TAMARIND GLOBAL

TOURS | WEDDINGS | EVENTS | CORPORATE SERVICES

Tang

in tang this month...

The Lodhi, Delhi

Thrissur Pooram in Kerala

Holiday in Thekkady

Sublime Uttarakhand

tamarind news

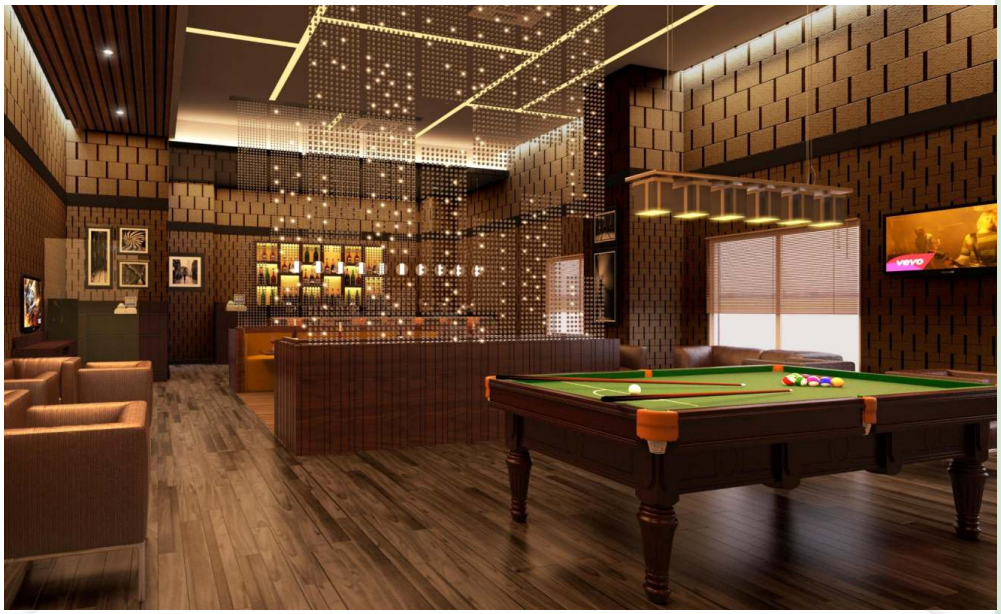
The month of March saw the Tamarind Team making trips to Baku, Moscow, Bahrain and Udaipur, with lots of events on the anvil. Meanwhile, our MICE and Tours teams participated in an India Tourism road show in Ottawa, Canada.

Tamarind Mumbai has moved to new office! We are now at Mafatlal Chambers in Lower Parel and will be in our new offices starting Monday April 10th.

What's New

Now Open

Lemon Tree Hotel, Sector 60, Gurugram



Located in the millennium city, the hotel is just off the Golf Course Extension Road and a short distance from the key business hubs that house a plethora of MNC's like Genpact, American Express, Samsung and Dell, to name a few. It is also in close proximity to ASF Insignia Business Center on Faridabad road, and the new commercial area of Sector 63, Gurugram. Strategically nestled between high-end residential societies, it offers easy access to HUDA Metro Station, Leisure Valley and Sector 29, the entertainment district of the city, besides being 20 minutes away from Signature Tower, IFFCO Chowk and the Mall mile on MG Road.

Lemon Tree Hotel Sector 60 offers 104 sharp and bold rooms with one room specially designed room for differently able guests. Room categories include Deluxe Room and Superior Room. The rooms come with a range of smart amenities including high-speed WiFi net access, LED TVs with satellite television, IRD, telephone with global direct dial and voice mail, tea/coffee maker, working desk and chair, complimentary daily mineral water, mini fridge and well appointed bathroom. Designed for a cozy sleep experience and a comfortable stay, these rooms are crisp and clean and come to you at an unbeatable value.

Ullahwas Village, Urban Complex,
Sector-60, Gurugram, Haryana 122011

The centrally air conditioned hotel offers 104 stylish rooms and suites, a 24x7 multi-cuisine coffee shop – Citrus Café and a fitness Gym to keep you feeling fresh-as-a-lemon.
Lemon Tree Hotel Sector 60 offers a smart line up of services and facilities that are designed to keep your energy levels always high.

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT US ON info@tamarindglobal.com

getaway resort of the month

Poetree - Sarovar Portico,Thekkady

Thekkady, Kerala

Thekkady, set in the midst of the high ranges, gets its name from 'Thekku' the Teak tree and 'adi' Meaning, Valley. Valley of the region where the Teak trees are found aplenty, thus meaning 'a valley of Teaks'.

Located at a unique vantage point on top of a hill and embraced by acres of untouched land and forest, Poetree is a dream, built on principles of sustainability, eco-friendliness and being one with nature. A resort, with an ethos that stems from the heart and spirit of the land that it is built on.

From the shaded seclusion of this property, designed with minimalist and aesthetic principles, guests can relax in luxury and admire unforgettable views over the Periyar forest and across expansive mountain ranges, with the distant backdrops of waterfalls and the ever-providing Periyar River. From elephants that you could try your hand at giving a bath to, to the tiger, Periyar is home to some of the most conservated wildlife populations in the country. From each room, guests can soak in a calm and serene vibe, a feeling of being one with the land, distinct to Periyar and Thekkady.

ROOMS & SUITES

Exquisitely designed in relaxed tones and textures, each sun-drenched room has impeccable interiors, elegant furnishings and every amenity one could wish for. The highlight is a private deck that invites you to relax and enjoy the sweeping, unobstructed views of the silver ridges, wooded valleys and Periyar lake. It'a a great spot for indulging in a good read or watching Thekkady's timeless sunrise. You'll be making memories that will last a lifetime.

DINING

Savour the cuisine, where ancient flavours mingle with the freshest ingredients. The best local South Indian recipes have been picked up by the chefs to provide a unique culinary experience. A selection of Indian and Continental cuisine is also served. A completely refreshing experience, the traditional décor embellished with olden-day cooking equipments used in the kitchens of Kerala makes for an interesting ambience.

SVA SPA

Offering the best in Indian rejuvenation therapies, your treatments are thoughtfully designed to capture the synergy between mind and body. All products used have been specially selected by SVA Spa whilst respecting your wellbeing along with that of the environment.

HONEYMOON EXPERIENCES

Find your seclusion at Poetree's signature honeymoon cottage – The Prive Suite. Enjoy your own private jacuzzi on the attic floor as you soak in panoramic views of the Periyar. A stunning bedroom, a luxurious bathroom and the private top floor attic deck throw themselves open to the endless view. Do allow us to create a unique magical experience like no other by informing us in advance of your stay.

EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

Poetree is an idyllic destination for any kind of occasion. Whether you're planning a large corporate event, a company outing or even a team building trip, the resort is equipped to meet your every need. With both indoor and outdoor space, over 40 guest rooms and first rate service, no detail will be overlooked.

GUIDED GARDEN WALKS

Enjoy a guided tour with an experienced Poetree team member who will explain the unique tropical flora, fauna and aesthetics of the 9 acre resort property.

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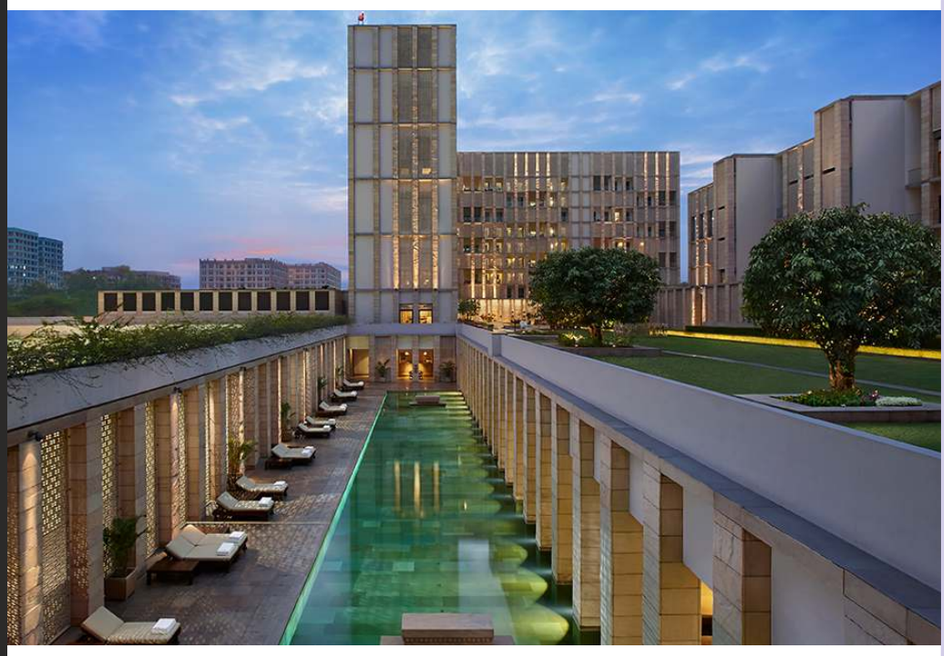
promotion of the month

The Lodhi, Delhi



The Lodhi's 111 rooms and suites are located in an elegant two winged structure. Most rooms and suite categories have their own private plunge pool and extensive balconies and are furnished for comfort and ease with king size beds, upholstered sofas and chairs, desks, with ambient lighting. The Lodhi Spa offers seclusion, tranquility and a wide range of therapies and rituals ranging from Ayurvedic to contemporary international treatments. The eight spacious private rooms include steam, shower, bathtub, day beds and massage tables. The Cigar Lounge is adjacent to the Library and features comfortable leather armchairs in which to relax and enjoy a glass of spirits or a premium cigar from the selection available. Cuisine options range from pan Asian, Middle Eastern and European at On the Waterfront to Mediteraanean, South Asian and Indian regional at Elan.

destination news

Indian medical tourism surges

The number of overseas travellers visiting India for medical treatment has surged in recent years. According to figures released by India's Ministry of Tourism, the number of people entering India on medical visas jumped 166% in the last three years, from 75,688 in 2014 to 201,333 in 2016. And in order for further boost the sector, the Indian government is taking steps to make it easier for medical tourists to enter and stay in the country. Following the launch of the e-tourist visa, a new e-medical visa has been introduced, the validity of which can now be extended to six months based on the needs of the traveller.

Indians with US visas to receive visa on arrival in the UAE

Indian passport holders with a valid American visa or a Green Card will now be eligible to obtain a UAE visa on arrival, as per the decree approved by the UAE Cabinet. The visa will be valid for 14 days, with a single extension possible for a fee. The decision to have a simplified visa process is aimed at advancing the UAE-India relations in economic, politics, and trade. It also contributes to achieving UAE's vision to be the leading country in attracting global tourism. “Citizens of the Republic of India who are holders of normal passports with a six-month, or more, valid green card or visa issued by the United States of America shall be granted entry visas to the UAE from all ports for a period of 14 days, subject for a single renewal for the same period upon payment of applicable fees,” an official statement said.

Indian arrivals continue to surge in 2017

Having welcomed a record number of international visitors last year, India has continued to experience strong growth in the first part of 2017. According to the latest data from India's Ministry of Tourism, the country welcomed 1.94 million overseas visitors in January and February 2017, which marks a 14.7% increase compared to the same period last year. In February 2017 alone, 956,000 international travellers arrived in the country, up 13.0% year-on-year. Bangladesh was India's top visitor source market during the month, accounting for 17.5% of total arrivals, followed by the UK (12.2%), USA (11.8%), Russia (4.3%) and Canada (4.3%). France (3.35%), Germany (3.1%), China (3.0%), Sri Lanka (2.9%) and Australia (2.6%) completed the top 10. And India's e-tourist visa scheme continues to grow in popularity; in February 2017 the country issued 170,000 e-visas, up 45.2% year-on-year. And just four countries – the UK, US, France and Russia – accounted for more than half of this total. India welcomed 8.89m international visitors in 2017, 10.7% more than in 2015 and a new all-time-high.

India offers free SIM cards to tourists

The Indian government has launched a new scheme aimed at making it easier for tourists to stay connected when they visit the country. Recently unveiled by India's Tourism & Culture Minister, the initiative will see all international visitors issued with pre-loaded SIM cards. The programme is applicable to those travellers arriving in India on e-tourist visas. The SIM cards will be made available by Bharat Sanchar Nigam (BSNL), initially at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport Terminal 3. In future it will be progressively rolled out to the other 15 Indian airports where e-tourist visas are issued. Dr Sharma said that “this unique initiative will facilitate the foreign tourists in communicating with their acquaintances immediately after their arrival in India”.

top 3 picks

TOP-3 -OFF-BEAT HILL RETREATS IN UTTARAKHAND

BINSAR

The summer capital of the erstwhile Chand kings (7th - 18th century) of Kumaon, Binsar is a picturesque, sleepy hamlet and one of the most scenic spots in the Kumaon Himalayas. Pitched at the impressive altitude of 2,420 m, 95 km from Nainital, it offers a majestic view of the snowy Himalayan peaks like the mesmerizing ranges Chaukhamba, Trishul, Nanda Devi, Shivling and Panchchuli. Encircled by a vast wildlife sanctuary, a home to many rare animals, birds and wild flowers Binsar is a truly fascinating spot. Binsar is also a trekker's paradise- a collection of sleepy hamlets amidst orchards, silver streams and green meadows. Little further from Binsar is the temple complex of Jageshwar (34 km from Almora) nestled in a beautiful valley.

KANATAL

The town of Kanatal is located in the Indian state of Uttarakhand. This town is located in a very scenic setting surrounding by mountains and rivers, with breathtaking views and scenery. Tourists mainly flock to Mussoorie, and the town of Kanatal is mostly left untouched. Kanatal serves mainly as a weekend getaway for the local populace. It is located at an altitude of 2600 kilometers from Mussoorie. There are many places that you can visit during your trip to Kanatal, and the Surkhanda temple is the most popular religious destination. You can also take a walk through Kodia Jungle, which is a dense forest area located at a distance of around one kilometer away from Kanatal. The Tehri dam in the region is also a must see destination in Kanatal. You can also take a walk through Kodia Jungle.

KAUSANI

Window to the snow-crested Trishul, Nanda Devi, Nandakot and Panchchuli peaks, there are very few places in the Himalayas whose beauty can be compared to that of Kausani - a picturesque hill station famous for its scenic splendor and its spectacular 300 km-wide panoramic view of the Himalayas. With a total area of 5.2 sq. km, situated at a height of 1890 m above sea level, located 51 km north of Almora, Kausani is the birthplace of famous Hindi poet Sumitra Nandan Pant, who wrote some of his memorable poems in praise of this paradise on earth. In 1929, Mahatma Gandhi stayed here for 14 days at the Anasakti Ashram while scripting his book titled 'Anasakti Yoga' and was greatly impressed by its environs. The town is accessible all year round.

hotel news

Accor Hotels to add 9 properties in India by year-end

As per a report in Business Standard, Global hospitality major Accor Hotels plans to add up to nine hotels in India this year targeting to offer a total of over 10,000 rooms across its properties in the country. The French hospitality firm currently has 46 hotels with a total of over 8,700 rooms in India under 10 brands ranging from luxury to economy spread across 19 cities. "We plan to open up to nine hotels in India this year. We will have 55 hotels in India by the end of this year with over 10,000 rooms," said Jean- Michel Casse, COO (India and South Asia).

Taj brings new luxury to Amritsar

Taj has opened a brand new luxury hotel in the centre of Amritsar, in the northern Punjab region of India. Located less than 12km from Amritsar airport, the new Taj Swarna is provides access to local attractions such as the Golden Temple, Jallianwala Bagh and Durgiana Temple, plus the city's main business district. It becomes the company's first hotel in Amritsar. The launch of this new property follows Taj's recent brand repositioning, which features a series of new concepts including the removal of check-in desks and morning yoga classes. “Taj Swarna… embodies Tajness, the newly-unveiled ethos from Taj that aims to ensure unrivalled experiences and service for guests. Seeking inspiration from the brand's Indian heritage and blending this with local cultures, Tajness focuses on personal, sensorial experiences,” the company said in a statement.

Shangri-La, Taj Group unveil common loyalty platform 'Warmer Welcomes'

Shangri-La International Hotel Management Limited and Taj Hotels, Palaces, Resorts and Safaris have integrated their loyalty programmes, Golden Circle and Taj InnerCircle, respectively, into one proposition 'Warmer Welcomes', which came into force lately. With this development, loyalty card members of both programmes have to log in to www.warmerwelcomes.com and link both accounts. The website went live yesterday. Talking to the media at the Taj Mahal Palace in Mumbai, Wee Kee Ng, Vice President, Loyalty & Partner Marketing, Shangri-La International Hotel Management Limited, said, "Warmer Welcomes is the marriage of two complementary brands, with Shangri-La being a strong brand in China, while Taj having an equally stronger footprint in India. Because of traditional heritage, both brands are representatives of a strong Asian heritage culture. This integration will make the loyalty programmes more valuable.

The Source at Sula opens its doors

Sula Vineyards announced the launch of the country's first heritage winery resort, The Source at Sula. Surrounded by the Deccan hills, the resort not showcases a Tuscan theme, but also opens up to views of the vineyards, and stretching to the beautiful Gangapur Lake, guests staying at The Source at Sula can soak in the allure of the mountains and the scenic surroundings. The Source at Sula has 23 rooms, including a Tower Suite and four Tree Houses. It also features facilities like a swimming pool, tennis court, spa, gym, and restaurant, along with Sula's signature wine tourism activities – winery tours and tastings sessions with the winemakers. Guests can also enjoy sunset views at the Tasting Room or grab a bite at Sula's restaurants Soma and Little Italy. For the outdoor junkies, bicycles are provided to amble through the vineyards and rural roads.

Fortune Miramar, Goa opens for business

Fortune Park Hotels expanded its bouquet of hotels with the opening of the brand's 46th hotel, Fortune Miramar, Goa. This is the third Fortune hotel in Goa, joining Fortune Acron Regina, Candolim and Acron Waterfront Resort, Baga. Owned by Cosme Costa Hospitality, Fortune Miramar, Goa is located 200 meters from the Miramar beach and offers good connectivity to the airport, railway station and access to popular tourist attractions. Fortune Miramar, Goa features 45 guest rooms, including 32 standard rooms, 11 Fortune Club rooms and two suites, outfitted with amenities 24 hour room service, satellite LED TV, hi-speed Wi-Fi internet connectivity, working desk, direct dial STD/ ISD, electronic safe, mini bar, tea/coffee maker, iron and ironing board on request, hair dryer and daily newspaper.

upcoming festivals

THRISSUR POORAM

The grandest of all Kerala temple festivals, the Thrissur Pooram is a resplendent festival celebrated with a grand display of caparisoned elephants, dazzling parasols, and percussion music. Celebrated in the Malayalam month of medam (April-May), the pooram is held at the Thekkinkadu Maidanam in Thrissur. The festival sports an enthralling line-up of vibrantly decked up elephants and is marked by the kudamattom ceremony. Involving swift and rhythmic changing of brightly coloured and sequined parasols, the kudamattom ceremony is one among the highlights and is a keenly watched event.

Another high point is the ilanjithara melam, a highly bewitching performance of traditional instruments which lifts the thousands gathered to a state of euphoria and bliss. Around 250 odd artistes participate in this traditional orchestra led by chenda artistes

When: May 5, 2017 Where: Vadakkumnathan Temple, Thrissur, Kerala.

BUDDHA PURNIMA

Buddha Jayanti, also known as Buddha Purnima, celebrates the birth, enlightenment and death of Lord Buddha. It's the most sacred Buddhist festival. Activities include prayer meets, sermons and religious discourses, recitation of Buddhist scriptures, group meditation, processions, and worship of the statue of Buddha. Indian Railways runs a special Mahaparinirvan Express Buddhist Tourist Train that visits all Buddhist pilgrimage places in India. Buddhists regard Lumbini (which is now part of Nepal) to be the birthplace of Buddha. Named Siddhartha Gautama, he was born as a prince into a royal family sometime in the 5th or 6th century BC. However, at the age of 29 he left his family and began his quest for enlightenment after seeing the extent of human suffering outside the walls of his opulent palace. He became enlightened at Bodhgaya in the Indian state of Bihar, and is believed to have lived and taught mostly in eastern India.

When: May 10, 2017 Where: Various Buddhist sites across India, particularly at Bodhgaya. The festival is also celebrated in Buddha Jayanti Park, Delhi.

OOTY SUMMER FESTIVAL

The Ooty Summer Festival is an annual event, which is celebrated every year in Ooty amidst the Nilgiri Hills. Organised by the Government of Tamil Nadu, this 121 year old event is one of the prominent festivals that attracts tourists from various corners of the world. This summer festival consists of fairs, carnivals, flower shows, vegetable and spice shows, and several cultural activities . The flower show is the major attraction of this festival as it displays varieties of flowers from different countries. The event usually continues for 3 days and a numerous activities take place during the same. Classical art exhibitions and adventure activities can also be enjoyed during the festival that makes it a memorable experience for the audiences. The major aim behind organising the festival is promoting tourism of Ooty.

When: May 27-29, 2017 Where: Ooty and surrounding areas, Tamil Nadu

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