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FROM THE CMD'S DESK



AJAY SINGH
Chairman and Managing Director

DEAR READERS,

Welcome aboard SpiceJet!
Here's wishing you a wonderful New Year filled with abundance, joy and treasured moments.

As we welcome 2023, let us remind ourselves how blessed and fortunate we are to have pulled through the multiple waves of Covid, to be in good health and usher in the New Year. Let us hope that this year is better than the ones before, one where we enjoy the freedom to travel freely and to meet our loved ones.

These are exciting times for Indian aviation and congratulations are in order as our global aviation safety ranking has jumped from 102 to 48. As part of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) audit of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), SpiceJet was one of the sample operators and the only scheduled Indian airline which was shortlisted for an industry visit by the ICAO team.

SpiceJet was conferred with the 'Safety Performer of the Year' award by Delhi airport at the annual GMR Delhi Airport Awards for being the top performer among the self-handling airlines and our success in reducing ground safety violations.

We are working day and night to provide our passengers what they truly deserve – the best flying experience. We continue to make investments in Data and Artificial Intelligence. Our investments in technology has enabled us to enhance operational efficiency, profitability and safety of our operations

Whether it's our big data platform that cuts down processing time for ample data from several days to minutes or our state-of-the-art 'pilot docs' which has digitized important pilot documentation, our investment in technology has enabled us to enhance operational efficiency and safety of our operations.

With airports once again abuzz with domestic and international travelers, it is important that we remain vigilant and uphold the learnings of the past years and continue with safety and hygiene practices.

SpiceJet continues its unmatched operational performance once again clocking the highest Passenger Load Factor (occupancy) among all airlines in the country. In November 2022, our occupancy spiked to 92% from 88.1% in the preceding month. Not to forget, we have flown with the highest occupancy for more than seven years now.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Indian women's hockey team for their historic win in the inaugural edition of the FIH Women's Nations Cup in Spain. They have made the country proud with their stellar performance. I congratulate Argentina for winning the FIFA World Cup. I share the dream of more than a billion of my countrymen to be able to cheer and support our own national team on a global platform such as this. Let us hope that day will come sooner than later.

I also take this opportunity to wish each of you a very happy Republic Day.

On behalf of the entire SpiceJet family, here's wishing you and your loved ones a very Happy New Year. May 2023 be a year of joy, happiness and success.

Jai Hind!

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Cover

If tranquillity could be captured in camera, it would be this image from Dawki, Meghalaya, on our cover. Take in the beauty of the crystal clear waters of the Umngot River

spice route

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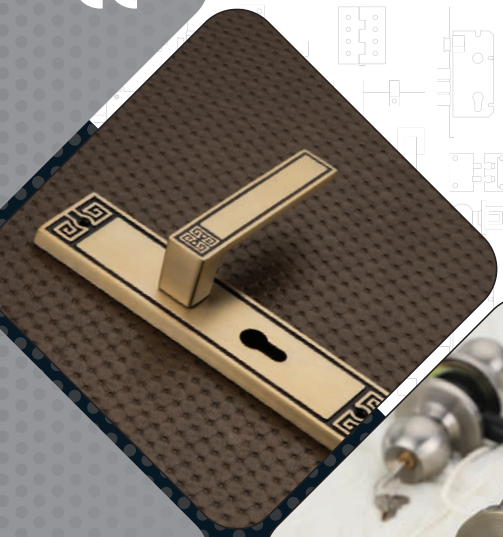
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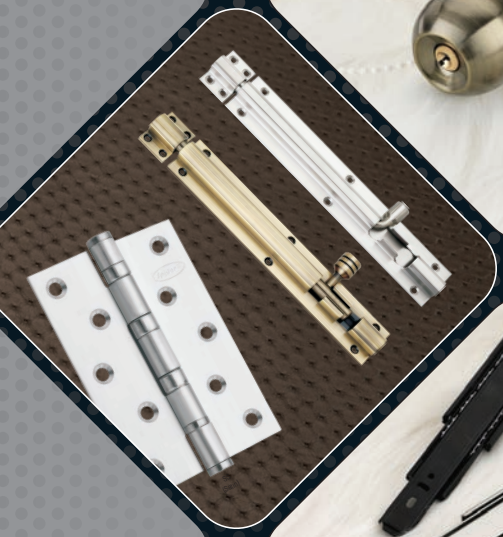
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Buzz On Social Media

Thanks @flyspicejet for accommodating on flight SG8904. I really had some urgency. Thanks again spicejet IXB airport manager Mr Abhilash.

@pgoel_72

Flying Kolkata to New Delhi via @flyspicejet Though I wasn't very happy with the cabin luggage & all, then after sometime a crew head named #Angrez dealt with utmost professionalism & empathy. It was very much pleasing & satisfying. A big shoutout to entire flight crew of SG-8264.



@abhitweets

@flyspicejet Shoutout to Flight crew of flight SG3013, Sharda and team for taking care of all passengers with utmost professionalism and empathy. #feltgood Please extend my sincerest thanks to the entire team.

@YogeshHindoliya

Want to thank the security team at @flyspicejet Mr Sudhir and Ms Cynthia Dsouza for helping us retrieve my wife's lost purse in the bus at Mumbai Airport. While there was definite stress, but they were super efficient and fast in finding it for us.

@vinayp_ca_sahaj

#SG8152 Delhi to Silchar @flyspicejet thank for an excellent in flight experience by excellent crew led by motivated, couteous & on their toes stewardess & pilots who gave interesting updates enroute Well done

@amitabhjha1972

@flyspicejet, wonderful experience in my today's SG443. Entire cabin crew celebrated birthday of my fellow passenger sitting at 29E and surprised him and his family. Delighted customer experience.

@ramyasank1

@flyspicejet Many thanks to Mr Rakib Khan and Ms Sulagna on the night of Oct 29. Both really helped me and family to move our booking (a group ticket from an agent) to the Oct 30 morning flight to Mumbai as the previous night flight was delayed and we had an infant of 6 months.

@snehagaggar5

@flyspicejet Hello I am flying from Vns-Del on SG-2990. Great Experience at check in at Varanasi. Helpful staff Shashwat Mishra. Thank you.

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@flyspicejet, This is a very good experience at Bengaluru airport for Darbhanga Thank you spicejet for providing good service.

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LOLLAPALOOZA

The international multi-genre music festival Lollapalooza is coming to India! One of the most-awaited events of 2023, it will mark Lollapalooza's inaugural, first-ever edition in Asia. Expect electrifying performances by over 40 artists including, rock band Imagine Dragons, music producer Diplo, EDM artist Zhu, rock group Greta Van Fleet, Punjabi music star AP Dhillon and many others. Even K-pop star Jackson Wang, of the GOT7 group, is set to perform!

When: Jan 28-29, 2023
Where: Mahalaxmi Race Course, Mumbai





When: Jan 19-23
Where: Jaipur, Rajasthan

JAIPUR LITERATURE FEST

If you love literature, January will make you happy. Jaipur Literature Fest, or JLF, as it is popularly known, is all set to delight lovers of literature and culture. Among the speakers will be Nobel Prize winner Abdulrazak Gurnah, Booker Prize winner Bernardine Evaristo, actress and author Deepti Naval, and author and literary critic Merve Emre. The venue, Hotel Clarks Amer, will be abuzz with discussions in its regular format, while also continuing an online edition as well.



KERALA LITERATURE FESTIVAL

Head to Kozhikode in Kerala for four days of literary indulgence. With around 400 speakers, the sixth edition of the festival promises to be spectacular. Expect to hear world-renowned speakers like authors Arundhati Roy and Shobhaa De; Nobel Laureate Abhijit Banerjee, and musicians like Remo Fernandes and Usha Uthup among many others.

When: Jan 12-15
Where: Kozhikode, Kerala



INTERNATIONAL KITE FESTIVAL

Every year in January, Gujarat celebrates the International Kite Festival, inviting kite makers and kite flyers from all over the world to showcase their unique creations. The festival also includes the kite flyers' parade, kite flying, thematic exhibitions, adventure activities, and craft and food stalls.

When: Jan 8-14
Where: Ahmedabad and other locations in Gujarat



AUTO EXPO

Said to be Asia's biggest automotive show, the Auto Expo, is returning in 2023 after a short hiatus. Several new launches by automobile giants, and futuristic ideas are lined up for the mega event! Experts say, this year's show will focus on electric vehicles and start-ups to help the EV revolution in India.

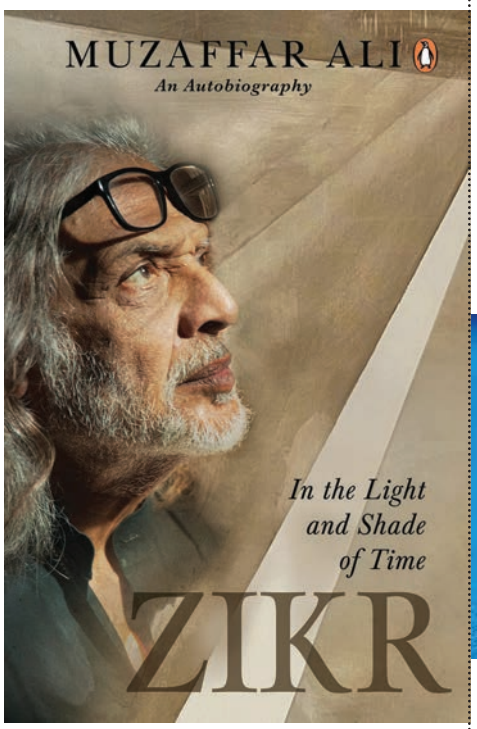
When: Jan 13-18
Where: India Expo Mart, Greater Noida, UP

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Books | Sport

ZIKR: IN THE LIGHT AND SHADE OF TIME

Actor, director and music director Muzaffar Ali wears many hats. The scion of the former princely house of Kotwara, Ali's childhood was shaped by the evolving post-Partition India. His autobiography, *Zikr: In the Light and Shade of Time,* is a peek into this wealth of experience. It takes a close look at Ali the royal, the poet, the philosopher, the filmmaker and the automobile aficionado. The book is also a rich portrait of an artist, as Ali takes us behind the scenes of films like *Anjuman* and *Gaman*, speaking of the sensibilities that shaped them and the influences on his work.



2023 MEN'S FIH HOCKEY WORLD CUP

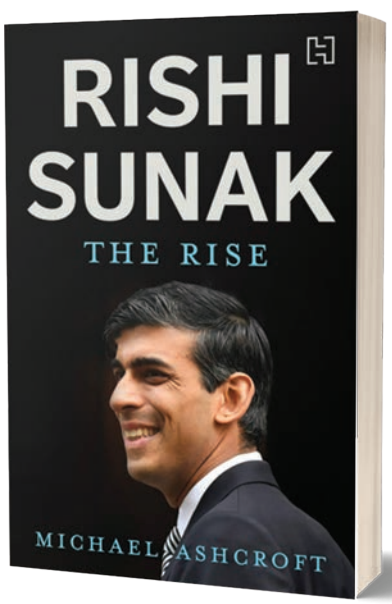
All eyes are set on Odisha, as the state hosts the world's best hockey teams on their conquest to win one of hockey's top competitions - the World Cup 2023. The top teams have been divided into four pools, with India, England, Spain, and Wales in Pool D. The upcoming men's World Cup will be played in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela.



When: Jan 13-29
Where: Odisha, India

POWER PLAY

Michael Ashcroft's new book, *Rishi Sunak: The Rise*, traces the Prime Minister of United Kingdom's phenomenal journey from his parents' Southampton pharmacy to the University of Oxford, London, the Silicon Valley and to the top of British politics. It tells the tale of a super-bright and hard-working young man. While this book is being appreciated by readers, Michael Ashcroft can be credited for bringing out Sunak's first biography *Going for Broke: The Rise of Rishi Sunak*, which was published in 2020. Sunak was then the chancellor of the British exchequer.



AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2023

The much-anticipated 2023 Australian Open is the first Grand Slam to be held after the tennis great Roger Federer played his last tournament in the 2022 Laver Cup. Novak Djokovic and Rafael Nadal remain top contenders in the men's league. Among women players, World No.1 Iga Świątek is expected to face a tough competition.



When: Jan 16-29
Where: Melbourne, Australia

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A HAPPY AURA IN MUMBAI

From relaxed interiors to dreamy outdoor gazebos, private brunches to karaoke nights, luscious cuisines and enticing house cocktails, Aura Kitchen & Bar in Mumbai's Andheri East serves as a contemporary, new-age spot for turning the party up on the weekend or just relaxing with the people you love. Complete with a unique poolside view, the outlet has a retro bar vibe that converts to a calm ambient cafe during the day. Get grooving!



LONDONER LIGHT

Macao has got a new shine. The Londoner Macao has debuted the Londoner Light and Sound Spectacular, captivating visitors with breathtaking audio and visual effects. As dusk falls, the resort's façade comes to life radiating entrancing hues that canvas the entire building. A part of the city-wide 'Light Up Macao 2022' campaign organised by Macao Government Tourism Office, the spectacular show will add more themes and features in the days to come.

GET A TASTE OF ROYAL NAHAN

Quaint Nahan is not just a popular holiday destination, it is a whimsical dream nestled in the lap of the Shivalik range. While it has several tourist spots, Nahan also has a rich royal heritage. Experience a slice of this history at the Bantony Cottage. Built by Maharaja Udai Prakash and Maharani Rasika Prakash of Sirmur royal family, the Cottage is being reintroduced as a luxurious jungle lodge. Sitting in a private pine forest just a short walk from the 17th-century Sirmur Palace, the scenic property has seven lavishly decorated rooms. Seclude, a brand focusing on affordable luxury, has partnered with the royal family to convert the cottage into a retreat for writers, birders, yoga enthusiasts, and heritage lovers.





BEAUTY COMES TO TOWN

If you have known Zara for its clothing and accessories line, now check out the brand's beauty collection. Offering a wide breadth of colours with a sense of playfulness, the products for eyes, lips, face and nails have been developed with the creative direction of legendary British makeup artist Diane Kendal, who has created some of New York, Paris and Milan's most memorable runway looks. Check the products online or at the store in DLF Promenade, New Delhi.

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STAY WARM IN STYLE

The leather-look takes centre stage at label RSVP by Nykaa Fashion as the season's must-have. Adding a touch of timelessness and chicness, these clothes and accessories are a perfect winter wardrobe essential. So, step into the fall season with a slew of silhouettes that are nothing short of scene-stealing.

STYLING CRAFTS

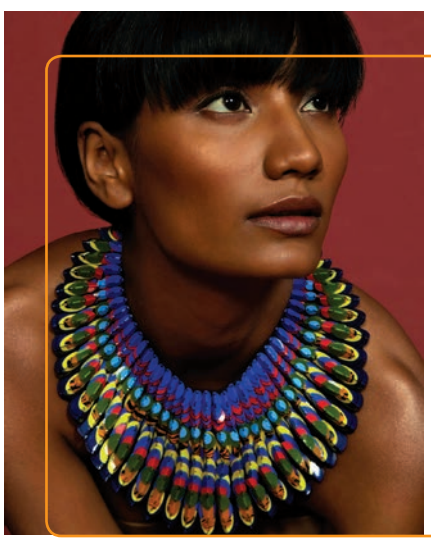
Chose from hand-crafted vegan shoes, and bags plated with silver and gold featuring *chakra*-inspired motifs by artisans of West Bengal. Celebrate this season with Jade by Monica & Karishma, a conscious couture label, that presents its first collection of vegan premium accessories titled "Made For Love". Pair these accessories to compliment the festive look as you step out for special occasions.



LOVE NOTES

A brand that has been associated with cosy gifting and lovey-dovey messages, will now have you smelling great. Archies has relaunched its most popular fragrance range 'parfum' for both men and women, along with new launches for the unisex range. Curated in Turkey, the brand says its perfumes are infused with the goodness of essential oils to compliment the wearer's personality and their lifestyle.







A VIBRANT WINTER

Accessories can make or break a look! So, this winter borrow a few shades from Forest of Chintz's vibrant collection. Playful, innovative and rooted in traditional crafts, the out-of-the box accessories brand blends fashion, design and art, with its handcrafted products that are contemporary statement pieces. The brand uses innovative design and age old techniques in a modern way to create pieces for women of all ages.

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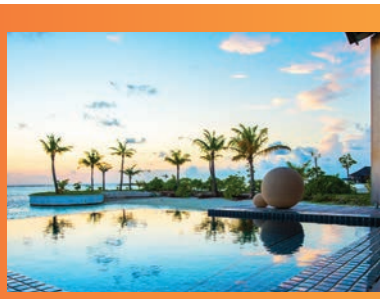
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NATIONAL PARKS

KANHA NATIONAL PARK

The largest national park in Madhya Pradesh, Kanha has a significant population of royal Bengal tigers



Located in the Maikal Hills of the Satpura mountain range, Kanha National Park is one of the largest in India. The deciduous forests, towering *sal* trees, grasslands, and bamboo groves of this park are said to have inspired the legendary *The Jungle Book* by Rudyard Kipling. And for most tourists, a glimpse of the likes of Shere Khan, the Bengal tiger in the novel, is the highlight. There are three entry gates to Kanha - Khatia, Mukki, and Sarhi.



The park is open from October to June. During monsoon, the safaris of core zones are closed but you can explore the buffer zones.



Sindoor (sindoori) trees from which *sindoor* is extracted is abundant here

WHAT TO SEE

A visit to the Kanha Museum is a must for those interested in wildlife. You can also stop by at Shravan Tal, a small pond with mythological significance, and if permitted, visit Bamni Dadar, for a magnificent sunset view.

The *barahsingha* was close to extinction when a successful breeding programme at Kanha revived the animal population

WHAT TO DO

Go for a safari in a 4WD vehicle. Forest department guides accompany visitors on fixed circuits for best wildlife spotting. You can visit Amarkantak (around 150 km) and Jabalpur (around 130 km).



Image: pugdundeesafaris.com

Guided nature walks are arranged by the forest department along the buffer zones and these are extremely popular. Safaris have to be pre-booked online.

Madhya Pradesh is home to the Baiga and Gond tribal communities. You can learn about their traditions and culture at the tribal museum on Kanha's outskirts.



Images are for representational purposes only

The closest airport is Jabalpur. SpiceJet is well-connected with Madhya Pradesh through Jabalpur, Khajuraho and Gwalior airports. Enjoy convenient direct and one-stop flights to these cities from Delhi, Mumbai, Pune, Bengaluru and many more destinations in India. Book now at www.spicejet.com

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Vimal Jhajharia along with his son Vikas Jhajharia



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HERE IS AN EXTRACT OF AN INTERVIEW WITH THEM AND THEIR CLIENT TESTIMONIALS:

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

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Can Vastu Shankha Yantra also help in selling a property?

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NATIONAL PARKS

KUNO NATIONAL PARK

A hidden gem in Madhya Pradesh, Kuno is an unexplored forest area, which is now gaining fame as the home of cheetahs



Tucked in the Vindhya hills of central India, Kuno National Park is located in Madhya Pradesh. Taking its name from the Kuno River that flows through it, the park has one of the most unique combination of vegetation that helps it in hosting a variety of species of flora and fauna. Among the animals that can be easily sighted here are the spotted deer, the four-horned antelope, black buck, hyaena, wolf, jackal, fox and wild boar among many others. But with the introduction of eight cheetahs from Namibia in September, 2022, Kuno has shot to global fame.



Kuno National Park is open to tourists throughout the year except during monsoon (July to mid- October). But the most pleasant time to visit is between October and March.

WHAT'S NEARBY

From Kuno, you can travel to several places that are around 100 km away, like Ranthambore National Park and Ghatigaon Sanctuary.





WHAT TO SEE

With its royal history, Kuno has various heritage sites, including forts like Palpur (Garhi), Amet and Maitoni. The magnificent Palpur Garhi overlooking the Kuno river, is known for spectacular sunset views.

While the eight Namibian cheetahs introduced to the park thrive, around 10 more are expected to arrive from South Africa in January

Inside the park exclusive forests of *kardhai*, *khair* and *salai* dominate, with wildlife foraging across vast meadows, some of the largest in the region. During monsoon, the *kardhai* trees turn a brilliant green!

WHAT TO DO

You can enjoy a safari in a jeep. A guide will accompany you inside the forest. The national park has three entry points – Ahera, Tiktoli and Peepal Bawadi.

HISTORY

It is said Mughal emperor Akbar captured a herd of elephants here, and Lord Curzon (former viceroy of India) wanted to turn it into a haven for lions.

SpiceJet is well-connected with Madhya Pradesh through Gwalior, Jabalpur and Khajuraho airports. Enjoy convenient direct and one-stop flights to these cities from Bengaluru, Mumbai, Delhi, Pune and many more destinations in India. Book now at www.spicejet.com

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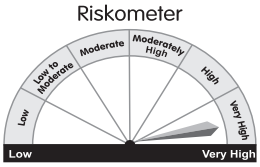
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Product Label

Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

NATIONAL PARKS

MANAS NATIONAL PARK AND TIGER RESERVE

Located in Assam at the foothills of the Himalayas, Manas is a unique forested area that is home to a wide variety of wildlife





A spectacular jungle and a very unique one, Manas National Park in Assam has the distinction of being a national park, an elephant reserve, a tiger reserve, a biosphere hub and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is also one of the most popular birding areas in the world. Linked with the Royal Manas National Park of Bhutan, Manas National Park is home to a plethora of flora and fauna, including many endangered species, such as the pygmy hog. It also hosts the Indian rhinoceros, elephant and the tiger. In fact the park has seen a dramatic rise in its tiger population.

WHAT TO DO

Opt for a jeep safari, tea plantation visits and jungle walks. You can enter the park either in your own four-wheeler or in a hired one. You can also try river rafting between Mathanguri and Bansbari.



In winter when the silk cotton trees bloom and shed their red blossoms on the forest floor, be ready to be greeted by a floral carpet on your safari

The forest in Manas has dense undergrowth that hides small animals; its open grasslands harbour the deer, and a river as well as streams that provide watering holes where you can spot the enormous wild water buffaloes. Also look out for the famed one-horned rhinoceros.

ELEPHANT BATHS

Children love watching *mahouts* bathe the elephants in the river. The setting allows for an excellent photography session.



Image: footloosedev.com

The best time to visit the park is winters from November to April, when the weather is pleasant. During monsoons, from around June to September, the park remains closed.

HISTORY

Manas was once the hunting ground of the royals of Cooch Behar and Gauripur.

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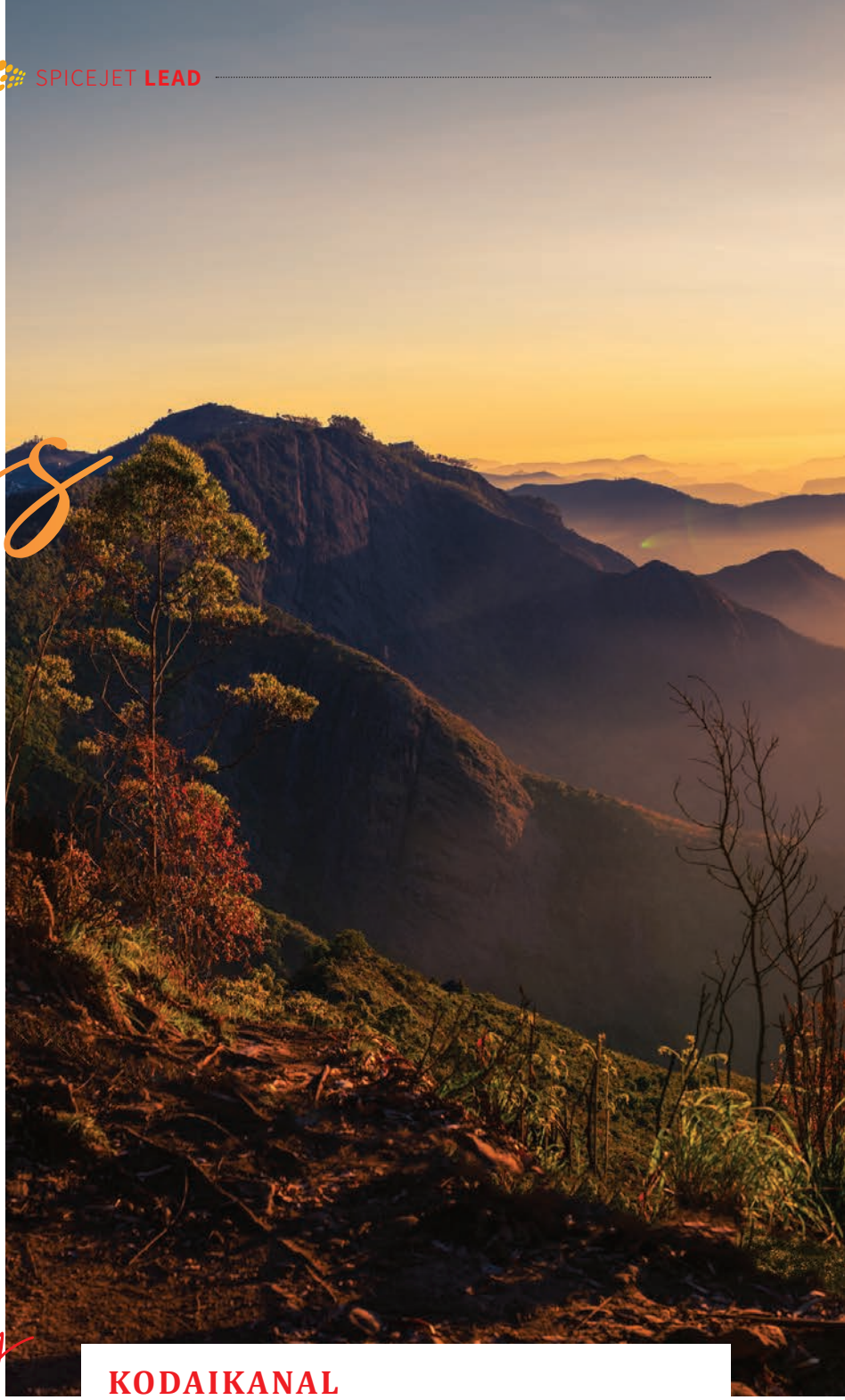
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THE YEAR OF MINI Vacays



The year 2023 has many long breaks that will help you take short but much-needed holidays. Here's the ultimate long weekend vacation list

TEXT: BINDU GOPAL RAO

Long weekends are always a good idea to make travel plans. However, the key is to be prepared and this is exactly what we tell you so that 2023 becomes the year of travel for you.

January

MARK THE DATES

January 26 **(Thursday) Republic Day**

January 27 **(Friday) Take the day off**

January 28 **(Saturday) Weekend**

January 29 **(Sunday) Weekend**

KODAIKANAL

Ring in the first month of the year amidst the verdant landscapes of Kodaikanal. Often called the "Princess of Hill Stations", Kodaikanal lies in the hills of Dindigul in Tamil Nadu. With emerald green forests, tranquil lakes and waterfalls with hiking trails, it is a serene vacation spot.

Must see

The hill station has its share of must-visit sites like Coaker's walk, Kodaikanal Lake, Bryant Park, Bear Shola Falls, Pine Forests and Pillar Rocks, and you could discover more when you take the offbeat path. Check out the Shembaganur Museum of Natural History that

has an interesting taxidermy collection and is accessible as you make your way up to the town. Trek through the Rainbow Forest and explore the unique flora of the region. The Mannavanur sheep farm, a high-altitude grassland, offers picturesque rolling greens. Make a pitstop at the Kookal lake to soak in the serene surroundings. A trip to the Berijam forest within the Kodaikanal Wildlife Sanctuary is a good way to see local birds as well as the shy Nilgiri langurs. If you like history and architecture, explore the La Saleth Church and the CSI Christ the King Church.

Take note: Over the last few decades, Kodaikanal has become an important cheese-producing centre with several types of hand-made artisanal cheese on offer. The most famous is "Kodai Cheese."



Madurai is the nearest airport. SpiceJet connects direct flights to Madurai from Mumbai and Dubai. Also enjoy one-stop connections from multiple cities in India. Book now at www.spicejet.com



March

MARK THE DATES

March 8
(Wednesday) Holi

March 9 **(Thursday)**
Take the day off

March 10 **(Friday)**
Take the day off

March 11 **(Saturday)**
Weekend

March 12 **(Sunday)**
Weekend



ABU DHABI

The capital of the United Arab Emirates, Abu Dhabi has something to offer everyone. Start your trip at the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, which is also known for its beautiful architecture and has one of the world's largest hand-knotted carpets. A pitstop at Qasr Al Watan, the Presidential palace, is a must to understand Arabian heritage. Visit the Louvre Abu Dhabi, not just for its eclectic and universal art collection but also to admire the stunning white building juxtaposed against the brilliant blue sea. Do check the mangroves at Mangrove National Park. For some speed and thrill, head to the Yas Island and Ferrari World. For an evening of adventure book a desert safari with camel ride, dune bashing and camping. Abu Dhabi is a city of souks. Visit these traditional markets for spices, carpets, fruits, incense, and oudh or just to soak in their atmosphere!



Take note: An interesting experience is the Abu Dhabi Pearl Journey that takes you on a leisurely cruise to offer an insight into the ancient pearling industry in the Arabian Gulf. Sailing on traditional pearling *dhow* boats, guests are offered an authentic experience, including Arabic coffee, snacks and Emirati sea-faring songs. The cruise is generally for around 90 minutes.

Dubai airport is well-connected with Abu Dhabi. SpiceJet connects direct and one-stop flights to Dubai from Delhi, Mumbai, Amritsar, Ahmedabad, Kochi, Madurai, Jaipur, Pune and Kozhikode. Book now at www.spicejet.com



April

MARK THE DATES

April 1, **(Saturday) Weekend**

April 2, **(Sunday) Weekend**

April 3, **(Monday) Take the day off**

April 4, **(Tuesday) Mahavir Jayanti**

SIKKIM

The beautiful state of Sikkim is home to Buddhist monasteries, mountain lakes, trekking trails and warm people. Explore sites like the tourist favourite Tsomgo Lake and the sacred Gurudongmar Lake. For adventure, plan a trip to Nathu La, one of the highest motorable roads in the world. The state is home to some of the most challenging Himalayan treks, including one to Goechala.

Some of the offbeat places you can visit include the Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary. Borong is a haven for bird watchers, while Yuksom is often called the gateway to Mt Kangchenjunga and has scenic hiking trails. Do make time to visit Yumthang Valley, a sanctuary with hot springs, yaks and rolling meadows with a carpet of flowers.

Take note: If you are an adventure enthusiast, take the ancient Silk Route tour in East Sikkim. The route is known for gorgeous views of the mountains, dizzying zig-zag roads with hairpin bends and quaint villages.

The nearest well-connected airport is Bagdogra. SpiceJet connects direct flights to Bagdogra from Delhi, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Bengaluru and Kolkata. Also enjoy one-stop connections from multiple cities in India. Book now at www.spicejet.com

MARK THE DATES

April 7, **(Friday) Good Friday**

April 8, **(Saturday) Weekend**

April 9, **(Sunday) Weekend**



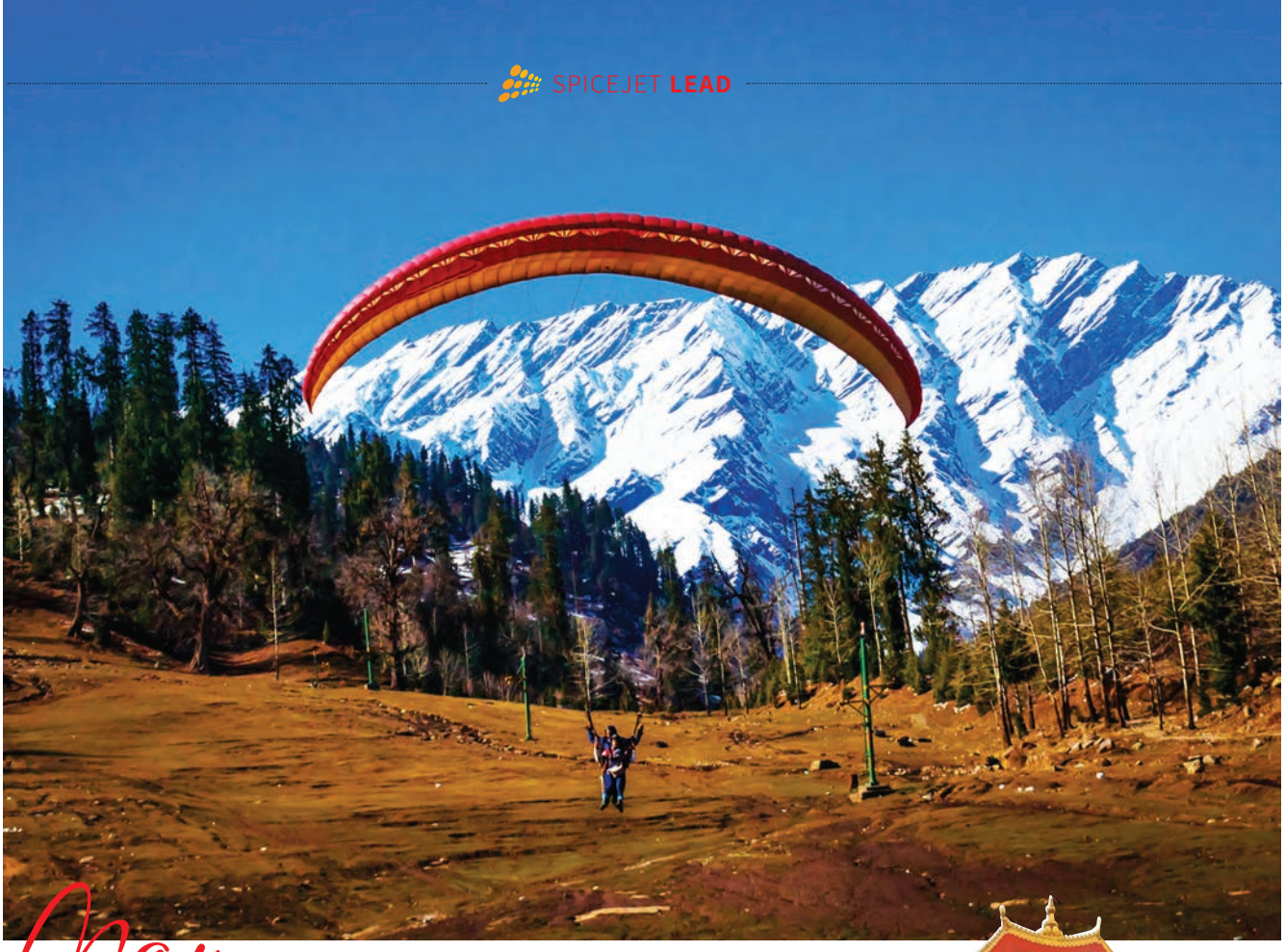
DALHOUSIE

Surrounded by snow-capped mountains and gorgeous valleys, Dalhousie in Himachal Pradesh is a delightful town with many less explored getaways. One such location is Sach Pass, a trekking trail at around 14,500 ft that will take you through tiny villages, high-altitude temples and glaciers. Moti Tibba is ideal to explore the pine, fir and oak forests and is great for a walk amidst verdant nature. Make time for a pitstop at Bhuttico for Kullu shawls, Shivkul Ashram for some soul healing, and Bhuri Singh Museum that gives you a wonderful insight into the historical and cultural heritage of Dalhousie. If time permits, visit the beautiful churches of St John and St Francis. And there is no way you can miss the ever bustling Mall Road!



Take note: Just next to the St John Church stands the Raizada Hans Raj Memorial Trust Library where you can spend solitary hours browsing through old hardbound classics, vintage posters, books on the Indian railways and inspiring quotes by famous people. You can also make a day trip to Khajjiar, an hour away, for a cosy picnic by the idyllic crescent lake. Explore the Kalatop Wildlife Sanctuary nearby.

The nearest airport is Dharamshala. SpiceJet connects direct flights to Dharamshala from Delhi and convenient one-stop connections from Pune, Ahmedabad, Kolkata Jaipur and many more cities In India. Book now at www.spicejet.com



May

MARK THE DATES

May 5, **(Friday) Buddha Purnima**

May 6, **(Saturday) Weekend**

May 7, **(Sunday) Weekend**



Image: travelbirbilling.com

BIR, BILLING

Bir (and Billing, two villages about 10 km apart) in Himachal Pradesh is known as the country's paragliding capital but also has a Tibetan colony, with Tibetan Buddhist monasteries and meditation centres. The Sherabling Monastery and the Deer Park Institute here are worth a visit as well. May is a great time to be here as the weather is perfect for trekking, paragliding, mountain biking and other adventure activities. On the outskirts are rolling tea gardens, which can be turned into a fun day trip. Do check the Bir Road market for some retail therapy as well as admire the languid pace of life when you walk along the lake and enjoy tucking into authentic local Tibetan dishes. The clear nights are perfect for stargazing.



Take note: Bir is a town of cafes offering cuisines from across the world. They line the road that leads to the paragliding landing site.

The nearest airport is Dharamshala. SpiceJet connects direct flights to Dharamshala from Delhi and convenient one-stop connections from Pune, Ahmedabad, Kolkata Jaipur and many more cities In India.
Book now at www.spicejet.com

June–July

MARK THE DATES

June 29, **(Thursday) Eid-al-Adha**
June 30, **(Friday) Take the day off**
July 1, **(Saturday) Weekend**
July 2, **(Sunday) Weekend**



HANLE, LADAKH

Located in Ladakh, Hanle is home to the Hanle Monastery that dates back to the 17th century and the Indian Astronomical Observatory, one of the world's highest site for astronomical observation. India's first Dark Sky Reserve is located here, which means you can catch a glimpse of the Milky Way galaxy in the cloudless nights. The best time for stargazing is just before, during and soon after each new Moon.

The Hanle River is serene and if you are lucky, you can also spot the Tibetan wild ass grazing on its bank. The Tibetan gazelle, and birds like the bar-headed goose and the crane can also be sighted. Spend a couple of days exploring Leh and acclimatising yourself to the altitude, before heading out to Hanle.



The 17th century Hanle Monastery is one of the largest in the region, and also one of the most spectacular and secluded

Take note: Inside the Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary, a cluster of hamlets has been notified as the Hanle Dark Sky Reserve. The area around the Indian Astronomical Observatory is now a sanctuary for darkness, so that scientists and astronomy enthusiasts can access the night sky in its darkest possible form.

The nearest airport is Leh, Ladakh. SpiceJet connects direct flights between Leh and Delhi. Also enjoy convenient one-stop flights from Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Chennai and many more cities in India. Book now at www.spicejet.com

August

MARK THE DATES

August 12 **(Saturday) Weekend**
August 13 **(Sunday) Weekend**
August 14 **(Monday) Take the day off**
August 15 **(Tuesday) Independence Day**
August 16 **(Wednesday) Parsi New Year**





WAYANAD

Located in the stunning Western Ghats, Wayanad in Kerala, is known for lush forests, emerald lakes, and spice and tea plantations. The Kanthanpara and Meenmutti waterfalls are beautiful and so is India's largest Earth Dam, Banasura Sagar Dam that is located nearby. Plan a trek to Chembra Peak, one of the highest in the region. The ancient Edakkal Caves have interesting prehistoric rock carvings and is a must-see. A safari in the Muthanga Wildlife Sanctuary is recommended and so is a serene bamboo raft river cruise at Vythiri. While you can visit Wayanad any time of the year, it's prettiest during monsoon.

Take note: You can't leave Wayanad without tasting the region's traditional cuisine. So, try *appam* with chicken stew, Malabar duck roast, Malabar biryani and fish curries.

The well-connected airport is Bengaluru. SpiceJet connects direct and one-stop flights to Bengaluru from Delhi, Pune, Goa, Patna, Gwalior and many more cities in India. Also, fly directly to Kozhikode from Dubai, Jeddah and Riyadh. Book now at www.spicejet.com

MARK THE DATES

August 26 **(Saturday) Weekend**
August 27 **(Sunday) Weekend**
August 28 **(Monday) Take the day off**
August 29 **(Tuesday) Onam**
August 30 **(Wednesday) Raksha Bandhan**

COORG

Often called the Scotland of India, Coorg in Karnataka is the land of rolling hills and coffee plantations. During monsoon, it transforms into a dreamy destination with cascading waterfalls and floating clouds. Enjoy a coffee trail that will take you through the bean to cup journey. Coorg has many popular sights like Abbey falls, Pushpagiri Wildlife Sanctuary, Namdroling Monastery, Raja's Seat, Madikeri Fort and Talacauvery, the holy birthplace of Cauvery river.

For offbeat adventures, head to the Chiklihole Reservoir and the Dubare Elephant Camp, a unique place where you can meet elephants up close. If you are up for adventure, try the Kote Betta trek or visit Mandalpatti hill that is especially famous for its jeep riding adventure.



Take note: The region's Kodava cuisine is delectable. Feast on rice *puttus* (rolls of steamed rice flour and coconut), *baimbalé* curry (soaked bamboo shoot gravy), *kootu curry* (vegetable stew), and *baale nuruk* (a dish prepared with bananas, jaggery, coconut and spices). Also try the popular *njandu* (crab) curry.

The well-connected airport is Bengaluru. SpiceJet connects direct and one-stop flights to Bengaluru from Delhi, Pune, Goa, Patna, Gwalior and many more cities in India. Book now at www.spicejet.com



September

MARK THE DATES

September 7, **(Thursday) Janmashtami**

September 8, **(Friday) Take the day off**

September 9 **(Saturday) Weekend**

September 10 **(Sunday) Weekend**



GOA

With its endless beaches, Goa has always been the most sought-after vacation destination, especially to ring in the New Year. Other than beaches, the beach-side shacks and nightclubs the must-see here are churches like Basilica de Bom Jesus and Se Cathedral, heritage sites like Fontainhas and Fort Aguada.

Goa is also becoming a hotspot for wellness, with several resorts offering yoga and Ayurvedic sessions. To spend some peaceful time by the sea head to Butterfly Beach. For one of the most stunning sunsets in Goa, make a beeline for the secluded Cabo de Rama Beach.



Take note: Goa is also home to some amazing wildlife and birds. Stop at the Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary, to spot sloth bear, elephant, deer, gaur, bison and birds like the Oriental dwarf kingfisher. The Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary at Mollem, the largest protected wildlife area of Goa, is home to leopards and elephants. The magnificent Dudhsagar Falls is about 10 km from here.

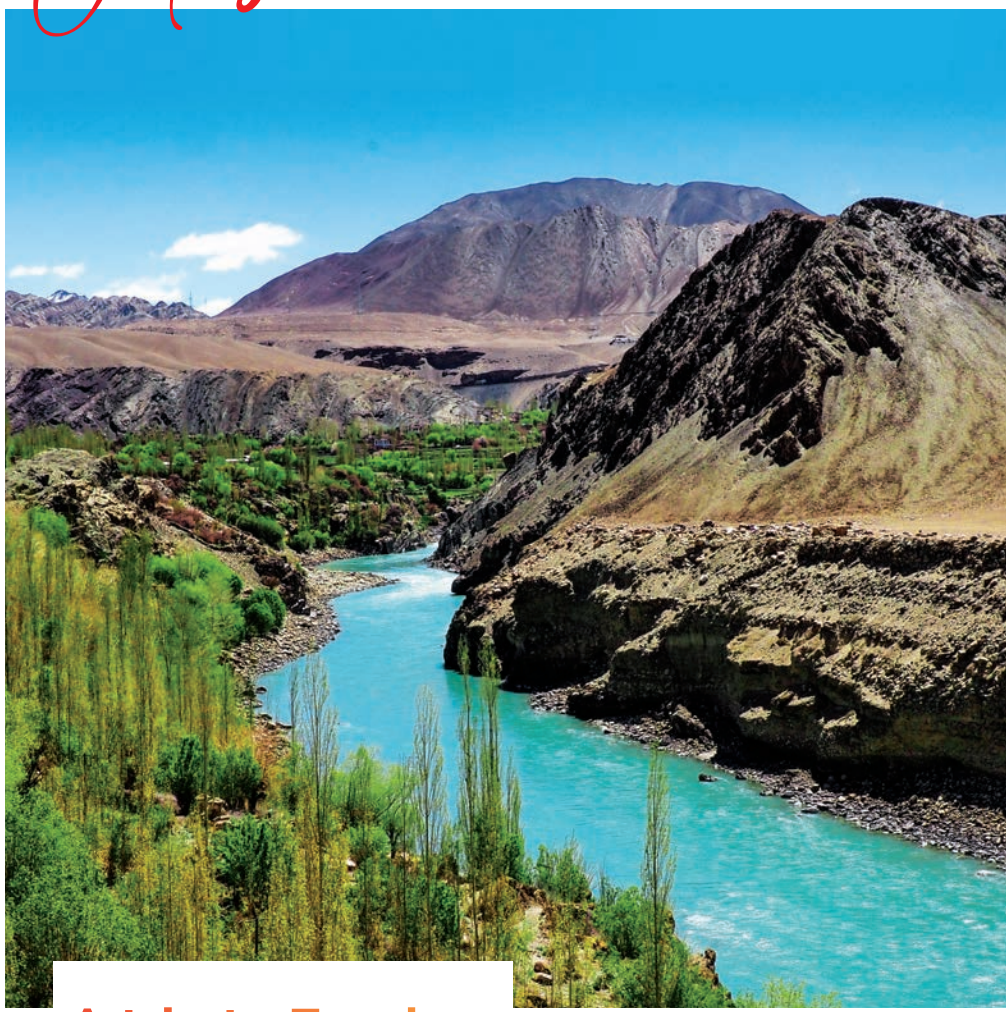
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September–October

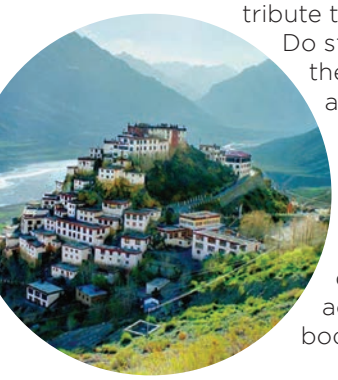
MARK THE DATES

September 28 **(Thursday) Eid Milad-un-Nabi**
September 29 **(Friday) Take the day off**
September 30 **(Saturday) Weekend**
October 1 **(Sunday) Weekend**
October 2 **(Monday) Gandhi Jayanti**



ZANSKAR VALLEY, LADAKH

Enveloped by snow for several months every year, the Zanskar Valley in Ladakh maybe one of the remotest of destinations in the Great Himalayas! The rugged landscape is famous for monasteries and world-famous treks. In winter, the Chadar Trek over the frozen Zanskar river is the experience of a lifetime. Offer a prayer at monasteries like the Sani, Phugtal and Lingshed. The Pensi La pass, lined by glaciers, is located nearby and is a sight like no other. Explore Padum, a cluster of small, whitewashed buildings in a vast plain, and around 30 km from Padum, visit the Zangla fortress. Zangla was once the capital of Zanskar and this palace pays tribute to that heritage. Do stop by and meet the friendly nuns at the Zangla nunnery nearby. In summer, enjoy rafting in the Zanskar river. Spend a day or two to acclimatise your body at Leh.



A trip to Zanskar shouldn't be about chasing a list of must-see places. Explore at leisure and if possible, live with a local

Take note: Stay in a homestay or with a local family and spend your days in lazy isolation. The Snow Leopard Conservancy's Himalayan Homestays programme offers accommodation in several villages in Zanskar.

The nearest airport is Leh. SpiceJet connects direct flights between Leh and Delhi. Also enjoy convenient one-stop flights from Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Chennai and many more cities in India. Book now at www.spicejet.com



October

MARK THE DATES

October 21 **(Saturday) Weekend**

October 22 **(Sunday) Weekend**

October 23, **(Monday) Mahanavami**

October 24, **(Tuesday) Dussehra**

Take note: Enjoy hot air balloon safaris for an aerial view of the restricted buffer zone and core zone of the national park.



BANDHAVGARH

Best known for its popular eponymous national park, Bandhavgarh in Madhya Pradesh is where you are most likely to spot a tiger in the wild. It is said the former royal hunting ground has the highest density of royal Bengal tigers in the world! Guided jeep safaris, which are organised twice a day (morning and afternoon), are the best way to soak in the park's wild ambience. Enjoy the safaris at Tala, Magadhi and Khitauli zones. You can also go bird watching. Bandhavgarh dates back to the ancient times and there are several caves with pre-historic inscriptions and rock paintings. The Bandhavgarh Fort holds mythological significance. It is said that it was gifted by Lord Rama to his younger brother Lord Lakshmana to keep a watch on Lanka.



The nearest airports are Jabalpur and Khajuraho. SpiceJet connects direct and one-stop flights to Jabalpur and Khajuraho from Delhi, Mumbai and many more cities in India. Book now at www.spicejet.com

November

MARK THE DATES

November 11 **(Saturday) Weekend**
November 12 **(Sunday) Diwali**
November 13 **(Monday) Govardhan Puja**



JAISALMER

Often referred to as the Golden City, Jaisalmer is a quintessential royal town in Rajasthan's Thar desert, where life is centered around its 'living fort'. The Jaisalmer Fort (also known as Sonar Kella or Golden Fortress), built in 1156 by king Rawal Jaisal, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Made from golden-honey sandstone, it is among the few living forts in the world. Outside the fort complex, make a trip to the impressive merchant residences, where you can see how the rich families lived. Explore the Nathmal ki Haveli, said to be one of the finest in this region. Make a trip to Gadisar Lake for serene views and a laser light and sound show. Try local dishes like *daal-bati* (wheat balls with lentil), *ker sangri* (local vegetables) and *laal maas* (mutton dish) at any of the restaurants. End the day with a desert safari to a dune at the outskirts of the city.



Take note: About an hour away from Jaisalmer is the Desert National Park, known for its eclectic feathered residents. Spot indigenous and migratory birds.

SpiceJet connects exclusive direct flights to Jaisalmer from Delhi, Mumbai, Jaipur and many other cities in India. Book now at www.spicejet.com

MARK THE DATES

November 25 **(Saturday) Weekend**
November 26 **(Sunday) Weekend**
November 27 **(Monday) Guru Nanak Jayanti**

GREAT RANN OF KUTCH

The Great Rann of Kutch is a landscape like no other. A salt marsh desert, it is most famous for its dramatic white landscape and the colourful Rann Utsav, an annual festival that takes place for a few months in winter. During the festival, enjoy a glimpse of Gujarat's vibrant culture and adventure sports. However, Kutch has many unique sites to explore like the Kutch Desert Sanctuary, Pingleshwar Beach, Surkotada Indus Valley Civilisation site, Kalo Dungar and the Prag Mahal palace. The Chhari Dhand Wetland Reserve is a haven for birdwatchers. Also, learn more about local crafts like lacquer ware, bell-making and *rogan* painting. Meet local craftsmen families and learn about their work, savour traditional fare at the community kitchen and enjoy folk cultural performances in the evenings.



Take note: One of the most immersive experiences in Kutch is staying like a local in traditional *bhunga* huts. These mud huts come equipped with such luxuries as air conditioners, heaters and even Wi-Fi! These accommodations can be availed at both the White Rann Resort and Hodka Village (about 20 km from the Rann Utsav Tent City).

SpiceJet connects direct and one-stop flights to Rajkot, Ahmedabad, Surat, Kandla and Bhavnagar from Delhi, Mumbai, Jaipur, Pune and many more cities in India. Book now at www.spicejet.com



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December

MARK THE DATES

December 23
(Saturday) Weekend
December 24
(Sunday) Weekend
December 25
(Monday) Christmas

ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

With shimmering blue waters, unending silvery beaches, thrilling diving spots and mysterious dense forests, the far-flung Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the Bay of Bengal are the perfect tropical escape. The archipelago of over 500 islands is dotted by innumerable beaches. While there is lots to see in capital Port Blair, it's best to head to the nearby islands. Start with Neil Island for a view of stunning coral reefs, white sandy beaches and tropical forest. Enjoy a spot of water sports in the crystal-clear sea here. Located close to the Neil Island jetty, Bharatpur is one of the best beaches with a vast sandy stretch. It is ideal for swimming and coral viewing on-board glass-bottom boats. A sunset experience is a must at the dreamy Lakshmanpur Beach. And if you can wake up early, a trip to the sunrise beach at Sitapur will reward you with amazing Instagram-worthy sky images.



Take note: Around 20 km from Port Blair is located Chidiya Tapu, famous for hundreds of birds. Go bird-watching or enjoy spectacular sunsets

MARK THE DATES

December 30 **(Saturday) Weekend**
December 31 **(Sunday) Weekend**
January 1, 2024 **(Monday)**



DAWKI, MEGHALAYA

For a scenic getaway, Dawki in Meghalaya is, easily, the hands down winner as it is ensconced in the beauty of nature, courtesy the very Instagrammable Umngot river. With its crystal clear waters that is often compared to a see-through glass, a boat ride here is magical. Camps by the river are popular during special occasions like the New Year. Dawki is surrounded by many gushing waterfalls like Byrdaw, Borhill and Mawlynnong, and Shillong and Cherrapunji are within driving distance. Not very far is Mawlynnong, known as one of the cleanest villages in Asia! Spare some time to marvel at a living root bridge. Around three hours away is Kongthong, the whistling village, where tunes are used instead of people's names!

Take note:
Bravehearts can drive around a couple of hours to try the Mawryngkhang Trek - one that goes over mountain ridges, patches of farms, raging rivers and even over nothing but a bed of rocks. It is said to be one of the most challenging in the region.

SpiceJet connects direct flights to Port Blair from Kolkata and Chennai. Also enjoy convenient one-stop flights from multiple cities in India. Book now at www.spicejet.com

The nearest well-connected airport is Guwahati. SpiceJet connects direct flights to Guwahati from Delhi, Mumbai, Jaipur and many more cities in India. Book now at www.spicejet.com

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"I AM LOVING THAT I AM CONSTANTLY EVOLVING"



Image: aninews.in

Actor Arjun Kapoor has been trying to push the envelope while staying commercially relevant, and his filmography is a testimony to how Bollywood heroes are stepping away from stereotype

TEXT: AARTI KAPUR SINGH

This year in August, Arjun Kapoor completed a decade in the Hindi film industry. A decade by our standards, and "a paradox that seems like a lifetime of learning and at the same time, a very short period" by his own. The last decade can best be described as a "roller coaster", says the actor, who only relies on "his instinct and will to constantly improve, even if it is by making mistakes."

One of the most genial people in tinsel town, Kapoor debuted as Parma Chauhan in *Ishaqzaade* (2012) - an irresistible mix of machismo and vulnerability. His next two films - *Aurangzeb* (2013) and *Gunday* (2014) were pure commercials - but also those that got mixed reviews.

If there is one thing that has been constant in producer Boney Kapoor's son's career, it has been his deliberate (and very evident) attempt at not getting stuck with one image. Take for example, *2 States* (2014), *Finding*

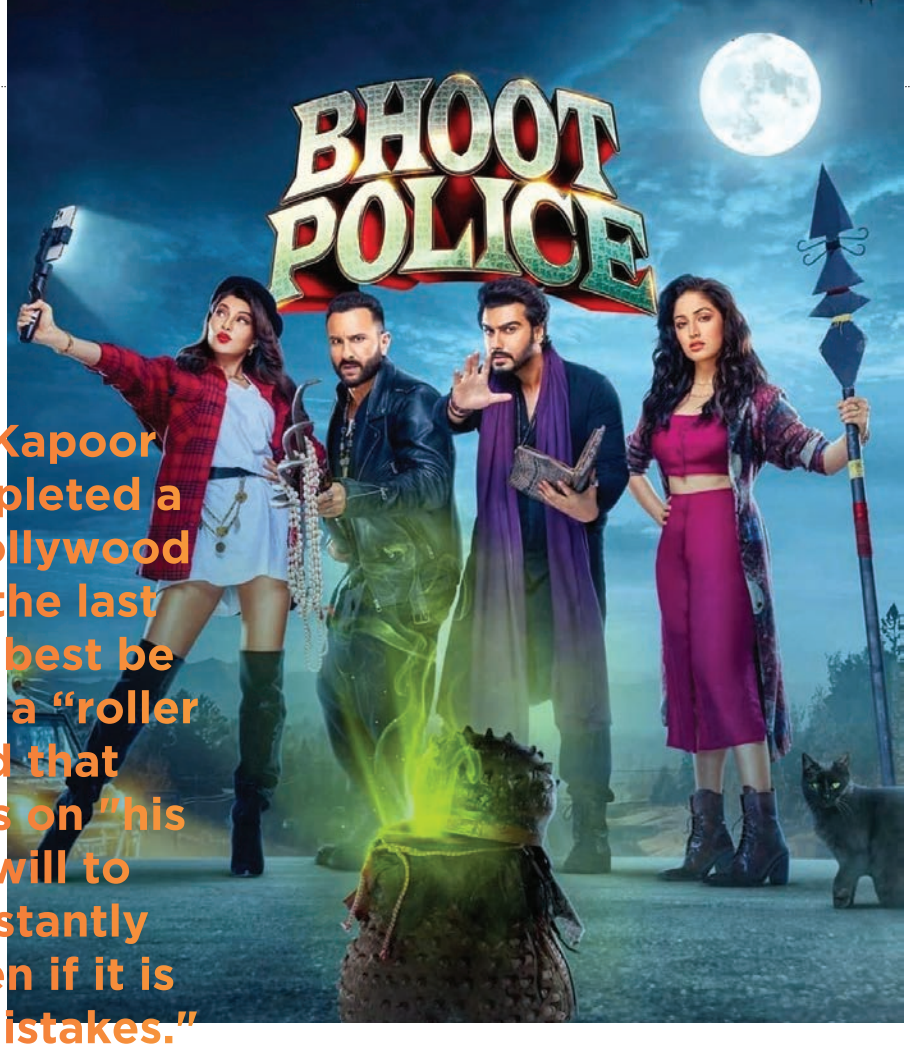


Image: assets.gadgets360cdn.com

Actor Arjun Kapoor has just completed a decade in Bollywood and he says the last 10 years can best be described as a "roller coaster", and that he only relies on "his instinct and will to do so to constantly improve, even if it is by making mistakes." He adds that these years have been "a paradox that seems like a lifetime of learning"

Fanny (2014), *Ki & Ka* (2016), and *Sandeep Aur Pinky Faraar* (2021).

For Kapoor, this decade has also been relevant in his own growth as a person - in finding love, building bridges and in his words, "evolving". The year 2023 will probably see him on a roll - in as many as half a dozen films - each different from the other. There's Kuttey and The Lady Killer among other projects. Here's the actor in a free-wheeling conversation.

You are in great shape! What's the trick?

I guess I am overworked! (Laughs). But I should not complain. I will have the chance to eat and fatten up next year as I sit back and watch the work I have done.

Who are your 3 am friends?

There are very few I consider as best friends. One of them is Kunal (fashion designer Kunal Rawal), and also Sanjay *chachu* (Sanjay Kapoor, who is his uncle). I might get whacked by Anshula (sister Anshula Kapoor), but she knows she is my life!

And who is your role model?

That will be Anil Kapoor (actor and Arjun's uncle). It may sound clichéd probably because he is family, but it's true. The kind of adulation I have seen his work get from his fans and the industry, has inspired me to be like him. I often go to him for work advice as well.

Now that you are constantly travelling for work and shoots, what is the one thing you miss about Mumbai?

Mostly, my family. But I am also feeling strangely disciplined now that I am really following a schedule.

A film that you can watch on repeat?

Schindler's List! While I can't watch it on repeat but I love going back to that film and I watch it a couple of times every month. It was the first film that made me cry and I couldn't sleep after I had watched it. I started watching it at 2 am and after that I cried till sunrise. I am also very fond of *Piku*. Then there are *Mr. India*, *Andaaz Apna Apna* and *Barfi*, which I can watch any time. Among other Hollywood films, my go-to watches are *Lock Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*, *Snatch*, *The Shawshank Redemption*, *City of God*, and *A Fish Called Wanda*.

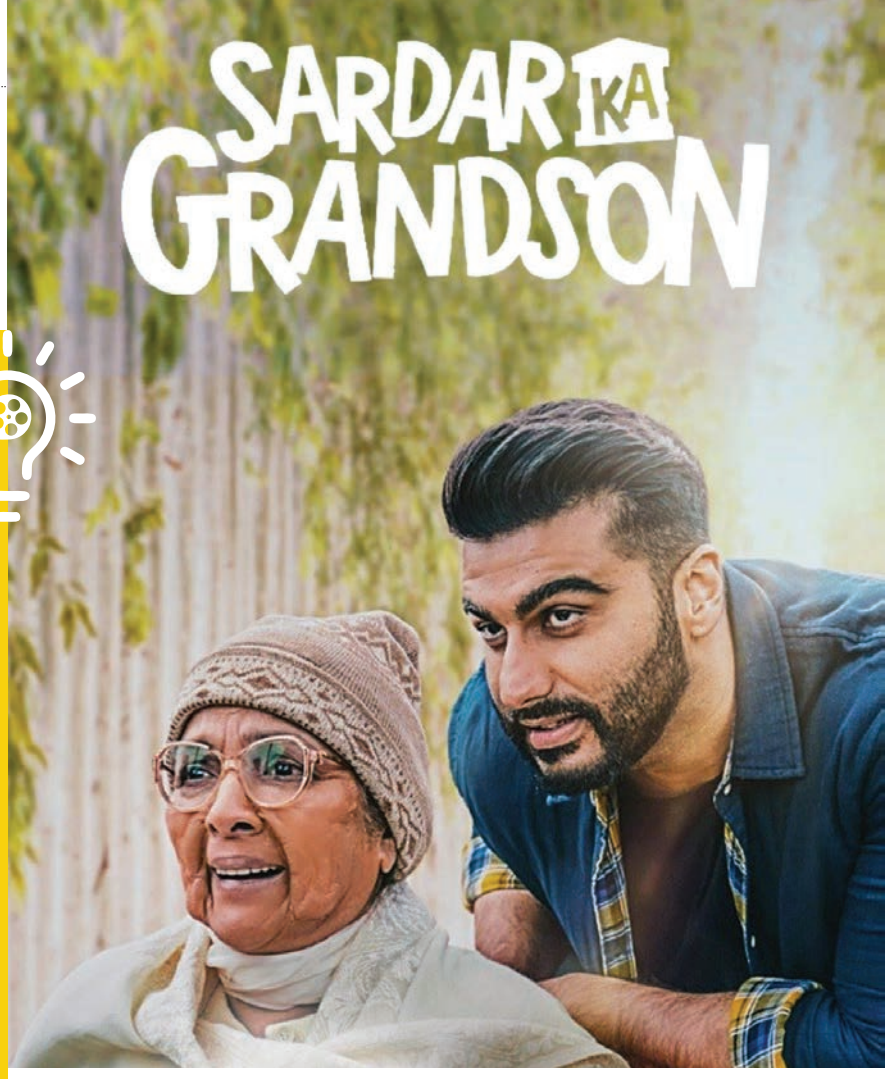


Image: imdb.com

Rapid Fire

Your favourite travel destinations?
I love the buzz of New York and the peace of Maldives.

During travel, what do you prefer – a backpacking trip or luxurious indulgence?
A luxurious trip! I don't think luxury means that one is spoilt. I think it means that you value the money you are spending. If I have worked very hard for two years and I have not taken a holiday, I would like to travel to a place and enjoy the best part of my earnings to enjoy a comfortable holiday. I like travelling, good hotels and I like living comfortably.

Which destination is on your bucket-list?
I would definitely love to travel to Japan and Hawaii too! In India, I haven't explored much of the Northeast, so that's where I am headed next.



You are a foodie, so what are your favourites?
I can't resist Lebanese cuisine and I can have hummus with everything! I'd like to believe I cook a particular chicken dish really well - my version of a Lebanese chicken in which I use seven spices. At home, I also love *kaali dal* (lentil dish), *rajma* (kidney beans), and *pyaaz wale chawal* (spiced onion rice) that my *daadi* (grandmother) cooks.

And what will you not eat?
I shouldn't tempt fate (laughs), but I really cannot have *karela* (bitter gourd)! Also I am not too fond of seafood.

Any secret temptation?
Nutella! I can have it on bread, roti and even in kheer (rice and milk dessert).

One thing that you are embarrassed about?
My nickname! My friends still call me Fubu. It used to be a brand of clothing in America and they used to have clothes in large sizes. I was fond of wearing colourful clothes, but I could never fit into most of them. So, Fubu's large-sized football jerseys were my favourite. I was fond of sports, but I couldn't play, so I would be happy just wearing the jerseys. And the name has stuck with me. Priyanka Chopra calls me Fubu on sets and I keep telling her not to!

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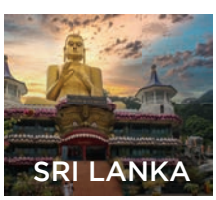
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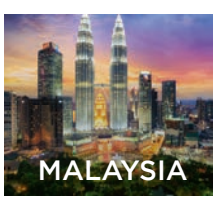
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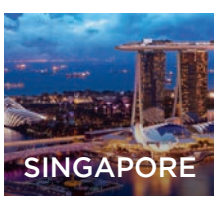


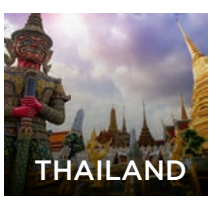












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SAWASDEE Thailand



The tropical paradise is best known for its pristine beaches and vibrant celebrations. But venture deeper into the country to explore unique landscapes and ancient cities

TEXT: MANJULIKA PRAMOD



Tourists near the scenic James Bond island, Phang Nga bay

It is one of the most sought-after tropical getaways. Why? Because Thailand, the 'Land of Smiles', is home to pristine beaches, verdant jungles, alluring temples, incredible hotels, postcard-perfect islands, vibrant shopping markets, incredible food, and amazing Thai culture. And when it comes to hospitality and tourism, Thailand wins hands down.

Its capital Bangkok is a reflection of the country itself - a melting pot of cultures, adorned with canals, rivers, ancient temples, bustling markets, and a mix of urban and traditional landscapes. But Thailand is much more than vibrant Bangkok and the other must-visit destinations including, Phuket with its bucket-list beaches, Pattaya with one of the world's most bustling nightlife, and Krabi with its stunning landscapes. Here are a few unique and offbeat destinations to explore.

Phang Nga A picturesque destination near Phuket and Krabi, this bay is known for its dramatic limestone cliffs that jut out magically from the emerald green sea. Dotted with small islands, forests and protected beaches, Phang Nga offers many outdoor adventures like boating, canoeing, snorkelling and kayaking. It's a great day trip from Phuket. Do visit Samed Nang Chee mountain and the dramatic Ko Tapu, also known as James Bond Island.



Thailand is a gourmet's paradise, Here, is a Thai cashew chicken stir fry



The best time to visit most of Thailand is from November to April

Take note: Celebrate the Chinese New Year on January 22, 2023 in Bangkok, which turns into a dazzling sight during this time.

Offbeat in Bangkok



WATCH A MUAY THAI MATCH

In Bangkok, you must watch a Thai Boxing friendly match, which is the national sport and cultural martial art of Thailand.

SKYDIVING JOY

Go skydiving at Khao Yai. Around 200 km from Bangkok, Khao Yai is the place where you can indulge in one of the most adventurous skydiving experiences in Asia. Also visit the Khao Yai National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site for biking, hiking and to spot a variety of wildlife!



WALK THE ART STREET

One must not miss the emerging street art neighbourhoods in Bangkok. The artworks at Khlong Ong Ang are new, upbeat, and charming. Some of Thailand's best-known street artists have created incredible wall murals and vibrant graffiti, and thus it has become the newest walking in the capital.



NUAD THAI

The oldest school of traditional Thai massage has thrived inside Wat Pho, or the Temple of the Reclining Buddha. Nuad Thai has been included in UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, and no oil is used in this massage.





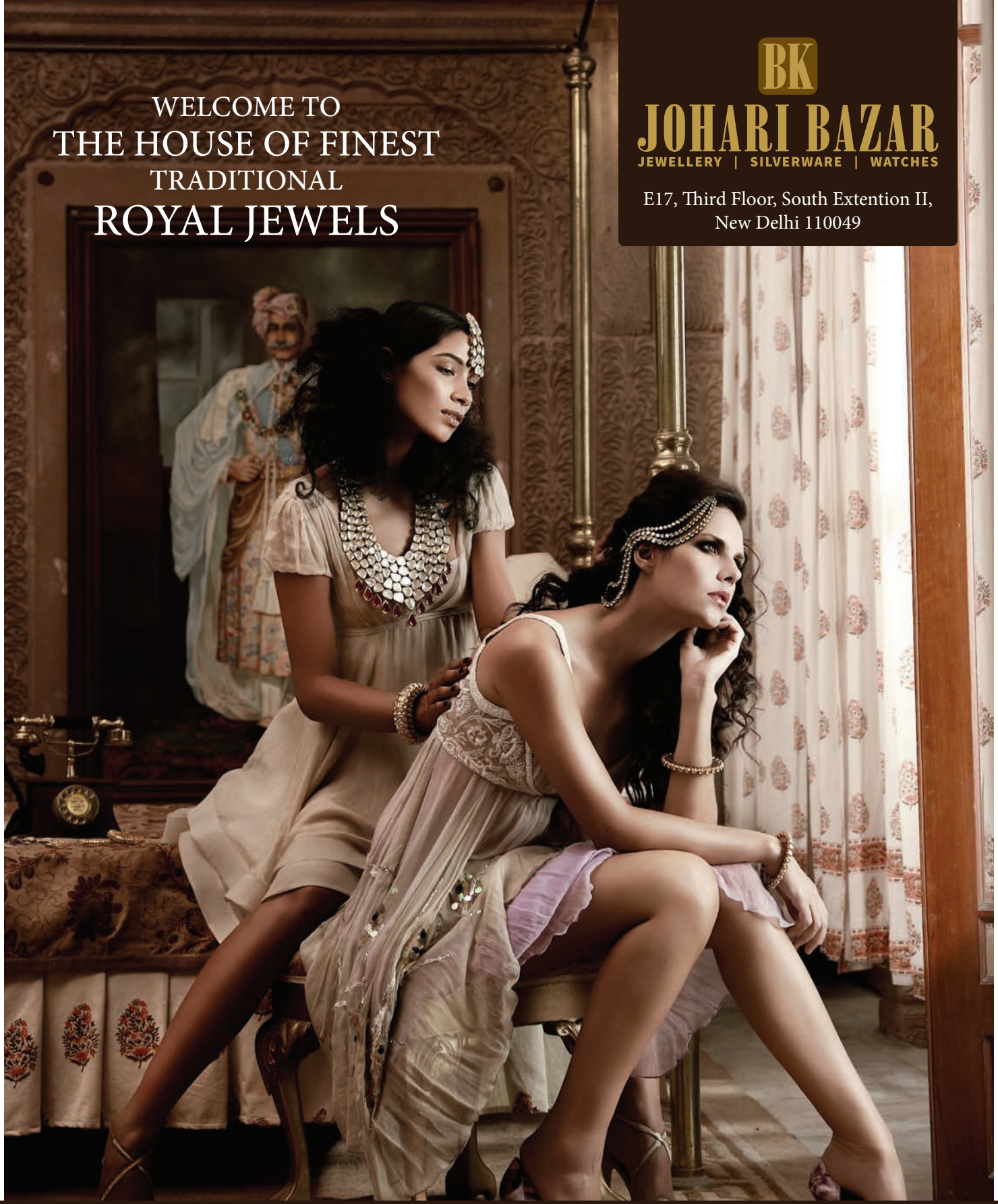
Don't miss the Elephant Nature Park in Chiang Mai

Khao Sok One of the most visited destinations in Thailand, Khao Sok National Park is a heaven for adventure lovers. Try trekking, rafting, hiking and bird watching! One of the most interesting places here is the stunning Cheow Lan Lake with its floating raft houses and luxury tents in the heart of the national park.

Kaeng Sam Phan Bok Kaeng Sam Phan Bok is a jaw-dropping natural wonder. Also called the Mekong Grand Canyon, this region is marked by thousands of *bok* (basins or holes), made in the rock-face by the swirling waters of the Mekong River. The circular underwater currents of the river have eroded the rocks, leading to the formation of this dramatic landscape. It's best visited between December and May.

Chiang Mai The former capital of the ancient Lan Na kingdom, with its fairy-tale landscape, Chiang Mai is an apt place to relax and unwind. Explore the dreamy temples and the buzzing markets, and on its outskirts, the lush mountainous landscape. The heart of the Old City is lined by art and craft workshops and trendy cafes. Do feast on local delicacies.

Kaeng Krachan National Park Not so known to tourists and just around 200 km from Bangkok, is Kaeng Krachan, the largest national park of Thailand. Crisscrossed by rivers cutting through the dense forest, the Kaeng Krachan Dam, a lake, waterfalls



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Sukhothai is a beautifully preserved heritage destination, where one can explore the grandeur of the erstwhile Sukhothai kingdom through hundreds of architectural structures



(Top) Monks in front of the monumental Buddha at Wat Si Chum in Sukhothai. (Above) The beautiful Pavilion of the Enlightened in Samut Prakan, the Ancient City near Bangkok

and caves, this is a green gem. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the forest is home to a wide variety of wildlife. There are guided wildlife tours that can take you inside the park and several hiking trails. From November to February, you can see the magical sea of mist.

Kanchanaburi Located around 100 km from Bangkok at the confluence of rivers, Kanchanaburi is a quick and peaceful green escape. The novel *The Bridge Over the River Kwai* was set in Kanchanaburi and World War II history abounds in the area. Visit the museum and one of the war cemeteries to learn more. Take a cruise down the river and visit the Erawan waterfall.

Uthai Thani Around 200 km from Bangkok is nestled the quaint town of Uthai Thani, a mesmerising slow-travel destination. Surrounded by lush mountains, and home to a culturally rich community, Uthai Thani is a place to fall in love with. Cruise along the Sakae Krang River, enjoying the easy life by the water among rafts and floating houses. Do visit the Buddhist temples.

Sukhothai In the glare of its natural beauty, Thailand's history often goes unnoticed by tourists. Around 400 km from Bangkok, Sukhothai is a beautifully-preserved heritage destination, where one can explore the grandeur of the erstwhile Sukhothai kingdom. Sukhothai, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is dotted with numerous world heritage-listed archaeological sites. Enjoy the lush countryside, and if you are visiting between October and November, be a part of the spectacular Loi Krathong festival.

Hua Hin If you are a golfing enthusiast, head to posh Hua Hin. Enjoy the empty beaches and if you want, check into one of the many wellness centres.

With inputs from Namita Kumar

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HEALTHY ON my plate



Even the most global dishes are being created with healthy ingredients to maintain the nutrition balance, like this pizza with toppings of colourful vegetables. Image courtesy: Bloom, Mumbai

With an increasing awareness towards wellness and nutrition, people are eagerly embracing various concepts of clean eating like veganism

TEXT: SHIBANI BAWA

From cosy neighbourhood cafes to glitzy fine-dining restaurants, the concept of clean and healthy eating is trending across the world. While eating cleaner and better can mean different things to different people living at different locations, but broadly, eating fresh, seasonal and local produce plays an important role. Replacing meats with alternate meats and vegan fare, a trend that started a couple of years ago, is also going strong. Experts say, in 2023, clean meals and veganism will become even more mainstream, with restaurants as well as consumer brands catering to this evolving need.

CONNECTING WITH ROOTS

With chefs, restaurants and consumers all becoming increasingly conscious of the impact of our food systems on environmental well-being,



Traditional fruits and vegetables are being resurrected to create new-age dishes. Here, tortilla bread with pulled jackfruit and couscous salad

conversations around vegan practices have been growing. "The consumer will demand more in this category and the industry will invest heavily in delivering plant-based, vegan-friendly options for diners of every persuasion – vegan, vegetarian or reducetarian," says Manisha Bhasin, corporate executive chef, ITC Hotels & WelcomHotels. Fortunately, Indian cuisine, with its large repertoire of traditional vegetarian dishes, is a convenient choice for vegans.

Traditional Indian dishes and cooking methods are being referred to by chefs in their endeavour to promote clean eating as well. "To eat healthy, we have to continue rediscovering our culinary roots, savour our local plant-based oils and *ghee*, support local, and take pride in all things Indian. The focus will increasingly be on traditional food systems, inherent wisdom of culinary practices, and building a connection with what we eat," Bhasin adds.

THE VEGGIE HERITAGE

Conversations around *desi* vegetables began in 2018, with the first explorations into forgotten regional cuisines. In 2019, chefs started putting vegetables like *bathua* (a leafy vegetable), *kathal* (jackfruit) and *tindora* (ivy gourd) on fine dining menus. The year 2020 saw a definite shift in focus with home-grown vegetables becoming the new Instagrammable 'cool'. At the tony Olive Bar & Kitchen in New Delhi, a range of gourds are used in the seasonal vegetable pasta primavera. *Amla* (gooseberry) is used extensively in salads and as a garnish for pork belly and duck because of its sweet and sour taste profile. The *kathal* (jackfruit) too is a chef's favourite, being used to make kebabs, *haleem* and enchiladas! Chef Bhasin suggests *bathua* crackers to "best utilise the leafy green's unique taste."

The year 2023 has been announced as 'The Year of Millets' by the UN and India is leading this movement. Millets have been a part of our diet since time immemorial

LET'S GO LOCAL

Whether eating out or cooking at home, seasonal



Chefs are using more seeds, grains and nuts to offer clean menus. Here is a plate of gluten- free amaranth and quinoa salad with fresh vegetables

What's vegan



Vegan ice-cream

Veganism or vegan diet is one that avoids the consumption of all animal products, including dairy, dairy products and eggs. The vegan diet is said to be beneficial for our health and environmentally sustainable.

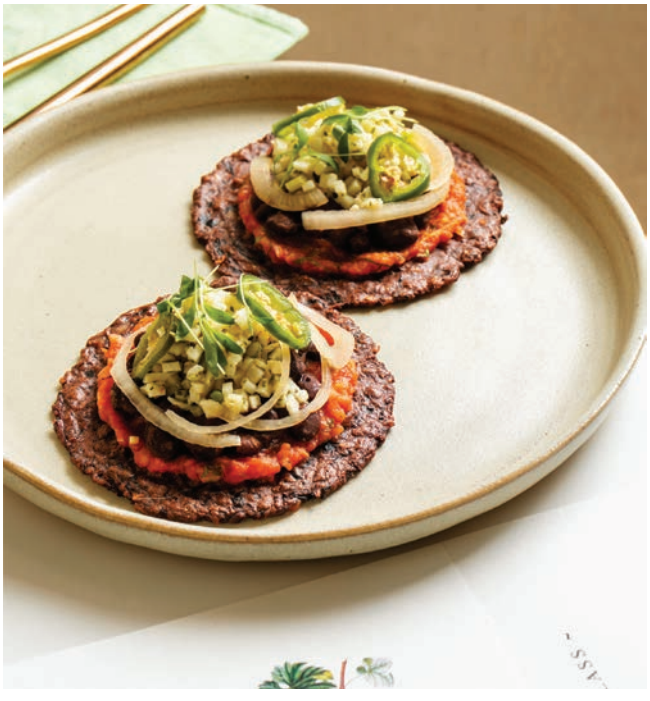
MOCK MEAT



"Plant-based meat is catching up in India due to its health benefits and a growing consciousness to adopt a lifestyle that's less harmful to the environment," says Chef Vaibhav Bhargava, partner, Cho, New Delhi. Mock meat is a plant-based meat and many consumers have started enjoying it more than any other option. "It can be a wonderful way to experience meat for vegetarians, vegans and others whose diets don't include animal-based products," he explains.

With increased focus on veganism and healthy eating, Indian vegetables are in the limelight. Chefs are using traditional greens even in fine dining

and local ingredients are enjoying their place under the sun. "The pandemic has taught the food industry to evolve and look at local produce as a sustainable and nutrient-rich ingredient resource. The ease of availability and the flexibility of working with local farmers to grow the choicest produce is ushering in a new food era that prompts terms like organic, home-grown, fresh harvest, nutrition, plant-based, vegan and sustainable," explains chef Simran Singh Thapar, director of culinary, the Leela Palace, Udaipur. "Their availability is convenient, and food is tastier, better, fresher and more nutritious," concurs Dhruv Oberoi, executive chef, Olive Bar & Kitchen Delhi and The Grammar Room. With many in India following the global trend of starting their day with a green smoothie, Oberoi suggests using local ingredients like kale, avocado, asparagus, parsley, celery, moringa and basil. "With every passing year, cleaner eating is becoming even more important, especially for the millennials. There is more focus on clean eating and balanced meals at home as well," says Varun Totlani, head chef of Mumbai-based Masque, which found a place in the list of "The Best Restaurant in India 2022" by The



A vegan purple bean taco from Sequel, Mumbai





Millets are seeing a resurgence of sorts. (Left) A burger with millet patty and (right) a stuffed squash with millet, tomatoes and olives

Whether eating out or cooking at home, seasonal and local ingredients are enjoying their place under the sun, making food more nutritious

World's 50 Best Restaurants. It proudly showcases lesser-known, hyper-local ingredients on its menu.

MILLET, THE NEW HERO

The year 2023 has been announced as 'The Year of Millets' by the UN and India is leading this movement. While the world maybe turning its focus to these wonder grains now, in India, they are seeing a resurgence of sorts. They have been a part of our diet since time immemorial.

Millets provide sustainable energy, most of them grow organically, they are high in nutrition and seasonal as well.

"With the new wave of sustainable living and wellness, the nutritional value of millets is again coming to the fore, due to which chefs are trying to include millets in their globalised menus as well," says Chef Bhasin. While millet risottos and salads are classic, even snacks and fast-food items can be fortified with millets. For example *ragi dosa* and *chakli*, ground *kodo* millet in a burger patty and a millet *bhelpuri*.

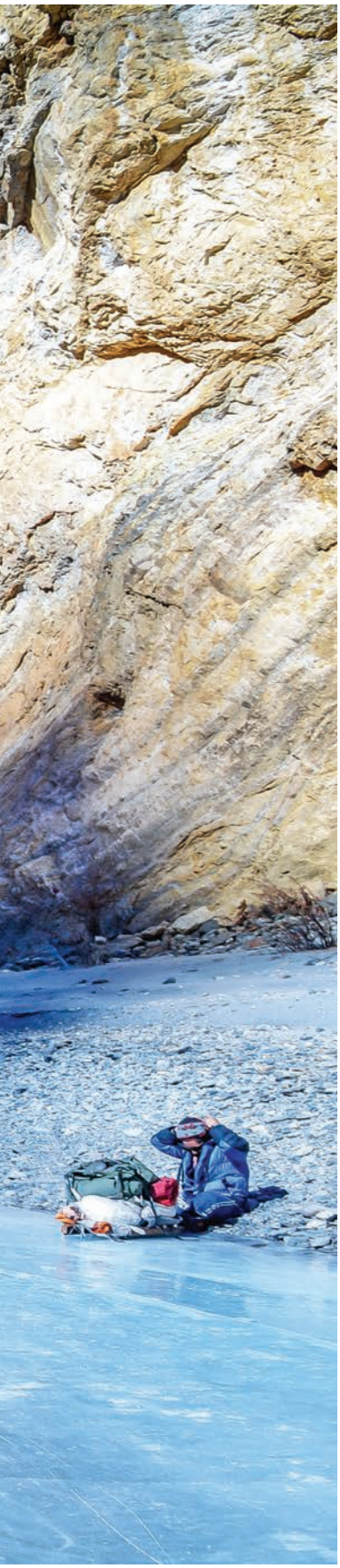
PACKAGED FOODS

The Fast Moving Consumer Goods industry has noticed the changing food habits and thus packaged products now boast of tags like 'no trans fats', 'organic', 'no preservatives', 'vegan', 'gluten free', 'single origin', and 'local artisanal produce'. "These tags enable the products to get picked up more frequently compared to those without," says Chef Thapar. This will ensure not only the millennials but even children incorporate healthier eating options.



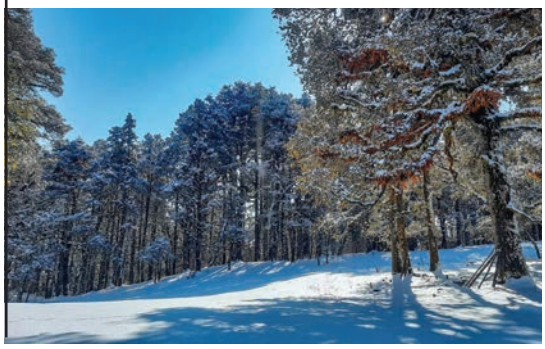
Shibani Bawa is a Delhi-based food and travel writer. She has been writing for some of the best luxury lifestyle magazines for 18 years. Follow her gastronomic journeys and luxurious stays on Instagram @shibanibawa





Chadar Trek in Ladakh
If you want to challenge yourself with a walk on thin, glass-like ice formed over a frozen river, head to Zanskar in Ladakh for the Chadar trek! The Zanskar river freezes during winter and the trek takes one down the remote and sheer Zanskar gorge, with its walls rising thousands of feet from the riverbed. The near-vertical rise forces one to walk on the frozen river. Plan for a seven or 14-day trek.

The trek through the Ali-Bedni Bugyal (meadow) in Uttarakhand is one of the most popular in winter, with the most variety. Enjoy views of towering peaks like Mt Trishul while trekking.



Reaching for the snow line

Walking through the snow and relishing the most stunning white landscapes are some of the unique experiences of a winter trek. Here are some of the most beautiful winter trails in India

Hear the call of the mighty mountains this winter! Take the well-trodden path carpeted with ice and be enthralled by the magic of snow and snow-capped ivory towers. From experiencing the perilous pleasure of walking on thin ice, to the thrill of treading through frozen rivers and across glacial lakes, and white-dusted villages, there are several unique challenges that only a mountain trek in the winter can offer. So pack your bags and check out these fabulous snowy treks in India. Most of these are best attempted between January and February.

Kedarkantha Trek in Uttarakhand Often considered a rite of passage for trekkers, the Kedarkantha trek route is located in Uttarakhand's Govind National Park. The trek passes through dense forests and alpine meadows. But the most rewarding is its summit climb!



A favourite of professional trekkers, snow-covered trekking routes offer some of the most serene yet dramatic mountain views



Kuari Pass in Uttarakhand The Kuari Pass is your chance to see the most dramatic and clear view of Mt Nanda Devi, among India's highest peaks. Walking through ancient forests filled with oaks and rhododendrons, and wide meadows make this trek perfect!

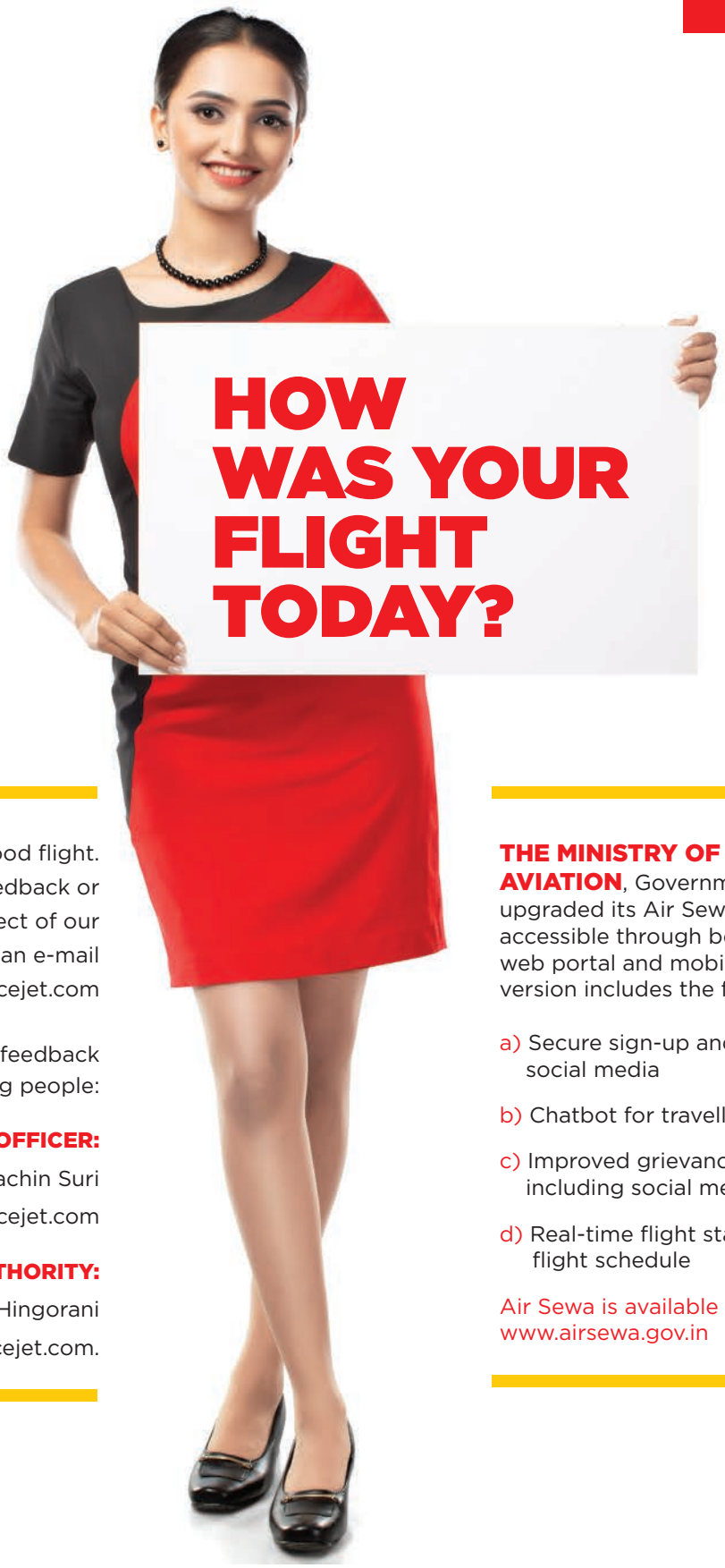


Sandakphu Phalut trek in West Bengal: The highest peak in West Bengal, Sandakphu is a part of the Singalila Ridge in Darjeeling district. Sitting on the edge of the Singalila National Park, the peak offers clear views of some of the world's highest mountains, Mt Everest and Mt Kanchenjunga.

Sela Pass in Arunachal Pradesh This pass connects Arunachal's Tawang region to the rest of India. On a trek through the pass, walk along old Buddhist trails and villages that are home to ancient monasteries. Enjoy views of the shimmering Sela Lake and the breathtaking Gorichen Peak, the highest scalable peak in the state.



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THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION, Government of India, has upgraded its Air Sewa portal, which is accessible through both interactive web portal and mobile app. The new version includes the following features:

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

You may also visit www.dgca.nic.in or write to sugam@dgca.nic.in

Tech Talks

From futuristic products to innovative services, here's the latest from the world of technology

TEXT: VISHAAL B



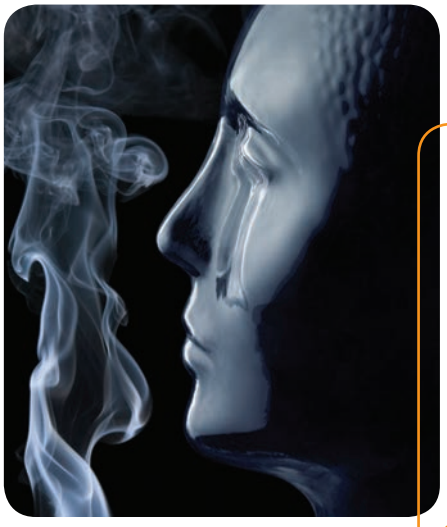
INDIAN SPACEX

Inspired by Elon Musk's SpaceX, Mumbai-based Space Aura Aerospace Technologies is building a space capsule to carry tourists to space, and at a much lower cost! The company says its capsule will measure 10 ft x 8 ft and will be able to launch six visitors together with the pilot at once. However, the space capsule will remain within a 35-km-radius above the Earth. The firm has set itself a target of 2025 for beginning its flight into space.

Meanwhile, Vikram-S, India's first private rocket, has been successfully launched into space. The 545-kg rocket developed by space startup Skyroot took off from ISRO's launch site near Chennai.

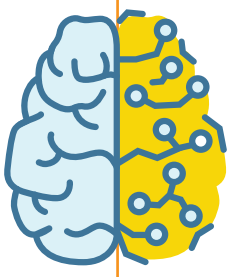
THE SCENT OF AI

The Diors and Chanels have ruled the world of perfumes long enough. It's time now to get a scent that's custom-created just for you with the help of AI (Artificial Intelligence)! ScenTronix, an 'Algorithmic Perfumery' in the Netherlands, is using AI to produce personalised perfumes. The company says its unique system asks users a series of questions and then uses the responses to generate and dispense tailor-made scents. The unique perfumes for the customer are created within seven minutes! They even have a library of fragrance formulas to inspire you!



GO HANDS-FREE

A New York-based company is working on a technology to allow people control an iPhone or iPad using their brains. Synchron, a technology firm, is developing a brain-computer interface (BCI) technology with the goal of enabling patients to control digital devices hands-free. It says it has created a device named 'Synchron Switch' for converting the thoughts of people with paralysis into action. Synchron is the first company to gain approval from the US Food and Drug Administration to run clinical trials on a computer-brain implant. Synchron announced its first human BCI implant in the United States earlier in 2022.



A CAR TO LAUNCH DRONES

One of the world's largest car shows, Speciality Equipment Market Association, or SEMA, held its annual conference in Las Vegas recently and its focus was on EVs. While there were many surprising concepts showcased, one of the most talked-about were the innovations from Volkswagen. Its ID.4 stunned visitors. The automaker brought out two ID.4-based concepts, including one it calls a Mobile Drone Response Vehicle with a big roof rack designed to carry and launch large drones.





END OF THE LEAP SECOND

The practice of adding 'leap seconds' to clocks to keep them in sync with Earth's rotation will be put on hold from 2035. It means that from 2035, or maybe earlier, astronomical time will be allowed to diverge by more than one second from coordinated universal time. Since 1972, whenever the two time systems have drifted apart by more than 0.9 seconds, a leap second has been added. However, most of us will feel little impact from the loss of the leap second!

A TRIBUTE TO THE SUN

An ancient Sun temple has become the icon of India's solar power journey! Modhera in Gujarat, known for the Sun temple built in 1026-27 CE, was recently declared as India's first solar-powered village. The village has a ground-mounted solar power plant, and over 1,300 rooftop solar systems with one kilowatt (kW) capacity have been installed on houses to generate electricity. These rooftop solar systems on residential and government buildings have also been integrated with a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at Sujjanpura in Mehsana, about six km away from the temple.



TO TWEET OR NOT TO TWEET

While the world debates over the latest happenings at Twitter, here are a few alternative social media platforms that are gaining popularity.

Mastodon: On the surface Mastodon looks like Twitter - account users write posts (called "toots"). But the biggest difference is that the software is not operated or run from a single headquarter like Twitter but is powered by independent servers from all across the globe.

Cohost: This is an ad-free social media platform and posts made on the platform fall in a timeline that goes vertically, much like Twitter.

Tribel Social: A self-described "grassroots social network", it allows users to reach out to a specific audience to enhance engagement on posts and says users can find experts on topics of discussion.

Tumblr: It is a social media website that allows users to post long-form blog-style content with such media elements as photos and GIFs. It also allows users to chat with each other much like Twitter's direct messaging function.

Koo: This Indian social media platform functions a lot like Twitter. It allows the use of hashtags or the "@" symbol for mentions. The app also allows users to 're-koo', Koo's version of a retweet, and chat instead of a direct message. It is currently available in 10 languages.

For kids only

From culture to science and from young champs to movies, here's what's interesting for all the young ones



THE AMAZING MAURICE

We all remember the lovable rat, Ratatouille, but what's better than one rat? Two rats? Three rats? Or maybe, a whole crew of talking scam-artist rodents! *The Amazing Maurice*, a charming family animation, tells the story of a goofy streetwise cat, who has the perfect money-making scam. Adapted from a novel by Terry Pratchett, the comic plot involves a band of lovable con-artist rats led by the ginger tom cat, Maurice (Hugh Laurie), who is working with a boy named Keith (Himesh Patel). Released recently, the movie offers non-stop laughter!



BLUEY LIVE!

***Bluey*, the animated series, is in news. While the Emmy award-winning children's show is again one of the most watched, it has also now got a theatrical stage production, *Bluey's Big Play*!**

THE CUTEST BIRD EVER

Just 6.5-inch long, the bearded reedling is a cute, pocket-sized stout bird found in Europe. Living in wetlands, these round birds are expert acrobats, performing splits and balancing on thin reeds.





DUNGEONS & DRAGONS MAKES A COMEBACK

The *Dungeons & Dragons* phenomenon seems to be making a comeback. The cult-classic franchise is not only returning as a brand new comic published by IDW but also as a new movie, starring Chris Pine, Michelle Rodriguez, Regé-Jean Page and Hugh Grant, *Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves*. It is set for release in March 2023.



HOW A STAR IS BORN

NASA's James Webb Space Telescope captured the Carina Nebula, one of the largest and brightest nebulas (clouds of dust and gas where stars are born). The telescope could look deep inside dust in the infrared light, to reveal the inside of previously unseen stellar nursery to know more about how stars are born.

Puzzle

1) What comes once in a minute, twice in a moment but never in a thousand years.

2) I am an odd number. Take away a letter and I become even. What number am I?

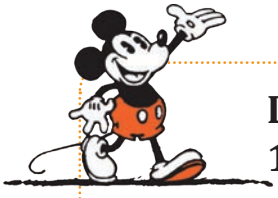


Answer: 1) The letter M
2) Seven



AI K-POP GIRLS

Since releasing their debut single 'I'm Real' in 2021, K-pop girl band Eternity has racked up millions of views online! But, all members of the band are virtual characters! They are non-humans, hyper-real avatars made with artificial intelligence! Aespa, another group comes with four singers and their virtual counterparts! And this seems to be the future.



DISNEY CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF WONDER

Founded in 1923, Walt Disney Company is marking its centennial year with Disney 100 Years of Wonder celebrations, with festivities across the world throughout 2023. The cinema giant has planned touring exhibitions, rare archival displays, live entertainment, collectible merchandise, art and much more, kick-starting the celebrations on January 27, 2023, at the Disneyland in California.

10 Best Movies for Kids and Teens

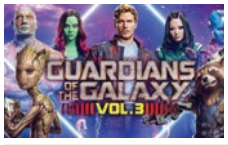
Here are a few Hollywood productions for a great movie-time this year:



THE SUPER MARIO BROS. MOVIE



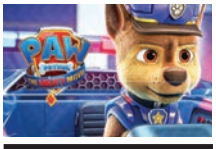
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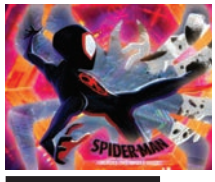
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 3



THE LITTLE MERMAID



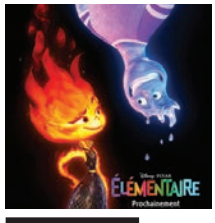
PAW PATROL: THE MIGHTY MOVIE



SPIDER-MAN: ACROSS THE SPIDER-VERSE



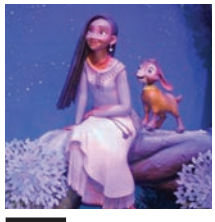
THE MARVELS



ELEMENTAL



TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: MUTANT MAYHEM



WISH

JANUARY 2023

YOUR FORECAST THIS MONTH



ARIES

The month starts slow but gathers speed towards the end. If you want to attempt something new, think before you start. Money will come in through unexpected sources. You have been working very hard with no results but it will start paying off soon. You are too cautious in matters of love, don't fear; make your move.



TAURUS

You will be in a position of power and expansion but think thoroughly before making any move. Finances or financial agreements will be agreed upon and profits will increase. A much-needed break is on the cards. Relationships will mend and new love may enter.



GEMINI

Don't waste your time in small talk. It's time for action. A job change is also seen. Try and stay away from complicated situations. An unexpected financial gain is on the cards. A property dispute will be settled. But in all this happiness, don't forget to keep a check on your health.



CANCER

Work is slow but it will pick up soon. Take this time to make some changes, physically and mentally. This is a time to start working on something new. Don't get swayed by what people tell you. You will soon see financial gains. Someone out of the blue will prove helpful.



LEO

If a new opportunity arises, grab it with both hands. You will want to start something on the side. If you face any aggressive situation, handle it calmly. Money power will increase. Someone close to you would need some attention so try and give your best.



VIRGO

You may feel tired and low so this is the time to rethink. Gather the courage and venture out. Cards are good for you financially. If you want to start something new or change a job, wait. Socially, you will be active and popular. Family disputes will ease.



LIBRA

Your close relationships need attention. You will meet some influential people in politics or the creative industry who can help boost your career. Creatively, you will perform well. Financially, it's slow for now but it will pick up soon. Someone loves you secretly even now. If you are aware, go get her/him.



SCORPIO

An opportunity is coming your way that could change your career perspective entirely. You have upset some people in the past and if you are aware, it is time to mend it. You will suddenly gain popularity and money. Stay away from arguments. A visit to a holy place is foreseen.



SAGITTARIUS

Talks will happen for starting a new project or investment in property. A shift in job is also seen. Financially, things are sorting out and very soon you will have enough to save. If you feel you are not in control of situations, calm down and take a fresh look. A surprise is in store for you that will make you happy.



CAPRICORN

You will gain popularity in your area of work. Partnerships and collaborations will happen and work will increase. Watch out for health issues. You need to cleanse your mind, body and soul. Declutter your thoughts. It will be good for you. Change your perspective. Relationships will become better.



AQUARIUS

Something new in your work area will start. You could pursue a new hobby and turn it into a career. Financially, a small gain will happen. You could buy or sell property this month. Pay attention to your relationships. There can be a change in job; it could be the organisation or a new step-up.



PISCES

A much-needed break will happen. You could be in a position to command at your workplace. New work is coming your way but you need to organise your routine. This is not the time to be lazy. Money that was stuck will be released but don't make any hasty investments. A lot's happening and it is a positive development.



Tarot card reader and holistic healer Poonam Sethi believes in the power of giving. With a career spanning more than three decades, Sethi today is an internationally-acclaimed tarot card reader, Reiki healer, colour therapist, Feng Shui practitioner, crystal healer, a specialist in removal and balancing the negative evil eye energies and a *rudraksha* consultant. She is also the author of *The Power of Feng Shui*, which offers 90 practical and efficient tips to improve one's life.
For details, contact – poonamsethi27@hotmail.com

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For enquiries, reach out to us on media.sales@spicejet.com or call us at +91 9871082303.

NEWS

SpiceJet awarded the 'Safety Performer of the Year' award by DIAL

SpiceJet, the country's favourite airline and the leading logistics platform, has won the 'Safety Performer of the Year' award at the annual GMR Delhi Airport Awards for being the top performer among the self-handling airlines and its success in reducing ground safety violations.

SpiceJet's ground handling team at Delhi Airport achieved this notable performance through constant focus on quality improvements, innovation and hard work. Minimizing incidences of ground safety violations play a key role in ensuring compliance to safety guidelines and regulatory requirements.

GP Gupta, Chief Strategy Officer, SpiceJet said, "To be awarded the 'Safety Performer of the Year' by the country's biggest airport is indeed a proud moment for us. SpiceJet meeting the highest safety standards of our country's aviation regulators and airports is a great honour and a true reflection of what we truly stand for. Safety of our passengers and employees is the top priority for us at SpiceJet. It is an integral part of all our functions and is ingrained in our culture. We will continuously strive to adopt the highest safety standards to provide a safe and secure travel environment for our passengers."

SpiceJet was recently audited by International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and its operations, safety processes and systems were found to be strong and at par with the global best practices and safety standards following an exhaustive audit by the United Nations aviation arm. SpiceJet was the only scheduled Indian airline part of the audit conducted by ICAO. The audit of SpiceJet safety systems helped India achieve its highest ever safety ranking in ICAO audit.



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- Minimum height: 158 cm (approximately 5 feet 2 inches)
- Must be fluent in English (both verbal and written)
- Minimum Educational Qualification: Higher Secondary (10+2) with a minimum score of 60% each in English, Physics and Mathematics

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*On successful completion of training.





Soaring high sharing smiles

We believe in spreading joy as we soar in the skies. Here are a few endeavours of love spearheaded by SpiceJet from the year gone by. Celebrating the spirit of family, ours and yours...



Diwali



Children's Day



Holi



Independence Day


Onam

From marking special days to celebrating festivals, the SpiceJet family gave back as much love as it received and more in 2022. We shared endearing moments with each other, participating in Diwali, Holi, Yoga Day, Woman's Day, Cancer Day, Pilot's Day, Children's Day, Independence Day, Onam, SpiceJet's 17th Anniversary, Durga Puja and many more. Take a look at our year-long sojourns.

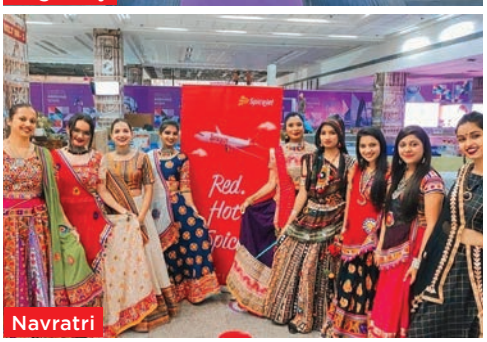

Durga Puja


Yoga Day


Women's Day



Anniversary


Navratri



Environment Day



MyTown

In our series, in which we travel to various Indian cities with a SpiceJet family member, this month, Akshay Shaji, line check cabin crew (Kozhikode), takes us around Thrissur

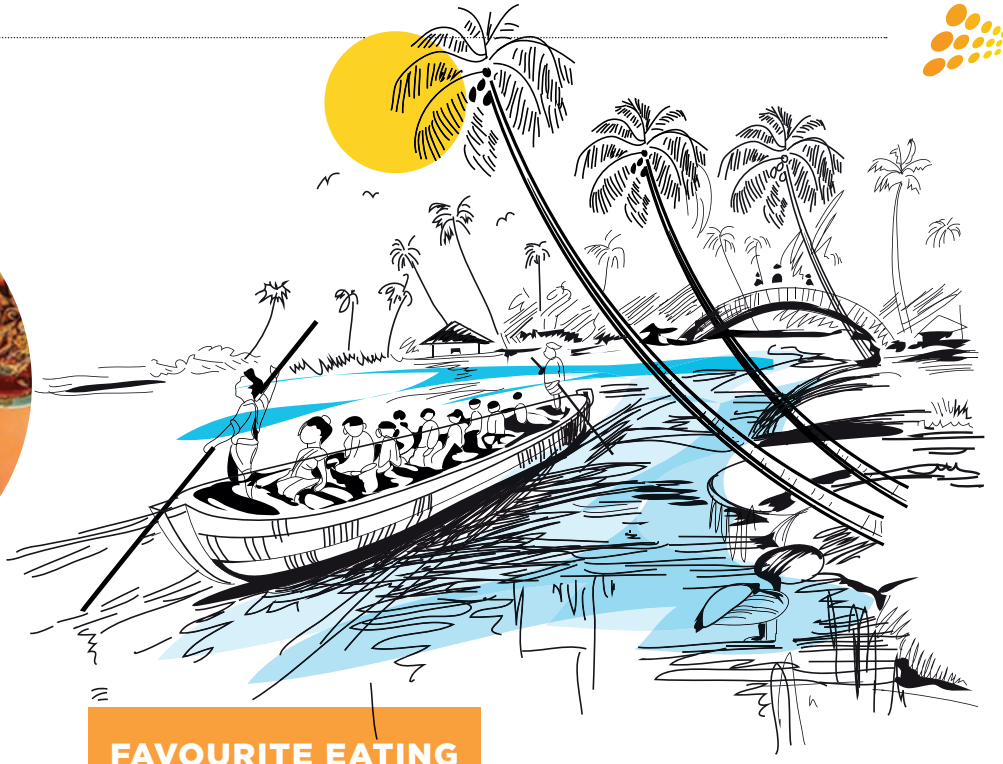


AKSHAY SHAJI
LINE CHECK CABIN CREW, KOZHIKODE

City Connect

I hail from Thrissur, also known as the cultural centre of Kerala. I've been to Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Bengaluru and Hyderabad. And while these cities are filled with the effervescence of opportunity and love, Kerala just ushers me home. Also, the people in my city are simple and all the more meek. They believe in quality of life and not in showing off. The people here are peace loving and have great tolerance.





FAVOURITE DISH

My favourite would be Kerala-style *njandu* roast (crab roast). It's all about the succulent crab meat, roasted spices and the ever-present *masala*.

FAVOURITE EATING PLACE

I do put a lot of effort into the pursuit of a great meal and I certainly fall in love with the folks who live by the motto: 'first we eat; then, we do everything else.'

Therefore, my personal choice is Mullapanthal Toddy shop aka '*shaaps*'. Like Murphy's Law, a test ride that led to a puncture, opened up an impromptu road, which took me to this establishment. And I have been an ardent fan ever since. Veggie lovers are offered farm-fresh quality dishes here. If you prefer meat and seafood, you name it and they'll get it. If you are a beverage enthusiast, this is the place to be. If you've had a murky day at work, mussel fries and a local beverage here is the answer. No matter how big or diverse your order is, these guys beat the clock of anticipation every time. It is surely an incomparable haven for gastronomes!



What makes Thrissur special?

Indubitably retaining the traditional values and visual ecstasy, Kerala has always been known for high-quality life and social welfare. The beauty of Kerala is beyond words and that is also one of many reasons which makes it one of the most popular tourist destinations. Additionally, the progressive thinking of its residents makes it a better place to live.

Best thing that you like about the city

What's not to like? The views of tea-covered hills make up for the strenuous commute on Kerala's mountain roads. Unending vistas of coconut-lined sand beaches and the backwaters are added delights. On top of everything, my city serves biryani till 4 am!

Nightlife

Cocooned in lush green and the ever-charming backwaters, you'll find a lot of palatable food joints and festivities throughout the night. Although a majority of the city sleeps a tad early, you might get lucky to catch live performances as you indulge in Kochi's nightlife scene.

Best place to hang out

Historic Fort Kochi and the enchanting hill station of Vagamon top the list.

Recommendations for tourists

Kerala abounds in tourist attractions but my recommendations would be Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary and Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary.

Weekend trips

If you're in the mood for a wee bit of a drive, the Nilgiri Mountains should never be missed. It is an approximate five-hour drive from Calicut (Kozhikode).

Stars Of SpiceJet

Meet the achievers of the month from the SpiceJet family, who have stood out for their outstanding work



Cabin Crew

APARAJITA CHAKMA

AMRITSAR

Internal appreciation:
Ms. Aparajita Chakma is a self-motivated, hard working and professional crew member who has displayed dedication towards her work, time and again. She is always eager to know more and one who concentrates on her personal growth as well as the Company's. She has a positive approach and displays a good sense of responsibility for passengers and their needs.

Experience with SpiceJet:
"My journey with SpiceJet has been exhilarating as well as enchanting. Right after my first flight. I knew I was in the right place, doing what I love. I still want to achieve a lot more in my aviation career with SpiceJet, but I'm grateful for everything I have been getting to do here and that includes meeting amazing people and mentors."



Flight Safety

HIMANSHU SHEKHAR

HEADQUARTERS

Internal appreciation:
Mr. Himanshu Shekhar is a veteran in SpiceJet Flight Safety Department with work experience of over 15 years. His work ethic, knowledge and expertise are inspiration for the Flight Safety Department. He recently completed his Masters in Aviation Law and Air Transport Management with flying colours. This shows his zeal to acquire new knowledge while juggling work and studies.

Experience with SpiceJet: "Working with SpiceJet has been a thrill and I have learnt many things during my tenure with SpiceJet. I'm thankful to SpiceJet for providing the best training and opportunities to be able to carry out my role as Deputy Chief of Flight Safety in SpiceJet."



Human Resource

ARUN SHARMA

GURGAON

Internal appreciation:
Mr. Arun Sharma is a conscientious worker who is eager to learn new things and quick to pick them up. His work ethic and dedication are the best aspects. Through challenging times, he has managed to remain composed. He is a valuable asset to the company.

Experience with SpiceJet: "I started working with SpiceJet in 2016 and in my line of work, every day brings a fresh challenge and chance to learn. The workplace culture is warm and team-oriented. It fosters a vibrant work environment where it is simple to generate and exchange new ideas. I can't wait to see what SpiceJet has in store for me in the future."



Ground Support Staff

CHARAN KUMAR

KANDLA

Internal appreciation:
Mr. Charan Kumar is a committed and hardworking professional. He has moved out of his comfort zone and taken charge of a station which was in a bad shape and turned it around very quickly. He Is a quick learner and is adept at maintaining good interpersonal relationships with all stakeholders.

Experience with SpiceJet: "I began my career in SpiceJet after graduating in 2007, and since then I have worked under best of the best in the industry. The leadership abilities and traits I possess as the Airport Incharge in Kandla, Gujarat, are unquestionably gifts from all my mentors I gained throughout my professional career."

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**For those opting for BBA and MBA courses. | Disclaimer: Past record is no guarantee of future prospects.

The Mid-Air Feast

Take your pick from SpiceJet's delicious menu. Here's a glimpse of the mouth-watering options

BREAKFAST

RASEELE CHOLE
with mix vegetable parantha & vegetable tikki





MASALA OMELETTE
with grilled chicken sausages & hash brown

LUNCH

PANEER METHI MALAI
with jeera rice & dal makhani





CHICKEN TIKKA EGG BIRYANI
with mirch ka salan

DINNER

TAWA PANEER KHURCHAN
with steamed rice & tadka masoor dal





MURG LABABDAR
with palak pulao & dal panchrattni

SNACKS

PANEER TIKKA SHASHLIK
with sliced stuffed tandoori aloo & vegetable croquette





SLICED CHICKEN SEEKH KEBAB
with sliced stuffed tandoori aloo & vegetable croquette

SANDWICHES

SPINACH, CORN AND CHEESE SANDWICH
in marble bread





ROAST CHICKEN, SUNDRIED TOMATO AND BASIL SANDWICH
in marble bread

CHEF'S CHOICES

VEGETABLES IN RED THAI CURRY
with steamed rice





GRILLED CHICKEN BREAST
with mushroom sauce, yellow rice, sautéed carrots & beans baton

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