

RNI No 23784/72

Tourism & Wildlife

JANUARY - MARCH 2019

PRICE : RS. 20

The pull of spirituality or the call of the wild.
It all begins in Bihar.
Where every bit is worth a visit.

Bihar is full of surprises, delights and the most amazing contrasts.
On one side, you'll find chanting monks.
On the other side, you'll find roaring tigers.
Come and discover.

Great statue of Buddha, Bodhgaya

To go with the flow, along slow-moving
canals, to find deep journeys
in little country boats, to catch the
drift of conversations under quaint
log bridges, and discover
close-knit lives on distant islands.

HUMAN *by* NATURE

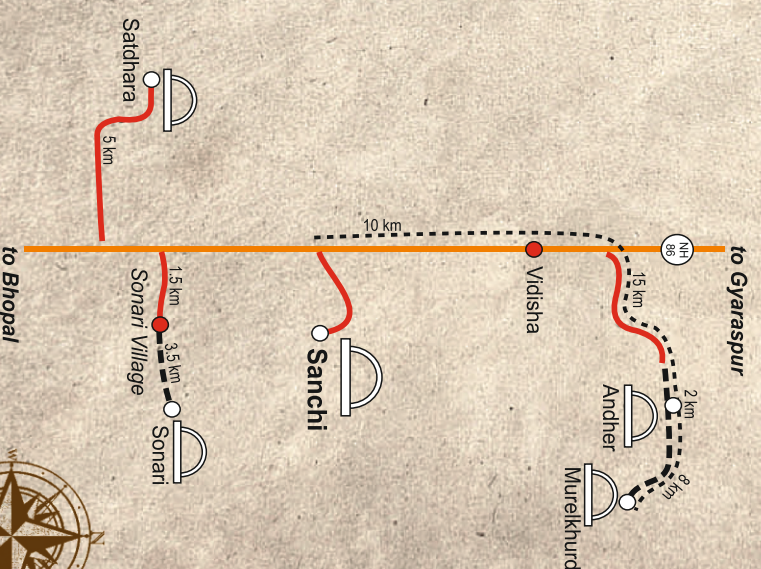
STARK, Tvm. 8780

A journey inwards...

See your inner self manifest, as you move along the Buddhist Circuit of Central India. Behold the life journey of the master etched in stone in Sanchi and be marvelled at the expertise of the architects of 3rd Cent. BC. Continue further, to the Stupas at Satchhara, Sonari, Andher and Murelkhand.



The Buddhist Circuit



Tourist Helpline : 1800 233 7777
www.mptourism.com



Chief Editor

Geeta Bisht

Founder Editor

Late G.C. Verma

WW Editor

Shyam Malick

Sub. Editor

Arjun Singh Bhandari

Assistant Editor

S.K. Bose

Bureau Cheif

Aryanshi Shrish

Advertisement Manager

Deepti Negi

Rishika Mehra

Advisors

Dalel Singh Nandel

Subhash Goyal

Chairman

STIC Travels Pvt. Ltd.

Vinay Kumar

Bhim Singh (Chairman)

Rajasthan Tours Pvt. Ltd.

Kanta Thakur

Ex. DDG Tourism

Special Correspondents :

Anukriti Bisht (Songhai) China

Harsh Bisht (Tokyo) Japan

Bhagat Singh Rawat Chief Photographer

Reinhard Hohler (Mekong) Thailand

Dr. Harsh Wardhan Delhi

Vikram Shrotri Mumbai

Edited, Printed & Published by :

Geeta Bisht from 24, Gola Market,

Netaji Subhash Marg, (Near Golcha)

New Delhi-110 002

Branch Office Uttarakand :

Daurwala, Near Firing Range, Mathrowala,

Dehradun-248001 (Uttarakand)

E-mail : geeta_bisht13@yahoo.com

: tourismandwildlife@gmail.com

: editortoursimandwildlife.in

Website : www.tourismandwildlife.in

For e-Payment : www.onlinesbi.com sb collect

Designed by :

Dalip Singh 8076881295

Printed by :

872/5, Gali Madersey Wali, Churi Walan,

Jama Masjid, Delhi-06 Ph.: 9899449480

CONTENTS



Heart of India “NEW DELHI”



Ayurveda in Kerala



Palamau Tiger Reserve



Chausath Yogini Temple

TOURISM & WILDLIFE

International Quarterly Magazine for Destination Promotion

VOLUME 47 No 1

JANUARY - MARCH, 2019

Single Copy : Rs. 20 (with Postage Rs. 60)
Annual : Rs. 80 (with Postage Rs. 220)
Foreign : \$ 60 (air mail)



PATA Rishikesh in Uttarakhand



Theme Parks in DUBAI



Enchanting traditional architecture of Kerala



Valmiki National Park



Rann of Kutch

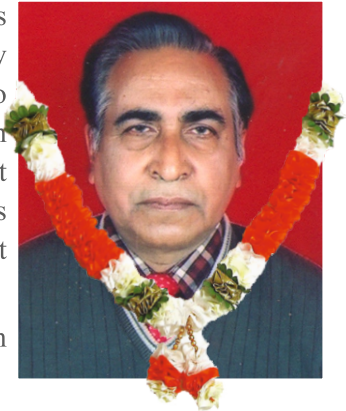


Buddhist Cultural Park & John Marshall Museum



The Heart of India - Madhya Pradesh

Madhya Pradesh (Central State), is better known as the 'Heart of India' not only for its geographical position but more so for its unique cultural history and its rich natural resources. Its arguably the most diverse amongst all Indian states as it has dense forests, a scenic plateau, ancient temples, hills and lakes and rich wildlife.



**Founder Editor
Late G.C. Verma**

Amongst the earliest known dwellings of mankind are found in the pre-historic caves of Bhimbetka. Lovers of history would appreciate the glimpses from the Stone Age that exist on the rock shelters of Bhimbetka, where the primitive man depicts an era when "human beings" were not the dominant species on earth. Madhya Pradesh has innumerable forests and national parks that hold the richest cover of flora and fauna in the Indian Subcontinent

What we know of Madhya Pradesh now, was originally Gondwana, one of the oldest regions of the world. Madhya Pradesh is home to three mountain ranges of Kaimur, Vindhya and Satpura and the two hill ranges of Maikal and Mahadeo. The state also boasts of four national parks (forests) and gorges and ravines from six rivers.

The Gonds (A Tribe), amongst the first settlers in Madhya Pradesh, trace their origin from pre human era. The ancient caves that exist today clearly indicate the historical presence of tribes such as Kols and Korkus that perhaps founded the Indian civilisation. No other Indian state has a richer culture of tribal people with four established tribes, the largest amongst them being the Bhils and Gonds.

Madhya Pradesh is also home to fourteen great dynasties ranging from the Mauryas to the Mughals. These dynasties have left a mark on the architecture resulting in splendid monuments, each a distinct reminder of a dynasty. The early history of Madhya Pradesh goes back to 320 BC. The Satavahana dynasty of the Deccan ruled the region in between 1st and 3rd centuries AD. Ujjain became the predominant commercial center of western India during the ancient period. Between the 12th and 16th centuries, the region saw continuing struggles between Hindu and Muslims rulers or invaders. Important independent regional kingdoms included Tomara Rajput kingdom of Gwalior and the Muslim Sultanate of Malwa, with its capital at Mandu. From 950 to 1050AD the Paramaras of Malwa and the Chandelas of Bundelkhand constructed the fantastic series of temples at Khajuraho in the north of the state.

The early history of Madhya Pradesh goes back to when Chandragupta Maurya established the Mauryan Empire which included many places of modern day Madhya Pradesh. Ashoka, the great Mauryan emperor was powerful in the plateau of Malwa. With the death of Ashoka, the Mauryan Empire became weak and the region came under the rule of Sakas, Kushanas, and local dynasties. Towards the end of 4th century the region came under Gupta dynasty and it continued for be so for over 150 years and finally collapsed towards the end of the 5th century. Ujjain became the predominant commercial center of western India during the ancient period.

The glorious cultural and geographical history is there to be witnessed even today. The forests, the mountain ranges, the temples and monuments, the caves and rock shelters, the holy towns, it's all there in the very Heart of India, Madhya Pradesh. ■

– Geeta Bisht

Valmiki National Park

Valmiki National Park, Tiger Reserve and Wildlife Sanctuary is located at the India-Nepal border in the West Champaran district of Bihar, India on the bank of river Gandak. It is the only National park in Bihar. The extensive forest area of Valmikinagar was previously owned by the Bettiah Raj and Ramanagar Raj until the early 1950s. Valmiki Tiger Reserve (VTR) is one of the natural virgin recesses in east India, situated in the north west corner of Bihar. The pristine forest and wilderness of VTR is an excellent example of Himalayan Terai landscape. VTR comprises the Valmiki National Park and Valmiki Wildlife Sanctuary. The VTR forest area covers 899.38 square kilometres (347.25 sq mi), which is 17.4% of the total geographical area of the district West Champaran. As of 2018, there were 40 tigers in the Reserve.

The name of the district West Champaran derives from two words, Champa and Aranya, meaning forest of Champa trees. Geographically, it is situated between 83°0 50' and 84°0 10' E longitude and between 27°0 10' and 27°0 03' N latitude. Total forest area comprises about 900 square kilometres (350 sq mi), out of which the Valmiki Wildlife Sanctuary is 880 square kilometres (340 sq mi) and spread of the National Park is about 335 square kilometres (129 sq mi) area. In the north, the protected areas are bordered by Nepal's Chitwan National park while the Indian state Uttar Pradesh bounds the sanctuary from western side. Bihar Government is turning 800 hectares of forest in VTR into Grassland making it India's biggest grassland.

True Gifts of Nature

Bihar is truly a splendid home for wildlife. There are a total of 21 wildlife sanctuaries and 2 national parks in Bihar that makes it the best in the country for witnessing the wonders of the nature. The area covered by each of them is quite huge which gives ample space for the creatures to thrive in natural habitats. The state has taken special initiatives to take care of the animals and maintain the fragile ecosystem. The wildlife sanctuaries here are also renowned because they are home to some endangered



species whose number has increased over the last few years. Rajgir Wildlife Sanctuary and Valmiki Wildlife Sanctuary are the most famous of all the sanctuaries in Bihar.

These sanctuaries are also a great place for all the bird watchers as they are home to some magnificent and rare species of avi fauna. Apart from hundreds of species of resident birds, there are similar number of migratory birds coming every year during winters.

Rajgir Wildlife Sanctuary

Rajgir Wildlife holds in its belly spectacles of numerous kind. The splendid sanctuary covers an area of around 34 sq km. It is definitely less than most of the sanctuaries in India, but this also makes it the most interesting as well because the number of animals is equal to any other sanctuary. Leopards, Nilgai, Barking deer, and Hyena are the most commonly seen. There are many more sanctuaries in close proximity like the Gautam Buddha Sanctuary in Gaya and Koderma Wildlife Sanctuary.

Bhimbandh Sanctuary

Situated close to Bhagalpur, the Bhimbandh Sanctuary covers an area of 682 sq km. It is more famous for the splendid bird life than land animals. There are approximately 106 varieties of resident birds. And the number of birds shoots up during the migration season (Winters) that sees birds coming from Central Asia and

nesting here. Tigers, panthers, wild boars, sambar, chitals and nilgai are the most commonly seen land animals in Bhimbandh Sanctuary.

Valmikinagar Wildlife Sanctuary

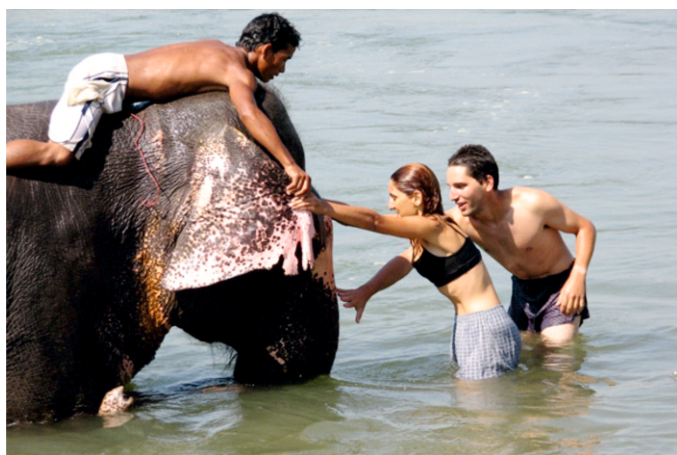
The Valmiki National Park is situated inside the Valmiki Sanctuary situated in the West Champaran district of Bihar. The eastern Himalayas form the backdrop of the sanctuary making it exceptionally beautiful destination to visit. So even if you are not able to see any wildlife, you will not return disappointed. Flora here contains extensive savannah lands and marshy lands. Tigers are the main attraction of the park. Other animals that you will see here are Sambars, leopards, nilgai, hyenas, civets and jungle cats



and many more. Right adjacent to the sanctuary is the famous Valmiki Ashram.

Palamau Tiger Reserve

Spread over an area of nearly 1026 sq km, Palamau Tiger reserve is among the most interesting and rewarding sanctuaries in Bihar, and perhaps in entire India. Palamau reserve is cut across by Koel River and many of its tributaries. However most of the animals here depend on man made water resources for survival. This makes it quite easy for tourists to sight some magnificent animals. Tigers, leopards, elephants, the Indian wolf, gaur and many more are regular visitors to the shores of these man made lakes. It is nearly 180 Km from Ranchi, the capital of Jharkhand state. The nearest airport too is in Ranchi. ■



TOURISM IN INDIA - S K Bose

Man is nomadic, not in strict sense, by nature. He likes to visit and explore unknown places, interact with people, enquire about their life style and collect information about the culture, flora and fauna. Global trotting instinct

in man has inspired people to cross the national boundaries, go beyond the seas and scale the heights of mountains. Some people go for adventure but many go for fun and satisfy their curiosity. Tourism is on increase within and outside country, several thousand foreigners visit India just as tourists but very few of them come for study or research. There is hardly a state where the

State Govts don't take care of tourists and organise tourist' visits. Lot of foreign exchange is earned by the Govt as well as people in the trade. Tourist guides, transporters, hotels find it a roaring business. Even local visitors from other states visit historically, culturally, socially or religiously renowned places. Local handicrafts, object produced in cottage, industries get proper market as visitors buy souvenirs. This import of people and export of local products during exchange of people is very harmonious and advantageous to all.

The tourist in flow has compelled the state authorities to keep the places in order. Thus proper maintenance is ensured to know the people and the world. "Be a tourist and explore beyond the horizon."

Ayurveda in kerala



Kairali Ayurvedic Group's flagship ayurvedic destination, Kairali-The Ayurvedic Healing Village, Palakkad, Kerala is one-of-its-kind of a holistic space, which heals you internally and externally with traditional and authentic Ayurvedic therapies, treatments and medications along with Yoga and Meditation.

A certified model of a wellness retreat, the healing village is implanted at the foot of Nilgiri and Annamalai ranges (Western Ghats). Set amidst mountains, forests, fertile valley and rivers are the 30 premium villas, which are forever surrounded by the fragrance of Pala trees. In compliance with Vaastu Shastra, the villas add on to the restorative and curative ambience. The Ayurvedic Healing



Village also boasts of Red Oxide flooring, a rare Valambari Conch shell and a gentle stream flowing around every villa. Yoga, Meditation, Astrology, Palmistry, nutrition, therapy, spiritual training and traditional Indian rituals (pujas) are part of the routine at the retreat. The Ayurvedic Healing Village is the epitome of Kairali's skill in concept hospitality - a perfectly intuitive design born of timeless wisdom. Time spent at this inspiring jungle sanctuary will leave you wondering whether you are experiencing the height of modern holistic luxury, or have travelled far into India's distant past. Everything in this retreat has an imprint of nature on it. Be it the lush greenery that is abundant throughout the village that soothes the mind or the coconut palms. Nature is the prime occupant here and the effect of this presence is relaxing to say the least. It is very easy to lose oneself here in the lap of nature and unequivocally, nature treats everyone here as her own children. Staying true to its mission of spreading Ayurveda and Yoga, the Healing Village is designed to offer you a slice of the traditional Indian experience. The nature endows the destination with recuperative powers. Veteran masseurs and ayurvedic experts at the center use the ancient ayurvedic procedures to facilitate seekers with an elite experience and arrange for a rendezvous with their real self.



Maharaja Maharaja

Maharaja in English means 'Emperor'. As the name itself implies, it is a villa of supreme standard. A notch above the Royal Villa, in a Maharaja Suite, one feels like an Emperor. It comprises of two separate rooms, one fitted with a king-size bed. Built solely with luxury in mind, every little detail of these rooms, from the bed linen to the beautiful sit-out on the lawn around the pool or river, has been carefully planned. Each suite is conveniently located next to all the Resort facilities, and each room comes replete with beautifully packaged Ayurvedic wonders including soaps, shampoos and other cosmetics, for your personal use. Electronic devices including an entertainment system, refrigerator, hair dryer and coffee maker all contribute to ones creature comforts.



Furnished with the most exotic pieces of furniture and decorated with embellishments of the highest skills, this suite is essentially a palace situated in an Ayurvedic resort. With king sized beds and elegant décor, it reminds us of the ancient seats of mighty kings who ruled all over India. To further augment its beauty, this wellness destination comes equipped with its own personal lawn which is situated next to a swimming pool or a river. With these custom amenities available, a private environment is guaranteed which is the ideal way to mediate and enjoy the scenic beauties of the surrounding. Not only that, but this suite is rigged with a variety of technological assortments such as refrigerators and coffee makers to ensure complete privacy, all for an affordable price.

Looking back at the options that we had, we find that Deluxe villas were imbued with top notch luxury standards that were aimed at appeasing the desire for fine living with a dash of Ayurveda. Moving forward, we came across Royal villas where every regal standard were already present and it gave us a peek into the style of medieval luxury living. However, the Maharaja suite is something against which all the former villas fade away in an instant. Maharaja means an Emperor, a man who rules countries. In a certain country, there is no single man who is above an Emperor and that's why, his abode is without doubt, unparalleled. ■



Maharaja Maharaja

Maharaja in English means 'Emperor'. As the name itself implies, it is a villa of supreme standard. A notch above the Royal Villa, in a Maharaja Suite, one feels like an Emperor. It comprises of two separate rooms, one fitted with a king-size bed. Built solely with luxury in mind, every little detail of these rooms, from the bed linen to the beautiful sit-out on the lawn around the pool or river, has been carefully planned. Each suite is conveniently located next to all the Resort facilities, and each room comes replete with beautifully packaged Ayurvedic wonders including soaps, shampoos and other cosmetics, for your personal use. Electronic devices including an entertainment system, refrigerator, hair dryer and coffee maker all contribute to ones creature comforts.



Furnished with the most exotic pieces of furniture and decorated with embellishments of the highest skills, this suite is essentially a palace situated in an Ayurvedic resort. With king sized beds and elegant décor, it reminds us of the ancient seats of mighty kings who ruled all over India. To further augment its beauty, this wellness destination comes equipped with its own personal lawn which is situated next to a swimming pool or a river. With these custom amenities available, a private environment is guaranteed which is the ideal way to mediate and enjoy the scenic beauties of the surrounding. Not only that, but this suite is rigged with a variety of technological assortments such as refrigerators and coffee makers to ensure complete privacy, all for an affordable price.

Looking back at the options that we had, we find that Deluxe villas were imbued with top notch luxury standards that were aimed at appeasing the desire for fine living with a dash of Ayurveda. Moving forward, we came across Royal villas where every regal standard were already present and it gave us a peek into the style of medieval luxury living. However, the Maharaja suite is something against which all the former villas fade away in an instant. Maharaja means an Emperor, a man who rules countries. In a certain country, there is no single man who is above an Emperor and that's why, his abode is without doubt, unparalleled. ■



Pulari Gardens

TOURIST RESORTS

Kairali Nagar, Janardhanapuram, Varkala P.O, Kerala, India 695 141, Tel: 91 470 2612358, Mob: 9447310874

Email: sampulari@rediffmail.com, www.pularigardens.com.

AN ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED RESORT



Amenities:- Well furnished spacious double bedded deluxe A/c and non A/c rooms with kitchen, fridge and attached modern bath rooms. Hot and cold water. Complimentary Breakfast, TV with satellite channels, Coffee Bar. Library, Dining/conference room Alternate power supply Free WIFI, Internet/E-mail Leisure games etc.

Services: Packages tours, Tailor made tours, House boat trips, Sight seeing trips Elephant ride, Backwater cruise, 24 hour room service, Laundry Service, Doctor on call, Money exchange, Airport/ Railwaystation pick up and drop

Welcome to Pulari Gardens Tourist Resorts and enjoy our hospitality with unmatched Service. We are situated at Varkala, 3.4 km from Varkala Sivagiri Railway Station and a walking distance to Papanasam Beach, Varkala Temple, Varkala Cliff and Center for performing Arts. Nearest International Airport Trivanadrum 50km. Nearest City Kollam 37km.



KAPPILE BEACH



PADMANABHASWAMY



VARKALA SIVAGIRI MUTT



Guest enjoy carroms game



ANJENGO FORT

What to see in Varkala & Around

Every year thousands of pilgrims at Papanasam beach to pay homage to their ancestors. Centuary old Sri Janardhana Swamy Temple also many worshipers visit daily. many people visit Varkala - Sivagiri Mutt, the place of Sree Narayana Guru's Samathi. Centre for performing Arts(new), Aquarium,

Edava - Kappil beaches, Kappil Lake and water sports Centre, Priyadarshini boat club, Puthenkulam Elephant ride, Jatayupara Nature Park (with world's Largest bird sculpture) (new), Golden island, Anjengo Fort, Varkala T. S Canal.



CENTER PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE



JADAYA PARA



VARKALA PAPANASAM



Pulari Gardens



Pulari Gardens



Pulari Gardens

Chausath Yogini Temple



The **Chausath Yogini Temple, Morena**, also known as **Ekattarso Mahadeva Temple**, is an 11th-century temple located in Morena district in the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh. It is one of the few such Yogini temples in the country which is in a good condition. The temple is formed by a circular wall with 64 chambers and an open mandapa in the centre, separated by a courtyard which is circular in shape, where Shiva is deified. The temple has been declared an ancient historical monument by the Archaeological Survey of India.

Chausath Yogini Temple on Hilltop

The Chausath Yogini temple is in Mitaoli village (also spelled Mitawali or Mitavali), near Padaoli in Morena district 40 kilometres (25 mi) from Gwalior. According to an inscription dated to 1323 CE (Vikram Samvat 1383), the temple was built by the Kachchhapaghata king Devapala (r. c. 1055 – 1075). It is said that the temple was the venue of providing education in astrology and mathematics based on the transit of the Sun. The Archaeological Survey of India has declared the temple an ancient and historical monument under Act No. LXXI of 1951, dt.28/11/1951.

Central Sanctorum

Inner corridor with subsidiary shrines deified now Shiva Lingams. The temple is located on a hill which is about 100 feet (30 m) in height and there are 100 steps to climb leading to the entrance of the temple. It is externally circular in shape with a radius of 170 feet (52 m) and within



its interior part it has 64 small chambers, each with a mandapa which is open and a fascia of pilasters and pillars. The roof of the entire structure is flat including that of another east facing circular temple within the outer circular wall. A large passage or courtyard lies between the outer enclosure and the central temple which is dedicated to Lord Shiva. There is an open porch entrance to this temple. The exterior surface of the outer wall has carvings of Hindu deities. Each of the 64 chambers in the outer circle has an image of Shiva deified in it. However, recent investigations have confirmed that originally these had a Yogini image deified in them and hence the temple is known as Chausath Yogini Temple ('Chausath' here means "Sixty four"). It is said that the roof over the 64 chambers and the central shrine had towers or shikharas which were probably removed during later modifications.

Within the main central shrine there are slab coverings which have perforations in them to drain rainwater to a large underground storage. The pipe lines from the roof lead the rain water to the storage are also visible. The temple needs conservation measures to preserve the ancient monument in good shape. The design of the temple has withstood earthquake shocks, without any damage to its circular structural features, in the past several centuries. The temple is in the Seismic Zone III. This fact was cited when the issue of safety from earthquake effect of the Parliament House which is also a circular structure, similar to the Chausath Yogini Temple, was debated in the Indian Parliament. ■

PATA Rishikesh in Uttarakhand India

“One's destination is never a place, but a new way of seeing things. Travel makes one modest.” You see what a tiny place you occupy in the world, thus, explore, exhale, relax, have fun, enjoy learn, experience and one word that describes all this is PATA and having said that on behalf of the State Government of Uttarakhand, I welcome each one of you to the inaugural ceremony of PATA Adventure Travel and Responsible Tourism Conference and Mart, 2019 and we are proud to be able to host it today here at this serene and spiritually charged Rishikesh with all of you.

Founded in 1951, the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) is a not-for profit association that is internationally acclaimed for acting as a catalyst for the responsible development of travel and **tourism** to, from and within the Asia Pacific region. There is a lot of adventures out there, waiting for us to live them!

Adventure tourism can refer to activities done by the tourists, which have high level of perceived or real risk like diving, hiking, mountaineering, mountain biking, caving, sky-diving, skiing, snow -boarding, water rafting, kayaking, sailing, etc. It also refers to a specific location of place with high degree of risk such as visiting deserts, jungles or mountaintops, polar regions and safaris. All these places have strong elements of adventure.

Furthermore, Adventure tourism can be divided into soft adventure and hard adventure. These terms are



developed by researchers who devised a scale to explain the diversity of behaviour, beginning with mild adventure also known as soft adventure at one end of the scale and progress to hard adventure at the other extreme.

Adventure Tourism has known a rapid popularity during these last past decades. This rise and sudden popularity was partially thanks to a progression in the commercialization of outdoor recreation. Adventure travel existed since a long time; it began with early settler and has amplified increasingly since this period. The first adventure travelers were early explorers in quest of discovery, in the hunt for new resources, lands and looking for unknown places. 'Columbus, Cook, Vasco Da Gama, Magellan and Raleigh' are among the well known early explorers in quest of. Mercenaries were also characterized as early adventurers having as main interest money, risk seeking while some others like Pilgrims were looking for spiritual knowledge.

Undoubtedly, this sector is currently receiving a lot of attention and is the fastest and fashionable growing sector of the tourism industry. It is perceived as being a niche segment and take in land, air and sea-based activities. Adventure travel is becoming well-liked and individuals are now striving to find equilibrium between work and leisure.



And I am proud of the fact that Today marks our first day of PATA and I appreciate that you have made a choice to be here owing to your passion for travel, adventure. . Your passions help us all to unite and the energy we create is what allows us to share this passion with the rest of the world. My country's mystic has lured the travelers for the ages, culture and lifestyle of people living here has generated immense curiosity for populace across the globe, however, the kind of diverse experiences we have to share with you in this modern age are all encompassing. I am lucky to have you all here to spread that radiance throughout the world.

Well, I don't want to take too much of your time, but I can't conclude my welcome speech without thanking PATA CEO Dr. Mario Hardy and his motivated team, Tourism Department of India represented by Miss



Aashima in today's evening and my organizational colleagues, who have put in more than possible efforts to make this event a success. During the next two days I am sure that you will gain a lot of insight into the subject, thanks to the specialists and speakers who have honored us by accepting our invitation to interact knowledge seekers and also you will build lasting partnerships that enrich your personal and professional lives.

With a heartfelt wish for the success of this event, I wish you a wonderful and memorable evening ahead on the banks of the holy Ganga. Thanks again for joining us. It's never too late to have a life you love. Don't ever feel like you've missed the boat, don't have what it takes or can't achieve your dreams. Instead of removing your dreams, remove the doubts and fears keeping you from them. It's never, ever too late. ■





Unique and inspiring Uttarakhand!

Visit Uttarakhand's unexplored destinations



Upcoming Events

- Destination Uttarakhand Investors Summit, 7th-8th October, 2018, Dehradun
- PATA Adventure Travel and Responsible Tourism Conference and Mart, 13th-15th February 2019, Rishikesh
- International Yog Festival, 1st-7th March, 2019, Rishikesh

Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board

Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya Paryatan Bhawan, Near ONGC Helipad, Garhi Cantt., Dehradun-248001 (India)
Ph. # +91 135 2559898/ 2559987 Web: www.gmvnl.in, www.kmvn.gov.in

Follow us on



www.uttarakhandtourism.gov.in

Madhya Pradesh presents Awards for Excellence in Tourism Development Sector for 2018.

Honorable Tourism Minister Surendra Singh Baghel facilitated awards in 36 different categories at International Convention Centre (Minto Hall).

All India, Immediate Release: In order to appreciate the excellence and acknowledge the efforts made by various tourism stakeholders, Madhya Pradesh Tourism has distributed state tourism Awards for Excellence on 1st March 2019 at the International convention Centre “Minto Hall”, Bhopal. Madhya Pradesh tourism prized in 36 selected categories in the travel development sphere with an objective to promote and appreciate the contribution of travel industry in making Madhya Pradesh the most sought after destination in 2018.

The awards were presented by honorable Tourism Minister **Surendra Singh Baghel**, who congratulated the winners in different categories. To grace the ceremony further, the Principal Secretary Tourism, honorable Hari Ranjan Rao (IAS) was also present. **Madhya Pradesh tourism has always appreciated the people's support and acknowledges their efforts in creating new milestones for the State and its offerings.**

On this special occasion, senior officials of Madhya Pradesh tourism board quoted “*We highly appreciate the contribution of tourism industry in various forms and aim to set new national standards in the field of hospitality and services with these Awards. In the presence of senior officials from the tourism board, travel operators, destination management companies, stakeholders as well as millions of travelers who have visited Madhya Pradesh over the years, we feel honored to encourage such talent in our State. Our goal is to ensure that each participant whether buyer, visitor or exhibitor must get the value of their investment and time spent*”.

The award for Best Tour Operator (National) and Best Travel Agent MP will be given to Travel Bureau Khajuraho, Best Travel Agent, Madhya Pradesh award to Historical India Tour and Travels-Orchha, Best Tourist Transport Operator to Madhya Pradesh Travels Bhopal, Best Adventure Tour Operator Madhya Pradesh to



Somanipuram Adventure Park and Resort, Indore, Best Tourist Guide Madhya Pradesh to Lakhn Lal Rajak of Datia, Best Tourist Guide Archaeological Survey of India award to Sanjay Kumar Khare of Khajuraho, Best Hotel to Radison Blu Hotel Indore, Best Heritage Hotel to Usha Kiran Palace Gwalior, Best Eco-friendly Hotel to Pench Jungle Camp Seoni district and Best Eco-friendly Forest Lodge award to Kanha Village Eco-resort Mandla district.

Similarly, Best Chef Award will be given to Jivan Singh and Nathhi Singh Rawat, Best Convention Centre award to Vision Mahal Hotel and Convention Centre Jabalpur, Best Stand-alone Restaurant to Filfora Bhopal, Best Civic Management City (Municipal Corporation) to Gwalior Municipal Corporation, Best Civic Management City (Municipality) to Chanderi, Best Civic Management City (Municipal Council) to Bhedhaghat and Best District Tourism Promotion Council joint award to Mandla and Gwalior.

The Best Tourist-friendly National Park award will be given to Satpuda Tiger Reserve, Best Tourist-friendly tourist spot centre to Dadaji Dhuniwala Darbar Khandwa and Best Travel Writer/Blogger award to Ghumo-Phiro sisters.

Certificates Name
Best Tour Operator (National)-Foreign Exchange Earnings less than Rs. 5.00 Crore. - Travel Bureau, Khajuraho
Best Travel Agent (M.P.) turnover Rs. 2 Crore and above – Joint Winner - Travel Bureau, Khajuraho
Best Travel Agent (M.P.) turnover Rs. 2 Crore and above – Joint Winner - M.P Holidays, Indore
Best Travel Agent (M.P.) turnover less than Rs. 2 Crore - Historical India Tour & Travels ,Orchha
Best Tourist Transport Operators (M.P.)-Turn over Rs 50 Lakh and above. - Radiant Travels (I) Pvt. Ltd., Bhopal.
Best Adventure Tour Operator (M.P.) - Somanipuram Adventure Park & Resort, Indore
Best Tourist Guide of Madhya Pradesh - Mr. Lakhanlal Rajak, Datia
Best Tourist Guide, Archaeological Survey of India - Mr. Sanjay Kumar Khare, Khajuraho
Best Travel Writer/blogger - Ghoomophirosisters
Best Friend of MP Tourism on Social Media - Wassup, Bhopal
Best Hotel - Radisson Blu Hotel, Indore
Best Heritage Hotel - Taj Usha Kiran Palace, Gwalior
Best Eco-Friendly Hotel - Pench Jungle Camp, Dist. Seoni
Best Eco-Friendly Forest Lodge - Kanha Village Eco Resort, Dist. Mandla
Best Home Stay - Banyan Tree Farms, Bhopal
Best Chef of Madhya Pradesh from 4 Star Hotels & above or equivalent - Mr. Jeewan Singh
Best Chef of Madhya Pradesh from 1, 2, 3 Star Hotels or equivalent and standalone restaurants - Mr. Natthi Singh Rawat
Best Convention Centre - Vijan Mahal Hotel Resort and Convention Centre, Jabalpur
Best Standalone Restaurant - Filfora, Bhopal
Best Restaurant in Hotel – Silver Saloon, Taj Usha Kiran Palace, Gwalior
Best Way Side Amenity – Joint Winner - SOL Retreat, Bhopal- Indore Highway
Best Way Side Amenity – Joint Winner - Midway Treat Sleemnabad, Katni
Best Civic Management City (Nagar Nigam) - Gwalior Muncipal Corporation Ltd., Dist. Gwalior
Best Civic Management City (Nagar Palika) - Nagar Palika Chanderi, Dist. Ashoknagar
Best Civic Management City (Nagar Parishad) - Nagar Parishad Bhedaghat, Dist. Jabalpur
Best Civic Management City (Gram Panchayat) – Joint Winner - Gram Panchayat Barmankalan, Dist. Narsinghpur
Best Civic Management City (Gram Panchayat) – Joint Winner - Gram Panchayat Bhamedidev, Dist. Hoshangabad
Best Civic Management City (Gram Panchayat) – Joint Winner - Gram Panchayat Bhojpur, Dist. Raisen
Best D.T.P.C – Joint Winner - District Tourism Promotion Council - Mandla
Best D.T.P.C – Joint Winner - District Tourism Promotion Council - Gwalior
Best Innovative Tourism Project – Joint Winner - Chaturangana
Best Innovative Tourism Project– Joint Winner- Butterfly Park, Dist. Raisen MP Eco Tourism Development Board
Best Tourist Friendly Monument of Madhya Pradesh - Jahaz Mahal, Mandu, Archaeological Survey of India
Best Tourist Friendly National Park / Sanctuary - Satpura Tiger Reserve, Dist. Hoshangabad
Best Tourist friendly Pilgrimage Centre - Dadaji Dhuniwale Darbar, Khandwa
Best Artisan Art & Craft (Institution) – Joint Winner - POTTERS THE STUDIO, Hoshangabad
Best Artisan Art & Craft (Institution) – Joint Winner - Bharti Jute Avam Silai Kala Training Center Society, Bhopal
Best Artisan Art & Craft (Individual) – Joint Winner - Gourav Kulshrestha
Best Artisan Art & Craft (Individual) – Joint Winner - Sanjeev Kumar Singh

Edge of your seat thrillers *unlimited*

Chandrapur

This is Maharashtra, and these are our royal entitles. So take a trip down to this land and discover these beasts that are born to roam free. With reasons unlimited, it is only fair to say one trip is just not enough.



BOR



TIPESHWAR



DAJIPUR



KARNALA



Hot

MAHARASHTRA

unlimited



www.maharashtratourism.gov.in | Toll Free No: 1800 - 229930

Palamau Tiger Reserve

The Palamau Tiger Reserve is among one of the nine original tiger reserves in India and the only one in the state of Jharkhand, India. The reserve forms a part of the Betla National Park. The area in Palamu District in Jharkhand was set aside as a protected area in 1947 under the Indian Forests Act. Earlier, the area was used for cattle grazing and camping and the area was acutely prone to forest fire. In 1974 the area was set up as the Palamau Tiger Reserve. This tiger reserve has a total area of 1,014 sq kms with a core area of 414 sq km and a buffer area of 600 sq km. The core area is accosted with some of the forest villages like Ramandag, Latoo and Kujurum. Most of the villages are small in area where one of the villages, Meral, consist of just 99 acres of land, 9 families and 78 members. In 1993, there were 45 villages located in the buffer area and about 60 more located in the periphery of the reserve. As per the 2012 survey, those ranges accented to 136 villages to fall under the "buffer area" regulations of the Palamau Tiger Reserve. Only seven of the villages were in existence in 1923. The villagers have no legal claim to lands that were settled after 1974 when the buffer area for the reserve was created. Palamau Tiger Reserve was established when India was introducing the famous Project Tiger in the year 1973 to save the endangered asset of our country. It was believed that with the introduction of this reserve the endangered species of tigers along with other wild counts would be preserved and cared under the Wildlife Protection Act. Year ago before the establishment of Palamau Tiger Reserve, the management of these forests was highly commercial. There were some cattle camps and the area was open for grazing. The entire forest area used to be ravaged by fires every year with the



unchecked activities of poaching. But today, the present area of the Reserve got duly constituted either as Protected Forest or Reserved Forest under the Indian Forest Act, 1927 way back in 1947.

The Palamau Tiger Reserve falls under the Indo-Malayan realm and is distinguished for its flora and fauna. The predators that roam the forest grounds are tigers, leopards, wolves, wild dogs and jungle cats. Among the herbivores, sloth bear, four horned antelope and mouse deer are the duly residents of the area. Interestingly the first ever tiger census by way of pug mark count, was undertaken within these forests in 1934. Since the first census, population of tigers showed a steady decline till 1972, when their number dwindled down to 17. However, after the declaration of the Sanctuary, it is stated, the number showed a rise reaching a figure of 55 in 1989. The 1991 census figure shows the tiger population as 54. This figure quoted by the Palamau Tiger Reserve authorities is purely indicative and not absolute. The population of elephants in Palamau has increased substantially during the past 50 years. Prior to 1920, this area had no elephant population but the 20 odd elephants released by the Maharaja of Surguja turned feral, subsequently increasing in number. The present elephant count exceeds 104 elephants which show addition of herds from the Singbhum district of Bihar. The major wildlife species (mammals) witnessed in the area is: Tiger, Leopard, Sambar, Barking Deer, Cheetal, Wolf, Elephant, Mouse Deer, Wild Dog, Four-horned Antelope, Pangolin and Indian Ratel. ■



Explore the Wonderland of Rajasthan with

Rajasthan Tours Pvt. Ltd.

(47 Years of Unparallel Service)

(Tour Operators - Recognised by the Government of India)

Rambagh Palace, Jaipur - 302 005 (India)

Phone : 0141-2385168/2385141/2385486

Fax : rajtours@sancharnet.in

Web.: www.rajasthantouronline.com, www.rajresorts.com

We Specializes in :-

1. Special itineraries on Rajasthan.
2. Deluxe Air Conditioned coaches and Cars.
3. Camel, Horse, Elephant and Jeep Safaries.
4. Reservations and Booking for HERITAGE Properties in Rajasthan.
5. Air, Rail and Road Reservations.
6. Special Gala Evenings with Cultural Programs, Food, Fireworks, etc.
7. **RAJ RESORTS** - Rajasthan Tours Camp at Pushkar.

Rann of Kutch

The Great Rann of Kutch is a salt marsh located in the Thar Desert in the Kutch District of Gujarat, India. It is about 7500 sq km (2900 sq miles) in area and is reputed to be one of the largest salt deserts in the world. This area has been inhabited by the Kutchi people.

The Hindi word is derived from Sanskrit/Vedic word *iriṇa* attested in the Rigveda and Mahabharata.

The Great Rann of Kutch, along with the Little Rann of Kutch and the Banni grasslands on its southern edge, is situated in the district of Kutch and comprises some 30,000 square kilometres (10,000 sq mi) between the Gulf of Kutch and the mouth of the Indus River in southern Pakistan. The marsh can be accessed from the village of Kharaghoda in Surendranagar District.[4] The Great Rann of Kutch together with the Little Rann of Kutch is called Rann of Kutch.

In India's summer monsoon, the flat desert of salty clay and mudflats, which average 15 meters above sea level, fills with standing water. In very wet years, the wetland extends from the Gulf of Kutch on the west through to the Gulf of Cambay on the east.

The area was a vast shallow of the Arabian Sea until continuing geological uplift closed off the connection



with the sea, creating a vast lake that was still navigable during the time of Alexander the Great. The Ghaggar River, which presently empties into the desert of northern Rajasthan, formerly emptied into the Rann of Kutch, but the lower reaches of the river dried up as its upstream tributaries were captured by the Indus and Ganges thousands of years ago. Traces of the delta and its distributary channels on the northern boundary of the Rann of Kutch were documented by the Geological Survey of India in 2000.

The Luni River, which originates in Rajasthan, drains into the desert in the northeast corner of the Rann. Other rivers feeding into the marsh include the Rupen from the east and the West Banas River from the northeast. Nara Canal or Puran river which is a delta channel of Indus River empties during floods into Kori Creek located in the Great Rann of Kutch.

There are sandy islets of thorny scrub, forming a wildlife sanctuary and a breeding ground for some of the largest flocks of greater and lesser flamingos. Wildlife, including the Indian wild ass, shelter on islands of higher ground, called bets, during the flooding. ■

ATTRACTION

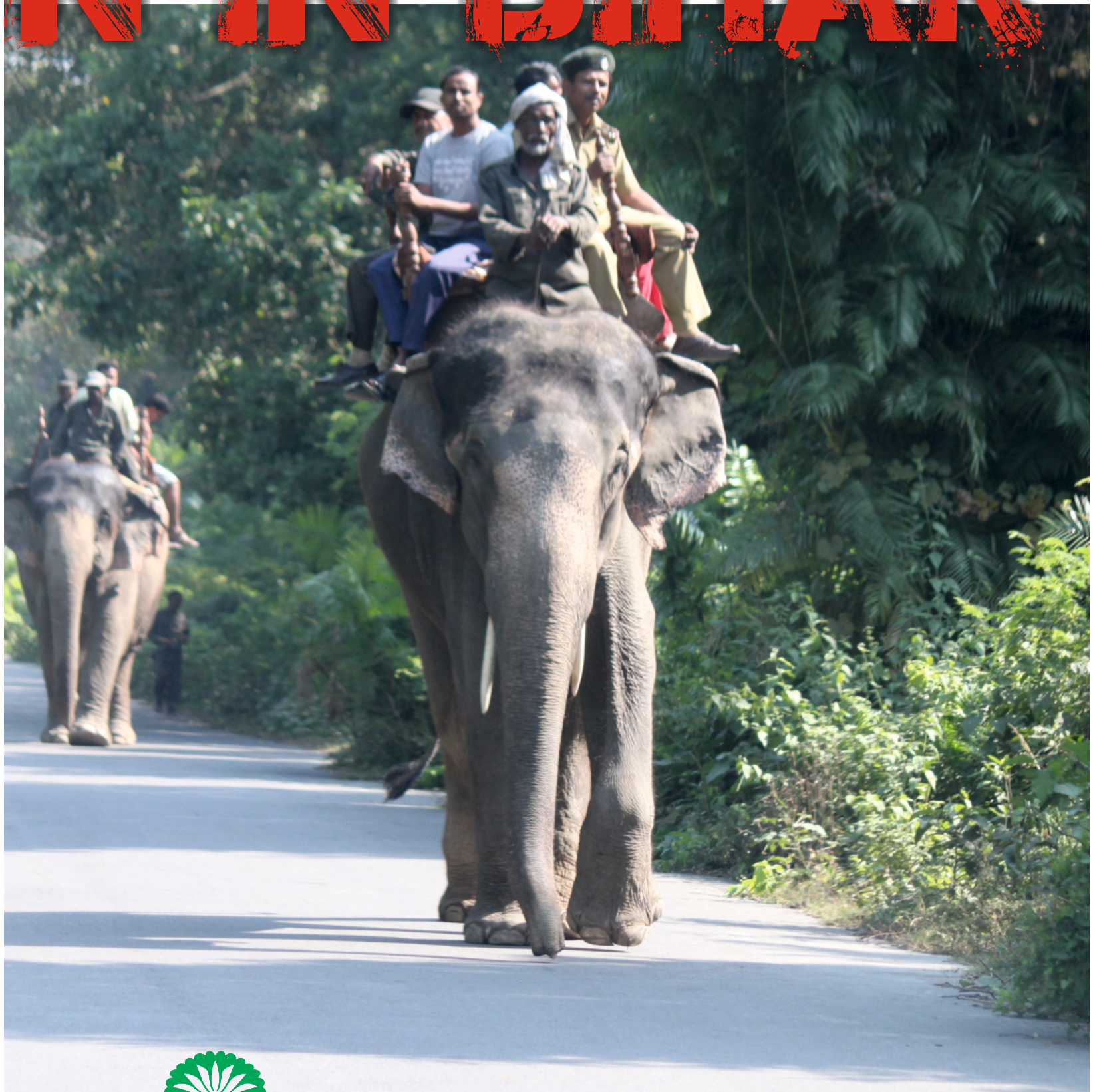


BIHAR
TOURISM
Blissful Bihar



"Come and Explore Valmiki Nagar Tiger Reserve"

N IN BIHAR



DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, GOVT. OF BIHAR

1st Floor, B Block, Extension Bhawan, Main Secretariat, Patna-800015

Phone No.: 06122217045 • Website: www.bihartourism.gov.in

BUDDHIST CULTURAL PARK AND JOHN MARSHALL MUSEUM

Madhya Pradesh State Tourism Development Corporation Limited “MPSTDC” is a nodal firm under Department of Tourism, Government of Madhya Pradesh (“DoT”) with a mandate to develop tourism infrastructure in the State of Madhya Pradesh. MPSTDC has undertaken this project to conceptualize, design and supervise the John Marshall Museum and Buddhist Theme Park in Sanchi, Madhya Pradesh. The museum will be established in an existing heritage building. The main objective of the project is to establish a museum in memory of Sir John Marshall and a Buddhist theme park representing the Sanchi site and the philosophies of Buddhism through specially designed immersive exhibits - integrating physical and digital interactive design and specialized theme park related structures and exhibits. The proposed concept and storyline enable its audiences to explore the social and cultural impact of the ancient past and get deep knowledge of the Buddhist philosophy. Other important objectives are to work out a plan to implement innovations in the landscaping components, physical infrastructure, specific actions to increase visitation, and develop staffing plan. This DPR builds upon the cultural significance (OUV) of the site, recognized by UNESCO nearly three decades ago. Larger goal is to create an interactive and visitor friendly Theme Park and Museum. The current effort has been an exercise in assertion and continuity, just with an added inducement for quickening the process. The concept has been communicated through interactive designs. The concept revolves around the teachings of the Buddha. His teachings, lean on the religious and philosophical vocabulary of the time which is uniquely displayed at Sanchi. Buddha, the eye to the world envisioned Buddhism as a reform movement from within Hinduism. Sanchi is a tranquil ode to the magnificent



undying Buddhist faith. All the Buddhist monuments evoke the presence of Buddha and his teachings. The cultural landscapes of Sanchi marks the broad concept for the Buddhist Theme Park at Sanchi. Another component of the project is the John Marshall Museum. Over the centuries, the archaeologists have played a major role in documenting, studying and conserving the monumental edifice at Sanchi. John Marshall, the most renowned archaeologist played a vital role in creating an artistic monograph for Sanchi. Efforts made by other scholars is rightly reflected in the preserved state of the WHS. Today, the site is under the jurisdiction of the Archaeological survey of India, the precincts is maintained by PWD and horticulture department **Buddhist Circuit in MP**

Sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan Scheme of MOT, GOI Covered Destinations under Buddhist Circuit

Sanchi :- Sanchi is a Buddhist complex famous for its Great Stupa on a hilltop at Sanchi town in Raisen District of the State of Madhya Pradesh, India. It is UNESCO World Heritage Site, located in 46 kms north-east of Bhopal, capital of Madhya Pradesh. It was originally commissioned by the emperor Ashoka in the 3rd century BCE. Its nucleus was a simple hemispherical brick structure built over the relics of the Buddha. Sanchi was also birth place of Ashoka's wife Devi as well as venue of Ashoka's wedding.

Great Stupa No.1 :- During the later rule of the Shunga, the stupa was expanded with stone slabs to almost twice its original size.

Great Stupa No. 2 & 3 :- The stupas which seem to have been commissioned during the rule of the Shungas are the

Second and then the Third stupas. The Relics of Sariputra and Mahamoggallana, the disciples of the Buddha are said to have been placed in Stupa No 3.

Sanctioned components at Sanchi :- Development of Marshall House, Buddhist Theme Park, TFC, Development & Beautification of Pathway, Light & Sound Show, etc.

Satdhara and Sonari Stupas:- Satdhāra, around 14km from Sanchi, at the site there are around 20 stupas, many of which had been reconstructed. The atmosphere was very quiet and meditative. The stupas here were the site for the relics of Ven Sariputra and Mahamoggallana, which are now in the Mahābodhi temple at Sanchi; and the area around here is also associated with one of the Buddha's great disciples: Ven. Mahākaccāyana, who lived in the Avanti area. **Sonari** is the archaeological site of an ancient monastic complex of Buddhist stupas. The site, positioned on a hill, is located about 10km southwest of Sanchi. The stupas were excavated around 1850 by Alexander Cunningham who discovered two boxes containing relics.

Gyaraspur and Murelkhurd :- *Gyaraspur* is a small town of great historical importance, medieval period in Madhya Pradesh. This comes under Vidisha district and is 35 km away from Vidisha. The name is derived from a fair which is held at the eleventh month of the *Hindu* calendar, *gyaras* means joy at the eleventh. There are many monuments of importance belonging to 9th-10th century. This is a small town and all the monuments can be visited walking around. 1. Athakhamba (9th century) –2. Hindola Torana (10th century) 3. Chaukhamba (10th century) 4. Mala Devi Temple (9th century) 5. Bajra Matha (10th century) 6. Dhaikinath Stupa (6th-7th century).

Murelkhurd: -There are 37 stupas at Bhojpur (Pipalia) near Murelkhurd on the top of hill.

Sanctioned components at Satdhara, Sonari, Murelkhurd & Gyaraspur- Development of last mile connectivity, Meditation center and premises development.



Dev Kuthar (Rewa) :- Deorkothar/Deur Kothar is a location of archaeological importance in Madhya Pradesh, Central India. It is known for its Buddhist stupas and was discovered in 1982. These stupas are credited to the Mauryan emperor, Ashoka.

Bharhut (Satna) :- Bharhut is a village located in the Satna district of Madhya Pradesh, central India. It is known for its famous relics from a Buddhist stupa.

Sanctioned Components at Rewa and Satna - Interpretation Center cum meditation hall, Tourist reception center, Development and beautification of Approach Road

Dharmrajeshwar (Mandsaur):- Dharmrajeshwar is an ancient Buddhist and Hindu cave temple site of 4th – 5th century in Mandsaur district in Madhya Pradesh, India. It is an example of Indian rock-cut architecture, situated in Garoth tehsil of Mandsaur district at a distance of 4 km from Chandwasa town and 106 km from Mandsaur city.

Sanctioned components at Mandsaur (Dharmrajeshwar) – Interpretation Centre cum Meditation Hall, Approach road, Premises Development

Bagh Caves (Dhar):- Bagh Caves The Bagh Caves are a group of nine rock-cut monuments, situated among the southern slopes of the Vidhya's in Bagh town of Dhar district in Madhya Pradesh state in central India. The Bagh Caves were quarried in the 5th -6th century AD, in the very late stages of Buddhism in India, and long after most of the Indian Buddhist Caves had been built, many of them since the 2nd or 1st centuries BCE.

Sanctioned components at Dhar (Bagh caves):- Tourist Reception Centre, Approach road and Premises Development. ■

The Jungle Babbler

Almost anywhere across the length and breadth of India, you are likely to come across a group of noisy birds usually hopping about on the ground or close to the ground, occasionally creating a nuisance and bullying everything else out of their way. Few groups of birds are quite as entertaining and boisterous as the turdoides babblers of our country. Additionally, all of these species are endemic (or near-endemic) to the subcontinent. This genus includes the very well-known Jungle Babbler, the Yellow-billed Babbler, the Large Grey Babbler, the skulking Rufous Babbler, the often-uncommon Common Babbler, and the reedbed and grassland specialists – the Striated and Slender-billed Babbler.

Jungle Babbler *Turdoides striata*

This is the babbler species one is likely to encounter in most of India. Because it is so widespread, it is worth familiarising oneself with this species before moving on to the others (Note: In some places, the Yellow-billed Babbler may be more common, while in others Large Grey Babbler may be more likely). The Jungle Babbler is a plain-looking babbler with a compact built, and conspicuous pale eyes. The yellow bill is similar to that of the Yellow-billed Babbler. The plumage is grey, shades of which vary from region to region, with bits of brown and buff on the underparts. The typical Jungle Babbler habitat would be open woodlands, shaded gardens and parks, scrub, edges of forests and cultivation. The Jungle Babbler is common around human habitation and often seen foraging on leftovers from households. Jungle Babbler (*ssp orientalis*); note the overall grey plumage with no contrast being quite strong, white eyes. See this article for more on the various races of the Jungle Babbler.

Yellow-billed Babbler *Turdoides affinis*

In many parts of south India, the Yellow-billed Babbler is the dominant species. This species can look very similar to the Jungle Babbler in size and shape; but its distinct white cap, pale bluish eyes, pale wing panels and the light grey on tail and rump with the contrasting dark tail tips set it apart. Yellow-billed Babblers: Note Jungle Babbler-like structure, the white head, bluish tinge to iris, obvious dark tail tip. The call, a high-pitched tinkling trill, is very different from that of the Jungle Babbler and is usually the best way to tell the two apart if the bird hasn't been seen too well. The range of the Yellow-billed Babbler is more restricted (its northern limit reached the southern edges of



Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh) than that of the Jungle Babbler. Habitat-wise, it prefers drier, more open habitats than the Jungle Babbler.

Large Grey Babbler *Turdoides malcolmi*

The Large Grey Babbler is the largest of the turdoides babblers mentioned in this article. They are generally the most gregarious of the babblers, forming noisy flocks of up to 40 birds. Even from a distance, one can often tell them apart by the obvious white edges to their long tails as they move about in a seemingly weak and clumsy flight – usually from a spot close to or on the ground to another spot that's at the same elevation. Up close, they usually look “angrier” than all other babbler species by the virtue of having black lores, pale yellow iris and a very pale forehead that accentuates their features. The Large Grey Babbler has a fairly distinctive call, though not especially dissimilar from a Jungle Babbler's to a first-time observer. The call tends to be a very harsh nasal bleating that is more incessant and monotonous than that of the Jungle Babbler. Large Grey Babbler; Note distinct black lores, pale forehead, yellow iris, white edges to tail. The Large Grey Babblers are a bird of open habitat and range throughout most of India. They frequent farms, fields, arid scrub and even bigger city parks and spaces with fewer trees. In many places, they share the same landscape as the Jungle Babbler but their habitat preferences are such that the two species are rarely encountered together. This is not the case for Yellow-billed Babblers, however, and the two species may have an overlap where cultivation gives way to scrub or in parks and gardens where ranges overlap. For some reason, the Large Grey Babbler is often found in urban centres in N India, but is more a bird of rural areas in S India.

Common Babbler *Turdoides caudata*

The Common Babbler is a slender and slim turdoides babbler that is characterised by a rather long tail, overall pale/light colouration, a slim bill, streaks on the upper parts

(the head, the mantle and the back), dark eyes, and a contrasting whitish throat. Common Babbler; note the white throat, pale unstreaked underparts, streaks on back and head, dark iris. It moves about in flocks of anything between 5 to 20 (or maybe a bit more!) birds, and comes across as a babbler with milder temperament than that of its cousins. The Common Babbler dwells close to the ground, and can be seen scurrying around like a small mammal. The call of the Common Babbler is pleasant to the ears, and not as harsh or aggressive as the three turdoides species which have been described above. In its habitat, it is the only babbler to give such a call – a series of mild and musical notes, though one may do well to be wary of the similar sounding Yellow-eyed Babbler, which often occupies similar habitats too. The Common Babbler is often derided for having a name that does not truly depict its status in large parts of its range. However, it is locally common in its preferred habitat which is usually open fields often interspersed with rocky outcrops and boulders, or stony hills, cultivation, semi-arid regions and dry scrub.

Rufous Babbler *Turdoides subrufa*

The Rufous Babbler is a bulky, distinctive turdoides species told apart from others by the combination of a largely rufous, unmarked plumage as well as the bright yellow bill, white eyes (dark in younger birds), and a structure not unlike that of the Jungle Babbler – though the Rufous Babbler appears slightly less compact and more slender. The Rufous Babbler is more skulking than the Jungle Babbler and is more likely than to be heard than seen. Quite like the Jungle Babbler, the Rufous Babbler usually forms small tight flocks of 6-10 birds. Rufous Babbler; note rufous plumage, white eyes, yellow beak. The call of the Rufous Babbler is a highly metallic trilling that changes pitch very often. To some, it may sound quite similar to a Yellow-billed Babbler which does overlap in range and habitat (although rarely). The Rufous Babbler is endemic to the Western Ghats. Within its limited range, it frequents the undergrowth and bushes of wet forests, tall grass and scrub in wet regions (including shola grasslands), bamboo forests, plantations such as coffee and tea, etc. In some areas of its range, it can be quite confiding and unmindful of human presence and habitation. In its lowland habitats,



it shares space with the Jungle Babbler, from which it can be told apart easily by call as well as sight.

Striated Babbler *Turdoides earlei*

The Striated Babbler is a rather handsome looking turdoides with its yellow iris, proportional built (stronger, bulkier and shorter-tailed than Common Babbler), consistent and heavy streaking on upperparts as well as visible streaking on underparts, darker plumage than its congeners and a distinctive, long pale bill. Although occurring in flocks of upto 15 birds, its can remain quite inconspicuous in its habitat when its not calling. When in call, however, they often perch atop reeds and call for a long time. Feeding is usually closer to the ground. The call of the Striated Babbler is a series of melodic notes often given out in the form of a duet with the female, whose notes are said to be slightly less musical. Unlike its congeners, the Striated Babbler's calls are often irregularly given though when excited, the birds may call incessantly anyway. The Striated Babbler is not uncommon in wet, marsh habitat with tall grass and reeds throughout its range.

Slender-billed Babbler *Turdoides longirostris*

The Slender-billed Babbler is probably the most distinctive-looking of all the turdoides babblers. The slim structure, distinctive black bill (paler in young birds), and the unmarked plumage which is rust-coloured above and buff below. Not as gregarious as others of its family, the Slender-billed Babbler is a shy bird and not easily seen. The call of this species is a series of clear, musical trills that vary somewhat in speed and pitch, and is quite unlike any other turdoides species in its range (be wary of other babblers in the habitat though – such as the Chestnut-capped Babbler and the Jerdon's Babbler, which may exhibit similar quality of song).

Kochi to Host

'India International Travel Mart'

India's Premier Travel and Tourism Exhibition

See the Country, Travel the World! Sphere Travelmedia & Exhibitions is pleased to announce the 112th edition of its 'India International Travel Mart', to be held from 3 - 5 January 2019, at Rajiv Gandhi Indoor Stadium, Elamkulam Road, Kadavanthara, P.O. With this year's edition of 'IITM' Kochi, Sphere Travelmedia & Exhibitions completes Twenty years of providing the travel industry and discerning buyers from the travel-trade and corporate sector an opportunity to do business.

'India International Travel Mart' will showcase a variety of destinations from different spheres such as pilgrimages, adventures, culture & heritage, beaches, hills and much more. The event will have over 250 participants from over 8 countries and over 20 Indian states. The participants include Travel Agents & Tour Operators, DMC, Hotels & Resorts, National Tourist Organizations, Cruises, Airlines, Online Travel Portals etc.

The three-day event will showcase glimpses from the travel, tourism and hospitality industries. The time for IITM Kochi is perfect for the upcoming holiday season in India such as New Year vacations, and with the upcoming summer holidays and long weekends as well as round-the-year travel, vacations and business plans. Speaking on the occasion, Mr Sanjay Hakhu, Director, Sphere TravelMedia said, "India in spite of the present business environment is fast emerging as one of the most interesting and productive countries for the travel trade industry both for leisure and business travel. A combination of factors is responsible for the growth and demand of travel trends from India. The visitor profile is on a B2B & B2C format like and will have over 15,000 buyers over three days". Tourism Studies and Trends indicate that the year 2019 – 2020 will see more than 20 million Indian tourists embarking on overseas travel and with the advent of low-cost international airfares and holiday packages that are available on monthly instalments payable over a period of time, International travel is no longer a luxury.

Highlights:

- Kerala is the 'Host' State.
- Other states being represented include Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Goa, Jharkhand, Andaman Islands, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and many more.
- More than 150 hotels and resorts are participating from all over India, making it one of the most diverse ranges of hospitality products in the country on display.
- Diverse Tourism segments on display such as Pilgrimage Travel, Adventure, Cultural pursuits, shopping tours, etc.
- International Holiday Packages from IRCTC.
- Some of the International participants who are participating this year include participants from Dubai, Iceland, Maldives, Singapore etc

The 'India International Travel Mart' provides an ideal 'marketing opportunity' and 'excellent backdrop' to enhance the participant's 'brand-equity' in the eyes of the discerning end consumer and the travel-trade.

Boost for Domestic Tourism:

The event showcases travel and hospitality products from every part of the country, making it one of the biggest congregations of travel-trade in the country. The event provides unmatched networking opportunities to interact with Travel-Trade and Corporate Buyers alike.

Mr. Rohit Hangal, Director, Sphere Travelmedia added: 'domestic travel as the backbone' of India's tourism portfolio and with an estimated 561 million domestic tourist visits. This segment is probably only second to China in terms of sheer size. With the rapid economic development taking place in the country and availability of greater disposable income combined with affordable holiday packages, tourism in India is increasing steadily and acts as a catalyst for the furthering the economic growth in view of its wide-ranging linkage effects and multiple impacts. The participants from the states of Karnataka, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, and many more destinations will be seen aggressively marketing their products will be there with their travel and tourism stakeholders".

The exhibition would be open between 11.00 am - 7.00 pm during the three days.

About IITM: IITM 2019 is the region's premier B2B & B2C networking opportunity, for all professionals within this ever-growing industry. It is the most important national exhibition for Travel & Tourism Trade.

These events bring together thousands of key decision-makers from among National / State Government Tourism Departments, National / Regional Tourist Organizations, Destination Management Companies, Convention and Visitors Bureaus, Amusement / Themes Parks, Railways, Airport Authorities, Air Charter Companies, Airlines – Domestic and International, Car Rental Companies, Convention Centres, Cruise Liners, Educational Institutes, Golf Courses & Resorts, Hotels & Resorts, IT Companies, Medical Tourism, Spas and Wellness Centres, Sports Tourism Products, International Tourism Organizations, Travel Agents, Tour Operators, etc globally.

For Further Details, Contact:

Ms. Jeelani

Mobile: 9844 235 673

Gujarat is the 'Partner State' while Karnataka, West Bengal & Arunachal Pradesh will be the 'Feature Destinations' at the event.



*You are cordially invited to the
Inauguration & Press Conference of*

India's Premier Travel & Tourism Exhibition

At 03.00 pm Thursday, 3rd January 2019

Exhibition Timings

11.00 am to 7.00 pm

**Venue: Regional Sports Center,
Rajiv Gandhi Indoor Stadium,
Elamkulam Road, Kadavanthra P.O,
Kochi - 682020, Kerala State, India**



RSVP - Ms Jeelani MN

+91 9844235673 | jeelani@spheretravelmedia.com

www.iitmindia.com

India International Travel Mart

India's Premier Travel and Tourism Exhibition
Announces 2019 Calendar of Travel Events in India

Sub: India International Travel Mart 2019

India's Premier Travel & Tourism Exhibition (B2B & B2C)

IITM Kochi	: 3 - 5 January 2019
IITM Kolkata	: 22 - 24 February 2019
IITM Bangalore	: 2 - 4 August 2019
IITM Chennai	: 9 - 11 August 2019
IITM Ahmedabad	: 13 - 15 September 2019
IITM Delhi	: 20 - 22 September 2019
IITM Mumbai	: 27 - 29 September 2019
IITM Hyderabad	: 22 - 24 November 2019
IITM Pune	: 29 November - 1 December 2019

More than 35 countries and over 25 Indian states to be showcased!

'Sphere Travelmedia & Exhibitions' announces the 2019 Calendar of 'India International Travel Mart' events to be conducted in nine major markets of India.

With this year's edition of 'IITM', Sphere Travelmedia & Exhibitions completes twenty years of providing the travel industry and discerning buyers from the travel – trade an opportunity to do and transact business. With organizations and tourism boards from over 25 Indian states and over 35 countries, 'India International Travel Mart' will showcase a variety of destinations from different spheres such as pilgrimages, adventures, culture & heritage, beaches, hills and many more.

The events for 2019 shall have over 500 participants from over 35 countries and over 25 Indian states. The participants include Travel agents & Tour Operators, DMC, Hotels & Resorts, National Tourist Offices, Online Travel Portals, Adventure Tour Operators, Eco – Tourism activities, etc.

Mr. Sanjay Hakhu, Director, Sphere Travelmedia said, "India in spite of the present business environment is fast emerging as one of the most interesting and productive countries for the travel trade industry both for leisure and business travel. A combination of factors is responsible for the growth and demand of travel trends from India".

Tourism Studies and Trends indicates that the year 2019 – 2020 will see more than 18 million tourists embarking on overseas travel and with the advent of low cost international airfares, holiday packages that are available on monthly instalments payable over a period of time, International Travel is no longer a luxury.

Highlights:

- This year 'India International Travel Mart' will see several new products in the Hospitality and Travel sphere being unveiled.
- The 'India International Travel Mart' provides an ideal 'marketing opportunity' and excellent backdrop to enhance the participant's 'brand-equity' in the eyes of the discerning end consumer and the travel-trade.
- **Boost for Domestic Tourism:** Domestic Travel being India's biggest travel segment, this year shall see participants from over 25 different tourism specialties.
- The events are supported by major associations such as 'Association of Domestic Tour Operators of India', 'Indian Association of Tour Operators' and **Outbound Tour Operators Association of India**, etc

Mr. Rohit Hangal, Director, Sphere Travelmedia added "With the present ongoing recession International Arrivals in India has dropped and India International Travel Mart provides the right impetus to the Indian domestic tourism industry. With a base of over 200 million discerning domestic travel seekers, it is a yearlong market, no hospitality and travel organization can ignore".

About 'India International Travel Mart':

IITM - India's premier Exhibition that showcases of travel, tourism, hospitality, leisure and other related industries. It is aimed at bringing the Industry, face-to-face with the travel trade, Corporate Buyer and the end-customer with the requisite purchasing power.

'India International Travel Mart', India's premier travel and tourism Exhibition brand established in 1998 by 'Sphere Travelmedia & Exhibitions Pvt. Ltd.', is held at the country's major markets of Cochin, Kolkata, Bangalore, Chennai, Gurgaon (Delhi NCR), Mumbai, Hyderabad and Pune.

Contact details:

For further details, contact Jeelani MN, Public Relations, Sphere Travelmedia & Exhibitions Pvt. Ltd.,
Ph: 91-80-4083 4116 (d), 4083 4100,
Fax: 91-80-2529 0708,
Mobile: 91-9844-235673
Email: jeelani@spheretravelmedia.com
Website: www.iitmindia.com

Enchanting traditional architecture of Kerala

A dedicated space for our classical culture and traditions

A blend of classical aesthetics and modern comforts

OUR QUEST

Neelambari is a premium boutique resort in the heart of Kerala, Thrissur. Since its inception Neelambari has catered well to the discerning traveller - looking for a relaxed leisure holiday to the explorers seeking the best of culture, nature and healing that Kerala has to offer. We envisaged Neelambari as a showcase for the best central Kerala has to offer - especially Thrissur, the cultural capital of Kerala. Away from the mad rush of 'touristic' destinations, shunning 'experiences' meant only for tourists - we wanted to create an ecotourism destination where our guests would feel like they are visiting friends. Neelambari today is the realisation of this vision, but not by any means the end of our journey. We are constantly discovering new facets in our own culture, new delights to be explored in our own backyards, and new ways to improve on our experiences. We are fresh on the trail, but it is already apparent to us that we have started a joyful journey without end.

OUR FACILITY In a serene, verdant landscape Neelambari blends traditional and modern sensibilities in its architecture. Here we have reproduced the classic architecture of Kerala in all its richness. Our central building that houses the theater, Yoga hall, library, reception and lounge is a combination of a Koothambalam and a Nalukettu. The Koothambalam incorporates several exquisite works of art in its folds – in wood, stone and murals. Nalukettu (traditional courtyard) brings to life the charm and simplicity of old Kerala households. Lots of wind and light, an informal ambience and high aesthetic quotient all blends to form a dining and lounging space of great warmth and tranquility. Our cottages, continue the same traditional theme in their demeanor. They however hold spacious bedrooms and bathrooms that appeal to contemporary norms of comfort and luxury.

OUR VILLAGE Arattupuzha, our home is a quaint little village in the outskirts of Thrissur. The name Arattupuzha is derived from the annual temple festival and signifies the



ritual bath that takes place in the river at the end of the festival. Karuvannur puzha, a beautiful river meanders through much of the village as it heads west into the Arabian Sea. Vast expanses of paddy fields surround the village and its green landscape. The city of Thrissur is just 12 kms away. An abundance of temple festival in the region, proximity to the rich cultural centers of Thrissur and Irinjalakuda, beautiful landscape and a charming river - all these factors make Arattupuzha (and Neelambari) a great vantage point to explore some of the best experiences in Kerala. Despite its thoroughly rural setting, Arattupuzha is easily accessible by air (Cochin Airport), rail and road.

Experiential ecotourism for a delectable holiday

Neelambari is not a haven of exclusivity. We thrive in our village ecosystem and wholeheartedly shares the joys and throbs of local life. The entire Neelambari team is from our village and proudly shares its fortunes and traditions. We have curated and in some cases distilled beautiful experiences from our village and the larger Thrissur region. These experiences combine to offer a joyous yet realistic flavour of the local life, culture, traditions and festivals to our guests as they stay with us. Be it nature, culture, Yoga or Ayurveda we ensure that we do not adulterate or mystify anything because they are being offered to "tourists". ■

India continues as the third largest visitor source market for Singapore

Crosses the one million visitor mark for the fourth time and retains top spot as source market for Cruise travel

Tuesday, 12th March: For the fourth time in a row, Singapore welcomed more than one million Indian travelers in 2018, reinforcing it as one of the most preferred destinations for Indian outbound travel. The Singapore Tourism Board (STB) announced that India retained its third position, after China and Indonesia, as a Visitors Arrival (VA) source market for Singapore, having first gaining that spot in 2017. It recorded the second highest growth at 13%, after USA (14%).

While key metro cities like Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi and Mumbai continue to contribute the highest number of visitors to Singapore - 498,000 travelers in 2018, a year-on-year (YOY) increase of 8%, STB's efforts to engage other key metros and secondary cities resulted in them providing good growth in visitorship. These cities, including Hyderabad, Kolkata Pune, Amritsar, Coimbatore and Visakhapatnam contributed 253,000 travelers in 2018, a YOY growth of 12%.

Singapore received 160,000 cruise holiday makers from India in 2018, a 27% YOY increase, making India remain as the top cruise travel source market for Singapore. Up till third quarter 2018, Singapore had welcomed two million BTMICE global visitors, a 14% YOY increase. From India, Singapore continued to draw a high number of meetings & incentive (M&I) travel groups in 2018, including from prominent corporates like Amway India and Voltas.

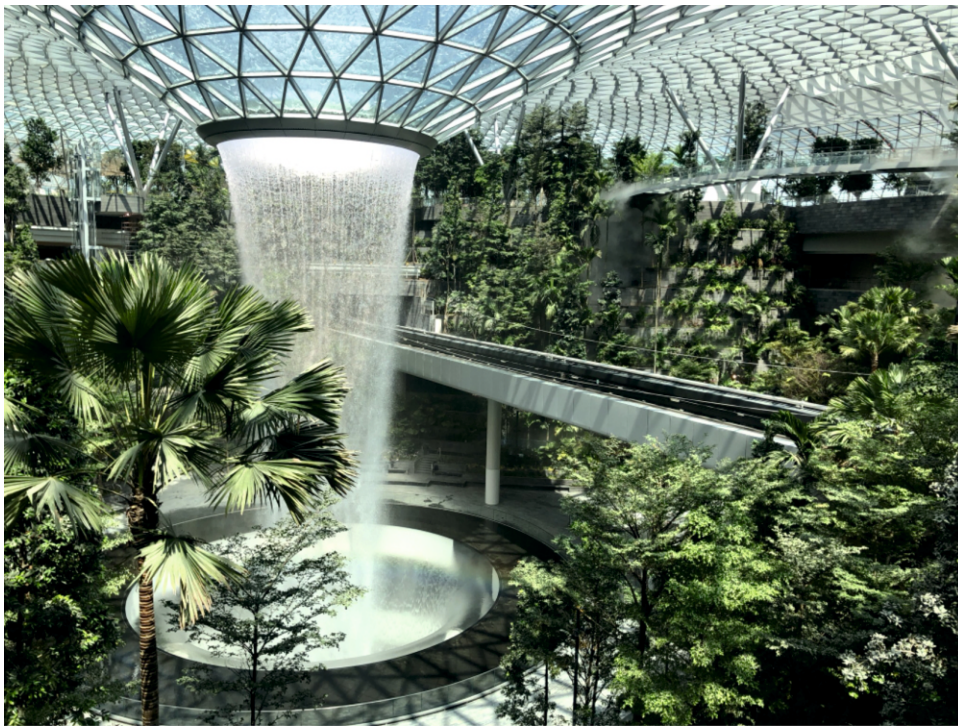
The year 2018 was an eventful year for STB in the Indian market. It promoted the destination brand "Passion Made Possible" vigorously and presented Singapore's diverse offerings to audiences across India - families, early & established careers, cruise travellers, meetings and incentive groups and travellers from Tier 2 & 3 cities. It embarked on several creative consumer engagement initiatives like the first-ever English music video collaboration by an international tourism agency in India with Vh1, marketing partnerships with high consumer-touch brands Paytm and Ola and a music promotional



association with Maestro Ilaiyaraaja targeting the South India market. The STB also undertook intensive travel trade outreach efforts across 21 cities to connect with travel intermediaries promoting Singapore holidays.

Speaking to media in Chennai and Bangalore, as part of STB's first trade engagement programme in South India for 2019, GB Srithar, Regional Director SAMEA (South Asia, Middle East and Africa), STB said, "We are grateful to all our partners who promoted Singapore actively in 2018, making us welcome a record 1.44 million visitors from India. With Singapore's diverse sightseeing and attraction offerings, array of exciting events and year-round festivals and celebrations catering to the different passion points of travelers, we look forward to welcoming more visitors from India to experience Singapore in 2019."

Visitors will have many reasons to visit and revisit Singapore in 2019. The city will celebrate the much-anticipated opening of Jewel Changi Airport on April 17th. The 10-storey complex will be home to more than 280 shops and food and beverage (F&B) outlets. A five-storey garden with more than 2,000 trees and 100,000 shrubs, with two walking trails and a 40m-high Rain Vortex - the world's tallest indoor waterfall will delight visitors. One of



Singapore's finest attractions, the Singapore Cable Car celebrates 45 years of providing scenic views with the debut of 'Miraculous', an original multi-sensorial video-mapping show on the Angsana tree at hilltop restaurant Arbora at Faber Peak Singapore. There will also be a line-up of exciting activities, events, F&B promotions at Singapore's only hilltop destination.

Collaborating with Madame Tussauds Singapore, Tollywood superstar Mahesh Babu will be launching his first and only wax figure in the world on March 25th, 2019 in Hyderabad. This will be a special moment for Madame Tussauds Singapore as this will be the first time unveiling a prestigious figure outside of Singapore. Mahesh's wax figure will join Madame Tussauds Singapore – the home of other A-list icons, the IIFA Award Experience and the new upcoming Ultimate Film Star Experience. All his fans will be able to get up close and grab their selfies with superstar Mahesh very soon. On the BTMICE front, Singapore

is set to host some key events like Kaspersky Security Analyst Summit 2019, KPMG Asia Pacific Tax Summit 2019, 18th Asia Pacific Life Insurance Congress 2021 and Asian Patent Attorneys Association General Assembly and Council Meetings 2022. Collectively, these events are expected to draw close to 10,500 foreign delegates to Singapore. The STB will continue reaching out to and enticing M&I travellers in India to Singapore, through its incentive schemes, INSPIRE and BeIS.

About Singapore Tourism Board

The Singapore Tourism Board (STB) is the lead development agency for tourism, one of

Singapore's key economic sectors. Together with industry partners and the community, we shape a dynamic Singapore tourism landscape. We bring the Passion Made Possible brand to life by differentiating Singapore as a vibrant destination that inspires people to share and deepen their passions. For more information, visit www.stb.gov.sg or www.visitsingapore.com or follow us on Twitter @STB_sg (https://twitter.com/stb_sg).



Theme parks in **DUBAI**

Everything you need to know about Dubai's new theme parks. With big ambitions and the expertise to make even the wildest dreams a reality, Dubai is becoming the most exciting adventure playground in the world. Whether it's family fun or hair-raising thrills you're after, there are laughs in store for all. Head to IMG Worlds of Adventure, the world's largest indoor theme park, or visit Dubai Parks and Resorts, where there's fun for the whole family at Motiongate Dubai, Legoland Dubai and Bollywood Parks Dubai.

IMG Worlds of Adventure

Best for: Thrill-seekers

WORLD'S LARGEST INDOOR THEME PARK

In the words of Jurassic World writers, "The park is open". Dubai's latest record-breaker is the size of 28 football fields and features four zones including one dedicated entirely to dinosaurs. The temperature-controlled indoor park is home to more than 20 rides and attractions, many themes around Marvel comics and Cartoon Network characters.



Signature ride: The Velociprator rollercoaster is the tallest and fastest rollercoaster in Dubai, propelling guests to 100km in 2.5 seconds from prehistoric jungle into the desert.

Motiongate Dubai

Best for: Action seekers

LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!

A blockbuster in its own right, this Hollywood-inspired adventure land features 27 rides inspired by 13 memorable action and animation films, including Ghostbusters, Shrek and The Hunger Games. There are three zones dedicated to Hollywood's most legendary film studios including Dreamworks, Lionsgate and Columbia Pictures, while the Smurfs Village keeps little ones enthralled for hours.



Signature ride: Madagascar Mad Pursuit, the fastest roller coaster in the park, propels you on a wild chase as the Zoosters try to escape obsessive animal control officer Captain DuBois.

Legoland Dubai

Best for: Minions

ADVENTURES FOR ALL AGES

Explore a world where the Lego brick comes to life at Legoland Dubai. Ideal for families with children aged two to 12, there are more than 40 rides and 15,000

Lego models, with many attractions requiring kids to use teamwork and apply their skills to steer a boat or drive a car. A mere 60 million Lego bricks were used to build this family theme park, which is made up of six lands – both indoor and outdoor – including Lego City and the Middle East-themed Miniland.



Signature ride: Climb aboard the medieval Dragon coaster and encounter twists and turns with a view of life behind the scenes in the enchanted King's castle.

Legoland Water Park

Best for: Little mermaids

SLIDE INTO AQUATIC FUN

Splash into a world of Lego adventures at Legoland Water Park, designed for families with kids aged two to 12. Let your creativity and imagination run wild with over 20 Lego-themed waterslides and attractions, including a wave pool, a DUPLO splash safari area for toddlers and a lazy river where you can even build your own Lego raft.



Signature attraction: Build-A-Raft River is a one-of-a-kind concept where kids customise their own raft made of large soft Lego bricks before floating down a lazy river.

Bollywood Parks

Best for: Gurus

THE MAGIC OF BOLLYWOOD COMES ALIVE

Dubai ticks off another world first with this theme park dedicated to India's vibrant Bollywood film industry. The park features more than 16 cinematic rides and attractions, 20 live shows across five different stages, Indian dining and five zones including Bollywood Boulevard and Mumbai Chowk.



Signature attraction: The park's flagship Rajmahal Theatre brings Broadway-style Bollywood musicals to Dubai and seats up to 856 people. ■

Ravneet Kaur, Chairperson & Managing Director (C&MD), ITDC conferred with 'ISAW Women Achiever Award' for “Professionalism in Management” at ITB Berlin

New Delhi, 12 March 2019 – Chairperson & Managing Director, ITDC Ms. Ravneet Kaur, IAS, has been awarded with **ISAW Women Achiever Award for “Professionalism in Management”** The award was presented at the recently concluded ITB Berlin, world's leading travel trade show at **Germany, by Mr. Taleb D Refai**, Former Secretary General United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) in the presence of tourism ministers from various countries like Bangladesh, Jamaica, Greece, Oman, Zimbabwe, Mauritius, Namibia and Shri Yogendra Tripathi, Secretary (Tourism) India.



Ms. Kaur has been awarded for her professionalism and approach towards managing different tasks at the helm of the affairs. Ms. Kaur is working towards establishing and positioning brand ITDC as a leading multi-activity and dynamic organization dealing in various fields related to Hospitality, Tourism & Travel.

Institute of South Asian Women (ISAW) honours exceptional women achievers on International Women's Day. ISAW has been honouring women achievers since its inception in 2012 which include Ministers and women activists from various countries. These are women who have emerged from the shadows to claim an equal stake in society. They are in the forefront and at the helm of affairs in their respective countries. These international awards are given every year on International Women's Day event held in early March.

About India Tourism Development Corporation

ITDC was incorporated in 1966 with a mandate to develop and expand tourism infrastructure in the country. The Corporation has been moving ahead with consistent efforts on development, growth and world-class services and amenities to its guests. Apart from running Hotels the ITDC has diversified into non-hotel sectors like Ticketing, Tours and Travels, Event Management, Duty Free Shopping, Publicity & Printing Consultancy, Engineering Consultancy, mounting Sound & Light Shows, Hospitality education and skill development– all under one roof.



We're moments



We're timeless



We're Egypt



Hello,
I'll never forget the look of awe on my wife's face when we took our first Nile cruise thirty years ago. Special moments like that made this one of our favourite trips. It's like you're time travelling as you go through different historical dynasties on the Nile's banks.
Now, my granddaughter is back from the pool. She wants me to tell her stories about our ancient kings and the Karnak Temple... for the fifth time!
Join us.

Omar

See you on a
Nile Cruise
www.egypt.travel



Egyptian Tourism Office, 1st Floor, The Arcade, 48 - World Trade Center, Cuffe Parade. Mumbai - 400 005, Tel: 022 22189543 / 22189170, Fax: 022 22188380 / 40029543. Email: egyptcontours1@gmail.com, www.egypt.travel

REIEK

YOUR JOURNEY TO SERENITY



Reiek Mountain

*Converse with Nature
Experience the Ancestral life of the Mizos
Adventure awaits you at Reiek Tourist Resort*



Modern Village



*Venue for
Anthurium Festival*



Typical Village



Tourist Cottage



www.tourism.mizoram.gov.in
email: mizoram.tourism@gmail.com
Tel:- +91 389 2333475



Incredible India

New York Times Travel Show 2018

The New York Times Travel Show 2019 Award of Excellence for **'Best in Show'** has been awarded to India in the recently concluded New York Times Travel Show, the largest travel show in North America, held in New York, USA.

The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India participated in the New York Times Travel Show (NYTTS 2019) organised from January 25-27, 2019 at Jacob K Javits Centre, New York as the *'Presenting Partner'* with a view to scale up its tourism promotional efforts in the US, enhance India's visibility and to increase its share of US Outbound travel market.

A high level delegation led by Shri Yogendra Tripathi, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Government of

India and a number of stakeholders from India's tourism industry participated in the Show. A number of India centric activities were organised at the Show including 'Focus on India' and Consumer Seminars, Indian cultural performances, Indian Culinary Demonstration, Food tasting, etc. The Consumer Seminar at the Show was attended by Ms. Padma Lakshmi, a renowned international celebrity. Secretary (Tourism) interacted with a number of leading travel professionals from the US at the Trade Key Note Session during the Show and sought their continued support in positioning India in the US. India was honoured during the Closing Bell Ceremony at the New York Stock Exchange. Secretary (Tourism) was also interviewed by the CBS Television Network of the US in 'This Morning Show'. ■



JANUARY 2019

37

"YOU DESERVE TO STAY WITH US"



www.hotelmadhuban.com



Established : 1975

Hotel Madhuban Highlands Mussoorie:

Charleville Road, Mussoorie
Ph.: (0135) 2635550-52 Fax: (0135) 2635553
Reservations: 2740066, 2740077
E-mail: hmhighlands@gmail.com
Delhi: 9810639693



Hotel Madhuban Dehra Dun Uttarakhand:

97 Rajpur Road, Dehra Dun, Uttarakhand.
Phones: (0135) 2749990- 9994 Fax: 2746496
Reservations: 2740066, 2740077
E-mail: hotel_madhuban@vsnl.com/
hotelmadhuban@bsnl.in

• Tastefully decorated rooms and suites replete with all latest comforts • Air conditioned • Truly veritable paradise for leisure, business or conferences

Discover the Beauty of Tehri Garhwal **VISIT TEHRI CLUB AND RESORT** *A home away from home.*

Located at an altitude of 7000 feet, TCR offers a splendid view of snow-capped Himalayas. Unlike Mussoorie, the place is quiet and picturesque. An excellent place to relax. The Resort is surrounded by apple trees and forests. This is a place for leisure, recreation and adventure.

Here you forget your worries and tensions of office and home in a few days. Best place to rejuvenate. It offers excellent accommodation with delicious food to suite your appetite and tastes. All the rooms are equipped with modern facilities. The rates are moderate. We also offer packages tailor made according to your requirement.

Contact Manager for more details:

Telephone & Fax + 91 01376-234981 & 234982
Postal Address: Tehri Club & Resorts,
Near Hanuman Murti, Badshahi Thaul,
Chamba-New Tehri Road, Tehri, Uttarakhand-249145
Electronic Mail:

General Information : info@tehrclubandresort.com
Sales & Customer Support: rajeev@tehrclubandresort.com
www.tehrclubandresort.com

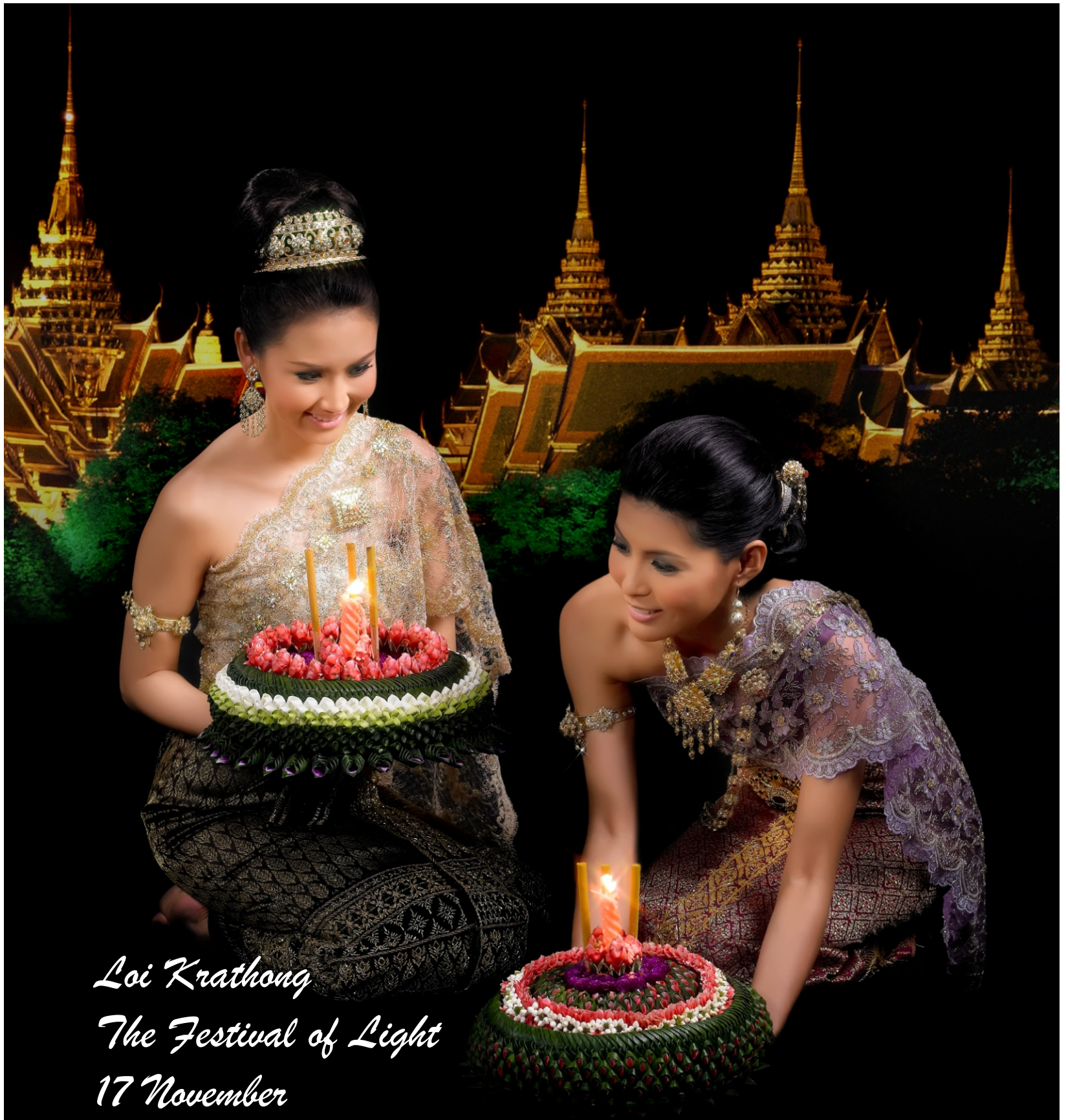


Israel Ministry of Tourism opens a new welcome desk to greet tourists at the **BEN-GURION** **INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

The Israel Ministry of Tourism is expanding its activities at Ben-Gurion International Airport with the set up of a new welcome desk for incoming tourists in the arrivals hall of the airport. The idea is to offer a service to travellers seeking information regarding public transportation, accommodation, attractions, maps and more. The new welcome desk inaugurated on 2nd August, 2018 is in addition to the permanent welcome desk, positioned in the baggage hall.

Tourism Minister Yariv Levin, who inaugurated the welcome desk, said: "This year we are set to reach about 4 million incoming tourists and this welcome desk will provide them with an immediate response, so that their visit to Israel will be as successful as possible." ■





*Loi Krathong
The Festival of Light
17 November*

Tourism Authority of Thailand New Delhi Office:

B - 9/1A, (GF) Vasant Vihar, New Delhi 110057
Tel: 91-11-46741111, 41663567-9 | Fax: 91-11-41663570
Email: tatdel@tat.or.th | [www.facebook.com/tat.new delhi](https://www.facebook.com/tat.newdelhi)

Tourism Authority of Thailand Mumbai Office:

456 Free Press House, 4th Floor, 215 Free Press Journal Marg,
Nariman Point, Mumbai 400021 | Tel: 91-22-22042727-8
Fax: 91-22-22042729 | Email: tatmumbai@tat.or.th

amazing
THAILAND
Always Amazes You

www.tourismthailand.org
Tourism & Wildlife

[Facebook.com/Tourismauthorityofthailandindia](https://www.facebook.com/Tourismauthorityofthailandindia)
[Twitter.com/ThaiAmazesYou](https://twitter.com/ThaiAmazesYou)

Land of Rivers, Lakes, Wildlife and Unforgettable Nature



Explore **Jharkhand**
Exceeding Expectations... ALWAYS!



For more detail contact :

Department of Tourism

Govt. of Jharkhand

FFP Building, 2nd Floor, Dhurwa, Ranchi

Ph.: 0651-2400493, 2401051 • Fax No.: 0651-2400492

Email ID: jharkhandtourism@yahoo.co.in • Website: jharkhandtourism.in