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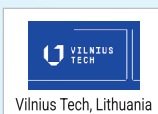
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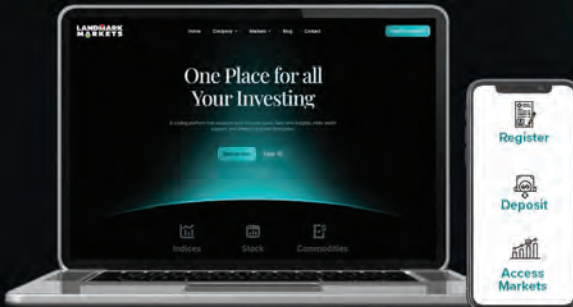




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DEAR READERS,

Welcome aboard SpiceJet!

As the festive season draws near, filling the air with joy, hope, and the spirit of togetherness, I would like to extend my warmest greetings to you and your loved ones. This time of the year is about reconnecting with family and friends, celebrating traditions old and new, and creating memories that stay with us forever.

At SpiceJet, we take immense pride in being a part of your journeys – whether it's bringing you home to your loved ones, taking you to festive celebrations, or connecting you to new experiences. Our teams are working tirelessly to ensure your travels this season are seamless, safe, and filled with the same warmth and cheer that the season itself brings. As you celebrate, we hope to make every journey with us a special part of your festive story.

Safety has always been, and will always remain, the very heart of everything we do at SpiceJet. I am delighted to share that in the recent DGCA safety audit findings covering all scheduled airlines over the past year, SpiceJet came out with flying colours, recording zero Level 1 findings – the most serious category of observations in such audits.

Safety has always been paramount at SpiceJet, and this outcome is a strong endorsement of the airline's robust safety culture, strict adherence to regulatory requirements, and alignment with global best practices in aviation safety.

This recognition is a reflection of our unwavering culture of care, discipline, and responsibility. Every member of the SpiceJet family, from our pilots and engineers to our cabin crew and ground staff,



lives this commitment each day. Their dedication ensures that every journey you take with us is not only comfortable, but also safe in the truest sense.

As Durga Puja and Diwali approach, bringing with them the joy of celebration and the warmth of togetherness, SpiceJet is preparing to welcome you with even more options to travel, celebrate, and connect. We are expanding our wings in a big way, increasing our fleet and network capacity so that your journeys are smoother, more convenient, and filled with the joy of being where you truly want to be. By strengthening our network, we want to ensure that you can travel when you want, where you want, with ease and comfort. This is our way of being part of your festive story, by taking you closer to the people and places that matter the most.

As the festive season draws us closer to family, friends, and celebration, I want you to know that SpiceJet is entering this new chapter with renewed strength and confidence. With more aircraft joining our fleet, an expanding network, and a safety record we are deeply proud of, we are better prepared than ever to serve you with warmth, reliability, and our signature hospitality. On behalf of the entire SpiceJet family, I wish you a season filled with joy, love, and unforgettable journeys. We look forward to welcoming you onboard and being a part of your celebrations, today and always..

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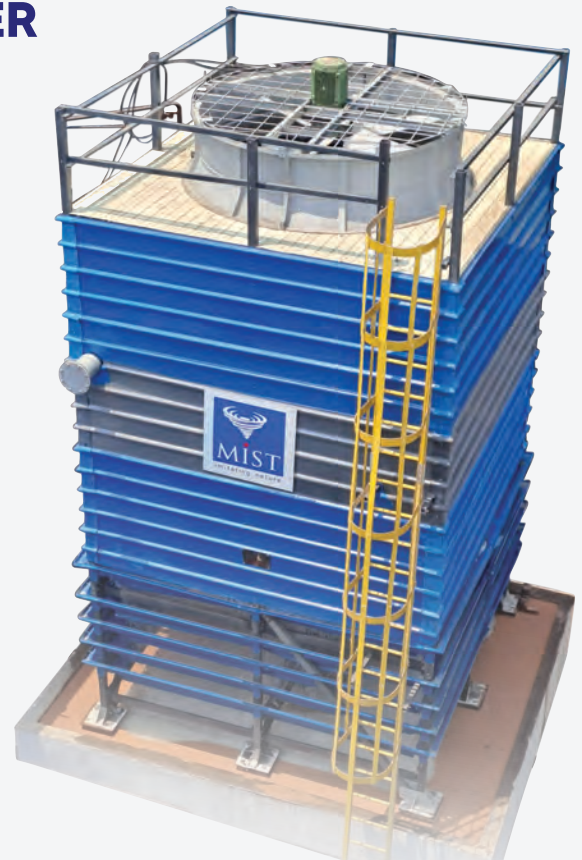
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SpiceJet to Induct Five More Boeing 737s Ahead of Winter 2025, Taking Total New Additions to 10 Aircraft

Fleet Expansion to Cater to Peak Winter and Early Summer Demand; Aircraft to Start Arriving in Early October 2025

SpiceJet has finalised a lease agreement for another five Boeing 737 aircraft, further strengthening its fleet ahead of the upcoming winter schedule. While most of these aircraft will join the fleet in October 2025, a few are scheduled to arrive a couple of weeks earlier.

These additions will cater to the peak winter season and extend into the early summer season of 2026, remaining with the airline until May 2026. The aircraft will be inducted under damp lease arrangements.

This latest agreement follows SpiceJet's announcement

last month of inducting five Boeing 737s on damp lease from another operator, taking the total number of new fleet additions to 10. The airline is also in advanced discussions to lease more aircraft ahead of the winter 2025 schedule.

Debojo Maharshi, Chief Business Officer, SpiceJet, said, "SpiceJet is fully geared to meet the surge in travel demand for the upcoming winter and early summer seasons. With the induction of these additional Boeing 737s, we are ensuring that our passengers have more choices, greater connectivity, and a reliable, on-time travel experience."

SpiceJet Records Zero Level 1 Safety Findings in DGCA Safety Audits Over the Last One Year

Happy To Be Recognised As India's Safe Airline, Says SpiceJet

SpiceJet is proud to share that as per the Directorate General of Civil Aviation's (DGCA) recent safety audit findings covering all scheduled airlines over the last one year, the airline recorded nil Level 1 findings – the most serious category of observations in such audits.

Safety has always been paramount at SpiceJet, and this outcome is a strong endorsement of the airline's robust safety culture, strict adherence to regulatory requirements, and alignment with global best practices in aviation safety.

SpiceJet is deeply committed to upholding the highest safety standards in every aspect of its operations and the

DGCA's findings reaffirm our focus on operational excellence, compliance, and global best practices.

Earlier in March this year, SpiceJet successfully renewed its prestigious IATA Operational Safety Audit (IOSA) certification, a globally recognised benchmark for operational safety, valid until March 2027. The IOSA audit, conducted by the International Air Transport Association (IATA), is a rigorous, internationally accepted evaluation of an airline's operational management and control systems. This achievement further reaffirms SpiceJet's unwavering commitment to maintaining the highest safety and operational standards.





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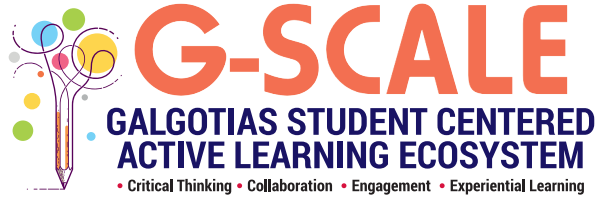
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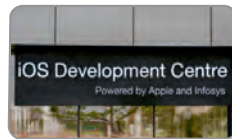
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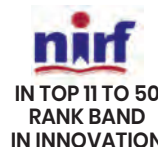
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Swapnil Choudhary (...)
@yuva_swapnil

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A big thank you to @flyspicejet and excellent
crew of SG 158 on 28th Jul 2025(Delhi to
Guwahati). I have taken multiple flights ✈️. It
was a really awesome experience. Thank you
team you are doing a very good job.
@flyspicejet



கருப்பன்வீரா
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@flyspicejet corporate is absolutely better
than @IndiGo6E. Choice of food and
beverages and they greet the passengers in
our language.

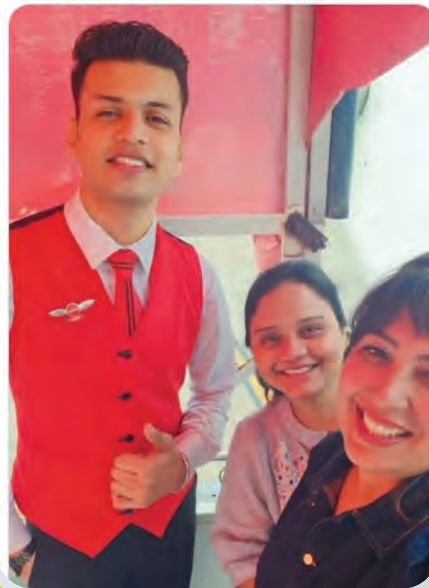


Lakhu Teleservice
@Lakhutelecom

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@flyspicejet @AnujSingh1408
Just had an amazing flight from Dehradun to
Ahmedabad (SG-0616 on 30th June 2025)
with @flyspicejet! Huge thanks to the crew,
especially Anuj Singh, for the warm hospitality
and excellent service. I've flown with many
airlines, but SpiceJet's Better



Masha Danaz
@MashaDanaz

Follow



@flyspicejet Today felt privileged while
travelling vide pnr DGKYPN. Miss Sumona at
the boarding counter was very helpful. She
helped a smooth transition with courtesy at
the boarding counter in no time. After a long
time felt privileged being a Spice Club
member. Thank you SJ.



Sabakarim(সাবাকার...)
@Sabakarim01

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Just took my first @flyspicejet flight on SG199
& OMG, what a vibe! Smooth ride, awesome
crew, totally loved it! Only hiccup? The AC was
a bit shy. Can't wait for my next adventure with
you guys! #SpiceJet #FirstFlight



RIKESH KUMAR TIW...
@rikesh0

Follow



Our journey from Varanasi to Ahmedabad
SpiceJet's SG 718 was comfortable and
smooth. Special thanks to Miss @Priyanka for
her excellent hospitality and courteous service
throughout the flight. Truly appreciated! ✈️
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DUGASTA

PROPERTIES

On May 6, 2025, a significant milestone was achieved in Dubai's ever-evolving skyline. Our Chairman, Tauseef Khan, alongside CEO Azaan Khan and President Eifaad Khan, proudly officiated the groundbreaking ceremony for Terra Tower, a premier residential project by Dugasta Properties.

Set in Dubai land, the heart of the bustling metropolis of Dubai, is Terra Tower by Dugasta Properties. Rising majestically above the city skyline, Terra Tower is a testament to modern architectural brilliance. This premium residential tower offers an unparalleled collection of studio, 1, 2 and 3 bedroom homes, each meticulously crafted to embody the essence of luxury and sophistication.

With its futuristic and aesthetic design, Terra Tower redefines the concept of urban living. The interiors are thoughtfully curated, combining functional layouts with lavish finishes. Enjoy breathtaking views of the city from the private balcony while basking in the serene ambience of a family-friendly community. Inspired by the color of the Earth, Terra Tower is strategically located near major highways and renowned landmarks, offering the perfect blend of convenience and tranquility.





MORE REASONS TO CELEBRATE BURMA

Burma Burma, the country's only pan-India Burmese restaurant and Tea Room, has launched three new outlets simultaneously across Delhi-NCR, taking its presence in the region to six restaurants. Known for reimagining Burmese cuisine with contemporary flair, the brand continues to draw from street food, heirloom recipes, and immersive research trips. Each new restaurant is also a design showcase, with Aerocity's soaring atrium crowned by a hanging pagoda, colonial-inspired accents at DLF Promenade, and Mandalay-inspired textures in Gurgaon, offering guests not just a meal but an experience.

Where: DLF Promenade Vasant Kunj, Worldmark 3 Aerocity, Worldmark 65 Gurugram



what's TRENDING



A WORKSPACE THAT WORKS WONDERS

Featherlite has come up with the most efficient office furniture range. In today's hybrid workplace, fostering human connection is more important than ever. While digital tools enable communication, the depth of in-person collaboration remains unmatched. Thoughtful office design plays a key role in bridging this gap, balancing open layouts with private pods, incorporating breakout zones, and integrating flexible meeting areas. From Featherlite's Interact Points and Glass Pods to inviting lounges and presentation spaces, design directly influences how teams connect, innovate, and thrive together. Creating such environments builds stronger communities, enhances creativity, and ensures workplaces remain relevant in a digital-first era.

Where: <https://featherlitefurniture.com/>

FOR THE MINDFUL DINER

Organic Bistro has opened its doors in Delhi's Khan Market, offering a clean, wholesome dining experience without compromising on taste or creativity. With pastel-toned interiors, ample daylight, and 40 covers, the bistro focuses on seasonal produce and regional inspiration. The menu spans comfort and innovation with dishes such as Purple Potato Dahi Vada, Jackfruit Haleem, and Peri Peri Chickpea Hummus. Smoothies, organic teas, and cold-pressed juices enhance the mindful dining ethos. The outlet will soon expand with 25 additional seats on the upper level, ensuring greater accessibility.

Where: Khan Market, New Delhi





SWEET MOMENTS ARE BREWING

The Hazelnut Factory, a speciality coffee and artisanal sweets brand rooted in Lucknow, has inaugurated its 15th outlet in Agra. Inspired by European cafés yet infused with Indian sensibility, the brand's warm blue interiors highlight its philosophy: 'The Joy of Crafting the Best'. Guests can enjoy signature offerings such as single-estate coffee from Chikmagalur, artisanal mithai like Labon™, and indulgent pastries crafted using regional and global techniques. This edition also introduces Baklava reimagined with local flavours, designed to perfectly complement THF's carefully curated coffee blends.

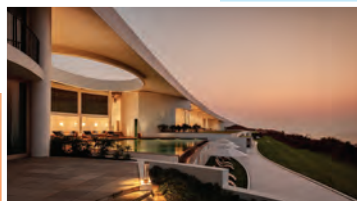
Where: Agra, Uttar Pradesh



SLICE OF COASTAL HEAVEN

SaffronStays unveils **Araqila**, a boutique retreat in Sindhudurg, marking its debut in the luxury coastal hospitality space. Spread across 55 acres, Araqila sits on the Konkan coastline, blending ancestral heritage with quiet modernity. Guests can enjoy 25 sea-facing suites, an amphitheatre, and an untouched beach, all designed with minimal distractions and sustainable building practices. The retreat's cuisine celebrates local Malvani flavours, fresh seafood, and produce sourced from nearby farms. Rooted in cultural familiarity and ecological sensitivity, Araqila redefines boutique travel with its understated luxury and immersive natural charm.

Where: Sindhudurg, Maharashtra



WORLDSPACE WITH A DIFFERENCE

The **Lohia Worldspace Experience Center** in Moradabad sets a new benchmark in design and innovation, redefining the idea of a sales gallery. The space features immersive elements including a giant digital wall, dynamic ceilings, and a Dolby-sound theatre that transforms presentations into cinematic experiences. Inspired by Moradabad's brassware legacy, parametric walls with jali patterns combine tradition with modern architecture. With LEED Gold certification, landscaped lawns for cultural gatherings, and an integration of sustainability with imagination, the center has already become one of North India's most compelling experiential destinations.

Where: Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh





CONQUERING THE PEAK

AYUSHMAN SINGH



An explorer and a mountaineer, Ayushman calls the towering Himalayas his home. He also runs a homestay and cafe-Latibule in Himachal Pradesh.

Trekking today is more popular than ever before. Whether undertaken for adventure, fitness, or self-discovery, a hike in the great outdoors promises a rejuvenating experience and a deep sense of accomplishment. And from the mighty Himalayas to the biodiversity-rich Western Ghats, from impressive mountain forts to exquisite flora, India and neighbouring Nepal are a trekker's dream—so, time to hit that trail.



SPICEJET OFFERS DIRECT
DAILY FLIGHTS TO
KATHMANDU FROM DELHI

Everest Base Camp

High in Nepal's Khumbu region lies a path walked by legends, one leading to Everest Base Camp (5,364 metres), the launchpad for attempts on the world's tallest peak, Mount Everest (8,849m). Immortalised in 1953 by Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay, this iconic trek offers not just awe-inspiring views but a profound feel of history—and plenty of the captivating Himalayan spirit.

The journey begins with a flight to Lukla, followed by 12-14 days of trekking through the town of Namche Bazaar, the villages of Tengboche and Dingboche, and towards Lobuche peak. Along the trail, trekkers are greeted by the towering summits of Ama Dablam, Lhotse, Nuptse—and glimpses of Everest peeking from behind the ridges. The way passes via ancient monasteries, Sherpa villages, and over suspension bridges strung above glacier-fed rivers.

The trek is a true test of fortitude, the steep climbs, high-altitude terrain, and unpredictable weather pushing you to your physiological and psychological limits. Indeed, mental grit becomes as important as physical strength. And there's nothing like the feeling of walking in the shadow of Everest. The vastness of these mountains humbles you. It reminds you that we are tiny in the grand scheme of the universe, and yet we have the power to achieve great things. And it teaches gratitude and appreciation for the small things of life.

One of the trek's most humbling features is the Khumbu Glacier, a living river of ice that has drastically receded in recent decades. Its resonant creaks, crashes, and shifts, often called the 'voice of the glacier', are stark reminders of climate change in action.



Trek Tips

- Start point—Lukla (2,850m)
- End point—Gorakshep (5,164m)
- Best time—March to May, October to November

Security & Permits

- **Khumbu Pasang Lhamu Rural Municipality Permit** can be obtained at Lukla or Monjo.
- Can also be collected in Kathmandu before departure.
- **Cost:** NPR 3,000 per person.
- **Sagarmatha National Park Entry Permit** - Required to enter the national park area where EBC is located.
- Can be obtained from the Tourism Board office in Kathmandu or at Monjo checkpoint on the way to Namche.
- **Cost:** NPR 3,000 (approx. \$22-25 USD) per person.





Kashmir Great Lakes

This high-altitude trek of 72 kilometres in Jammu and Kashmir can be covered in 7 to 9 days. The Kashmir Great Lakes trek traverses alpine meadows, valleys, and crystal-clear lakes. It reaches elevations of up to 4,300m, and embraces prominent lakes such as Vishansar, Krishansar, Gadsar, Satsar, Nundkol, and Gangabal. It's a journey that is challenging yet rewarding, taking you through some of Kashmir's most mesmerisingly beautiful landscapes.

Every day of the trek introduces you to a new upland lake, while verdant meadows, filled with wildflowers and the occasional grazing sheep or horse, stretch endlessly into the distance. And the weather can change suddenly, from bright sunshine to hailstorms in a matter of minutes. With no network, you're forced to disconnect from the world and reconnect with yourself. Little wonder many describe this



experience as deeply meditative.

The trek also offers rich culinary encounters with traditional Kashmiri flavours. Along the route, one can get to taste a mix of Persian, Central Asian, and Indian cuisine, with an emphasis on lamb, rice, and yoghurt-based gravies.



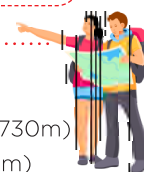
**SPICEJET OFFERS DIRECT
DAILY FLIGHTS TO SRINAGAR
FROM DELHI & OTHER CITIES**

Trek Tips

- Start point—Sonamarg (2,730m)
- End point—Naranag (2,128m)
- Best time—Late June to mid-September

Security & Permits

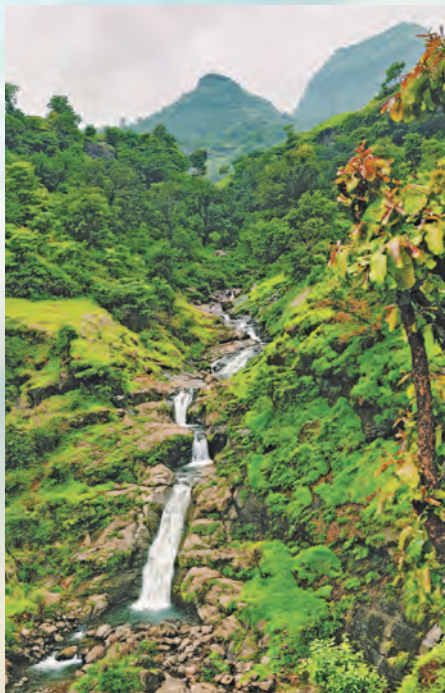
- **Permits**—Required from the Department of Tourism, Jammu and Kashmir
- **Police Permit**—Mandatory for foreign nationals
- Due to presence of high-altitude and strategic areas, trekking with a guide is compulsory



Kalsubai Peak Trek

At 1,646m, Kalsubai is the highest peak in Maharashtra, located in the Sahyadri range of the Western Ghats, in Ahmednagar district. This trek is popular among adventure seekers and nature lovers alike, who are drawn to its scenic beauty and vivid history. According to local legend, the mountain is named after a temple dedicated to Kalsubai, a revered goddess.

The steep inclines make the climb a test of stamina but the attempt, you'll find, is worth it once you reach the top. Here, you can delight in picturesque views of the surrounding valleys and hills, the magnificent forts—among them Alang, Madangad, and Kulang—as well as Bhandardara Lake. Meanwhile, the shrine on the summit presents trekkers with a spiritual stop, and moments of rest and reflection.



Trek Tips

- Start point—Bari village (800m)
- End point—Kalsubai
- Best time—October to February

Security & Permits

- No formal or official permit is required from the Forest Department to trek to Kalsubai Peak. However, it's strongly recommended to inform the Gram Panchayat and Sarpanch of Bari Village, a courteous gesture and helpful to locals.
- Hiring a local guide or trekking with a group is strongly advised—especially if unfamiliar with the trail, or trekking in low visibility or wet conditions.
- Entry is typically restricted during dark hours (5 PM to 6 AM) in some seasons, so check beforehand.



Pin Bhaba Pass Trek

At 4,890m, this is a stunning highland crossover trek connecting the lush Bhaba Valley in Kinnaur to the arid landscape of Spiti, in Himachal Pradesh. The trail, which can take between seven and nine days to complete, crosses forests, meadows, and alpine lakes. The highlight is the scramble over the pass, a feat whose arduousness—around 10-12 hours of dogged endeavour—is offset by the breathtaking Himalayan vistas. The trek is also renowned for the way the terrain here transforms dramatically, from green valleys to desert mountains; it is best suited for fit hikers seeking a Himalayan adventure in the raw.

Adding excitement to the trek are the capricious conditions and stunning views at each turn: the weather changes every few hours, and negotiating the shifts in elevation presents a test of stamina. Still, it's worth all the effort. Further, you get to embrace the local culture and indulge in simple yet hearty meals: make sure to savour the scrumptious Thukpa, a Tibetan noodle soup perfect for the high-altitude cold, and the Tsampa, a nutritious dish made from roasted barley flour that is the ideal snack for trekkers.

Trek Tips

- Start point—Kafnu village (2,408m)
- End point—Mudh (3,810m, 50km from Kaza)
- Best time—Mid-July to mid-September

Security & Permits

- Carry the original and photocopy of government-issued photo ID (Aadhaar, driver's license, or voter ID); foreigners need a passport plus valid visa.
- A medical certificate from an MBBS doctor is mandatory for both Indian and foreign trekkers.
- You may need to sign an NOC or self-declaration form at the base camp.
- Always trek with a guide or organised group — not mandatory but highly recommended for navigation and emergency support.





Kudremukh Trek

Kudremukh, at 1,894m the third highest peak in Karnataka, is located in Chikkamagaluru district. Known for its 'horse face' shape, the peak is part of the UNESCO-listed Western Ghats, a mountain range celebrated for its biodiversity. The 20km round trip begins at Mullodi village and takes trekkers through dense forests, streams, and meadows, rewarding them with sightings of wildlife, among them leopards and the Malabar giant squirrel.

The Kudremukh trek charms with natural beauty in abundance and boasts eye-catching panoramas—on clear days, you can spot the Arabian Sea from the summit—but the physical challenge it provides teaches patience and perseverance, and the importance of staying in the present. The diverse topography here, encompassing dense forests and steep ascents, asks plenty of the trekker's endurance ●

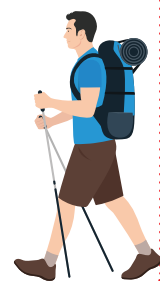


Trek Tips

- Start point—Mullodi village
- End point—Kudremukh peak
- Best time—October to February

Security & Permits

- Forest entry fee— 600 per person
- Mandatory guide—one for every 10 trekkers
- Permission required to enter forest



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Kolkata, or Calcutta, as called in colonial parlance, was once known as the “City of Palaces”, and considered the “second city of the British Empire” -- only after London -- due to its importance as a political and economic hub. Despite the impact of a series of upheavals including the partition of India, the city has kept its spirit of joie de vivre intact, as well as its penchant for celebration of cultural heritage, appreciation for knowledge and passion for the four ‘F’s – Food, Fish, Football and Films. Here is a recipe for relishing the experiences Kolkata has to offer in a day.

7:30 AM**MORNING IN MAIDAN**

A refreshing morning walk in Kolkata Maidan, a vast stretch of greens in the heart of the city wearing a light cloak of dewdrops, is a great way to start a day. Often described as the “lungs of Kolkata”, the nearly thousand-acre urban park is best explored on foot and attracts a range of people -- sports



KALEIDOSCOPIC *Kolkata*



enthusiasts, health-seekers, hawkers and horse-keepers, to name a few. It is home to landmarks such as Eden Gardens, Birla Planetarium, Fort William and the majestic Victoria Memorial Hall,



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TO **KOLKATA** FROM DELHI,
GUWAHATI, MUMBAI,
JAIPUR AND BAGDOGRA**

which has turned from a relic of the Raj to a city symbol over the years. The garden is opened early in the morning and a stroll along the Maidan can be started with it, ending at the St. Paul's Cathedral, featuring stunning Gothic-style architecture elements.

9:30 AM

BREAKFAST AT FLURYS

With its elaborate English breakfast spread, sandwiches, cakes, pastries and other Continental favourites, Flurys at Park Street, remains one of the most popular breakfast places in the city. Amid the burgeoning café culture in Kolkata, especially in the southern part where new outlets like Café Roastery or Tribe have come up, they are keeping the legacy alive since 1927, serving savouries and old-world charm.



10:30 AM

MOMENTS AT THE MUSEUM

Not very far from Park Steet lies "the earliest and the largest multipurpose Museum not only in the Indian subcontinent but also in the Asia-Pacific region". Indian Museum, established in 1814, boasts of a rich collection under sections like Art, Archaeology, Anthropology, Geology, Zoology and Botany. There are galleries dedicated to subjects as varied as invertebrate fossil specimens, Indian sculptural art, textile, paintings and coins. Two hours will just be enough for gathering a basic idea and will perhaps generate a yearning to return someday for a longer tour.

12:30 PM

SITE FOR SHOPAHOLICS

Chowringhee Road, on which the museum is situated, along with Esplanade, the central transport and commercial district, is home to colonial-era mansions and heritage architecture landmarks such as the Oberoi Grand Hotel, Metropolitan Building and Geological Survey of India. They co-existing with modern skyscrapers such as the 65-storeyed "The 42". The area is one of the city's busiest, buzzing with street food vendors and hawkers selling everything under the sun. Just behind the main road, one can see the red-brick walls of Sir Stuart Hogg Market, operating since 1874, but called the "New Market" as it had replaced an older market named "Fenwick's Bazaar". It came much before multi-storeyed shopping malls, but many still swear by the labyrinthian lanes of the indoor arcade that sells products ranging from clothing and cakes to craft items.

1:45 PM

LUNCH TIME AT ESPLANADE

Kolkata is famous for its version of biryani, inspired by Awadhi cuisine, but less spicy and embellished with something as unlikely as potato. Calcutta-style biryani is the signature dish of "Aminia". Chicken Rezala and Mutton Korma are among the other bestsellers of the eatery, running since 1928 near New Market. For vegetarians, Anand restaurant on Chittaranjan Avenue is a good option, mainly offering South Indian fare.



5:30 PM

CULTURE OVERVIEW

Hooghly river is the soul of Kolkata. As the day slowly proceeds towards evening, a visit to Prinsep Ghat, in central Kolkata, can be rewarding as the river presents a new canvas every day. Nearby, the Outram Ghat has facility for half-hour boating trips. As darkness falls, the traveller can move to Rabindrasadan-Nandan complex, a key cultural centre, to soak in the ambience and enjoy live programmes regularly organized by the state government at the open-air 'Mukta Mancha'.



3:30 PM

NORTHWARD NOW

After a sumptuous lunch at Central Kolkata, comes the time for a trip to north as no Kolkata trip can be complete without remembering its most illustrious son, Nobel laureate poet Rabindranath Tagore. Jorasanko Thakur Bari, the palatial ancestral home of the Tagores, houses a museum dedicated to the poet and other members of his family, who were key figures in Bengal Renaissance. Next on the agenda will be a short visit to College Street, said to be the largest second-hand book market in the world. This phase of the tour will end with a glass of Cold Coffee with Cream at the College Street Coffee House, a haunt for city's budding writers and poets.



8:00 PM

ICONIC WRAP-UP

Come back to Park Street for a perfect closure to your day in Kolkata. The options are aplenty, such as shopping for authentic Bengal handicrafts and leaf tea at Biswa Bangla, or enjoying nightlife at one of the many pubs/night clubs along the road. The day can be wrapped up with a Dinner at Peter Cat/Mocambo - two of the iconic Park Street restaurants acclaimed for European-style décor and a combination of Continental and Indian cuisine ●

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Echoes of a *Forgotten* RAJ

ARJUN KUMAR

Welcome to the world of Maharajadhiraj, Sir Kameshwar Singh Goutam Bahadur - the last of the Khandavala dynasty rulers. The raja with the most spectacular jewellery collection that included the famed Naulakha Haar of the Maratha Peshwas and a famed diamond necklace once owned by Marie Antoinette, the last queen of France. Today, a visitor to the **Darbhanga** region sees nuggets of its rich past, which cause it to be labelled the 'Cultural Capital of Bihar'. We bring you a quick day tour to this very popular **SpiceJet destination**.

7:00 AM

BREAKFAST BINGE

You can start your day with breakfast at your hotel but do not miss having a hot cup of tea at one of the numerous tea-stalls that dot the city. Some stalls put a tinge of coffee powder to the tea to create an unusual flavour. Try a Pyaji Pakoda near the Gurudwara Singh Sabha, in which the pyaaz (onion) is cut in the shape of a lotus flower before being fried. Gulp it down with chhole, chutney and a spot of pickle.

11:00 AM

MINGLING WITH THE MUSEUMS

Dive deep into the Darbhanga Raj's history at the twin museums named after Maharajadhiraja Lakshmishwar Singh and a zamindar called Chandradhari. Built next to each other alongside one of Darbhanga's ubiquitous ponds, they include weapons, wooden artifacts, paintings and various icons that have been unearthed in the area. (The museums



8:00 AM

A TEMPLE ON A CREMATORIUM

Visit the Shyama Kali temple, built on the site of the funeral pyre of Maharaja Rameshwar Singh, who died in 1929. Worshipped in both Vedic and Tantric traditions, the four-armed statue of Kali within is said to have been crafted in Jaipur and brought here.

9:00 AM

WANDERING AROUND THE FORT

While the walls of Darbhanga's fort complex are imposing, several structures within have been repurposed. The Lakshmi Vilas Palace is now the Maharaj Kameshwar Singh Darbhanga Sanskrit University. In the same campus is the Lalit Narayan Mithila University. The iconic Nargauna Palace, constructed post the Bihar earthquake of 1934, now houses the post graduate department of a university.

are open 10:30 am to 4 pm, all days except Mondays. Photography is not allowed.)



1.00 PM

TIME FOR A RELAXED LUNCH

For local flavours, drop in at a roadside joint for lunch. Darbhanga has a surprising number of fish-based dishes – try the Machchar Jhor – a fish curry eaten with rice. Arikanchanak Tarkari, made of marinated sun-dried Colocasia leaves by steaming and cooking in mustard gravy, is also popular.

Finish the meal with Balushahi – a popular sweet made here of cottage cheese cooked in sugar syrup. Visit Sweet Home in Laheriasarai, for its unique orange flavoured Rasgullas.

2:00 PM

REMEMBERING THE RAJ

Just 47 kms north of Darbhanga is the palatial remains of Rajnagar. From 1884 onwards, Maharaja Rameshwar Singh built Rajnagar as an administrative headquarters. However, they were all wrecked by the 1934 Bihar earthquake! Though never repaired, there is something incredibly mesmerizing about these ruins. The vast Navlakha Palace complex was a magnificent structure in its prime with huge stone elephants flanking its gateway. A Kali



SPICEJET OFFERS DIRECT FLIGHTS TO **DARBHANGA FROM DELHI**

Clockwise from Top

The delectable Balushahi – a perfect ending to any meal

The renowned Kameshwar Singh Darbhanga Sanskrit University

The Shyama Kali temple complex with 6 temples built around a central pond is a popular site in Darbhanga



Clockwise from Left
Navlakha Palace complex

The very popular Litti Chokha

Madhubani art of painting from the Maithali region is known for its intricate design work

Temple is still in worship. On its walls are several paintings in the trademark Madhubani style. With Nepal just an hour away, a Kamakhya Temple finds itself inside the precincts of the border security unit.

(Mithila Haat is open from 9 am to 10 pm. Entry fee is Rs 20 Mon-Sat & Rs 40 on Sundays.)

7:00 PM

EATING MITHILA STYLE

Partake a range of traditional Maithili dishes at the Bhansa Ghar, within Mithila Haat. From Litti Chokha to Thekua to Makhana Kheer and Makhan Bhog, not only do the cooks at Bhansa Ghar dish out excellent food, but are also at hand to explain nuances of their cuisine to a connoisseur ●

5:30 PM

ART @ HAAT

Wind down a day at the lakeside Mithila Haat, a little over an hour's drive from Darbhanga. At the Crafts Bazaar, pick up Madhubani paintings, textiles, pottery and more. Interact with the artisans here and even join a workshop.



BEST TIME TO VISIT

Winter is ideal. Avoid the monsoon, as the area is prone to floods.

WHERE TO STAY

The best option is Mithila Haat's resort. There are several mid to budget options inside Darbhanga town also.

WHAT TO EAT

Besides Litti Chokha, do not forget to sample Mithila lassi, made of dahi chura - a mix of yoghurt and flattened rice. It is topped with a dose of khoya and dry fruits, with a tinge of masala.



SpiceJet SUPERSTARS

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



NEHA BHARADWAJ

Reservations

Experience with SpiceJet

The past three years with SpiceJet have been nothing short of remarkable. It has not only given me opportunities to grow professionally and in the process, I have learnt a lot. I truly cherish the experiences, the teamwork, and the supportive environment that make every day spent here enjoyable and meaningful. SpiceJet values commitment, passion, and excellence and I am grateful for every moment spent here.

Internal Appreciation

Neha from our Reservations team has consistently been one of the top performers in the department. A committed professional, she has always stood by the team whenever the department needed her. Neha's hard work, reliability, and positive attitude make her a valued member of our team. She balances both her work responsibilities and personal commitments with remarkable efficiency. We sincerely appreciate her contributions and wish her the very best for her future.



GAURAV ANAND

Human Resources

Experience with SpiceJet

My over a decade stint with SpiceJet has been filled with opportunities to learn, contribute, and grow - both professionally and personally. I have had the privilege to work alongside some of the most talented and dedicated mentors/colleagues, whose passion for excellence has been truly inspiring. SpiceJet is not just a workplace, but a platform to explore my potential, take on diverse challenges, and be part of initiatives that directly contribute to the company's success.

Internal Appreciation

Gaurav consistently displays immense dedication towards his work and is extremely result-oriented. His adaptability in the face of evolving challenges, coupled with an eagerness to learn and take on new responsibilities, has made him an invaluable part of the SpiceJet family. His passion for excellence and his determination to go beyond expectations is much appreciated. More than just a dependable professional, Gaurav is an avid and astute learner who inspires those around him. We are proud to have him and look forward to his continued contributions in times to come.



BAHNISIKHA GOGOI

SpiceStar Academy

Experience with SpiceJet

Having spent 19 years in the airline industry, joining SpiceJet has been one of the most positive experiences in my professional journey. I appreciate the free-hand we get to perform at work, supported by the encouragement from our seniors. Everyone is encouraged to contribute in their own way, take ownership, share different perspectives, and bring fresh ideas to the table. It's a space where you feel respected, supported by your peers, guided by your leader, and motivated to do your best.

Internal Appreciation

I would like to appreciate Bahnisikha for her exceptional contributions. Her unwavering commitment, reliability and calm demeanour have played a vital role in ensuring seamless operations and fostering a positive atmosphere. Whether managing daily responsibilities or rising up to meet unexpected challenges, she approaches every task with grace, dedication and consistency. Always smiling and solution-oriented, Bahnisikha remains composed even under pressure and brings a rare blend of warmth and optimism to the team.



Beyond her famed spice markets, Kochi's true flavours grow in quiet spaces. Discover the city through an immersive walk across spice-scented alleys, backyards, and gardens.





Kochi is known for its iconic Chinese fishing nets, Dutch-era architecture, and colonial charm, but step off the tourist trail and the city surprises at every corner.

For centuries, Kochi's spices have lured traders from the Arabian Peninsula and beyond, from as far as China and European countries. But there's another, more intimate, spice story that can't be found in warehouses. It unfolds in the backyards of traditional Kochi homes, where spices, herbs and fruits are not bought but plucked fresh, moments before they find their way into the *kadhai*.

All this we learn from the Urban Spice Trail, which begins unhurriedly in Old Kochi early in the morning. For, it's not the kind of experience that should be rushed, and Satish Chandrasekhar, our guide, took us patiently through the bylanes and alleys, starting with a fresh guava treat—straight off the tree.

Backyard Botanicals

We step into a home in which breakfast is being prepared, the air rich with the fragrance of curry leaves sizzling in hot oil and the crackle of mustard seeds being tempered. Behind the house, the kitchen garden is more than a decorative patch; it's a living pantry. Glossy green pepper vines curling up the trunk of a coconut palm, the same tree full of large coconuts. Steps away, there is a young papaya tree bearing fruit. At the edge of the garden, a



**SPICEJET OFFERS
DIRECT FLIGHTS
TO KOCHI FROM
DUBAI AND
MUMBAI**

turmeric plant hides its golden treasure underground, while lemongrass waves in the breeze, sending out a fresh citrus scent. Cardamom pods peek shyly from their stalks, and a stand of curry leaf offers up its lustrous leaves.

As we wander some more, the backyard reveals its other secrets, in a small Ayurveda patch filled with medicinal plants—*tulsi* for cough, aloe vera for burns, and *neem* for its cleansing properties.

Top and Bottom

Locals are apt at climbing the tall coconut trees to pluck the fruit

Local-made pappadam are great as any-time snacks and also as a must-have with simple rice-dal fare

A Pappadam Pause

Then, we made our winding way into a quiet lane where an elderly couple sat cross-legged in a shaded veranda. Before them is a neat stack of *pappadam* dough, each disc soft and pale. Their fingers work quickly, pressing and rolling, dusting with flour, and laying each out to dry in the sun. They've been making *pappadams* by



hand for decades, the way their parents taught them.

There's a rhythm to their work, as if the *pappadams* are an unbroken link between generations. Watching them, we recognise that food here is not only about taste—it's about the recipes, and about the people and their skills.

Scent of Ground Spices

A short walk later, the air begins to change. There's a sharp, almost peppery, scent in the breeze that grows stronger with each stride. Around the corner, a small spice grinding unit hums steadily. Inside, burlap sacks of dried chilies, coriander seeds, and turmeric roots wait their turn.

A worker lifts a handful of roasted spices to his nose, checking for aroma before pouring them into the grinder. The air inside is thick with fragrance—we can feel it in our throats and taste it on our tongues. The freshness is so intense that there is a sudden urge to pack all the spices and take them back home!

Art Underfoot

The trail has flavours, but it also has colours. In another lane, a woman crouches outside her doorway, drawing delicate patterns on the ground with rice flour. This is kolam, an art form seen in many states in the south, including in Kerala.

Her fingers move with practiced ease, laying down looping patterns of symmetry and grace. The white flour stands out starkly against the red oxide floor; the design, she explains,



Clockwise from Top

As you walk around the narrow bylanes, the heady smell of spices fill the air. The local spices are roasted before being ground into fine powder

The very popular banana fritters and other local treats make the trail sweeter

The vibrant kolam art adds colour and creativity to every doorstep

will be remade tomorrow, according to tradition. Meanwhile, our own attempts at drawing a straight line with the flour end in failure, making us appreciate her skills even more.

Of Coffee and Bananas

As the walk nears its end, Satish leads us into a rather buzzing cranny spilling over with bananas—big and small, and in various colours, all waiting to be taken home. Here, every banana has a purpose, and is much more than the fruit that appears in breakfasts, snacks, and even festive feasts. Right beside the banana nook is a humble coffee shop with a rich and inviting aroma. Our filter coffee is served with *pazham pori* (banana fritters), the delicate sweetness of which perfectly



complements the deep, slightly bitter, taste of the brew.

And as the final sip of coffee fades from our tongues, we realise that the spices here are more than just flavours—they make up the hidden soul of Kochi ●

A top-down photograph of matcha preparation tools on a dark, textured surface. A bamboo whisk (chasen) with a dark handle and light-colored bristles lies diagonally across the lower half. To its left, a wooden spoon is filled with bright green matcha powder. In the bottom left corner, a portion of a red-rimmed bowl containing a frothy green matcha drink is visible. A small pile of matcha powder is scattered near the top left, with two fresh green tea leaves resting on it.

MATCHA

BEYOND JUST TEA

CHEF NISHANT CHOUBEY

Over the past decade, one humble powdered green tea from Japan (originally from China) has caught global attention. It has transformed itself into an international symbol of wellness, creativity, and culinary artistry. Matcha is no longer just a ceremonial drink; it is the essence behind café aesthetics, social media buzz, and a generation's renewed love for mindful indulgence.

From Tokyo to Toronto, Delhi to Dubai, matcha continues to reinvent itself in kitchens and bakeries, as well as in bars. Its rise is not just about trend-driven consumption but also about what it represents to the human eye and mind — it epitomises balance, calm, and beauty. As a chef, I've always loved working with natural greens, but matcha was a challenge. Its earthy, slightly bitter taste is acquired fast, and I faltered in my early attempts to integrate it into Indian cuisine. However, those trials led to discoveries that opened new avenues for experimentation with Indian flavours and Japanese tradition.



The Matcha Evolution

For years, the iconic “matcha latte” dominated cafés worldwide. Its earthy taste balanced with creamy milk became a comforting ritual. But today’s food connoisseurs are ready to further challenge their palette; they crave crossovers, cultural blends, and tradition fused with novelty. This is where matcha has truly spread its wings. From custard-filled doughnuts to dumplings, and cocktails to curry pastes, the powdered tea has found a place in sweet and savoury menus. Its mild bitterness pairs beautifully with cream, while its quintessential umami undertone enriches the saltier flavours — making it work seamlessly across dishes. From biryani to *pakora*, and many dishes in between, matcha, to me, is both ancient and futuristic, and above all most versatile.

The Wellness Factor

Trends often fade, but matcha’s power to reign for long comes from its health benefits. Rich in antioxidants, chlorophyll, and L-theanine, it uniquely combines properties that aid calmness with alertness.

Matcha provides steady focus to the mind and the body.

This resonates with today’s consumers, who want indulgence with benefits, innovation with tradition, and flavour with mindfulness. Matcha is the answer to all these needs and more.

What the Future Holds

Looking ahead, matcha is far from a passing fad. Its radiant colour will continue to draw the eye, while chefs and home cooks explore new flavours. In fine dining, matcha may increasingly appear in savoury sauces, seasonings, and tasting menus. In wellness cafés, it will keep reinventing itself in smoothies, tonics, and superfood bowls. As for me, my journey with matcha has just begun. Every time I whisk the vibrant green powder, I see endless possibilities, creating flavours that bridge the gap between Japan and India, past and present, indulgence and health. Matcha isn’t just a trend. It is also an ingredient with immense depth, ready to take the centrestage. ●

Nishant Choubey is a celebrated chef who believes in curating new-age flavours and yet keeping things true to tradition.



Make your own Matcha

Matcha Dalgona Lassi

Instead of coffee froth, whip matcha into velvety *lassi*, balancing yoghurt’s tangy notes with the earthy tones of tea. Serve it inside a fresh coconut shell. It is both drool-worthy and playful to the taste buds.

Matcha Rasmalai

Rasmalai’s creamy sweetness meets matcha’s subtle bitterness, creating harmony between two ceremonial foods from across the borders. The umami depth of matcha blends seamlessly with the flavoured milk of *rasmalai*, curating the most amazing sweet indulgence.

Matcha Chai

Blending matcha into spiced chai feels most natural. Compliment it with ginger, cardamom, and cloves, which adds to the flavour, and makes for a perfect blend.





Your Perfect Smile!

Spreading joy, one passenger at a time—our airport team's **'Smile Campaign'** is in full swing!





Hindi Diwas

Hindi Diwas, celebrated annually on 14 September, marks the day in 1949 when the Constituent Assembly of India made Hindi written in Devanagari script the official language.

This was part of the **Munshi-Ayyangar**

formula under which English was also to remain an associate official language.

These provisions were incorporated

in **Articles 343 to 351**

of the Constitution, laying down a scheme for the progressive encouragement and official use of Hindi.





According to the 2011 Census of India,

43.6%

of the population, about

528 million

people, speak Hindi as their first language. When second and third-language speakers are included, the figure rises to

57.1%, or roughly **692 million**

people. Hindi is most widely spoken in northern and central states such as Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, and Delhi, where proficiency rates are significantly higher than the national average. On the administrative side, official data from 2022 shows that more than 80% of staff in seven offices under the Ministry of Home Affairs have a working knowledge of Hindi, reflecting tangible progress in the government's language implementation goals.

Over the years, the government has also taken steps to adapt Hindi to modern needs. In June 2025, the **Bharatiya Bhasha Anubhag** was incorporated to facilitate strengthening the role of Hindi language in the digital, administrative, and cultural spheres. Such initiatives demonstrate that Hindi Diwas is more than a symbolic occasion; it represents a sustained national commitment to preserving and promoting Hindi while ensuring its relevance in a multilingual and technologically evolving India.



Hindi Diwas is observed in schools, colleges, government offices, and public institutions through activities such as debates, recitation of poems, essay writing competitions, and seminars. At the national level, an official ceremony is held in New Delhi where the **Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar** and the **Rajbhasha Gaurav Puraskar** are awarded to ministries, departments, public sector enterprises, banks, and individuals who have shown outstanding commitment to promoting Hindi in their work.

(Date taken from Government websites)

NASHIK'S LITTLE SECRET

DAY IN A BIODIVERSITY PARK

FLORINA SOREN

The essence of holidaying is evolving fast.
Today, it is more about slowing down,
connecting with one's inner self, and embracing
nature. Experiential sojourn in the lap of nature,
far from big cities and busy itineraries, is the
new normal in travel.



With its backdrop of Anjaneri Hill, a biodiversity park outside Nashik—set up across 300-plus acres on a formerly barren land—welcomes guests with its verdant charm and salubrious weather. And it is precisely vacations like this that are

fast catching the fancy of discerning travellers.

In recent years, Nashik has earned fame and adulation as the wine capital of India, its many vineyards producing an envious line of reds and whites that are filling shelves and cellars far and wide. And Grape County Eco Resort & Spa, five hours by road from Mumbai, is quietly becoming a haven of holistic stays, for people eager to spend some time closer to nature. In fact, this resort, spread over 20 acres (approx.) of sprawling green, epitomises coexistence with nature.

From what I had read and heard about Nashik, I had imagined it to be a city dominated by viniculture and

winemaking. But it was much more than that. A temple town, Nashik is an amalgamation of spirituality, sustainability—and of course, the famous wines. And with its swanky malls, buzzing restaurants, and a countryside whose vibe was rejuvenating at all times, Nashik has something for every taste.

In Nature's Embrace

One usually associates biodiversity parks as a day-out option, or a space ideal for a picnic. Yet, this one is different. Grape County has a residential area that features amazing stay options, from condos and villas to forest tents and glass rooms. Surrounded by 3,000-plus acres of reserve forest, this once barren stretch of land is now transformed into an oasis alive with over 52,000 (and counting) trees—planted in phases—and home to a rich variety of flora and fauna. Adding to its beauty are the man-made lakes that dot the property. Sustainable in all

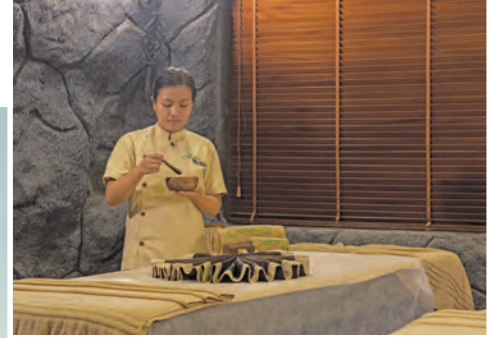


aspects, the resort produces its own solar energy, preserves rain water, and is a fine example of eco-living with almost no carbon footprint.

Activities Galore

Besides boasting greenery as far as the eye can see, the park has an abundance of activities to keep its guests engaged and entertained. My pick was kayaking,





which I indulged in the most. Gliding through the serene water with the azure sky above and the chirping of birds breaking the silence, the experience was most relaxing. I filled my day with cycling, long walks, and by letting my thoughts absorb the calmness around. There were children trotting around on horseback, a septuagenarian patiently waiting to catch fish, and couples spending 'we time'. All these immersive moments are great ways to reconnect with oneself, something that we often ignore in our daily lives.

Pause and Relax

Eco-tourism like never before—this was one break that felt surreal. Finding oneself in the midst of an unending expanse of green, with the promise of nutritious meals made out of the freshest ingredients, and the sense of being enfolded in nature, you truly feel recharged. Further, the sight of an unobstructed blue sky across the horizon, flowers waiting to bloom, the night lit up with stars, and the incessant humming of fireflies—it felt as if I had finally giving my life the much-needed pause it needed.

My stay up close with nature was a real date with myself. Nature has a way of healing and here, it healed me inside out. Co-habiting with the outdoors has long-standing benefits, among which is that it draws you back again and again. And, yes, I surely will return ●



Nearby getaways

Shri Trimbakeshwar Temple

Just 28 km from Nashik, this shrine is among the most visited holy sites in Maharashtra. With Brahamagiri mountain as the backdrop, the Trimbakeshwar temple also houses one of the 12 Jyotirlingas.



Igatpuri

Every adventure seeker's dream destination, Igatpuri's beauty is simply mesmerising. A quick drive from the city, this hill hamlet is a tapestry of green with the cascading waterfall adding to its charm. People come here to enjoy the natural beauty, and to trek up to the historic fort.

Sita Gufa

Very close to the city in Panchvati lies the Sita caves or the Sita Gufa, believed to be the place where Goddess Sita stayed. One can find statues of Lord Ram, Sita, and Lakshmana here. Devotees can climb up to the cave to pay obeisance.

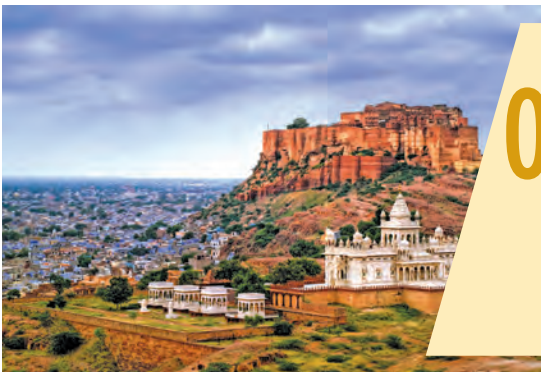
WHAT TO WATCH OUT FOR IN **OCTOBER**



22-02
SEP OCT
2025

NAVRATRI & DUSSEHRA

Navratri is a nine-day festival when devotees pay obeisance to Goddess Durga by fasting, dancing and with prayers. It ends with Vijayadashami, celebrating Lord Rama's victory over Ravana. Bengal sees the grand immersion of Durga idol, while northern India burns the effigy of Ravana with fireworks. Communities unite through cultural performances, fairs, and feasts, blending devotion and artistry into one of India's most spirited celebrations.



02-06
OCT
2025

JODHPUR RIFF 2025

Held at the magnificent Mehrangarh Fort, the Rajasthan International Folk Festival gathers Rajasthani legends and global artists. Celebrated during Sharad Purnima, it features Carnatic fusion music, Portuguese Fado, and Central Asian maqam. This year, acts like Lakha Khan and Ars Nova Napoli are set to offer a vibrant mix of tradition and innovation. The moonlit fort creates a magical backdrop for cultural exchange and unforgettable music.



29-30
OCT
2025

ENRIQUE IGLESIAS

The Spanish pop sensation Enrique Iglesias will light up Mumbai with back-to-back performances at the MMRDA Grounds on 29 and 30 October 2025. Known for his chart-topping hits, electrifying stage presence, and soulful ballads, Enrique promises an unforgettable experience for fans. The shows are set to feature a blend of his classic favorites and latest tracks, accompanied by high-energy visuals and world-class production. With two consecutive nights, Mumbai will witness one of the biggest international music events of the year, drawing audiences from across India and beyond.



10-12
OCT
2025

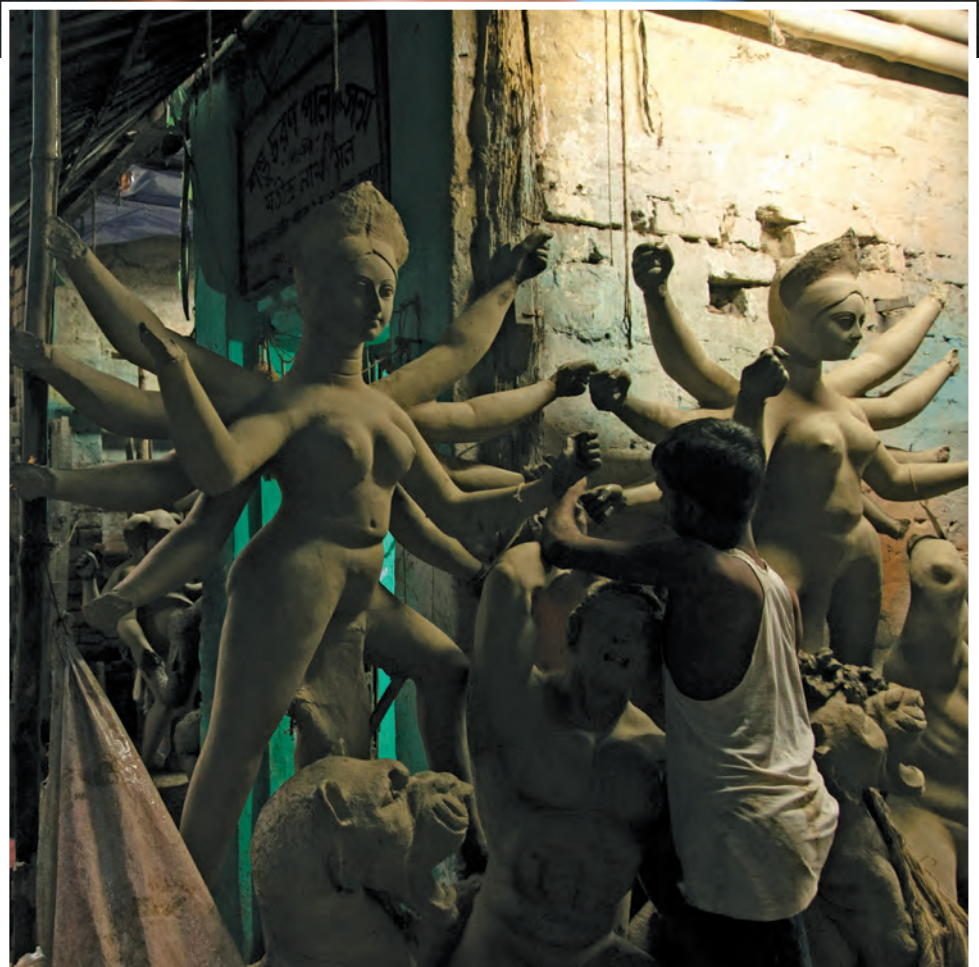
TOMORROWLAND BRASIL

Tomorrowland Brasil is set to turn São Paulo into an EDM paradise with superstar DJs, elaborate stage designs, and dazzling visuals. Festival goers will have a chance to enjoy non-stop music, international cuisines, and cultural performances. Blending Brazil's vibrant energy with Tomorrowland's grandeur, it will attract fans from around the world for unforgettable nights of dance, unity, and spectacle under the South American sky.



THE MAKING OF **GODDESS DURGA**

The mystic hamlet of Kumartuli in Kolkata starts reverberating with action much ahead of the annual Durga Puja festival. It begins with a symbolic pinch of soil, known as *Punya Mati*, being collected from outside a brothel, signifying the inclusivity of the festival. And then commences the most spiritual curation of the idols of Goddess Durga. The skillful artisans — known as *kumhars* or idol-makers — weave magic as they give shape to the idols, one stroke at a time.



Photos by Suprakash Ghosh



It all starts with the making of straw frames, on which layers of clay are put to give the idols their final shape. The idol of the ten-armed Goddess Durga with the wounded demon Mahishasur at her feet, embodies the victory of good over evil. Even in its raw clay form, the idols are an epitome of beauty and grandeur, showcasing the best in craftsmanship.





Chokho Daan (drawing the eyes of a Durga idol) is a very revered moment. Done on Mahalaya, the most mesmerising eyes of Goddess Durga are finally given shape. The bright kohl-lined eyes add to the unmatched beauty of the idols. The sarees are draped and ornaments added, as Goddess Durga gets ready with her entourage.



A few days before Durga Puja, the idols leave Kumartuli for their respective Puja pandals. Each looking stunning and beautiful beyond words. It is a ritual to keep the face covered till Maha Shasthi, the first day of Durga Puja.

This year, the festival takes place from 28 September till 2 October.



My Town

In our series, we travel to various Indian destinations with a SpiceJet family member. This time, Ahmed takes us around his home town, Lucknow.

Where is your home town, and what makes it so special?

Lucknow, in the heart of Uttar Pradesh, is more than just my home town; it's a place that seamlessly blends history and culture with modernity. Often called the 'City of Nawabs', Lucknow is renowned for its royal heritage, graceful architecture—and its 'Tehzeeb' (etiquette), which continues to define its character. One thing that makes Lucknow truly special is its rich cultural legacy: from Mughal-era monuments and intricate Chikankari embroidery to the lyrical notes of classical music and poetry, the city is a living museum of tradition and art. The warm hospitality

and genteel manners of its people also makes Lucknow unique, and sets it apart.

The one thing that keeps on bringing you back again and again...

No matter where life takes me, I find myself drawn back to Lucknow because of its comforting familiarity and soulful vibe. There's a certain calm in walking through its old lanes, tasting the food you grew up with, and meeting people who always greet you with a smile and a Pehle aap ("after you"), a phrase that embodies Lucknawi culture. More than just a place, Lucknow is a feeling, a rhythm that lingers in your heart.



MR. AHMED ALTAMASH
SENIOR CABIN CREW





Whether it's the taste of kebabs and chai, the echo of Urdu poetry, or the warmth of its people, there's always a reason to return home.

Which is the perfect hangout spot in Lucknow?

Dr. Ambedkar Memorial Park in Gomti Nagar is a must-visit. This sprawling park, built with red sandstone and adorned with grand statues and wide-open spaces, is ideal for evening strolls, photography, and peaceful reflection. Another favourite gathering place is the Hussainabad Clock Tower, one of the tallest in India. Standing as a symbol of Lucknow's heritage, it is surrounded by the Bada Imambara and boasts a vibrant atmosphere, making it an iconic meeting point.



Name one restaurant you would recommend to a visitor, and a not-to-miss delicacy on the menu...

Food is the heartbeat of Lucknow, and there are a number of must-try spots which truly capture the city's culinary spirit. Tunday Kababi in Aminabad is famous for its legendary Galouti Kebabs, a melt-in-the-mouth delicacy made with finely minced meat and aromatic spices—more than just a dish, it's an experience. Meanwhile, the vibe is always buzzing with lively conversations at Sharma Ji Ki Chai, a beloved tea stall in Lalbagh that has achieved cult status; its special Bun-Makkhan and Kulhad Chai are perfect for a relaxed morning or evening.

What is the best season to visit your home town and why?

Winter is when Lucknow is at its best and most captivating, when the weather is pleasant and ideal for sightseeing, exploring markets, and enjoying street food, without being discomfited by the heat of summer or the monsoon rains. During this season, there is a tranquillity in the air, and it's then you realise that Lucknow possesses a flair that no other city can match.

Which must-visit places would you recommend back home?

The Bara Imambara is one of the most famous monuments, known for its incredible maze, which the locals call Bhool Bhulaiya. Built by Nawab Asaf-ud-Daula in 1784, this grand structure features a central hall that is believed to be the largest vaulted chamber in the world. The Rumi Darwaza, designed



QUICK GETAWAYS NEAR LUCKNOW

Ayodhya: Approximately 150kms from Lucknow, an ancient city that is steeped in spirituality and history. It is celebrated as the birthplace of Lord Ram, and is home to the grand Ram Temple.

Dewa Sharif: This serene town is famous for the shrine of Haji Waris Ali Shah, a Sufi saint. Dewa (as it is also known) is located around 25km from Lucknow.

Nawabganj Bird Sanctuary: A haven for nature lovers and birdwatchers, and just an hour's drive away.



by Persian architect Kifayatullah, comes with a heartwarming back story: it was born out of empathy, a project designed to offer struggling citizens a chance to earn a living with dignity during a harsh famine. Another architectural masterpiece is the Imambara Hussainabad, or Chhota Imambara, commissioned by Mohammad Ali Shah, the third ruler of Avadh; this magnificent edifice houses the tombs of the king and his mother, its grandeur a testament to the region's prosperous history.



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PREDICTIONS

September 2025

Dr. Prem Kumar Sharma

(Astrologer, Palmist, Numerologist, Vaastu Consultant & 3-Time Limca Book of Records Holder)

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ARIES

September radiates vibrant vibes, keeping your physical endurance at its peak. Career growth remains consistent, offering opportunities for advancement. Cash flow stays moderate, making prudent spending a sensible move. Domestic bonds remain pleasant, though small disagreements may surface. Matters of love blossom with intensity. Real-estate prospects look encouraging but travel plans could encounter postponements, so skip avoidable trip.

Lucky No.: 1
Lucky Colour: Cream



TAURUS

This month nurtures warmth within the household, with family offering reassurance and emotional steadiness. Romantic bonds stay supportive and pleasant. Workplace growth is gradual yet dependable, while overall health thrives through mindful living. Financial strain may require trimming extra costs. Short trips bring average experiences, and property transactions advance slowly.

Lucky No.: 8
Lucky Colour: Beige



GEMINI

Work life takes prominence this September, rewarding dedication with acknowledgement and exciting prospects. Income stays steady, enabling smart investments. Property ventures show favourable signs. Family relationships strengthen through heartfelt exchanges. Romance feels stable, though not overly adventurous. Travel gives satisfactory results, while creative and social pursuits bring joy. Physical well-being may need attention.

Lucky No.: 11
Lucky Colour: White



CANCER

Money matters shine brightly this month, with profitable endeavours and careful budgeting boosting confidence. Property dealings and travel both promise excellent rewards, making September memorable. Family ties remain harmonious and supportive. Fitness levels back your daily routine. Romance may face minor turbulence, calling for patience. Career advancement continues at a steady pace, offering stability without sudden shifts.

Lucky No.: 9
Lucky Colour: Purple



LEO

September invigorates you with excellent health, bringing balance and fuelling efficiency in all spheres. Professional matters progress smoothly, while property-related activities promise remarkable gains. Earnings remain moderate, urging you to manage your money wisely. Family relations may require greater empathy, and love life might experience strain. Travel brings routine results, while leisure pursuits enable you to stay content.

Lucky No.: 22
Lucky Colour: Yellow



VIRGO

Financial stability this month allows for long-term strategies and promising investments. Strong health supports all your undertakings with ease. Career developments remain steady, while domestic harmony offers comfort. Love life stays even-paced without dramatic twists. Property matters progress favourably but journeys could see delays, so limit unnecessary travel. This period also rewards you with small yet meaningful milestones.

Lucky No.: 5
Lucky Colour: Grey



LIBRA

Domestic life flourishes, filling your days with happiness and mutual respect. Property deals advance promisingly, while career prospects align at just the right moment. Health remains stable, supporting your objectives. Finances are moderate, making wise allocation essential. Travel guarantees refreshing breaks. Romantic bonds may need gentle handling to avoid friction. Other aspects progress smoothly, leaving this month deeply satisfying.

Lucky No.: 7
Lucky Colour: Magenta



SCORPIO

Love and emotional intimacy take centre stage this month, bringing warmth and joy. Professional life moves forward steadily, and earnings remain dependable. Travel offers pleasant experiences, though family matters may call for tact. Property prospects stay average. Physical energy could drop without proper self-care. Other pursuits move at a comfortable pace, giving space to focus on priorities.

Lucky No.: 3
Lucky Colour: Brown



SAGITTARIUS

Adventure colours September, with travel bringing inspiration and enriching encounters. Love life glows with tenderness, while home bonds stay strong. Career progress is modest, and physical health benefits from balanced routines. Budget management is vital to prevent stress. Property matters remain neutral, while other duties progress without difficulty. This is a month for exploring new experiences while staying grounded.

Lucky No.: 4
Lucky Colour: Blue



CAPRICORN

This period strengthens emotional connections, making relationships a source of reassurance. Career prospects advance at a steady pace, and income grows with careful planning. Good health supports your daily activities. Family affairs may need patience, while property deals could see postponements. Travel brings ordinary returns, but other areas show gradual progress, making September calm yet productive.

Lucky No.: 6
Lucky Colour: Saffron



AQUARIUS

Career accomplishments shine brightly this September, boosting both confidence and reputation. Romantic life is deeply gratifying, while finances remain secure. Travel and domestic matters deliver balanced outcomes. Property concerns may need close supervision. Energy levels require mindful care to avoid exhaustion. Miscellaneous tasks could bring small challenges but will be manageable with focus.

Lucky No.: 18
Lucky Colour: Pink



PISCES

Family relationships may require gentle nurturing to maintain harmony. Physical stamina might fluctuate, making disciplined routines important. Other responsibilities move forward without obstacles. Love life blossoms beautifully this September, filling your days with joy. Career progresses steadily, while financial security offers comfort. Travel brings rewarding experiences, adding breezy moments to the month. Property matters remain average.

Lucky No.: 17
Lucky Colour: Green

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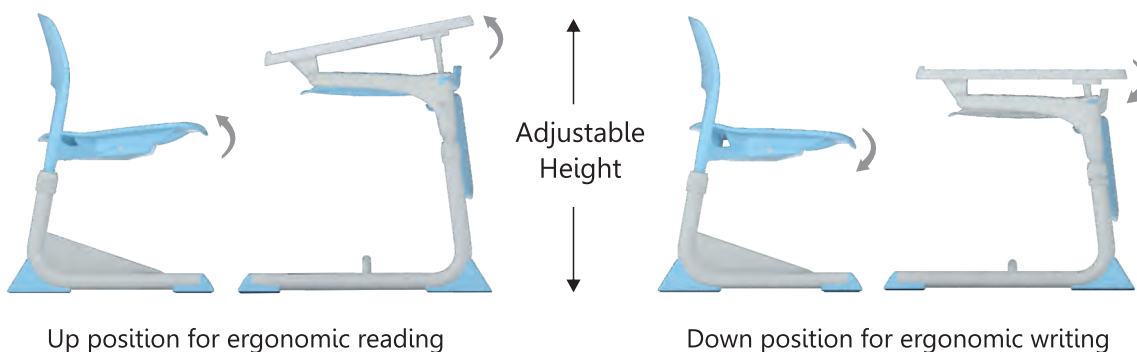
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