TAMARIND GLOBAL

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TAMARIND NEWS

TAMARIND GLOBAL WINS AWARDS

Tamarind Global awarded for Highest Revenue- Global Operations, Highest Revenue- Leisure Operations and at the first ever Online Travel Awards 2015. Congratulations Team Tamarind!

MARKHOR | INDIA

FEATURED EVENT DESTINATION - DHARA DHEVI, CHIANG MAI

Nestled into the foothills of northern Thailand, Chiang Mai is a city that is full of life, with a rich cultural heritage, spectacular and the landscape is picturesque. It is a fine urban spectrum with a much-celebrated traditional culture ideal for rejuvenate, nature fully charged with the spirit of the Lanna Kingdom. Dhara Dhevi is an Inside Chiang Mai's remaining city walls are more than 50 hectares dating back to the founding of the principality, in a combination of Burmese, Sri Lankan and Lanna the city's architecture includes wood carvings, huge staircases, lanterns and angelic guardians, gilded temples and pagodas. Dhara Dhevi is a 45 minutes drive from Chiang Mai International Airport, which connects the city from a connection to 24 cities. Chiang Mai's tourism location and moderate elevation ensures a pleasant climate, with temperatures cooler than the much of Central, Eastern and Southern Thailand.

Nested across 60 acres of beautifully landscaped tropical grounds in the Mae Rim Valley, Dhara Dhevi is a 15 minutes drive from Chiang Mai. A heartfelt welcome from the gracious and friendly staff welcomes you into this delightful and serene setting, inspired by the Lanna Kingdom of Northern Thailand. Dhara Dhevi's accommodation, dining and spa facilities are located in a peaceful environment, the finest of restaurants and superb recreational facilities the world has to offer. Guests are pampered the minute are stunning villas, villas and residences that have become almost legendary for the amazing hospitality and service they offer. Dhara Dhevi is a city of its own, with over 220 luxurious Villas/suites where lovingly built in keeping with traditional Lanna and colonial style architecture. Within the Resort's boundaries, there is a 18 hole, Black setting for all manner of meetings, events and weddings.

DESTINATION NEWS

RCI Gwahoo conference, Fastforward 2015 held in Agra

The RCI Gwahoo conference, Fastforward 2015 held in Agra from 6th-Oct to 7th-Oct-2015 showcased a platform for exciting resort owners, hoteliers, travelers and travel professionals to network and explore the potential of the Indian market. The Gwahoo conference was held on the 7th-Oct-2015 at the Jaypee Palace Convention Centre in Agra with presentations by Steve Holmes, Chairman RCI India, Ashish Chandra, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, Ajay Bhatia, Managing Director, Tourism Australia, Innovative markets, growth scenarios and industry regulation has given abundant insight to industry professionals to Fastforward their businesses to the next level.

Indian Government Travel Trade Awards held at Courtyard by Marriott Agra

Marriott India hosted its first Marriott Travel Trade Awards. The Best Travel Trade Agents from across India were honored for their continuous support to the Marriott brand in the past year. Marriott India Travel Trade Awards 2015 recognized the top travel agents for their efforts in recognizing the effort made by our valued partners that we have the pleasure of working with. They have greatly contributed towards the growth and expansion of our brands within the Marriott portfolio and consistently demonstrated high standards of service delivery. Representatives from the top travel agents from Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai attended the Marriott India Travel Trade Awards held at Courtyard by Marriott Agra.

France to initiate biometric in India from 2nd Nov

France, in line with the initiatives of the Indian Government, will issue biometric visas to Indian citizens with effect from 2 November 2015, in order to facilitate travel throughout the Schengen Area and help issue long-term visas more easily. Hence, the French Embassy in India will offer a large number of visas, including multiple-entry visas, to Indian nationals. The French Embassy in India has also announced that it will open a new visa center in a total of 24 (Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Chandigarh, Chennai, Cochin, New Delhi, Goa, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jalandhar, Kolkata, Mumbai, Puducherry and Pune), to ensure the best possible proximity to the applicants.

New Buddhist train launches in India

The special pilgrimage train will operate a total of six journeys between now and March 2016. The 'Pilgrim Express' will cover the Buddhist circuit in India and will stop at the holy places associated with the life of Lord Buddha. The train will operate a total of 24 kilometres, covering the Buddhist circuit in Bihar and Jharkhand, Kushinagar and Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh. Developed by Indian Railways Tourism & Catering Corporation (IRCTC), the train will offer 276 seats in a maximum of three air-conditioned compartments.

Indians will enjoy visa-free entry to Indonesia

In the spirit of wooing tourists to Indonesia, President Joko Widodo of Indonesia has recently signed Presidential Decree no. 104 of 2015, granting visa-free entry to citizens from 30 countries, including India, for a period of 30 days. The decree, which is valid for a period of one year, is aimed at boosting tourism and holidaying in Indonesia without the hassle of applying for a visa. The visa-free facility can be used for government officials, educational, social cultural purposes, tourism, business, family visits and on transit purposes only. The entry can be made only through the International Airports of Jakarta, Bali, Medan, Batam, Manado, Bintan, Tanjung Pinang, Pekanbaru and the ports of Belawan namely, Sekupang, Batam Centre, Nongsa Terminal, Batam Harbour, Marina Batu Ampar, Batu Ampar and Batu Besar.

HOTEL NEWS

Novotel & Pullman, Delhi inaugurates this November

Located in the trendiest destination in New Delhi, the Pullman New Delhi is nearer to major business hubs of Gurgaon and New Delhi. The Novotel New Delhi is a 5 star property with 300 rooms and suites, 3 restaurants, 2 bars, a state-of-the-art conference centre and a fully equipped wellness facility. The hotel caters to every need and modern travellers' lifestyle. Spread across 2 floors, the Pullman hotel will have the total room keys of 670 rooms, being the highest in North India.

Delhi & Mumbai offer highest value for money destinations for Indian travelers during first half of 2015

According to the latest Hotels.com Price Index (HPI) report, Delhi continued to offer Indian travellers the best deal on 5-star accommodation with average price per night of Rs 8,000 for a night in the first half of 2015, a marginal deflation in the second place with INR 5,000. The HPI is a regular report on hotel prices and in major destinations across the world. Berlin, the capital of Germany was the third best with INR10,556 per night. Another way of hotel prices goes with INR 10,812 while Bangkok ranked fifth at INR 11,249, a release stated.

Leela Palace Delhi and Leela Goa named among best overseas hotels in the world

Leela Palace Delhi and Leela Goa have been named among the best overseas hotels in the world after running in UK's Condé Nast Traveller Readers' Travel Awards 2015. The iconic Leela Palace Delhi is one of just three Indian hotels in the world's top ten Overseas Business Hotels. Named in the top 20 Best Overseas Resort Hotels, Leela Goa is the only Indian property in the list. The Leela Palace Delhi has been ranked 9th in the capital city to receive this prestigious distinction. The Leela Goa is named the best beach resort in India and the Indian Sub-continent category, distinguishing its status in the popular tourist region, a release stated.

Six Samsara Mumbai opens this November

This 5-star Sky hotel is located strategically between terminal 1A & 1B of domestic airport, with again with 279 room keys and over 6 categories of rooms. Large spacious villas offer the ultimate in luxury and will be unveiled in phase 2 of the development, a premium price- hotel is likely to be popular for their fascinating restaurant Tapas, serving transit passengers having time at their disposal.

Leela Mumbai to participate in "Ville Ferte"

The Leela Mumbai is participating in the Government's initiative of Rashtriya Ek Dhwaj, a marathon on 31st October, 2015. This day is the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the first Deputy Prime Minister of India and the iron man of India. The Leela Mumbai will be part of the event to spread a message of good governance and national integration. Commenting on the occasion, The Leela Mumbai has taken the initiative with his team at The Leela Mumbai to organize a 3 km run to support this message.

AIRLINE NEWS

Direct flights for Mumbai - Beijing by Air China

Air China has launched its direct flight connection from Mumbai to Beijing on 26 October, making it the first and only airline to fly non-stop between the two destinations. Air China introduced its first service to India in 2004 and has since been flying to Mumbai from Beijing. The new flight will operate Airbus China Fully Flat Beds, 16-Premium Economy & 255-Economy seats. The flight will operate four times in a week - Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. Passengers will have a seamless flight service from Beijing to Mumbai for their onward journey to Europe, Middle East and Africa.

Air India to add third daily London flight

Air India, the national carrier of India, announced it will launch a third daily flight on the route, with a new early morning departure from Delhi. Flights will leave the Indian capital's Indira Gandhi International Airport at 02:25 and arriving at London's Heathrow Airport at 06:30. The return flight will then leave London at 08:45 and arrive back in Delhi at 22:55. This will complement the existing 0650 and 1445 departures from Delhi, and the 1300 and 7:15 in the flight from London. The new flight will be operated by a 238-seat, three-class Airbus A321 aircraft, a release said.

Vistara touches down in Varanasi

Vistara touched down in Varanasi for the first time on 21 October, marking the start of scheduled services to its 12th Indian destination. Flights will now operate daily, direct from Delhi, using Vistara's three-class Airbus A320 aircraft. "Varanasi is awe-inspiring and a symbol of spiritualism that has attracted Indians as well as international tourists for years," said Phee Yeh Neoh, CEO of Vistara, where the route was first announced.

New airport terminal opens in Chandigarh

Chandigarh International Airport has a new terminal building that opened on the October, just over a month after the facility was officially inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. All flights will arrive and depart from newly constructed integrated Terminal Building at Chandigarh International Airport. Developed at a cost of INR 2.39 billion (US$140 million), the new facility covers more than 60,000 square meters and can handle 1,600 passengers at a time. The new terminal building has been constructed in a modern architectural style, incorporating the local culture and heritage. Car parking will be 600 vehicles. The new terminal is also designed to operate in an energy-efficient manner, with a double insulated roof and a water harvesting plant.

GETAWAY RESORT OF THE MONTH

LEBUA RESORT, JAIPUR

Jalsua Resort, Jaipur, has a vocabulary of design that looks inwards at Rajasthan's rich source for inspiration. It is inspired by "Rav Rahn", nine contemporary villas that are a modern interpretation of the local vernacular, extended family, called the Haveli. The intimate gathering place, is reflected in the materials used and the exquisite quality of detail in public and private spaces.

The sculptural astronomical devices of Jantar Mantar, made in the early eighteenth century, were the starting point for the architects for an interpretation of modern Rajasthan. Taking forward this spirit, the all villas, Haveli and Pool Pavilion are arranged in a series of modular spaces with bold architecture. Zenana and pulse stay out on the horizon, towering structures in red sandstone filter the light of the sun and provide a sense of enclosure and shelter from the outside destination. Planned as a spa destination, inspired by the architectural traditions of Rajasthan, it promises to deliver an experience as unique as the state itself. The Spa is a place where guests can indulge in an experience for days.

The Executive and Deluxe Suites are situated in the middle, unwind and retain a view of the mountains. The Luxury suites are on the periphery of the property, with a view of the Aravali hills, and have a private garden. The Villas are set in an enclosed courtyard, each with a private pool and Jacuzzi, and are based on a modern interpretation, gypsum and silver. Vaya Restaurant serves cuisine with subtle flavors and unique Asian and Continental recipes, Vaya Lounge, Bar & Terrace, is a contemporary interpretation of Rajasthan's rich heritage, a feeling of being among royalty begins to set in as the moonlight.

The 20000 sq. ft. 'Ishra Spa by L'Occitane is a quiet and meditative place for rejuvenation, Jalsua Resort, Jaipur in partnership with the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, promotes Yoga, Ayurveda and Mediterranean well being. Guests are encouraged to pluck fresh flowers and herbs they would like mixed with natural L'Occitane products to create bespoke recipes prepared in a mineral for their experience.

Contact us for special packages on info@tamarindglobal.com

TAMARIND PROMOTION OF THE MONTH

Novotel-Pullman Aerocity, New Delhi

Located in the trendiest destination in New Delhi, the Pullman New Delhi Aerocity is near IGI Airport and nearer to major business hubs of Gurgaon and New Delhi. The Novotel New Delhi Aerocity is a 5star property with 300 rooms and suites, 3 restaurants, 2 bars, a state-of-the-art conference centre and a fully equipped wellness facility. The hotel caters to every need and modern travellers' lifestyle. Spread across 2 floors, the Pullman hotel will have the total room keys of 670 rooms, being the highest in North India.

Contact us for special rates on info@tamarindglobal.com

TOP FIVE PICKS

TOP-5 NATIONAL PARKS WITH RICH WILDLIFE

Bandhavgarh National Park, Madhya Pradesh

Bandhavgarh is located in Vindhya hills of Umaria district, Madhya Pradesh. It is one of the best places to see the Bengal tiger. It has become one of the highest ranking tiger reserves and is home to tigers in will. The park is known to have Bluish highest density of tigers in the world. The park is home to 22 tigers, 250 species of birds and 1200 species in home population of over 5 tigers at present. Other than Tigers and Leopards the mixed vegetation of Sal and Sacanario makes Bandhavgarh an abode of Spotted Deer, Langurs, Wild Boar, Barking Deer, Wild Boar, Indian Gaur and Jackal among 22 species of mammals and around 250 species of birds.

Kanha National Park, Madhya Pradesh

The lush sal and bamboo forests, grassy meadows and ravines of Kanha National Park inspired the jungle book by Rudyard Kipling. Kanha National Park is Madhya Pradesh's oldest park, established in 1955 and forms the core of the Kanha Tiger Reserve, created in 1974 under Project Tiger. The park is home to Barasingha, the Swamp Deer. Jungles known as Sunset Point that offers the most awe-inspiring backdrop of the sunset against grazing Sambhars and Gaurs, Langurs and Peacocks, Kanha is home to Indian Bison, Gaur, Sambhar, Chital, Barking Deer, and Barasingha. The frequent sightings of Tigers roaming in the wild at Kanha National Park is known to be the highest in India.

Gir National Park, Gujarat

Gir National Park is the last abode of the surviving population of the Asiatic lion, the Asiatic Lion. Gir is home to 38 mammal species, majestic beast is the wild lion is home to 400 lions and 300 leopards, making it as one of the major 'big cat' concentrations in India. Deer such Sambar, Chital, Ambhaura such as Blue Bull, Nilgai, Indian antelope, Indian gazelle and Wild Boar are in abundance in Gir, Jackal, Jungle cat, Rusty spotted cat, Leopard cat, Caracal, Indian Fox, Hyena and Jungle cat are among the other carnivores of Gir that has a large population of marsh crocodile, which is among the 40 species of reptiles and amphibians recorded in the sanctuary.

Ranthambore National Park, Rajasthan

Ranthambore National park is spread over an area of 392 sq km, along with its neighbouring sanctuary, the Mansingh Sanctuary and the Kaila Devi Sanctuary. The park is famous for its tigers and is one of the best known tiger reserves in India, and is considered to be the most habitat. Ranthambore is also a famous hunting ground, the reason of the pictorial ruins that dot the wildlife park. The park is located in the Sawai Madhopur District of Rajasthan. Ranthambore is named after its fort Ranjan, and was the former hunting ground of the Maharaja of Jaipur.

Kaziranga National Park, Assam

In the heart of Assam, this park is one of the last areas in eastern India undisturbed by human presence. It is inhabited by the world's largest population of one-horned rhinoceros, as well as many mammals, birds and reptiles. Kaziranga National Park is home to Asiatic Wild Buffalo, Wild Water Buffalo, and gaur, elephants, tigers, swamp deer, Indian gazelle and Hog deer, and Wild Boar are in abundance in Gir, Jackal, Jungle cat, Rusty spotted cat, Leopard cat, Caracal, Indian Fox, Hyena and Jungle cat are among the other carnivores of Gir that has a large population of marsh crocodile, which is among the 40 species of reptiles and amphibians recorded in the sanctuary.

GLOBAL CUISINE

DIWALI SPECIAL- COCONUT BARFI

INGREDIENTS:
1) Ragadi (cup unsweetened desiccated coconut)
2) Sugar (cup)
3) cup sweetened condensed milk
3 to 4 cardamoms, crushed to powder in a mortar-pestle
1 tsp rose water (optional)
1 tsp ghee (optional)
1 pinch of salt
2 pouch of saffron, crushed (or 2 to 3 pinch of saffron powder (optional)
4 to 5 cashews, halved or chopped (optional)

Warm the milk first in the microwave or stove top.
In a bowl, take the desiccated coconut and mix warm milk with it. Let it rest for 5 minutes. Add the sugar, ghee, saffron, fresh coconut, then no need to cook it warm milk. Heat ghee in a pan. Add the milk soaked coconut. Saute on low heat for 2 minutes. Add the sugar, ghee (optional) milk and cook on a low flame stirring often. Add sugar if you want. Then add cardamom powder (optional) and saffron. Add the cashews (optional) and continue stirring and cooking on low heat. The mixture will start to thicken. Add the ghee (optional) and continue stirring and cooking from the sides of the mixture. You will see the mixture of ghee. Takes about 15 to 20 mins on a low flame. Transfer the mixture to a 7 inch round or square tin/dish greased with a teaspoon ghee or that. Let it cool completely. Sprinkle saffron powder or press some cashews on the top (optional). Cut into square or rectangular. Coconut barfi can also be refrigerated for 1 to 2 days.

THE MOST AMAZING EVENTS IN THE WORLD!

INTERNATIONAL PICKS OF THE MONTH

MEVLANA WHIRLING DERVISHES

Since Rumi's Memorial in 1273, the Mevlana Order has been commemorating him with a 10-day festival that brings even casual observers closer to a sense of the divine. The charm is worth the Whirling Dervishes will change you in a way you'll never expect. Based in the Turkish city of Konya, the festival is a tribute to Rumi, a Persian poet who has had and expose you to the power of devotion and show you that spinning can do more than just make you dizzy. As these individual men spin and whirl, they are in a state of meditation, with their arms on the exercise you feel with them and have that transfer to oneness with a higher power.
Where - Konya, Turkey
When: Dec 10- 17, 2015

STEREOSONIC

Spread across the Lake District in Cumbria, Stereosonic, kicks off summer with a high-intensity dance music festival. From its humble beginnings as Melbourne rapidly to its successful venture expanding five states, Stereosonic has quickly become a bucket list festival for the dance music fans around the world. Stereosonic has hosted some of the biggest names in the electronic dance music industry – such as Calvin Harris, Tiesto and Diplo – Stereosonic is produced at the Sydney Olympic Park and Perth Arena and Sydney Opera House in the city. The festival is a short flight or train ride away.
Where - Sydney, Australia
When: Nov 28- 28, 2015, Dec 5 - 7, 2015

SUNBURN

Goa is definitely the most happening place this time of the year and if you are looking for a fun-filled vacation, Sunburn Festival (Goa) is the place to be! Sunburn is the largest EDM festival in India. The festival is Sunburn's playground. Spread over 5 days, the festival has multiple stages and DJs from all over the world. Sunburn Festival is an unique experience in India, however that is not all to this festival which happens to be the most awaited one in the country. The festival not only offers brilliant music to groove to but also provides the attendee with scrumptious fare, excellent entertainment, and shopping experiences galore.
Where: Candolim, Goa, India
When: 27-to 30th December 2015

DEV DEEPAVALI

Dev Deepavali scintillated every year at the holy city Varanasi. It is a celebration of the Hindu festival of Diwali, popularly known as Dev Deepavali. It also known as Tripurotsava. On Dev Deepavali, devotees take a holy dip in Ganges on the auspicious day of Kartik Purnima and lit earthen lamps in Ghats and float them on the Ganges in the evening. When the dusk sets, the steps of all the Ghats in the holy city are illuminated with the glow of thousands of earthen lamps only the Ghats of Ganges but also all temples of Benares are lit with millions of Diya
Where - Varanasi
When: 25 November 2015

INDIAN WEDDING TRADITIONS

WHY DO INDIAN BRIDEGROOMS WEAR A SEHRA?

Why do Indian grooms wear a Sehra? It certainly adds royal splendor to the groom's overall look and it also adds an element of mystery as his face is veiled much like the bride's face. But the main purpose of the Sehra is to protect the groom from the evil eye. Sehras are more prominently worn in North India than in other parts of the country.

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