

Travel Links



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Biosphere
Reserves

Environment
Focus

Wellness

Holi special



Travel Links

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The Plethora and dum dum of lockdown at the beginning of New Year put us in a blank spot and ask ourselves "are we actually ready for the new normal as we claim to be? Are we taking any positive action, are we truly future-ready and working towards a sustainable future?"

I focused my energies in the directions which are of key importance for the present and future, hence this issue of Travel Links magazine talks about biodiversity, biosphere, environment protection, animal conservation, and conscious goals. The dependence of the community on its environment makes them responsible for the place they live in. We have to preserve the environment rather than exploit it.

Not only the flora and fauna but also the tribal communities residing in or around the biosphere reserves and Wildlife sanctuaries are of great significance. I believe we must travel cautiously without harming or causing any disturbance to any segment of nature.

Every medium of expression is special, more so in the case of Rita Banerji, who is a wildlife filmmaker and an environmentalist. She is not only creating awareness through a visual medium but taking on-ground action at the same time by educating fellow students. She believes in collective community goals where each individual becomes a brand ambassador and takes action towards a sustainable future. Get to know more about her in work in Q and A series.

In today's world, words like stress, anxiety, disorders, and tightness are very common. Hence it has become essential for people to get help. Spreading awareness about the help needed is equally important. Naad Wellness brings you just the right relief to all your discomforts adequately how you need it.

On international destinations, we bring Jamaica to you. From the glorious dawn of every morning at the sea swallow the sun at night, Jamaica has a beautiful palette of experiences, a kaleidoscope of colors and sounds that make this island the most precious jewel of the Caribbean. Jamaica is the land of 'rhythm and undulation'. Travel Links also talks about Djibouti, the island where dreams come true. According to Greek mythology, it is the land of Lotus eater.

March being the festive month, we bring a very special photo feature story captured by renowned photographer Prakhar K Pandey.

Hope you will like reading the content of this issue where I have tried to bring the topics and subjects that are not only close to my heart but also the need of an hour.

Editor

Payal Sahni

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BIOSPHERE RESERVES

Mr. Arron Wood, explained why and how important sustainability of environment is for human kind. The dependence of community on its environment makes them responsible...



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Biosphere Reserves

Mr. Arron Wood, explained why and how important sustainability of environment is for human kind. The dependence of community on its environment makes them responsible for the sustainability of their place in which they live.

BY ABHEET CHAWLA

“Sustainability is treating ourselves and our environment as if we are to live on this earth forever.” One of the world’s most renowned environmentalist, Mr. Arron Wood, explained why and how important sustainability of environment is for human kind. The dependence of community on its

environment makes them responsible for the sustainability of their place in which they live. Not only the flora and fauna but also the tribal communities residing in or around Biosphere reserves and Wildlife sanctuaries are of great significance. Hence making it our duty to travel cautiously without harming or causing any disturbance to any segment of nature.

Biodiversity, in simple words, is the variation among living organisms from

different sources including territorial, marine and desert ecosystems. It describes the richness and variety of life on earth. Now the question arises how can we protect and conserve Biodiversity?

BIOSPHERE RESERVES, WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES AND NATIONAL PARKS

According to UNESCO, United Nations

Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), Biosphere Reserves are learning places for sustainable development. They are sites for testing interdisciplinary approaches to understanding and managing changes and interactions between social and ecological systems, including conflict prevention and management of biodiversity. Currently, there are 727 Biosphere reserves in 131 countries that belong to World Network of Biosphere Reserves. A typical biosphere reserve is divided into the following:

Core (no human activity is there),

Buffer (limited human activity is permitted),

Manipulation zone (several human activities can occur in this zone).

Wildlife Sanctuaries are similar but still significantly distinct from Biosphere reserves. It is a natural habitat, owned by the government or private agency that safeguards a particular species of birds and animals. While, biosphere reserves is a reserved area of land established by the government to protect the environment as a whole. In Wildlife sanctuaries, restrictions





are less and open to visitations by the general public.

National parks are notified areas that cover a larger area of land which may cover multiple National Parks, Sanctuaries, and reserves as well. National parks are highly restrictive in nature and random access to the general public is not allowed. Around 100 National parks are there in India itself.

TRAVELLING THROUGH NATURE

Since National Parks are very restrictive, the only possible human interaction with the splendid beauty of nature and

If you really think the environment is less important than the economy, try holding your breath while counting your money.” It makes us wonder how selfish human motives can lead to endangering the environment. Hence, it is our duty, to preserve rather than exploit.

environment is via Biosphere reserves and Wildlife Sanctuaries. INDIA is filled with these reserves and sanctuaries with around 18 biosphere reserves and more than 550 sanctuaries giving the people a great opportunity to experience environment at its best.

As we discussed the matter with the officers of INDIAN FOREST SERVICES, one of them, on the condition of anonymity shared that “Biosphere reserves and Wildlife sanctuaries are one of the most important ways and factors revolving around the conservation and protecting the wildlife. These are the areas that not just provide a safe haven but also, untouched



required habitat to great extent. The ground reality is that there are certain areas demarcated where some activities are allowed, some areas where minor activities are allowed and some areas where no activity is allowed at all. When it comes to minor activities, they are generally related for scientific research and preservation activities. These areas are very attractive in context of travel and tourism, as they provide with preserved wildlife in their natural sense. It provides us humans as an elevated opportunity, which is very important as if tomorrow the wildlife does not exist, that particular sense of elevation will be gone forever. The government and the forest department have also come up with new concepts like ECO-tourism, where tourists are given certain responsibilities to manage what is supposed to happen in these areas, and most importantly to keep the environment clean and appropriate for natural habitat and environment. There are





certain GEO TAGS assigned to particular areas to protect the flora and fauna from cruel activities like hunting and poaching. All strategies cannot be shared in great detail and are strictly on needs to know basis, as it can be leaked to the hunters and poachers, but there are regular patrolling and random checks to catch the smugglers and hunters. Whenever an animal dies, there are certain due processes. They are completely different for all the animals. They are paid last tribute and buried or burnt with following all the last rites rituals

because the forest department believes they are as important as humans and deserve all the respect since the earth belongs to them too and not just to humans. The main aim is to protect and conserve the wildlife without causing any or much disturbance to their lives. The forest department takes great pride in doing a great job with the limited resources that are there.”

As **Lady Bird Johnson**, American first lady (1963-69) and a very famous environmentalist said “The environment is where we all meet, where we all have a

mutual interest, it is one thing we all share.” Travelling to sanctuaries and reserves gives us, great insight of how the wildlife functions and what is the ground reality of conservation of biodiversity. People from Anglopheric countries, travel to India for research and excursions.

Although, these areas are protected and all the precautions are taken by the Forest department and concerned organizations, the cases of poaching and hunting of the wild animals and excavation of rare flora is very persistent and the main reason



behind is money. Dr. Macpherson stated a very intriguing viewpoint to the world, “If you really think the environment is less important than the economy, try holding your breadth while counting your money.” It makes us wonder how selfish human motives can lead to endangering the environment. Hence, it is our duty, to preserve rather than exploit. If we want the mankind to sustain for ages, we need to invest in environment from today. Then only the purpose of sustainable development, in a greater sense, can and will be achieved. [\[1\]](#)

PHOTOS: GAURAB TALUKDAR



video is a strong tool for conservation action, video documentation itself can be optimized for purposes beyond just films and how can we create a systematic and effective platform for youth to get into conservation films.

Q What were the major challenges you faced in those times and what kept you pushing ahead?

This is a field where funding was not easy to come by. We had to take on freelance work as technicians – camerawork, editing, and then use that for the films that we wanted to do.

What kept us going was the love for wildlife, love for being in the field, love for telling stories, love for exploring remote places, and issues that were not very well known. Through all the projects we did, we always had one project that was our own. And that kept the excitement to carry on.



Rita Banerji is an environmentalist who educates people by making films on biodiversity, wildlife, and indigenous knowledge. She has won the panda award also known as the Green Oscar in 1994 and 2000 for the films "The Last Migration" and "Shores of Silence - Whale Sharks in India". She believes in “collective consciousness”, where each individual works towards the common goal of environment conservation and sustainable future. She is also the founder of Dusty Foot Production which was established in 2002. In 2019 Rita got inducted as an" Ashoka Fellow". As we get to know her in the Q & A series: By Payal Sahni

Q Please let us know about the initial days of starting Dusty Foot Productions (what was the trigger point and how it all started).

I started Dusty Foot Productions in 2002 along with my friend and colleague Shilpi Sharma. By then I had already spent almost 10 years working in the field of wildlife and environment films with Riverbank Studios. While the camera was my first love, traveling across India working on these films – remote villages, to wildlife parks to

meeting incredible people on the ground, was a huge learning. It made me understand the realities on the ground – people and wildlife interactions, water and farming, and much more. While in Riverbanks we also made some impactful films like the 'Shores of Silence – Whale Sharks in India' that lead to the ban on the killing of Whale Shark. This whole journey helped in bringing home the fact that this is what we wanted to do. For me some of the key drivers to start our enterprise 'Dusty Foot' – were the fact that a

Q What are the major achievements of dusty foot productions? How does it positively change and impact at any positive steps or decisions on the environment/conservation/sustainability?

The film that has been a key to helping us create a roadmap is 'The Wild Meat Trail'. This film is on hunting wildlife in the northeast of India, and the wild meat markets. This film went on to win the prestigious Panda Award at Wildscreen 2010, also known as the Green



Oscar.

Under the Canopy, a conservation education program, which was an extension of the film led to a larger Eco Club Program in Chizami Village, Nagaland in collaboration with North East Network (a leading organization working on gender justice and women's empowerment in the northeast of India). Under the Canopy expanded to other villages in Nagaland with the help of other NGOs and was also adapted as the education program for children of the villages in Wokha district for the 'Save the Amur Falcon' campaign. In 2015 in collaboration with North East Network, Dusty Foot initiated the Green Hub Project – a video fellowship to leverage the power of youth for conservation action. This project has taken root and become a foundation for many of the youth from the region to take this path.

Q How and when did the inception of Green Hub happen?

The idea of Green Hub incubated over a long period, in different forms. In some way every project we did help to strengthen our base, our network as well knowledge to finally reach a point where we could start the project. The two core ideas remained the same – leveraging the power of youth through the visual medium, and using video as a strong tool for conservation action.

We initiated Green Hub in collaboration



with North East Network in 2015, with its base in Tezpur Assam. It is a year-long Video fellowship for youth across the Northeast of India, where they learn video documentation and storytelling, and at the same time through that process understand the idea of environmental conservation, the solutions on the ground, and how they can play a part. Every year 20 fellows are selected through an application process. Today we have a network of 108 fellows across all 8 states.

Q You are a filmmaker and the art of visual storytelling has its impact. Do you think social media in any way has added to that? I think social media has played a significant role in amplifying the voice of youth working in the environment and wildlife. They have been able to use it very innovatively to make the environmental happenings across the country visible, especially when the mainstream still manages to keep these stories in the backseat. It has also expanded the ways stories are being told using multimedia forms – from art, illustrations, music, animation, text to short films. It has pushed creative thinking to design specifically for different formats – from stories to reels, to posts. I think it is



very empowering and has created a web of enablers across the country.

Can you let us know a few good things that happened because of the information given through Green Hub / Dusty foot Productions?

I think our main communication on social media is about our work, what the alumni are doing, as well as films and photographs by the fellows. We also share interesting posts on the environment with others. The main feedback we get is the queries from youth across about wanting to join and contribute towards conservation. It has also helped connect to other youth organizations in the region and elsewhere. Our main impact or achievement is more on the ground where many of the Alumni are working directly on the ground on different aspects of conservation. Wanmei Konyak is working on bringing back the forest in his area through community participation, Serlibon Timungpi is a Wipro Sustainability Educator and training teachers in conservation education, Joyhind is working with his community on environment awareness, Mordicai Panmei is working on sustainable livelihoods and wildlife conservation, Tallo Anthony is one

It is not merely about pursuing your passion now, but for everyone to understand that we have to all work together towards that. The young people are critical to this future, they are the enablers. It is not an easy path, but an enjoyable path with an amazing network of people on the ground who will keep you inspired.

of the leading environment filmmakers in Arunachal, Chentei is helping document indigenous systems and knowledge, Zakhuma and Vohbika are the frontline staff at Dampa Tiger reserve and have helped document the biodiversity extensively. It is the network of fellows that keep us going, and despite what is happening around us with environmental degradation, keep the hope going.

Q What are your visions? Please let us know what you would like to achieve in the year 2022.

Our vision is really to have an effective network of youth who over the years become the catalysts for a sustainable future, who become the change-makers, the spokespersons for a future that looks at ecological security as its foundation.

We have expanded the Green Hub Project to Central India now covering Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Chhattisgarh. Our hope in 2022 is that the fellows from Central India and the Northeast can meet and create a new bridge of solidarity and well-being. Last but not least any advice for the young generation who wants to pursue their passion for nature conservation via a visual medium. I think the pandemic has made it quite evident that there is only one way ahead, and that is to focus on nature conservation, to look at the local economy, collective well-being, and sustainable living. It is not merely about pursuing your passion now, but for everyone to understand that we have to all work together towards that. The young people are critical to this future, they are the enablers. It is not an easy path, but an enjoyable path with an amazing network of people on the ground who will keep you inspired. [\[1\]](#)

Djerba... the Island where dreams come true...

According to Greek mythology, In Homer's Odyssey, Djerba is the Land of the Lotus-Eaters, where Ulysses paused in the course of his odyssey and had almost lost his men when the beautiful maidens of the island fed them the lotus flower, they all lost memory of their homes and loved ones and refused to get back on board

The island of forgetfulness which supposedly entrapped visitors in ancient times, has not faded with the passing centuries. Called also the 'Island of Dreams', Djerba, is a veritable floating garden, created by nature to enchant the imagination of the human soul.

So, if it happens you go to Djerba and feel like staying forever, you already know.



You have been enchanted like Odysseus'.

This palm-lined desert island is an island of holiday clubs, activities in the fresh air, a unique heritage to discover and excursions into the majestic setting of the Sahara.

POTTERS & STREET ART

Djerba is made for strolling through, its gentle landscapes are in such complete harmony with the white and rounded



traditional architecture: old wells, little mosques hidden in the countryside, large rural properties known as menzels. Visit the Djerba Explore park to experience the life of a rural property, perfectly reconstructed.

In Houmt-Souk, take a break by the fishing harbour, visit the fondouk (caravansary) areas and the covered market where fish are sold to the highest bidder.

Don't miss the village of Erriadh to visit the living museum of street art, Djerbahood – an astonishing backdrop of traditional architecture appropriated by graffiti artists from around the world.

In the village of Guellala, pay a visit to the potters who make large jars reminiscent of the ancient era, follow them down to an underground clay store and try your hand at working the potter's wheel.



The synagogue

Djerba is home to one of the biggest Jewish communities in North Africa. And apparently several thousand visits annually on pilgrimage. Despite differences in beliefs, religion and tradition, the two communities – Muslim and Jewish – have been living and trading peacefully with each other for centuries in Djerba.

The oldest synagogue known as “El Ghriba”, is one the oldest in North Africa and the world, this site dates all the way back to 586BC and is quite a trek from Houmt Souq. like in a gurudwara, both men and women need to cover their heads before entering. The inner sanctum is said to have one of the oldest Torahs (Holy Book in Judaism) in the world. The original synagogue is believed





to have been founded after a holy stone fell here from heaven and a mysterious lady appeared to lead its construction.

MUSEUMS & KITESURF

Beautiful hotel-holiday clubs, white sand beaches Djerba is a choice destination for a seaside holiday. The regular winds throughout the year and the temperate climate make it an ideal location to learn to kitesurf or go sailing. There is no shortage of activities: scuba diving, parasailing, sea cruises, golf courses, casinos and nightclubs. Observe the huge gatherings of migratory birds in the lagoons.

Get to know Djerba's heritage: in Houmt-Souk you will find the Borj Ghazi Mustapha, a 14th century fortress where the Turkish privateer Dragut fought the Spaniards. The Museum of Traditional Heritage of Djerba explains local jewellery, pottery, traditions Djerba Explore Park possesses a superb collection of ancient artifacts from Tunisia and the Middle-East. Djerba is also an excellent choice for thalassotherapy and hydrotherapy treatments.



GASTRONOMY

Freshly caught fish and octopus have pride of place in Djerbian gastronomy. The most fun way to try: buy your own sea bream in the Houmt-Souk marketplace and eat it there and then, garnished with salad, in one of the tiny neighboring restaurants where the sign proclaims: "Bring your fish, I'll grill it"! The local cuisine is a kind of mix of Turkish, Spanish, Carthaginian, French, and the island's original cooking traditions.

Taste another delicious Djerbian speciality: the Djerbian rice (or rous jerbi). It is a recipe based on seafood or meat accompanied by many vegetables, and prepared with spices and garlic. The special feature of this recipe is to be steamed in a couscous. It is a complete dish since it is composed of starchy foods, meat and vegetables.

Shopping

Djerba Island is a perfect place for buying diverse authentic souvenirs. The city is distinguished by a variety of shops and colorful markets. This is a great place to





purchase popular Tunis souvenirs and various exclusive items made by local masters. Travelers wishing to buy something exclusive and expensive should take a look at luxurious locally manufactured carpets. All carpets are handmade, and a master can spend several years creating intricate patterns. Shisha, as well as other accessories for smoking, also remains a very popular souvenir.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

Djerba is more than a traditional touristic destination, it is distinguished in Tunisia and North Africa in conference tourism. Over the past years, the island has hosted dozens of regional and international seminars

“Bring your fish, I’ll grill it”! The local cuisine is a kind of mix of Turkish, Spanish, Carthaginian, French, and the island’s original cooking traditions.

and conferences, including conferences on tourism, sustainable development, climate change and beauty contests. The year 2022 will be very active in Djerba, which is preparing to host two important events in Tunisia, Africa and the world:

International Aerospace & Defence Exhibition:

Scheduled from 11th to 15th May 2022 in Djerba, International Aerospace & Defence Exhibition will deploy its wings for the second time. IADE Tunisia will provide diverse opportunities to meet international key players of the aerospace and defence industry to expand your network and to build new partnerships.

The event will showcase over 200 exhibiting companies from around the world, and will host a large number of African delegations and decision makers from Tunisia, Africa and the Middle East.

This base of companies is a part of development schemes that cover a wide range of aerospace & defence activities. So, whether you are looking to meet new buyers, to sign new deals or to present your new products,



this event is for you!

2- The 18th edition of the Francophonie Summit:

Anchored in its multiple North African, Arab-Muslim, African and Mediterranean

identity, Tunisia has remained over the centuries an open country, tolerant in the search for new frameworks of cooperation, basing its relations with the rest of the world on a spirit of collaboration and partnership that benefits Tunisians and all of humanity. In this framework, Tunisia

will be hosting the 18th biannual summit of the Francophonie Summit on 19th and 20th November 2022 in Djerba under the theme "Connectivity in diversity: digital technology, a vector of development and solidarity in the French-speaking world". The Summit will be preceded, on November 18th, 2022, by the meeting of the Ministerial Conference of La Francophonie.

Despite a difficult and exceptional situation related to epidemic, Tunisia has mobilized human resources and significant logistical means, in order to ensure the good organization of this event, Djerba will be ready to welcome guests and representative of 88 states and governments to participate in this worldwide event which will be held in conjunction with the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the creation of the Institutional Francophonie.

On the occasion of the Summit in Djerba, cultural and tourist circuits will be offered to delegates and journalists. These circuits will allow the presentation of the rich and long history of the island through its architectural and urban landscape unique in the world, and of exceptional universal value.

More information are available on the website: www.francophoniedjerba2021.tn



JAW DROPPING 'JAMAICA'

From the glorious dawn of every morning at the sea swallow the sun at night, Jamaica has a beautiful palette of experiences, a kaleidoscope of colours and sounds that make this island the most precious jewel of the Caribbean. No place on earth looks like it. No place on earth shines like this. Jamaica, is the land of rhythm and undulation.

Yashashvi Bhardwaj

With traditional music playing over the loudspeakers of almost any Jamaican bar or restaurant, the influence of music in Jamaican culture and food is hard to ignore. From the Bob Marley Museum to bustling festivals, from aromatic coffee to spicy jerk dishes, from crisp beer to flavourful rum- Jamaica has everything to satisfy all.

GROOVE WITH RHYTHMIC "REGGAE"

Jamaica is home to so many big Reggae names, including Bob Marley, Jimmy Cliff, Gregory Isaacs, Shaggy, and Sean Paul, that you could argue Reggae music was born there. For example, reggae legend Bob Marley has many popular international hits such as 'One Love,' 'Three Little Birds,' and 'Redemption Song.' Reggae music has always been used to empower people and express political and social views. It is linked to the Rastafari movement, which began in Jamaica in the 1930s.

Visitors to Jamaica have the opportunity to learn about the origins of Reggae music, to experience the entertainment scene, of which Reggae is a huge part, and even to embark on rum and Reggae tours, or to visit the popular Bob Marley Museum. Bob Marley fans can stroll in nine mile, the birth and death place of the legend himself.

Music lovers can have a time of their lives in the Jamaican music festivals. Bask



in the reggae sumfest, Jamaica jazz and blues. Don't be disheartened if you miss the big festivals, because you can always enjoy the amazing live music all-round the year. Clock in bars like ribbiz ocean lounge, redbone blue café and grove in with the beats of reggae.

INDULGE IN THE GOURMET COFFEE

Jamaica has a spot on the map not only because of the music but also the COFFEE. Home to one of the world's most expensive coffee Blue mountain peak is heaven for any coffee lover. This place is famous for its aromatic and flavourful Arabica coffee. Blue Mountain coffee is the world's highest mountain grown coffee; it is grown at elevations over 7000 feet! One can hike in the blue mountain trails and indulge in the captivating scenery. A coffee aficionado can savour the best coffee in EITS CAFE, CAFE BLUE, strawberry hill resort, the gap café and cannonbell café.





Want to get mellow Jamaica is for you fellow

An ice-cold beer or exotic tropical cocktail is always available in the land of groovy beats and spicy cuisine. Jamaicans are the life and soul of every party, and their rums, beers, and liqueurs help get the party started. In Jamaica, you'll find spirits of world-class quality and a wide range of varieties.

Rum Punch, Mai Tai, the Bob Marley shot, and Dirty Banana are popular local drinks made with Jamaican rum. Try the ever-popular strawberry daiquiri and pina colada. These drinks are unlike anything you've ever tried before. Jamaican rums elevate them to a new level, adding fascinating new flavours to your holiday experience. If you prefer to just wash down your rum with soda, consider Ting, the award-winning grapefruit soda.

The Jamaica Rum Festival, held each year in Kingston, is an exciting opportunity to enjoy the magic that is Jamaican rum. Appleton Estate, Wray and Nephew,

Hampden Rum, and Monymusk Plantation, among others, create elaborate exhibits to demonstrate their rums and by-products. It's a terrific chance to view art and craft

vendors, sample exquisite treats produced with local rums, and listen to mellow reggae performances by prominent local musicians. Another excellent way



to explore Jamaican rums is to go on an estate tour. Both Appleton Estate Rum and Hampden Estate Rum offer popular tours. Visit Nassau Valley in St. Elizabeth for the Joy Spence Appleton Estate Rum Experience or Trelawney for the Hampden Estate Rum Tour. Both are popular activities for both visitors and locals who love seeing the gorgeous estates and sipping some of the world's best rums.

No dilly dallying JERK dishes are calling.

Jerk chicken is the most well-known Jamaican cuisine to have been exported from the country. The Jamaican Maroons invented a combination of herbs, spices, fiery peppers, and pimento leaves that they used to prepare the animals they seized. Jerk chicken is now a staple of Jamaican cuisine and a delicacy adored by people all over the world. Still, Jamaica offers the greatest jerk chicken in the world so one can relish the best in the scotchies jerk centre, jojo's jerk pit and many more.

EXPLORE THE UNEXPLORED

One of Jamaica's real natural treasures is the Luminous Lagoon. The microorganisms that populate the lagoon give off a brilliant glow at night, making the lagoon shimmer blue. It is located in Falmouth, Trelawney, and is thought to be one of just three in the world. Tours are available out into the lagoon, where visitors can get up close and personal

Director of Tourism of Jamaica, Donovan White quotes:



"Jamaica offers unforgettable holiday options; the destination has been one of the best-known resort vacation destinations in the world. It offers one of the most diverse visitor accommodation sectors in the Caribbean that includes world-famous all-inclusive resorts, upscale hotels and villas and a range of distinctive tourist accommodations and attractions.

We have received global recognition time and again, and recently also Jamaica has won 5 major accolades at World travel Awards 2021.

Jamaica won the Caribbean's Leading Destination Award, Caribbean's Leading Cruise Destination Award, Caribbean's Leading Adventure Tourism Destination Award, Caribbean's Leading Nature Destination Award and Caribbean's Leading Tourist Board Award. With our recent participation at the World Expo 2020 Dubai, we aim to establish good travel and business relationships with this region and with focus on the Middle East and India market. Our vision is to develop new routes to Jamaica, as well as initiate new opportunities to make the travel to Jamaica from this region even more seamless.

Currently Jamaica is witnessing a v-shaped recovery in tourism, Jamaica was among the first destinations to reopen to travellers in the year 2020 and has remained one of the most accessible and enticing places for Americans in 2021. Jamaica is accepting tourists from South America, Canada, UK, India and various other countries."

with this natural wonder.

The breath-taking Reggae Falls in St. Thomas are ideal for a romantic vacation or a fun outing with friends and family. The waterfall runs into the Johnson River, and



one of its most notable features is a portion where warm water erupts from a rock. The sulphur component of the warm water, according to locals, may be utilised to treat wounds.

Pelican Bar is without a doubt one of Jamaica's trendiest bars. It is located 12 kilometres offshore on a sandbar. According to legend, its owner Floyd Forbes had a dream one night of a bar out in the water standing on stilts, and that is precisely what he built. He called his restaurant after the vast flocks of pelicans that frequent the sandbar. The pub can only be reached by boat, and if you're lucky, you could see dolphins swimming by on the way.

Castleton Gardens, one of the western hemisphere's oldest botanical gardens, is located on the outskirts of Kingston in the picturesque town of Castleton. Sit along the Wag Water River and take in the scenery, or bring a picnic blanket and make the most of the experience, as local Kingstonians do.🇯🇲

Why Naad Wellness should be your next destination

In today's world, words like stress, anxiety, disorders, and tightness are very common. Hence it has become essential for people to get help. Spreading awareness about the help needed is equally important. Naad Wellness brings you just the right relief to all your discomforts adequately how you need it.

BY TEAM TL

It's Significance

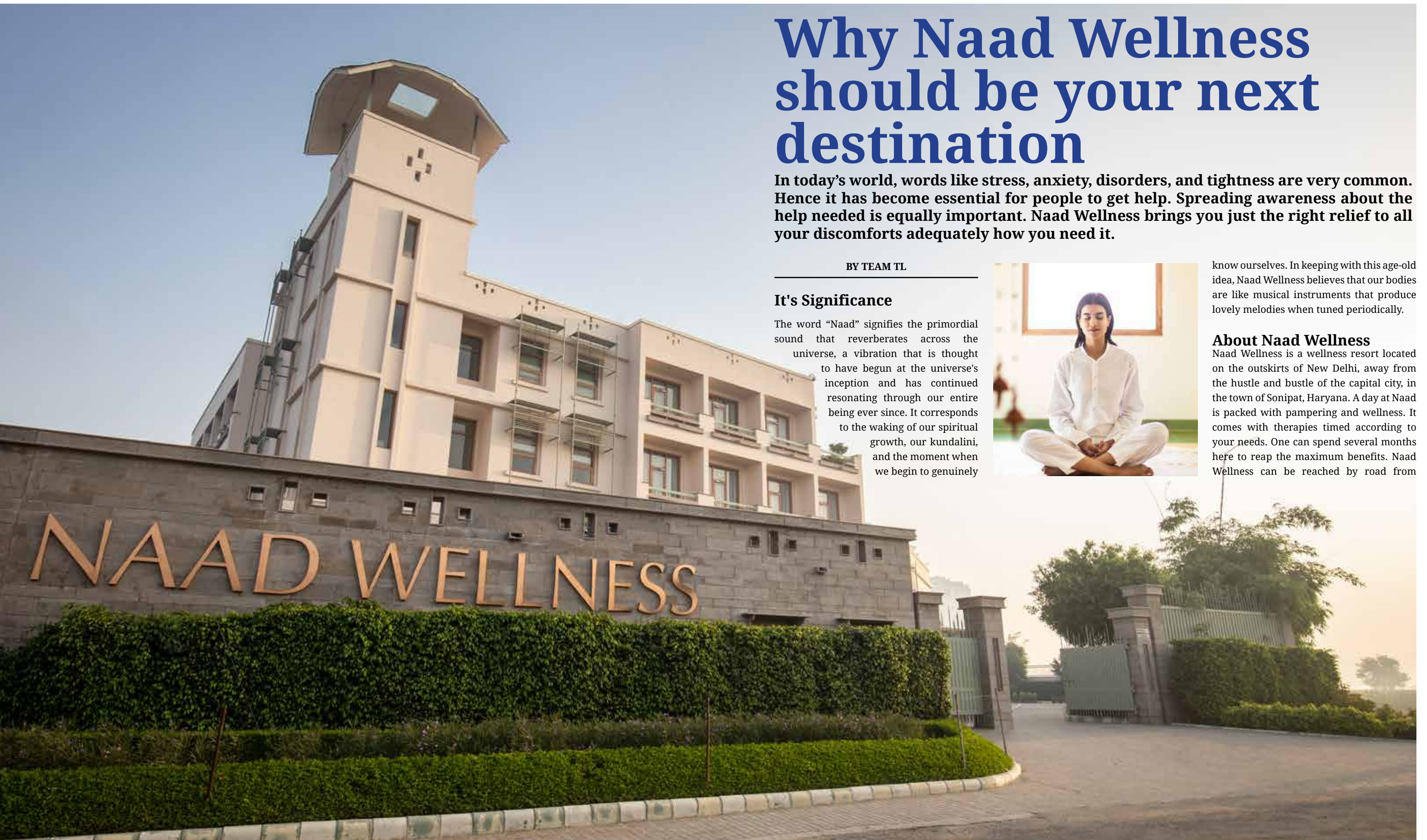
The word “Naad” signifies the primordial sound that reverberates across the universe, a vibration that is thought to have begun at the universe's inception and has continued resonating through our entire being ever since. It corresponds to the waking of our spiritual growth, our kundalini, and the moment when we begin to genuinely



know ourselves. In keeping with this age-old idea, Naad Wellness believes that our bodies are like musical instruments that produce lovely melodies when tuned periodically.

About Naad Wellness

Naad Wellness is a wellness resort located on the outskirts of New Delhi, away from the hustle and bustle of the capital city, in the town of Sonipat, Haryana. A day at Naad is packed with pampering and wellness. It comes with therapies timed according to your needs. One can spend several months here to reap the maximum benefits. Naad Wellness can be reached by road from







Delhi, and if you are coming from another City, the nearest airport is the Delhi Airport. Naad wellness is an hour and a half drive away from the Delhi Airport.

The Practices

This includes Yoga, which is a combination of physical, mental, and spiritual activities that heal the body, mind, and soul, and is thought to have originated in India during the pre-Vedic era. For generations, yoga has been the medium to total wellbeing

in India, where it is taught and performed by numerous schools. Naturopathy and Ayurveda are also practiced here. Ayurveda, which means "science of life," considers humans and nature to be one. Movement, change, and structure are the three primary energies that regulate our inner and exterior surroundings. According to wisdom dating back over 5,000 years, our bodies, according to Ayurveda, are the equilibrium of the five elements and our fundamental forces are Vata (Wind), Pitta

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(Fire), and Kapha (Earth).

While Naturopathy has been recognized as a medical discipline having roots in 19th century Europe, many of Naturopathy's guiding principles have also been mentioned in India's ancient Vedic literature. Its basic tenet is that the body holds vital energies capable of self-healing, and that natural treatments, food control, and exercise are its transformational weapons. Naturopathy, like Ayurveda, believes that the human body is nothing more than a balance of nature's five main components. Naturopathic therapies include herbal massages, acupuncture, hydrotherapy, dietary counselling, and cleansing procedures.

Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, all originated in India, which is known around the world as the cradle of healing and wellbeing. Holistic living is a way of life here, and it is ingrained in the country's and people's culture. Every aspect of the Naad experience is based on this ancient ethos and is overseen by their resident physicians and experts.

What Naad Brings to You

Naad wellness focuses on proper internal and external healing for your complete welfare. Proper diet plans are customized to your





needs and taste by some of the best chefs of the country. Focusing on a balance mind and a balanced lifestyle is what Naad inculcates in your life your own comforts. Being here means you are in safe healing hands that are ready to transform you and bring you towards the green and positive path of life. After a completing your course here, there is

no looking back to the complicated lifestyle you were once a part of.

Architectural & Design Highlights

Naad's exterior is made from natural stone and features abundant natural

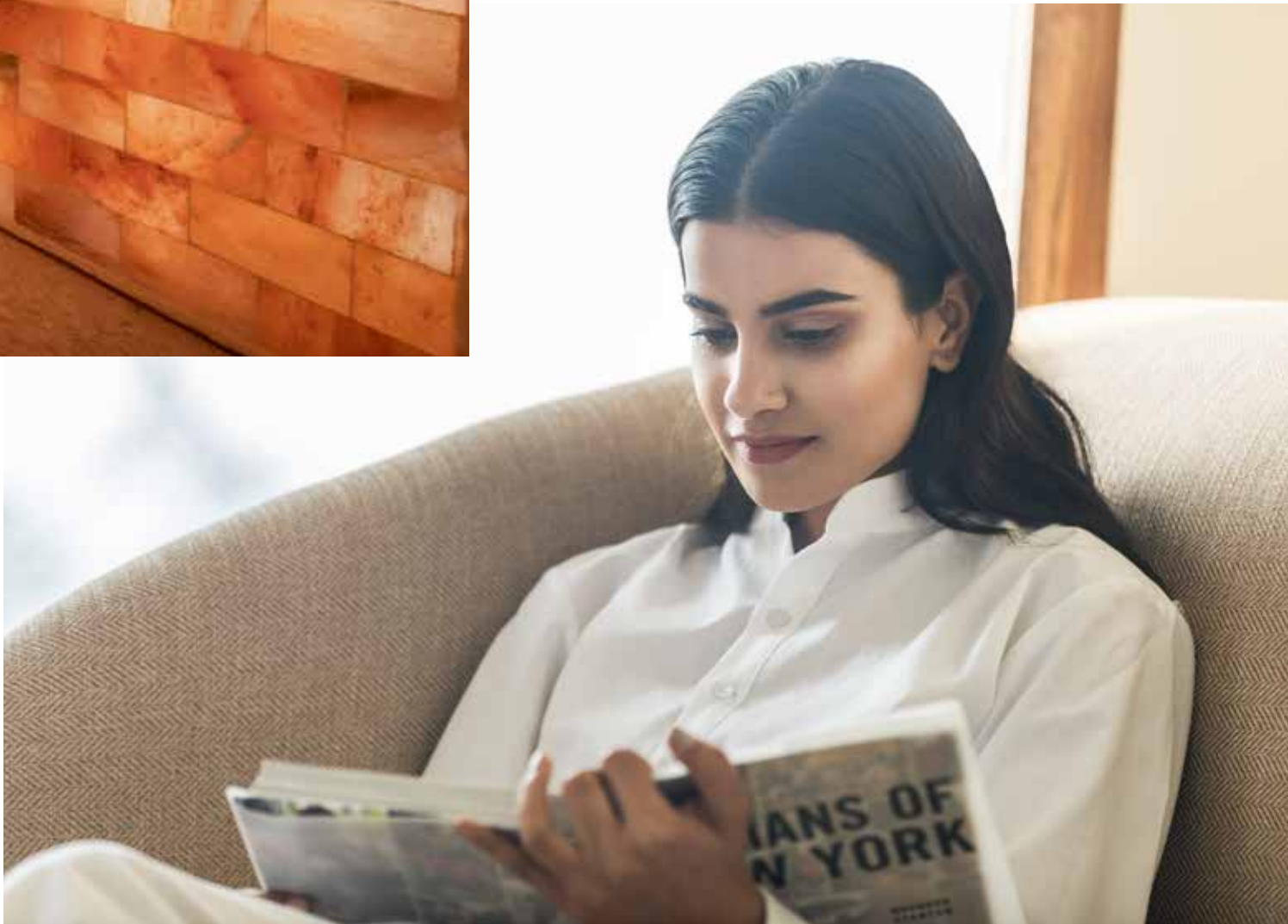
light, streaming through its tall windows, glass doors and French windows. Most of the construction was labor intensive, providing an employment opportunity in the region. The 'yin and yang' inspiration resonates in the reflexology track and the shape of the swimming pool. Sustainable materials have been

Now to the most important part of today's times, the Health and Safety protocols followed because Naad Wellness is in the healthcare industry, its safety and sanitary requirements are on par with those of the country's top institutions. The following are examples of modern safety practices: At the entrance and at regular intervals, all guests and personnel are subjected to infrared temperature screening, all members of the staff and visitors wear masks, sanitation of the rooms, public areas, therapy rooms, and medical equipment is given priority, RFID tagging of linen at one of the world's best laundry services.

used in the construction of the property – FSC certified wood and zero-waste stonework. Sustainable endeavors include 100% water and solid waste recycling (both used for horticulture) and rainwater harvesting. The wood has been polished with linseed oil which does not give out chemical fumes. The swimming pool has been made with sandstone which ensures a cool, refreshing swim even in the scorching summers of the region. For winters, the water is temperature controlled. The tiles are handmade and sourced from artisans at Rajkot. In fact, these tiles are known to be zero waste, wherein all stone lumps left over from the process which otherwise have no use, are crushed to make graded aggregates. The tiles have been made using an ancient form of craftsmanship and help in keeping the interiors of the building cool.

Covid Times

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Double Tree by Hilton, Jaipur

A luxurious five-star property on the outskirts of Jaipur, Double Tree by Hilton is a mesmerising place for a perfect weekend getaway. You get a beautiful view of The Aravalli Hills that surround the property.

Interiors

Beginning with the grand entrance, the huge porch is outlined by palm trees on both the sides and the entrance is adorned by beautiful fountains that make the best view to click pictures. The elegant lobby is comfortable yet aesthetic seating for the guests upon their arrival. The colour scheme of the hotel is mostly based on soft nude colours that are very soothing to the eyes. Talking about the interiors of the room, they are quite spacious and give a very cosy vibe. Again, following the colour scheme of the hotel, the rooms also have a cool nude tone. The washrooms are clean and fresh with toiletries provided to the guests. There are various categories of rooms available to choose from and obviously, each category caters to different needs of the guest and has a unique fare. The walls of the carpeted corridors hold exquisite paintings that give you a brief insight into the royalty of Rajasthan.

Culinary Bliss

Peeking into the culinary side of the hotel, there are several international restaurants and a rooftop bar available 24/7 with the choicest of dishes. The buffets are so lavish that you won't be able to decide what all to eat and what to pass. The Chefs have crafted a delicious menu for all kinds of tourists. Interesting thing is that the chefs have a unique journey which led them to this hotel.

Chef Suraj Chauhan – Chef De Cuisine

About – Initially, he wanted to be a software engineer, but calculus was not his cup of



tea. He was looking for something that would make him more curious; hence he got into culinary school. While he attended culinary institute in Goa, he also worked as an apprentice in a small hotel just to see if the food path was for him.

After graduation he worked in various hotels and gained experience. He joined preopening in planet Hollywood resort Goa and after winning 2 times food awards for best Japanese restaurant fame and developing his art into multi cuisine dishes, he became a sous chef.

Finally, his culinary journey let him to Double tree Jaipur as a chef de cuisine a culinary ride where he is still passionately curious to know more.

Robin Kumar – Pastry Chef

About- He never thought that he would become a chef, initially he was interested in sports, and wanted to become a cricketer. Talking about his personal life, his brother had inspired him a lot. In professional terms he admires a lot of Michelin pastry chefs. He started his career with Sheraton Udaipur, then Intercontinental New Delhi, Radisson Blue Ahmedabad, Ayada Maldives, Alila Oman and is presently working as a

pastry chef with Double tree by Hilton Jaipur. His strength as a pastry chef is the job knowledge that he has gained after working with great chefs. He loves fusion cooking.

Amongst this, hotel's speciality is the Amber Kitchen. It is an international restaurant, but its forte is the local Rajasthani cuisine that it serves. Guests find the food to be scrumptious and something like they have never tasted before. Food along with its presentation is a magnetic to the people and a big reason why they want to revisit. Happy stomach is a way to a happy heart and the chefs here at Hilton put in their best to ensure this for you.

In and Around

The hotel has an infinity pool with plush seating arrangements making it very relaxing time for the guests. Since the hotel is about 30kms away from the city, there is not much population or traffic around and hence there is a very peaceful surroundings. You will find more beautiful properties and views of the hills for as far as

your sight goes. The hotel provides some on property activities for both children and adults. They provide you with ATV bikes and hot air balloon rides. For the infants, a small kids' room filled with games and toys is available with ensured safety. Its ambience is appealing and the hospitality of the staff is winsome. This is not a place that will disappoint you but will ensure your return here because there is no way it won't win your hearts. This is a pocket friendly hotel with cost with endless amenities for your comfort. Amongst the calm surroundings, beautiful scenarios, and comfortable living, this is a divine place that must make a place in you go to lists this year. [\[1\]](#)

The Roads Less Travelled

By Dhruvi Chawla

David Mitchell once said “Travel far enough, you meet yourself.”In this pandemic amongst so many changes that got incurred in our lifestyle, somewhere we lost the charm of travelling. Maybe it was lockdown that curbed our desire to travel and explore or the financial difficulties that many of us faced. But now it is time for us to fasten

our seatbelts and drive away the pandemic stress by a relaxing vacation. But what if this time we discover the unseen and learn what not many know Let us walk through the some of the offbeat places of India that are ready to blow your minds.

Kaza, The Unforgettable Himachal

Starting with the northern India, we have Kaza, sitting huddled in the corner of

Himachal Pradesh, is a tranquil getaway on the plains of the Spiti River. Lapped by majestic mountains covered in snow, meandering and bubbling rivers and streams and picturesque barren landscape with scattered patches of green, Kaza is a dream destination. There is so much for one to do in Kaza. Visiting the Key Monastery, famous Tibetan Buddhist monastery is a great place of interest. Its central location also makes Kaza an ideal base camp for trekking, mountaineering, and tours

directed to other parts of the valley. Imagine how fun a road trip till here will be.

Rajaji National Park, Unforgettable Uttarakhand

Moving forward, we have Rajaji National Park located in Uttarakhand. Located midway of Haridwar and Rishikesh, this national park is surrounded by beautiful sceneries around it. Encompassing the Shivalik mountain ranges, Rajaji National Park is abundantly rich in flora and fauna and proves a great holiday destination for nature lovers and wildlife enthusiasts. The best weather to witness is during winters and spring.



Patnitop, Chalo Kashmir

When talking about the prime places to visit, how can we not mention Kashmir. Patnitop also known as the photographer’s paradise is a delightful place in Kashmir to witness the nature in its most graceful form. With endless meadows and panoramic views of the peaks covered in snow of the Himalayas, Patnitop is a perfect place to be with your family.

Aru Valley, The Heaven on Earth Kashmir

Talking about Kashmir, have you ever heard about Aru Valley? Aru Valley is a famous tourist place in Jammu & Kashmir located in the Anantnag district around 12 kms from





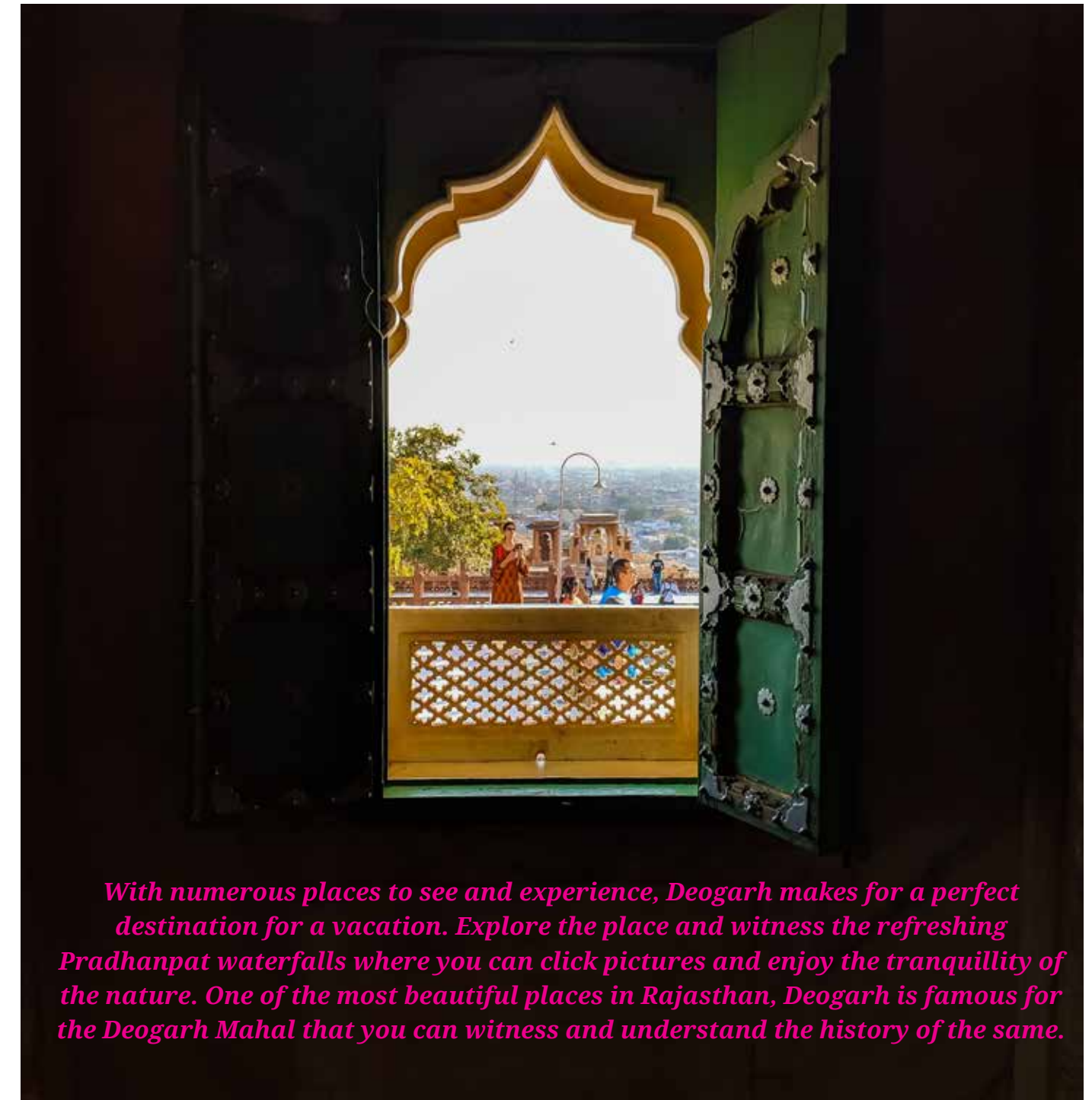
Pahalgam. Tourists are attracted towards it because of its lush meadows, pristine lakes & mountains. It is an attractive tourist place to visit during your holidays in Kashmir not just for the gorgeous views, but for the various activities which you can enjoy here. During winters, when it's covered with snow, it becomes a famous destination for skiing & Heli skiing. To catch the weather at its best, July – September are the best months.

Tirthan Valley, Himachal Pradesh

Another appealing place to visit is Tirthan Valley. Tirthan Valley is a hidden treasure in the lands of Himachal Pradesh. Far away from the hustle bustle and an off-beat tourist location, it is an ideal place if you want to spend few days at leisure in nature's lap, enjoy trekking, fishing and nature's walk.

Kumbhalgarh, The Incredible State of India Rajasthan

Moving towards the western part of the country, we have Kumbhalgarh. Known for its magnificent historical places and monuments, beautiful royal chhatris and glorious palaces, Kumbhalgarh will never disappoint you. One of the best offbeat places in Rajasthan, Kumbhalgarh will



With numerous places to see and experience, Deogarh makes for a perfect destination for a vacation. Explore the place and witness the refreshing Pradhanpat waterfalls where you can click pictures and enjoy the tranquillity of the nature. One of the most beautiful places in Rajasthan, Deogarh is famous for the Deogarh Mahal that you can witness and understand the history of the same.





narrate tales of the past and provide insights to the history of the city. From historical Kumbhalgarh Fort with intricate temples and beautiful artistry to the adventurous Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary where you can witness birds and animals, this place makes for a perfect getaway.

Deogarh, Rajasthan

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Champaner-Pavagadh, Gujarat

Next, we have Champaner-Pavagadh

Archaeological Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is located in Panchmahal district in Gujarat, India. It is located around the historical city of Champaner. The park's landscape includes archaeological, historic and living cultural heritage monuments such as chalcolithic sites. There are palaces, entrance gates and arches, mosques, tombs and temples, residential complexes, agricultural structures and water installations such as stepwells and tanks, dating from the 8th to the 14th centuries.

While wandering around Gujarat, one must visit Patan. One of the newest additions to the UNESCO World Heritage Site list, Patan has sprung to popularity in traveller circuits because of its Rani ka Vav. Surrounded by huge walls and a very old-world charm, this former capital of medieval Gujarat will make for a lovely offbeat place in India to visit. The weather of Patan is at its most favourable during the months of October to March.



Patan, Gujarat

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Tadoba, Maharashtra

So, whenever we hear about the state of Maharashtra, we immediately think of Mumbai, Bollywood and Vada pao. But guess what Maharashtra is much more than that. Tadoba in Maharashtra is one of those offbeat places in India that are abundantly blessed with plenty of wildlife- flora and fauna. The main attractions in Tadoba are the Tadoba National Park, Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve, Tadoba lake, Erai dam, Moharli

and Khosla village. Well-protected and preserved well, Tadoba is one of the best kept Tiger Reserves in India. October to March are the best months to visit this offbeat wildlife sanctuary.

These are some of the places that will not disappoint you and are waiting to provide you the best of everything. Are you ready to be a responsible traveller and witness some of the most beautiful memories you will ever create?[u](#)

Vibrant Gujarat

A state that stands out due to its cultural heritage, also known as the ‘Jewel of India’ is the Vibrant Gujarat. Nobody can think of a better way to describe Gujarat but use the word Vibrant. Thinking of Gujarat, you can tend to think of colours, mirror works, dandiyas and dhoklas. People seem sweet and fun to be with. Food looks tempting and tasty. So many tourist places that are believed to be a delight for the mind and the soul. So yes, vibrancy is something that you can smell in the air of Gujarat. Travel Links brings to you a collection of the best that Gujarat has to offer in a way you didn’t imagine was possible. So, let’s talk about the most famous tourist places in Gujarat that cannot be missed.

BY TEAM TL

Ahmedabad

Ahmedabad is the former capital of Gujarat, and its delicious food, colourful culture is making it a fast-growing tourist destination. The historic city of Ahmedabad or the old part of the city was declared as the UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1986. The old city is home to some of the most beautiful structures and buildings in India, including the giant domes and minarets of the Lalbhai Estate. Today, the old city is a maze of narrow streets and alleys, lined with centuries-old structures that make it a fascinating place to wander.

Home to a plethora of remarkable temples like Swaminarayan Temple, intriguing museums and classy markets, with a little bit of colonial history attached to it, Ahmedabad is an excellent example of how a city can be both traditional and modern at the same time. The city is best explored on foot, and it doesn’t take long before you get lost in the narrow lanes and alleys of the old city.

Somnath

Somnath, literally meaning ‘lord of the moon’ is a pilgrim centre. Primarily a temple town, Somnath is a place where a strong scent of religion and legends lingers around tourism and even daily life. Its spiritual environment is ornamented by the huge number of temples in the area, however, Somnath also offers beaches, museums and other attractions. The town is also a pilgrim centre, with one of the twelve Jyotirlingas, a temple dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva, located here. It is one of the most visited places in Gujarat, and also one of the most popular destinations for domestic tourists. It is located close to the Rann of Kachchh, and is located close to the border of Maharashtra, which is why it derives much of its identity from the mythology, religion, and legends that surround it.

Gir National Park

Gir National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary is only remaining home for the Asiatic Lions. Located in Talala Gir Gujarat, the Sanctuary is a part of Kathiawar-Gir dry deciduous forests ecoregion. Gir provides you with

the unique experience of visiting a place which almost singularly plays a crucial and defining role in the preservation and sustaining of a certain species. The preservation of these lions was initiated by the Nawab of Junagadh when these were just about to enter the phase of extinction due to hunting.

Dwarka

One can find a beautiful place to visit in Dwarka, the City of Gujarat. Also known as the home to Lord Krishna, tourists flock to this place to explore the beauty of nature. The name Dwarka translates to dwar meaning ‘door’ and ka meaning ‘moksha’ or the ‘door to salvation’. Legend has it that the city was once engulfed by the sea and only recently has evidence of a city been discovered beneath the waters of Dwarkadri beach in Gujarat, India.

This is just the tip of the iceberg! There is so much more to Gujarat that is yet to be discovered by you. So many places that will leave you stunned. Places that haven’t caught the attention of the tourists but are waiting to delight your eyes with their





sights. Travel Links has hunted all these places worthy of your admiration to give you an insight of what real Gujarat is.

Ajrakhpur

Beginning with this unexplored journey, we have Ajrakhpur, truly a hidden gem of Gujarat. Ajrakhpur, famous for Ajrakh, is a small village just 15kms away from Bhuj, where the Muslim khatri community resides. It is located on the easternmost point of the island and is overlooked by the white-capped waves of the ocean. The city of the ajrakh, is where the ajrakh weavers live and work. Ajrakh is a type of textile production which is very old tradition of weaving and dyeing textiles. This highly skilled and patterned ajrakh prints originated from Sindh Province of Pakistan. Block printing is used with



colours derived from natural sources. Colours namely indigo, turmeric, henna, mud and pomegranate. The printing blocks are hand carved and no machinery is used in the entire process.

Vohrawad

Vohrawad is a locality within the city of Siddhpur. Siddhpur that city is flanked via way of means of multi-coloured vintage Havelis and mansions, a few over one hundred years old have a markedly European feel. I can say you may have a glimpse of Europe in India and Siddhpur taken into consideration as one of the exceptional locations to go to around Ahmedabad. Apart from Hindu religious locations, the city holds significance for the Bohra Muslims- a prosperous Muslim network unfolds everywhere in the world.

They have contributed appreciably to the improvement of Siddhpur.

Idar

Idar is a city in Sabarkantha district, Gujarat, India. It is known for the manufacture of hand-crafted wood toys, tiles, its temples and various stunning architectural monuments on its hills, and its historic background. Idar is on the southern cease of the Aravalli Range. Ramleshwar lake, stated to have been constructed by Rao Ranmal, with its western bank protected with picturesque domed cupolas, chhatris, raised over the ashes of the forefathers of the main Idar families. The city was surrounded by a brick wall within the past which had

3 gateways named Mira Darwaja, Dhuleta Darwaja, marked with many red hands each recording a sufferer to the ceremony of sati. Inside the wall, a road, running spherical the city, leads to the Gantino Darwajo, a rock-cut passage giving access to the primary direction to Rajasthan in past. Only a part of the fortification is present now. Idar is only 115 kilometres away from Ahmedabad.

Chhota Udepur

Chhota Udepur is a town and a municipality in Chhota Udaipur district in the state of Gujarat. It is the headquarters of Chhota Udaipur. The Kali Niketan (Nahar Mahal) palace, constructed because the summer house of the erstwhile royal family is a

remarkable monument in Chhota Udaipur. You must have heard of Pithora painting, generally executed at the walls of the village houses. The tribal museum of Chhota Udaipur has a huge series of tribal artefacts. Many tribal artefacts also are brought on the market in the huts (weekly markets) in the town and close by villages. Industries in biggest dolomite lumps and powder. It is just 107 kilometres away from Varodra.

Dang

Dang is a district within the south-eastern part of the country of Gujarat in western India. The administrative headquarters of the district are placed in Ahwa. As in step with the Planning Commission, Dang is one of the most economically distressed





district out of 640 districts in India. The 5 Kings of Dangs are the only hereditary royals in India whose titles are presently diagnosed through the authorities due to an agreement made in the course of the British Raj in 1842. The origin of the name of the Dang is uncertain. In common parlance the word 'dang' means a hilly village. There is some other connotation of the word 'dang' which means bamboo (a place of bamboo). Dang District has a part of a woodland that consists of Purna Wildlife Sanctuary, that's shared among the districts of Dang and Tapi in Gujarat and Nandurbar District in Maharashtra, and Vansda National Park in Navsari District, which shares a non-stop tract of woodland with Valsad district. Surat is 141 kilometres far from Dang.

Pirotan Island

Pirotan Island (additionally referred to as Pirotan) is an island in the Marine National Park, Arabian Sea. It is located 12 nautical miles (22 km) off the coast (Bedi Port), Jamnagar District of Gujarat state, India. It includes mangroves and low-tide beaches, and has a place of three-square kilometres. Rozi island is located approximately 10 kilometres to the southeast. Of the forty-two islands in the park, Pirotan Island is the most famous and is one of the islands in which visitors are commonly permitted. Visitation is strictly limited, permission is needed from the Forest Department, Customs Department and the Ports. The island being protected marine park, numerous permissions are required for visiting. For Indian Nationals, permission from nearby Forest Department, Customs Department & Ports Department. Foreign nationals moreover require permission from the police office. There isn't any any routine ferry service to the island. One has to hire boats from the port. These boats take approximately 1.5 hours to reach the island. Since the beach is very shallow, the boats can best reach the island during high tide and depart the island at some point of excessive tide.

Vasda National Park

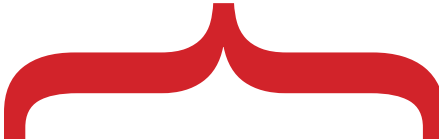
Vansda National Park, additionally called Bansda National Park, is a covered area which represents the thick woodlands of the Dangs and southern Gujarat, and is located in the Vansda tehsil,



Navsari District of Gujarat state, India. Established in 1979 as a National Park, the deciduous forest region having groves of "Katas" bamboo owes its splendour to no felling of trees since 1952. Nestled in the Western Ghats of Sahyadri range, it has a completely unique flavour of flora and fauna population. Apart from the botanical garden, a number of the alternative attractions consist of nearby tribes, "Gira Falls", and the "Conservation middle". As part of growing ecotourism Gujarat Government has evolved a campsite at Kilad. There is likewise a deer breeding middle maintained through Nature Club Surat on this region. The fine time to go to is post-monsoon season till wintry weather when the forests are lush inexperienced and streams are full.

Anand

Anand is a major city located in the Anand District of Gujarat. It rests at a distance of 101 kilometres from Gandhinagar, the state capital. Anand is often known as the Milk Capital of India due to the



Let's capture those smiles in a camera and keep with us forever. Let us thrill ourselves once again and let Travel Links be a small part of all your moments of joy.



establishment of the AMUL manufacturing plant and the milk revolution that took place in the 20th century.

The epicentre of the white revolution in the country back in the 60s, Anand is a place known for its semi-rural setup and the Swami Narayan Mandir which is the crown jewel of the city. An emerging city, Anand still has traces of its rural past which can be seen when one is travelling to this wonderful city. Anand is also a major tourist hub and its attractions include AMUL Museum and the Chocolate Factory.

These were some of the hidden parts of Gujarat that are noting but a divine sight for your mind. There is so much more still left to discover and the best way to do it is by travelling yourself and exploring all these sites. So come, let's Make some new memories that we will cherish for life. Let's capture those smiles in a camera and keep with us forever. Let us thrill ourselves once again and let Travel Links be a small part of all your moments of joy. [\[1\]](#)

Going places together-Qatar

“A good traveller has no fixed plans and is not intent on arriving.”

By Team TL

Want to travel the world? Have you been to the gulf countries? Come, let's visit the land of magic carpets, lamps and Scheherazade with Travel Links. One of the most popular gulf countries that makes to the top of the tourists' destinations is Qatar. Qatar is a peninsular Arab country with harsh desert and a lengthy stretch of beaches and dunes along the Persian (Arab) Gulf. It is deeply rooted in its rich heritage while upholding all features of a perfectly cosmopolitan destination. It is a high-income economy. The United Nations has classified Qatar as a country with very high human development index. Similar to the other Arabic countries, Islam plays a large role in shaping the culture in Qatar.

Chief Operating Officer of Qatar Tourism, Berthold Trenkel, said: “Sport brings people together and hosting international sporting events allows us to be part of, and to facilitate, cross-cultural moments of human achievement and utility. The country's ability to host these events demonstrates the trust in Qatar's ability and health and safety measures to keep players safe when competing at world-class venues. We look forward to welcoming outstanding players, management teams, and of course all the fans to Qatar throughout the year.”

In the 300 days to go until the start of FIFA World Cup 2022, Qatar will welcome





a series of elite international sporting events, continuing a tourism drive. From an ATP tennis competition to European Tour golf and MotoGP, Qatar has lots in store for adventure-hungry visitors looking for professional sporting action.

Qatar welcomes all travellers, and guests from over 95 countries can enter visa-free. Qatar has an incredible variety of easily accessible tourist attractions, a plethora of fauna and flora including Whale Sharks and the majestic national animal the Arabian Oryx, to name a few. Most experiences are a unique combination of cultural authenticity and modernity. From iconic museums to high-rise restaurants, from thrilling desert adventures to world-famous events including none other than the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, there is something for all types of travellers and budgets.

Doha

With one of the most stunning skylines anywhere—glass towers twist, turn, and defy gravity—Qatar's capital city of Doha gives an unforgettable first impression. The city is located on the coast of the Persian Gulf in the east of the country, North of Al Wakrah and south of Al Khor. It is Qatar's fastest growing city. Enjoy panoramic views of the attractions of old Doha to cutting edge architectures of new Doha. Qatar's cultural sector is being promoted in order for the country to gain international prominence and contribute to the development of a country whose primary source of income is the gas business. On March 28, 2019, the National Museum of Qatar opened its doors to the public. Qatari literature dates back to the nineteenth century. Written poetry was formerly the most popular form of expression.

Some of the other best cities to visit in Qatar are:

Al Khor

Escape the modern city and delve deeper into the history and heritage of Qatar. Al Khor City, the municipal seat, is located in the North-East coast of Qatar, around 50 kilometres (31 miles) from the capital. There is so much to see in Qatar beyond the city. You'll head out of Doha to see Qatar's history in its Northern areas, starting with a visit to the Al- Khor Harbour, a former

rich centre for the local pearl and fishing industries. It continues to be a busy port full of fishermen hard at work. Next stop is at Al Thakira, and it is beautiful vast expanse of natural greenery, full of mangroves and glorious waterways. It's a majestic paradise in the middle of the desert. You then head to the Zubarah Fort, which is a historic military fort that holds numerous artifacts as well as a site of immense significance in Qatari culture.

Mesaieed

Mesaieed is an industrial city in Al Wakrah Municipality in the State of Qatar, approximately 36 kilometres (22 mi) South of Doha. It is one of the most important

is the city of the same name, which occupies the entire eastern section and largely surrounds Metropolitan Doha and functions as a suburb. Al-Rayyan is filled with romantic activities and the best romantic places in Qatar. You will feel spellbound in its charming atmosphere. What is considered as one of the best places to have a date in the city? Where can you make lovely photos? You will be surprised how many historical love stories are hidden in the streets, buildings, parks of the city. From heart breaking and tragic, to the hilarious or spicy ones. The city has many sightseeing romantic places just perfect for you and your loved one.

Qatar Airways Company Q.C.S.C. (Arabic: al-Qaariya), which operates as

aircraft and an unrivalled level of service, we connect more than 140 destinations on the map every day from our home and hub, the five-star Hamad International Airport in Doha, Qatar.

Qatar Airways and its group of enterprises, as an industry leader, aspire to lead the charge in terms of environmental sustainability and corporate social responsibility. The airline is a pioneer in new-generation fuel research and is committed to giving back to the communities it serves. Qatar Airways goes above and above current industry best practises for fuel and environmental management, making a concerted effort to ensure the airline's, its employees', and its communities' long-term viability.



cities in Qatar. One of the most popular activities in Qatar is desert safari. You must experience a camel ride and go for a thrilling dune bashing, stop at the best spots to see some extraordinary desert views, have fun by sliding by sand board down the dunes. Last stop must be at the famous inland sea before you head back.

Al- Rayyan

Al Rayyan is the third-largest municipality in the state of Qatar. Its primary settlement

Qatar Airways, is Qatar's state-owned airline. The airline, which is headquartered at Doha's Qatar Airways Tower, maintains a hub-and-spoke network, travelling to over 150 foreign destinations across Africa, Asia, Europe, the Americas, and Oceania from its base at Hamad International Airport with a fleet of over 200 aircrafts. Qatar Airways is pleased to be one of the world's newest airlines, serving all six continents, and the world's fastest-growing airline, thanks to our customers' positive response to its services. With a fleet of the latest-generation

Fly in for the amazing FIFA world cup 2022 only in Qatar and make it a fabulous holiday for your family. Experience the best of what Qatar has to offer. Be part of FIFA world cup, live it outside your T.V screens. Unleash the sport enthusiast inside you and make one of the best memories of your life. Qatar Airways always offers a comfortable option for you and your family. Taste the ethnicity of Qatar even before you enter in just the luxury Qatar Airways has to provide you. Come! Experience Middle East right from its heart. [\[1\]](#)



It was a cold winter morning in December 2020. I and my brother Manash were doing our usual rounds of birding in our backyard in my village, Morigaon.

Suddenly, a large flock of Red-breasted Parakeets flew over us and docked on a rice field a kilometre away. Overwhelmed by the size of the flock we simply forgot to take any pictures. We then followed them to the paddy field and when they took their flight we got this flying shot.

This type of sightings are very common in my village and the nearby areas, especially during the harvest season, when the Red-breasted Parakeets come to feed on rice grains in thousands.

It was my 3rd time in the past 6 years that I have seen such a large Parakeet group in our village. Though such large groups can cause some damage to the ripe crops, it's so heartwarming to see the kind of love and relationship the farmers share with the parakeets.

Kiribati Islands- Where Family & Community Comes First

Kiribati Islands is for travelers – those who have a desire for exploring and discovering those who like an escapade off the tourist trail to places where few have been before, and those who want to understand a country – not just see it. Kiribati will test your view of how life should be and show you a less complex way of living where family and community come first. Located in the equatorial pacific, and isolated from the rest of the world this place is one of the corona free places. Sounds promising right.

In east Kiribati propound world-class fishing from Kiritimati Island. Gilbert Group of islands located in the west offers amazing and exclusive cultural experiences. The country's capital of Tarawa has momentous sites and artifacts were one of the goriest battles of World War II, the Battle of Tarawa. These are the few things visitors must do when they plan to travel Post Pandemic to Kiribati

Fishing Holidays:

Kiribati is famous for its world-class seawater fly fishing targeting bonefish and giant trevally. Bonefish and giant trevally come in huge figures with plenty of chances to catch double-digit catch on a fly. Anglers can catch & release anywhere from 10 to 30 bonefish a day is the rule, not the exclusion and just add to it giant trevally or two. In fly fishing, fish are caught by using fake flies that are cast with a fly-fishing rod and a fly line. A fishing license is \$50 per head and private boats are easily available.

Cultural Experience & Outer Island Adventure Holidays:

Experience the exclusive Kiribati Culture

and explore the natural beauty of our islands while taking a quest in North Tarawa or in the outer islands of the Gilbert Islands group. Seclusion and serenity are the focus of outer island experience. Here visitors discover and experience the traditional way of life on the outer islands, learn and join in sightseeing, fishing, dancing, local sports, feasts, canoe riding and sleep in old-style housing. Traditional outrigger canoe races and traditional dancing contests are a must-see while visiting Kiribati.

Surfing in Fanning and Kiritimati Island:

Fanning Island (Tabuaeran) and Kiritimati Island are the best places for surfing in Kiribati. On the other hand, Kiritimati also



has a golden five-kilometer stretch of points, reefs, and channels between London village and Paris points. Surfing in Kiribati makes a difference with other surfing destinations because here you own your surf and you do not have to yell at any surfer or swimmer in the water in front of you. Simply saying, you do not have to worry about crowds on Fanning and Kiritimati island, there are none; “Your Wave, Your Surf, No crowds.”

Birdwatching & Wildlife Tours

Bird watching, and wildlife tours are common activities in the Line Islands and Phoenix Islands Protected Area of Kiribati. These areas are nesting grounds for an abundant and diverse population of tropical birds, turtles, coconut crabs, and marine life. Wide-ranging populations of birdlife are found on these include shearwater, petrel, tropicbirds, frigate birds, terns, noddies, lorikeet parrot, and Christmas Island's very own warbler, found only on Kiritimati

Island. Manta Ray schools' encounters are one of the wildlife charms you can encounter in Kiritimati Island lagoon. In the water these sea creatures look like a slick of oil on the water surface. A tour of the lagoon on a boat or while snorkeling gives you the opportunity to get close with these creatures. Turtle nesting is also common on these islands.

WWII Battlefield tours and Commemoration Events

Reconnoiter the Battle of Tarawa and the Battle of Makin in the Gilbert Islands or join Commemorative events on the 20th of November. The aftermath of World War II left blemishes of the battle between American and Japanese forces. On the island Betio in the capital Tarawa atoll and Butaritari atoll – war relics have become attractions for tourists to observe and to learn the history of the WWII battles on these islands.

Cruising Kiribati

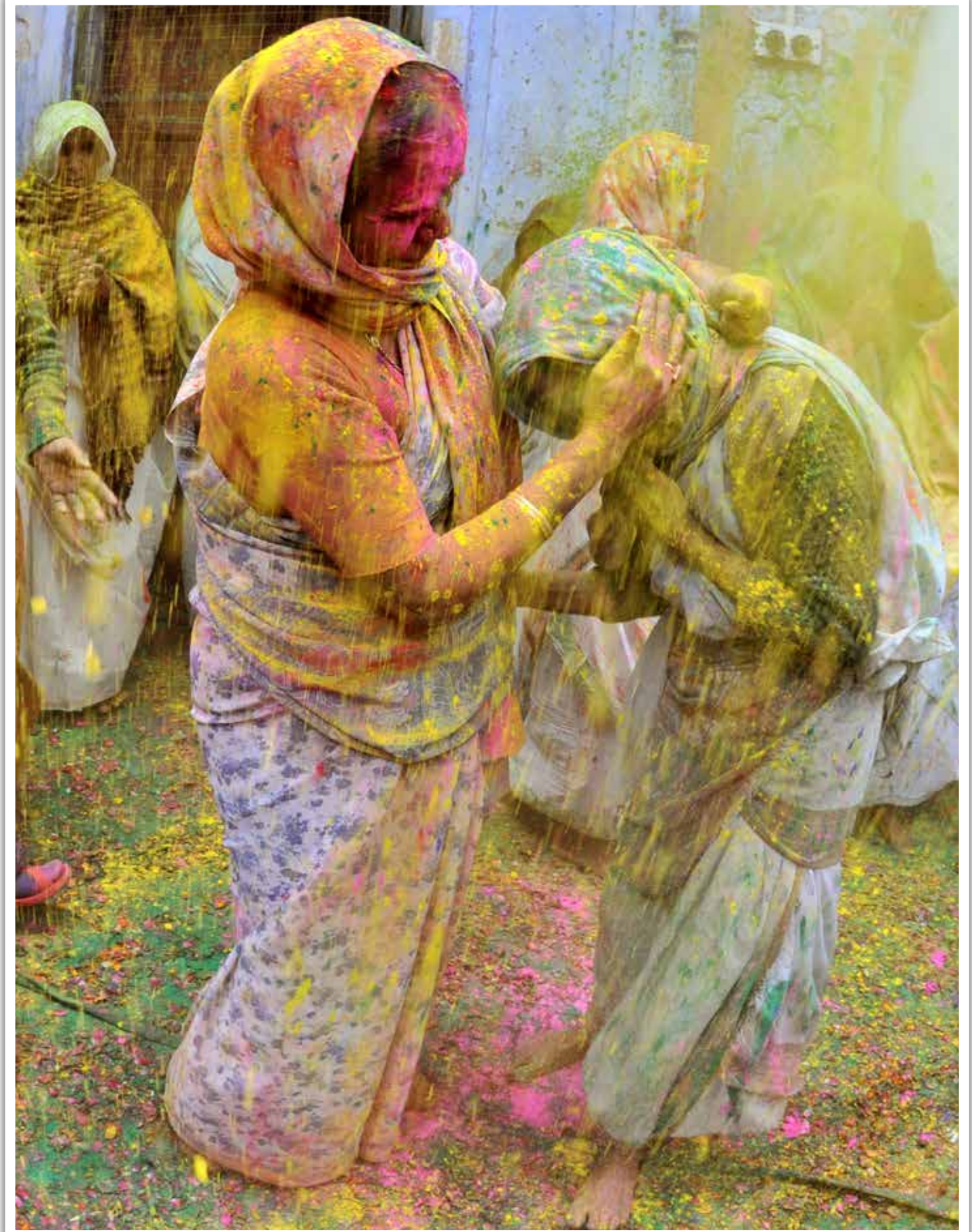
Kiribati is open to interest small to medium scale cruises who would like to explore islands, its culture, its marine life, and enjoy shore excursion activities. Famous cruise destinations in Kiribati are Fanning Island and Kiritimati Island in the Northern Line Islands; the Southern Line Islands and Kanton Island in the Phoenix Islands Protected Area.

Diving & Snorkeling

The immense waters adjacent to the islands of Kiribati offers great diving possibilities and snorkeling opportunities to explore whole coral ecosystems and the rich underwater life. Destinations like the Southern Line Islands and the Phoenix Islands Protected Area have huge potentials for private dive cruise explorations. These areas are one of the most untouched places in the ocean. At these islands you can see the rich marine life while snorkeling or diving and explore the bottomless oceans with remotely operated vehicles.[\[1\]](#)



Holi
Hai





Varanasi will witness a thrilling event when a 1,000 old widows who have lost their husband to lead a colourless life from Varanasi and Vrindavan sprinkle colours on each other as part of 'Holi' celebrations.

At least 1,000 kilograms of "Gulal" (colours) of different colours and 1000 kilograms of flower petals are being arranged to be splashed on each other to oppose "widowhood" practice still prevalent in orthodox Indian society. Usually, such women are not allowed to play with colours and participate in any auspicious function after death of husband in the orthodox Indian society.





Prakhar K Pandey

A photojournalist with over 20 years' experience, he has worked with The India Today Group, The Times of India, Media Transasia, Navbharat Times, and Golf Style. He has won several accolades for his work including 'YUVA...A Movement Excellence Award', in

2009, from the Russian Center of Science and Culture. His assignments have taken him everywhere from earthquake-struck Bhuj to the icy climbs of Chaar Dham. He is a fashion photographer and is adept at covering live events too!

SPECIAL FEATURE

A SOULFUL SOJOURN

Nestled amidst cedar forests of the magnificent Dhauladhar range in Kangra, Himachal Pradesh, Hyatt Regency Dharamshala Resort offers a perfect setting for a truly immersive experience in tranquil surroundings



With more and more people seeking to get away from the humdrum of city life, the idea of taking a wellness vacation to detox and heal has seen an upswing in recent times. And, if you are looking for a therapeutic getaway that combines luxury, safety, and comfort, nothing comes close to the experience at Hyatt Regency Dharamshala Resort. Ensnconed in the sprawling 6.5-acre verdant Dhauladhar range in Kangra, Himachal Pradesh, Hyatt Regency Dharamshala Resort introduces you to the old-world charm of the hill station, whilst offering new adventures.

With a scenic setting amidst nature's bounty and plush accommodations designed to indulge your need for comfort and privacy, the upper-upscale resort offers a slew of exceptional experiences tailored to foster a sense of familial bonding. Whether it is

experiencing the wilderness with a rustic picnic in the outdoors amidst the pine trees, guided day treks or nature walks; sampling global cuisines or a humble organic farm-to-table meal; a relaxing session at Shanti Spa or a rejuvenating yoga class—the plethora of unique experiences at Hyatt Regency Dharamshala Resort will stay with you forever.



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