TOURS | WEDDINGS | EVENTS | CORPORATE SERVICES

TAMARIND GLOBAL

TANG

TAMARIND EVENTS & NEWS

Tamarind Global participated in ITB Asia, an international travel fair for the Asian region, held in Singapore last month.

FEATURED EVENT DESTINATION - WESTIN HOTEL VALENCIA, SPAIN

Spain's third-largest city is a magnificent place, content for Madrid and Barcelona to grab the headlines while it gets on with being a wonderfully liveable city with thriving cultural, eating and nightlife scenes. The Westin Valencia is ideally located in the city centre close to the historic centre, the commercial area and the City of Arts and Science of Valencia.

sharing this beautiful area.

We can plan your wedding or event at the Westin Valencia, and make it an event to remember! Everything is perfect at The Westin Valencia for your unique and very special day. Complimenting the banquet rooms' abundance of natural light, elegant décor and mood lighting, state-of-

Its 135 elegant Art Deco style rooms and suites have a warm, relaxing atmosphere with plenty of natural light and some of them feature private terraces with Jacuzzi. The marble corridors decorated with contemporary pieces of art of Spanish artists communicate the different culinary spaces of the hotel. It´s lush gardens are the heart of the hotel and each restaurant, bar and lounge has its own terrace

the-art technology can be arranged to help take any event to the highest level of success. There are also several spectacular lighting and music options available to take your event from chilled pre-dinner cocktails to lively late night dancing. The hotel's stunning Mediterranean garden makes the perfect backdrop in which to capture images of your special day or to enjoy a quiet moment during the festivities. Let us take care of every last detail for you!

DESTINATION NEWS

Macao hosts its first International Film Festival & Awards

Macao Government Tourism Office recently announced its 1st International Film Festival & Awards Macao (IFFAM). The festival would entail the twelve Asian genre film directors and their chosen genre favorites for the Crossfire section of the official programme. Crossfire is a non-competitive section introducing the festival audience to influential genre titles from Europe and South Asia. The 1st International Film Festival & Awards would be held in Macao from December 8–December 13, 2016. Amongst glitz and glamour, Macao will witness industry world over coming together to celebrate the film festival. The acclaimed director Shekhar KAPUR will serve as Jury President at the inaugural festival.

Interest in self-drive tours accelerates growth in car rentals

Self-driving in Car Rentals targets the young, middle class and leisure travellers in showcasing various destinations of India in a report by Irene Susan Eapen. Self-driving in the Car Rental segment is a popular concept especially in the metros of India for weekend gateways. People prefer to rent a car nowadays for a number of days to explore any destination through Self-drive tours. Self-driving in car rentals also becomes a bonus for domestic and international travellers in India through adventure trips, road trips and solo trips. According to Ken Research, the Indian car rental market revenues will grow at a considerable CAGR rate and is expected to touch Rs 800 billion by 2019. The concept of self-driving tours is widely being promoted in destinations like Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Leh & Ladakh, Lahaul and Spiti Valley. The overall growth in the car rental segment has been good in India and are expecting an optimistic growth over the years.

Deepavali Train Ride in Singapore

The Festival of Lights offers you a different train ride in Singapore with decorations like Rangoli and designs like lotus and peacocks for Deepavali. This Deepavali train ride was launched on 15th October by Khaw Boon Wan-Singapore's Minister for Transport. The train will run till the mid of November. The city's Land Transport Authority (LTA), in collaboration with the Little India Shopkeepers and Heritage Association (LISHA) launched a Deepavali-themed train that will run on the Singapore Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) system. GB Srithar, Regional Director, South Asia, Middle East & Africa, Singapore Tourism Board said, " During the Festival of Lights in Singapore the whole Little India area streets are lighted up, Deepavali bazaars and the eateries serving you great food and lovely music."

Sri Lanka to develop huge tourism zones

At least five and up to eight "Themed International Tourism and Family Entertainment Zones" will be developed on plots of state-owned land covering more than 600 hectares. These include beaches, mountainous areas and forested regions, all selected for their outstanding natural beauty. The Sri Lanka Tourism Club is now working with government ministries to deliver these tourism zones, and to open them up to foreign investment. Their full plans will be revealed at the inaugural Asia Hotel & Tourism Investment Conference (AHTIC), which is scheduled to take place in Colombo this month. "Sri Lanka's tourism industry is very much private-sector driven. The government role is restricted to that of regulator, monitor and facilitator," explained Tourism Minister John Amaratunga. "I have formed an advisory committee of leaders of the travel, tourism and hospitality industries whose input is sought on a regular basis on all matters of national interest in the tourism sector. They are the driving force that guides the industry.

Shah Rukh Khan partners with Dubai Tourism for short films

On Shah Rukh Khan's birthday, Dubai's Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing (Dubai Tourism) announced a collaboration with the Bollywood superstar for a series of short films that will be shot in Dubai. The project will see the actor unravel the secrets of Dubai, offering his fans a chance to see the exquisite city through the megastar's eyes, read a statement from Dubai Tourism. It aims to appeal to 'King Khan' fans across the globe, giving them the opportunity to explore the city and its many offerings. Conceptualized with the aim to strengthen and celebrate the bond and cultural links between Dubai and the subcontinent, the campaign underlines the importance of India as a key source market for inbound tourism to the emirate.

HOTEL NEWS

TUTC voted 'Asia's Leading Luxury Camping Company'

The Ultimate Travelling Camp (TUTC) was off to a winning start at the 23rd Annual World Travel Awards, awarded 'Asia's Leading Luxury Camping Company', at a dazzling gala ceremony hosted by InterContinental Danang Sun Peninsula Resort, Vietnam. This is TUTC's first nomination and win at the most prestigious awards program in the travel industry, voted for by guests and industry professionals. Speaking on the occasion, Rajnish Sabharwal, COO, TUTC said, “It is an honor to have been recognized as 'Asia's leading Luxury Camp' at the highly coveted World Travel Awards. This is an incredibly special award for TUTC as it recognizes our efforts to offer travellers unique and outstanding crafted experiences, amidst highest levels of luxury. As emerging pioneers in India, we feel very grateful that our endeavor to create a segment for niche luxury travellers resonates with our guests and industry experts on a global level. This award further strengthens our commitment in offering out-of-this-world experiences to the discerning traveller and bringing out the best that India has to offer in the luxury landscape.”

Asia to drive hotel industry consolidation

Addressing the Amsterdam event on 27th October, Tobias Ragge, CEO of HRS, said that the recent consolidation seen in the industry, including Marriott's acquisition of Starwood, Jin Jiang's purchase of Louvre and Plateno, and HNA Group's investments in NH Hotels Carlson and Hilton, is likely to gather pace. This is expected to be partially driven by Asia, and China especially, where companies are being encouraged to invest in international hotel groups. Anbang Insurance Group, which failed in its attempts to gazump Marriott's bid for Starwood, has also been linked with bids for other major chains, including IHG. This consolidation is likely to lead to rising average daily rates (ADR), Ragge predicted, and for corporate buyers this presents a challenge. He advised that corporate buyers should open up to independent supply, which will enable them to make greater savings than they would if they only negotiate with big chains.

Alila to reopen 230-year-old fort in Rajasthan

Scheduled to welcome its first guests in February 2017, Alila Fort Bishangarh will be positioned on a peak in the Aravalli hills, with 360-degree views of the Rajasthani landscape. The building is surrounded by original two-metre thick stone walls with turrets. Once inside, the luxury hotel will feature just 59 suites, all with large openable windows, bathtubs and day beds. There are four suite categories and 22 different layouts. F&B options at the hotel include an indoor restaurant, outdoor grill, a lounge and a bar with a “cigar and cognac turret”, while other facilities include a spa, a large banqueting hall and a conference room. Outside the hotel walls, at the bottom of the hill, lie banqueting lawns, a swimming pool and terrace, another bar, a fitness centre, children's clubs and an organic garden.

Sarovar heads to Dalhousie with new hotel

Scheduled to open in 2018, the new Presidium Sarovar Portico Dalhousie will have a prime location in the town, close to all main tourist attractions. It will feature a restaurant, bar, gym, swimming pool, spa and function facilities. “With its unparalleled scenic beauty, Dalhousie is an important tourism destination with rising number of visitors from across the country,” said Ajay K. Bakaya, executive director of Sarovar Hotels. “It is an important location for us and a significant addition to our portfolio.” The Dalhousie hotel becomes Sarovar's third in Himachal Pradesh, following two in Mashobra and Palampur.

Anantara doubles up in Sri Lanka

Thailand's Minor Hotels has opened its second luxury Anantara property in Sri Lanka. The Anantara Kalutara Resort is located on the island's southwest coast, 10 minutes from the town of Kalutara and an hour's drive south of Colombo. It features a unique setting between the Indian Ocean and Kalu River, with coastal, river and lagoon frontage. “We are excited to open Anantara Kalutara, our second luxury Anantara resort in Sri Lanka,” said Dillip Rajakarier, CEO of Minor Hotels. “With its unique ocean and river front location and its original design by famed Sri Lankan architect Geoffrey Bawa, we are confident that Anantara Kalutara will become one of the 'must stay' luxury properties for discerning travellers visiting the island, along with the now well established Anantara Tangalle on the south coast.”

AIRLINE NEWS

Jet boosts Abu Dhabi with multiple new flights

Beginning 2017, Jet Airways will add a second daily flight to the UAE capital from Delhi, plus 28 more weekly flights to Abu Dhabi from three new Indian cities. The new Delhi-Abu Dhabi flights will get underway on 15 January, and will be followed on 1 February by the launch of daily flights between Tiruchirappalli and Abu Dhabi. Jet also intends to commence daily flights to Abu Dhabi from Kannur and Chandigarh in the second half of 2017, subject to regulatory approvals. Passengers on these flights will be able to connect to destinations across the world via Abu Dhabi, using Jet's partner Etihad Airways.

AirAsia introduces direct Bangkok-Kolkata service

The new route is currently on promotional offer, starting at All-in fare from 1,890 THB per trip. Booking was until 2 November 2016, for travel between 16 December 2016 and 28 October 2017, with the inaugural flight starting 16 December 2016. This addition makes a total of four destinations in India for Thai AirAsia, including Chennai, Bengaluru and Kochi. Direct flights to Chennai and Bengaluru maintained a Load Factor Average of 83% in 2016.

Jet adds more Gulf flights from India

The Indian carrier will start flying daily from Thiruvananthapuram (also known as Trivandrum), the state capital of Kerala, to Dubai, as well as adding four more weekly flights to Doha. This will increase the frequency of the Thiruvananthapuram-Doha route from thrice weekly to daily. These new routes follow the recent announcement of Jet's new route between Kozhikode and Sharjah. “Traffic on the ever-popular Gulf routes continues to grow at a swift pace and we have taken progressive steps to boost capacity on the route. As the largest traffic carrier on the Indo-Gulf route, we are also working to highlight our reputation for service excellence in order to ensure we remain the airline of choice for guests flying between India and the Gulf," said Jayaraj Shanmugam, Jet's chief commercial officer.

Air India launches world's longest flight

The national carrier has switched its Delhi-San Francisco service, which had previously operated westwards over the Atlantic, to an eastbound routing across the Pacific. Covering 15,100km, this becomes the world's longest air route, in terms of distance, operated by any commercial airline today. Interestingly however, the Pacific routing actually saves Air India time and fuel. Despite the extra distance, the flight actually took about two hours less (15 hours 55 minutes in total) to reach its destination.

Air Canada announces first non-stop Vancouver-India flight

Benjamin Smith, president, passenger airlines at Air Canada, said: "We are delighted to inaugurate our second route between Canada and India right in time for Diwali celebrations. "Our non-stop flights from our Asia-Pacific Vancouver hub feature 787-9 Dreamliner service and offer the shortest elapsed flying time from Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Seattle, Portland and Los Angeles to the Indian subcontinent. "Our non-stop flight, coupled with our streamlined and seamless connections process at YVR translates to a savings of 3-5 hours compared to itineraries with connections in Europe or Asia.

GETAWAY HOTEL OF THE MONTH

jüSTa RAJPUTANA, UDAIPUR RESORT

jüSTa Rajputana, Udaipur is a palatial resort and hotel set amid lush green lawns and sparkling water bodies with a backdrop of the majestic Aravallies. This makes it the perfect place to enjoy Udaipur and to unwind. It is a 4-star hotel located just 10 minutes from the historic city centre of Udaipur. The resort provides a tranquil experience while providing easy access to the many tourist spots around, and offers great facilities and modern amenities, making it the ideal choice for business & leisure travelers. jüSTa Rajputana, Udaipur Resortis located just 10 minutes from Udaipur city centre giving you an easy access to all the tourist spots of Udaipur.

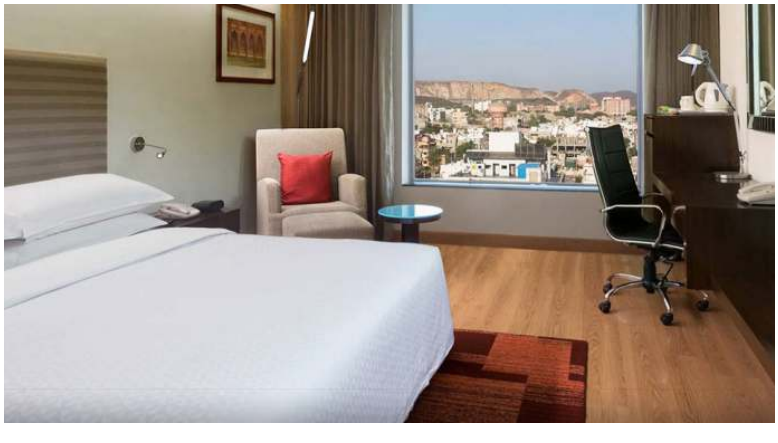
Experience the spacious rooms with luxurious modern amenities and a full array of services, or enjoy the luxury and privacy of the Villa. Dine at the multi-cuisine restaurant- also serving authentic Rajasthani cuisine. Or sip a cocktail at the bar and lounge.

Refresh yourself with a dip or enjoy a swim at the international size swimming pool. Rejuvenate with a spa treatment or a massage at our SPA. The 1000 sq. ft. conference room is ideal for your meeting and event needs, along with sprawling lawns for events, conferences, and weddings.

Contact us for special packages on info@tamarindglobal.com

TAMARIND PROMOTION OF THE MONTH

FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON, JAIPUR



No matter where you stay in this hotel, you'll enjoy comfortable accommodations and convenient amenities like LCD flat screen TVs and High Speed Internet Access. Relax in modern furnishings, including a Four Points by Sheraton Four Comfort Bed™, and take advantage of free extras, like breakfast, bottled water, and daily newspapers.

Make your leisure time count with advice from knowledgeable associates at the tour desk. Pamper yourself with a relaxing treatment at our in-house spa, take a dip in the outdoor pool, or stay fit with a workout in the 24-hour fitness centre. The well-equipped business centre ensures that you get everything you need to keep on task and on time.

At the end of a long day, relax with an ice-cold beer at Best Brews. The international selection is impressive, and there is a special menu of snacks. Filled with sunlight during the day, the Eatery serves delicious meals from regional, national, Asian, and Western cuisines. Choose from lavish buffet spreads or get something made to order from theà la carte menu.

Contact us for more information on info@tamarindglobal.com

TOP FIVE PICKS

TOP-5 ROMANTIC TREEHOUSE RESORTS IN INDIA

Vythiri Resort, Wayanad

Elegant and exclusive, the Vythiri Resort is an exquisite jungle getaway located in Wayanad, a largely mountainous district in northern Kerala. Situated beneath the enormous canopy of a lush tropical rainforest, it takes you into nature's wonderland - in the company of amphibians, birds, fish, mammals, reptiles, flowering plants and butterflies that inhabit the dense Vythiri rainforest. You will be seduced by the promise of discovery, bliss and exaltation - body, mind and soul. The Vythri Spa combines the finest traditions of Ayurveda with Aroma Therapy and modern rejuvenation techniques to heal both body and soul.

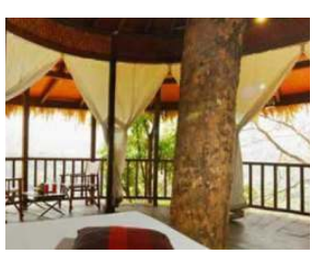
Tree House Hideaway, Bandhavgarh

Across 21 acres area of land lies the opportunity of experiencing snug life inside the rooms, or venturing out in the tiger-infested wild. The property has boasts a resident species of birds, reptiles and animals residing around the forest trees and over time the area has now become a small secure park for them. You can spend your time unseen and undisturbed in the intimacy of your room or choose to go looking for wild animals and birds in Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve. In the wild forest atmosphere, the exteriors of the tree houses are basic and match their surroundings, but the in insides are comfortably appointed.

The Tree House Resort, Jaipur

The Treehouse Nests finely blend the comforts and luxuries of a five star room with nature in its pristine prime. Perched atop " keekar" trees , the nests have several live branches running through the rooms making nature omnipresent in the lap of luxury. Several winged friends visitors of all hues and shapes , chirp merrily outside the Nests' windows to be Nature's morning alarm call. The restaurant specialises in bringing you the finest delicacies, produced organically within the resort which are carefully picked by our chefs to make sure that our guests eat fresh and well.

Rainforest Boutique Tree House Resort, Athirapally



Shrug off the city along with your coat and just soak in the misty sprays of the cascading Athirapally waterfalls at Chalakudy, Kerala. Or simply rest your eyes on the lush green of the pristine Sholayar rainforest. Slip into the welcoming warmth of silky quilts or down a delicious drink as you lounge in your well-appointed room. As a boutique hotel set in 7 acres of virtually virgin rainforest, they take the best care to ensure that they pamper the guests as well as the environment. The tree houses are an exceptional example of the fusion of nature with modern architecture. This design marvel, created by a Swiss architect, has been engineered to allow for the needs of the growing tree.

Carmelia Haven Resort, Thekkady

Carmelia Haven is a stylish, eco friendly resort set amidst a tea and

cardamom plantation where guests will be in communion with many of nature's many splendored charms. A gazebo sits on a manicured lawn in front with wrought iron furniture that guests can lounge in. Further on along the path is the resort's multi cuisine restaurant with a verandah and banquets area. Tree houses that are built with wood on solid stilts and soar into the canopy of trees around them. Guests with an adventurous streak will find much to enjoy in the novelty of residing high above the ground, in the embrace of the foliage and the spectacular views

GLOBAL CUISINE

Wasabi Aloo Tikki

The best cuisines in the world are based on two elements: nature and harmony. Rustle up this fusion 'Wasabi Aloo Tikki' by marrying Japanese and Indian flavors- Chef: Nikhil Chib on NDTV

INGREDIENTS

For the aloo tikkis:
Half aubergine, thinly sliced
2 tomatoes
5 potatoes, boiled
Olive oil
Salt and pepper
1 tsp butter, melted
2 tsp wasabi
1 egg, beaten
1 cup breadcrumbs

For the sweet chilly sauce:
2 Tbsp honey
2 Tbsp fish sauce
1 lemon juice
2 chopped green chillies
1 chopped red chilli

METHOD

Marinate the aubergine slices in some olive oil, salt pepper and bake in the oven for about 10 minutes at 140 degrees.

Make a slight incision in both the tomatoes and place them in boiling water for only 15 seconds. Once done, place them in some ice cold water.

Peel the skin of the tomatoes and slice them.

Drizzle some olive oil, salt pepper over the tomatoes and bake for about 5-7 minutes at 140 degrees.

Mash the potatoes. Add salt, pepper, butter and wasabi to it. Mix all together.

Mix in the egg to the mashed potatoes. Reserve some of the beaten egg to caot the tikkis later.

Make round tikkis (flattened round balls) with the potatoes. Brush the tikkis with some egg (you reserved earlier) and then wrap these tikkis in the bread crumbs.

Deep fry the tikkis in oil till golden brown.

Once done wrap them with the baked aubergine slices and place the tomatoes over it.

You can serve this with a sweet chilli sauce

THE MOST AMAZING EVENTS IN THE WORLD!

INDIAN PICKS OF THE MONTH

KONARK FESTIVAL

The official Konark Festival, organized by Odisha Tourism, features a range of classical Odissi, Bharathnatyam, Manipuri, Kathak and Chau dance performances. Added attractions are an exhibition of temple sculptures, sand art exhibition, and crafts fair.
When: December 1-5 Where: Open air auditorium, Natamandir, near the Konark Temple

INTERNATIONAL SAND ART FESTIVAL

Held to coincide with the five day Konark Festival in the same area, the International Sand Art Festival sees renowned international and local artists competing to create the best sand sculptures
When: December 1-5, 2016 Where: Chandrabhaga Beach, Konark, Odisha.

FEAST OF FRANCIS XAVIER

This annual celebration is held in honor of Saint Francis Xavier, one of the greatest Christian missionaries to visit India. His mummified body is kept in a casket inside the captivating Bom Jesus Basilica in Old Goa, and every year people come to pray on the anniversary of his burial. The festival, which lasts for several days before and after the feast and includes a large fair, is one of the most important Christian events in Goa. The morning mass attracts people from all over the world.
When: December 3 every year Where: Bom Jesus Basilica, near Panaji, Old Goa

MAGNETIC FIELDS

India's newest music festival is an intimate affair, limited to 500 people, which will be held on two stages at a restored 17th century palace hotel in Rajasthan. On offer will be cutting-edge music from both bands and DJs, fashion, art, and food. Attendees can either camp in luxury tents or stay in rooms at the hotel. Its premises are extensive and include courtyards, swimming pool, and ballrooms. Decorations are expected to create the vibe of a magical, fantasy carnival.
When: December 9-11, 2016 Where: Alsisar Mahal, Shekhawati Region of Rajasthan.

THE GROOVE YOGA FESTIVAL

Advertised as the grooviest yoga festival in town, this six day "celebration of music, movement and community" offers yoga classes, sound workshops, AcroYoga, bodywork, kirtan, concerts, photo shoots, and beach parties. There are many internationally recognized teachers, musicians and artists on the line-up.
When: December 5-10, 2016 Where: Ashiyana Yoga Center, Mandrem, Goa.

MAMALLAPURAM DANCE FESTIVAL

The open air India Dance Festival is held against a background of rock sculptures in the beach town of Mamallapuram, just south of Chennai. It runs for a month and showcases a range of classical and folk dances from all over India.
When: December 20, 2016 to January 20, 2017. (Dates to be confirmed).
Where: Arjuna's Penance, Mamallapuram, near Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

ONLY IN INDIA!

DIAMONDS WERE FIRST MINED IN INDIA

The diamond is more than just aesthetically beautiful—it's an enduring symbol of love, romance, and commitment. The stone's name is derived from the Greek word adamas, which translates to "unconquerable." This symbolic meaning lends itself well to the diamond's historic commemoration of eternal love.

Do you know that diamond was first discovered in India and the country remained the only producer of this precious mineral till the 17th century and the dominant producer till the 18th century.

The earliest diamonds were found in India in 4th century BC, although the youngest of these deposits were formed 900 million years ago. A majority of these early stones were transported along the network of trade routes that connected India and China, commonly known as the Silk Road. At the time of their discovery, diamonds were valued because of their strength and brilliance, and for their ability to refract light and engrave metal.

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