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## CEO'S MESSAGE



Namaste, and welcome aboard the new Air India!

We thank you for choosing to fly with us and for your constant support as we continue our journey of transformation.

In the two years, since privatisation, much work has been put into rebuilding Air India's foundation and readying it for the future. A year ago, we placed what was, at the time, the world's largest-ever aircraft order of 470 aircraft, augmenting nearly 40 others being acquired on lease. These new aircraft are now arriving at the rate of one every six days, on average, throughout 2024.

Included in these deliveries are India's first six Airbus A350 wide-body aircraft, which will progressively take to India's skies between January and June 2024. The A350s feature world-class seats, entertainment systems, new service-ware, amenities, and, of course, our bold new livery, and Manish Malhotra-designed uniforms.

In July 2024, we commence the process of upgrading 40 of our legacy Boeing 787 and 777 aircraft to the same standard, completely replacing the seats and entertainment systems, whilst at the same time upgrading the interiors of 41 Airbus A320 narrowbody aircraft. Even at an accelerated pace, it will take until early 2026 to complete the upgrade, so we humbly ask for your patience.

IN THE TWO YEARS, MUCH **WORK HAS BEEN PUT INTO** REBUILDING AIR INDIA'S **FOUNDATION** AND READYING IT FOR THE **FUTURE** 

We also hired thousands of new staff and introduced many new training programmes. We upgraded caterers, lounge providers, handling partners, and call centres across the network, and will soon introduce several new systems to drive greater performance and consistency. We made significant improvements to our website and app, and launched a generative AI chatbot. We will soon bolster our loyalty programme and inaugurate South Asia's largest aviation academy.

These are just a few examples of all that is underway at Air India. We still have much more work to do. I can assure you that there are thousands of Air Indians working hard to improve and to realise the vision of a world-class, global Air India, representing a standard that makes the nation proud.

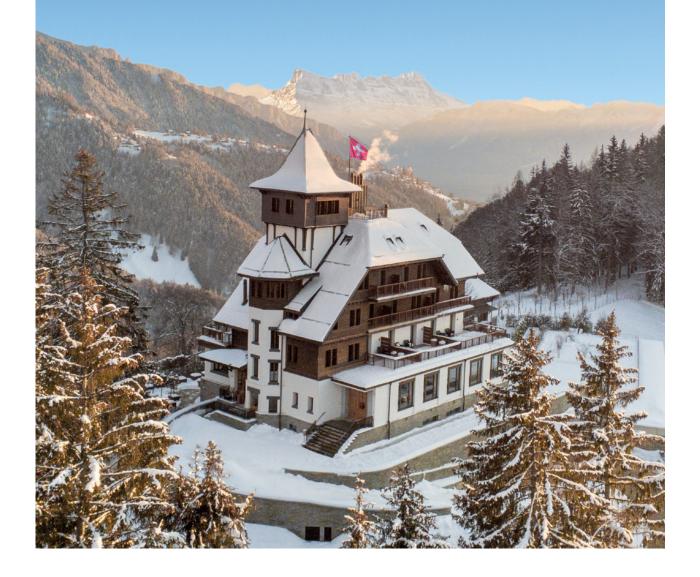
Thank you for being a part of our journey of progress and thank you for your support.

Campbell Wilson CEO and MD, Air India



Montreux - Switzerland

Swiss excellence in the treatment of mental health and issues of substance and behavioural dependency





#### YOU ARE UNIQUE AND SO ARE WE

Clinic Les Alpes is an exceptionally private and secluded retreat. Located in a setting of outstanding natural beauty in the mountains close to the town of Montreux, Switzerland. The clinic has the added convenience of proximity to all major swiss airports.

This exclusive clinic is fully medically licensed by the Swiss Department of Health and treats patients and their families with the issues of substance and behavioural dependency, along with debilitating emotional and mental conditions, such as anxiety, stress, depression and burnout

Clinic Les Alpes provides a fully integrated approach to treatment and each patient receives a bespoke programme created together with the medical team for his or her individual needs and requirements. The expertise of an international, highly skilled, multi-disciplinary team of medical, psychiatric, psychotherapeutic and complementary practitioners is on hand and available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to be of service to patients and their families who are referred from around the globe. The clinic is multilingual with the primary language being English.

Clinic Les Alpes is beautifully appointed and each of the private ensuite bedrooms has superb views of lake Geneva, the snow capped mountains and alpine meadows. Below the main chateau building, three floors have been excavated from solid rock, flooded with natural light and housing state of the art medical and therapeutic facilities along with a complete floor dedicated to a full medical spa.

Many services claim to deliver excellence. At Clinic Les Alpes we have set our sights on defining it.

We are here to assist. Contact us in complete confidence at:

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# **EDITOR'S NOTE**



#### **#NEWVISTAS**

Hello, and welcome!

As we enter the new year, we present to you a fresh look of our magazine, Namaste.ai. Just like Air India's transformation, we are revamping our magazine to give you a better reading experience.

In August 2023, Air India unveiled a new brand identity that represents a modern India. This transformation includes a new logo, vibrant colours, redesigned livery, and chic new uniforms. Our cover story takes you behind the scenes of this exciting change.

Our new identity is inspired by the quintessential Indian jharoka or window, reimagined into a new form we call 'The Vista'. This Vista forms a viewfinder, presenting India and the world in a new light. Following the same ethos, we have put together stories offering new perspectives. This is brought to life in our exclusive interview with the talented Anoushka Shankar, where she talks about her innovative approach to the traditional sitar. In our 'New India' section, we feature the trailblazers shaping the future of our country.

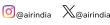
Travel lovers, we take you on a journey to the heart of Budapest with a local expert. And thanks to our partnership with AccesRail, getting there is easy with just one ticket across air and rail. We also explore the best boat safaris across India's diverse landscapes. There are many more interesting features that we hope you'll enjoy.

We're committed to bringing you more engaging stories, personal narratives, and the spirit of travel. Here's to a fresh start and a wonderful reading journey.

Happy Reading. Bon Voyage!

Sunil Suresh Editor-in-Chief













Visit airindia.com for further info about Air India. For any editorial queries, write to editorial.airindia@burdaluxury.com

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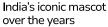
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One-of-a-kind statement pieces adding a new feather to a luxury brand's collectibles

Cover image courtesy Ankush Maria Map courtesy Asia Media Design

















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**Nivedita** 

@@justnivedita

2013 after

Javaram Pawar

A Mumbai-based

Nivedita turned to

freelance writing in

senior journalist,

spending nearly

two decades as

editor for various

newspapers and

magazines. She

contributes stories

related to design.

U page 24

travel, and lifestyle.

## CONTRIBUTORS



Jitendra Soni

@@soniid

Jitendra is a Jaipur-based tech journalist. His passion for technology helped him trade spreadsheets for gadgets, igniting a decade-long journey at the forefront of tech journalism in India.



Chandreyi **Bandyopadhyay** themoonchasers.

A PR professional-turned-independent writer. Nagpur-based Chandreyi chronicles her travels accross the Indian wild through a conservation lens. A foodie at heart, she also authors stories on cuisine and culture.





Shibani Bawa @@shibanibawa

New Delhi-based travel and food writer, Shibani has been penning articles on luxury lifestyle for 20 years. She has her finger on the pulse of global travel and tourism, especially in responsible luxury and conscious travel.



Priya Kumari Rana

With over two

decades of experience of writing on luxury brands, fashion, and lifestyle, along with being an editor, Priya is also the founder of a luxury portal. She has worked with some of the biggest names in the publishing industry.



**Zsolt Balla** 

@@zslotvi

A Budapest-based journalist and communications expert, Zsolt contributes to Forbes, Maxim, and others. He currently works for the UN Refugee Agency, and when he is not saving the world, he's busy spoiling his two daughters.

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# 

Setting a course for a visionary horizon, Air India unveils its transformative global brand identity—a flight beyond aesthetics and innovation

### words by **Team Namaste.ai**and **Priya Kumari Rana**

Air India has been blazing trails in India's aviation sector, embodying grace and reliability, for almost 92 years now. In August 2023, a pivotal chapter unfolded in the airline's rich history through a modern, new brand identity and new aircraft livery that captures the essence of a bold new India, marking another milestone in its Vihaan. AI evolution journey. The unveiling of Air India's global brand is not a mere facelift; it's a transformative journey. With a fresh logo, revamped appearance, vibrant palette, redesigned livery, and smarter uniforms, the airline is poised to redefine the flying experience.

**#NewAirVibes** 

# THE SKY'S NEW HUES



#### NEW AIRCRAFT

#### **O TOUCHDOWN IN STYLE**

History unfurled on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2023 when Air India's inaugural Airbus A350-900, adorned in a new livery, graced IGI Airport, New Delhi. Bearing the registration VT-JRA and hailing from Toulouse, France, this aircraft touched down at 1:46pm, signifying a monumental shift in Indian civil aviation. Flight Al350, welcomed by Air India CEO and MD, Mr. Campbell Wilson and several Air Indians, received a water salute and air traffic control accolades. This landmark event ushered the dawn of a new era—a convergence of Air India's bold livery and cutting-edge technology.



"When I saw the new A350 with an Indian Registration painted in Air India's new livery, I felt proud that this aircraft is going to be a part of our fleet."

#### -Capt. Monika Batra Vaidya

(One of India's initial A350-trained pilots, she was an observer on the A350's first flight from the Airbus delivery centre in Toulouse to Delhi)



aircraft. Beyond aesthetics, this evolution promises cabin refurbishments with **new** seats, cutting-edge inflight entertainment, and Wi-Fi over the next few months. Mr. Wilson underscores, "The A350 isn't just metal and engines; it embodies the efforts of every Air India employee, soaring to new heights in excellence."

#### TAIL ART THROUGH THE YEARS



Original The centaur logo depicted the shooting of an arrow within a circle, representing the Konark wheel.



Classic A motif of modernisation—a sun with 24 bronze spokes against a red parallelogram.



Illustrious A truncated version of the original centaur logo made a return to the tail in a slightly darker colour tone.



Iconic Post the merger with Indian Airlines, the Air India tail featured the iconic Konark wheel within a red swan.



**Progressive** The latest tailfin logo showcases the iconic window frame tips in the brand colours-red. aubergine, and gold.

#### Decoding the tail art and its significance

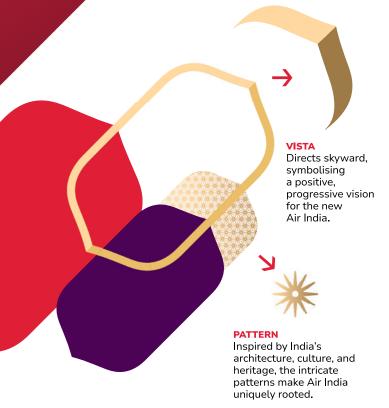
• As the curtains fall on the familiar emblem, a breathtaking palette of gold, red, and aubergine emerges, embodying boundless potential, advancement, and an unwavering outlook. The logo is a combination of a bold wordmark and an icon inspired by the peak of Air India's window frame. This further simplifies the design, aligning with the vision to turn Air India into a "world-class airline". The new livery features on the fuselage and belly in a fresh look and font, whilst the tail steals attention with new brand colours that pay homage to the past. The colours extend to red wingtips and gold accents. It is the canvas for the carrier's renewed confidence and ambition to become one of the best airlines in the world.

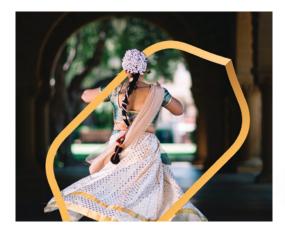


#WindowToIndia

# VHEN DREAMS FLIGHT

Merging traditional heritage with a forward-looking ethos to create a global airline that echoes Indian roots.







#### THE **WINDOW OF POSSIBILITIES**

A universally-admired icon that carries the hopes, dreams, and possibilities of the new, emerging India. Inspired by the iconic Air India aircraft windows, this sleek, golden design element has been claimed and owned for many years. It serves as both a viewfinder and a dynamic storyteller, bringing stories to life with its unique visual charm.

**#AIStyleRevamp** 

# **TIMELESS** STYLE MIX



"My aim was to create uniforms that capture the essence of India's diverse culture and traditions, while also embodying a modern and sophisticated look."

#### -Couturier Manish Malhotra

(Air India has always been a symbol of Indian pride and excellence for the designer)





#### Air India's Chic Uniforms for 2024

o In the 1960s and 70s, Air India epitomised style, with cabin crew adorned in gorgeous sarees, churidar-kameez, ghagra cholis, and silver jewellery. Fast forward to 2024, a new era unfolds with a fresh collection for its cabin and cockpit crew. From ready-to-wear ombré sarees and bandhgalas for the cabin crew to sharper. classic black double-breasted **suits** with a print inspired by the Vista for pilots—the new designs are stylish and modern yet bear a hint of heritage. Malhotra has also designed the shoes—the female cabin crew wear dual-tone (black and burgundy) block heels and the male cabin crew wear comfortable black brogues. The uniforms also include accessories like **pearl** earrings and sling bags for the female cabin crew.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Malhotra is designing uniforms for not only the cabin crew and pilots but also for ground staff, engineers, and security personnel.



"It is an honour to wear the new Air India uniform. It is bold, progressive, and symbolic of the new Air India that we promise."

#### -Captain Anny Divya

(The youngest ever Commander of the Boeing 777 in the world, flying Air India fleet since 2006)

cover story new beginnings



#### **O BUTTONS**

The blouses and blazers of the airline crew's brand-new uniform are meticulously accessorised with golden buttons; gold is one of the three new brand colours.



#### **O FABRICS**

To address and withstand the rigours of daily wear, the uniforms are crafted with fabrics that are light-weight, waterproof, fireproof, and safety standards-compliant.



#### **O BROOCHES**

Along with the name badges, the crew members will sport a golden brooch designed like 'The Vista', the new logo of the airline. It will be pinned on top of the badges.







#### Modern design with timeless elegance

**©** One of the standout crew uniforms designed is the **ready-to-wear** ombré sarees that can be paired with pants—a unique East-meets-West look. The colour palette is carefully thought out, too. The senior cabin crew will sport ombré sarees that are aubergine-to-burgundy (exuding a balance of authority and sophistication), while the junior cabin crew will don a vibrant red-to-purple rendition combined with red blazers (embodying youthfulness and energy).

#CheckInChic

# **A FRESH** FOOTING











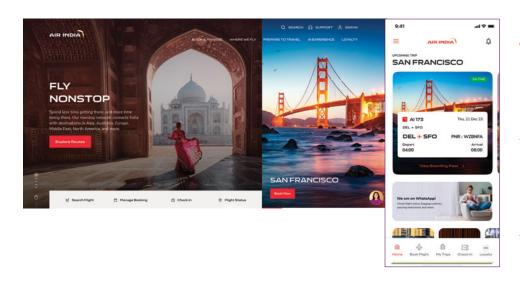
Beginning at Delhi and Mumbai airports, the new branding emerges at various touchpoints—check-in counters, boarding gates, lounges, and newly-designed boarding passes. The gradual rollout will progressively extend across Air India's global network, imbuing its vibrant presence.





#### #ClickAndSoar

# TIME TO TECH-OFF



#### INNOVATION

#### DIGITAL REVAMP

Air India redefines the digital experience with a revamped website, airindia.com, and a new mobile app. The streamlined booking flows, faster performance, and innovative features are complemented by a refreshed design. Crafted by Air India's teams in Kochi and Silicon Valley, this online transformation promises seamless interactions.

"I am amazed to see the transition. From the orders of the best aircraft to the enhancement of services, website, apps, and new uniforms, everybody can feel the excitement of change."

#### -Captain Rishabh Kapur

(He is a third-generation Air Indian and has been a part of Air India for 20 years now)



### • TRANSFORMATION TIMELINE

- Introduced six new domestic and six international destinations since 2022
- Acquire around 100 new aircraft by 2024 since coming back to the Tata Group
- Retrofit 40 widebody and 41 narrowbody starting July 2024

# Akshita M Bhanj Deo

# PEOPLE

**24** • Q&A **28** • NEW INDIA



#### **Q&A** Anoushka Shankar

### "I WANTED TO MAKE THE SITAR FUNKY, COOL, AND STRONG"

The Grammy-nominated composer on bringing the instrument out of its time warp and the thrill of live performances

words by Nivedita Jayaram Pawar

### WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO THE MOST DURING YOUR INDIAN TOUR?

I am excited about sharing my new music and playing with the bands that really inspire me. And of course, spending time with family and friends in India.

### FOREVER FOR NOW IS A VERY INTRIGUING TITLE. WHAT'S THE DOMINANT MOOD OF THIS ALBUM?

After going through the pandemic and some personal hardships, I was left with a sense of how fleeting everything is. The title Forever For Now is playing with the same idea—you don't really know what's forever and what's only for now. In a mood sense, I have tried to create a dreamy atmosphere. I was trying to replicate an afternoon that I had in my garden a couple of summers ago, when it just felt like the smallest things in life can be so precious at times.

#### YOU BROUGHT THE SITAR BACK IN TREND, WHILE STILL KEEPING IT ROOTED IN TRADITION. WHAT'S YOUR TAKE?

When I started writing music in

my twenties, I moved away from pure classical music to incorporate other elements because that was who I was as a person and what my life was like. It's also important to remember that our tradition has always been of an ever-evolving kind. If anything, that gave me the confidence that even if it changes in ways that are quite overt, it's a part of the natural evolution. As I started touring globally, I realised that although the instrument is loved, it also has a particular connotation of burning incense, flying carpets, the 1960s psychedelia... I wanted to make sitar funky, cool, and strong. I started playing with its sounds to surprise people and make them engage with the instrument in a new, unique way.

#### YOU STARTED PERFORMING LIVE FROM THE AGE OF 13. HOW HAVE YOU EVOLVED AS A PERFORMER OVER TIME?

Initially, I found it terrifying and the feeling continued well into the begining of my solo career at the age of 18. I would be very tensed and, as a result, I would be really focussed on playing things right, and never veering off the path and getting it wrong. But I was very fortunate to be able to learn on stage. Simultaneously, when I started writing my own music, I started to experiment in the studio and push boundaries in a way I wouldn't initially on the stage first. That helped me grow as an artiste. Now being on stage is like a love affair.

#### YOUR FEELINGS WHEN YOU LISTEN TO YOUR OWN MUSIC?

Anything new I have made feels like the best thing I have ever done. But soon, within a year, I hate it. And then, after a little while, there's a sense of acceptance. It's a cycle that I am aware of. Other than that, •

"WHEN I STARTED WRITING MUSIC, I MOVED AWAY FROM PURE CLASSICAL TO INCORPORATE OTHER ELEMENTS..."





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when I am listening to my concerts, I am somewhat critical, which can be really educational and offer a growth curve.

#### ANY FAVOURITE VENUE THAT YOU REALLY LOOK FORWARD TO PERFORMING AT?

Sydney Opera House (Sydney),
Carnegie Hall (New York), Cité de la
Musique (Paris), and La Cigale (Paris)
carry so much atmosphere in them.
Others have emotional value for me.
For instance, Siri Fort Auditorium
in New Delhi always means a lot
because there I did my first tanpura
accompaniment when I was 10,
my sitar debut at 13, and my piano
debut at 16. Similarly, playing at
Barbican Hall in London feels special
since it's been my home city for so
long and I have beautiful memories
of playing for loved ones.

#### A SITARIST, A FILM COMPOSER, AN ACTIVIST, AND A MOTHER. HOW DO YOU MAKE TIME FOR EVERYTHING?

I have learnt that if we plan on doing everything to the same perfect degree that we want to every time, there is bound to be a breakdown. Initially, as a mother, I wondered what was wrong with me when all these celebrities looked like they were doing everything so gracefully. How come I couldn't do it? The truth is, I don't think I am a better or worse musician because I am a parent. I am just a different person, so I am a different musician. But I can guarantee that I would be doing more music and more touring if I wasn't a single parent. Similarly, I'll be an even better mother if I could devote more time to my kids.

#### **RAPID FIRE**

#### Feeling of being on stage

Can be transcendental. Music can carry you through even the most difficult times.

#### Favourite travel destinations

Goa and Big Sur in California.

#### Your comfort food

Rice and pasta. But I generally follow a Mediterranean diet of salads loaded with proteins and vegetables.

#### **Favourite pastime**

Though it's very rare now, I love going out dancing. And I can be a homebody too—it brings me real joy to light the fire and just sit on my sofa with a blanket.

#### The music you're currently listening to

André 3000, Sault, and some of my dad's older albums.

# THE PRINCESS'

words by **Shrabasti Anindita Mallik** 

For Mrinalika and Akshita Bhanj Deo, descendants of Odisha's erstwhile Bhanja dynasty, restoring The Belgadia Palace—their 200-year-old ancestral home—and converting a part of it into a boutique hotel was only the beginning. This princess-sister duo's mission is to put the state on the global tourist map, elevate local craft to the high table of luxury, empower artisans and youth through their philanthropic work, and more! •





Students of the NGO Project Chhauni showcasing the steps of the Mayurbhanj Chhau



Akshita: My sister and I were born and raised in three different countries-India, Singapore, and the United States. After college, we both worked in New York, with me in International Relations. Working with global aid organisations really inspired me to understand social impact and how we can connect artists and clusters, and work with them for sustainable tourism.

Mrinalika: I worked in Puig, a reputed fashion and fragrance company, which inspired me to think about how luxury and heritage brands can utilise social entrepreneurship to build global brands with strong local connections.

#### WHAT ARE THE SIGNIFICANT **COMMUNITY INITIATIVES THAT YOU** TWO HAVE TAKEN?

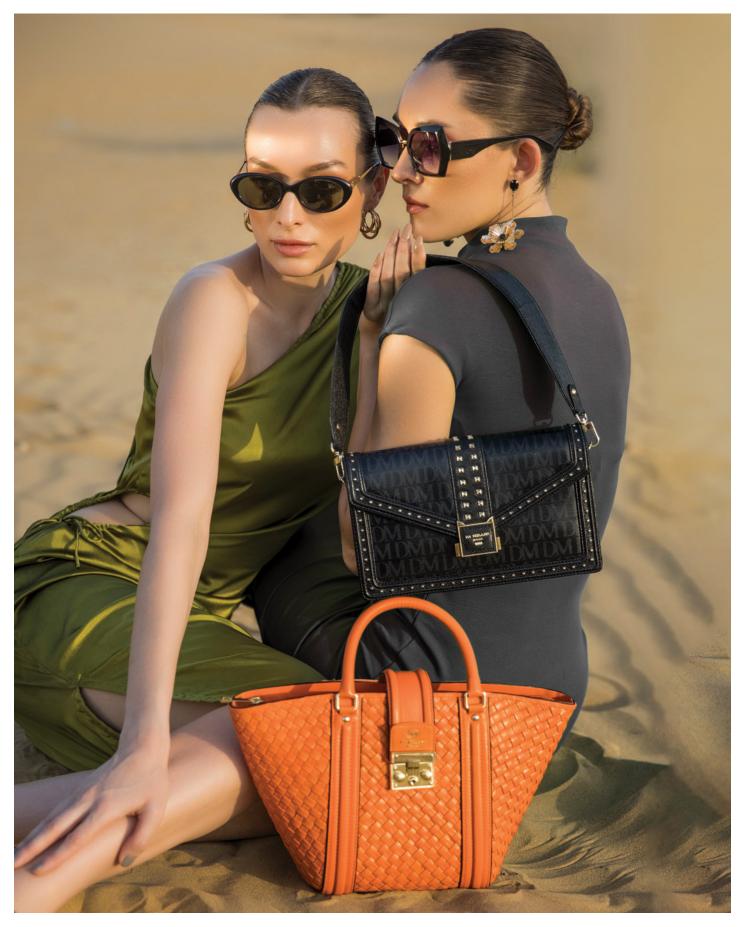
Both: We act as intermediaries, working with non-profit organisations, to increase access to capacity building. A share of the funds that the palace receives from its guests is given to its philanthropic arm, The Mayurbhanj Foundation that promotes and preserves handicrafts and handlooms along with providing access to local communities to connect with investors. For example, every evening, young artistes perform a semi-classical martial art dance form at the palace through the NGO Project Chhauni. We work with local communities to improve access to sports and promote leadership and development in the youth through it. We also have tie-ups with local handicraft and handloom clusters for our guests to experience

the microcosm of Odisha's art, heritage, and culture.

#### **TELL US ABOUT THE CONSCIOUS LUXURY HANDICRAFTS BRAND** THAT YOU FOUNDED.

A: Hasa Atelier was born during the pandemic, out of the need to safeguard the interest of Odia artisans and their livelihoods. There were artisan clusters in Odisha that required immediate support. We realised the need to provide design intervention and market linkages too. So, in the past few years, we have promoted artist residencies and retreats, and have been able to bring unique luxury crafts bags with sabai grass and dokra via social media to global consumers. Soon, we will

**"WE WORK WITH LOCAL** COMMUNITIES **TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO SPORTS** AND PROMOTE **LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT IN** THE YOUTH THROUGH IT."









#### CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT

Mrinalika designing a new capsule collection for Hasa Atelier with women of the Sabai Grass SHG; Akshita on a field trip to Morada in Mayurbhanj with partner NGO Sikshasandhan; Akshita with girls from the first football team from Morada.

be launching capsule collections with designers from across India.

#### WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE BHANJ DEO SISTERS?

M: In 2023, TIME Magazine listed our property as one of the 'World's Greatest Places 2023'. To be nominated organically means a lot to us. But our work is far from over. Next up, our vision is to have Odisha brought onto the global tourism, wildlife and crafts map, and we are grateful to have the support of the State Government. A: One of our next projects is the conservation of the state's cuisine. We plan to launch culinary experiences

with chefs who have a sound knowledge of Odisha's history so that we can showcase contemporary ways to rediscover authentic Odia cuisine through its spices and indigenous ingredients. We are working to promote organic spices and Simlipal honey through our in-house boutique store, but we would also like to explore possibilities of global distribution. We are also passionate about protecting the melanistic (black) tiger, found only in Odisha. Hence, we are working closely with the forest department, self-help groups, and local NGOs to promote awareness about conservation and anti-poaching campaigns.

# Image courtesy Madam G

# THE CHECKLIST

34 O LUXE 36 O BOOKS 38 O GADGETS 42 O EVENTS 46 O FOOD 54 O HOTELS 60 O ON THE CLOCK 64 O NOW TRENDING







#### TIFFANY & CO. X ARSHAM T1 BRACELET

This statement piece with tsavorites and diamonds marks Tiffany's 186<sup>th</sup> year.

#### PATEK PHILIPPE WATCH

This collector's item honours watchmaker Philippe Stern's 85<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary.

#### MONTBLANC MUHAMMAD ALI EDITION

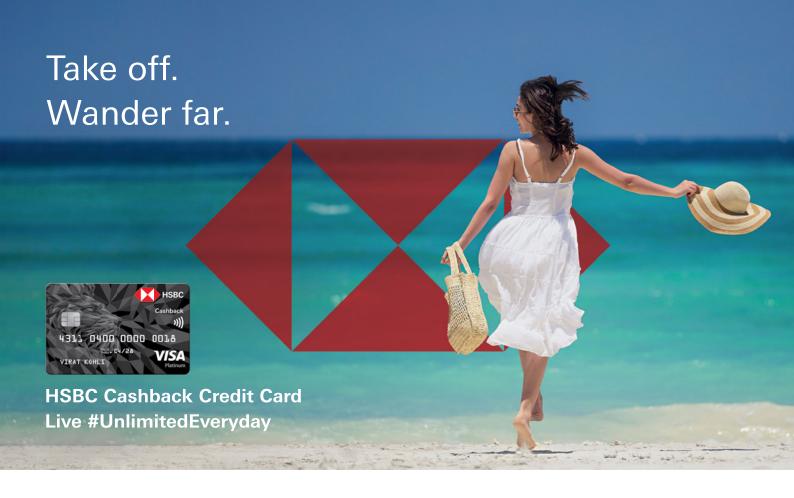
The design packs a punch as heavy as Ali's blows, boasting details of his life.

#### CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN PLUME

Inspired by the film *Birds*, the heel's feather embellishment steals the show.

#### SWAROVSKI X DISNEY ADVENT CALENDAR

With jewellery and ornaments designed like Disney characters, it's a true holiday treat!



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# New On The Shelf image courtesy respective publishers. Those mentioned by author are from the public domain

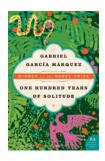
# **TOP FIVE** READS

Bestselling author Harish Bhat, whose latest presentation Restless Lives is a beautiful volume of poetry, shares his all-time favourite titles



### SWAMI AND FRIENDS (R.K. Narayan)

"This episodic narrative has so much innocence and fun packed into every single page." Indian Thought Publications; ₹165



### ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF SOLITUDE (Gabriel García Márquez)

"A masterpiece of immersive storytelling and magic realism." Harper Perennial Modern Classics; ₹785

TOP

TRAVEL READ

AIRPLANE MODE: AN IRREVERENT HISTORY OF TRAVEL (Shahnaz Habib) A witty personal

take on the history of travel by a woman from the Third World. Catapult ₹1,970



### LEAVE IT TO PSMITH (P.G. Wodehouse)

"This book has made me laugh out so loud every time I have read it."

Penguin Random House UK; ₹299

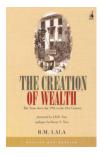


MISBEHAVING: THE MAKING OF BEHAVIORAL **ECONOMICS** 

### (Richard H. Thaler)

"This one sparked off my renewed interest in behavioural economics and consumer behaviour."

Penguin Random House UK; ₹699



### THE CREATION OF WEALTH (R.M. Lala)

"Thanks to this book, I was inspired to write my own stories about the Tata Group'

Penguin; ₹450

### **NEW ON** THE SHELF



### KRISHNA: MAHA VISHNU AVATAR (Kevin Missal)

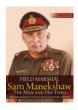
After the Great War, Krishna, avatar of Vishnu, stood as a symbol of justice. Forty years later, he strives to break free from his haunting past in Kevin Missal's reimagining of Mausala Parva. Simon & Schuster India; ₹399



BECOMING GOAN: A CONTEMPORARY COMING-HOME STORY

### (Michelle Mendonça Bambawale)

This one intertwines personal narratives, environmental concerns, and syncretic traditions in Goa's Siolim. Penguin Random House India; ₹399



FIELD MARSHAL SAM MANEKSHAW: THE MAN AND HIS TIMES

### (Brigadier Behram M. Panthaki (retd.) and Zenobia Panthaki)

An illustrated biography on Sam Manekshaw, an iconic figure in Indian military history. Anecdotal and accessible, it chronicles his life's journey. Niyogi Books; ₹1,495

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Best for: Exploring airports without the hassle of walking.

US\$859

### APPLE AIRTAG

Holidays are fun but travelling can often turn stressful, especially when you end up losing your valuables or luggage while on the go. Make stressful travel scenarios a thing of the past with the Apple AirTag. These compact tech companions provide real-time location tracking of your luggage, offering you peace of mind throughout your journey. Attach AirTags to your bags, checked-in items, carry-ons, keys, wallets, phones or other valuables—these trackers work almost everywhere, as long as they have an iPhone nearby. Using Apple's advanced tracking technologies, including the ubiquitous 'Find My' network, they track the precise locations of your belongings. Unlike most other trackers, AirTags are virtually maintenance-free and draw power from replaceable batteries.

Best for: Never losing your valuables while travelling.

US\$29





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### AWARDS & ACCOLADES

Radisson B

### BEST BUSINESS HOTEL

at India's Best Awards from 2021 to 2024

### **BEST SPA HOTEL**

at the Global Spa Awards 2022 & 2023

### LUXURY AIRPORT HOTEL

at the World Luxury Airport Hotel 2018, 2019, 2020

### BEST AIRPORT HOTEL IN ASIA

at Haute Grandeur awards 2023

### **BEST HOTEL FOR BUSINESS TRAVEL**

by CNBC Travel 2022

### **BEST PAN ASIAN RESTAURANT**

at Travel + Leisure India's Delicious Dining Awards for year 2021, 2022, 2023

### **BEST LUXURY AIRPORT HOTEL**

at Hospitality Awards 2022

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### **9** BOSE QUIETCOMFORT ULTRA

Whether you are planning to watch movies, stream music or escape the chaotic surrounding noise, boarding a plane with your headphones on is essential. The Bose QuietComfort Ultra stands out with its remarkably-long battery life, outstanding sound quality as well as exceptional voice-calling performance. The QuietComfort Ultra is also a gold standard for active noise cancellation. Be it the rumble of an engine or the cacophony of a crowded terminal—it blocks all unwanted noise at the press of a button. It provides a comfortable wearing experience and superior audio output, thanks to the 35mm full-range drivers. The bundled companion app lets you adjust the sound profile based on your preference.

**Best for:** Tuning out the cacaphony and enjoying a peaceful journey.

US\$379





### **ORAYNEO AIR 2 GLASSES**

Step into the future with the RayNeo Air 2—a pair of extended reality glasses that bring a cinematic experience wherever you go. These smart glasses deliver a crystal-clear visual experience, thanks to the Sony micro-OLED display with a 120-Hz screen refresh rate. The RayNeo Air 2 is the perfect blend of innovation and utility. Imagine watching your favourite movie or web show on a virtual 201-inch screen while waiting to board your flight. Unlike any popular virtual reality headset, the RayNeo Air 2 is highly compact, lightweight, and portable. Plug them into your phone for personal entertainment, a gaming console for larger-than-life gaming or a MacBook for work on the go—the RayNeo Air 2 has a use case for almost everyone.

**Best for:** Transforming any space into your private cinema or gaming centre.

US\$379

US\$ 7.83Bn

is the expected reach of the smart luggage market by 2030

SOURCE: snsinsider.com



### **OHYPERICE HYPERVOLT 2 PRO**

After a long flight, treat yourself to a soothing and revitalising massage with the Hyperice Hypervolt 2 Pro. This intelligent massager targets even the most stubborn aches and pains, offering instant relief and relaxation. Equipped with a removable rechargeable battery, the Hypervolt 2 Pro is highly portable, providing up to 180 minutes of massage. The battery's longevity can be extended by investing in an extra one, ensuring the massager is ready for extended use. The device comes with various head attachments to cater to different body parts and its user-friendly interface allows you to adjust the intensity of the massage at a single touch. The accompanying Hyperice app guides you through varied massage routines and intensity targetted at specific areas of the body, ensuring you get the maximum benefit from each session.

Best for: Instant relief from muscle aches.

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# Top and bottom: Facebook/Sundance film festival; Facebook/Lollapalooza India

# **OUT AND** ABOUT

Time to catch up with all the action happening worldwide this month



### **2024 WINTER** YOUTH OLYMPIC **GAMES**

### **Gangwon Province** South Korea

19th January-1st February

The fourth Winter Youth Olympic Games, being called Gangwon 2024. will feature around 1.900 athletes from around the world, competing in numerous sports, including Alpine Skiing, Biathlon, Bobsleigh, Cross-Country Skiing, Curling, Figure Skating, Freestyle Skiing, Ice Hockey, Luge, Nordic Combined, Short Track Speed Skating, Skeleton, Ski Jumping, Snowboard, and Speed Skating.

alympics.com/en/gangwon-2024 🗬

### **MOVIES**

### **SUNDANCE** FILM FESTIVAL Utah, U.S.A.

18th-28th January

The festival will showcase 53 shorts and eight 40th-edition celebration screenings. There will be screenings of iconic films from Sundance's history, including new restorations of Napoleon Dynamite, Go Fish, and Three Seasons, along with Mississippi Masala and The Times of Harvey Milk. Cinephiles can also catch legendary films like The Babadook, Pariah and a digitally-remastered, extended version of DIG. The event will be held in person in Park City and Salt Lake City, and will also include special events with artist alumni, @ festival.sundance.org



### U CONCERT

### **LOLLAPALOOZA**

Mumbai, India

27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> January

Headlining the second edition of Lollapalooza India are names like Sting, Jonas Brothers, Halsey, and OneRepublic. With over 40 artistes taking to the stage at Mumbai's Mahalaxmi Race Course, the festival will feature Keane, JPEGMAFIA, Eric Nam, Anoushka Shankar, Fatoumata Diawara, Kenny Beats, When Chai Met Toast, and Garden City Movement, among others across four stages with 20+ hours of energetic live music.

👊 lollaindia.com





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### **PROTEIN ROSE LASSI**

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### WHEY **PROTEIN**

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# Clockwise from top right: Photo by Suhaimi Abdullah/Getty Images for Philip Colbert (Singapore art week); Facebook/ Sneeuwbal Festival/Martin Hols (Sneeuwbal Festival); Facebook/ Sydney Festival; Shutterstock/Shawn.cd (SnowDays Winter Festival); Shutterstock/Key Gregory (Burns Night)

### **ON THE RADAR**



### **BURNS NIGHT** Scotland

25th January

Celebrations will honour the life of Scottish poet and lyricist Robert Burns with traditional haggis, bagpipes, and recitations of his poetry, scotland.org



### **SNOWDAYS** WINTER FESTIVAL **Banff and Lake Louise, Canada**

19th January - 4th February

Skijoring at Banff Avenue and the SnowDays Play Zone are must-see attractions here. banff. ca/1280/SnowDaysWinter-Festival



### SYDNEY FESTIVAL Sydney, Australia

Till 28<sup>th</sup> January

An annual performing- and visual-arts festival of music, dance, and stage shows. sydneyfestival.org.au



### (PART **SINGAPORE** ART WEEK

Singapore

19th-28th January

Organised by the National Arts Council, the 12th edition is set to feature 150 art events by 400 artists, cultural learning, and live music shows. The National Gallery Singapore will host blockbuster exhibitions like Tropical: Stories from Southeast Asia and Latin America. Light to Night Singapore 2024 will present art installations and light projections. ART SG 2024, the largest international art fair in Southeast Asia, and a restaging of Tang Da Wu's Our Children are other attractions. artweek.sg



### WINTER FESTIVAL

### **SNEEUWBAL WINTERFESTIVAL**

Utrecht, the Netherlands

27<sup>th</sup> January

Hosted in Utrecht's Park Transwijk that transforms into a winter wonderland, the festival hosts concerts for a wide range of genres. This year's line-up features artistes like Amber Broos, Benny Rodrigues, DIØN, Dion Visser, Joëlla Jackson, Klaudia Gawlas, Menesix, Mr. Belt & Wezol, T78, VE/RA, Aphøtic B2B Nyco, Carmen Lisa, Chantal Iris Chasner, Chico Rose, and DJ Mucho, among others. @ sneeuwbalfestival.nl



Khub Chand Sawhney's (KCS) Kashmir Shawl Emporium was established in 1950. We are a symbol of heritage, legacy and the perpetuity of fine craftsmanship. A place for finding something timeless and classic, something which can become a family heirloom and passed down over generations.









Modern dining is going beyond just eating. It is dishing out a new way of experiencing food through immersive storytelling and intimacy, whilst exploring the origins of regional cuisines

words by **Sayanti Halder** 

### **FUN FACT**

The concept of supper clubs originated in the early 1900s. The first one was founded by a Milwaukee native in Beverly Hills, California, and then the concept spread to the Midwest.

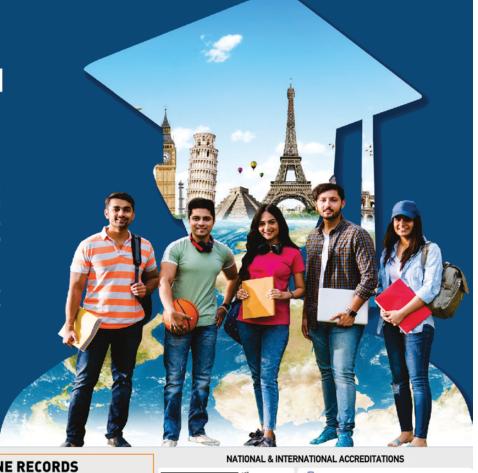




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### MILESTONE RECORDS

ASIA Book of Records: Highest number of Intellectual Property Protection applied in a week by BIHER - 25.10.2023.

INDIA Book of Records: Highest number of Intellectual Property Protection applied on a single day by BIHER - 19.10.2023.

INDIA Book of Records: largest Hepatitis B Vaccination camp organized on a single day by BIHER - 31.07.2023.



University in India obtained international accreditation from ABET, USA for 4 programs in the year 2018























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BHARATH'S GLOBAL CONNECT



### 1/ THE HOUSE OF MÁLÀ

Mumbai unveils a hidden gem—The House of Málà, a private supper club blending private dining with the perks of a social setting. On Friday and Saturday nights, it offers a Jazz clubstyle community dining experience. Guests can savour the rich, contrasting

flavours of Sichuan's renowned Málà cuisine, while understanding the delicate balance between two key spices—numbing (má) and spiciness (là). The self-taught culinary duo, sisters Prachi and Saloni Gupta, curate a five-course vegetarian menu for six guests at a time, taking them through the flavours of Sichuan and its food history. airmenus.in/houseofmala













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### 2/ GORMEI

Now in India, Gormei presents a captivating blend of surprise venues, thematic menus, and intimate conversations among a select group of like-minded diners. Each gathering is hosted at homes—across the country that exude a unique character. The Odisha Table by Chef Rachit Keertiman, a standout among Gormei's offerings, reimagines Odisha's rich culinary heritage in a contemporary light. Through their curated Odia menus and lesser-known stories, founder Argha Sen and his chefs unveil hidden culinary treasures, usually reserved for native communities. gormeitravel.com/ouat

### 3/ MANZILAT'S

In a charming rooftop setting in Kolkata, Manzilat Fatima, the great-great-granddaughter of Awadh's (present-day Lucknow) last Nawab, Wajid Ali Shah, welcomes you to her eponymous restaurant. With exquisite Awadhi warmth, she takes her guests on a royal culinary journey, narrating how time and diverse influences have shaped these recipes. Fatima hosts gatherings of 10-25 guests through preorders; she shares the tale of how this cuisine travelled from Awadh to West Bengal, finding a new home in Metiabruz after the Nawab's dethronement. manzilatfatima.com













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### 4/ TRIBAL GOURMET

Tribal Gourmet is a delightful blend of traditional North-East Indian cuisine with gourmet flair. Led by Tanisha Phanbuh, a MasterChef India Season 6 participant, this pop-up venture across Delhi NCR adapts North-Eastern dishes for a wider audience. With ever-evolving menus tailored to the host venue, Tanisha offers a detailed exploration of lesser-known food, ingredients, culture, and identity. Through her culinary expertise, she brings out the authentic essence of each dish, making the cuisine approachable. tanishaphanbuh.com/tribal-gourmet





### 5/ BENGALURU **OOTA COMPANY**

Nestled within a quaint, sunlit home in Bengaluru featuring vibrant yellow exteriors, the entrance greets you with a rangoli, a red door, and a beckoning bell. Bengaluru Oota Company emerges from a profound affection for Karnataka's rich culinary heritage. Founders Divya Prabhakar and Sheel Goyal offer an intimate encounter at elegantly-set tables. Here, guests partake in an 'oota' (meal), carefully curated for those seeking to savour Kannadiga culture through its food. Diners must book a day in advance. bengaluruootacompany.com



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# A REGAL AFFAIR

Discovering the palatial charm of the Royal Heritage Haveli in Jaipur, Rajasthan—a character-packed haven, where history whispers and luxury echoes

words by **Sayanti Halder** 





Check out our new addition of SIGNATURE DIAMOND JEWELLERY



the checklist hotels





тор то воттом Retire like royalty to suites adorned with vibrant frescoes and hand-painted ceilings that unfurl like a blanket of stars: Escape to serenity amidst frangipani trees at the tranquil spa, where world

inspired treatments



During my recent escape to Jaipur, I got the opportunity to immerse myself in the grandeur of the Royal Heritage Haveli (RHH) in Khatipura. Tucked away in the heart of India's bustling Pink City, this architectural marvel stands as a living testament to the regal history of the Rajputs. As I stepped through its doors, I couldn't help but feel like I had entered a time capsule, where the Rajputana elegance seamlessly blended with modern-day luxury. Built by Sawai Madho Singh Ji in the 18th century and owned by Maharaj Jai Singh, the haveli was restored by the latter's niece Kawarani Angelique and her husband Kr. Pradip into a boutique hotel. Today, it is run by the couple along with their daughter Shambhavi Singh, Director at RHH, also a connoisseur of hospitality and an avid baker.

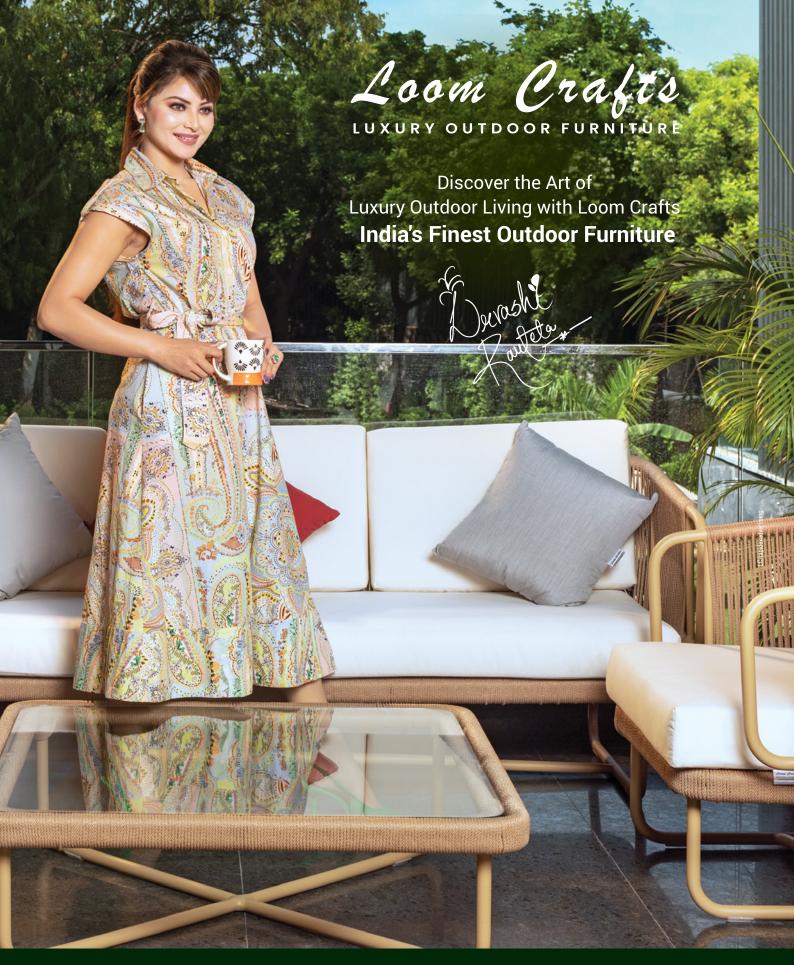
### **SUITE RETREAT**

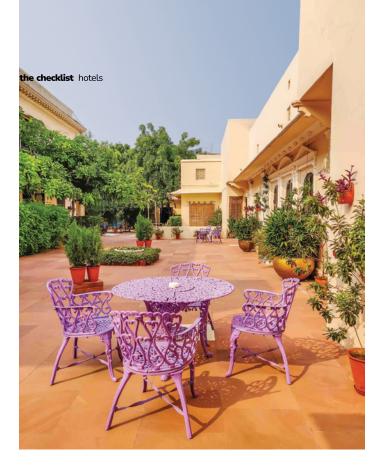
I stayed at one of the Heritage Premium Suites and the 650sq ft of space felt like my own private palace. The hand-painted frescoes and distinct colour palettes transported me to a bygone

era, while the openness and natural light added a contemporary touch to the room's design. I marvelled at the attention to detail—a true reflection of the haveli's rich heritage. Each room, which once belonged to a royal family member, is uniquely coloured, ranging from baby pink and emerald green to midnight blue. My stay in a muted gold room, further made vivid by sunlight, was a truly immersive experience. For those seeking an even more opulent stay, the Signature Suite Rooms with in-room dining facility and private terraces will feel like a royal abode.

### **CULINARY DELIGHTS**

Apart from excelling in classic and traditional dishes like ker sangri, laal maas, gatte ki sabzi, and dal baati churma, the hotel also serves lost recipes of Khatipura. At the Buddha Terrace private dining area, Shambhavi guided us through cooking traditions, family history, and amusing anecdotes as we enjoyed kebabs paired with some great wines. Simmering on open fire, the aroma of narangi maas filled the air. After savouring Chef Prithvi





### **How to reach?**

Merely **5km** west of the city centre, the hotel is **30 mins** away from the Jaipur International Airport. Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport is a smooth **five-hour** drive away.

Oli's innovative creations and traditional classics around the bonfire, I retired early, eager to explore more gastronomic marvels that the property had to offer.

My next day began with coffee and freshly-baked croissants—a must-try! The alfresco dining courtyard, Kigelia Court, under a 200-year-old 'kigelia' tree bearing a rare South African wild fruit, served a hearty English breakfast. The serene ambience allowed me to appreciate the lush Khatipura Bagh. Lunch brought a refreshing grapefruit salad, aubergine parmigiana, and perfectly-grilled fish. Make sure to enjoy a meal at the frescoed dining room.

### **WELLNESS HAVEN**

Next on my agenda was some much-needed TLC at the Frangipani Spa that offers opulent wellness treatments with Lapis Lazuli stone inlay at the entrance. A consultation with an in-house Ayurvedic doctor led to a personalised treatment. The sweet masseuse, Sangeetha, took excellent care of me and I drifted into a peaceful catnap. The sandstone pool, surrounded by frangipani trees and bathed in the light of a balmy sun, provided the perfect end to the relaxing session.

The Royal Heritage
Haveli is a thoughtful
blend of history, luxury,
and warmth. The limited
number of suites ensure a
personalised experience and
the commitment to organic
produce grown on-site add
an ethical touch. For those
seeking a serene and luxe
vacation, this haveli-turnedhotel offers an unforgettable
stay, where every moment
feels like a brushstroke from
the *Rajputana* palette.

### тор то воттом

The hotel has preserved the authentic framework of the original haveli, allowing its guests to experience a journey through history; Escape to serenity by the pool, resting in a calm corner, embraced by marble, sandstone, and an unmatched tranquil atmosphere.

### WORTH GETTING OUT OF BED FOR

FLAVOURFUL CHOICES

### Bajra Raab (Millet Soup)

A traditional comfort food, made with pearl millet flour, ghee, and jaggery

### Mangodi Papad

Sun-dried and fried lentil dumplings (mangodi) cooked with spiced papad in a luscious, smooth gravy

### Narangi Maas

The family's secret recipe from Madhya Pradesh, blending mutton and orange juice

### Lehsuni Palak

A flavourful dish combining spinach greens with lots of garlic tossed in ghee

### Laapsi

A sweet dish made using broken wheat and ghee with milk and dried fruits

### RETAIL TREASURES

### Johari Bazaar

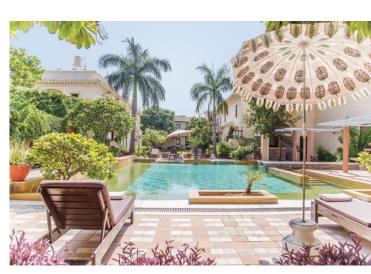
Traditional clothes, furniture, and handlooms

### **Gulabchand Prints**

Hand block-printed cotton fabrics and sarees

### **The Gem Palace**

Handcrafted jewellery and gemstones







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The vibrant lanes of Phuket Old Town are perfect for idle strolls



# ISLAND DREAMS

From morning hikes and nightlife to the legendary Thai gastronomy and hospitality— Phuket has something for each kind of traveller

words by **Shibani Bawa** 

### **Connect with Nature** Sirinat National Park

Spend your morning in the lush environs of this protected park that has several beaches and a 13-km-long coastline along the Andaman Sea. Sirinat National Park is abundant with unique flora and fauna, owing to a range of ecosystems including mangroves, coral reefs, and beaches. It's a great place for birding, hiking, or simply enjoying some restorative forest therapy. If you're lucky, you can spot nesting turtles.

### **10:00AM Rest and Rejuvenate**

Anantara Spa

Book yourself a hyperlocal massage overlooking a lagoon filled with blooming lotuses. The signature 'nuad kala' is a traditional Thai massage and heat treatment, in which warm kalas or coconut shells are used to relieve tense muscles. Performed using virgin coconut oil, this soothing therapy boosts circulation and reduces water retention.

### ① 12:00PM Cook Like a Local

SALA Phuket Mai Khao Beach Resort

If you love Thai food, a farm-to-fork cooking class is the best gift you can give yourself. Literally meaning 'kitchen in the garden', Khrua Nai Suan starts with plucking fresh ingredients from the garden and learning to cook dishes of your choice from a local chef. Once you've learnt the art of balancing spicy, sweet, sour, and salty flavours in the authentic Thai style, indulge in the delicacies prepared over a lunch.

### (L) 3:00PM Stroll and Shop

Phuket Old Town

We highly recommend a trip to Phuket Old Town to soak in the vibrant blend of Chinese and European styles of architecture. While the colourful row of traditional Sino-Portuguese buildings form a picturesque backdrop, this quaint part of the island is also a great place to shop for beautiful souvenirs, quirky jewellery, and cotton apparel.

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### WHERE TO STAY

- 1/ Located just 15 minutes from Phuket International Airport, Anantara Mai Khao Phuket Villas is a luxe beach-front resort set around a tranguil lagoon.
- 2/ JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa is a lavish hotel with 11 restaurants and bars alongside multiple outdoor pools.
- **3**/ Banyan Tree Phuket offers all-pool villas surrounded by lush greenery.

# Ú 5:00PMTake a Coffee Break∅ Aung Ku Café

Located in the heart of Phuket Old Town is this highly-Instagrammable café and home-style bakery—the perfect stop for a cuppa. Thronging with teenyboppers striking a pose against the pink flower-covered wall, Aung Ku seems to enjoy spring all through the year. Inside is a heady aroma of fresh coffee and cutesy décor. Check with the smiling staff for the day's special—it'll most likely be served fresh from the oven.

### • 6:00PM Soak in the Sunset

For a sweeping view of the Phuket town and the sea beyond, make your way to the hilltop at Khao Rang. Be sure to get there before the sun sets to catch the changing hues of the evening sky. Stop by the giant, golden-hued statue of Lord Buddha of Wat Khao Rang on your way down.

### 

Blue Elephant

After an eventful day, settle down for a fine meal new and ancient Phuketian flavours. Start at the chic Blue Bar with a locally-inspired drink like a Lemongrass Martini or Mango Passion. Set inside a gorgeous palace that was once the governor's mansion, Blue Elephant is an awardwinning restaurant. Here, enjoy Thai fare like Lamb Massaman Curry and innovative dishes like the Salmon Chuchee.

### ① 10:30PM

**Dance the Night Away** *⊗ Ka Jok See* 

If you want to experience the iconic nightlife of Phuket, head to this vibrant hotpot. A restaurant in the early evening, it transforms into part cabaret, part nightclub in the later hours, as the tables are cleared up to make space for live performances. As you shake a leg to the latest hits, keep an eye out for some celebspotting too.



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### MADAM G

Why: The recently-opened restaurant offers regional fare from Indian states. The décor's rich notes of copper and gold with hints of eclectic desi elements lend a cosmopolitan vibe. Where: Altitude-The Business Park, Kolkata Recommended: Alleppey Fish Curry, Chena Pora Cheesecake



### SAN GIMIGNANO

Why: To immerse in the flavours of Tuscany through an all-new menu! Embark on a gastronomic journey of Italian fare by Chef Philippe Agnese at the new pergola-style terrace here. Where: The Imperial, New Delhi Recommended: Lamb Truffle Pappardelle, Butternut Safran Risotto

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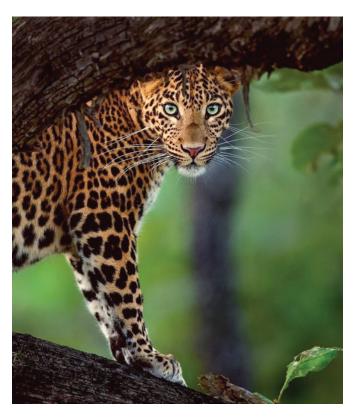


### **WEST BENGAL**

### THE SUNDARBANS

A riverine delta made up of Ganga, Brahmaputra, and Meghna, the UNESCO-listed Sundarbans is a collection of mangrove forests at the eastern end of the Indian peninsula. It is spread over 1,40,000 hectares and split between India and Bangladesh. A journey on a boat will reveal a complex network of tidal channels, mudflats, and small islands, offering a highly desirable chance to meet the royal Bengal tiger. Unbeknownst to you, the big cat and saltwater crocodiles inhabit the surroundings, while approximately 260 bird species intermittently declare their presence with vibrant songs or chirps.





### **KARNATAKA**

### **KABINI RIVER**

Traversing about 240km from its origin in Kerala, the Kabini river culminates at a forested dam, forming a pristine backwater within the Antharasanthe range of Nagarahole National Park in Karnataka. Teeming with wildlife, the banks are lined with spotted deer, Gaur or the Indian bison, leopards, and Asiatic elephants. Ever so often, a tiger makes a majestic appearence to regale visitors. A boat safari or a coracle ride elevates the senses, as the eyes search for signs of life. Wildlife enthusiasts will find Kabini quite attractive for its unique landscape and avian presence.



### **GETTING THERE**

Air India flies to Bengaluru from Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, Singapore, Male, and San Francisco. The Nagarahole **National Park is** an approximate 4.5-hour drive from the airport.







### **GETTING THERE**

Air India flies to Indore from Delhi and Mumbai. The best way to get to the National Chambal Sanctuary is by car, from either airport.

### **RAJASTHAN, MADHYA PRADESH,** AND UTTAR PRADESH

### NATIONAL CHAMBAL SANCTUARY

A tri-state protected area in India, the National Chambal Sanctuary safeguards the gharial and Ganges river dolphin (both critically endangered), and the red-crowned roof turtle along the 400km (approximately) stretch of the Chambal river. Situated near the tri-point of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh, the sanctuary is home to more than 320 resident and migrant birds. Accessible from all directions, a boat safari offers birdwatching opportunities and peaceful encounters with basking gharials. Winter months are optimal for visits, but the region sees early migration from October, welcoming aves from far and wide. The sanctuary's unique charm lies in its combination of diverse wildlife and the river's rugged beauty.



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### **MADHYA PRADESH**

### SATPURA NATIONAL PARK

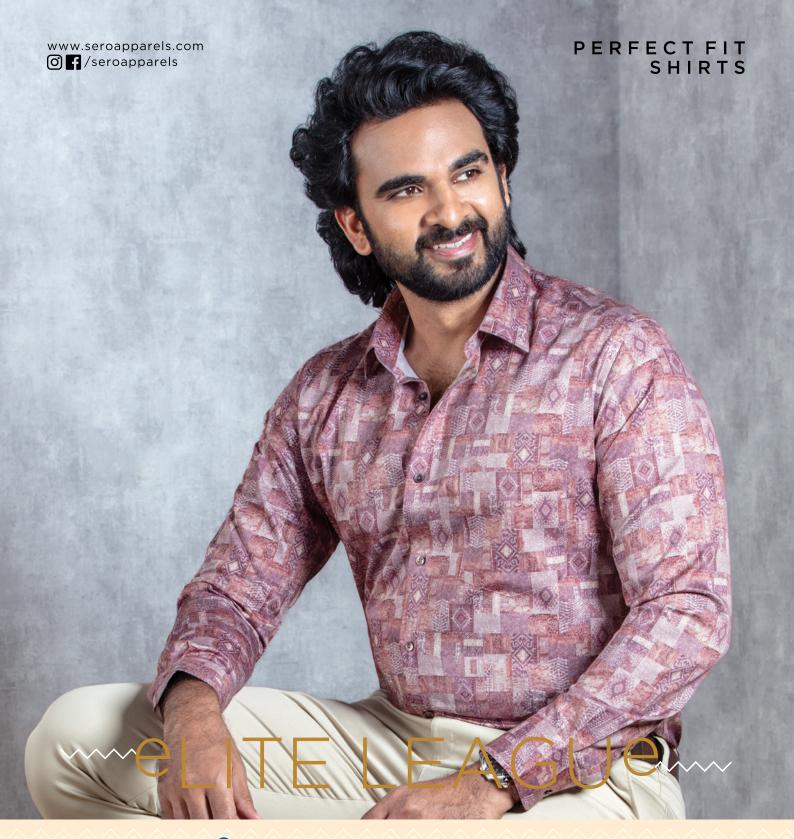
The Park derives its name from the encircling seven-tip mountain range. The Denwa river, a distributary of the Narmada, winds through, delineating the core from the buffer zone until it meets the Tawa river. Embraced by ancient, dry deciduous forests, a boat safari immerses visitors in the area's rich biodiversity, including riverside grasslands. While spotting sambar or spotted deer is common, the banks are also favoured resting spots for big cats. The forest department offers hour-long shared boat rides, while private lodges provide private boats for guests.



### **GETTING THERE**

Air India flies non-stop to Bhopal from Delhi and Mumbai. The Satpura National Park is an approximate 2.5hour scenic drive from the airport.







#### **KERALA**

#### **PERIYAR RIVER**

Periyar, the lengthiest river in Kerala, stands as one of the rare perennial waterways supplying numerous towns with drinking water. There is a tourist hub in Thekkady that orchestrates two-hour boat journeys across the artificial lake adjacent to the Periyar Tiger Reserve. Elephants and deer often grace the lake's vicinity. Along the grassy shores, herds of Indian bison (gaur), sambar, and wild boars might catch your eye. Avian diversity, including darters, egrets, and kingfishers, perch on protruding stumps of tree trunks. A boat excursion elevates the chance to witness the lively antics of the smooth-coated otter.



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ettled since ancient Roman times, three neighbouring towns-Buda. Pest. and Óbuda—were

merged into Budapest in the 1870s, making it the bustling metropolis it is today. One of the many capitals crossed by the **Danube river**, the city is downstream of Vienna and Bratislava but upstream of Belgrade—a mix of many traditions and cultures.

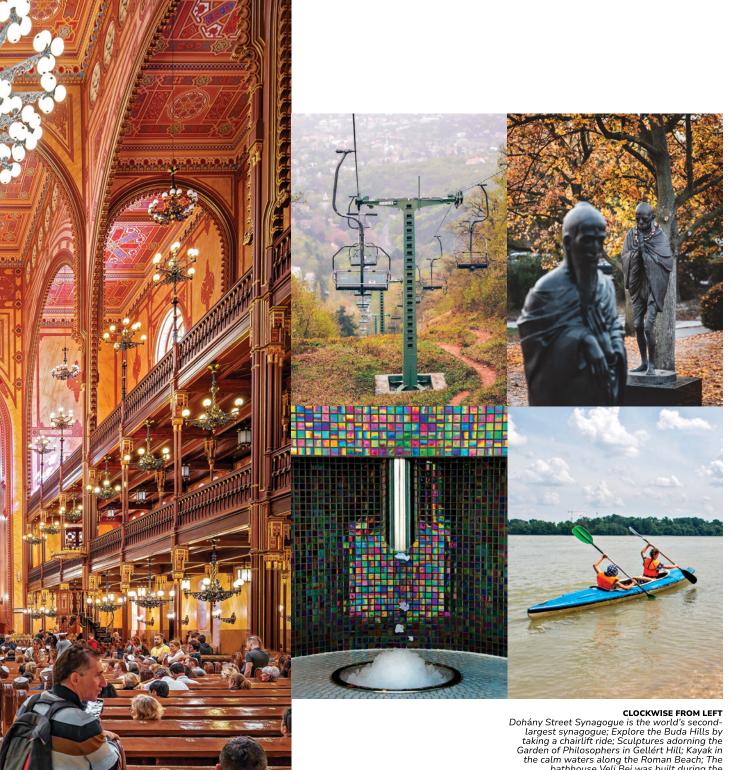
This variety becomes evident before I land: the medieval **Buda Castle** by the River is enclosed by a mix of 1800s-style city architecture and Soviet-age apartment block buildings. Some of the bridges crossing the Danube are traditional, others glaringly modern. In the following days, I am about to experience Budapest like a local, discovering that behind the picturesque façade is a city with a vivid cultural life and a true 21st-century vibe.

One of the things both tourists and foreigners love about Budapest is its public transportation. There's a direct bus line between the airport and the city centre, and after I check in to my hotel, none of the landmarks or neighbourhoods I am about to visit are beyond a few stops away with public transport. The more adventurous types also have abundant options as Budapest has widespread bike-, scooter-, and car-sharing services.

The city consists of two distinct parts separated by the Danube—the hilly Buda with its historic castle and residential quarters, and the flat Pest, where life happens. I take a short bus ride across the busy Elisabeth Bridge (named after the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy's empress, Sissi, who remains popular among Hungarians over a century after her death) to Gellért Hill's Garden of Philosophers. The hill may be better known for its Citadella fortress, overlooking the city with the monumental Liberty Statue, but the garden has a more lighthearted atmosphere.

The park offers a stunning bird's-eye view of Budapest. When I am finished with exploring the





CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT
Dohány Street Synagogue is the world's secondlargest synagogue; Explore the Buda Hills by
taking a chairlift ride; Sculptures adorning the
Garden of Philosophers in Gellért Hill; Kayak in
the calm waters along the Roman Beach; The
bathhouse Veli Bej was built during the
Turkish era.

#### Best time to visit

Hungary has a **continental climate** with hot, dry summers and cold winters. So, the best times to visit Budapest so, the best times to visit Budapest are late spring and early autumn months. Although rain is always a risk, we recommend you schedule your trip in April, May or September.

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT** Interiors of the House of Music; The imposing façade of the House of Music in the Városliget city park; Enjoy live music along with traditional Hungarian cuisine at Spinoza Restaurant





city from a distance, I pay tribute to some of the greatest thinkers of humankind, who promoted "a better understanding of one another", including Lao Tzu, Lord Buddha, Bodhidharma, and Mahatma Gandhi, whose bronze and granite sculptures adorn the park. As the day progresses, locals gather here for picnics, yoga sessions or long strolls. And it is well worth following their footsteps. I take the Gellért Hill path, a roughly 40-minute walk that leads me atop the cliff of the hill with breathtaking views of the River and the lively Pest side. While it might look dizzying, the walk is completely safe, even for dogs and children, and is open year-round.

Next, I take the funicular from the Buda end of the Széchenyi Chain Bridge, Budapest's first permanent bridge over the Danube, to discover the Castle district. The narrow streets of Buda's historic centre are bustling with history. Most of the buildings are of medieval, baroque or neoclassical styles. The Royal Palace (Budai vár, popularly



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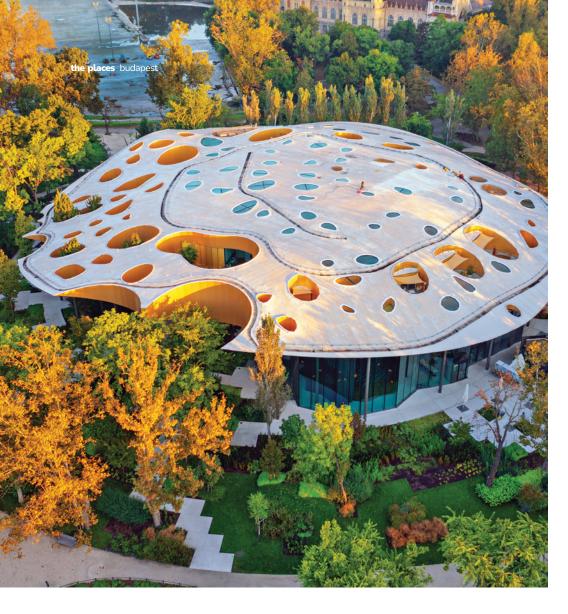






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#### TOP HOTELS TO STAY

#### Hotel Clark Budapest

Located by the picturesque Széchenyi Chain Bridge, this is a recently-opened, exclusive, and luxurious property.

### Four Seasons Budapest

The lush Gresham Palace, a quintessential Hungarian art nouveau building, hosts the hotel; a favoutite among most superstars.

#### The Ritz-Carlton, Budapest

The building on Deák Ferenc square was an architectural breakthrough in the 1910s. It reopened as a luxury hotel in 1997.

known as Buda Castle) that housed royalties from the late Middle Ages to the early 20th century is now home to the **Hungarian National Gallery**. The gallery is the largest and ever-increasing public collection of Hungarian fine arts spanning over many centuries. Its permanent and temporary exhibitions offer a unique view into various aspects of Hungarian arts and its special spot on the international scene. I take the English-language guided tour of selected masterpieces that covers a great historical timeline and includes Gothic winged altarpieces as well as works by Claude Monet, Paul Cézanne, and Hungarian masters Pál Szinyei Merse, Bertalan Székely, and Mihály Munkácsy.

The skyline of the other side of the River is dominated by the **Parliament**'s vast building. Some Hungarians love it, others think it's oversized, and largely reflects more the ambitions than the actual size and importance of the country.

Much more subtle and much less presumptuous

are the **Shoes on the Danube Bank**, the **Holocaust Memorial** only a couple of steps away from the Parliament. In Budapest's cultural diversity, few communities contributed more like the Hungarian Jews, who were an integral part of the city. Their contributions to the culture are marked by a plethora of artists, including Hollywood pioneers, scientists, and Nobel laureates.

While the Jews lived in Hungary relatively undisturbed until the early 20th century, a surge in national radicalism throughout the 1930s and 1940s led to the unthinkable. During WWII, a vast majority of Hungarian Jewry were deported to Nazi camps. The Shoes on the Danube Bank, which was selected as the world's second-best public statue in 2016, commemorates around 20,000 Jews who were massacred at the shore in 1944-45 and to the 5,65,000 or so who perished during the time that is considered the darkest of Hungarian history.

After the Soviet regime was overthrown in

The imposing façade of the House of Music in the Városliget city park





#### LEFT TO RIGHT A trail of iron footwear stands as a monument to the ones massacred during WWII along the Shoes on the Danube Bank promenade; The Hungarian National Gallery is the largest public collection

of local fine arts.

1989, many young people, rediscovered their roots and identities. And the heritage is plain to see everywhere I look. Just a short walk from the city centre's busy Deák Ferenc square and Ecseri Flea Market (famous for vintage goods, antiques, and unique finds) is Budapest's magnificent **Dohány** Street Synagogue. Europe's largest and the world's second-biggest synagogue. It does not astonish solely with its proportions. Built in Moorish style in the 1850s, the building features exquisite details both on the outside and in. As I take one of the guided tours, I marvel at the rare rose windows, lavish gold leaf detailing, and carved wood features in its sanctuary. The synagogue that once saw Franz Liszt and Camille Saint-Saëns perform on its 5,000pipe organ, hosts classical and jazz performances to this day, although one needs to book the tickets well in advance because most concerts are sold out.

With its rich tradition of folk music, worldrenowned composers like Franz Liszt or Béla Bartók, and first-class performers on the jazz scene, Budapest is also a city of music.

I take the "Kisföldalatti", Budapest's cute, yellow first underground metro line, to visit the House of **Music**. The building is noteworthy in and of itself. Standing in Városliget, a city park constructed in the late 19th century, Japanese star-architect Suo

Fujimoto's long listed building by Dezeen Awards in 2022 takes contrast to its extreme. House of Music is both a museum and a cultural centre with an indoor and an open-air stage. Its concerts feature many of the A-listers of the Hungarian and international music scene. Best of all, outdoor concerts throughout the summer months are free. After visiting its exhibitions and touring the building, I find myself on the upstairs terrace overlooking century-old trees, and the joggers and dog-walkers, who enjoy the park's sanctuary amidst a busy city environment.

No trip to Budapest can be complete without chilling out in one of the city's multiple thermal baths that are home to numerous hot springs. This time, I decide to take the road less travelled and instead of the hugely popular, thus, often crowded Széchenyi, Rudas or Lukács baths, I choose Veli Bej, a true hidden gem visited mostly by locals.

Close to the Margaret Bridge on the Buda side, it is not only one of the oldest but also the most beautiful Turkish bath in Budapest, remaining from the times when Hungary was under the occupation of the Ottoman Empire in the 16th century. The Buda Castle was held by the Ottomans for 150 years and their greatest heritage, are beyond doubt, the hammams they left behind.





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The central area of the bath is surrounded by four smaller, domed buildings with thermal pools of different temperatures. While the environment of the bath has been restored to its original design during its recent renovation, the spa features all necessary components of a modern wellness facility. With two steam chambers, a jacuzzi, various saunas, massage showers, and a Kneipp walk pool, Veli Bej is the perfect place to lay back and relax after a day or two of exhausting sightseeing.

One of the main ingredients of a Budapest visit is inevitably water and the River plays a dominant role. Booking a boat tour on the Danube is always a great idea but I want the inside scoop and to experience the river at its best as a real local. Which is why, instead of a boat, I am taking the local HÉV train and travelling about 20 minutes to arrive at Roman Beach. The riverside beach, which stretches about 5km on the Buda side, was once a camp of the ancient Roman army. Two millennia later, it is the favourite place of Budapesters to hang out, dine or party. The riverside promenade is scattered with bars and restaurants. I settle for a drink at the Fellini Culture Pub, lounging in a sun chair, while watching children go wild in the water and some future Olympians row upstream in their kayaks.

Tasting all the flavours of Budapest is no easy

feat, given the plethora of cultural and culinary influences the city blends. What is now known as Hungarian cuisine is a mixture of Turkish, Austrian, Yiddish (East European Jewish), and Slavic culinary traditions revamped for the affordable ingredients simple people used to have available at hand.

With that said, Budapest is home to 29 Michelinstar restaurants and plenty of premium dining options to choose from. At lunchtime, I decide to steer clear of the city centre and head towards a recently-opened restaurant **Szaletly** that puts a contemporary twist on traditional Hungarian food. As a vegetarian, I choose the mushroom and potato dumplings served with spinach pesto and porcini mousse, nicknamed Forest Treasures. Sitting at the turn of the century milieu, I realise how real treasures in life are almost always deeply rooted in traditions and applied according to the requirements of the modern age.

For dinner, however, I go for a more traditional option. As I relish my *cholent* (slow-cooked stew) at **Spinoza Restaurant** back in the heart of the city, enjoying live piano music, I tip my hat to all the communities and cultures that contributed to the surreal experience that I got to indulge in these past few days. The experience that is called Budapest.





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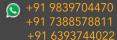
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### DO YOU KNOW?



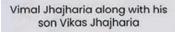
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# UNLOCK EXCLUSIVE MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Discover the world of 'Flying Returns' partners



Air India is on a historic transformation journey as is its reward programme 'Flying Returns'. Air India's Flying Returns programme is evolving and it's partner network is growing. The programme ensures that you get a 360-degree travel experience by being there at every stage of your journey.

Air India's extensive partner network creates a comprehensive travel experience that not only meets your needs but also rewards you with Flying Returns points.

## A glimpse of our growing partner network



Earn #UnmatchedRewards and make your travel experience seamless with Flying Returns Partners



Scan this code and become a Flying Returns member today

Watch this space for more news in the future.

# YOUR AIR INDIA



#### **ROUTES**

We present our latest global connectivity, offering you unparalleled access worldwide

p 93 🕡

#### **PARTNERS**

We connect the world with partners and alliances to create a global family bond

p 96 0

#### **NEWS**

We keep you abreast of our latest news and updates, so you never miss a beat

p 97 🕡





# **CHARTING A HIGHER COURSE**

"THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF OUR **JOURNEY HAS ENGAGED AND UNITED** AIR INDIANS BEHIND A COMMON CAUSE, AND MADE GREAT STRIDES IN TACKLING MANY ISSUES THAT HAD BUILT UP OVER THE YEARS. WE HAVE ALSO COME A LONG WAY IN ESTABLISHING OUR FOUNDATIONS. **OUR RECORD-SETTING AIRCRAFT ORDER,** THE COMMITMENT OF US\$400 MILLION FOR REFURBISHING EXISTING WIDE-BODY AIRCRAFT, INVESTMENT OF US\$200 MILLION IN NEW IT, AND THE RECRUITMENT OF THOUSANDS OF STAFF ARE BUT A FEW OF THE SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENTS BEING MADE TO RESTORE AIR INDIA TO THE UPPER ECHELONS OF GLOBAL AVIATION. IN OUR TAKE-OFF PHASE, WE WILL SEE INVESTMENTS BEAR FRUIT. ALL AIR INDIANS ARE GRATEFUL TO **OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS AS WE CONTINUE THIS JOURNEY."** 

> - MR. CAMPBELL WILSON AIR INDIA CEO AND MD

n 2022, Air India had launched its five-year transformation programme, Vihaan.Al, with a vision to become a 'World-Class Global Airline with an Indian Heart'. Vihaan means "Dawn of a New Era" in Sanskrit and heralds a new beginning for Air India and Indian aviation. After fixing the basics in the initial Taxi phase, Air India entered the Take-off phase in April 2023 looking to consolidate on the foundation laid initially. In 2024, Air India is looking forward to achieving new milestones and is optimistic in transcending to even greater heights.

The mission is to become the absolute best-in-class in customer service, technology, product, reliability, and hospitality. Air India CEO and MD, Mr. Campbell Wilson, along with the senior management, unveiled the Vihaan.Al plan with milestones focussing on dramatically growing Air India's network and fleet, and developing a completely revamped customer proposition. The transformation roadmap is built around five key pillars exceptional customer experience, robust operations, industry-best talent, industry leadership, alongside commercial efficiency, and profitability. The Take-off phase focusses on building tools, systems, and capabilities needed to support Air India's future scale.

There is already a strong momentum as Air India takes off in 2024. #ReadytoClimb

# TRANSFORMATION **AGENDA**

Phase 1: March 2023

Phase 2: April 2023 - March 2024

Phase 3: April 2024 - March 2027



TAKE-OFF



CLIMB X



Fix the basics

**Build for excellence** 

Scale and grow

#### THE JOURNEY SO FAR

- Placed record-setting order for 470 aircraft
- Successfully integrated AirAsia India into Air India Express
  - Inducted Air India's first A350-900
- Added 5 domestic and 11 international routes; inaugurated 5 new international stations
- Introduced new commercial tools and products, including new revenue management
- Deployed new global brand identities and aircraft liveries for Air India and Air India Express
  - Revealed new uniforms for cabin and cockpit crew designed by Manish Malhotra
  - · Onboarded new service providers for catering, ground handling, and more
- Launched upgraded website and app, and the aviation industry's first Generative Al chatbot • Started Premium Economy on select routes
  - Moved to new offices across the network; a new head office campus in Gurugram
- Established new facilities, including Operations Control Centre and Emergency Response Centre
  - Architected a new IT infrastructure across various departments
  - Successfully migrated entirely to the cloud to enhance digital infrastructure
  - Welcomed 9,000+ new colleagues—1,000+ cockpit crew, 5,000+ cabin crew, and more
    - Introduced a new organisation structure, new staff policies, and benefits
- Adopted TaxiBot operations, automated aircraft cleaning, and minimised single-use plastic usage
  - Awarded 'Asia-Pacific Overall Deal of the Year' and 'Best F&B in Central/ Southern Asia'

#### **OUR 2027 ASPIRATIONS**

- 🌑 **Scale** To grow fleet size 3X and expand global network
- **Market share\*** Capture >30% of the domestic and international market
- 퉝 Brand identity Identify as a global airline with an Indian heart, driven by technology
- O Industry leadership Most technologically advanced, socially responsible, and innovative airline
  - Employee experience Become India's most preferred employer in the travel industry

<sup>\*</sup>Group airlines combined share





#### **NAIROBI**

Hey! Been on a safari!

Seen the biggest elephant, Tree Tops, Born Free. The longest serpent. Fought against seventy-nine lions. Asked the hungriest crocodile for a piece for your shoes. Seen a Bongo? Or a five-ton rhino!

You've seen nothing. Nairobi is one of the wonders of the world after the Taj Mahal of course. And we don't mean the hotel at Bombay either even if it belongs to our Chairman. Air-India not only flies you to Nairobi but goes beyond-to Entebbe. They have services that also stop at Aden and Addis Ababa. There's yet another exotic spot touched by Air-India-Mauritiusthat little green emerald in the Indian Ocean.

Ever ready to please you. to adopt many and varied poses in many and varied places. And since I wear my airline's heart in my appearance, there are a few rules to be observed.

To me, the length of my moustache, the slant of my eyes, and the tilt of my eyebrows, are most important. Forgive me if it seems vain, but I won't have anyone disturbin' my turban. Still ...



I'm an adaptable sort of fellow always ready to address



#### BOMBAY

Time stood still as we sipped the finest Lopchu tea— the colonial way—with scones and "chutney" sandwiches. Just across the Sea Lounge of the Taj Mahal Hotel was the magnif The Gateway and the Yacht Club—moraments of the British Raj. The Gateway and the Yacht Cub—monuments of the British Raj. Other glorius affronces we speet on the Verandah of the Gynk Wide open spaces. Lush green lawns. Happy laughing children. Over the week-end we hole-nobbed at the Turf Club with Bombay's beautiful specimens. Thoroughbred horses, Dowage smart young Maharanis in pastel coloured French chilfon sarees. In contrast, the strong vibrant colours and textures of handloom cottom at the Chowpatry water front. The miscal sounds of numerous regional languages. The heady forgance of justime flowers. The seasoned spicy flavours of food sold on stands.



Fresh-Air-India



the most unforgettable character you've ever met!





# THE RENEWED MAJESTY

Step into a new era as Air India unveils the modern transformation of The Maharaja

ince its inception in 1946, crafted by the visionary Bobby Kooka, The Maharaja has been the enduring face of Air India. Sporting a distinctive handlebar moustache and striped turban, he was not just an icon on calendars and memorabilia but an integral part of the airline's identity for over seven decades. Symbolising progress and accompanying the airline on its journey into new routes, The Maharaja has become an immortal emblem of Air India's rich history.

In response to evolving times and the revamped branding, The Maharaja has undergone his most significant transformation yet. Embracing a new, dapper, and youthful look, he now plays not only the lead role but also a crucial supporting character. Serving as a heralder of elevated experiences, he will appear across touchpoints or in spirit within the framework of exclusive programmes.

In his refined appearance, The Maharaja dons a more contemporary and chicer ensemble, incorporating hues from Air India's new brand colours. With a bejewelled turban featuring a golden *Kalgi*, stylish *juttis*, textured kurta, gold buttons, and cuff details in regal purple and gold, accompanied by a unique gold pocket square, he exudes modernity while preserving the iconic smile, closed eyes, and folded hands.

Anticipate coming across the modern-day version of the icon on your upcoming travels—a well-crafted fusion of tradition and contemporaneity. Here's to new beginnings and the timeless charm of a symbol reborn.















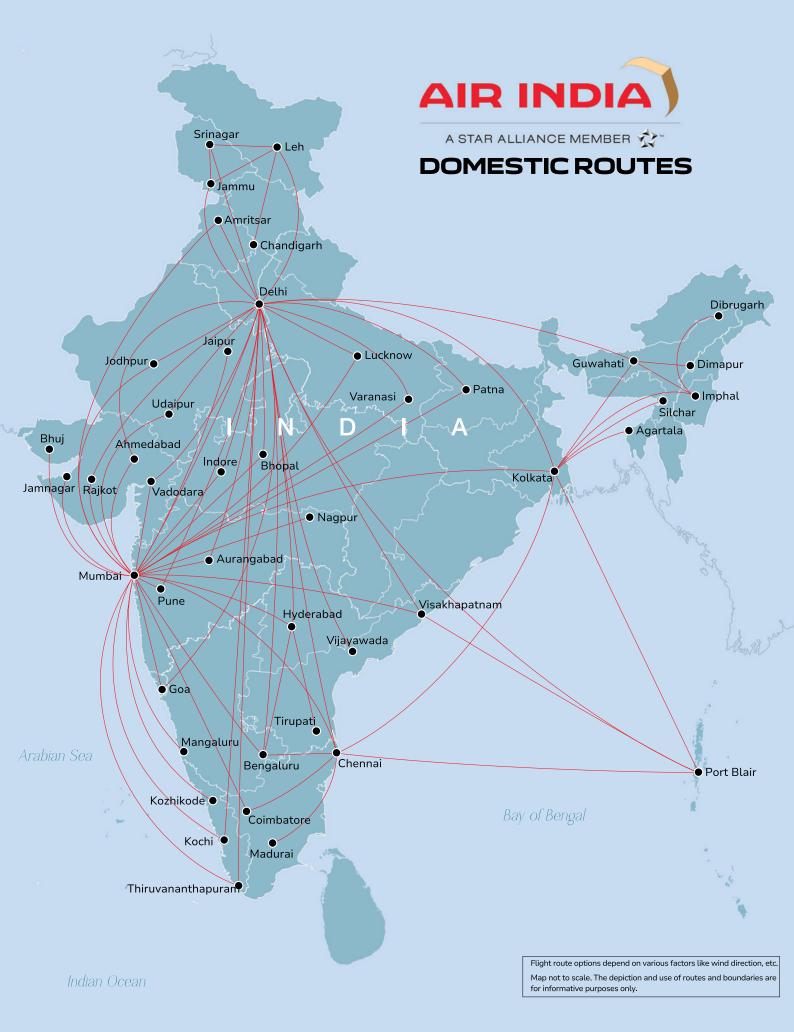




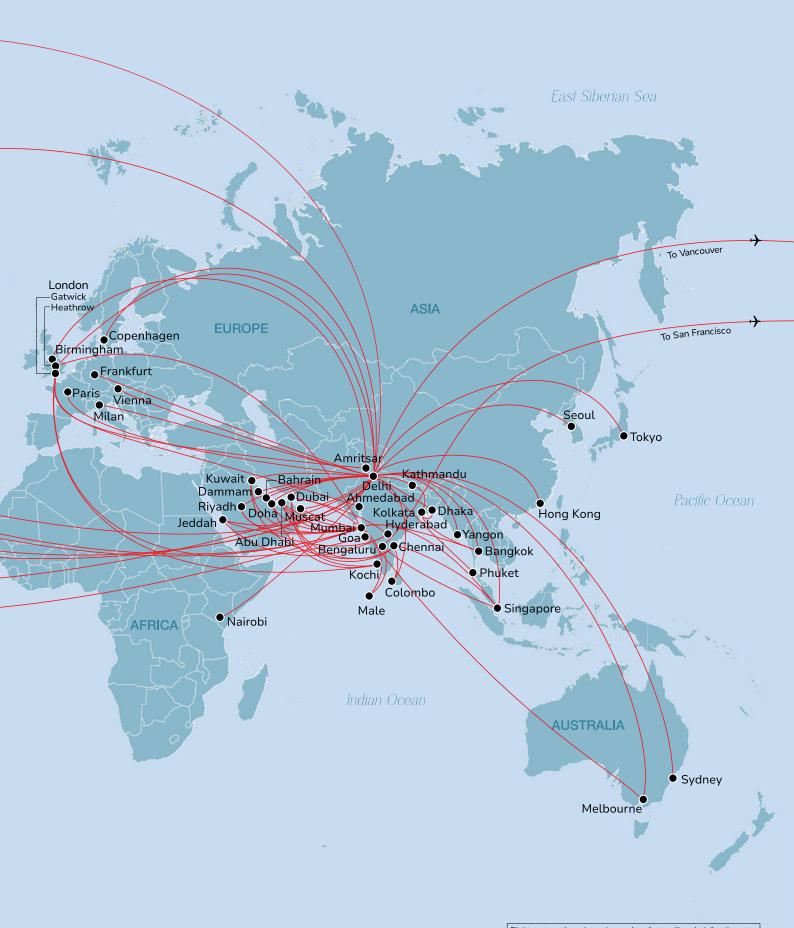












Flight route options depend on various factors like wind direction, etc. Map not to scale. The depiction and use of routes and boundaries are for informative purposes only.

# WANDER WORLDWIDE

Connect to 700+ destinations around the globe through our Codeshare and Interline partnerships

#### **CODESHARE\***

AirAsia India Air Mauritius Croatia Airlines EgyptAir

LOT Polish Airlines SriLankan Airlines

Air Macau

Air Seychelles

Asiana Airlines

**Ethiopian Airlines** FVA Air Lufthansa

Singapore Airlines **SWISS** TAP Air Portugal

Avianca

#### INTERLINE

Aegean Airlines Aeroflot AccesRail Aerolineas Argentinas Air Astana Air Canada

Air Austral Air China Air Europa Air France Air New Zealand Air Malta Air Niugini Alaska Airlines Air Tanzania Avianca

All Nippon Airways American Airlines Austrian Airlines Bangkok Airways Biman Bangladesh Airlines British Airways Brussels Airlines Caribbean Airlines Cathay Pacific

China Airlines Condor China Eastern Airlines

China Southern Airlines Copa Airlines Delta Air Lines El Al Etihad Airways Fiji Airways **Emirates** Finnair **FLEXFLIGHT** Gulf Air Hahn Air Hainan Airlines Hong Kong Airlines Iberia

Icelandair ITA Airways (formerly Alitalia) Japan Airlines JetBlue letstar JetStar Asia Junevao Airlines

Kam Air Kenya Airways KLM Royal Dutch Airlines

Korean Air Kuwait Airways LATAM Airlines

LATAM Airlines Brasil Madagascar Airlines Malaysia Airlines

MIAT Mongolian Airlines Middle East Airlines

Myanmar Airways International Nepal Airlines Oman Air Philippine Airlines RwandAir **Oantas** Oatar Airways Royal Air Maroc Royal Jordanian Royal Brunei Airlines Saudia

### TRAVEL TO THE GRAND CANYON **WITH US**

Dive into global ventures with a tailored itinerary, designed with our valued partners



\*DEL: Indira Gandhi International Airport (Delhi Airport), New Delhi, Delhi; BOM; Chhatrapati Shivaii Maharai International Airport, Mumbai, MH; BLR: Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru, KA; \*SFO: San Francisco International Airport, San Francisco, CA; \*PHX: Phoenix Sky
Harbor International Airport, Phoenix, AZ.



#### **CLOCKWISE FROM** TOP LEFT

Air India CEO and MD, Mr. Campbell Wilson (third from right) with crew members in front of the new A350-900 aircraft; The aircraft receiving a water cannon salute upon landing in Delhi.



# A GRAND LANDING

Air India recently welcomed the first of its 20 Airbus A350-900 aircraft in the airline's bold new livery from the Airbus facility in Toulouse, France, marking a turning point in its ongoing transformation story. Air India's A350 will enter commercial service this month, initially operating domestic routes before charting international ones. The aircraft comes in a three-class cabin configuration with a total of 316 seats.



#### NO MORE FOGGY WOES

Air India guests flying to and from Delhi IGI Airport during winter will now be allowed to reschedule or cancel their bookings at no extra cost if their flights get affected by major fog delays. This is part of its FogCare initiative introduced last winter that offers proactive assistance to affected passengers and lets them reschedule or cancel their ticket as per their convenience.

#### FOR COMFIER TRAVELS

Air India has appointed global hospitality design firm Hirsch Bedner Associates to refurbish the brand's lounges at Terminal 3 of IGI Airport, Delhi, and Terminal 4 of JFK Airport, New York. Aimed at enhancing customer experience, these lounges will reflect India's cultural heritage with world-class amenities embodying Air India's new spirit-a global airline with an Indian heart.



### YOUR ATTENTION, **PLEASE**

#### **DIGIYATRA**

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय द्वारा 13 एयरपोर्टस्—दिल्ली, बेंगलुरु, वाराणसी, पुणे, कोलकाता, विजयवाडा हैदराबाद, अहमदाबाद, मुंबई, जयपुर, लखनऊ, गुवाहाटी और कोचीन के लिए डीजी यात्रा की सुविधा का शुभारंभ किया गया है । डीजी यात्रा ऐप को डाउनलोड करके खुद को नामांकित करें और इन एयरपोर्टस् पर र्निबाध और बाधारहित यात्रा का अनुभव करें।

The Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched DigiYatra facilities at 13 Indian airports, namely Delhi, Bengaluru, Varanasi, Pune, Kolkata, Vijayawada, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, and Cochin. You can avail it and have a seamless and hassle-free experience at these airports. To avail the facility, you can download the DigiYatra app and register on it.

#### **MISSION LIFE**

पर्यावरण के प्रति जागरूक जीवन शैली को अपनाने

की दिशा में व्यवहारिक परिवर्तनों को प्रेरित करने के लिए, प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने मिशन लाइफ— लाइफस्टाइल फॉर एनवायरनमेंट शुरू किया है, जो की भारत के नेतृत्व वाला वैश्विक जन आंदोलन है। आइए हम सभी प्रो-प्लैनेट एक्शन लेने का संकल्प लें. जैसे ऊर्जा की बचत, पानी का संरक्षण, पेडों का पोषण और पर्यावरण के अनुकूल अपशिष्ट निपटान।

Mission LiFE—Lifestyle for Environment is an India-led global mass movement launched by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for inducing behavioural changes towards adopting environmentally-conscious lifestyles. Let us all pledge to take Pro-Planet actions like saving energy, conserving water, nurturing trees, and eco-friendly waste disposal.

#### **AIR SEVA**

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय ने विमान सेवा पोर्टल को अपग्रेड किया है. जो इंटरैक्टिव वेब पोर्टल और मोबाइल ऐप के जरिए सुलभ है। इस नए संस्करण में:

- (क) सोशल मीडिया के साथ सुरक्षित साइन अप और लॉग इन
- (ख) अतिथियों की सहायता के लिए, चैट बॉक्स
- (ग) सोशल मीडिया शिकायत सहित, परिष्कृत प्रबंधन
- (घ) रियल टाइम उडान स्टेटस और विस्तृत उडान संबंधी जानकारी शामिल हैं सेवा संबंधी किसी और जानकारी के लिए आप airsewa.gov.in पर लॉग इन कर सकते हैं।

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

- a) Secure sign-up and log-in with social media
- **b)** Chat box for traveller's support
- c) Improved grievance management, including social media grievance
- d) Real-time flight status and detailed flight schedule.

Air Sewa is available at airsewa.gov.in.



### **CITY OF BLENDS**

Ace photographer Dabboo Ratnani on rediscovering New York with every visit

#### MY LOCAL EXPERIENCE

With each visit to New York City, I encounter fresh experiences, be it in SoHo or Midtown, immersed in a vibrant blend of cultures from Chinatown to a Korean village or a new Lebanese spot. A cultural potpourri, NYC always leaves me with a sense that there's more to explore!

#### **CLOSEST TO MY HEART...**

Visiting B&H, one of the biggest photography and video equipment stores in the world. It covers almost an entire block and I spent three days just looking around. From cameras and lenses to lights and more...I felt like a kid in a candy store.

#### A FARE TO REMEMBER

The wraps from The Halal Guys in Midtown. It serves your choice of filling as is, without the wrap, and boasts a constant waiting line.

#### I RECOMMEND...

Avoid traffic, opt for a boat ride from 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Art enthusiasts, don't miss Brooklyn's impressive art scene. SoHo also beckons with its unique vibe, featuring murals and lively markets.

















# **Empowering education organizations for enrollment growth, year after year**

As we enter 2024, our resolve to craft purpose-built, unified, and powerful solutions for the education industry is stronger than ever. Proudly trusted by over 1000 education organizations across the globe, some of which we could fit in this page.























































































































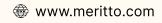






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