

## NEW HOTEL OPENINGS

### Rakkh Resort – a member of Radisson Individuals Retreats, Palampur



**Where?** Palampur, Himachal Pradesh

**What is Unique?** Surrounded by spectacular mountains, the ethos of Rakkh Resort, a member of Radisson Individuals Retreats, first of its kind globally has been built on the values of sustainability and community engagement. This is reflected at every touchpoint of the resort from no-plastic zones and responsible waste management to reviving mountain streams and hiring local staff to preserve our tangible and intangible heritage. A 24 Hour Self Help Maggi, Tea, Juice and Banta Station- Because hunger can strike anytime and because Maggi and Tea always taste best when customised to a person's palate!

**Why?** The nearest airport and railway station to the region are Gaggal Airport and Pathankot Railway station to the property. Property is the perfect blend of authentic design using local materials and all the modern comforts one would expect of a boutique property. Relish authentic and flavorful dishes in the serene ambience of the in-house swanky restaurant. Their Spa offers the pinnacle in serenity and ultimate luxury treatments. Let stress melt away through soothing aromas, ambient music and caring hands transporting you to a place of deep tranquility. Passionate activities team who will organize mountain biking, hiking trails and climbing wall activities, slack lining as well as dedicated camp skills workshops for our younger guests.

### Country Inn Tarika, Varca Beach Resort, Goa



**Where?** Goa

**What is Unique?** Located at a leisurely walk from the pristine white sand Varca Beach, Country Inn Tarika Goa, Varca Beach offers a tranquil escape from the hustle and bustle of city life. This quaint retreat offers 48 well-designed cottages, multiple food and beverage offerings, a pillar-less ballroom for social and corporate gatherings and a stunning outdoor swimming pool to unwind and rejuvenate.

**Why?** 48 well designed rooms consist of Classic room, Parlour Pool view rooms, Classic Pool view rooms with balcony and private garden. The Hotel understands the attachment & bonding a pet brings to our lives. At Country Inn Tarika, therefore their doors are open to your pets.

### NatureVilas Sarovar Portico, Manali



**Where?** Manali, Himachal Pradesh

**What is Unique?** Embrace nature in all its magnificence at NatureVilas Sarovar Portico, Manali, a luxurious hotel nestled amidst the rolling mountains and thicketed greenery of the Himalayas. Rooted in the culture of the locale and committed to offering the brand's high standards of Signature Sarovar Hospitality, this hotel in Manali is poised to carve out a new era of hospitality.

**Why?** The hotel's charming architecture and interiors, set to the stunning backdrop of the Himalayan landscape, aid in an exquisite stay in Shuru, Manali. The hotel is faultlessly located just 5 km from Mall Road, 5 km from Manali Bus Depot, and within a 9 km radius from tourist spots like Hidimba Valley Temple and Solan valley

### Norbu The Montanna – IHCL SeleQtions, Dharamshala



**Where?** Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh

**What is Unique?** Surrounded by the majestic landscape of the Kangra Valley, with sweeping views of the majestic Dhauladhar mountain range, Norbu The Montanna, Dharamshala - IHCL SeleQtions lies secluded amidst one of the most picturesque valleys of the lower Himalayas. Norbu, the Tibetan word that translates to 'jewel', is truly a gem inspired by the architecture of Lhasa. Spread across 7 acres of verdant landscape, the property is adorned with soothing mandala designs and Tibetan-inspired motifs with careful attention to design authenticity.

**Why?** The stairway to the hotels spacious Lhasa Lounge, inspired by the steps of the Potala Palace that leads to the Lhasa river in Tibet, is decorated with symmetrical patterns and prayer wheels. Designed with elements of nature - air, water, earth, and fire - the Lhasa Lounge is surrounded by water, making it a truly floating lounge. Be entranced by exquisite hand-painted murals and sunken seating around a warm fire pit while taking in the stunning valley views. Gufa, the coffee shop, is a striking space that features bold Tibetan themes that include intricate and soothing decor for a relaxing high-tea session. Wake up to stunning views of the valleys and mountains from thoughtfully-designed luxurious suites and rooms. From Mountain View Rooms and Tea Experience Suites to the luxurious SeleQtions Suite, each space is meticulously crafted to provide unhindered views of the unspoiled Kangra Valley.

### Novotel, International Airport, Mumbai



**Where?** Mumbai, Maharashtra

**What is Unique?** The property is a contemporary edifice that provides an ideal combination of comfort, convenience and magnificence, situated close to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport. The property features 268 well-appointed rooms and suites and the magnificent event and meeting rooms that span 16,500 sq. ft. Enjoy their progressive take on popular global and local cuisines at Gourmet Bar and Inventive Buffet Meals at Food Exchange.

**Why?** The hotel provides easy access to the Western and Eastern Express Highways which are the city's travel lifelines. It is also accessible to key industrial, business and recreation hubs of Andheri Kurla Road, MIDC, SEEPZ, Powai and Bandra Kurla Complex. ISKCON is 6 km from Novotel Mumbai International Airport, while Powai Lake is 6.1 km away. The nearest airport is Chhatrapati Shivaji International Mumbai Airport, 1 km.

## LEADER SPEAK

### *Sustainability, Inclusivity & Diversity ala Lemon Tree Hotels- By Vikramjit Singh - President at Lemon Tree Hotels Limited*



Today sustainability practices have become an essential part of our sector and over the last few years, including the pandemic, we have seen companies adopt and consolidate practices around the environment, inclusion/diversity, community engagement and supply chain management as well as governance practices. At Lemon Tree Hotels, our business model is built around our sustainability practices, with a special focus on hiring people from marginalised background including disability, orphans, school drop outs, transgender and more as well as switching over to renewable energy, implementing energy saving and water saving processes, recycling and reusing water and managing waste well.

Our endeavours are not without any challenges however, for example in our inclusion and diversity effort, there is a mismatch of demand and supply of suitable candidates (different disabilities, different roles) across our cities. In order to implement our Renewable Energy goals we have to plan implementation in accordance with the laws and regulations in each state – this makes the task complex and sometimes implementation is not feasible.

Since 2012, as we have built new hotels we have followed all green building practices defined by the Indian Green Building Council and all the hotels are built to the Gold standard specs. The additional features required to certify a green building come at a cost but the payback period is short enough (usually 3 to 4 years) and delivers great savings (in consumption and/or cost).

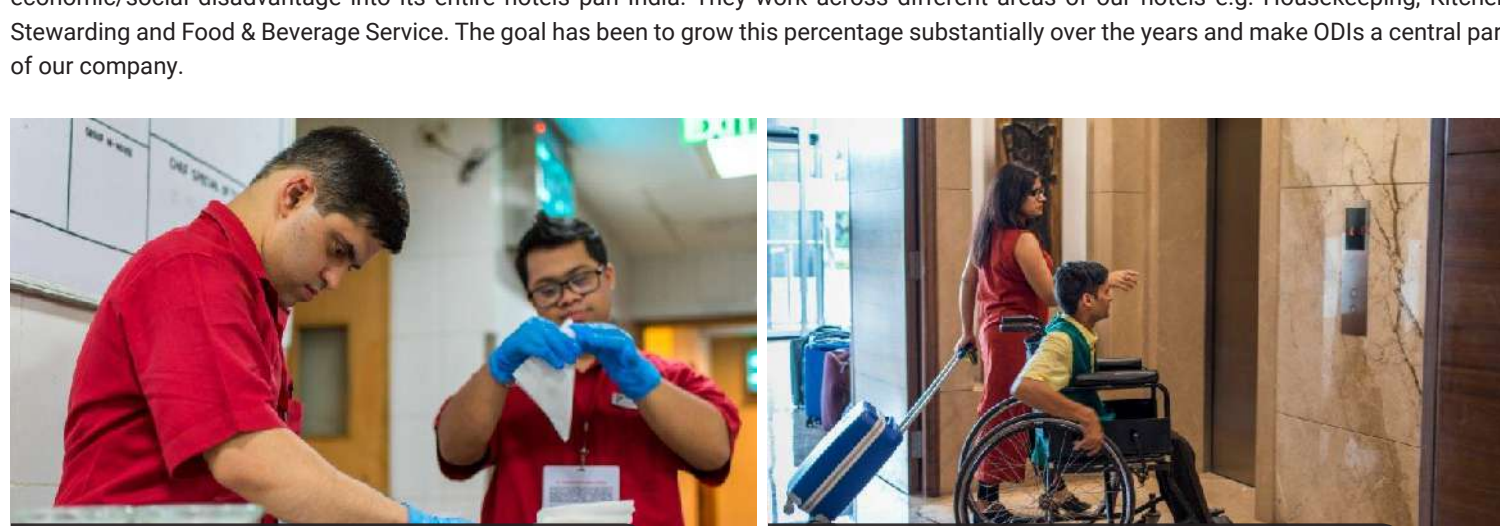
Hospitality and tourism companies need to build in sustainability practices into their business model and design their company around it. This is the way of the future and these initiatives make good business sense too.

#### Lemon Tree's Inclusion and Diversity Program

We are very focused on our culture and on keeping our people engaged. Lemon Tree Hotels has been ranked among the “Best Companies to Work for” in India for seven consecutive years, by the Great Place to Work Institute, including in 2017 when it was ranked the fourth “Best Company to Work for” in India and was the only hotel company in the top 10.

LTH is an equal opportunity employer and actively invites job applications from people with disabilities. The company ethos is that persons with disabilities must be provided the same opportunities as others to realize their full potential. By creating an environment in the organization that allows them to deliver their best, LTH is able to play a part, however small, in social inclusiveness and nation building. Lemon Tree has defined the goal as mainstreaming ‘Opportunity Deprived Indians’ i.e. ODIs into its workforce.

This initiative was started in 2007. In the past 16 years, over 3000 ODIs have trained at our company/continue to work with us. Today, 10-12% of our employees are Indians who are opportunity deprived in some way. Lemon Tree inducts people with disabilities and those with an economic/social disadvantage into its entire hotels pan India. They work across different areas of our hotels e.g. Housekeeping, Kitchen Stewarding and Food & Beverage Service. The goal has been to grow this percentage substantially over the years and make ODIs a central part of our company.



Down Syndrome, Food And Beverage Service

Orthopaedic Handicap, Front Desk

#### Approach to Inclusion and Diversity

In the early stages, we inducted Employees with Disabilities (EwD) only in back-end roles like Kitchen Stewarding and Housekeeping, where direct guest interaction was minimal. Also the focus was only on Speech and Hearing Impaired (SHI) employees. This gave us an opportunity to develop SOPs and training modules in an iterative manner.

**Read More...**

#### India offices:

Mumbai, Delhi, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Chennai, Cochin, Hyderabad, Indore, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kolkata, Pune, Trivandrum, Udaipur, Vadodara.

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