1831 as a linen shop, the current red-brick building dates to the late 1800s. Inside are five floors of a retail mecca, including several shop-in-shop concepts like the pastel-hued Jacquemus space (designed by OMA/AMO), offering an immersive experience. Sign up for their personal shopping service, sit back in one of their private suites, and let your personal stylist take care of all your retail needs.

SWEET SURRENDER
All that shopping is sure to have worn you out and you deserve a bit of relaxation, amidst some creative brilliance, of course. Just around the corner from Harvey Nichols is the Jumeirah Carlton Tower, London’s first tower hotel that opened in 1961. A recent £100 million renovation has seen the property transform into an elegant, sophisticated space with marble accents and Art Deco touches. Head upstairs to see the 20-metre swimming pool, London’s largest in a hotel, with a Jacuzzi and a double-height curved glass ceiling that looks out over the city. A block away is another glamorous refuge, The Cadogan, A Belmond Hotel, housed in four gorgeous Georgian town houses. The interiors, tastefully adorned with velvet, marble, and wooden elements, capture the historic genuinely committed to the pursuit of marriage, but also aligns with the standards upheld by the service.

Beyond the glossy veneer of the hyper-individualism and self-sufficiency of modern society, there lies a deeper, and all-too-often-overlooked desire for connection and companionship—a desire for that special person to share life’s joys and sorrows, to come home to after a long day, and to create cherished memories we hold close when looking back. Yet, amidst the relentless demands of modern life, this desire often fades into the background, leaving love feeling elusive.

Enter Vows For Eternity, a global matchmaking firm led by entrepreneur and founder CEO Anuradha Gupta, committed to easing the burden of seeking connection in a world dominated by ever-shifting priorities. With headquarters in New York City, Vows For Eternity extends its reach across continents, from the bustling streets of Mumbai and New Delhi to the cosmopolitan hubs of London, Toronto, and Dubai. This global footprint underscores their commitment to connecting Indian communities across various geographies, bound by the timeless pursuit of connection and companionship.

Vows For Eternity’s approach is grounded in profound introspection and emotional intelligence. Unlike conventional matchmaking services, they delve deep into each member’s worldviews, values, and life experiences. Here, members engage in heart-to-heart discussions about their concerns, whether it’s a disconnect with parents over their choices or a personal emotional block. The process, charged with empathy, is facilitated by experts who help bridge these gaps. This isn’t mere data collection or a cold exchange of biodatas; it’s a guided search for a union that reflects the true depth and significance of marriage.

With a quality-over-quantity approach, introductions are arranged only when both parties express genuine interest in moving the connection forward. This rigorous vetting process ensures that every member is not only

Vows for Eternity:
A tailored journey to lasting connections

Whether one seeks a second chance at love or resuming their journey after less-than-ideal experiences, Vows For Eternity’s tailored membership tiers ensure that finding a lifelong partner happens on one’s own terms. Everyone deserves to experience love in their own unique way, and the brand’s commitment to customisation reflects this belief. The journey to finding The One is characterized by intentionality, authenticity, and transparency. As the brand aptly phrases it, “it’s not about discovering someone new, but rather, coming home.”

Anuradha is set to visit India by the end of July, and we anticipate a summer filled with refreshing conversations and meaningful matches!
S U I T C A S E  E X P E R I E N C E S

Clockwise from top left: Jumeirah Carlton Towers’ rooftop swimming pool offers a stunning view through its curved glass ceiling; The discreet regal entrance of The Cadogan; Books galore at the cosy John Sandoe Books store; Charming setting of afternoon tea at the Drawing Room in Brown’s Hotel; The surreal and whimsical ambience of The Glade at Sketch offers a lovely escape into a forested wonderland.

London vibes perfectly. This was a favourite haunt of Irish poet Oscar Wilde, so, naturally, the interiors pay tribute to literature with over 700 books curated by John Sandoe Books (a charming neighbourhood store you must visit).

FLAVOUR OF THE SEASON
There’s no doubt the city is home to some of the world’s most famed restaurants, where design matters as much as the food on your plate. Case in point is Sketch in Mayfair, with five unique eating spaces—among them, The Glade, with its enchanting forest setting inspired by a French 1900s postcard, offers an amazing fairy-tale like dining experience. Also in Mayfair is Bibi, an Indian eatery set in a chic Georgian building. Its Jaipur-inspired interiors are decked out in pinks, mirrors, and paisley upholstery.

No trip to London is complete without enjoying a quintessentially British afternoon tea and one of the best places to experience this is at the elegant Brown’s Hotel. The Drawing Room, once frequented by Queen Victoria, retains its original 1830s wood panelling but is adorned with striking contemporary artworks. And finally, swing by 42, the new sister bar from Michelin-starred Indian restaurant Gymkhana. It’s all Indian maximalism inside, with ruby tones, hefty chandeliers, and even ceramic leopards guarding the fireplace!

There’s a surprise around almost every corner, but that’s not surprising. As Joey from Friends said, “It’s London, baby!”

DISCLAIMER: Connectivity details are subject to change. Please visit airvistara.com for the latest flight schedules.

BANK ON THIS!
The world’s most famous street artist has been spraying around London for years! Make sure to check out Tree (Finsbury Park, 2024), Graffiti Area/Guard Dog (Shoreditch, 2003), and the cheeky political commentary of My Tap’s Been Phoned (corner of Chirp Street and East India Dock Road, 2021) to sample Banksy’s unique, viral work.

SCULPTORS OF SEAMLESS PERFECTION
With over 40 years of experience, The Darzi leads in excellent tailoring and unquestionable quality. We pride ourselves on our bespoke suits and elegant designs, meticulously crafted to your specifications. From modern styles to classic cuts, we have the skills to cater to the varying tastes of our eclectic clientele. Because we know when it comes to clothing, there’s a difference between crafted and tailored.

GETTING THERE
Vistara offers non-stop daily flights between London and Delhi.
Mumbai in Dishes

Mouth-watering street-food staples, regional imports, and local seafood specialities make this megalopolis the City of ‘Delicious’ Dreams!

By POOJA NAIK

Vada Pav

Piquant, pillowy goodness! The gram flour-coated potato fritter (vada) is placed inside a dinner roll (pav) that’s sliced almost in half through the middle. Adding to the inviting flavour are sweet, spicy, and tangy relishes, as well as a dried garlic chutney. Legend has it that street-food vendor Ashok Vaidya invented and began selling vada pav outside Dadar Railway Station in 1966. This quick-yet-satiating snack became an instant hit among the mill workers passing through the busy train junction then and is almost every Mumbaikar’s go-to snack even today.

Try it at: Ashok Vada Pav (Dadar) and Aram Vada Pav (Fort).

Bombil Fry

Also known as Bombay Duck, bombil is—despite its misleading nickname—actually a fish found abundantly in the waters around Mumbai. Beloved by fishermen, bombils are flattened, coated in a spiced rice flour, semolina flour, or besan flour batter, and fried to perfection. Their crispy exterior and tender interior make them a delightful starter or a satisfying accompaniment to a main course. It’s also common to see them laid out to dry on Mumbai’s beaches!

Try it at: Trisha (Fort) and Jai Hind Lunch Home (multiple locations).

Irani Specialities

The 18th and 19th centuries saw an influx of Zoroastrians from Iran. To preserve their distinct cultural identity, they gathered over Irani chai, originally made with mint and devoid of milk. Eventually, members of the community opened quaint little cafes, where you can still enjoy spice-infused tea and treats like mawa cake (rich pound cake), akuri (flavourful scrambled egg), dhansak (lentil curry cooked with meat), bun maska (special bread and butter), ice cream and raspberry sodas, and more—all served with delightful old-world charm!

Try it at: Kyani & Co. (Marine Lines) and Jimmy Boy (Fort).
Pav Bhaji
During the American Civil War (1861–1865), the US's cotton industry faced decline, which in turn boosted Mumbai's cotton trade and brought an influx of migrant mill workers to the city. To feed the ever-growing population, a resourceful restaurant owner in South Mumbai's Kalbadevi neighbourhood repurposed leftover food to create a mixed vegetable curry (mainly featuring potatoes, peas, tomatoes, onions, and green bell peppers), inspired by a Gujrati dish, which became known as 'pav bhaji' and was usually served with 'pav.' That conception evolved into the ubiquitous street food known as 'pav bhaji,' with Sardar Ahmed Sardar Pav Bhaji later popularising the decadently buttery version that locals love today.

Try it at: Sardar Pav Bhaji (Tardeo) and Amar Juice Centre (Vile Parle).

Ragda Pattice
This match made in Mumbai's street food heaven is the result of the marriage of the flavours of ragda—a spiced white pea stew—and pattice—a crispy, deep-fried mashed potato patty. The irresistible combo is typically drizzled with tangy tamarind sauce, creating a mixed vegetable curry known as 'ragda pattice.' Sev pattice—spiced white pea stew—reigns supreme on Mumbai's beaches, delighting taste buds at countless street vendor stalls.

Try it at: Gurukripa (Sion) and Kailash Parbat street vendor stalls.

Zunka Bhakar
A dish deeply rooted in Maharashtra's farming and working-class communities, this simple, homely fare is the quintessential common man's food. As per a government scheme in the mid-90s, thousands of zunka bhakar stalls sprang up overnight, each serving this humble meal for no more than ₹1 per portion during that era. Zunka is the dry version of the famous creamy gram flour-based curry known as ‘pittu.’ Made with besan (gram flour) mixed with chopped onions, mustard seeds, curry leaves, and spices, it's typically enjoyed with pav bhakri (millet roti).

Try it at: Aaswad Upahar & Mithai Gruh in Dadar.

Bombay Sandwich
This unconventional street snack combines a surprising medley of ingredients. Thick slices of buttered white bread encase layers of boiled potatoes, cucumbers, tomatoes, onion rings, beetroot, and mint chutney. Cut into quarters for ease of handling, each bite offers a refreshing tanginess. Have it plain, toasted, or grilled—topped with coles of grated cheese and set for that 'Bombay' touch!

Try it at: Raju Sandwich (Churchgate) and Jay Sandwich (Khar).

HEARD THIS?
Look out for these fascinating customs and quirky superstitions from around the globe to add a sprinkling of fun to your travels.

Watch Your Chopsticks in Japan
When chatting during a meal, avoid pointing at someone with chopsticks—it’s considered very impolite! And no ‘hashi-washi’ or exchanging food from one pair of chopsticks to another; that’s an unlucky reminder of an old funeral custom, wherein the bones of a deceased person are passed using these tongs.

Try it at: Mihara Uchida & Mihara Uchida in Tokyo.

Barefoot Bliss in India
This simple, homely fare is the quintessential common man’s food. As per a government scheme in the mid-90s, thousands of zunka bhakar stalls sprang up overnight, each serving this humble meal for no more than ₹1 per portion during that era. Zunka is the dry version of the famous creamy gram flour-based curry known as ‘pittu.’ Made with besan (gram flour) mixed with chopped onions, mustard seeds, curry leaves, and spices, it's typically enjoyed with pav bhakri (millet roti).

Try it at: Aaswad Upahar & Mithai Gruh in Dadar.

Tip Away in the USA
Giving a small token of appreciation to servers is a big deal in the USA, and expected. Look for the tip jar, or ask for an estimated amount. And taxi drivers prefer 10 to 15 per cent of the fare, while porters and valets expect 1 per cent. And if you’re asked to ‘bring a plate,’ that signals a 'tip out'; that’s an invitation to linger, sip, and chat. The hot tea is constantly added to the cup for conversations to keep flowing—it’s a sign marking the host’s respect for their guest.

Try it at: Raju Sandwich (Churchgate) and Jay Sandwich (Khar).

TEA TIME TALES IN KAZAKHSTAN
A cup filled to the brim signifies the notion of ‘let’s bottoms up, for it’s time to go!’ But a half-filled one? That’s an invitation to linger, sip, and chat. The hot tea is constantly added to the cup for conversations to keep flowing—it’s a sign marking the host’s respect for their guest.

Sharing is Caring in New Zealand
Have a dinner invite in this lovely country? Be sure to cover your arms and legs. As per a government scheme in the mid-90s, thousands of zunka bhakar stalls sprang up overnight, each serving this humble meal for no more than ₹1 per portion during that era. Zunka is the dry version of the famous creamy gram flour-based curry known as ‘pittu.’ Made with besan (gram flour) mixed with chopped onions, mustard seeds, curry leaves, and spices, it's typically enjoyed with pav bhakri (millet roti).

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Try it at: Mihara Uchida & Mihara Uchida in Tokyo.

No Extra Cheese, Please
In Italy
Pasta preparation is akin to a sacred craft—no cheesy meddling, please! Trust the chef’s recipe or you will risk insulting them. It’s rude to even request a dollop or shower of this topping. Even on pizzas!

Try it at: Ristorante da Vittorio in Rome.

Tipping at the Table in New Zealand
No one expects a tip, and a generous one is considered a large gesture. At the end of your meal, offer a small token of appreciation (a $5 note works well), appreciated by the staff. Remember, they are generally debarred from receiving tips as they are paid a higher wage.

Try it at: Café Kiwi in Christchurch.

GETTING THERE
Vistara operates 139 daily flights to and from Mumbai, connecting 14 international and 18 domestic destinations.

DISCLAIMER: Connectivity details are subject to change. Please visit airvistara.com for the latest flight schedules.
One city, four begums, and a hundred years—a heritage walk through the neighbourhoods of Madhya Pradesh’s capital city tells the tale of an epic royal reign that will live on through the ages.

By SUSHMITA SRIVASTAV

ON A FINE FEBRUARY MORNING IN 1922, when a rather worn-out Prince of Wales—Edward VIII—arrived at the main train station in Bhopal, the biting cold weather was abated by the warm welcome awaiting him. As bejewelled state elephants gracefully queued up, along with a smart cavalry, the then Begum of Bhopal—Nawab Begum Sultan Jahan—received him with an august group of chiefs and nobles. This was just the beginning of an impressively grand affair.

A four-day royal tour of the city was meticulously chalked out that included shikar (hunting) safaris and polo matches. And the magnificent polo matches. And the magnificent city. And there, amidst several framed archival images of the royal family on display in the colonnaded corridor, I even manage to encounter the Prince of Wales, sitting proudly next to the humbled begum in the gorgeous Durbar Hall in a sepia-toned photograph. I briefly smile at him, admiring our common appreciation for this enchanting erstwhile princely state. But soon, my attention shifts to the begum—cloaked in a light-blue veil from head to toe, sitting in the middle of a court, full of men, making her presence felt through a sense of authority and absolute panache. Ah, female fortitude at its finest!

The Golden Reign

“Shahjahan Begum, my guide for a heritage tour of the city. He tells me Sultan Jahan was the last of the four begums that reigned over Bhopal for 107 years (between 1819 AD and 1926 AD) of its 241-year history!”

The saying—uneasy lies the head that wears the crown—is apt for these remarkable women who defied the patriarchal norms of the time to rule Bhopal for over a century. “Their coming to power was a result of tough circumstances and political gambits. The first one, Qudsia Begum, I feel, is the path-breaker for all the good things that happened to us Bhopalis,” remarks Malik. When the young reigning ruler Nawab Nazar Muhammad Khan died unexpectedly in a freak accident, his then 19-year-old widow, Qudsia, declared her infant daughter as the rightful heir at the court. “Their coming to power was a result of tough circumstances and political gambits.”

I feel, is the path-breaker for all the good things that happened to us Bhopalis,” remarks Malik. When the young reigning ruler Nawab Nazar Muhammad Khan died unexpectedly in a freak accident, his then 19-year-old widow, Qudsia, declared her infant daughter as the rightful heir at the court. “Their coming to power was a result of tough circumstances and political gambits.”

Despite uproar from other male candidates for the throne, she took charge as regent until her daughter came of age. Bhopal owes many monuments and cultural customs to its ruling begums, who succeeded each other for four generations. From investing in the railway and waterworks systems and ordering the construction of Bhopal’s Jama Masjid, two Jam mandirs, and several ghats, to setting the trend of whether or not to wear jodhpur (veil), playing polo, and even commanding their armies—they set the template for generations after them. While their personalities ranged from formidable to artistic, they worked for the social good of their people, investing in the infrastructure that stands tall even today.

Malik narrates that Qudsia’s daughter, Sikandar Begum, would often disguise herself as a fakeeran (veil) and wear a turban to rule. “Shahjahan Begum, my guide for a heritage tour of the city. He tells me Sultan Jahan was the last of the four begums that reigned over Bhopal for 107 years (between 1819 AD and 1926 AD) of its 241-year history!”

Shahjahan Begum in her regal glory.
Shahjahan Begum, was more liberal and artistic in nature. Malik lovingly calls her Sairun Amman (Sir Mother), just like her granddaughters did, and speaks of how she left a mark in the fields of architecture, music, poetry, and the arts. Her rule was followed by the 25-year-long reigns of the last begums, Sahib Jahan, who showed a deep commitment to education and women's health reforms. Having heard so much about these great accomplishments, I set out on a tour of the Old City with Malik, eager to witness the architectural gems, traditional crafts, and rich culinary heritage that these remarkable women had left behind.

**Architectural Time Travel**

As Malik and I drive out of the Jehan Numa Palace’s porte-cochére, past the Raja Bhoj Setu suspension bridge that runs over Bada Talab, our first stop was the Iqbal Maidan. “Whatever you see in Bhopal today, is made by these women,” said Malik. “Right from its heritage that these remarkable women’s health reforms.

“The Legacy That Lives On”

On our way back to the hotel, we stop at the Odean Hotel in Ibrahimpura. It’s packed with diners! Operating since 1937, it’s famous for its local dishes like the melt-in-mouth nihari (slow-cooked mutton curry). Bhopali cuisine, Malik tells me, was birthed in the royal kitchens over centuries; each begum introduced special recipes and culinary traditions that were passed down through the ages.

“When it comes to food, Bhopalis love the earthy-folksy flavours of their local produce, along with tastes from foreign influences: think Lucknowi galouti kebabs, Rampuri chausa (green-flavoured rice), or Bhopali sheermal (local bread that looks like a baguette)!”

So, when you bite into a Bhopali dish, at first, the taste is very mild, and then there’s a sudden burst of flavours,” says Malik. I think about that back at Jehan Numa Palace, when I’m served several of which are 100-year-old recipes, carefully preserved by the royal khansamas (cooks). As I relish each dish, I’m surrounded by crumbling buildings and bustling lanes cramped with small stores, nickshaws, and street vendors. Shahjahan Begum was credited with creating this part of the Old City, known as Shahjahanabad, once home to serai (guest houses), homes, and bazaars. The area also had a terraced lake at the centre. We venture further on, making our way into the narrow alleys of the nearby Lakherapura locality to see the local karigars (artisans) who have managed to keep the indigenous craft of zardozi alive over the years. “Bhopal may have big lakes but, unfortunately, dyers don’t stay put on the fabric when mixed with the water found here. Hence, printing wasn’t a feasible option when it came to expanding in the field of textiles. So, the begums gave this ancient craft a huge push by educating and motivating the karigars. That’s how Bhopal got its famous zari-zardozi embroidery,” Malik’s words fill me with a deeper appreciation of the artwork as I run my fingers over the intricate designs on an embroidered velvet jacket (peshawar) at a nearby store.

Finishing our tour of the area, we arrive at the most ambitious project of the third begum—the imposing Taj-ul-Masajid. Shahjahan Begum, went by the pen name ‘Tajvar’ to publish her Urdu books, poetry collections, her love for the local karigars (artisans) who have managed to keep the indigenous craft of zardozi alive over the years. “Bhopal may have big lakes but, unfortunately, dyers don’t stay put on the fabric when mixed with the water found here. Hence, printing wasn’t a feasible option when it came to expanding in the field of textiles. So, the begums gave this ancient craft a huge push by educating and motivating the karigars. That’s how Bhopal got its famous zari-zardozi embroidery,” Malik’s words fill me with a deeper appreciation of the artwork as I run my fingers over the intricate designs on an embroidered velvet jacket (peshawar) at a nearby store.

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From the Odean Hotel, we make our way to the stunning Masjid. The imposing façade in pink sandstone with three massive domes gleams as I stand before it and the golden sun shines bright behind its two 18-storey-high minarets. Inside, the main prayer hall has intricately carved arches, metal jali windows, and giant chandeliers. A reflection of the begum’s love for detailing, symmetry, and tranquil environs! As the sun sets and the sky blues into a dramatic mix of azure and pale orange, I linger in the courtyard to think about the women behind all this magnificence.

**Getting There**

[Connectivity details are subject to change. Please visit airvistara.com for the latest flight schedules.]

[CONCLUDED]
‘IT’S MY FAVOURITE PIECE ALONG this stretch,’ exclaims our guide Richard DiLullo, as the lush swathes of colour and masterful strokes on the wall draw our eyes. We’re on a walking tour in downtown Philadelphia, a city that’s nearly 350 years old and considered to be the cradle of several ‘firsts’—the nation’s first bank, first hospital, first library, and was even the first capital of the USA. To us, however, the city’s name conjures images of the Constitution of the United States, Liberty Bell, and scrumptious Philadelphia cheese steak (as well as cheesecake!). And as cinephiles, we simply can’t forget Sylvester Stallone’s legendary run up the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art in the 1976 blockbuster Rocky.

While familiar in so many different contexts, the city’s artistic side was still unknown to us design-loving folk. So, you can imagine just how excited we were to explore its vibrant districts and discover exactly why it’s known as the ‘Mural Capital of the World!’

A Community Spirit
DiLullo’s animated storytelling meticulously uncorks a multitude of fascinating spots in Philadelphia’s bustling heart, the Center City, broadly along the trail called ‘Mural Mile South.’ Take the Garden of Delight artwork that we are standing beneath and which DiLullo initially claims to be his favourite. This cheerfully vibrant mural is just one of over 4,000 that dot the metropolis’ neighbourhoods. It depicts two trees in an embrace, with a blooming garden spilling out from between them, seamlessly connecting with the real-life community garden in which the work stands. DiLullo shares that the city’s tryst with this art form began 40 years ago, in a creative attempt to control graffiti. Artist Jane Golden was enlisted by the mayor to channel the energies and talents of street artists from what was considered defacement of public property to the production of public art. In 1984, this initiative took the form of Mural Arts Philadelphia, the very institution that has designed the walk we are on today. It has since worked tirelessly to adorn the city with thousands of murals, each varying in size, style, and theme. Every year, dozens more are added, transforming Philly into an ever-changing open-air gallery.

Today, these murals celebrate science, industry, and the arts; offer tributes to athletes and sports teams; are lively homages to the LGBTQ community; and present portraits of prominent Philly citizens. Notably, there’s even a series of 50 rooftop murals titled A Love Letter For You that are best viewed from the city’s elevated L-train line. These colossal creations are a feast for the eyes, freely available for all to admire and most often found on building walls and in parking lots.

Since we were curious about how a mural comes to life, we bombarded DiLullo with questions galore! The process is collaborative at its very core. Once a site is identified and funding secured, residents of the neighbourhood gather to brainstorm their murals’ themes. Artists who specialise in the chosen subject then submit design drafts for the...
community to vote on. The shortlisted design is then further fine-tuned and tailored to the locals’ preferences, making it a participatory process, from the ground up. In fact, locals often roll up their sleeves and join in for the painting, too. How much fun is that! Nowadays, mural designs are created on panels of parachute cloth, with sections simplified, numbered, and colour-coded. These are distributed in community painting workshops held in schools, churches, gyms, and even prisons. It’s a marvellous process, where brushstrokes from all walks of life converge to create a mural!

Boundless Expressions

But Philadelphia’s artistic flair certainly doesn’t stop there. In addition to the murals, we stumbled upon numerous statues and sculptures, memorials and fountains, and several pieces of installation art throughout the city. Some, like Robert Indiana’s painted metal LOVE sculpture, occupy centre stage in parks and don’t only serve as photo-stops but are also iconic symbols of the city itself. According to us, it’s quite fitting for Philadelphia, a city whose name blends the Greek words for love (philo) and brother (adelphia)!

Throughout our stay in the sprawling metropolis, we were surprised and delighted by artworks at almost every turn—nestled in the foyer of towering skyscrapers, embellishing the entryways of libraries, decorating the façades of shopping plazas, or even tucked away in alleys. We kept our eyes wide open, never knowing what we might spot or where it might appear!

We also discovered that, as with the murals, the abundance of these urban art pieces is not a mere happenstance either. Since as far back as 1872, the non-profit organisation, Association for Public Art, has been diligently working to weave art into the fabric of Philadelphia’s urban spaces. Instead of, we opted for their self-guided audio tour, unearthing the stories behind the city’s most popular creations located between Center City and Fairmount Park, a massive green expanse with millions of trees.

On the walk, we learnt about the impressive ‘Percent for Art’ model that Philadelphia adopted in 1952. Under this policy, large-scale development projects, whether they are private or city-funded, need to allocate at least one percent of their project costs to create original site-specific public artworks. A rather visionary initiative, it has resulted in over 650 free art pieces being dedicated to the city!

If we had to pick a favourite from these, it would have to be artist Miguel Horn’s ContraFuerte installation of eight bodies holding up a bridge on Cuthbert Street. Symbolising human struggle and perseverance, this sculpture is made of layered aluminium plates and its setting in a back street makes this unusual work even more startling! While marvelling at it, a chance encounter with an enthusiastic resident tipped us off about a hidden gem that design lovers
like us simply couldn’t afford to miss. “It’s sheer enchantment,” he insisteds, compelling us to find our way there the next day itself. And boy, were we glad we did!

Philadelphia’s Magic Gardens (on South Street) is the whimsical fantasy world of mosaic maestro Isaiah Zagar, where the kinetic dynamism of installation art fuses with the free-spirited nature of street art in a dazzling display. From 1991, Zagar began mosaicking on an empty lot in his neighbourhood, using mirrors, tiles, discarded odds and ends, machine parts, and even children’s toys. Fourteen years of tireless creativity later, his magnum opus sprawled across half a city block! And in true Philly spirit, when this label-defying wonder faced the threat of demolition, the local community rallied behind the artist, raising funds to purchase the very land it stood upon. While marvelling at its open galleries, winding pathways, and cosy nooks, we were reminded of Nek Chand’s equally fabulous Rock Garden in Chandigarh. Turns out that the two artists had indeed crossed paths, visiting and admiring each other’s creations. Zagar has even embedded Nek Chand’s name within a sculptural panel in his creation!

Art Beyond Boundaries

There’s no way we could consider leaving without visiting the city’s world-class museums. Beginning with the 148-year-old Philadelphia Museum of Art, where we explored 2,000 years of humanity, from the ancient world to modern times, and entire floors of Asian, European, and American art. The exhibits featuring authentic architectural ensembles captivated us endlessly, including a gorgeous 13th-century stone cloister from the south of France, a Japanese ceremonial tea house complete with tatami mats and shoji screens, and even a palatial reception hall straight out of 17th-century Beijing. Interestingly, there were plenty of Indian connections to discover too: from stone sculptures and metal idols, to painted miniatures and pichwai paintings, and most intriguingly, a 16th-century temple mandapam from Madurai boasting 58 exuberantly carved stone pillars. Absolutely incredible, to say the least!

For our final soirée in the city, we reserved a table at Michelin-starred Chef Jean-Georges’ JG SkyHigh. A contemporary representative of Philly’s ever-evolving design scene, this chic glass-and-mirror covered restaurant is designed by ‘starchitect’ Norman Foster. Perched on the 60th floor of the Comcast Technology Center, Philadelphia’s tallest tower, this culinary gem offers delightful cocktails, and hearty bites, with unparalleled views of the city. Sitting at our table, we couldn’t help but reflect—both literally and metaphorically—upon the many adorably artful aspects of the ‘City of Brotherly Love’ spread out in front of us. And as the setting sun cast its golden hues over the streets we had wandered through, and twinkling lights illuminated the skyline, we knew we were not done yet and had to return to good ol’ Philly for more.

Fly to Philadelphia with Vistara’s codeshare partners Air Canada and British Airways, and interline partners American Airlines and Delta Airlines.

GETTING THERE

DISCLAIMER: Connectivity details are subject to change. Please visit airvistara.com for the latest flight schedules.
IT ALL STARTED IN THE YEAR 1996 with the aim to tackle arsenic contamination in the water bodies of Nadia, West Bengal. After establishing multiple effective partnerships with district and block officials, grow (village) panchayats, and more, a locally registered NGO called Water For People India Trust was established in 2008. Today, the organisation relies on collaborative efforts to meet its objectives, working with local authorities and foundations along the way. Keen to ensure long-term, sustainable results, the NGO adopted the ‘Everyone Forever’ model in 2011, with a motto as clear as water—‘Everyone’ has water that lasts ‘Forever’. The trust also adheres to the guidelines of the WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) programme, originally initiated by the World Health Organisation, which involves providing equal access to clean drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene services to one and all. Let us explore how the trust is achieving its noble goals.

MAKING WAVES

The team has designed and implemented programmes across West Bengal, Bihar, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Assam to uplift water-deprived regions across the country. “We train local community members as local entrepreneurs and service providers, who we call jalbandhus or ‘water friends’, to offer water and sanitation services. They are either accountable to the panchayat or operate on a fee-based model through Points of Purchase (PoPs),” reveals Bishwadeep Ghose, Country Director at Water For People India Trust. As of 2022, the Trust’s efforts across Bihar, West Bengal, and Maharashtra have resulted in intermediate or high levels of water access for 2.6 million people living in 71 blocks across 28 districts. Additionally, nearly 3,100 community water points, including new or renovated hand pumps and piped water supply systems, have been installed, alongside water and sanitation facilities in 1,700 public institutions in the above states. With a razor-sharp focus on their initiatives, the organisation also offers families access to skilled...
contractors and waste management solutions, including menstrual waste management, to build self-reliant communities. “We facilitate access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities in schools, enabling students to stay in school by providing facilities for menstrual hygiene management (MHM),” shares Ghose.

**BRIDGING GAPS**

Further, in a creative bid to connect with society more effectively, the Trust partnered with artistes in West Bengal’s Rajnagar and Khayrasol CD blocks. This group includes traditional singers known as the ‘Bauls’, folk dancers, magicians, puppeteers, street performers, and drum players. The aim was to highlight the importance of the WASH programme within the community through plays called jatras, local art, and culture. The engaging performances educated onlookers on water handling, environmental cleaning, use of toilets every day, hand washing with soap, menstrual hygiene management, and more. These initiatives have proven to be conduits for these artistes to earn as well, thus creating a win-win situation.

Another ambitious project in West Bengal’s Digambarpur village involved infrastructural improvements to ensure access to clean water in a region mainly characterised by low-lying, marshy lands. Initially, the area had only one hand-pump, located at a fair distance. Just fetching water took at least one hour of their day, every day. However, the NGO set up a ground water-fed storage tank, linked to a piped water supply scheme with the first-ever metering system at household level. Initially, 975 families benefited, and soon, the remaining households of the village did, too. This project earned the Digambarpur gram panchayat the Best Performing Gram Panchayat Award by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MOPR), Government of India. Now, that’s a win to be proud of!

**A DROP SAVED IS A DROP EARNED**

But Water For People India Trust doesn’t want to simply rest on past laurels. To ensure continued progress in the sphere of water conservation, the organisation has formulated a plan called Destination 2030. “We will strengthen country systems that provide improved WASH services for 200 million people and use direct implementation to improve services for 20 million people by 2030”, shares Ghose. They plan to achieve this by partnering with districts, governments, and civil societies to co-finance the implementation of water resource management and completion of WASH infrastructure for communities, families, schools, and clinics in 150 partner areas. By 2030, the organisation aims to evolve into a leading water, sanitation, and hygiene non-profit that’s recognised internationally for its water and sanitation systems. They plan to achieve this through consultancy, innovation, and entrepreneurship. With many years’ worth of experience backing them, Water For People India Trust recognises the need to exponentially scale up its work in order to achieve the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goal 6: clean water and sanitation for all. And we wish them the very best!
PRESENTING VISTARA CURATES

VISTARA’S
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ISHAARA AT PHOENIX MALL OF ASIA
A unique dining experience situated in Bengaluru’s opulent Phoenix Mall of Asia, Ishaara celebrates inclusivity like few others in the hospitality sector. The superstar team uses sign language to speak with their hands and listen with their eyes. This multi-award-winning restaurant serves flavourful modern Indian cuisine amid an exquisite ambiance. But Ishaara goes beyond delicious food by breaking barriers, building connections, and celebrating the diversity of the human spirit! Whether you live in the Garden City or are a visitor here, drop by this remarkable restaurant for an unforgettable gastronomic journey.
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FEATHERLITE
This pioneering name in workspace furniture solutions recently announced the opening of the Featherlite Experience Centre in Chennai, dedicated to showcasing the latest designs and trends in workspace design. Spanning an impressive 10,000 square feet packed with a comprehensive range of contemporary pods, workstations, chairs, and more, this centre is open to architects and interior designers, as well as those interested to see what the future of workspace design looks like.
featherlitefurniture.com; +91 9842220129

ISHAARA AT PHOENIX MALL OF ASIA

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Do You Know?

- Mr. Vikaas Jhajharia is an MBA from Australia
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Vimal Jhajharia & Vikaas Jhajharia M.B.A from Australia have delivered many lectures, conducted workshops, seminars, and have vastly 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 also been felicitated several times for their outstanding knowledge on Vastu & have also won several awards of national and international reputations.

"Can Vastu Shanti Yantra also help in selling a property?"

Yes, says a lot of Vastu practitioners for building and developing residential and commercial project. Vastu experts have been using a Vastu Shanti Yantra to sell a property which was not getting any sales. It could be because of a Vastu defect. Vastu for sales is one of the best practices based on Vastu principles. It is a proven fact that following Vastu principles for sales can help increase the chances of a property.

"Can Vastu Shanti Yantra also help to improve the environment?"

Yes, it definitely does. Vastu Shanti Yantra can create a harmonious environment by aligning energies. It is a proven fact that following Vastu principles can help create a positive environment.

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IT’S ADVENTURES GALORE WITH CLUB VISTARA ESCAPADES!

In this month’s edition, our most-loved member engagement activity, Club Vistara Escapades Season 2, is back with not just one, but two incredible adventures that are completely different from one another.

In the seventh Escapade—Pitstop, our winners Sahil Kukreja and Ashad Bakhtiar Choudary experienced an adventure that defied gravity in Abu Dhabi From heart-pounding dune-adventure that defied gravity in Abu Dhabi to driving an F1 car at the Yas Marina Circuit, their quest for excitement knew no bounds. They also enjoyed the Marina Circuit, their quest for excitement bashing to driving an F1 car at the Yas Dhabi! From heart-pounding dune-adventure that defied gravity in Abu Dhabi to driving an F1 car at the Yas Marina Circuit, their quest for excitement knew no bounds.

Now you too can witness these two amazing journeys along with the other episodes of Club Vistara Escapades Season 2 and Season 1 on Vistara World and on Vistara’s YouTube channel, @ClubVistara. Follow Club Vistara’s Instagram handle @ClubVistara for the latest news and offers!

THE POWER OF FOUR

Among yoga’s most practiced asanas are the tadasana (mountain pose), balsana (child’s pose), adho mukha svanasana (downward-facing dog pose), virahadhurasana (warrior pose), and virikhasana (tree pose). Those who practise its various nuanced movements regularly will find that they are more flexible, strong, and can endure the pressures of daily life in a better way. This is particularly helpful during flights, where one needs to sit for long periods of time, leading to body stiffness. Simple yoga stretches and poses can assuage tension in the muscles, improve blood circulation, and prevent the onset of jet lag. Meditation is also a large part of yoga routines, and this can help to regulate feelings of anxiety, fear, or discomfort felt during turbulence. Further, controlled breathing exercises (pranayama) can make one feel relaxed, lower stress levels, and regulate the nervous system. Whether practiced discretely in your seat or in an airport lounge, yoga provides accessible tools to make air travel more manageable and enjoyable.

THE WORLD OF YOGA-TASTIC

Originating in India, yoga has surpassed cultural boundaries to become a global phenomenon embraced by people from all walks of life. Its far-reaching benefits go beyond physical fitness, offering a holistic approach to well-being that covers mental agility, emotional stability, and spiritual after-erance.

Whether you’re someone who likes to incorporate yoga into your morning routine, in between meetings at work, or as a soothing wind-down session in the evenings, the practice offers both energising and relaxation benefits no matter how you fit it into your schedule! Those who practice its various nuanced movements regularly will find that they are more flexible, strong, and can endure the pressures of daily life in a better way. This is particularly helpful during flights, where one needs to sit for long periods of time, leading to body stiffness. Simple yoga stretches and poses can assuage tension in the muscles, improve blood circulation, and prevent the onset of jet lag. Meditation is also a large part of yoga routines, and this can help to regulate feelings of anxiety, fear, or discomfort felt during turbulence. Further, controlled breathing exercises (pranayama) can make one feel relaxed, lower stress levels, and regulate the nervous system. Whether practiced discretely in your seat or in an airport lounge, yoga provides accessible tools to make air travel more manageable and enjoyable.
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MOVIE OF THE MONTH

Timothée Chalamet returns as Paul Atreides in Dune: Part Two, the eagerly awaited continuation of Denis Villeneuve's stunning adaptation of Frank Herbert's sci-fi classic. This visually breathtaking sequel plunges the audiences deeper into the daunting deserts of Arrakis, where Paul joins forces with the Fremen to confront their archenemies, the Harkonnens and embraces his destiny as the prophesied saviour. With a captivating blend of action, political intrigue, and performances par excellence, Dune: Part Two promises a cinematic ride unlike any other.

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- Seats: 185 (8C/52/Y132)
- Length: 37.57 m
- Cruising Speed: 833 km/h
- Engine: CFM LEAP-1A
- Place of Manufacture: Toulouse, France

**Airbus A321neo**
- Count: 10
- Seats: 185 (7C/52/132)
- Length: 44.51 m
- Cruising Speed: 833 km/h
- Engine: CFM LEAP-1A
- Place of Manufacture: Hamburg, Germany

**Boeing 787-9**
- Count: 7
- Seats: 252 (7C/52/132)
- Length: 62.81 m
- Cruising Speed: 875 km/h
- Engine: GE9X-1B
- Place of Manufacture: Charleston, USA

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SPECTA QUARTZ SURFACES

Cast your Pride in Stone with SPECTA.
Renowned fashion designer Anita Dongre tells us about her creative ethos and the sustainable legacy she wishes to leave for future generations.

By ANANYA BAHL

Three words to describe your design aesthetic?

What and who inspires you?
I’m inspired by people, places, and nature. Birds and forests light me up. But honestly speaking, inspiration can come from anywhere; sometimes it’s just a word or even a poem.

What’s your take on sustainable fashion in the Indian context?
Our fashion choices don’t only reflect our aesthetics, but also our beliefs. As Indians, re-wearing clothes and recycling fabric have always been a part of our culture. We’ve grown up around our mothers and grandmothers re-purposing and upcycling everything around the house. Every little bit counts and it’s important we become more mindful of our choices. For instance, I always wanted to launch a line of bags, but wanted to use a material apart from the usual leather. Hence, when we came across Mirum®, a plant-based, cruelty-free material, it was the right time to launch our bags and accessories!

Tell us a bit about the Anita Dongre Foundation and Rewild?
Rewild was a dream many years in the making. I always wanted to do a show at the City Palace in my home city, Jaipur. It was not just a fashion show, but also a fundraiser for elephant and wildlife conservation.

The collection showcased craft in contemporary silhouettes that can be worn, re-worn, and restyled for occasions outside of the traditional settings of Indian weddings. This is key for the continued existence of our legacy of craftsmanship. Rewild brought together my love for fashion, Rajasthan, and elephants. It’s super close to my heart as it exemplifies our core philosophy of ‘fashion for good’. The collection was powered by an AI algorithm that analyzed my runway looks and associated them with the corresponding sustainable materials.

What are some of your favourite indigenous Indian textiles?
I love all our hand-woven textiles. Each one of them tells the story of the land they’re from and the people that make them. But if I were to choose one, it would have to be bandhani. I also love block-printed fabrics.

Tell us about a place to which you love travelling.
Rajasthan: my eternal muse! The colours, sounds, and chaos of the state always make their way into my designs.

What can we expect next from the House of Anita Dongre?
Well, we hope to continue empowering our women artisans, sustaining our crafts, and working with better materials through our brands Anita Dongre and Grassroot.

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