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From the CEO's Desk

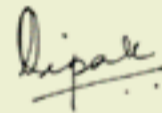


Dear Partners,

This issue we introduce a section called Expert Talk, our very own product specialist, Kuntal Baruwa who will talk about new and interesting product ideas that can be explored here in India. Do let us know how helpful this insight into India is for you as it progresses over the issues.

See you soon.

Regards.



Dipak Deva



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stay at *Imperial Palace*

The Imperial Palace Hotel, part of an exclusive new 240-acre estate in the heart of Mumbai western suburbs, has joined WORLDHOTELS as a member of the Deluxe Collection.

The 417-room hotel is part of Royal Palms Estate, incorporating the prestigious Royal Palms Golf & Country Club, in the city's only 'green belt' seven kilometers from Mumbai's Sahar International Airport and close to the city's exhibition centre. In a picturesque 'zero pollution zone' valley bordering a lake, the Imperial Palace features a spa, state-of-the-art business centre, and conference and banqueting facilities for up to 300.

The hotel has a grand lobby that leads to a coffee shop by the name of La Rotanda, with grand Renaissance-style paintings on its walls and ceilings. The Hotel de Crillon in Paris was kept in mind while designing this grand hotel.

Singinawa Jungle Lodge

The Lodge is located on 55 acres of land, in the tiger heartland, Singinawa Jungle Lodge offers a unique experience of the jungles of central India with all the comforts of a world class lodge at Kanha. The lodge offers the chance to not only learn about the tiger and its habitat but to also experience ecologically responsible tourism and see conservation at work benefiting local communities and the Tiger Reserve.

All twelve cottages offer a view of the towering tropical trees. The structures were designed around existing trees and not one was cut for the placement or construction of the cottages. One can take a plunge in the freeform pool, take a dip in the hot tub at the spa, take a jeep safari or take an elephant safari or better even take a walk in the woods and by the river side.

Singinawa is an eco-friendly, plastic free resort, using solar energy & rainwater harvesting.



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Airlines



Flydubai To Foray Into Indian Market

Flydubai has become the latest international airline company to launch their operations in the Indian market. The Dubai based low cost airline company has for now chosen to serve three cities: Lucknow, Coimbatore and Chandigarh. They aim to complete flights from all these three cities by July 23. Flydubai said that they are aiming to make travel between Lucknow, Coimbatore and Chandigarh and the UAE a little less complex, little less stressful and a little less expensive. They are offering cheap tickets to travellers on these routes.



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Expert Talk



Adda - The Zest For Life Kolkata's Raison D'etre

The best way to enjoy Kolkata is to sit down in an adda - local parlance for an informal chat. Addas take place in the comfort of someone's living room, in the smoky confines of a coffee house, on the steps of a college, at the bus stop, at the corner of the daily market... just about anywhere where two or more people can get together. And what do they talk about? Politics, sports, religion, books, art, films, music, the news, food... just about everything under the sun is worth talking about in an adda. Don't be stunned by arguments - though Kolkatans are passionate about most things, addas never end on an ugly note.

Ask any Kolkatan about addas and he will tell you that almost all old houses had a pair of cement benches constructed facing the street/lane across the entrance called "rok". These were constructed for the soul purpose of addas. There were time slots. Morning and noon you found the jobless youths talking about jobs and interviews, afternoon you had the local students talking about the happenings at the schools, as the evening progressed, it was the turn of the working-men to occupy the roks for their adda.

The Indian Coffee House in College Street is another great place for an adda where you can jostle with the who's who of Kolkata's intellectuals. The century old building reeks of ideas and imaginations and hopes and dreams and frustrations. All are welcome here. You can sit and talk and hear talks for hours with one or two or three cups of coffee. Kolkata as a city is a wonderful mirror of the Bengalis who call it their home - volatile poets, sensitive artists and romantic men and women. It's the city of the artsy, the quaint, the intellectual - indeed, of anyone with an enormous zest for life.

Sita organises cosy addas on special request with some remarkable people of Kolkata.



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New Ventures



India's Most Expensive Luxury Train Flags Off In January

The Maharajas' Express, promoted by Royale Indian Rail Tours Ltd (RIRTL) will flag off from Mumbai on its inaugural trip to Delhi on January 9 next year, a few months ahead of the Commonwealth Games, it will be India's most expensive luxury train. It starts at \$800 a night per person — twice the fare on the 27-year-old warhorse Palace on Wheels.

The Express will carry fewer passengers per carriage. The capacity is 82 in 43 cabins spread over 23 coaches — including the Presidential Carriage, two fine-dining restaurants, one "exotic" bar and an observation lounge with its own bar and game tables. Other particular conveniences include a special suspension for a smoother ride, individual cabin climate control, an environmentally friendly rest room system, TV, telephones and a safe in each room.



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Recipe of the Month



Finger Paneer Pakoras

As the monsoon sets in some parts of India....a rainy day is incomplete without fried pakoras and hot tea, which is fortunately easy to rustle up quickly for yourself and your family.

Ingredients:

- 250 gms gram flour
- 200 gms paneer (cottage cheese)
- 25 gms garlic
- 2 gms baking soda
- 1/2 tsp red chillie powder
- 1-2 chopped green chillies
- Salt to taste
- Oil for deep frying

Method of preparation:

- Cut the paneer into finger-size pieces and add a little salt.
- Crush the garlic and add a little water to make a paste.
- Mix the garlic paste with the gram flour, salt, soda, red and green chillies.
- Add more water to the mixture to attain medium consistency.
- Dip the paneer pieces in this mixture and deep-fry.
- Once browned, serve with your choice of sauce



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Destination Orchha

Orchha wears a pleasant look as rains set in on this little town, tucked away at the border of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Orchha, meaning a "hidden place", certainly lives up to its name. Small streams overflow and the Betwa River that flows by the town seems to gain a new lease of life for the season after resembling a dry creek for months. The town is full of history, famous for its palaces and temples built in the 16th and 17th centuries. The architectural splendour of the monuments in Orchha reflect the glory of its rulers. Most of what has to be seen in Orchha lies within a comfortable walking distance.



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Impression



Dear Lokesh,

Thank you so much for organising everything we had a wonderful time, the hotels were brilliant; we had a suite at Maiden's that Vanessa adored and a view of the Taj Mahal from our bedroom window at Agra so they could not have been better and the staff at both hotels were lovely. The tours in both Delhi and Agra were fantastic and the guides very knowledgeable which was really good; we have just been going through some of the photos and they bring back some very special memories.

A special thank you to our driver, Vinod, who navigated us through the Delhi traffic every day and for the trip down to Agra he is very good and we always felt safe in his hands. Finally a big thank you to everyone at Sita both in Delhi and Agra for looking after us so magnificently and making sure everything ran like clockwork we were really impressed by the service. I was sorry to miss your call whilst we were in Delhi I think we may have been out by the swimming pool.

Vanessa enjoyed the trip so much she wants to come back next year for a longer holiday and do a tour of Rajasthan although we will probably leave it to October/November time when it is not so hot, so if I may call on your services again I would be grateful.

It's raining here this afternoon and I have to say I actually miss the heat of Delhi.

Kind regards

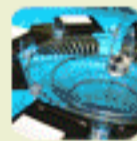
Cliff & Vanessa



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Fairs and Festival



Teej, Rajasthan

Held during the monsoons, Teej is the time when married women pray for a happy and long married life. Swings are decorated with flowers and hung from trees. Teej is celebrated mainly by the women folk of Rajasthan. Young girls and women dressed in bright coloured clothes sing songs in celebration of the advent of the monsoon.

July 2009	
1st -2nd July	Hemis Festival, Leh, Ladakh
7th July	Urs, Ajmer, Rajasthan
24th-25th July	Teej, Rajasthan

Most of the Festival dates are decided by Solar / Lunar calendars practiced in India, due to which the dates are subject to change. You may plan some special departure based on these festivals.

For any assistance please contact us.