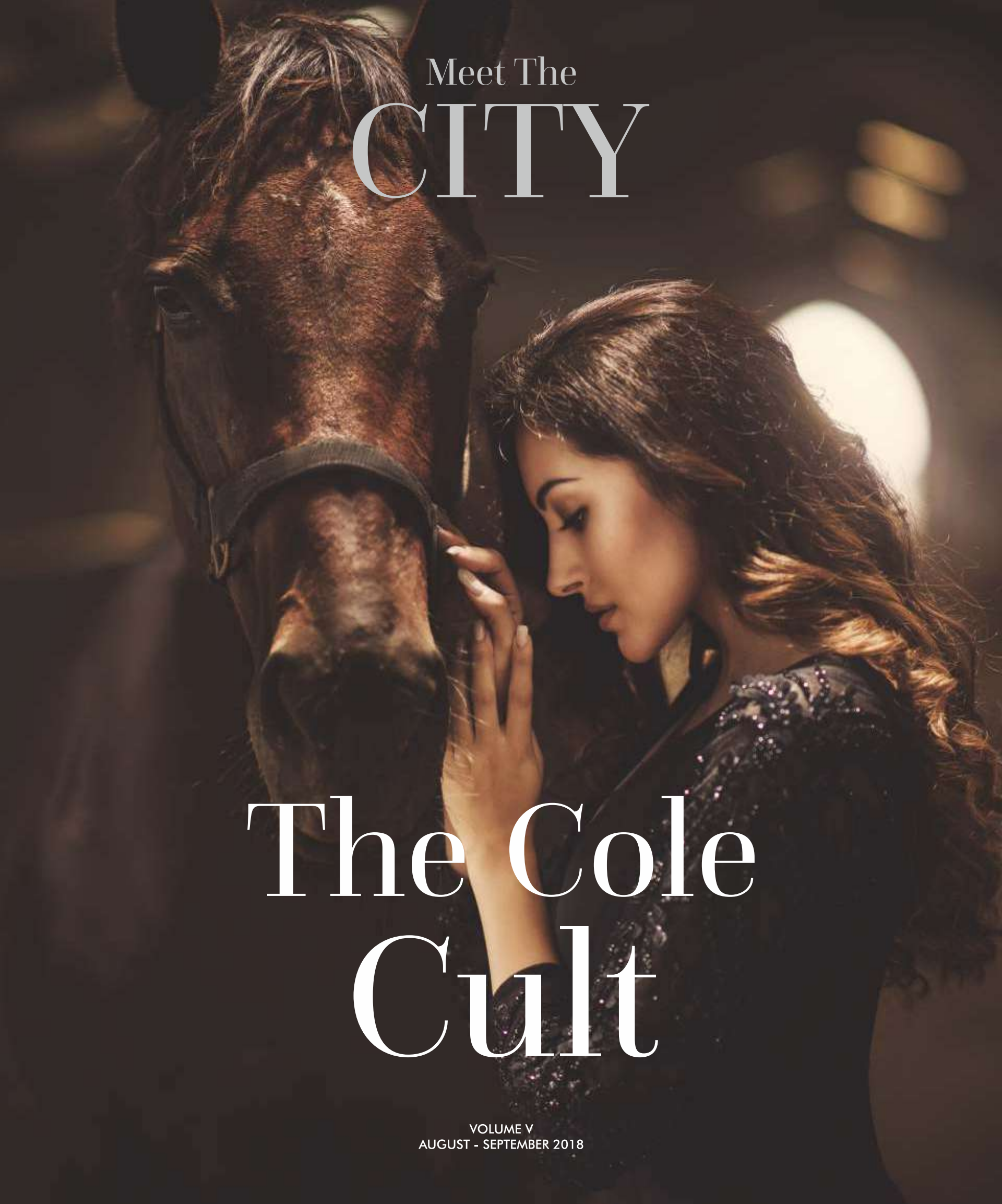




Meet The
CITY

The Cole Cult

VOLUME V
AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2018

TRUMP[®] TOWERS

P U N E

DEVELOPED BY
PANCHSHIL

INDIA'S FIRST READY TO MOVE IN
TRUMP BRANDED RESIDENCES



All images shot on location.



Upholding unrivalled standards of the Trump brand, Trump Towers Pune is a glorious testament to modernity. Its two striking glass facade towers, 23 storeys each, offer breathtaking 360° views of the city. Trump Towers Pune is crafted according to the design and development standards of the Trump Brand, and coupled with lush interiors, styled by award-winning designer Matteo Nunziati. These 46 single-floor residences embrace the refined opulence of modernity, Indian art and beauty.

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Project Financed By PNB Housing Finance Ltd.

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*This project was completed before May 1, 2017.



TRUMP
TOWERS

TOWER B IS READY TO MOVE IN

**Britain's
Most Influential Designer**
KELLY HOPPEN
For
yoo villas

Raised to reinvent unique experiences,
 YOO Villas, styled by internationally renowned designer
 Kelly Hoppen,
 are distinctively curated to foster quintessential living at a
 scenic riverside location.



Villa 2 Rear View with Private Pool.

All images shot on location.



Villa 3 Living Room in Sea Breeze Style.



Villa 2 Living Room in Vintage Style.



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Project Financed By Standard Chartered Bank

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It is that time of the year again when the world is awash in stunning beauty. It is that time when the leaves glisten with water droplets and the petrichor-filled air announces the arrival of our beloved season – monsoon.

Monsoon certainly augments the beauty in every direction we look. But, there is no denying that how we perceive beauty, changes more than everything surrounding us. Pleasant drizzles, blossomed flowers, the breathtaking nature trails; monsoon frees our art of perceiving beauty in a way that always existed in us but was never known.

I urge you to discover the beauty of monsoon in its many forms as it invokes an elated sense of expression in us. In this issue of Meet the City, join me in celebrating the magical perception that the beauty of changing seasons breathes into us. Embark with me, on a journey to discover the vastness of our perception and look at the world with eyes that see nothing but beauty.

ATUL CHORDIA

REVIEW

Review



As nature traverses through its seasons, there is nothing but immense beauty lined with an array of beautiful colours. Each season has a transient allure and its nostalgia makes the beauty eternal. Monsoon is here and the sun is often witnessed wrapping the horizon in its vast arms. The cool breeze touches the summer skin, the aroma of wet leaves dampens our being, and the periphery of the fields turns golden.

Bhawika Jethwani, on behalf of Meet the City, invites you to celebrate luxury intertwined with the petrichor of monsoon.

In this issue of Meet the City, we have discovered the finer nuances of monsoon as we witness the relay of beauty with every rain. Just like in the distant fields and valleys, the beauty abounds in the luxurious residences at YOO Villas nestled within the multi-hued landscapes. To help you make your homes the perfect versions of themselves, we visited Spazio Spaces – the home of famous luxury furniture brands – to check their most recent collection out.

We have explored some brilliantly exotic locations off the beaten track and some breath-taking swimming spots that would invite you to take an unwinding dive.

The fashion section elaborates the extravagance of the renowned designer Manish Malhotra's Summer Couture 2018 Collection inspired by the 'Paradise' on Earth – Kashmir. It talks about his spectacular fashion show set against the stunning backdrop of YOO Villas. We have also perceived beauty beyond ordinary through the eyes of luxury; the way Naina, a luxury and lifestyle blogger, perceives it.

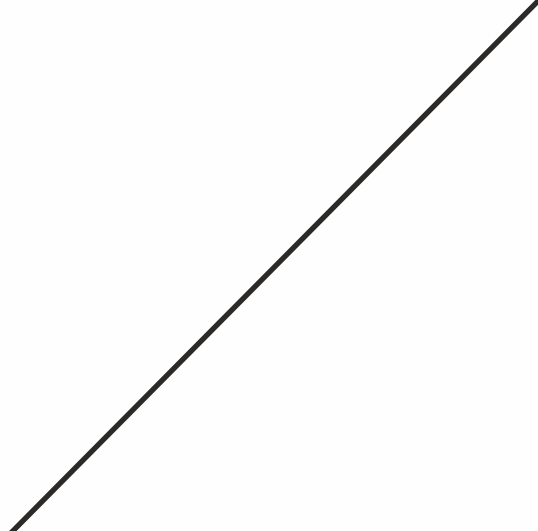
In Art, we have showcased the beauty of expression through the thriving culture of theatre art which imbibes cognitive abilities in individuals. In a similar vein, we have shared how Michelle Poonawalla's projection art succeeds at bringing the worlds of expression on the canvas.

We have also discussed how 'Mamagoto' and 'Dhaba Estd 1986 Delhi' by Azure Hospitality bring curated culinary experiences to the table.

In the 'In Store' section, we have featured a multi-brand fashion retail store, Iconic Infinite Fashion, which has 16 exquisite stores across the country and has now set its foot in Pune. In this issue, we also bring you glimpses from the opulent launch of YOO Villas.

Meet the City pays tribute to the beauty of perception, the luxury of nature, its seasons that embody the transient allure, and the way it has its everlasting impact on us.





MEET THE CITY : JULY - AUGUST 2018

Cover Story

Cole Cult - Pune Racing Season Special

Season Special

Monsoon Memories

Art

What If You Fly by Michelle Poonawalla

Eye For Luxury

Naina.Co - The Storyteller

World Theatre Art

Theatre - A Storyteller's Religion

Exotic Travel

A Bag-full of Holiday Stories

Swimming Destinations

A Dip in the Pool

Culinary Culture

Launch of Mamagoto and Dhaba at The Pavillion

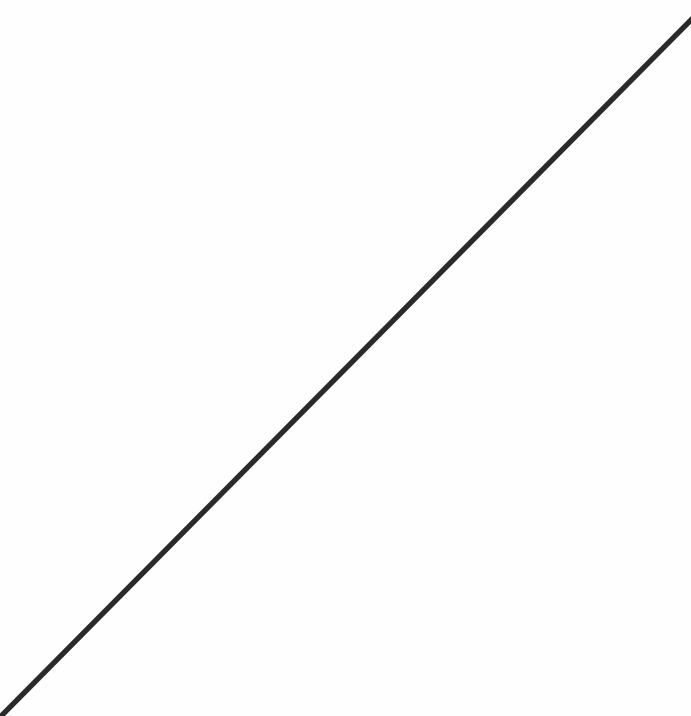
Launch Special

YOO Villas By Kelly Hoppen Launch

Manish Malhotra Fashion Show for YOO Villas Launch

Spazio Spaces

Contemporary Design, Traditional Finesse



Pune Racing Season Special

Good Spe





A woman with dark hair tied back, wearing a black fur coat, is shown in profile, grooming a horse. The scene is set in the rain, with water droplets visible in the air and on the horse's coat. The background is dark and out of focus.

Racing and Pune have been married since 1857 and the thunder of hoof beats pounding the Poona track gets the adrenaline running in everyone.

Ask any nattily dressed gentleman at the exclusive stand or the occasional viewer who comes to have a slice of the high life, and you'll know what gives the Poona Race Course almost a hallowed appeal!





“While leggy models parade around in designer ensembles, the hats worn by the guests and models push the fashion quotient higher!”

6 Arjun Marg in Pune is home to galloping steeds, cheering stands and impeccable fashion! The Pune Race Course is a charming space with heritage buildings and a majestic provincial racetrack. This track boasts of many stars that have put our city on the world racing map, “We send out quite a few champions from here and most of them have made India proud - particularly Indian champion Mystical at the Dubai International Carnival.

“He impressed the world with his performance, which led to an invitation for him to participate in the richest turf race in the world.” Mr. Zavaray Poonawalla, breeder, beams proudly as he talks about Mystical.

Equine sports like horse racing and polo date back to the 18th century in India. Started during the British Raj, the public's passion for horses led to such events being organized more frequently. Since then, horse racing has captured the imagination of the upper circles and has long also been associated with aristocracy, glamour and glitz.

Today, racing in its current form occurs under the aegis of The Royal Western India Turf Club Limited (RWITC), one of the oldest and most well known horse racing clubs in the country. From its inception, it has been an exclusive club enjoying the patronage of socialites and eminent personalities. The races have always had their share of glitter from royalty to Bollywood stars to corporate barons making appearances on popular race days.

The club hosts its western India racing season at two locations: at the Mahalaxmi Race Course, Mumbai from November to April, and in Pune from July to October. Mumbai and Pune racegoers attend around 70 thrilling race days between these two venues.

Pune's racing season highlight events are the Poonawalla Multimillion, the Pune Derby, the RWITC Gold Cup, the Independence Cup, the Southern Command Cup, the Panchshil Million, Oktoberfest and several new sponsored events starting nearly every year.

The thunder of hoof beats pounding the Pune track gets everyone's adrenaline running! Ask any nattily dressed regular at the members' stand or the occasional visitor who comes to get a slice of a refined life, and you'll know what gives the Pune Race Course an almost hallowed appeal.

At the Race Course, if speed rules the track then fashion adorns its galleries. With the A-list of Pune and who's-who of stylish fashion icons putting up a show of style and grace, the racetrack is a glamorous paradise.

Racing in India is almost synonymous with the Poonawalla name. This family is now in its fourth generation of innovation and excellence in racing. Their commitment and focus in life and business has rendered an indelible impression on the racing fraternity.

People attend in their sartorial best to celebrate the athletic excellence of the day; the mood is always that of being well turned out. Here we see people dressed smart and appropriately for the day. High fashion and couture make an appearance in the form of day dresses, suits, saris, and waistcoats; there are also some patrons who personalize their style to draw more attention than the rest! This is a place where we see hats mark their heaviest attendance. Indian racegoers come prepared to vie for an award for the best-dressed lady and gent in ethnic and western fashion categories.

A day at the races in Pune is always full of activity and fun for entire families. The Club plans its racing programme in such a way that all guests have something to enjoy, like backing a horse or cheering a winner, fashion and glamour programmes, life style events, bumper prizes and other add-ons make it a day of enjoyment and meeting people. Wine flows with chatter and champagne flutes alternate with binoculars in the hand.

Racing in India is almost synonymous with the Poonawalla name. This family is now in its fourth generation of innovation and excellence in racing. Their commitment and focus in life and business has rendered an indelible impression on the racing fraternity.

In 1982, the RWITC instituted the "S. A. Poonawalla Trophy" to posthumously commemorate Soli Poonawalla's lifelong contribution to Indian racing and breeding. In the year 1996 it became a guaranteed million race. This saw the new beginning of the "Million" concept and made it one of the richest races in the Pune racing calendar, and it also determines the "top juvenile" in the country.

In addition, The Poonawalla Breeder's Multi-Million in its Mumbai avatar is further proof of this growth. It is by far the most-awaited, high profile and exhilarating event on the circuit. For the record, it is also the richest race in the country and the richest juvenile race as well!

The stakes draw the best and brightest competitors and spectatorship. Fashion is at an elevated level at this do. The best turned-out lady and gentleman are awarded prizes. The day culminates in a grand party, which is eagerly attended by over three thousand invitees, making it perhaps the best-dressed event in town with ladies and gentlemen trotting their own brand of fashion and style.

This event in Pune's racing calendar caters to everyone - regular racegoers, first timers, professionals in the horse racing industry and their families. The guests of honor each year include Bollywood stars, fashion models and the who's - who of global racing.

During the races, racegoers are busy people; there are horses to see, people to greet, statistics to be calculated, bets to be placed, and different races that are run. Breeder Simone Poonawalla adds that, "The real stars of racing are the horses. And they are the ones that need to be followed by us. Like human athletes, if people get more knowledgeable about the horses, their past performances, what they are targeted for, etc, then one can indeed have an excellent time at the races while also being at one's personal best."



The Mala and Kinnary Label

The Mala and Kinnary Label is an eponymous ode to the plea of admirers, who appreciate the personal style of Mala Bhayani and Kinnary Panchamia.

This eclectic mother-daughter duo exemplifies poise, elegance and opulence in their penchant for finesse and panache.

Mala Bhayani who hails from the Royal Family of Kutch, was born with a love for the magnificent and the eye for intricacy. Carefully watching her in-house embroiders crafting sartorial magic to complement her charm and grace, she developed a unique understanding of fabrics and design.

Kinnary Panchamia, in her early years was fascinated and drawn to the rare art of embroidery and soon learnt to create exclusive high fashion, which she enjoyed adorning. Over the years, she has worked with luxury labels around the world, which has helped her better understand the glamorous and global world of fashion that she blends into her own couture style.

Together, The Mala and Kinnary label is the perfect blend of regal art, haute couture and resplendence.



Jeniffer Piccinato

Brazil and India may be worlds apart but our cultures hold a unique connection. International actor and model Jeniffer Piccinato embodies this connection as she confesses that India holds a special place in her heart - a home away from home. Having worked in more than 10 countries, she brings her regal charm and girl-next-door attitude to India and tells us, "Bollywood is where I want to be. I love the movies, the energy and the stories are so heart-warming."

Walking the ramp since childhood, Jeniffer has for many years held the title of beauty queen in Brazil. Amidst the glitz and glamour, she received her bachelor's degree in fashion designing and has an impeccable sense of make-up and hair styling, much of which she learned at an early age in her mother's beauty salon. A few years later she found her way to New York to further her acting talents by studying at the Barrow Group Acting School which is a premier theatre company and centre for performing arts.

Flying all over the world to countries like USA, England, Italy, China, Thailand, Philippines and India, Jeniffer has amassed a wealth of knowledge working in fashion campaigns, advertisements and editorials for magazines as well as music videos and TV commercials. Her repertoire of brands includes Amazon, Sunsilk, Pantene, ORRA, Tanishq, Joyalukkas and Kit Kat. She has also worked alongside actors like Saif Ali Khan and Salman Khan. For more on her projects check out Jeniffer's YouTube and Instagram profile.

Before all the limelight and media attention, Jeniffer Piccinato was a Brazilian flower child, who enjoyed the wide expanses of the country, shared her moments of joy with all those she befriended and dreamed of performing to crowds of fans, playing characters that touched people's hearts and made them fall in love. She recollects fond memories of her childhood, riding horses across a meadow or spending hours in front of the mirror practising lines from her favourite films.

Fluent in many languages like English, Portuguese, Italian and Spanish, Jeniffer has also been perfecting her Hindi. Coming from a background of artists and musicians, she loves to learn new things and is lately undergoing vocal training. A ballet dancer from childhood, she is also learning Bollywood dance and maintains a regular regime of fitness and yoga. As an actress, Jeniffer aspires to become a prominent persona in Bollywood and is looking forward to challenging roles that help her develop as an artist as well as leave her mark on the industry.





Spa la Vie
by L'OCCITANE

PUNE'S FIRST LUXURIOUS SPA

WELCOME TO THE
Mediterranean Escape!

yoopune
by Philippe Starck

Club House, Ground Floor, Magarpatta City - 411028

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Monsoon



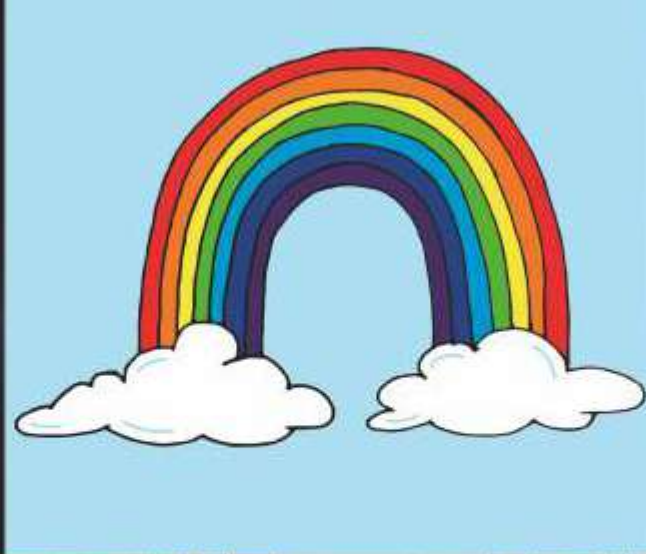
Made of Stories

MONSOON SPECIAL

It colours the landscapes vibrant. It showers the dawn. It sings to the songbirds. Rain does not only pour, it settles in our hearts.





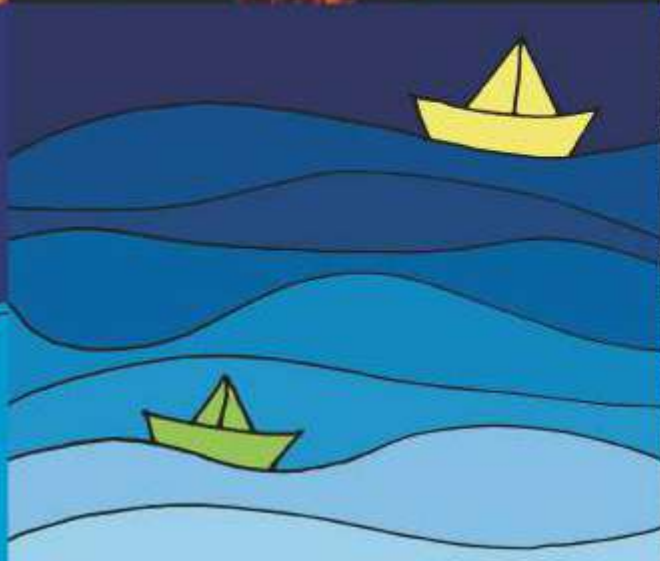


**Then as the first drop falls,
There is a gasp, and a pause,
Before it seems the whole world
breaks
Into a deafening applause.
-Erin Hanson**

A season of stories. Of either making new ones or reminiscing old ones. Of reliving tales, with the people you love. A season of lavender skies and petrichor. Of passion and growth. A season of love, warmth and comfort in spite of its cold, wet ways.

The first rains are always the most enigmatic and captivating of them all. It is almost as if the rain has a strong sense of theater. Like a showman, it draws you in, holds your attention, and as you wait in anticipation after the long and hot summer; it finally reveals itself. The sky darkens as the rumbling clouds hover above. The fresh smell of the earth; as somewhere, in the distance a drop of rain has touched the ground. And in a matter of seconds, the showman; the monsoon is here.

by Sara Oswal & Bhawika Jethwani





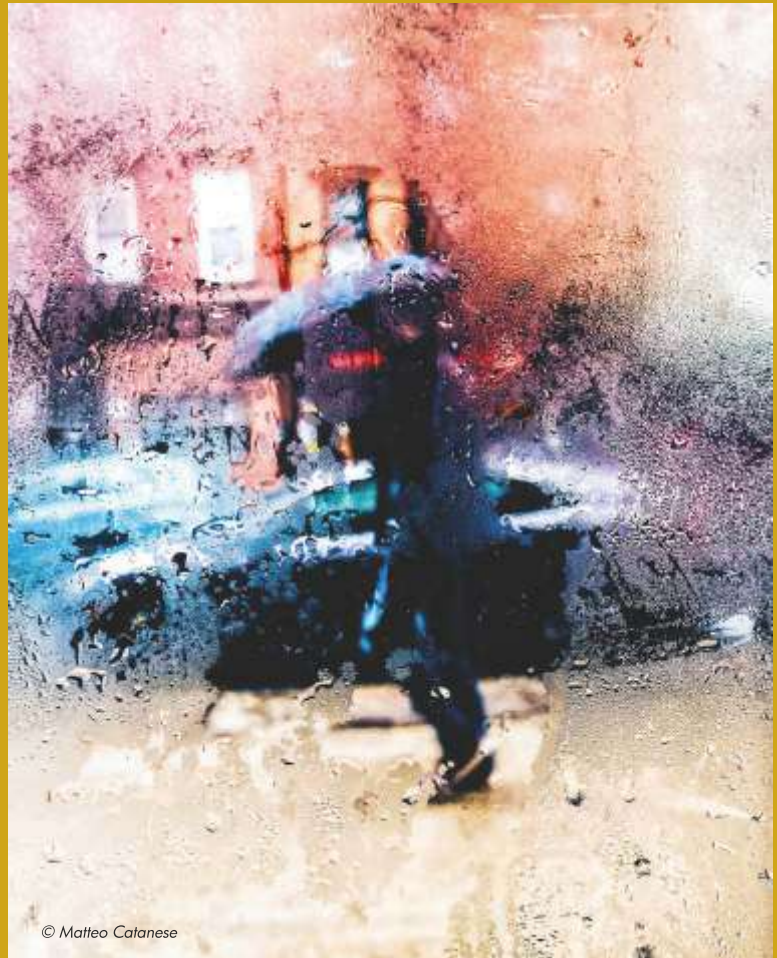


The birds flutter their wings under the silent shadows of dark sky while the thunder roars and the rain weaves lurid rhymes. Looks like clouds were raising rebels in their wombs this whole time.

Damp window sills sing their silence with the
chimes of splash.
Countless umbrellas unfurl in the explosion of
colours.
Reflections get muddled with the impatient ripples.
Fire flickers and takes a bite into the ripe corn.
Tell me if monsoon is just really a season.
Not for me! Not for me!



© Karthik Chandran



© Matteo Catanese



A black and white photograph featuring a silhouette of a person holding an open umbrella. The person is standing in front of a large, arched opening, possibly a tunnel or a bridge, which frames the view of a cloudy sky. The lighting is dramatic, with the person and umbrella in deep shadow against the lighter, cloud-filled sky.

A silhouette under the
cloud-laden sky,
a memorial of blithe
moments - soaked
in the magic of rains,
a body is more than what
it seems.

© GettyImages

Madness is on a parade,
frogs hop with mouths agape,
laughter breaks the gates open,
rain plays on repeat like
a favourite song on the
mix-tape.

All images © GettyImages

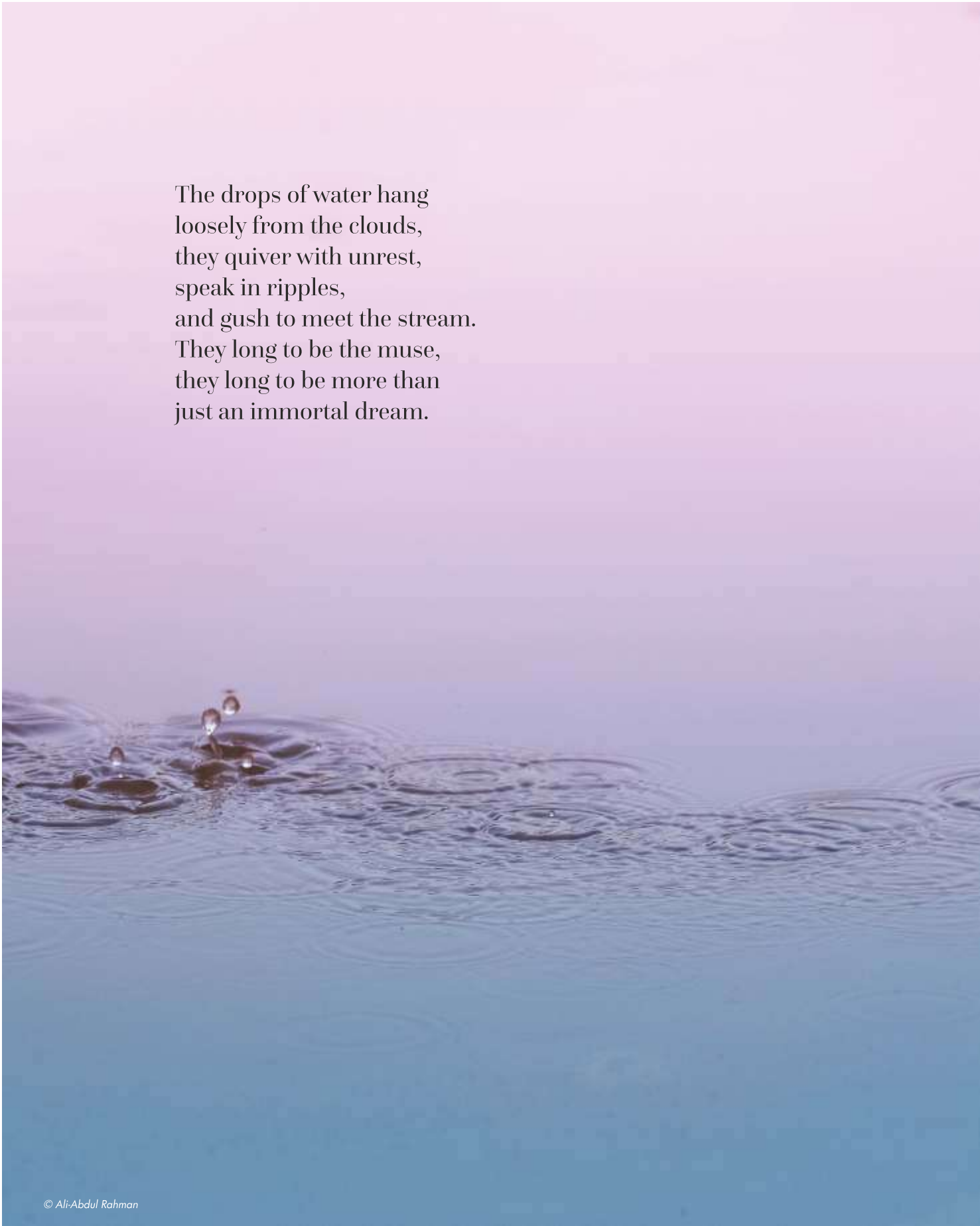




Don't fall in love or fall
like rain.
Fall.
Hurt.
Fall Again.







The drops of water hang
loosely from the clouds,
they quiver with unrest,
speak in ripples,
and gush to meet the stream.
They long to be the muse,
they long to be more than
just an immortal dream.

© Ali-Abdul Rahman





PANCHSHIL TOWERS

PUNE



**A life of refinement is one that is filled with unique experiences.
it is a life that is cultivated in manners and taste.**

**It embodies a lifestyle that embraces ease, elegance and everyday luxury.
Curated homes for quintessential living.**



3.5 BHK APARTMENTS AT RS. 1.92 CR ONWARDS.*



All images are architectural renditions.



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MP

‘What if you fly?’

Michelle Poonawalla

‘There is freedom waiting for you,
On the breezes of the sky.
And you ask, “What if I fall?”
Oh, but my darling, what if you fly?’

-Erin Hanson







Art has the power to defy the flatness of this world. The weight of abstract ideas takes a real form as colours spill on to the canvas. And that is when we can say art is more than just an abstract form; it is more than real.

Michelle Poonawalla, an art connoisseur, an entrepreneur and a mother, believes in extending the horizons and giving birth to wider perspectives through which art can be looked at. She believes that art gives us the liberty to twist it, lending it the flavour of our own disposition, and in return, it only demands to inspire.

Bhawika Jethwani finds out more about her form of expression through art that is kindled deep within her.



**'There is freedom waiting for you,
On the breezes of the sky.
And you ask, "What if I fall?"
Oh, but my darling, what if you fly?'**

-Erin Hanson

Michelle read this poem by Erin Hanson years ago and still lets the words 'What if you fly?' reverberate deep inside her as she paves new paths of self-expression. Michelle has various art styles that she showcases. From 3-dimensional video mapping technique to ruler technique and other oil works and sculptures, something that is clearly evident in her artworks is her invincible positivity and courage. She is never afraid to showcase her talent in the form of various art techniques and always asks herself the question – What if I fly? This determination and positivity inspired her to experiment with the art of projection and brought her paintings to life. She has always nurtured the ideas lurking somewhere in the back of her mind and has successfully brought them face-to-face with the world.







Projection Art

Michelle's work is not just a burst of colours on the canvas. It is like a freedom song being sung over and over again till the colours free themselves and her paintings come to life. It is like a story which moulds itself according to the viewer's imagination. She uses an array of techniques in her paintings that gaze back to her childhood and her recent journeys in the quest of art. "I am a dreamer", says Michelle, and her intent and positivity reflect in her acrylic-painted backgrounds accentuated with swirling butterflies that paint a new world of imagination for her viewers. With their carefully crafted paper wings, the butterflies in her paintings seem to burst out of the canvas, spilling out their colours to lend a sense of warmth and freedom at the same time.

She uses a digital technique of projection to lend her artworks a sense of life that embodies the miracles of a fairy tale. It inspires the viewers to venture into the wilderness and yet feel an immense calm at the core. The graffiti-based canvases, on the other hand, augment the essence of the entire scenario, like reality frozen at its most beautiful end. These canvases reveal the many facets of Michelle Poonawalla.

Michelle's passion for art comes from her grandfather, the architect Jehangir Vazifdar, who became known for his interest in art and his specialist oil-painting method. He passed on the method to her and she has been drawing her strength from art ever since. She believes that the world is full of wonder, and fosters her beautiful vision of colouring it with the spirit of joy and self-exploration, one painting at a time.

Naina.co

The Storyteller

Bringing Brands to Life...

Naina Redhu, photographer and blogger, first held a camera in her hands when she was just a little girl. As she fiddled with her father's Fujifilm analog camera, little did she know how influential a photographer and visual story teller she would go on to be.

While still in her early teens, Naina asked her parents for a point and shoot camera with a flash, for which she would save up her minimal pocket money to buy film rolls and subsequently have them developed. By the time she was about 16 or 17, Naina had discovered the real art of photography and the hard work that it involved. And, while she learnt all the 'tricks' to master the art of taking a beautiful photograph, she also grew increasingly aware about the need to get a 'real job', which led her to pursue her higher education followed by a 9 to 5 job. But, there always existed this thought at the back of her mind, to get back to photography. And, 'get back' she certainly did, and how!

Although Naina quit her regular day job in the hope to pursue serious photography, a professional camera was still not something she could afford to buy. So, she worked as an independent branding and graphic designer to support herself. In 2006, she bagged a photography assignment for which she borrowed her father's Fujifilm camera along with a Sony point and shoot. 2009 proved to be a turning point in Naina's career, when she bought her first semi-professional DSLR. Ever since, she's never looked back!

Almost a decade later, Naina Redhu is one of India's celebrated photographers and bloggers who has created a very unique space for herself within the Indian Influencer Marketing industry, as a brand story teller known for pushing boundaries of creativity and professionalism. Her website Naina.co is the country's first luxury and lifestyle blog that features the exquisite craftsmanship of international luxury brands, captured on her camera lens. Her vibrant photography and narration elevates the brand's story from being just a 'regular' blog to a collectible experience! Collaborating with some of the world's finest brands such as Burberry, Emirates, Swarovski, Dior, Google, etc., Naina's striking photographs capture the untold stories that lie hidden behind the powerful personas of these splendid brands.

Naina.co is her attempt to try and bring the world and these brands just a bit closer to Indian audiences!

Chaitra Patel spoke to Naina, the experience collector, and this is her brand story!



“My eyes are always searching for what might make a good picture. I'm obsessed. I enjoy every aspect of it - from the creative brief, to deciding the equipment, planning the story, the actual shoot, the selection process, the post-production and the publishing. Colors, visually pleasing compositions, people's faces, the sky, flowers, everything is enticing. Photography allows me to immerse myself into life more fully.”

You are a brand storyteller – do tell us a little more about this. What is it that you look for in a photograph or brand that you write about?

It's a struggle attempting to define what it is that I do. While it's easy to say that I'm a professional photographer, that's a limited definition. I could also say that I'm a professional blogger but that too doesn't capture the scope of what I do. "Brand-storyteller" or "Experience-collector" help out a bit more.

With all the clients I have the privilege of working for, I try and look for a story. For meaning. Honestly, taking a good photograph is not rocket science. Anyone can practice a bit and do it. Photography is a very accessible profession now. But, what are you trying to convey with those photographs? How does the brand benefit? How well will those images age? Will they be relevant a decade from now when the brand is more mature?

If I can help create images that are even just a little more engaging to the viewer, images that share the behind-the-scenes secrets of the brand with the viewer, then I'm helping with the brand-building. I feel this is more relevant and essential to the growth of a brand in the long run. Honestly, this approach to marketing (or even photography), as requested by the brand, is rare. I receive very few briefs where telling a



comprehensive story is the main goal. Creating a comprehensive story isn't as easy as waking up one day with the idea and then thinking it can easily be executed by one person with a camera. It needs to be woven into the fabric of a company's culture from day one. Then, it is much easier to translate into images.

Instead of simply getting into your customers face and attempting a hard sell, tell them a story. They are more likely to connect strongly with your brand. And where there's a connection, there's support. And customers want to support brands they are passionate about. Whether that's by purchasing more or by berating them less on social media!

How and why did you start blogging?

I started blogging in 2004. Primarily because it looked like a great way to interact with people smarter than me! I could share what I had learned and in return, others left comments and shared what they had learned. I was in India, but the people sharing work with me were all over the rest of the world. It was incredible. It still is.

I could be producing wonderful work but if no one knows about it, it is a massive disservice to my craft. Sharing my work on my blog is also a great way to receive feedback and more work. Clients hire me on the basis of the work I've

already done and published on my blog. The only other way I could show them my work was to print books or mailers and send them out, physically. This was time consuming and expensive and I hate receiving unsolicited mailers myself, so couldn't imagine doing it to others. My blog is there, present, all the time. Anyone interested in working with me can visit it anytime and can choose to spend as much time as they like. It also serves as a space where I document my growth and improvement, which is useful especially for someone like me who works solo.

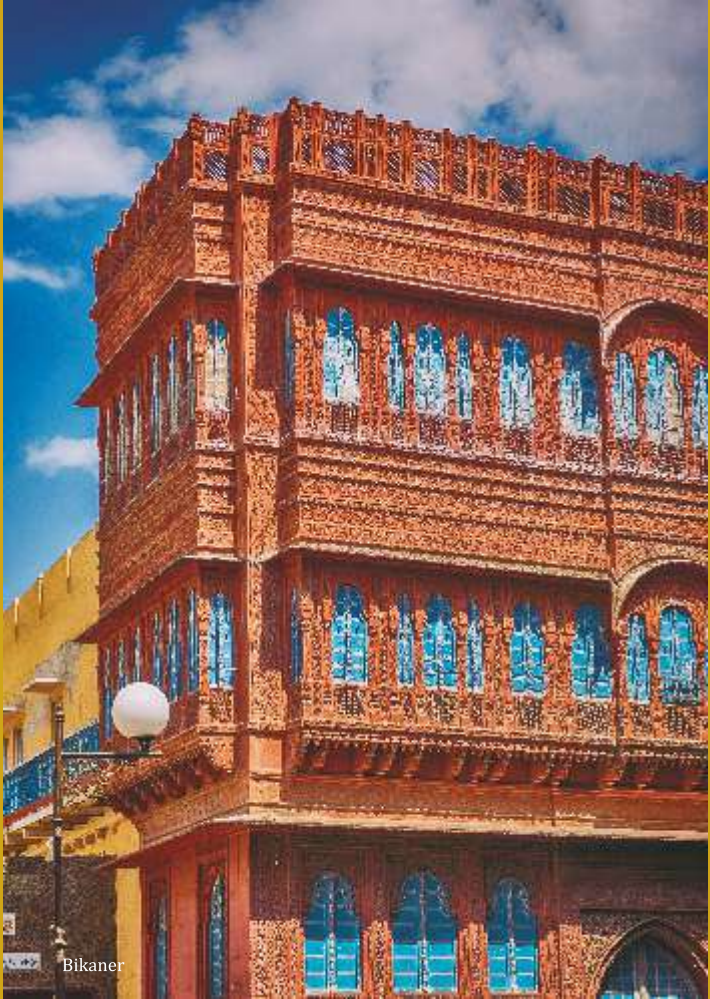
You have collaborated with Asian Paints for ColourNext 2017 and 2018 at India Design ID, each time the Colour of the Year has been announced; do tell us more.

The credit for this goes to the agency and the Asian Paints team. I do what I do in a small corner of the internet. Figuring out the potential of how the Naina.co brand can work well with the Asian Paints brand is completely credited to AP. There's a million things I could do with colour and each time they get in touch with me, I lose my mind because of the possibilities. So far, I've kept it pretty basic but if they continue to work with me, we could create magic together.

Asian Paints is all about color! It's one of those unicorn clients that's a dream-come-true to

work with! And they're in the trend-forecasting business for color trends - which has some effect on the other industries I work with, like fashion. So, when they ask me to do something with the event where the colour of the year is being announced, it's something I'm going to jump at - and have for the last two years. The attention to detail on the displays that represent the color trends is quite impressive and it's always great to meet with the AP team.

“There's always something interesting that the brand is doing that they probably haven't considered from the point of view of an outsider. Why is the brand named a certain way? There's a story there. Why was the brand launched? Why a particular color in the logo? Why a particular location for the factory? Etc. Lots of stories everywhere and those stories need to be told. I LOVE doing that”.





Asian Paints



La Biennale Paris



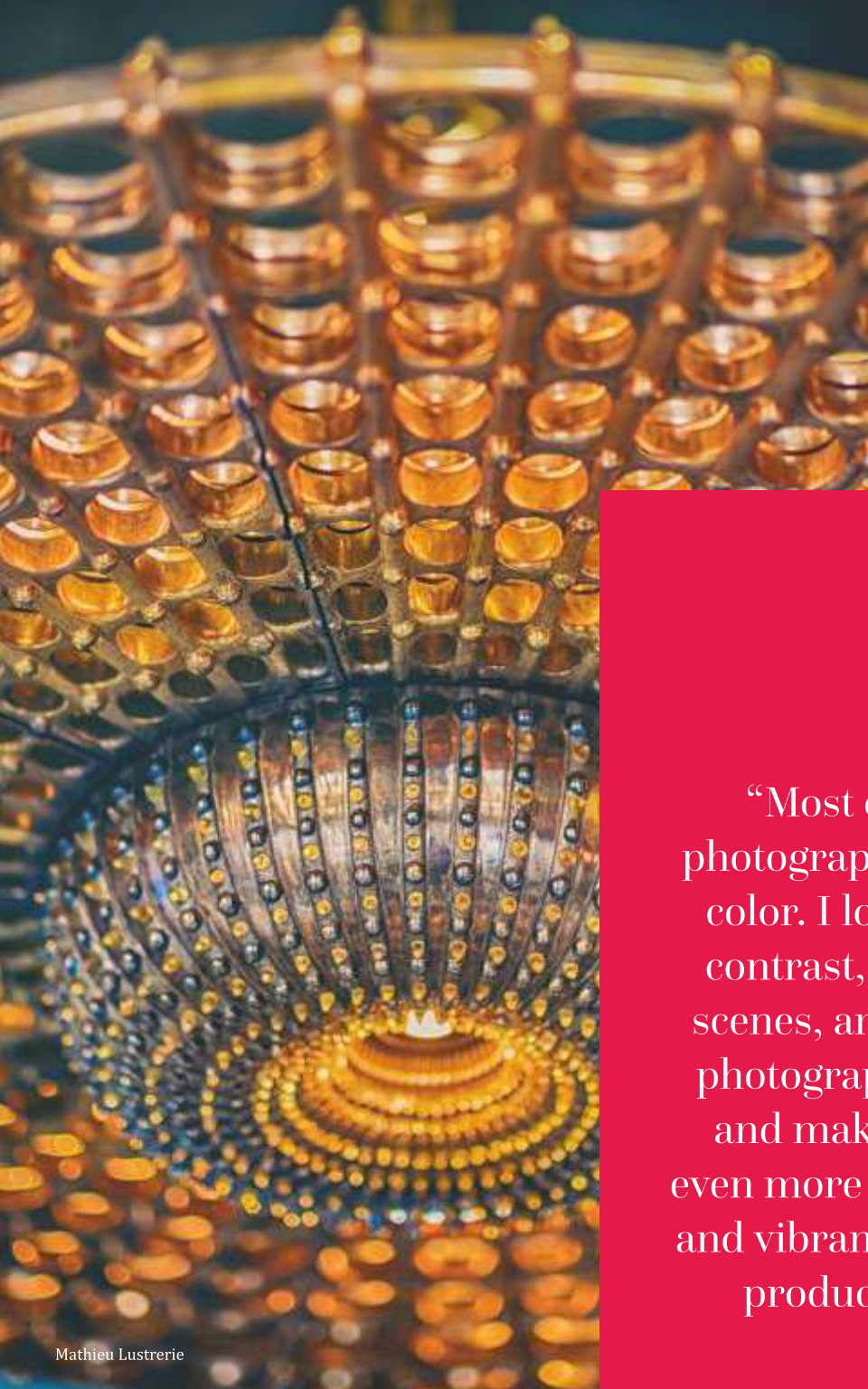
Meet The City / August - September 2018

Anahata Filigree



All images © Naina Redhu

La Biennale Paris



Mathieu Lustrerie



Chanel India Beauty

“Most of my photographs are in color. I love high contrast, vibrant scenes, and then I photograph them and make them even more contrasty and vibrant in post-production”.



Old Delhi Hermes Hat



Hermes Hat Scarf





All images © Naina Redhu

Napoleon Apartment, Paris

“But, I love a challenge! I love weaving stories even when, at the outset, it seems like there's nothing to weave”.



La Mirande Avignon

You specialise in stills especially behind the scenes... What is it that makes you tick with this style of photography.

It's all about creating a connect with the viewer! Everyone's used to the airbrushed skin and glamour but there's still not a lot of behind-the-scenes being shared. As a viewer myself, I love seeing what's happening "in real life" behind the scenes. It's a great opportunity to learn - for all parties involved. I'm also hugely in favour of transparency - the days of hiding and secrecy are over. The brands and professionals who make a move toward transparency now, will have a massive first-mover-advantage. Customers want to know how things are done. It gives them a glimpse into what was earlier a guarded place, which is what makes it even more memorable.

In the same vein, you've worked with Ranveer Singh – a very energetic actor. How was it working behind the scenes with him for the Durex commercial?

The gig with Durex was great in terms of the brief I had and the comprehensive story I was able to produce. The energy on set was insane. And pretty much entirely due to Ranveer's energy. It was as if the room got charged each time he stepped into it. And it was more like an airplane hangar, not a standard room. The guy worked tirelessly and even improvised some amazing lines to mini-shoots that the brand threw at him last minute. Ranveer was very focused on delivering the most amazing content that he possibly could.

As viewers who watch stars on the big-screen, we tend to look at people like Ranveer as being larger than life. He's a nice, regular guy who probably works harder than anyone I've met. It was great being around him because it inspired me to bring in more energy into my work - it makes so much difference!

Working behind-the-scenes in this case was interesting because of the fast-pace of the ad-shoot. Things changed really quick and I had to be ready to change settings on the camera, change my position, change lenses, etc. My goal was to try and show a side of the actor that the viewers of his films had not seen previously. One of my most memorable assignments.

Instagram. Blogging. Photography. What describes Naina the best?

I'm just a regular girl, trying to do the things that I want to and hopefully continue to earn a living doing them. Figuring it out as I go. Experimenting. Failing. I will always maintain a connection with the visual arts - whether it is photography or graphic design or mixed-media / paint (I paint too, sometimes). I'll always write about something or the other - whether for brands or experiences or personal journal entries. I will continue to look for ways to engage with people online, who I might not have had a chance to meet or talk with in real life, people who didn't know that I existed, now do, because of platforms like my blog or Instagram, Twitter etc.



Hermes



Ranveer Singh For Durex

A Storyteller's Religion Theatre

"All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players". The jaded and melancholic character, Jacques, says more about life in a play – As You Like it, written by William Shakespeare – than what we can in an entire lifetime. And it holds absolutely true, for the people who realise that throughout our life, we look for sophisticated means to project stories, woven consciously or sub-consciously by us. Some choose simpler versions of the lexicon of their language and others give birth to the perspectives that are inconspicuous through the art of narration and magic of metaphors. Theatre is the essence of a story. It is the lexicon of language, the art of narration and the magical metaphors. Only that it has more life, more drama, more reality and more imagination. And to feel the essence of a story, it is important to create an environment that abounds with an energy which is similar to that of the story. There were some legendary theatres that were built in the past and still continue to exist.

Bhawika Jethwani discovers how some theatres all over the world, where even the walls exhibit the art of storytelling, augment the splendour of a performance.



Berliner Ensemble Endspiel, Germany
Photo by Lieberenz\ullstein bild via Getty Images





Iva Bittova In 'Don Juan In Prague'
Czech avant-garde actress and musician Iva Bittova (as 'Donna Elvira') performs in the Prague National Theatre production of 'Don Juan in Prague' (adapted and directed by David Chambers, from Mozart's 'Don Giovanni') during Next Wave Festival at the BAM Harvey Theater, Brooklyn, New York. © Jack Vartoogian/Getty Images

“The theatre can do things that you can't legislate, or preach, or make laws about.

The theatre can do this thing of getting in, into your heart.”

George Hearn

Performance – An Art of Survival

One greatest thing that is common between our existence and theatre is 'performance'. It is difficult, or to put it more precisely, impossible to not realize the fact that we all have performed, more than once, in our lives. As an infant trying to captivate its audience by the funny gurgling sounds, as a toddler putting up a show of sickness in front of his/her mother to avoid going to school, as an adult making a brave move towards the love of his/her life—something that is very basic to human nature and existence is performance. “We have some impulse within us that makes us want to explain ourselves to other human beings... That's why we paint, that's why we dare to love someone – because we have the impulse to explain who we are”, explains Maya Angelou, an American poet, singer, memoirist, and civil rights activist.

With the brace of technology and ever-widening imagination, the progress in the theatre world has been tremendous. The actors, playwrights and all the people working in the background put every ounce of their power into the play to bring the reality of entertainment out of the screen. Sometimes you can feel the wind making its way through your hair and sometimes you may get your clothes soaked a little from water splashing away from the stage. The fascinating sets of the theatre and the hypnotic performances hold you with a spell of something more than just the voice and the sight. It is the spell of sensation that makes us not just see the performance, but quite literally, feel it.

So, we bring to the fore the best of the theatres across the world which are known for creating a parallel reality, for hosting performances that one feels deep under his/her skin.

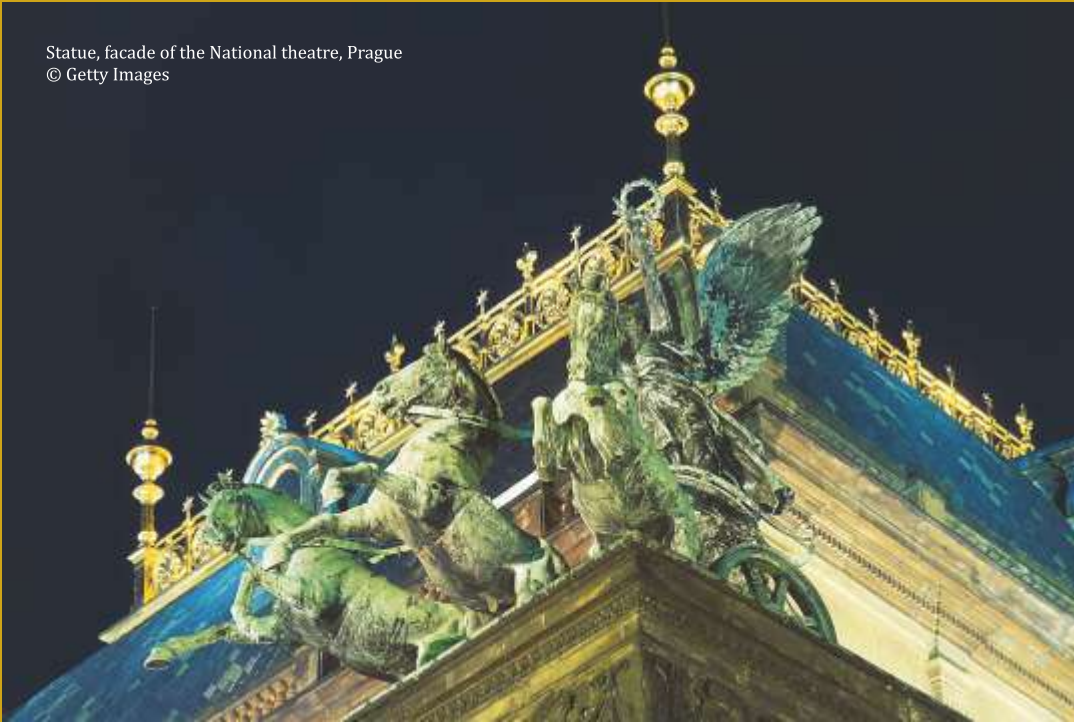
The National Theatre, Prague

The National Theatre in Prague is a wonderful edifice that the Czechs take pride in. Home to the masterpieces of 19th-century Czech painters, it is richly embellished with gold and known as the 'Golden Chapel'. It was erected to restore the sense of nationality in Czechs, after being under the reign of Habsburgs (from Austria) for many centuries. To build the foundation of The National Theatre, stones were procured from all over the country, especially from places significant to the national history. It was a majestic event for the nation and 100,000 – 150,000 people gathered together to witness the same. The theatre was designed and constructed to be nothing but the best. The interior decoration was highly inspired by the Slavic mythology and the most celebrated of painters participated to lend the walls the most ethereal finesse. The grand opening was stamped by Libuše – a famous opera by Bedřich Smetana – in 1881. However, fate had something tragic in store. On the roof of the theatre, a terrible fire broke out and damaged the entire building. Within 47 days, funds for restoration were gathered and the theatre reopened on November 18th, 1883.

The National Theatre now, with its appalling history, exists with its glorious golden crown. The statues of horses look like they would gallop away from the roof if they were not reined by the angel. The confluence of ornate details and stimulating history draws a lot of attention. The visitors travel from distant places only to see what this legend looks like in reality. The interiors of the theatre do not abide by a set of rules that buildings of a similar kind do. The shock of colours with a rich use of red and golden, makes this theatre look distinguishingly appealing. The painted ceiling in the concert hall features ten female allegories and the stage screen features a painted story from Czech history. But it's not only the festooned walls and ceiling that attract a huge number of visitors. The opera, ballet and dramatic performances delivered here are par excellence and justify the beauty of The National Theatre. Even if you are not a theatre fan, a visit to The National Theatre will make you one.



Vltava and the National theatre, Prague
© Getty Images



Statue, facade of the National theatre, Prague
© Getty Images



Prague National Theater Undergoes Renovation.
A restorer cleans a lunette of Czech painter Mikolas Ales at the National Theater in Prague, Czech Republic.
© Divizna/Getty Images



Interior of the National Theatre, Prague
© DeAgostini/Getty Images



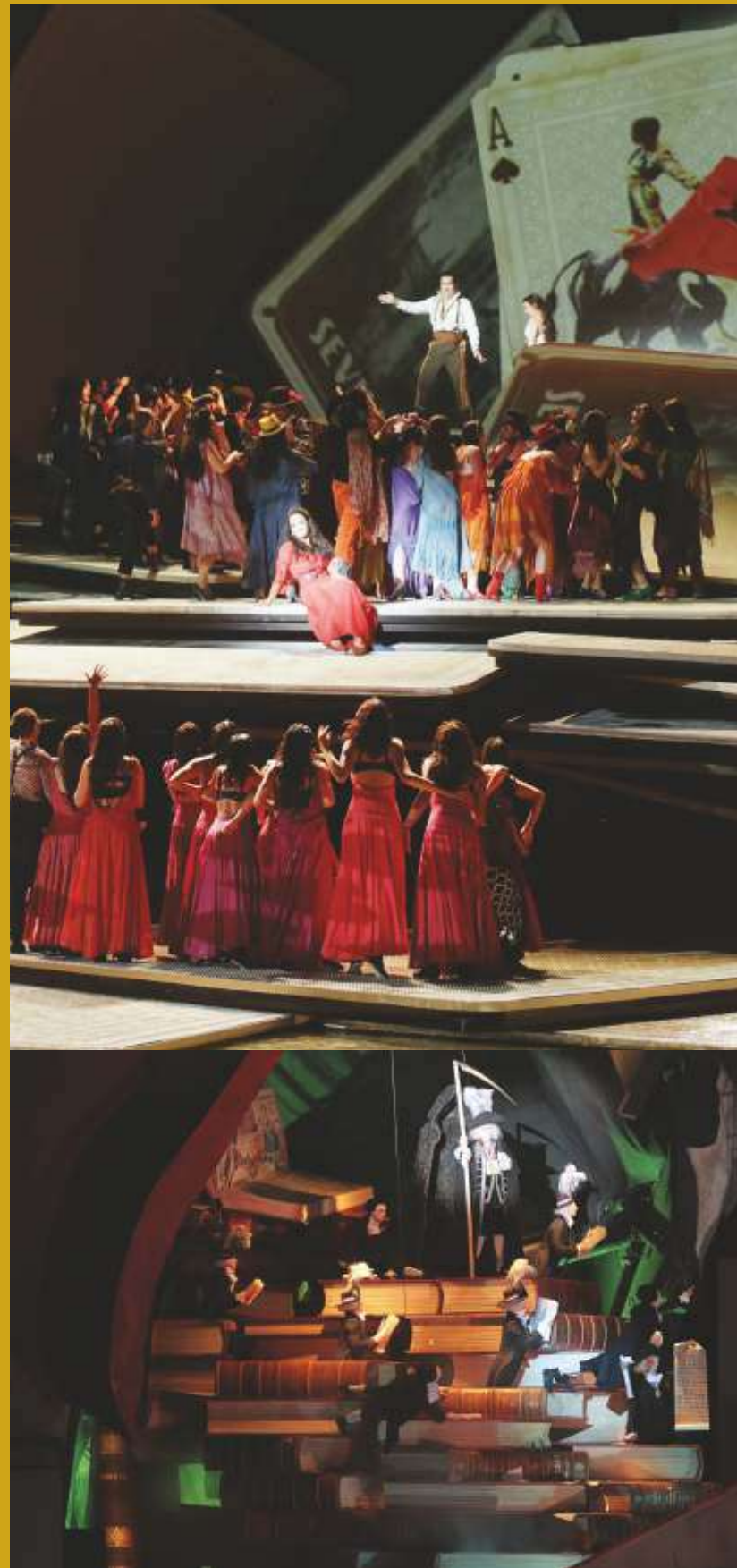
Vltava and the National theatre, Prague
© Getty Images

The floating stage

The largest open-air festival stage, the Floating Stage or the Seebühne Stage is a centrepiece of the Bregenz Festival in Austria. The festival came to life in 1946 and is celebrated every year organising open-air opera on the massive floating stage on the Lake Constance. It is an opera festival that continues for four weeks every summer and plays host to the monumental open-air opera productions. The gorgeous lake provides the most exquisite backdrop for the stage which is remodelled every 2 years. The gigantic stage takes 10 months, innumerable techniques and artistic brilliance to build, and is fixed on a concrete core structure in the Lake Constance. The stage is designed around the central theme of the play. Apart from the most renowned plays performed here every year, the theatre and opera performances, orchestra concerts, and numerous other events attract a huge number of theatre, or more precisely, art lovers from all over the world. There is a seating arrangement for 7,000 people where there is no such thing as an odd angle. The stage offers the most dramatic setting for the world-class opera and has also been featured in the James Bond film – Quantum of Solace. It is said that the producer and director were so impressed that they filmed a 10-day scene in Bregenz.

The entire setup also houses the costume and dressing rooms. The intricate and beautiful outcome in the form of this stage is the result of calculated efforts of the construction team. Since there are no curtains, the transitions need to be smooth and quick. Hence, the stage is designed in a way that the changes to the scenery can be made silently without creating a tumult. The distinctive environment and the theatrical imaginations are one of the major factors that drive the growth of this festival. The performances are as grand as the stage and one can simply not take his eyes off. The performances and the setup feel extremely real and you may also sometimes find the artists, literally, dancing on the water. The artistic allure of the Constance Lake and the laudable craftsmanship stamp the performances with originality and flamboyance. A great combination of theatre, dramatic music and the natural scenery make the Seebühne Stage a riveting place that has to be visited to be believed.

'Carmen' Rehearsal For Bregenz Festival
General view of the Seebühne floating stage design, seen during the rehearsal of the opera 'Carmen' prior the Bregenz Festival (Bregenzer Festspiele) in Bregenz, Austria.
© Photo by Johannes Simon/Getty Images



Previews Ahead Of Bregenz Festival
Actors perform on stage during the rehearsal of the opera 'Andre Chenier' of Italian composer Umberto Giordano at Seebühne in Bregenz, Austria.
© Photo by Johannes Simon/Getty Images

Previews Ahead Of Bregenz Festival
A giant head as part of the stage design is seen during the rehearsal of the opera 'Andre Chenier' of Italian composer Umberto Giordano at Seebuehne in Bregenz, Austria.
© Johannes Simon/Getty Images



Previews Ahead Of Bregenz Festival
The floating stage (Seebuehne), built as an artificial island of Lake Constance, is seen during the rehearsal of Giuseppe Verdi's opera 'Aida' in Bregenz, Austria.
© Photo by Johannes Simon/Getty Images



'Tosca' Photo Rehearsal
A general view of the floating stage of Bregenz opera house, "Tosca" of Giacomo Puccini, in Bregenz, Austria.
© Photo by Johannes Simon/Getty Images



The auditorium of the Odeon of Herodes Atticus.
The auditorium of the Odeon of Herodes Atticus, 161-174, Acropolis of Athens (UNESCO World Heritage List, 1987), Greece.
© Photo by DeAgostini/Getty Images



The Odeon of Herodes Atticus, Acropolis of Athens
The Odeon of Herodes Atticus, 161-174, during a modern performance, Acropolis of Athens, Greece.
© Photo by DeAgostini/Getty Images



Odeon of Herodes Atticus, Athens

Known as the Herodeon, Odeon of Herodes is an ancient theatre built in AD 160 by the well-heeled Greek aristocrat, Herodes Atticus, as an ode to his late wife, Aspasia Annia Regilla. This stunning open-air Greek-style theatre is nestled beneath the slopes of the Acropolis on the southwest side. But the original structure fell apart during the invasion of the Erouloi in 268 AD. It was remodelled during the 1950s and has now become a host to stately Greek Opera and majestic ballets & arias. In ancient times, Odeons were built for musical contests. It was the third to be built in Athens and gave a sharp contrast to the nearby Theatre of Dionysus with its distinctively Roman arches and wood & tiled roof. It has seen brilliant contemporary dance and theatre performances from some acclaimed directors such as Romeo Castellucci and Thomas Ostermeier. This interestingly beautiful theatre is one of its kind and its uncanny appearance makes one dig deeper into the details. The typically Roman arches in its three-storey stage and the semi-circular central orchestra ooze the rich cultural tradition of this place. The auditorium extends slightly beyond a semi-circle with the diameter of 80 meters and has 35 rows which can seat 4680 people. Although the seats for the viewers are made of white marble, one can never hear a spectator saying that a little discomfort of sitting there wasn't worth the memorable experience of witnessing a live performance at the Herodeon.

As soon as you step into the Herodeon Theatre, you will feel engulfed with the history of this place. The projection of the ambience required in the play on the background constructed of elegant ancient stones and the refined choice of elevating music makes the audience plunge into the pleasure of art. Whether it is a concert, an opera or a play, each performance here looks artistically inviting beyond measure. Many legendary artists have performed on this stage which makes it one of the most coveted stages by artists all over the world. Legendary names like Frank Sinatra, Maria Callas, Elton John, Herbert von Karajan and Liza Minnelli have graced the colossus stage of the Herodeon, making it even more popular. A trip to Athens for a visit to the Herodeon Theatre is something that no one should miss because it is a treasure trove of art and promises a bosting time.

All images are of Minack Theatre in Porthcurno, Cornwall, England.
© Getty Images





The Minack Theatre, Cornwall

Carved out of rocks high above the surf, the open-air Minack Theatre in Cornwall sits prestigiously on the cliffs above the sea. Overlooking the Atlantic, it is one of the most revered open-air theatres in the world which saw its first production, *The Tempest*, in the summer of 1932. A great fan of the theatre, Rowena Cade built a small outdoor theatre which has, now, expanded to become a well-known home for art. With 800 terraced benches, the Minack Theatre is situated on the cliff next to Porthcurno Beach and looks lit up with beauty while the moon shines across the bay. An entirely natural setup of granite rocks, astounding aesthetics, and the waves of water hitting the shore augment the magnetism of the performances. Home to some captivating traditional theatrical performances, ballet, music concerts and circus shows, it is said that The Minack Theatre has something for everyone. The plays performed here swarm with awakening skills and unmatched talents of the artists. In addition to it, the grassy terraces, the endlessly entrancing views of the turquoise waters, and the Roman styled theatre accentuate the enchanting charisma of the performances.

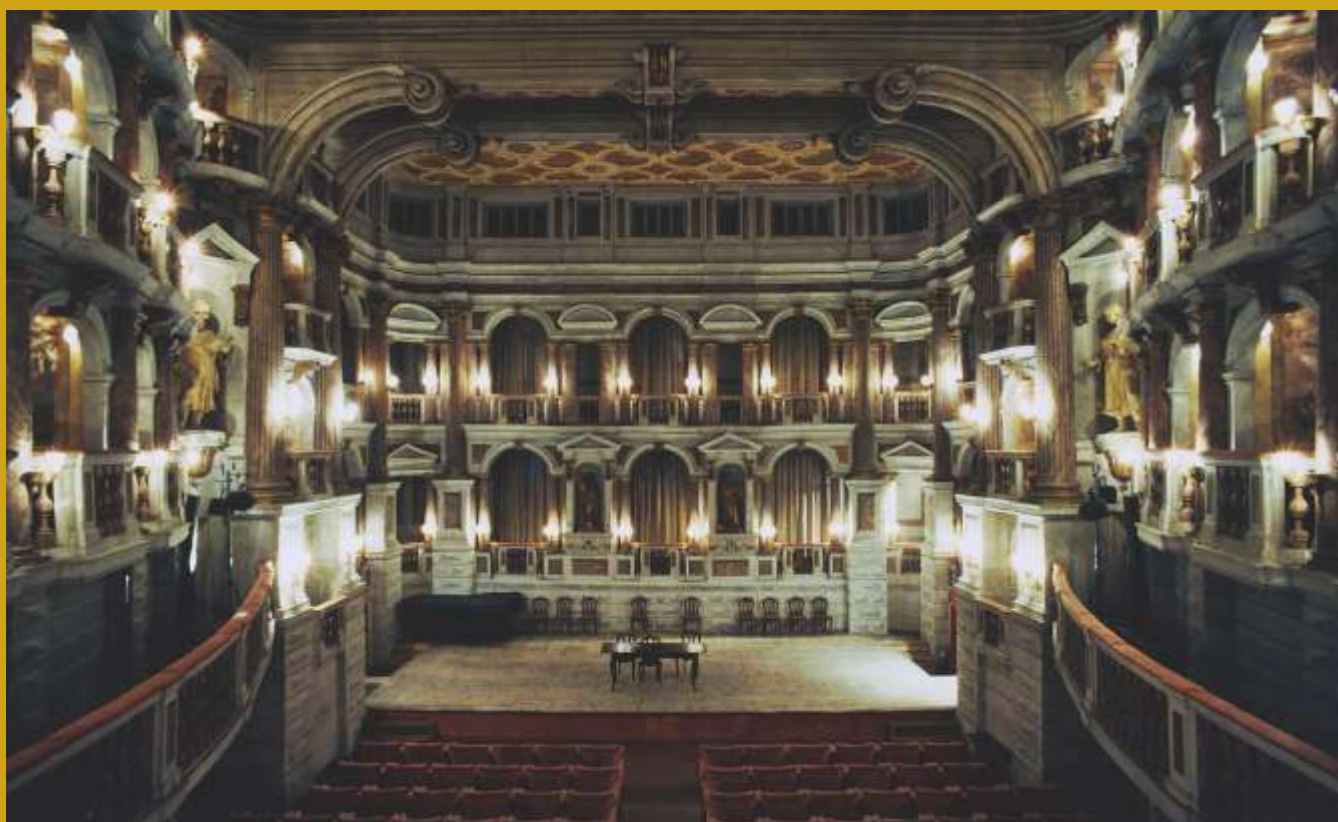
Although many theatre enthusiasts come here from faraway lands to become a part of the audience, there is much more to The Minack Theatre. You can expect peaceful gardens, cafes and gift shops, and an exhibition centre while you are here. The exhibition centre allows you to slide back in time to 1931 when Rowena Cade began to build the terraces of the theatre in her backyard with the help of her gardeners. You can also take home some amazing plants for a bright little corner of your home from the beautiful botanical gardens. The cafes and shops have the perfect souvenirs you would wish to take back for your friends and family. You can then take a walk on the Porthcurno Beach or take a dip in the clear soothing waters of the sea. With all the art wrapped in the beauty of nature, we certainly can't see a reason why someone would visit The Minack Theatre and not fall in love.

Teatro Bibiena Theatre, Mantua

If ever there is anything that can draw attention away from the adorned actors on the stage towards itself, then it is the Teatro Bibiena Theatre in Mantua where the opera is said to be born. An exquisite jewel of the 17th century, Teatro Bibiena is one of the most important and subtle architectural designs of the history. The building is intricately designed and has all the reasons to be called a marvel. It has a beautifully queer bell-shaped design and numerous four-storeyed stucco balconies that are arranged around the curved walls of the theatre. Each of them is carefully embellished and was arranged especially for the patrons to be seen. A very surprising thing is the unusual arrangement of balconies on the wall behind the stage. What a unique spectacle would it be for the audience perched on the balconies behind the artists!

Cesare inherited his father's palace built in the centre of Mantua and decided to create a theatre within it. He named the meeting point for a group of his intellectual friends as the 'Accademia degli Invaghiti (Academy of the Enamoured ones)' and discussed music, art, and literature here. The Renaissance culture soon ushered in and the first opera was staged here during a carnival. However, the original theatre does not exist anymore.

Due the crumbling architecture, the theatre was rebuilt and redesigned by the architect Antonio Galli Bibiena by 1769. He conceived this lavishly baroque architecture and personally decorated the tiers of theatre boxes with monochrome frescos. Festooned with plush velvet and intricate jewels, Teatro Bibiena is a place where artistic perfection is achieved. The exemplary acoustics and the elaborate centre stage made this place extremely coveted amongst the theatre and music artists. A 14-year-old legendary Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart played here in 1770 with his father Leopold who stated that he had never seen a theatre this beautiful in his entire life. Also, the pop stars from the famous French Band Phoenix filmed a song here which was the title song for their album *Ti Amo* in 2017 – all shot live on 35mm film in one continuous shot. Even though Teatro Bibiena is a relatively small theatre, the intimacy and the energy make it very much a step back in time.



Interior of Teatro Scientifico, designed by Antonio Bibiena (1700-1774), Mantua, Lombardy, Italy.
© Photo by DeAgostini/Getty Images

Interior of the Bibiena Theater
Interior of the Bibiena Theater, also known as the Teatro Scientifico, where Mozart played a concert on January 16, 1770, when he was 14 years old.
© Photo by: Andia/UiG via Getty Images



The Teatro Scientifico, Mantua, Italy.
© Leemage/UiG via Getty Images

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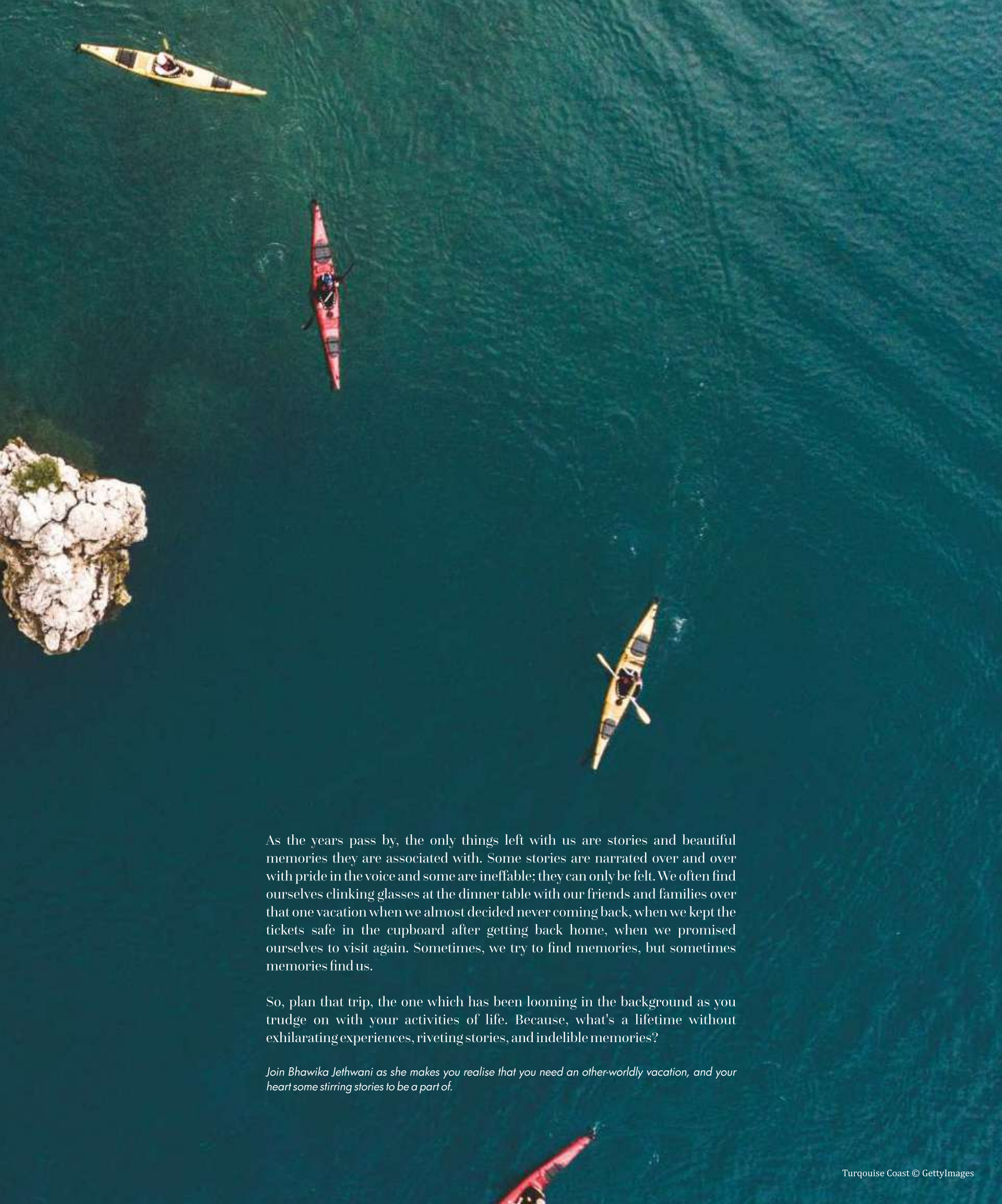
MahaRERA registration number for Towers E & F is P52100004202, and the details are available on the website <https://maharera.mahaonline.gov.in/> under registered projects. Tower D is completed.

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A Bag-full of Holiday Stories!

Stories are everywhere and the best thing about traveling
is that you can make them your own.



As the years pass by, the only things left with us are stories and beautiful memories they are associated with. Some stories are narrated over and over with pride in the voice and some are ineffable; they can only be felt. We often find ourselves clinking glasses at the dinner table with our friends and families over that one vacation when we almost decided never coming back, when we kept the tickets safe in the cupboard after getting back home, when we promised ourselves to visit again. Sometimes, we try to find memories, but sometimes memories find us.

So, plan that trip, the one which has been looming in the background as you trudge on with your activities of life. Because, what's a lifetime without exhilarating experiences, riveting stories, and indelible memories?

Join Bhawika Jethwani as she makes you realise that you need an other-worldly vacation, and your heart some stirring stories to be a part of.

Turquoise Coast

Turkey

Turkey is known as the land of bays, beaches, coves and inlets, and is steeped in the ruins of history. Istanbul, Pamukkale, Ephesus and Cappadocia in Turkey welcome a huge number of visitors every year to their spell-binding lands of rich culture and authentic beauty. Lucia on the other hand, also known as the Turquoise Coast, is the star of Turkey that steals the show any day because of its crystal clear turquoise water on this stretch of the Mediterranean.

If you wish to ditch the monochromes of your life for a while and enjoy it in all its ebullient hues, then start your vacation with leisurely cruising. The gentle winds cut the summer heat, making you feel like swaying on the calm waters of the Mediterranean, while your eyes wander to the tiny offshore islands, deep gulfs, and meandering pine-forested peninsulas that sit beautifully against the backdrop. Gulets, or Turkish wooden sail boats are also available to have your own little party out in the sea, and Marmaris along the Turkish Riviera that boasts of premium marina facilities, is the best place to book one. You can soak in the luxury of the sea with captains, first mates and cooks available at your service in a Blue Voyage, a luxury cruise on a gulet. You can watch the sun rise and set every day for 7 days, jump into the sea for a swim, take pleasing strolls in the fishing villages, and embrace life while weaving memories on this beautiful part of the earth nestled amidst benevolent tranquillity.



The most recommended spots for the Blue Voyage are Fethiye, Marmaris, Kalkan, Kas, Ölüdeniz, Olympos and Göcek. Close to the Ölüdeniz town, Fethiye is the gem of Turquoise Coastline which is a must-visit for adventure fanatics. If you decide to go paragliding, the adept instructors will take you to the top of Babadag Mountain at 1960 meters. You can then explore the stirring Umbrella Street in the Old town, pick some fish and get it cooked in a style that complements your taste at a local restaurant. If you wish to stay at Fethiye and dwell in this exotic place a little longer, then head to the Hillside Beach Club that comprises of 3 private beaches, restaurants offering great cuisines and exotic spa treatment. It is an experience that promises a time likely to be spent only in heaven, and when you leave, you will have salt in your hair, sunshine on your lips, and the promise to come back soon, in your heart.

*When to visit: May, June and July
Where to stay: Hillside Beach Club in Fethiye
How to get there: Connecting flights to Antalya Airport, followed by an almost 3-hour drive.*





Cape



Cape Verde © GettyImages



Verde

Coast of Senegal

Also called Cabo Verde, Cape Verde is a destination enveloped in the beauty of Portuguese-African culture, hiking trails, tranquil beaches and traditional music. It is a volcanic archipelago, off the coast of Senegal. Cape Verde is an island country that never tries to sell itself with parties, pubs, fancy beach cafes and more. It is a place that people get drawn too, lured by the calm of thunderous waves, diversity of culture, 10 beguiling islands and their sandy beaches.





To take in the beauty while your feet stay drenched in the waves touching the shore with endless waters ahead, start exploring the place with the Boa Vista Island, the third largest of the 10 islands. It offers you sights of amazing natural sand dunes; a glimpse of Sahara without camels. This island can be covered in a day but its charm is long-lived. Clear blue waters where you can spot whales, stretches of land camouflaged with nature, the famous shipwreck Santa Maria, traditional dancing in the small villages of the island – everything suggests of the ethereal moments that are always going to be a part of you, no matter how far you go. The Santa Monica Beach welcomes you with the island's most spectacular stretch of sand.

The Sao Nicolau Island offers the unscathed allure of the mountains. The capital Ribeira Brava is home to the scenic beauty of colourful buildings embellished by the surrounding mountains. You can indulge in various activities like horse riding, hiking and flying kites, and feel the true essence of this place. The Santo Antao Island is one of the largest islands with pretty little villages nestled in the sides of mountain cliffs. You can reach this island in a ferry from the neighbouring Sao Vicente Island.

Sal, another island in Cape Verde, has a more commercial outlook commingled with a vast array of activities to make the vacation memorable. Most international flights land on this island, which clearly indicates that it has finer stays and hotels than any of the other islands of Cape Verde. Lively music, invitingly varied restaurants, stunning sandy beaches, and colourful craft markets – a world of bonny halts.

Santiago, the largest of the islands, is steeped in history and culture, with cafes, restaurants and shops irradiated by the exalted landscape. You can take a ride in the funicular to get a great view of the city, visit the town centre – Plaza De Armas, and walk along the Barrio Bellavista street for a truly captivating example of street art. Every place in Cape Verde has something different and amazing to offer. The melting pot of culture, beauty and diversity, makes it a truly special experience.

When: July to September

Where to stay: Hilton Cabo Verde Sal Resort

How to get there: Connecting flights to Santiago International Airport.



© GettyImages



Nagano

Japan

Imagine sitting with your cup of coffee while you see snowflakes drifting by your window. Who would want to miss a winter wonderland sitting inside? Nagano in Japan covered with thick layers of snow glistening over the edges of slanting surfaces and on the tips of the mountains, is a winter paradise and never fails to surprise. It offers a bunch of thought-provoking activities that assure a vacation full with emotions bursting at the seam.



All images © GettyImages



Central Japan's largest temple, Zenkoji, was broadcast at the beginning of opening ceremony of Winter Olympic Games. Its beautiful architecture and sanguine vibes can put all worries to rest. After an unruffled visit to the temple, treat yourself to some palatable local delicacies such as Oyaki (Nozawana pickles filled in steam buns), Shinshu Miso, freshly brewed sake and plum wine, along with home-made soba (buckwheat) noodles.

An hour's journey by bus or local train is Jigokudani Onsen area which literally means “Hell's Valley Hot Spring”. In sharp contrast with the frosty weather, the hot natural spring will take you by surprise. The wild monkeys bathing in the pure hot spring bath to keep themselves warm, is another sight that will stay etched in the list of all the vivid memories of this vacation. If you are a photographer at heart and never wish to miss a single immaculate sight, then keep your camera handy as soon as you step foot into this territory. Generations of monkeys soak in the Onsen, grooming each other and enjoying the comfort. It is certainly a sight to behold.

The Shirahone Onsen is another hot spring, on the eastern side of the sacred mountain of Mt. Norikura and has cloudy-white water. The water is rich in sulphur and sodium carbonate and warms the body from inside. It is said that if you bathe in the Shirahone Onsen hot spring for 3 days, then you won't catch a cold for 3 years. You can soak in the soothing hot water while your eyes stay fixated on the lush green beauty. Everything about Nagano suggests of a vacation with peace at its core.

*When to visit: Winter
Where to stay: Hotel La Neige Higashi-kan and Hotel Aburaya Tosen
How to get there: Connecting flights through Mumbai to Matsumoto Airport, followed by a 77km drive.*

City of Mostar

Serbia



Nestled in the south-western region of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mostar is a land that has beautifully endured the ruins and come out shining bright. There is the pool of beauty that surrounds Mostar but the obvious reason that people visit this city is the Stari Most Bridge. Known for its notable architecture and legendary existence, Stari Most is an Ottoman style bridge built in the 16th century that stretches 28 metres across the Neretva river and connects the two sides of the city. You may find men with athlete-like bodies jumping off the bridge in the frigid river flowing with heavy current. But, due to the perilous nature of the dive, it is recommended to pay the locals to teach you how to dive off the bridge. If you want to have your fair share of adventure, then certainly leap into the unbridled yet appeasing Neretva river.

The city has a lot to offer out of its existence bedecked with beauty, decorated on the mount of desolate history. It is not just known for its beautifully gripping bridge. While roving about the city, you can feel the warmth of harmony embracing you. It's a crossroad of religions, an exemplary melange of western and eastern culture, with new buildings in most areas, but still some crumbling ones, like the Sniper Tower, in a few. Yet the streets are filled with the smell of shisha and people enjoying the delicacies at Turkish cafes and restaurants. Kujundziluk Bazaar sells all kinds of metalwork, jewellery, and clothing. Everything very much suggests the Ottoman impact on the city. However, the western medieval impact shows in the streets and walls constructed from the black and white pebbles, Shire-like houses, wooden balconies, and some areas decorated with street art. The street art in Mostar is beyond impressive. It is not a bunch of colourful and casual strokes of brush, it is art in its truest form, with each created by the hands of talented artists.

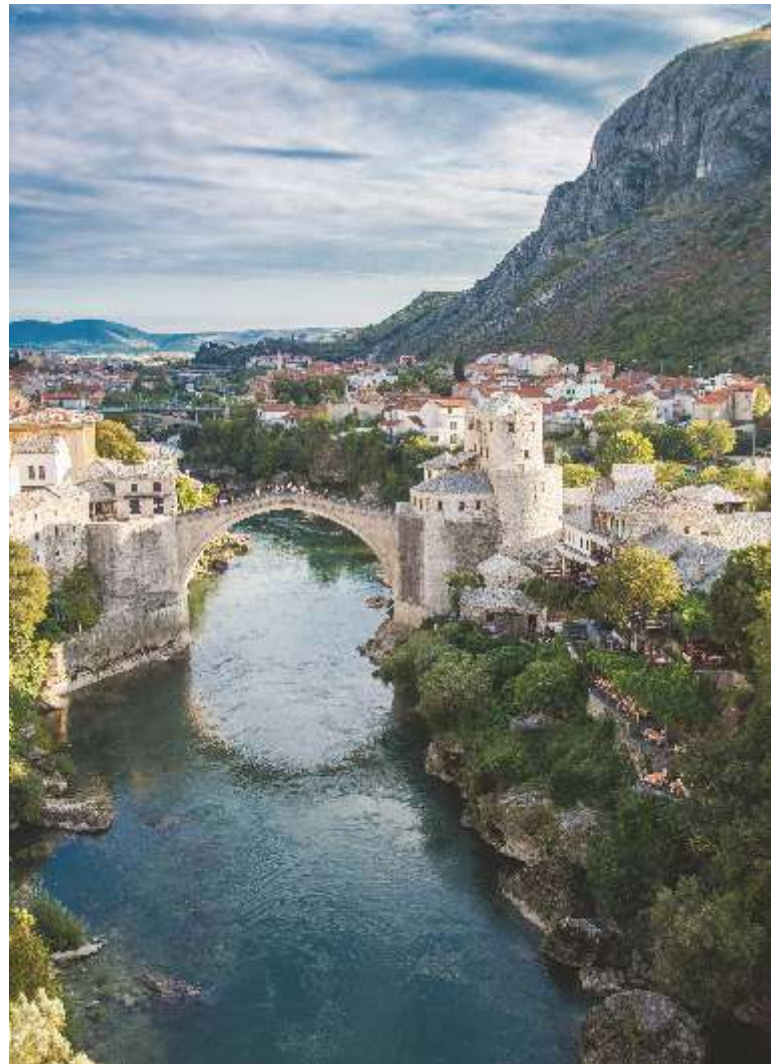
Mostar is also known for its incredible sunsets and breath-taking views of the city, where the one from the top of the minaret of the Koski Mehmed Pasha mosque is the most magical – the spectacular Stari Most Bridge guarded by the city on both sides. The other attractions include the Kravice Falls, Blagaj Tekija, the Old Bazaar, etc.

The streets, the welcoming people who stand tall enduring their hard past, the occasional funny sounds of the sheep – everything depicts the will to find happiness and peace. Even a day trip to Mostar will make a stirring presence in the chest of memories. It is certainly eligible

When to visit: May, June, and September

Where to stay: Hotel Old Town and Hotel Boutique Pellegrino

How to get there: Direct flight to Croatia and Italy followed by 2.5-hour drive.



© Gettyimages



© GettyImages

Bagan

Myanmar



A place that feels like a fairy tale come true is Bagan in Myanmar (Burma). With over 2200 small and big temples known as pagodas, the landscape of Bagan oozes the vibe of an African country. It is a place that can't be rushed through because each stop and activity in the city needs to be appreciated with your mind and body at ease. Happiest are the ones that travel to Bagan with intentions more than that of just checking them off the list. For a great start, let the sunrise welcome you. The sunrise and the sunset in Bagan are some things that one should not miss since the landscape seems magically tinted with the hues of the sun. To make the most of this experience, take a balloon ride before the city wakes up. Within minutes, you will find yourself floating amongst the clouds. The temples, from above, look like the miniature versions of themselves and one immediately knows why this is the best thing to do in this city, as soon as the first rays of the sun caress the skin.

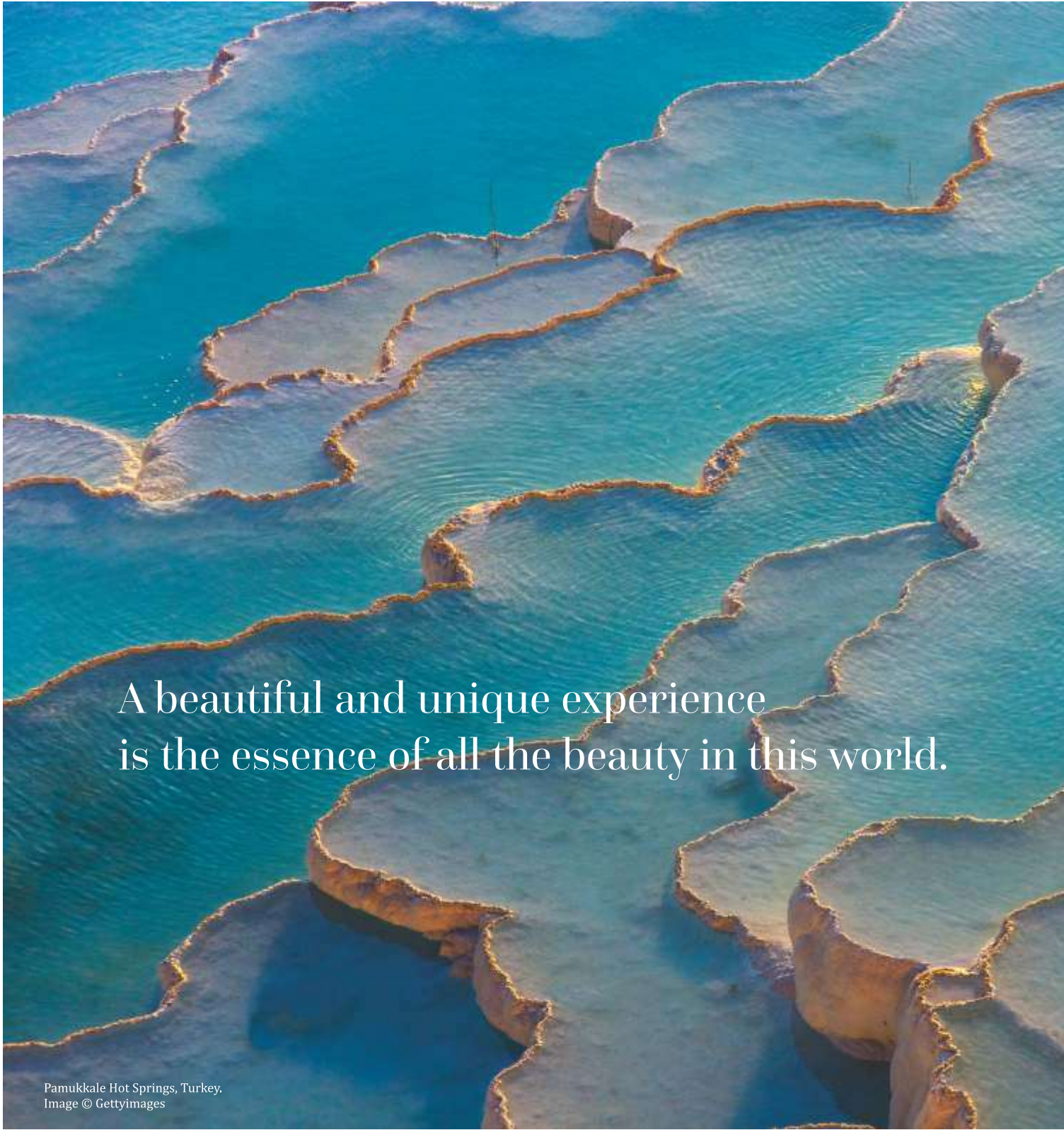
Bagan is the city that is known to be wrapped in the comforts of simplicity. You can see long stretches of lands with nothing but the beautiful temples. A lot of people, after visiting Bagan, admitted that this was the closest they have been able to come to peace. From all the temples that cover the face of the city, choose to visit the ones that allow climbing to the top. City's beautiful vista and the sunlight scattered over it would certainly give you an intense feeling of placid beauty. If you prefer solitude over the bustling city, then head to the Buledi Temple or the Thabeik Hmauk during the sunset. The temples look like the silhouettes, and the birds chirp to fill the silence – everything that a soul needs to feel the calm.

It is an extremely fascinating destination, so you can get an e-bike and wander around the villages to know more about the tradition and culture. Visit the local village Minnanthu and get a small tour to see how the locals make various products like cotton clothing, peanuts, cigars etc. Bagan swarms with peaceful beauty, so don't be surprised if you find yourself getting more and more inclined towards visiting peacefully beautiful destinations after a trip to Bagan.

When to visit: July and December-January

Where to stay: Anawrahta Cruise and Aureum Palace in Old Bagan

How to get there: Connecting flights to Nyaung U airport, followed by a 10km drive to Old Bagan.



A beautiful and unique experience
is the essence of all the beauty in this world.

Pamukkale Hot Springs, Turkey.
Image © Gettyimages



A DIP IN THE POOL

The calming blue-green waters and the water cascade with its mesmerizing beauty – can the idea of a perfect vacation be any better than this? In this perfectly soothing weather, a dip in the secluded water bodies set against the most idyllic arrangement of nature is coveted by each one of us.

The streams of water almost feel as beautifully eternal stories; the sound of water as mesmerizing symphony. Away from the luxury of your enormous abode and unsurpassed magnificence, lies the luxury of nature in its most beautiful form. And to shake-off the stress of work and responsibilities, all you need is to plan that exotic trip that has been lurking somewhere in the back of your head but was never felt the excitement of, in reality. But now is the time, when you can put your plans into action as the inviting whether accompanies your endeavours of a vacation swarming with happiness and excitement.

Join Bhawika Jethwani as she takes you 'swimming spot hopping', and get set to plan a trip to the most exotic swimming locations and dip your toes in the immense delectation.



Pamukkale Hot Springs, Turkey.
Images © Gettyimages



Pamukkale is a UNESCO World Heritage site, which is known as the 'Cotton Castle'. It boasts of calcium thermal pools that line the side of the hill. The rusty-brown rocks and the milky white water promise an unusually beautiful visit that sets it apart from the trips to other myriad locations. You can also head to Cleopatra's pool which is one of Turkey's most beautiful landmarks. Pamukkale boasts of its water's healing quality and offers a sight second to none. Moreover, you can take a small tour of the museum, which displays artefacts from the primeval ruins of excavated places such as Laodicea and Aphrodisias. The hot air balloon trip and the paragliding sessions only add to the inconceivable excitement of visiting Pamukkale.

Pamukkale Hot Springs

Turkey







Christ of the Abyss

Florida



John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park is the major attraction of Florida, not only because of its underwater dive where you can encounter beautifully astounding eagle rays and stingrays but majorly because of the statue of the Christ of the Abyss. It is a sculpture of Jesus Christ, 8.5 feet (2.6m), 4000-pound, and stands in 25 feet (7m) of water. This breathtaking statue of bronze surrounded by clear water and mesmerizing marine life is literally a sight to behold. The snorkelling tours will take you to the reef and then you can spend your time floating past the vibrant corals and different species of aquatic animals. The statue of Christ is unique and sets this dive apart from the others. It is certainly one of the most spellbinding experiences one can have under water.



Images © Gettyimages





Aqua Dome in Ötztal Valley in Austria is reason enough to plan a trip that is solely focused on taking a warm dip in rejuvenation. A luxurious five-star hotel, spa and water park, Aqua Dome is synonymous with the symphony of refreshing pleasure – a bewitching destination in the Austrian Tirol which uses hot mineral water rich in sulphur and houses a number of idiosyncratic pools. Admiring the alpine scenery, you can soak in the levitating pools and immerse yourself in various spa and sauna activities – a soothing break from the insipid everyday schedule. The pools feature underwater music and light effects with no clothing allowed so that every inch of your skin feels touched by the glorious calm of this place.

Aqua Dome
Ötztal Valley, Austria



Images © Gettyimages



Lake Hillier

Australia



The ethereal beauty of pink paint like salt-lake, surrounded by the carpet of green eucalyptus trees; nature has its own language to converse with our amusement. The Lake Hillier at certain points in a day adorns itself with a pink hue and looks pretty like a toddler flaunting his/her pretty pink dress. Sand dunes and the deep blue Southern Ocean frame this magnificent yet mysterious beauty within their cusps. The reason for this magical allure is believed to be the unique bacteria present in the salt crusts, and its celestial beauty is the most breath-taking when the sun shines right above your head. So, if you wish to capture the perfect dose of amusement, then visit Lake Hillier on your way to Australia because beauty may spread its wings anywhere, even in the wilderness.



Melissani Caves
Greece

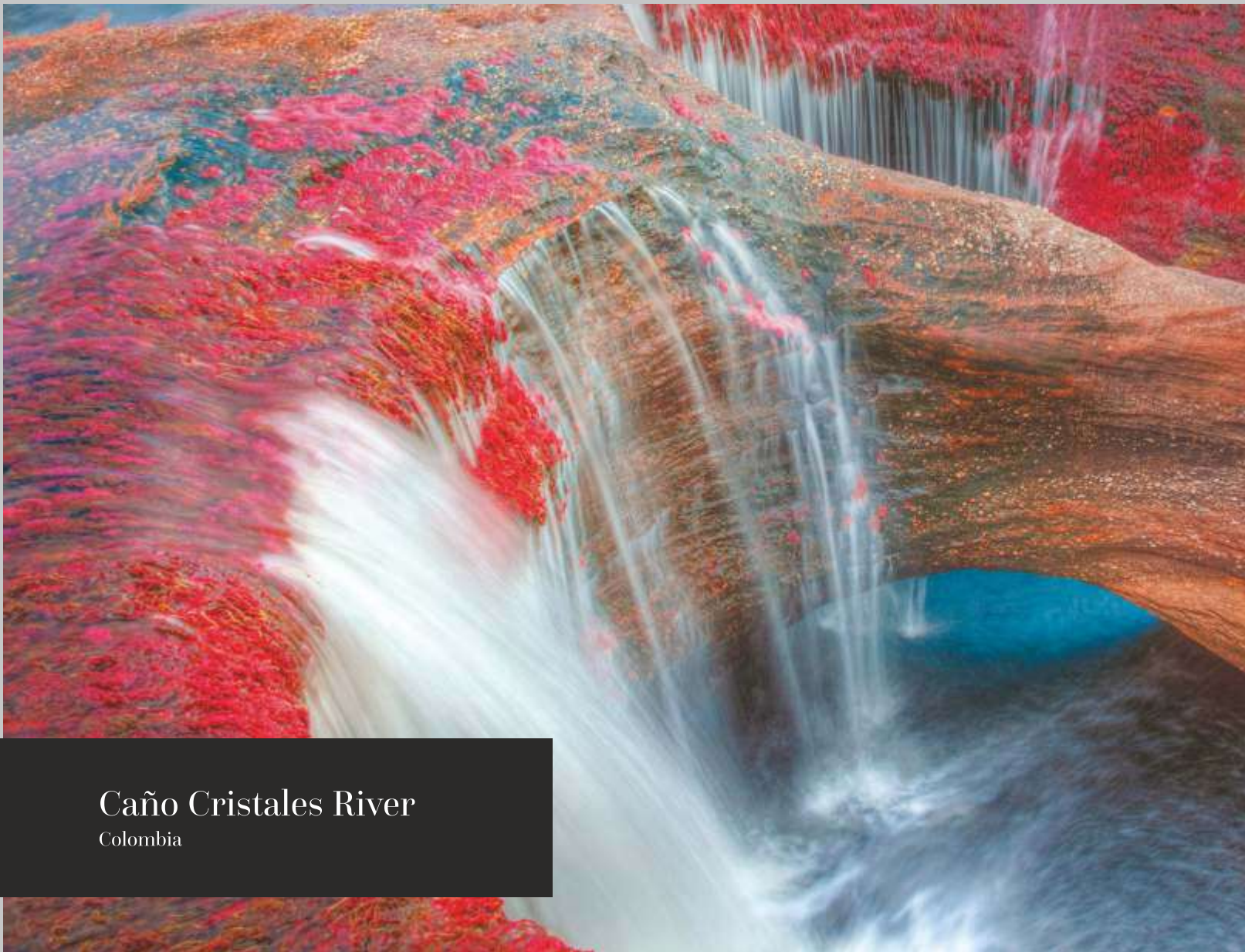


Images © Gettyimages





The sui generis pulchritude of Melissani Caves is something that you cannot and should not miss for anything in the world. With gleaming blue waters and the sun beaming through the skylight overhead, the Melissani Caves and its underground lake together feel like a verse of ethereal beauty of nature. These caves in Kefalonia were affected by an earthquake in 1953, due to which the ceiling of the cave slumped into half of the lake, making it only 5ft deep, while the other half is around 35ft deep. You can get inside the caves through a long tunnel while your boat wobbles, giving you an exciting rush and offering you the most enchanting vistas. With the stalactites above and the Delphic aura, Melissani Caves embody the magical essence of beauty.



Caño Cristales River

Colombia

Close to the town of La Macarena, Caño Cristales River in Colombia is everything worth the incredible trunk of your memories during this mystic sojourn. Colours breathe life into even the most forlorn of places, and the Caño Cristales River is the anecdote of immense happiness since it is the conflux of 5 enchanting colours and runs for 100 km. The river bed was formed by the exposed quartzite more than a million years ago but the colours reign creating the most spellbinding specimen of nature. When the algae *macarenia clavigera* blooms, the canvas of the river gets painted with the hues of green, yellow, blue, red, and black. Because of its empyrean beauty, the river has been deemed the 'Most Beautiful river in the World' and 'Liquid Rainbow'.



Images © Gettyimages







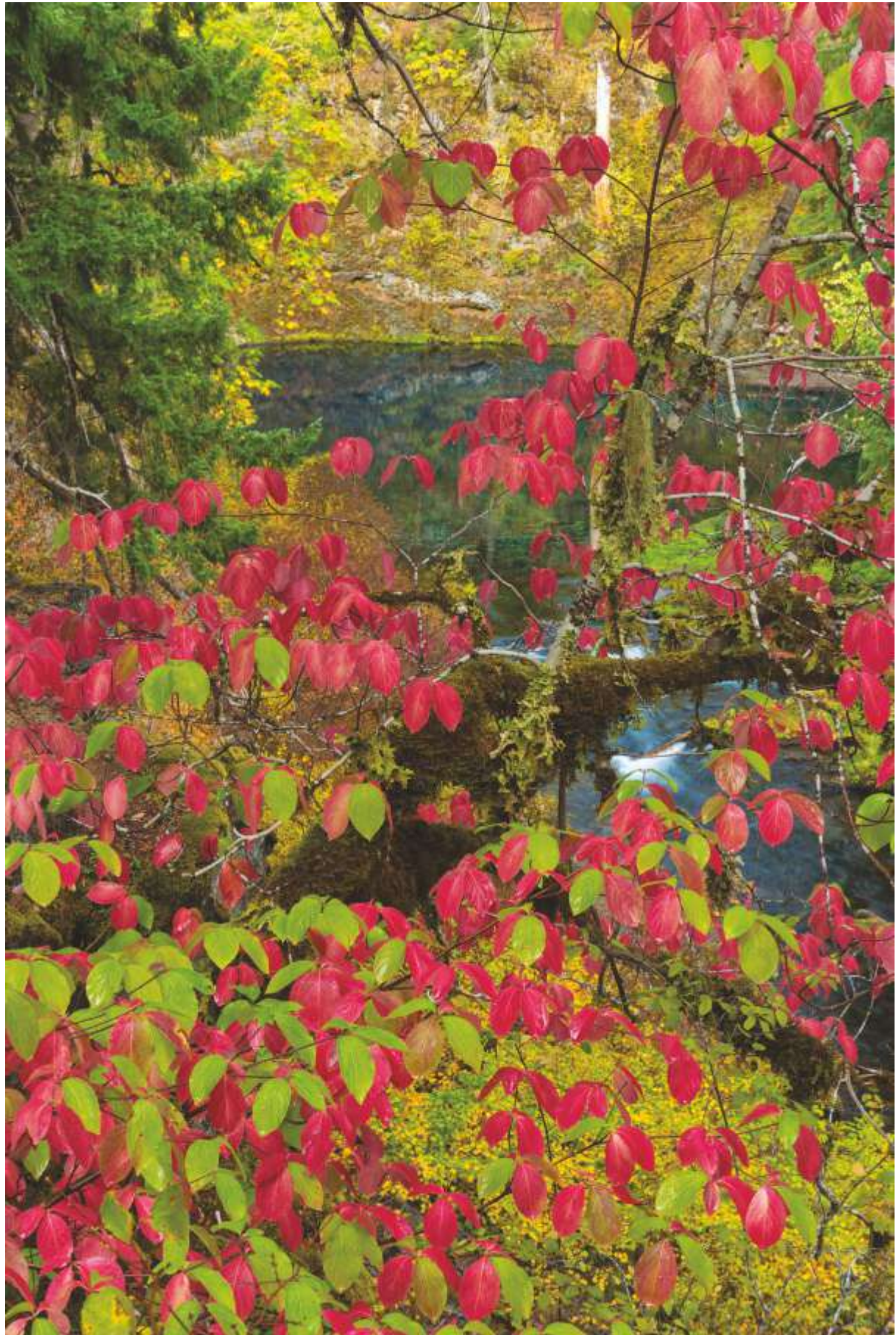
Images © Gettyimages



Jellyfish Lake

Koror, Palau, Western Pacific Ocean

One of about 70 marine lakes of Palau which is part of the Micronesia region in the western Pacific Ocean, the Jellyfish Beach is home to millions of stingless jellyfish of different species. If you covet taking a dive in the most exotic water bodies, then the Jellyfish Beach should be on the top of your list. The two major species of jellyfish that live in the lake are the golden jellyfish and the moon jellyfish. Millions of them move through the lake every day, trying to chase the sunlight. An average temperature makes Palau a good place to visit all year round. It is located on Eil Malk which is an uninhabited island near Koror. Apart from the peaceful jellyfish, 200 majestic limestone and volcanic islands make for a dream vacation that offers the most magical experience that any human being can wish to get.





One word that defines the Blue Lake is 'surreal', and the first thought that would be invoked after seeing it is taking a dive in it even in the biting temperatures of New Zealand. Nelson's freshwater Blue Lake is known to be the clearest lake ever reported and is synonymous with tranquillity, awe, wonder, and every beautiful word that you can think of. Go for a river walk outside the Jenolan Caves, watch the sunset behind the mountains and embrace the most numbing comfort that you have ever felt. With the cold nights and millions of stars above, the beauty of this lake is stupefying and offers the most satisfying view that one can expect.

Blue Lake

New Zealand







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Culinary



Culture

Mamagoto
Dhaba Estd 1986 Delhi



Curated Stories in a Pot



Indians love to eat; it's hardly a well-kept secret! Family jaunts, picnics, cinema outings, birthdays and anniversaries; every possible occasion calls for a gastronomic celebration. Boisterous gatherings of friends and family, tables groaning under the weight of oodles of aromatic foods and restaurant doorways overflowing with eager customers, waiting to be seated! Indeed, eating out in India has always been big business. More so, now, than ever before!

Food has the power to bring different cultures and people together. The traditions behind sundry delicacies tell a lot about the stories of curated taste, stories of culture, and stories of experience. Eating out today is the new showbiz! And, the word 'curate' is the new buzzword in the food and beverage industry. Every company worth its salt is aiming to present to its discerning diners, curated dining experiences that are a result of extensive research, creative thought process and culinary art. The ingredients are creatively thought upon to bring a flavour that suggests authenticity in its purest form and the curated experiences narrate each story in the most perfect setting.

Chaitra Patel delves further into this magical world of culinary stories with two of Pune's newest showstoppers, 'Mamagoto' and 'Dhaba Estd 1986 Delhi' by Azure Hospitality that are committed to

delighting guests and offering them some of the finest curated food experiences there are to be had, at The Pavillion, in Pune.

There was once a time when the word 'Curate' was restricted to the lofty environs of museums and art galleries. Then along came the idea of 'Curated Experiences', handpicked for just a select few – travels, perfumes, concierge services, entertainment, and of course dining and eating out! After all, if fine art and music can be curated, there is no reason why dining experiences cannot be. Food is art in itself! And, perhaps no one understands this better than Gurgaon-based Azure Hospitality, co-founded and spearheaded by Rahul Khanna and Kabir Suri!

Azure Hospitality Pvt. Ltd. is a young company of like-minded people who have a very simple plan in place – to make food and urban neighbourhoods fun, creative, and to present to their diners an experience that is worth remembering and talking about, long after the flavours have ceased to linger on. At Azure, every business model within the F & B space offers a distinct experience, enjoys its own intrinsic character, its signature appeal, down to even the basics such as innovative packaging, all set at par with international standards. Recently opened for business at The Pavillion in Pune, 'Mamagoto' and 'Dhaba Estd 1986 Delhi' are brilliantly apart in their league and are all set to rule the world of tastes.





Mamagoto

“At Mamagoto, we continue creating an experience with personality, for people with personality, and a little bit of that crazy in us all”.



Mamagoto is Azure Hospitality's Pan-Asian café that specialises in Asian food and drinks, set against a quirky ambience that is fun, laidback and energetic. Mamagoto was founded towards the end of January in 2010, in an art deco building in New Delhi. The restaurant heralds a very novel concept called mamagoto, which when translated from Japanese literally means to 'play with food'. The Japanese believe in the philosophy of mamagoto, which encourages children to have fun with their food as they dine. It allows them to be aware of their food, feel textures and shapes – in short, a creative eating experience that gets them to like their food better. The newly opened Mamagoto seeks to do precisely that – make your food fun and your dining experience playful!

With branches across India, Mamagoto in Pune, presents a youthful and casual dining experience that complements the intrinsic youthful vibe of the city. Renowned for its signature manga style of decor, this Asian eatery seats up to 80 diners, including in its outdoor seating area. The décor here is evocative of Asian street style, especially the one that thrives in the by lanes and streets of Hong Kong, with its hard-to-miss Asian artefacts and street art.



Just like its décor, the food at Mamagoto is inspired from the bustling and vibrant streets of Thailand, Japan, China, and Vietnam. Every bite into one of their house specialities is indicative of the extensive research and experiments that have taken place behind closed doors, under the chef's watchful eye. The menu is updated routinely too and is very wisely divided into interesting sections such as Small Bites (Appetisers), Dumplings, Maki, Platters, Soups and Salads, Woks and Curries, and the brand's signature Mamagoto rice and noodles.

The house beverages at Mamagoto ably complement the extensive menu; the Kiwi Mint Collins, Cranberry and Kaffir Lime Punch and Passion Fruit, and Orange Cooler are just what you need to beat the summer heat. For a burst of flavour, try the signature Wasabi Mary, an interesting take on the Bloody Mary. They also have a wonderful selection of teas, iced teas and juices, in addition to the usual lot of aerated beverages and thirst quenchers. And, when all has been said and done, and it's time for dessert, Mamagoto caters to your every sweet craving. The Homemade American Style Chunky Caramel Sponge Cake with Toffee Sauce, served warm with Vanilla Ice cream or the Homemade Coconut and Palm Sugar Ice cream are indeed befitting of an incredibly theatrical meal!



Image © Dhaba Estd. 1986 Delhi



Dhaba Estd. 1986 Delhi

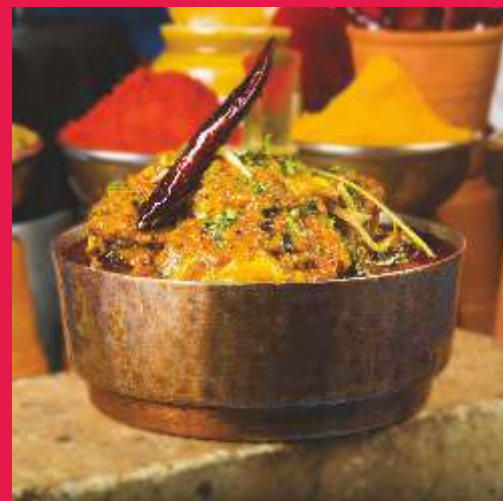
“Dhaba is all about fun times and great food in true Punjabi style- so don't hold back, roll up your sleeves and as we say, enjoy swag anusaar”!

Dhaba Estd 1986 Delhi is the hospitality group's award-winning 'dhaba outpost' that specialises in the flavours and fragrances of India's much-loved highway cuisine – dhaba-styled food from the heart of Punjab. It brings the tasty tales of Punjab fresh to the plate, and the ambience makes one feel a part of these tales. In the unlikely event that you've had your fill of Asian food and instead long for something robust and truly desi, hop across to Dhaba Estd 1986 Delhi. Kitschy interiors, vintage collages and posters, and very rustic truck art that we see on trucks that ply our highways, the ambience at Dhaba effortlessly transports you to the India of the 80s and 90s. This one, an 80-seater too, also comprises of an outdoor area that has been imaginatively fashioned after an *akhara* or a place where *pehlwan*s or wrestlers spend their time (especially seen across the villages of North India).

The real magic of the dhaba unfolds in the kitchen at Dhaba Estd. 1986 Delhi, where Chef Ravi Saxena and his team deftly recreate the mood of the quintessential North Indian highway with signature recipes that have been used since 1986, complemented with an energetic twist of their own experimental 'Highway Specials' menu. The entire menu transports you through dusty highways and old towns that have been renowned for some of their fabled recipes, over the centuries.

The menu at Dhaba is essentially divided into 3 sections – Tawa, Tandoor and Patila. The Tawa menu includes an array of vegetarian and nonvegetarian dishes such as Bhune Aloo, Galouti Kebabs, Amritsari Macchi and Chicken Tak a Tak. From the Tandoor emerge oodles of smokey flavoured Amritsari Kukkad (chicken), Tandoori Prawns and Highway Chicken Tikka. The Tandoori Bhuni Sabziyaan and Dhaba Paneer Tikka are perfect appetisers to get a vegetarian meal going. A Patila is a vessel in which food is cooked and the Dhaba makes sure you feast to your heart's content with dishes such as Chitta Butter; the quintessentially famous mutton curry of Dhaba, Balti Meat and Butter Chicken 1986, or Lahsooni Palak, Paneer Makhan Maar Ke and Kanastari Baingan Bharta for the vegetarians. Some age-old favourites from this section that pull at your nostalgic heart strings are Daal Dhaba, Chitti Aloo





Gobhi and Amritsari Chole.

Dhaba Estd 1986 Delhi also celebrates the Maharajas of India, with its very unique menu that offers some of India's best kept royal recipes - Mutton Rogan Josh, Kashmiri Dum Aloo, and Rajasthani Dhoongar Lal Maas for meat lovers in addition to Gatta Curry, Papad Ki Sabzi and Baingan Bhaja for the vegetarians.



No meal at the Dhaba is complete without the right beverage. The heart of the Dhaba is the Thekka or the bar, which serves an eclectic mix of routine favourites and some house favourites, which are an intoxicating concoction of western and desi flavours and spices. The Mock Tharras are an interesting take of mocktails using the finest of very Indian ingredients such as sugarcane, raw mango, and such like to churn out classics such as Ganneka Sa Ras, Jal Jeera, Shikanji, Kala Khatta & Aam Panna.



Dhaba Estd 1986 Delhi ensures you have a wonderful time – a quick lunch break or a family gettogether, the occasion doesn't matter. What does matter is that at the Dhaba they believe in giving you a great time! That's ably demonstrated in their desserts too! Choose from options such as Badam Halwa, Rabri, Gulab Jamun, Rasmalai and Kesri Phirnee; instant gratification of a sweet fix guaranteed!

'Mamagoto' and 'Dhaba Estd 1986 Delhi' are both located on the second floor at The Pavillion. So, now you know how you'd like to spend the weekend – with some great food, friends and family, and some wonderful shopping, indeed!



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KELLY HOPPEN

Each home tells a story, but not each story is distinguished. And there is no denying of the fact that luxury and embellished details narrate a story like nothing can. Long back, Plato and Socrates recognized that luxury would not only be an inevitable element of civilized society, but a defining one.

For some, luxury is the sound of engines of expensive cars whizzing away. For others, it is celebrating at the pinnacle of a swanky skyscraper. And, for yet some others, it is flying high in the sky, reclined and choosing from the most expensive champagnes. But, along with the propinquity to all the comforts of life, something that sits at the core of all the leisurely pursuits is the existence of a place that you can call home with all your heart; a place that tells a story of grace, of perfection. The ultra-luxurious project YOO Villas by Kelly Hoppen, developed by Panchshil Realty truly embodies the charm of regal finesse and the sentiment of a home.

FOR
yoo villas

A Home – An Icon.

A Home That Tells an Embellished Story.

Bhawika Jethwani finds more about this sheer luxury commingled with verdant artistry and takes you on a journey where East meets West.

YOO – A Parable of Perfection

Founded in 1999 by international entrepreneur John Hitchcox and designer Philippe Starck, YOO was conceived to bring the vision of a design-led life to reality. It is a trailblazer that gives people a life that is curated according to their laudable taste. YOO has successfully embossed the impact of their visionary project in Asia, Australia, Europe, Africa, North and South America, and the Middle East. A team of celebrated designers such as Philippe Starck, Marcel Wanders, Jade Jagger, Kelly Hoppen, Steve Leung and Sussanne Khan have succeeded in bringing people together with their unparalleled expertise and flair for prodigious design.

“We offer people freedom, flexibility and simplicity”, says Philippe Starck, the creative director of YOO, who believes in offering a lifestyle that enjoys the perfect balance of bespoke design, exceptional quality and indulgence that exudes the tenor of the modern world.

“It's your place, it's where you live, it's where you want to feel the best that you can. You need to create something in your home that feels good.”

Kelly —————
———— Hoppen
MBE —————

Kelly Hoppen – From Concept to Reality

“I only take on Projects that excite me”, says Kelly Hoppen, one of Britain's most celebrated interior designers, who with her ever-evolving style and palette of clean lines and neutral tones has taken the world of interior design by storm. Kelly's exuberant work blended with charming warmth has made her known worldwide, taking her across the globe – from Manhattan to London, Barbados to Beirut and France to Southeast Asia, encompassing the world between China and Japan. During this period, she has designed homes, yachts and jets for the elite, as well as several hotels, restaurants, and offices.

“A home should be where you feel joy and happiness. It should feel like your own space, reflective of the spirit, life and loves of the people who live there”, explains Kelly. She strongly believes that a house becomes a home over the years. In her famous book, Kelly Hoppen Home: From Concept to Reality, she explains how it is very important to give your home a stroke of warmth. Your home should be a powerful rhetoric for all your intimate memories and experiences. In all the houses that she has designed, this is how Kelly blends the old with the new, marking her designs unique.







“A home should be where you feel joy and happiness.
It should feel like your own space,
reflective of the spirit,
life and loves of the people who live there”.



YOO Villas

Beauty That No Eyes Can Miss!



For the first time in India, Kelly has redefined opulence, designing what she dearly calls 'homes' at YOO Villas by Panchshil Realty. Panchshil bears the art of transforming the dreams of a quintessential lifestyle into reality and believes in bringing the world to Pune. This drive to let people embrace a life that reflects panache, but has peace and comfort at its core, led to the association of YOO and Panchshil. The denouement, today, is something that is not just unimpeachable but also transcends expectations. India's first international branded residences, YOO Villas is nothing short of perfect. It is a community that brings like-minded people together and creates a space for them that is inspired by art in every grain of nature. Spanning 80 acres, it offers 181 exquisite residences, each embodying the majestic allure that is coveted by everybody.

The most important facet of YOO Villas is its unbelievably beautiful location – a sensorial treat for your being. The residences are nestled within a riverside location, offering its residents a life where each moment feels better than the previous one. The flowing water streams, the early morning sun, the earthy smell, and the envelope of verdant luxury; YOO Villas boasts of a life where the days are not just lived, they are felt.

The concept of YOO Villas was brought into existence with the motive to create residences that epitomize timeless beauty, and what could be better than the timeless charm of multi-hued seasons? Imagine waking up to the sun gently making its way into your bedroom and the lush green beauty outside singing its lullaby – who says that magic does not exist?

Life at YOO Villas is nestled within the ceaseless beauty of nature since the landscaped gardens are created in way that they change as the season do.

YOO Villas emphasizes on community living and has a plethora of entertaining activities and exclusive services on its premises for people of all age. The Clubhouse is carefully designed to cater to the requirements of its residents with the choicest of luxury and to lend them a lifestyle that reflects urban sophistication.

When East Meets West

Kelly is known for using her neutral colour palette to create zen-like tranquillity and harmonious interiors.



She believes that calm, well-planned, clean and efficient designs create room for fun elements and textures.

Also, clean and harmonious interiors can be as beneficial to health as a sensible diet and regular exercise, so she has used two of her most famous themes to create a perfect balance of the eastern and western cultures, the Vintage Palette and the Sea Breeze Palette.

Vintage

Palette



The Vintage Palette plaits the classic and opulent design style with modern finesse.
The use of sumptuous colours and eclectic design gives a princely appearance to the interior, recreating an era of elegance.
The careful use of vintage pieces makes them fit into the modern character of the home,
lending them a striking appearance.
The luxurious textiles along with the clever use of lighting create a splendid place that encompasses originality.

Sea Breeze

Breeze



The Sea Breeze Palette is striking, yet calm and peaceful.
The combination of blue-toned whites, stone, taupe and sand colours mixed with chrome, glass mother-of-pearl and metallic – creates an air of simplicity which is neither too warm nor too cold.
The use of natural colours lends the space a balmy tenor creating a comfortable aura.
It makes the space instil a sense of ease which works as a remedy to the stressful pace of frenetic modern life.

but you
always have
YOO Villas!



The moment you think that this is it, YOO Villas opens up even more ways that luxury can make way to you.

YOO Villas offers Luxury Lifestyle Management and Concierge Services and makes sure that no matter what the time is, you get what your heart needs.

From an extended family weekend to private luxury services, an unforgettable walk through the sculpted gardens to a luxury spa in a magical setting; all you have to do is ask. Commitment to efficiency, comfort and flawless luxury experiences make life at YOO Villas laudable.

IV

Manish Malhotra



Manish Malhotra
For Launch Of YOO Villas





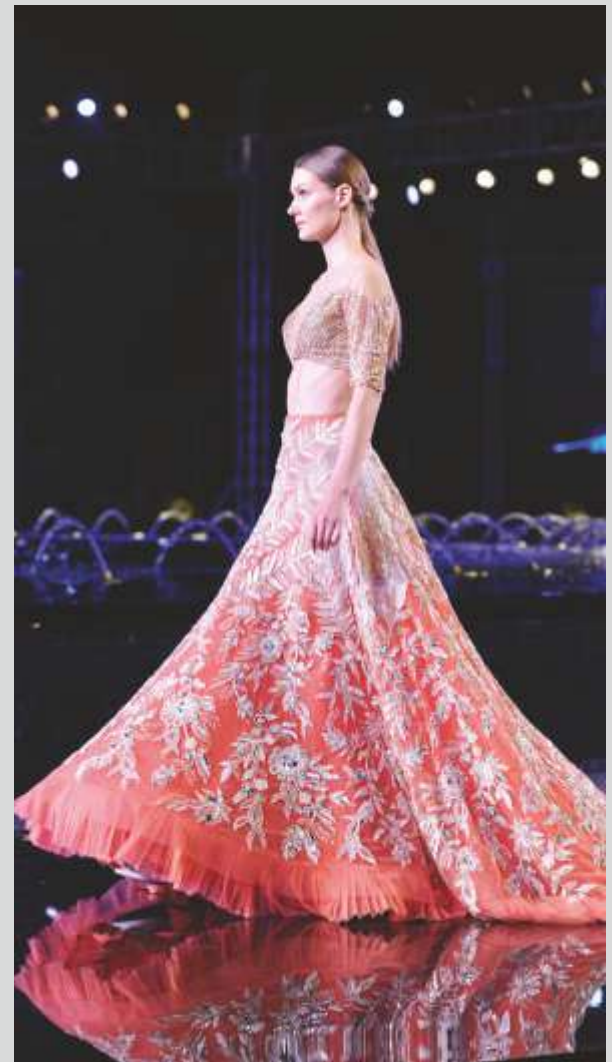
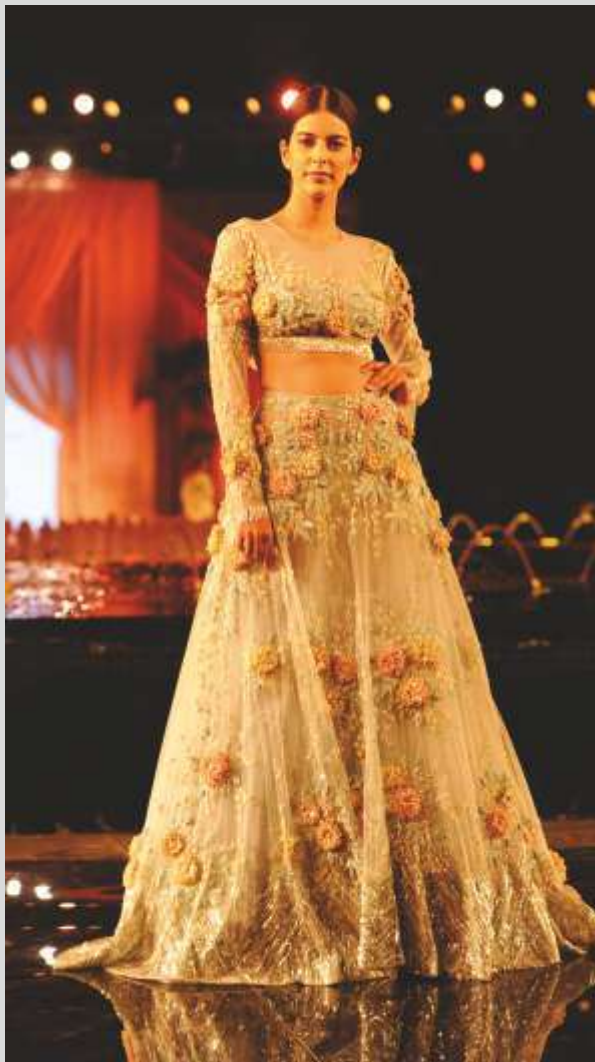
Manish Malhotra unveiled his Summer Couture 2018 Collection on the 17th of March over a spectacular show hosted at the Yoo Villas in Pune. The show was a huge success with the most eloquent designs presented under the roof of mesmerizing luxury. The entire collection was a burst of freshness since it was inspired by the natural beauty and flora from the verdant valleys of Kashmir. A tribute to the summer season, the collection featured flowy *lehengas* and pleated soft tulle gowns in shades of light pink, mint green, and powder blue – colours that paint a picture of the Kashmiri landscape. The main highlight of the show was the flawless presentation of the modern and classic influences. 3D, appliqué embroidery of flowers in a vibrant palette nestled amidst traditional Kashmiri threadwork suggested fashion licked with tradition. The guests were seen uttering words of great admiration for the exquisitely crafted details. Sequined blouses with high-collars, accentuated with light feathers and pearls added a dramatic flair to the outfits. Billowy skirts in opulent silks lined with pearl drops were complemented with *dupattas* in soft organza and made for a dream-like ensemble. Cocktail gowns in pastel shades completed the ultra-glamorous collection with lavishly embellished shoulders and drapes.

Manish Malhotra is known for his intricate designs and the grace that they embody. 2018 marks 13 years to the Manish Malhotra label and he couldn't have chosen a better venue to showcase his extravagant collection. The villas offer three breathtaking interior style options created by internationally celebrated designer Kelly Hoppen. Manish Malhotra on his grand success exclaimed, "I am delighted at having presented the collection in association with



YOO Villas. Panchshil Realty and the Manish Malhotra Label speak the same design language. We both stand for modern luxury, an uncompromising eye for detail and reinventing glamour. So, the extravagance of Yoo Villas was a perfect match for the launch of my equally dramatic Summer Couture 2018 collection."

The magnificence of the launch party was taken a notch higher with the presence of various big names. Aditi Rao Hydari, Radhika Apte, and Nushrat Bharucha walked the runway. Guests including Michelle Poonawalla and Imtiaz Khatri, to name a few, graced the first row. Sophie Chaudhary, in a short Kashmiri thread work glamorous dress, bedazzled the guests with her eclectic performance.



Manish Malhotra
For Launch Of YOO Villas





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Contemporary Design Traditional Finesse

Milan's Salone Internazionale Del Mobile in Milan is undeniably one of the largest trade fairs of its kind where the romance of design, innovation, creativity, and lux is so distinguished that it is clearly perceptible. The 57th edition in April 2018 witnessed an amalgam of traditional elegance and contemporary dynamism in the world of home décor. 1,841 exhibitors from all over the world showcased their products and attracted 434,509 attendees in 6 days.

Spazio, India's largest multi-brand luxury furniture store, houses the latest collections of the most coveted luxury brands from Italy. Fendi Casa, Heritage Collection, and Trussardi Casa made their glorious appearance at the recent Salone Internazionale Del Mobile and their new collection is all the rage. Bhawika Jethwani explores more about these contemporary brands and their innovation of design showcasing the traditional luxury.



FENDI Casa Icon bed with bedside tables

FENDI Casa One sofa



FENDI CASA

FENDI Casa launched their new collection at the recent Salone Internazionale Del Mobile in Milan where the sartorial details unveil the elegance in craftsmanship and accentuate the aesthetic balance between tradition and innovation. The perfection of a sophisticated environment is achieved by the combination of neutral hues, marble surfaces, and metalelements.

The use of travertine marble surfaces and wood panelling resonates with the chic Italian designs. The charismatic brilliance of the upholstered sofas complements the calibrated use of subtle nuances of quartz grey, clay, leather, soft and dusty colours of Prussian blue, light blue and green. The perfection of a sophisticated environment is achieved by the combination of neutral hues, marble surfaces, and metalelements.

FENDI has followed an approach that focuses on the sensorial effect created using geometric patterns and attention to detail. The use of high-performance cotton velvets with soft chenille is inspired by comfort while the precious jacquards defined by geometric patterns suggest the excellent craftsmanship which is the key code of FENDI. One of the major highlights of the collection is the Icon Lite Sofa which exhibits the striking combination of contrasting elements and is a work of geometric lines. It combines the craftsmanship excellence with rational design. Annabelle Armchair, Brigitte Armchair, Eclipse and Prisme Coffee Table, Anya Pouf and other pieces embrace a minimal and brushed finesse.



FENDI Casa_Salone del Mobile 2018

FENDI Casa Eclipse and Prisme marble coffee tables



Trussardi Casa Happ sectional sofa



Trussardi Casa Marris bed, design Carlo Colombo

Trussardi Casa

Trussardi Casa, in Salone Internazionale Del Mobile, decided to venture into the contemporary world of design. Their collection was inspired by the metropolitan dynamism of Milan. It is designed keeping in mind the emerging trends, so the new generation may find itself opting for Trussardi Casa's new furnishing solutions. What's commendable is the elegant poise between the contrasting modern character and traditional brilliance. The designer Carlo Colombo has retouched the traditional use of the calibrated geometric lines in order to cater to people of all tastes in Milan. Natural shades are combined with more intense colours to create a sense of fashion. Earthy tones like natural sand, hazelnut and dove colours are enriched with the dusty nuances of orange and aviation blue. Shades of green, octane and cedar yellow accentuate the silhouettes of complementary items and textile accessories.

The use of structured texture and rich fabrics shows the excellence of attention to detail which is critical to the designs in Italy. The skilfully-worked leather combined with polished brass metal, brushed bronze and wood reflect the precious finesse of the furniture.

The main highlights of the collection were the Fabiano Sofa, Belgado Table, Marris Bed and Ampoll Lamp. Minimalist design, a combination of contrasting materials, lightly quilted all-over logo motif on the cushions, and light-coloured fabric upholstery suggest of a style that would be loved by people of all eras.



Trussardi Casa Anabel chair





Heritage Collection

Heritage Collection Turandot sofa

At the Salone Internazionale Del Mobile 2018, Heritage Collection presented their new collection that redefines design by moulding the timeless and contemporary styles together. The new collection hints romance in the air. Classic upholstered furniture accentuated with little supporting elements makes for a glorious look that would breathe life into any interior space easily. The furniture and its accessories are coated with alcantara and raffia for a metallic effect and the wood panelling helps in delineating the entire setup. The colour of upholstery is neutral and ranges from shades of grey and ivory, to classic colours like sand, brown, black and white. Oddly enough, the contemporary lines complement the traditional design of the 40s. This is one of the main reasons this collection stands distinguished from the rest. There is a use of contrasting hues to characterize armchairs and other accessories. Generous volumes and soft shapes lend the space a decisive character and the soft and muted tones of the upholstery give it a classic edge. Botticino and Calacatta marble surfaces are combined with metal structures with winter gold, polished brass and brushed bronze finishes.

The wefts of the fabrics are embellished with detailed textures and illustrate the magic of craftsmanship. The fabrics like wool and chenille are given a modern flair with the use of a new collection of velvets that also has some technical characteristics. The fabric is stain-resistant, mark-proof and easy to clean. The entire collection radiates sheer class and focuses on both the comfort and functionality.



Heritage Collection Tancredi sofa



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