TAMARIND GLOBAL

TOURS | WEDDINGS | EVENTS | CORPORATE SERVICES

Tang

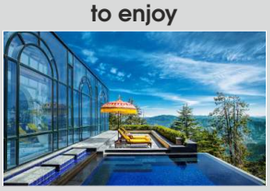
in tang this month...

Birthday Celebrations in Cambodia by Tamarind...

New Hotel in Mahabalipuram

Celebrate Baisakhi in Amritsar

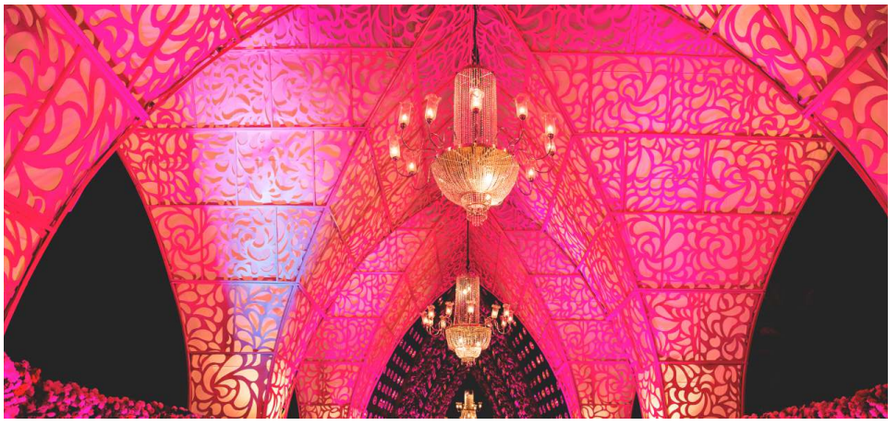
Summer Hill Stations to enjoy

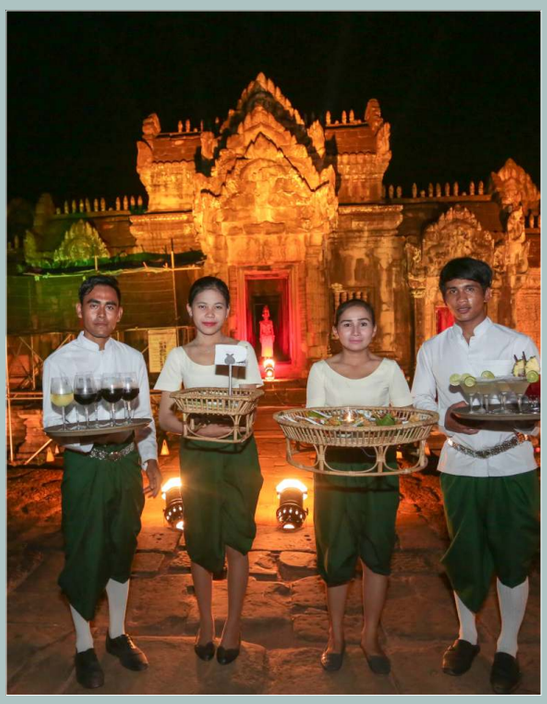


tamarind news

February began with another big wedding extravaganza in Ras Al Khaimah at the Waldorf Astoria. With a fabulous location and great weather, the Tamarind team put their magic together to create a dream setting in the Arabian desert!

Our team was also busy in Cambodia, with a 50th birthday celebration. In the plush environs of the Raffles Hotel Siem Reap, against the backdrop of the magnificent Angkor Wat, some beautiful memories were made... a private, surreal dinner inside the Banteay Samre Temple, traditional Cambodian performances and the after parties on Pub Street!

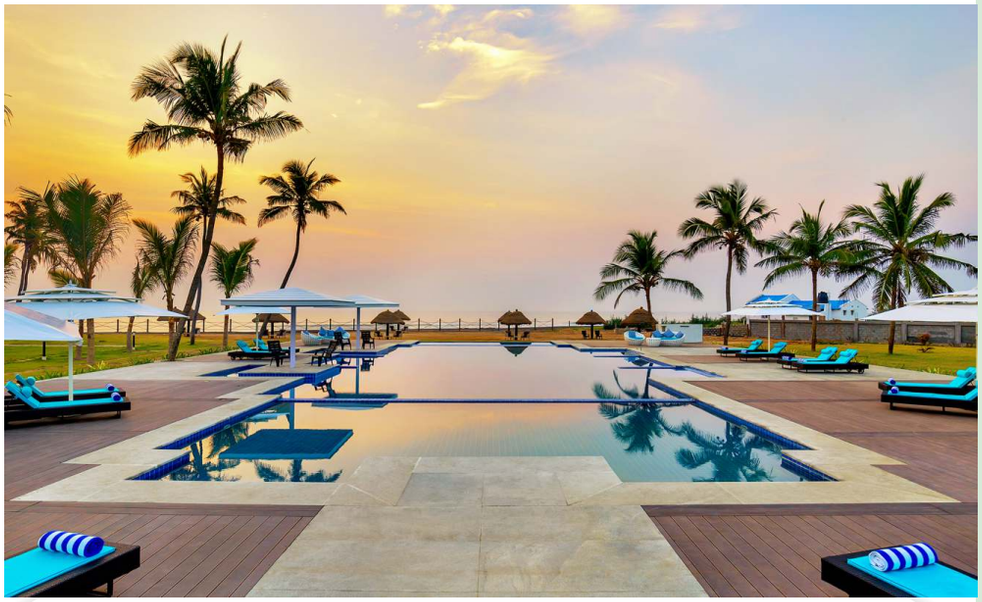




What's New

Now Open

WelcomHotel Kences Palm Beach



Located adjacent to the Mamallapuram beach, WelcomHotel Kences Palm Beach is a tranquil resort spread across 9 acres, overlooking the picturesque Bay of Bengal. WelcomHotel Kences Palm Beach has inherited an uncluttered design pattern that truly embarks on a journey of the past with a contemporary twist. The resort invites guests to experience sea side serenity, while providing a glimpse into the enchanting local culture and history of the nostalgic neighborhood of Mamallapuram. Nestled in between greenery and swaying palm trees, the Hotel truly embodies the spirit of a cozy getaway. The Hotel has well-appointed rooms nestled in the gardens with private and semi-private balconies, villas with stunning views of the ocean, an infinity pool, indoor and outdoor dining options restaurants catering to regional and international cuisines, pillar less convention spaces and an enticing line up of exciting leisure activities

Location: Engulfed by the nostalgic neighborhood of Mamallapuram, the land of the seven pagodas is adorned with a rich history. The region is embraced by the Shore Temple, stone carvings and 'rathas' with a group of monuments that prides in being classified as a UNESCO world heritage site.

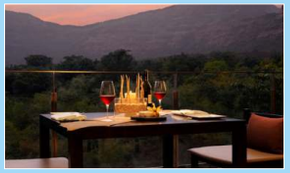
WelcomHotel Kences Palm Beach
No 53, Devaneri Village ,East Coast
Road Mamallapuram, Kanchipuram

The 94-room resort offers a range of accommodation options including elegantly appointed cottages and villas that spell minimalistic luxury. Warm and inviting, the rooms and suites possess all modern amenities to make your stay comfortable. Understated elegance that perfectly complements the necessary modern touches is what defines the accommodation at WelcomHotel Kences Palm Beach.

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT US ON info@tamarindglobal.com

getaway resort of the month

Hilton Shillim Estate Retreat & Spa, Pune



Pune, India

Located in the Sahyadri mountain range within the 320-acre Shillim Estate, Hilton Shillim Estate Retreat and Spa features luxurious villas, 4 relaxation terraces and a yoga pavilion. Its extensive spa boasts over 150 treatments while 7 food and beverage options are available.
Lonavla is a 45-minute drive from Shillim while Pune is a 1.5-hour drive away. Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport in Mumbai is approximately a 3-hour drive from the retreat.

Designed for healing, this all-villa retreat is a sanctuary for the body, mind and spirit. The 320-acre unspoiled sylvan setting complements the organic, local cuisine, yoga and meditation, individualized spa treatments, Shillim Institute courses and local activities and excursions. The retreat is an inspiration for corporate and social groups. Renew your connection at Hilton Shillim Estate Retreat & Spa.

ROOMS & SUITES
The all-villa accommodation is spread over the pristine natural landscape of the retreat. With Forest View Villas that are surrounded by verdant forest to Valley View Villas that offer a panoramic view of the lush green Sahyadri mountain range, choose the space that compliments your individual wellness experience.

DINING
At the Hilton Shillim Retreat & Spa, there are seven exciting on site restaurant and bar venues utilizing primarily organic and locally sourced ingredients. Guests can enjoy fine dining whilst maintaining a regime of good nutrition and even customize their experience with 'Dining by Design', which allows them to choose the setting for their unique meal, be it by the banks of a waterfall, or on a lush forest plateau. 24-hr, In-Villa Dining is available to be enjoyed either inside your Villa, or on your private balcony or patio.

SHILLIM SPA
The Shillim Spa at Hilton Shillim Estate Retreat & Spa offers among the largest and most comprehensive spa facilities in Asia. This Indian spa retreat encompasses 70 acres and offers a range of exquisite treatments. Discover 17 treatment rooms, a meditation cave and a relaxation center, as well as a salon and yoga pavilion.

Hilton Shillim Spa offers a range of rejuvenating treatments for the body, mind and spirit. Each treatment integrates the ancient philosophic, spiritual and artistic wisdom of South Asia, with modern international techniques.

WELLNESS PROGRAMS
The Shillim Spa offers comprehensive wellness programs that are customized to individual needs, offering a range of rejuvenating therapies and beauty treatments which restore the vitality and natural harmony of the body, mind and spirit.

FITNESS & ACTIVITIES
Th resort organizes groups for Pilates, aqua aerobics, swimming, dancing and ziplining. For a water-based experience, try rowing, paddle boating or sailing on Pawna Lake. Maybe stargazing is your thing, we offer that, too. You'll find bicycles and horses for riding and spaces for creativity with pottery, painting and cooking. Quieter pursuits include bird watching, trekking and forest walks.

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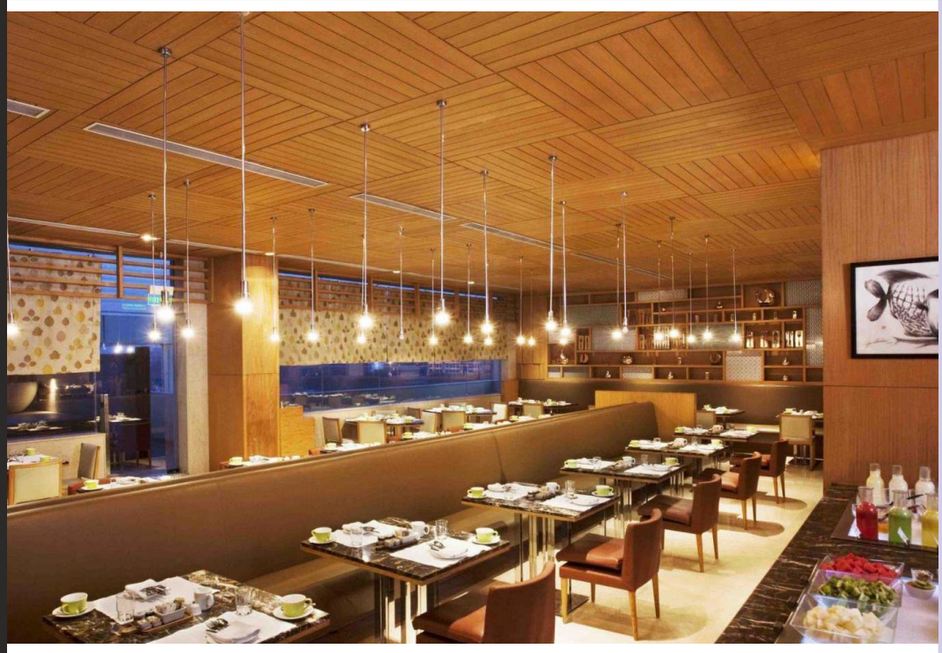
promotion of the month

Holiday Inn New Delhi Mayur Vihar, Delhi



Holiday Inn New Delhi Mayur Vihar Noida is strategically located near commercial hub of Noida and Pragati Maidan. Enjoy shopping at the nearby malls at Noida- DLF Mall of India, Great India Place or go to Connaught Place, which is 20 minutes' drive from the hotel. Stay connected during your stay in the 24-hour business center which features a boardroom and banquet space for up to 550 guests. Each 191 guestrooms, including two suites and 20 Executive rooms are designed for comfort and convenience with modern technology. Relish delicious cuisines at Cafe on 3, the all-day dining world cuisine restaurant that serves Asian, Western and Indian and try oriental flavors from China, Thailand and Japan at Kylin Experience. Relax in the outdoor swimming pool or enjoy a work out in the fitness center.

destination news

Indian domestic tourism surges in 2016

India's domestic tourism sector is booming, with the country witnessing a double-digit jump in domestic trips during 2016. According to the latest data from India's Ministry of Tourism, a provisional total of 1.65 billion domestic trips were registered in India's states and union territories last year, 15.5% more than the 1.43bn recorded in 2015. But these visits are concentrated in a small number of states – the 10 most-visited states accounted for 84.2% of domestic trips in 2016. Tamil Nadu (344.3 million visits) was India's most popular domestic destination last year, followed by Uttar Pradesh (229.6m), Madhya Pradesh (184.7m), Andhra Pradesh (158.5m), Karnataka (129.8m), Maharashtra (115.4m), West Bengal (74.5m), Telangana (71.5m), Gujarat (42.8m) and Rajasthan (41.5m). The major change compared to 2015 was Madhya Pradesh, the large central state, which jumped from sixth to third in the rankings. West Bengal leapfrogged Telangana into seventh position.

Jet boosts Asian connectivity with Hong Kong Airlines

Jet Airways has formed a new partnership with Hong Kong Airlines aimed at enhancing connectivity between India and the Far East. The new codeshare partnership will lead to new one-stop flight services connecting Indian passengers to destinations in Japan, Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand and New Zealand. Hong Kong Airlines will place its “HX” flight code on Jet's flights from Mumbai and Delhi to Hong Kong. In turn, Jet will place its “9W” code on Hong Kong Airlines' flights operating between Hong Kong and Okinawa, Tokyo, Bali, Hanoi, Bangkok and Auckland. Okinawa and Auckland are brand new destinations to Jet's codeshare network. This will enable passengers to book single-ticket travel from the two Indian cities to any of the codeshare destinations, with the baggage checked through to the final destination. And frequent flyers will be able to earn miles on the codeshare flights

UK targets Indian travellers in latest campaign

VisitBritain is aiming to lure more Indian travellers to the UK as part of a major new campaign. The seven-week 'OMGB (Oh My Great Britain): Home of Amazing Moments' marketing campaign features digital and billboard advertising aimed at showcasing the experiences visitors can have in the UK. Outdoor advertising will be positioned at key locations in Delhi and Mumbai, including CyberHub and Haji Ali Main Junction.

Kerala Tourism conducted roadshow in New Delhi

The Department of Tourism, Government of Kerala organized Roadshows in New Delhi, the delegation was led by K. P. Nandkumar, Dy. Director Kerala Tourism, and the roadshow focused on their new initiatives, experiences and attractions. Kerala Tourism noticed increase in the arrival of tourists within a year due to the various marketing initiatives implemented by the Government.In Sep 2016, foreign tourist arrivals showed an uptick of 5.61% compared to that of Sep 2015.The domestic tourist arrivals figure in Sep 2016 increased by 6.01% compared to Sep 2015. The Foreign exchange earnings for the year 2015 was Rs. 6949.88 cr. which recorded an increase of 8.61% over the previous year. The Total revenue (direct and indirect) from tourism in 2015 is Rs 26689.63 cr. showing an increase of 7.25% over the previous year's figure.

Radhanagar Beach in Andaman Among the 'World's Top 10 Beaches'

The tranquil and pristine Radhangara beach on the Havelock Island in the Andamans bagged the 8th rank, among the top 10 in the 'World's Travellers' Choice Award-Winning Beaches' by TripAdvisor. In the category of 'Top 10 beaches in Asia', Radhanagar beach was ranked 1 and Agonda beach in Goa was ranked No 5. Total of 343 beaches were applauded by TripAdvisor including the top 25 beaches in the World. The other category of awards was of local list of beaches in Asia, Caribbean, Europe, the South Pacific, the US, Africa, Australia, Central America, South America and the UK Award. In Asia, No 2 positioned was taken by White Beach in Philippines, trailed by Ngapali Beach in Myanmar, and Nai Harn Beach in Phuket, Thailand. In Asia, No 2 positioned was taken by White Beach in Philippines, trailed by Ngapali Beach in Myanmar, and Nai Harn Beach in Phuket, Thailand.

top 3 picks

TOP-3 LUXURY GETAWAYS IN HIMACHAL FOR THIS SUMMER

WILDFLOWER HALL IN THE HIMALAYAS, SHIMLA

Situated at 8,250 feet above sea level, Wildflower Hall is unique amongst luxury hotels in Shimla. At Wildflower Hall, Shimla in the Himalayas, guests can refresh with nature walks, rafting, cycling or yoga, or relax and rejuvenate with an exclusive spa therapy. Wildflower Hall offers relaxing, rejuvenating treatments unmatched by other spa hotels in Shimla. The Oberoi Spa affords exclusive massage, yoga and Ayurvedic treatments at bespoke locations around the hotel and grounds. The open air whirlpool has magnificent views across the Greater Himalayas, while the indoor pool, lit and adorned by overhead crystal chandeliers, is temperature controlled throughout the year.

THE HIMALAYAN SPA RESORT, MANALI

Built in the Victorian Gothic Revival style and perched at an elevation of 2003 metres, The Himalayan is the premier luxury resort in Manali area of North Western Indian Himalaya. Our Castle and Cottages are set in the midst of apple and cherry orchards, overlooking resplendent snow capped mountain peaks and waterfalls plunging down rock faces. In this privileged backdrop we find inspiration, whilst looking towards a vibrant and propitious future. Here grandeur, elegance and style have conspired to create intimacy and warmth without pretension. The Himalayan’s fine blend of inimitability and characteristic eccentricity will find appeal with connoisseurs of tradition, looking for a difference.

SPAN RESORT AND SPA, MANALI

The echo of the crystalline river Beas constant and comforting, Span Resort and Spa is spread over 10 acres, offering a 5-star luxury experience. With fruit orchids in bloom amidst the lush backdrop of deodar and pine, the natural beauty surrounding the hotel has made it a destination for both private travellers as well as major Bollywood film units. la Riviere Spa by L’OCCITANE is a haven of Mediterranean Wellness ensconced in the Valley of the Gods. Guests are encouraged to pluck fresh home grown herbs they would like mixed with natural L’OCCITANE products to create fusion recipes prepared a-la minute for their treatments while the protocols incorporate the best of the west and east, with Swedish, Hawaiian Lomi Lomi, Balinese & Shiatsu combined in exclusive L’OCCITANE sequences.

hotel news

Hilton group to open 18 new hotels in India by 2021

Global hospitality major Hilton is planning to add 18 hotels across India by 2021 as it bets on the country to be one of its key growth drivers. The US-based hospitality chain already has 15 operating hotels in India with over 2,400 rooms under its five brands — Conrad, Hilton Hotels & Resorts, DoubleTree by Hilton, Hilton Garden Inn and Hampton by Hilton. “We are planning to add another 18 hotels by 2021 in India. It is a very strategic market for us and we continue to explore other opportunities across the country,” said Hilton Head of Operations-India Andre A Gomez. The new hotels will be across the country, including localities such as Bengaluru, Lucknow, Goa, Ahmedabad and Mumbai, he added.

Radisson turns Blu in Jammu

Located on the eastern side of the Tawi River, less than 15 minutes' drive from Jammu Airport, Radisson Blu Jammu a modern hotel with an array of amenities. It features a total of 119 rooms and suites, plus two restaurants, a bar, 24-hour room service, an executive lounge, business centre, swimming pool, spa and fitness centre. And for the all-important Indian MICE market, the hotel features a ballroom that can accommodate up to 2,000 guests with additional pre-function space and a lawn for outdoor functions. “Jammu is a region that enjoys strong domestic leisure demand and is home to some of the most visited destinations in India,” said Raj Rana, Carlson Rezidor's CEO for South Asia. “Integral to our India growth strategy, is expanding in leisure markets and state capitals. With the opening of Radisson Blu Jammu, we will make inroads into the winter capital of Jammu and Kashmir.”

AccorHotels to host Indian showcase

AccorHotels will visit India next month, hosting events to showcase of its hotels and resorts to the local travel trade, as well as providing updates on its latest developments, products and services. Due to take place on 22 March at Sofitel Mumbai BKC and 24 March at Pullman New Delhi Aerocity, the events will be attended by AccorHotels global team of executives. Now in its 14th year, the AccorHotels Showcase is designed to provide travel agents, wholesalers, corporate clients, tourism companies and MICE organisers with insights into the hotel group's portfolio and projects. This year it will include updates on the group's latest acquisitions, including the purchase of the Raffles, Fairmont and Swissotel brands, investments in the private rental space through One Fine Stay, Oasis Collections and Squarebreak, and lifestyle brands including Jo&Joe, John Paul and 25Hours Hotels. “The AccorHotels Showcase is a signature event on the AccorHotels calendar and serves as an ideal and exciting platform for us to meet with our clients, showcase our latest openings and thank our partners for their support,” said Arif Patel, AccorHotels India's vice president of sales, marketing, distribution & loyalty.

Taj rebrands to segment portfolio

Indian hotel giant Taj has announced plans to update its brand name and services, in an effort to more clearly define its portfolio. The company, which is owned by The Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL), will now be known as Taj Hotels Palaces Resorts Safaris, with the new umbrella brand comprising four separate sub-brands: Taj Hotels, Taj Palaces, Taj Resorts and Taj Safaris. The Vivanta by Taj and Gateway hotel brands will now be merged under the main Taj banner. Previously, the company was known as Taj Hotels Resorts and Palaces. IHCL said that the new branding would “connects back to the recently unveiled Tajness philosophy which takes the best from the Taj's past and redefines it for the future”. “The new brand identity is a reflection of guest insight and research with all stakeholders including associates, owners and partners, all of whom indicated a stronger emotional connect and affinity for brand Taj,” it added.

upcoming festivals

TULIP FESTIVAL

Spring is when Kashmir is at its most picturesque, and is also the season for flowering tulips. This special time of year is beautifully captured by the Tulip Festival in Srinagar, home to Asia's largest tulip garden. As well as the arresting sight of more than a million blooms, the festival features daily cultural programs, Kashmiri folk songs, sale of local handicrafts, and traditional Kashmiri cuisine. The garden looks like a silken carpet of bright coloured sprawling tulips. Nearly 60 varieties of beautiful and vibrant tulips grow in this garden, spread over 5 hectors of land. Tulips remain in bloom just for 15-20 days depending upon the temperature. Red, yellow, variegated, pink, white, orange, light blue, and magenta are the main colors of tulips. The scene is simply charismatic with floral charm.

When: First two weeks of April 2017 Where: Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden, Srinagar, Kashmir. It's located in the foothills of Zabarwan range, overlooking Dal Lake.

BAISAKHI

Baisakhi is a harvest festival, a Punjabi new year festival, and commemoration of the founding of the Khalsa (Sikh religion brotherhood) all rolled into one occasion. It's celebrated with a great deal of feasting, bhangra dancing, folk music, and fairs. Major celebrations are organized at the Golden Temple in Amritsar, and it becomes carnival-like outside. There's also a street procession.

In 1699, Guru Gobind Singh (the 10th Sikh Guru) decided to discontinue the tradition of Gurus in Sikhism. He proclaimed the Granth Sahib (holy scripture) to be the eternal Sikh Guru. He then formed the order of the Khalsa by selecting five fearless leaders of his followers, who were prepared to lay down their lives to save others.

When: April 14, 2017 Where: Throughout the state of Punjab, particularly in Amritsar. A Baisakhi Mela will also be held in Delhi from April 7-9, at Dilli Haat in Pitampura.

CHITHIRAI FESTIVAL

The Chithirai Festival is one of the biggest celebrations in Madurai. It re-enacts the wedding of Lord Sundareswarar (Lord Shiva) and Goddess Meenakshi (Lord Vishnu's sister). After the celestial wedding, the location shifts to Kallazhagar Temple in the Azhagar/Alagar Hills near Madurai, where Lord Vishnu presides as Meenakshi's older brother Azhagar. Legend has it that Lord Kallazhagar traveled on a golden horse to participate in the celestial wedding of his sister Meenakshi. Unfortunately, he gets delayed and misses the wedding. Meenakshi and Lord Shiva come to the Vaigai River, where he reached, to try and pacify him. However, in his fury he gets into the river to give them his gifts, then goes back home without visiting Madurai. One of the biggest spectacles of the Chithirai Festival is this procession, particularly the moment that Lord Kallazhagar enters the river.

When: April 28-May 13, 2017 Where: Meenakshi Temple, Madurai, Tamil Nadu.

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

Marketing offices:
Canada, Russia, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom

Mumbai: 601, Oracle Point, 3-Gurunanak Road, Bandra (W), Mumbai 400050, India
Tel: +91-22-66802500 |Fax: +91-22-67102876

Gurgaon: 5th Floor, Building No 91, Sector – 44, Gurgaon 122003, India Tel: +91-124-4565454 | Fax: +91-124-2570337

Website: www.tamarindglobal.com
Online: www.tamarindglobalonline.com
info@tamarindglobal.com