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## CONTENT

#### **Politics & Democracy**

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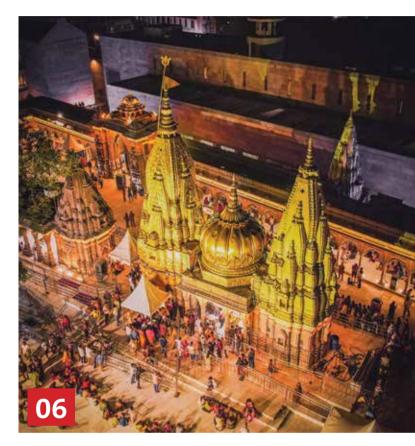
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#### Unlocking the Spiritual Odyssey

Uttar Pradesh, the heartland of India, is a land of myriad cultural and spiritual treasures that beckon travelers from around the world to embark on a journey of discovery and enlightenment. With its rich tapestry of religious diversity, ancient pilgrimage sites, and serene spiritual retreats, Uttar Pradesh offers a unique blend of experiences encompassing religious, spiritual, and even cruise tourism along its sacred rivers. In this comprehensive guide, we

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#### A Global Extravaganza: World Festivals in March

March, a month of transition and renewal, is marked by a plethora of vibrant festivals celebrated across the globe. From ancient traditions rooted in spirituality to modern spectacles of art and culture, these festivals offer a window into the rich tapestry of human diversity. In this write-up, we explore some of the most captivating world











#### Unveiling Telangana

Welcome to Telangana, a land where history, culture, and natural beauty converge to offer travelers an unforgettable experience. Situated in southern India, Telangana is a state rich in heritage, adorned with architectural wonders, and blessed with picturesque

#### Magh Mela: A rehearsal to 2025 MahaKumbh

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath assured that the upcoming Mahakumbh of 2025 will transcend the grandeur and divinity witnessed during the 2019 event. CM Yogi affirmed, "We are committed to organizing the Mahakumbh of 2025 in a grand manner."

#### "Summer Serenity: Six Dream Destinations for Couples"

As the summer approached, couples around the globe eagerly anticipated the opportunity to escape the ordinary and embark on unforgettable adventures together. Here are six dream destinations that promise to ignite passion, deepen bonds, and create cherished

#### Celebrating Holi at Home: A Culinary Journey with Homemade Delights

Holi, the festival of colors and joy, is a time for celebration, togetherness, and indulgence in delicious food. While the festivities might look a bit different this year, there's no reason why we can't create a memorable Holi experience right in the comfort of our homes. Embracing the spirit of togetherness and culinary

#### Radiant Beginnings: Jewelry Style Guide for Newlyweds this Summer

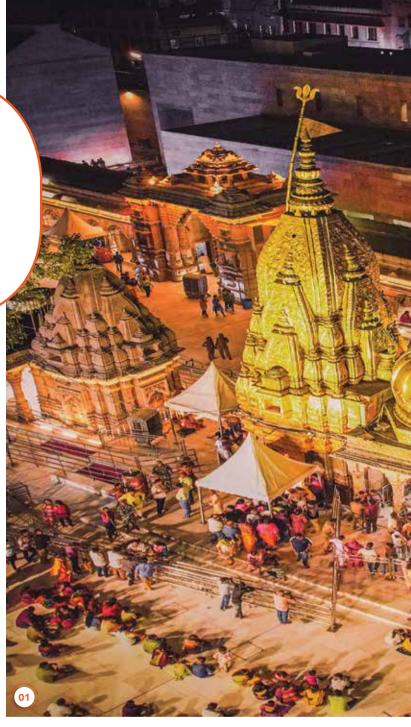
As the warmth of summer envelops the air, newly married couples embark on a journey filled with love, joy, and endless possibilities. For these radiant souls, summer serves as the perfect backdrop to showcase their newfound bond and celebrate their union in style. In this jewelry style guide, we explore exquisite adornments and trends tailored to complement the glow of newlyweds, adding an extra touch of elegance and sophistication to their summer adventures.

# Unlocking the Spiritual Odyssey

## Religious, Spiritual, and Cruise Tourism in Uttar Pradesh

Uttar Pradesh, the heartland of India, is a land of myriad cultural and spiritual treasures that beckon travelers from around the world to embark on a journey of discovery and enlightenment. With its rich tapestry of religious diversity, ancient pilgrimage sites, and serene spiritual retreats, Uttar Pradesh offers a unique blend of experiences encompassing religious, spiritual, and even cruise tourism along its sacred rivers. In this comprehensive guide, we delve deep into the enchanting realm of religious, spiritual, and cruise tourism in Uttar Pradesh, unraveling the timeless wonders that await the intrepid traveler.



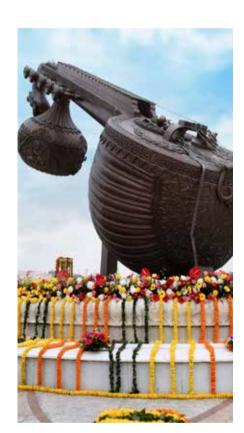


#### 1. Varanasi: The Eternal City of Enlightenment

Varanasi, also known as Kashi or Benares, stands as the quintessential destination for religious tourism in Uttar Pradesh. Nestled on the banks of the sacred river Ganges, Varanasi is revered as one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world and holds immense significance in Hindu mythology and spirituality. Pilgrims flock to its ghats to partake in the ritual of bathing in the holy waters, perform funeral rites, and witness the mesmerizing Ganga Aarti ceremony at Dashashwamedh Ghat. The city is adorned with numerous temples, including the revered Kashi Vishwanath Temple dedicated to Lord Shiva, making it a haven for devotees and tourists alike.

#### Religious Tourism: A Pilgrimage of Faith

eligious tourism in Uttar Pradesh is synonymous with a spiritual odyssey that takes pilgrims on a sacred journey through the heartland of Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism. The state is adorned with ancient temples, majestic mosques, tranquil Buddhist sites, and revered Sikh shrines, each offering a glimpse into the profound spirituality that permeates the land.



#### 2. Ayodhya: Pilgrimage to the Birthplace of Lord Rama

Ayodhya, the mythical city synonymous with the birth of Lord Rama, attracts pilgrims and devotees seeking blessings and spiritual solace. The city is adorned with temples, including the Ram Janmabhoomi Temple, believed to be the birthplace of Lord Rama. Pilgrims throng to Ayodhya to immerse themselves in the divine aura of this ancient city, which reverberates with the chants of "Jai Shri Ram" and echoes with tales from the epic Ramayana.



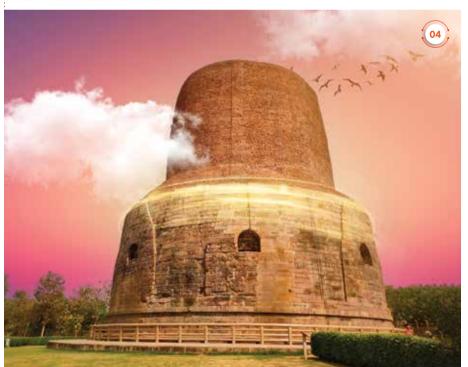
#### 3. Mathura and Vrindavan: Abode of Lord Krishna

Mathura and Vrindavan, the legendary birthplace and childhood playground of Lord Krishna, are revered as sacred pilgrimage sites for devotees of the Vaishnavite tradition. The city of Mathura is believed to be the birthplace of Lord Krishna, while Vrindavan is adorned with temples dedicated to Radha and Krishna. Visitors can immerse themselves in the vibrant festivities of Holi and Janmashtami, experience the divine love at the Banke Bihari Temple, and witness the enchanting Raas Leela performances that depict the divine romance of Radha and Krishna.

#### 4. Sarnath: The Cradle of Buddhism

Sarnath, located near Varanasi, holds immense significance in Buddhism





as the place where Lord Buddha delivered his first sermon, known as the Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta. Pilgrims and tourists flock to Sarnath to explore the ancient ruins, visit the majestic Dhamek Stupa, and meditate under the Bodhi tree, reflecting on the teachings of compassion and enlightenment imparted by the Buddha.

#### 5. Allahabad: Confluence of Faiths

Allahabad, now known as Prayagraj,

is revered by Hindus for its sacred confluence of the Ganges, Yamuna, and mythical Saraswati rivers, known as the Triveni Sangam. The city hosts the Kumbh Mela, the largest religious gathering on earth, where millions of pilgrims gather to bathe in the holy waters and seek spiritual liberation. The historic city is also home to iconic landmarks such as the Allahabad Fort and the majestic Akshaya Vat tree.

#### 6. Fatehpur Sikri: A Testament to Mughal Grandeur

Fatehpur Sikri, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is renowned for its architectural marvels built during the Mughal era. The city houses the Jama Masjid, a grand mosque adorned with intricate carvings and exquisite craftsmanship, as well as the tomb of the revered Sufi saint, Salim Chishti. Visitors can marvel at the fusion of Islamic and Hindu architectural elements while soaking in the spiritual ambiance of this historic site.

### Spiritual Tourism: A Journey Within



n addition to religious tourism, Uttar Pradesh offers a myriad of opportunities for spiritual seekers to embark on a journey of selfdiscovery, inner peace, and enlightenment. From yoga retreats and meditation centers to ashrams and spiritual festivals, the state provides a tranquil sanctuary where travelers can rejuvenate their mind, body, and soul amidst serene surroundings and ancient wisdom.

# Unraveling the Charms: Cruise Tourism in Uttar Pradesh

ttar Pradesh, often hailed as the heartland of India, is not only renowned for its rich religious and cultural heritage but also offers a unique opportunity for travelers to explore its enchanting landscapes and historic towns through cruise tourism. With majestic rivers flowing through its heart, Uttar Pradesh presents a captivating tapestry of experiences for tourists seeking a leisurely journey along its scenic waterways. In this comprehensive guide, we delve into the charms of cruise tourism in Uttar Pradesh, offering insights into the picturesque routes, historic landmarks, and cultural treasures that await the intrepid traveler.

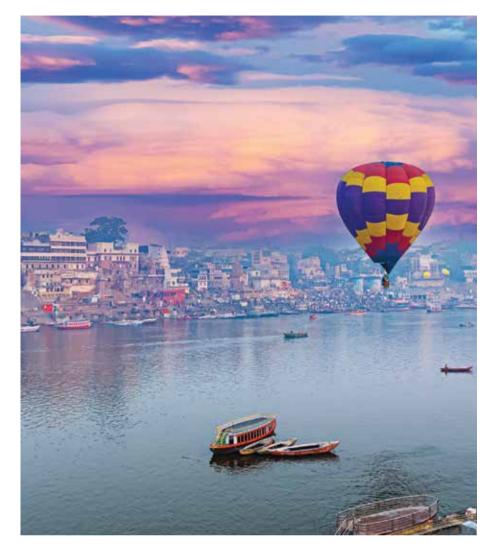
#### 1. Ganges River Cruises: Navigating the Sacred Waters

Cruising along the Ganges River is an immersive experience that allows travelers to trace the sacred waters of one of India's holiest rivers, immersing themselves in the spiritual and cultural heritage of Uttar Pradesh. From the bustling ghats



of Varanasi, where ancient rituals unfold against the backdrop of historic temples and vibrant markets, to the serene riverbanks of Allahabad, where the confluence of the Ganges, Yamuna, and mythical Saraswati rivers holds sacred significance, Ganges River cruises offer a journey through time and tradition.

Travelers embarking on Ganges River cruises can explore the ancient city of



Varanasi, known for its ghats, temples, and bustling streets teeming with life. They can witness the mesmerizing Ganga Aarti ceremony at Dashashwamedh Ghat, experience the spiritual ambiance of Sarnath, where Lord Buddha preached his first sermon, and marvel at the architectural wonders that line the riverbanks, including the Kashi Vishwanath Temple and the Ramnagar Fort.

Further downstream, Ganges River cruises offer the opportunity to explore the historic city of Allahabad, now known as Prayagraj, where the Kumbh Mela, the largest religious gathering on earth, takes place every twelve years. Travelers can visit the iconic Allahabad Fort, explore the tranquil surroundings of the Triveni Sangam, and witness the grandeur of the Akshaya Vat tree, believed to be immortal.

#### 2. Yamuna River Cruises: Exploring Historic Towns and Legendary Landmarks

Yamuna River cruises offer a serene journey through the historic towns,

picturesque landscapes, and legendary landmarks that dot the banks of Uttar Pradesh's second-largest river. From the iconic city of Agra, home to the majestic Taj Mahal, to the ancient town of Mathura, the birthplace of Lord Krishna, Yamuna River cruises offer a glimpse into the rich cultural heritage and religious significance of the region.

Travelers embarking on Yamuna River cruises can explore the historic city of Agra, where the timeless beauty of the Taj Mahal enchants visitors from around the world. They can marvel at the grandeur of the Agra Fort, explore the exquisite architecture of the Itmad-ud-Daulah's Tomb, and immerse themselves in the vibrant markets and bustling streets of the city.

Further upstream, Yamuna River cruises offer the opportunity to explore the sacred town of Mathura, where the birthplace of Lord Krishna attracts pilgrims and devotees from far and wide. Travelers can visit the revered Krishna Janmabhoomi Temple, explore the tranquil surroundings of the Yamuna River, and witness the vibrant festivities of Holi and Janmashtami, which celebrate the divine love and playful antics of Lord Krishna.

#### Conclusion: Embarking on an Unforgettable Journey

In conclusion, cruise tourism in Uttar Pradesh offers travelers a unique opportunity to explore the state's rich cultural heritage, historic landmarks, and picturesque landscapes from a leisurely vantage point. Whether cruising along the sacred waters of the Ganges or the historic banks of the Yamuna, travelers are sure to

> encounter moments of tranquility, inspiration, and discovery as they navigate the timeless beauty of Uttar Pradesh's waterways. As travelers embark on an unforgettable journey through the heartland of India, they are bound to create memories that will last a lifetime.



#### World Festival



# A Global Extravaganza: World Festivals in March and April 2024

arch, a month of transition and renewal, is marked by a plethora of vibrant festivals celebrated across the globe. From ancient traditions rooted in spirituality to modern spectacles of art and culture, these festivals offer a window into the rich tapestry of human diversity. In this write-up, we explore some of the most captivating world festivals taking place in March 2024, showcasing the beauty, heritage, and unity inherent in global celebrations.

April heralds the arrival of spring in



many parts of the world, bringing with it a sense of renewal, vibrancy, and celebration. Across the globe, diverse cultures come together to mark this auspicious season with a myriad of festivals, each offering a unique glimpse into the traditions, customs, and heritage of their respective regions. In this write-up, we explore some of the most captivating world festivals taking place in April 2024, showcasing the richness and diversity of human culture on a global scale.

#### Holi (India 25th March):

#### World Festival



Las Fallas is a spectacular festival celebrated in the city of Valencia, Spain, in March. It is renowned for its elaborate street processions, massive papier-mâché sculptures called "fallas," and breathtaking fireworks displays. Each neighborhood constructs its falla, depicting satirical scenes and caricatures of political figures and celebrities. The festival culminates in the "Crema," where the fallas are set ablaze in a stunning display of fire and light, symbolizing the renewal of life and the triumph of spring over winter.

#### Cherry Blossom Festivals (Japan and Worldwide):

In Japan and other parts of the world, March marks the beginning of cherry blossom season, a time when delicate pink and white blossoms adorn trees and parks, creating a breathtaking spectacle known

Holi, the festival of colors, is one of India's most beloved and exuberant festivals, celebrated with great fervor across the country. It heralds the arrival of spring and symbolizes the triumph of good over evil. During Holi, people gather to smear each other with colored powders and spray water, turning streets and squares into riotous displays of color and joy. Traditional sweets, music, and dance further enliven the festivities, fostering a sense of camaraderie and merriment among participants.

## St. Patrick's Day (Ireland 17th March):

St. Patrick's Day celebrated on March 17th, honors the patron saint of Ireland and has become a global phenomenon, observed by millions of people around the world, particularly in countries with significant Irish diasporas. Festivities include parades, concerts, and cultural events, with participants donning green attire and shamrock accessories to symbolize Irish pride and heritage. Traditional Irish music, dance, and cuisine add to the festive atmosphere, creating a sense of unity and camaraderie among participants.

#### Las Fallas (Spain 1st March to 19th March):



#### World Festival

as "sakura." Cherry blossom festivals, or "hanami," are held throughout Japan, where people gather to admire the blossoms, picnic beneath the trees, and celebrate the fleeting beauty of nature. These festivals are a cherished tradition that symbolizes the ephemeral nature of life and the appreciation of fleeting moments of beauty.

April is synonymous with the blooming of cherry blossoms in many parts of the world, particularly in East Asia and parts of North America. Cities such as Tokyo, Kyoto, Washington D.C., and Vancouver burst into a riot of pink and white as cherry blossoms adorn parks, gardens, and streetscapes. Festivals celebrating these ephemeral blooms attract millions of visitors who come to admire the beauty of nature and partake in cultural performances, traditional music, and culinary delights.

#### Songkran (Thailand 13th





#### April to 15th April 2024):

Songkran, the Thai New Year festival, is celebrated with great fervor across Thailand in April. Marked by water fights, lively street parties, and religious ceremonies, Songkran is a time for cleansing, renewal, and new beginnings. Visitors and locals alike participate in the splashing of water, symbolizing the washing away of sins and bad luck, while also wishing each other prosperity and blessings for the coming year.

## Semana Santa (Spain and Latin America):

Semana Santa, or Holy Week, is a significant religious festival observed in Spain and various countries across Latin America during the week leading up to Easter Sunday. It is marked by elaborate processions featuring ornate floats, religious icons, and participants dressed in traditional attire. These processions, accompanied by solemn music and incense, reenact the Passion of Christ and attract crowds of spectators who gather to witness this poignant expression of faith and devotion.

#### Baisakhi (India 13th April):

Baisakhi, also known as Vaisakhi, is a harvest festival celebrated primarily in the northern state of Punjab, India, and among the Sikh diaspora worldwide. It holds religious significance for Sikhs as it commemorates the establishment of the Khalsa by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699. Festivities include vibrant processions, traditional music and dance performances (such as the energetic Bhangra), and the sharing of delicious Punjabi cuisine.

#### Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival (USA 12th April to 21st April 2024):

The Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival, held annually in Indio, California, is one of the most iconic music festivals in the world. Taking place over two weekends in April, Coachella features an eclectic lineup of musicians and artists from various genres, alongside immersive art installations and culinary offerings. It has become a cultural phenomenon, drawing music enthusiasts, celebrities, and fashionistas from around the globe to experience its unique blend of music, art, and entertainment.

#### [ Telangana

# **Unveiling Telangana**

Welcome to Telangana, a land where history, culture, and natural beauty converge to offer travelers an unforgettable experience. Situated in southern India, Telangana is a state rich in heritage, adorned with architectural wonders, and blessed with picturesque landscapes.

elangana offers a wealth of experiences for travelers seeking to explore its diverse attractions. From the historic monuments of Hyderabad to the serene landscapes of Nagarjuna Sagar, from the ancient temples of Warangal to the picturesque waterfalls of Adilabad.

#### Hyderabad: The City of Pearls • Charminar





One of Hyderabad's most iconic landmarks, the Charminar is a majestic monument that stands as a testament to the city's rich history. Built in 1591 by Sultan Muhammad QuliQutb Shah, the Charminar is renowned for its grandeur and architectural brilliance. The structure features four towering minarets and a central dome, with intricately carved arches adorning its facade. Visitors can climb to the top for panoramic views of the bustling markets and narrow lanes surrounding the monument.

#### Golconda Fort

Perched atop a granite hill, Golconda Fort is a sprawling fortress that once served as the capital of the medieval Golconda Sultanate. This imposing structure boasts impressive ramparts, majestic gateways, and intricate palaces. Don't miss the unique acoustic effects at the Fateh Darwaza, where even the softest whisper can be heard at the top of the fort. In the evening, the fort comes alive with a captivating light and sound show that narrates its storied history.

#### Qutb Shahi Tombs

Located near the Golconda Fort, the Qutb Shahi Tombs are a stunning ensemble of mausoleums built to honor the rulers of the Qutb Shahi dynasty. Set amidst landscaped gardens and surrounded by intricately carved stone walls, these tombs showcase a blend of Persian, Indian, and Pathan architectural styles. Each tomb is adorned with exquisite marble and stucco work, making it a visual delight for history enthusiasts and architecture lovers alike.

#### Chowmahalla Palace

Step into the opulent world of the Nizams at Chowmahalla Palace, a magnificent royal residence that served as the seat of the Asaf Jahi dynasty. Spread across 45 acres, the palace complex features grand halls, ornate courtyards, and elegant fountains. Visitors can admire the intricate woodwork, delicate chandeliers, and priceless artifacts that adorn the palace interiors. Don't forget to explore the Clock Tower, Council Hall, and Roshan Bangla during your visit.

#### Salar Jung Museum

Housing one of the world's largest collections of art and artifacts, the Salar Jung Museum is a treasure trove of cultural heritage. Founded by Mir Yousuf Ali Khan, also known as Salar Jung III, the museum showcases a diverse array of exhibits spanning centuries and continents. From ancient sculptures and manuscripts to European paintings and decorative arts, there's something to captivate every visitor's interest.

#### Telangana 📘





#### Warangal: A Glimpse into the Past • Warangal Fort

A testament to the glory of the Kakatiya dynasty, Warangal Fort is a sprawling citadel that dates back to the 13th century. Spread across an expansive area, the fort complex comprises several gateways, temples, and structures that reflect the architectural prowess of its builders. Highlights include the majestic Kakatiya Kala Thoranam (arch) and the Thousand Pillar Temple, known for its intricate carvings and exquisite sculptures.

#### Thousand Pillar Temple

Dedicated to Lord Shiva, the Thousand Pillar Temple is a masterpiece of Kakatiya architecture and a UNESCO World Heritage site. Built in the 12th century, the temple is renowned for its unique structure, which features one thousand intricately carved pillars supporting the mandapa (hall). Visitors can marvel at the exquisite craftsmanship displayed in the temple's sculptures, including depictions of gods, goddesses, and mythical creatures.

#### Bhadrakali Temple

Perched atop a hill overlooking the city, the Bhadrakali Temple is a sacred pilgrimage site dedicated to Goddess Bhadrakali. Believed to have been built during the Chalukyan era, the temple is revered for its spiritual significance and architectural splendor. Visitors can participate in rituals, witness traditional performances, and soak in the serene ambiance of the temple complex.

#### Ramappa Temple

Hidden amidst the lush greenery of Palampet village, the Ramappa Temple is a masterpiece of Kakatiya architecture and a UNESCO World Heritage site. Dedicated to Lord Shiva, this ancient temple is renowned for its intricate carvings, exquisite sculptures, and unique floating bricks. The temple's sanctum sanctorum features a mesmerizing Nandi statue, while its outer walls are adorned with scenes from Hindu mythology and celestial beings.

## **MAGH MELA:** A rehearsal to 2025 MahaKumbh

hief Minister Yogi Adityanath assured that the upcoming Mahakumbh of 2025 will transcend the grandeur and divinity witnessed during the 2019 event. CM Yogi affirmed, "We are committed to organizing the Mahakumbh of 2025 in a grand manner."

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Reflecting on the 2019 Prayagraj Kumbh, he noted the absence of key sites like Kashi, Ayodhya, Chitrakoot, Naimisharanya, and Vindhyavasini, which will be integral to the forthcoming event. Anticipating a doubling of devotee turnout compared to 2019, the CM emphasized that preparations are underway to enhance infrastructure to accommodate them.

Noteworthy developments include the construction of 9 ROBs, establishment of a new civil terminal, and the widening and fortification of over 250 roads, alongside the construction of 114,500 toilets, he pointed out. Describing this year's Magh Mela as a rehearsal to the Mahakumbh in 2025, he said that the fair witnessed the participation of 40 lakh devotees.

2019 Kumbh presented a model of safety, cleanliness and order.

The 2019 Kumbh exemplified safety, cleanliness, and orderliness, serving as a model for subsequent events, he said. CM Yogi emphasized that the Prayagraj Mahakumbh of 2019, attracted over 24 crore devotees and garnered global acclaim for its impeccable organization.

Installation of CCTV cameras at important places in the Safe City Project for the safety of women and senior citizens.

Under Operation Trinetra, 8 lakh 54 thousand 634 CCTV cameras have been installed. 4,800 PRV vehicles are operated under 'UP 112'.

Translation services are being provided through Integration 112 for citizens from various states speaking different languages during the Magh Mela in Prayagraj 2024.

For the first time post-independence, 5 crore devotees immersed on Mauni Amavasya, with devotees having seamless darshan of Akshaya Vat and Goddess Saraswati, he stated. CM Yogi highlighted India's cultural resurgence, exemplified by events like Ayodhya'sDeepotsav, Braj'sRangotsav, and Kashi's Dev Diwali, which resonate nationally.

Uttar Pradesh is emerging as a leader in tourism.

CM Yogi said that the systematic development of religious sites is being carried out through dedicated councils. Milestones include the completion of the Srikashi Vishwanath Dham corridor and the reinstallation of the Mother Annapurna statue after a century.

Notable initiatives span the Ramayana, Buddhist, spiritual, Shaktipeeth, Krishna/ Braj, and Mahabharata circuits, reflecting in last year's visitation figures: 6.30 crore devotees to Srikashi Vishwanath Dham, 6.20 crore to Mathura-Vrindavan, 10 lakh to Naimishdham, 2.55 crore to Bundelkhand, 29 lakh to the Buddhist Circuit, and 8.50 lakh to Shukratirtha, he informed. Uttar Pradesh's ascendancy in tourism is paralleled by job creation and economic growth, underscoring its newfound prominence in the sector, he informed further.

## Explores the proactive measures and initiatives undertaken by the UTTAR PRADESH GOVERNMENT in preparation for Mahakumbh 2025

#### Infrastructure Development:

Understanding the magnitude of the Maha Kumbh, the Uttar Pradesh government has invested significantly in enhancing the infrastructure of Prayagraj. Upgrading transportation systems, expanding accommodation options, and improving sanitation facilities are among the top priorities. The aim is to provide a comfortable and safe experience for the millions of pilgrims expected to converge on the holy city.

#### **Security Measures:**

Ensuring the safety and security of the massive gathering is a paramount concern for the Uttar Pradesh government. The deployment of a robust security apparatus, including personnel, surveillance technology, and emergency response teams, is part of a comprehensive strategy to manage the large crowds and prevent any untoward incidents.

#### **Environmental Conservation:**

Recognizing the environmental impact of such a massive congregation, the Uttar Pradesh government is implementing ecofriendly measures. Waste management systems, water conservation initiatives, and efforts to minimize the ecological footprint of the event are being put in place. The focus is on preserving the sacred confluence of the rivers and maintaining the environmental balance.

#### **Technology Integration:**

In a bid to enhance efficiency and streamline logistics, the Uttar Pradesh government is leveraging technology. Advanced ticketing systems, real-time crowd monitoring, and communication platforms are being employed to manage the influx of pilgrims and ensure a seamless flow of events during the Maha Kumbh.

#### **Cultural and Social Initiatives:**

Beyond logistical considerations, the Uttar Pradesh government is actively promoting the cultural and social aspects of the Maha Kumbh. Supporting traditional art forms, organizing cultural events, and facilitating the participation of artists from various regions are part of the government's efforts to showcase the rich tapestry of Indian culture to a global audience.

#### **Collaboration with Stakeholders:**

The success of the Maha Kumbh relies on the collaboration between the government, local authorities, religious leaders, and various stakeholders. The Uttar Pradesh government is fostering a collaborative approach to address challenges and ensure a harmonious and well-coordinated event.





# **Religious Tourism**



ttar Pradesh is a state with a rich cultural and historical heritage, and there are numerous places worth exploring beyond Prayagraj, especially during the Maha Kumbh.

These destinations offer a diverse range of experiences, from spiritual and historical exploration to cultural immersion. Keep in mind that the Maha Kumbh Mela provides a unique opportunity to witness the convergence of spirituality and cultural festivities, making it an ideal time to explore the various facets of Uttar Pradesh's rich heritage.

#### Varanasi (Kashi):

Known as the spiritual capital of India, Varanasi is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world. Explore the ghats along the Ganges, visit ancient temples, and witness the mesmerizing Ganga Aarti in the evening.

#### Ayodhya:

Ayodhya is a city associated with the birthplace of Lord Rama. Visit the Ram Janmabhoomi, Hanuman Garhi, and other temples with historical and religious significance.

#### Mathura and Vrindavan:

Mathura, the birthplace of Lord Krishna, and Vrindavan, where he spent his childhood, are sacred cities for Hindus. Explore the temples, ghats, and experience the vibrant culture and spirituality.

#### Agra:

While Agra is famous for the iconic Taj Mahal, it also houses other historical gems like Agra Fort and Fatehpur Sikri. Take the opportunity to explore these UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

#### Lucknow:

The capital city of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow, is known for its historical monuments, Mughal and colonial architecture, and vibrant culture. Visit places like Bara Imambara, Chota Imambara, and Rumi Darwaza.

#### **Allahabad Fort:**

Explore the Allahabad Fort, situated on the banks of the Yamuna River. The fort has a rich history and offers panoramic views of the confluence of the Ganges and Yamuna.

#### **Chitrakoot:**

Chitrakoot is a town associated with the Ramayana and is believed to be a place where Lord Rama, Sita, and Lakshmana spent a significant part of their exile. Visit the Kamadgiri Temple and other sites.

#### Sarnath:

Sarnath is a Buddhist pilgrimage site near Varanasi. It is where Lord Buddha delivered his first sermon after attaining enlightenment. Explore the Dhamek Stupa, Mulagandha Kuti Vihar, and the Ashoka Pillar.

#### Kanpur:

Known for its industrial significance, Kanpur also has historical landmarks such as the Kanpur Memorial Church and the Allen Forest Zoo. The city offers a mix of modernity and history.

#### Naimisharanya:

Naimisharanya is a sacred forest mentioned in Hindu mythology. It is believed to be a place where sages performed yajnas. Visit the Chakra Tirtha, Vyas Gaddi, and other religious spots.

# Participation in Maha Kumbh

articipating in the Maha Kumbh is a unique and spiritually enriching experience. By planning ahead and respecting the spiritual and cultural significance of the Maha Kumbh, you can ensure a meaningful and memorable participation in this extraordinary event.

Here is a guide on how you can plan and participate in the Maha Kumbh 2025:

#### **Plan in Advance:**

The Maha Kumbh happens once every 12 years, so planning well in advance is crucial.

Consider the dates and duration of the Kumbh Mela. It typically lasts for several weeks, and the auspicious bathing dates (Shahi Snan) are especially significant.

## Registration and Permits:

Check if there are any registration or permit requirements for attending specific events or taking a dip during the Shahi Snan. Verify if there are any travel restrictions or guidelines set by the authorities.

#### Accommodation:

Given the massive influx of pilgrims, accommodation options can fill up

quickly. Plan and book your stay well in advance.

Temporary tent cities, known as "akharas," are set up to accommodate participants. Explore these options for an authentic experience.

#### **Travel Arrangements:**

Plan your journey to the host city, Prayagraj, and ensure transportation arrangements are in place.

#### International

# **"SUMMER SERENITY: Six Dream Destinations for Couples**<sup>"</sup>

As the summer approached, couples around the globe eagerly anticipated the opportunity to escape the ordinary and embark on unforgettable adventures together. Here are six dream destinations that promise to ignite passion, deepen bonds, and create cherished memories for couples seeking romance and relaxation.

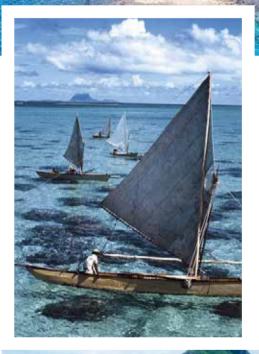
s the summer sun casts its warm glow upon us, love is in the air, and couples around the world are dreaming of romantic getaways to whisk them away

from the ordinary. In this exclusive feature, we unveil six dream destinations that promise to ignite passion, deepen connections, and create unforgettable memories for couples seeking the ultimate

summer serenity. From the enchanting coastlines of Italy to the tranquil mountains of Canada, join us on a journey to discover the most romantic destinations for couples in the summer.

Italy, the Amalfi Coast beckoned with its dramatic cliffs, charming villages, and azure waters. Couples wandered hand in hand through narrow cobblestone streets lined with colorful houses, stopping to indulge in delectable Italian cuisine and locally-produced wines. They explored secluded coves, basked in the warmth of the Mediterranean sun, and savored breathtaking sunsets over the sea, enveloped in the timeless romance of la dolce vita.





Willing and

#### Bora Bora, French Polynesia:

In the heart of the South Pacific, Bora Bora captivated couples with its overwater bungalows, pristine beaches, and crystal-clear lagoons. Here, amidst swaying palm trees and gentle ocean breezes, couples found paradise on earth. They snorkeled hand in hand among vibrant coral reefs, indulged in luxurious spa treatments and dined under the stars on secluded beaches, reveling in the tranquility and romance of this idyllic island paradise.







#### International



# Exploring the Charm of Paris in Only 5 Days: Galeries Lafayette Haussmann Reveals the Ultimate Itinerary

Galeries Lafayette, the iconic symbol of Parisian elegance and style, is proud to present a comprehensive 5-day itinerary designed to help travelers experience the essence of the City of Love and Lights in the most captivating way possible. aris is renowned for its timeless landmarks, rich cultural heritage, delectable cuisine, and world-class shopping experiences. With Galeries Lafayette's expertly crafted itinerary, visitors can embark on a journey that seamlessly blends iconic attractions with hidden gems, ensuring a truly unforgettable adventure.





#### Day 1: Immerse in Parisian History

Begin your Parisian odyssey by immersing yourself in the captivating history of the city. Explore the worldfamous Louvre Museum, home to some of the most celebrated masterpieces in art history, including the enigmatic Mona Lisa. Wander along the picturesque banks of the Seine River to behold the awe-inspiring Notre Dame Cathedral, a testament to Gothic architecture's magnificence. Take a leisurely stroll through the charming streets of the Latin Quarter, indulging in delectable French cuisine and soaking in the vibrant atmosphere. Conclude the day with a visit to Galeries Lafayette Paris Haussmann, where travelers can unwind with a pampering session or indulge in a luxury shopping spree.

## Day 2: Cultural Treasures and Relaxation

On the second day of your Parisian sojourn, embark on a journey of cultural exploration and relaxation. Discover the artistic wonders housed within the Musée d'Orsay and the avant-garde architecture of the Centre Pompidou. Ascend the iconic Eiffel Tower for panoramic views of the cityscape, followed by a tranquil cruise along the Seine River. Uncover the mysteries of the Catacombs and revel in the serenity of the Trocadero Gardens, offering a picturesque backdrop for contemplation.

#### Day 3: Escape to Versailles or Giverny

#### International 📒

Venture beyond the city limits to explore the opulent Palace of Versailles or the enchanting gardens of Giverny, both steeped in history and natural beauty. Delve into the lavish lifestyle of French royalty at Versailles, wandering through ornate halls and manicured gardens. Alternatively, immerse yourself in the idyllic landscapes that inspired Impressionist master Claude Monet at Giverny, where vibrant colors and lush foliage create an artist's paradise.

#### Day 4: Art, History, and Theatre

Explore the bohemian charm of Montmartre, where cobblestone streets and quaint cafes evoke the spirit of Paris's artistic past. Marvel at iconic landmarks such as the Arc de Triomphe and the Palais Garnier, home to the renowned Opera Garnier. Delight in a guided tour of Galeries Lafayette Paris Haussmann, offering insight into the storied history and architectural splendor of this legendary department store. Conclude the day with a captivating theatrical performance at the Opera Garnier, immersing yourself in the grandeur of Parisian culture.

#### **Day 5: The Grand Finale**

Conclude your Parisian adventure with a day of exploration and indulgence. Wander through the historic streets of Le Marais, sampling exquisite pastries and browsing chic boutiques. Pay homage to literary and musical legends at Pere Lachaise Cemetery before experiencing the vibrant energy of the Moulin Rouge. Savor a gourmet dinner with panoramic views of the city or indulge in international cuisine at Galeries Lafayette Le Gourmet, culminating your journey with a feast for the senses.

In addition to the suggested itinerary, visitors can immerse themselves in local cuisine, rejuvenate at the Wellness Galerie, or participate in fitness classes at Galeries Lafayette, ensuring a truly immersive and unforgettable experience in the heart of Paris.



## IndiGo to Paradise, with direct flight to Bali!

IndiGo, India's preferred airline, is all set to commence operations from Denpasar in Bali, Indonesia, effective March 29, 2024.

ommitted to expanding its global network, the airline has announced daily direct flight from Bengaluru to cater to the substantial surge in Indian tourists travelling to the island of Bali. IndiGo started operations to Jakarta in 2023 and Bali will be its second destination in Indonesia making Denpasar the 33rd international and 119th overall destination to join the extensive 6E network. Bookings for the flight are open from February 20, 2024.

Denpasar, the capital city of Bali, serves as the main gateway to Indonesia's most famous island. This vibrant city offers several sites of historical and cultural significance with a wide range of lively markets, stunning temples, and museums for visitors to explore. It is also home to some of Bali's best restaurants, serving delicious local dishes as well as international cuisines.

#### Mr. Vinay Malhotra, Head of Global Sales at IndiGo

We are extremely excited to announce Denpasar (the main hub of the Indonesian province of Bali) as the

newest international destination to join the 6E network. With a hassle-free visa process, Bali has become a preferred destination for tourists. At IndiGo, we have always been committed to providing our customers with superior connectivity and enhanced accessibility. With the launch of these new flights, we aim to not only strengthen the ties between India and Indonesia but also promote tourism and foster potential business collaborations. IndiGo will



continue to deliver on its promise of affordable, on-time, courteous, and hassle-free travel experience across an unparalleled network.

## Saudia Launches Protectasbih

Saudia, the national flag carrier of Saudi Arabia, has launched the world's first sanitizing prayer beads just in time for the holy month of Ramadan and Umrah season – where Saudia and the Kingdom typically anticipates the largest influx of guests and Umrah pilgrims.



ProtecTasbih, created in collaboration with creative agency partners, are the first prayer beads that offer a dual function, seamlessly combining the spiritual practice of tasbih with the added benefit of hand sanitization. This innovative creation redefines the traditional prayer beads, reflecting a harmonious blend of cultural reverence and modern health consciousness.

The prayer beads use tea tree oil as a sanitizing element as it is effective against a broad spectrum of bacteria and disrupts the cell membrane of the bacteria itself. Using a molding technique, the oil was integrated into a semi-solid compound to create a solid bead.

The new innovative product will be available on board for all Saudia guests to ensure a healthier and sanitary pilgrimage journey. Protectasbih were also distributed out across the holy city of Makkah.

Aviation 📒

## Air India unveils a fresh in-flight safety video

Air India, India's leading global airline, unveiled 'Safety Mudras', the airline's new inflight safety video that seamlessly blends safety instructions with the kaleidoscope of India's vibrant culture.



eveloped in collaboration with the visionary trio of Prasoon Joshi of McCann Worldgroup, Shankar Mahadevan and Bharatbala,the video is meticulously crafted to engage passengers and showcase the diversity and depth of the Indian culture, while delivering essential safety information.

For centuries, Indian classical dance and folk-art forms have served as mediums of storytelling and instruction. Air India's new inflight safety video integrates safety instructions with mudras or dance expressions in eight diverse dance forms



- Bharatnatyam, Bihu, Kathak, Kathakali, Mohiniyattam, Odissi, Ghoomar, andGiddha - from around the country. Each featured dance form presents a specific safety instruction, providing vital information in an engaging and culturally immersive manner.

Featuring music composed by Grammy Award-winning music composer and singer Shankar Mahadevan, the video invites passengers to experience a harmonious fusion of safety and culture. This project, spanning approximately six months, involved creators travelling and capturing

#### Campbell Wilson, CEO & MD, Air India

As a flagbearer of the country and a longstanding patron of Indian art and culture, Air India is delighted to present awork of art that is designed



to deliver essential safety instructions while showcasing India's rich cultural diversity totravellers around the world. Our guests will find this inflight safety video to be more immersive and informative, and a warm welcome to India from the moment they step onboard.

the essence of India visually through mesmerizing locations across the length and breadth of the country.

## AlUla air connectivity rises to new heights



Unlocking access fortravellers seeking a unique blend of history, culture, and adventure, Gulf Air, the national carrier for the Kingdom of Bahrain, is expanding its footprint in Saudi Arabia with direct flights to AlUla. Starting 3rd February, Gulf Air will operate twice-weekly flights between Bahrain and AlUla.These seasonal flights will continue till 6thMarch and resume from 10th to 27thApril.

Royal Jordanian Airlines is set to launch direct flights between Amman to AlUla, with the inaugural flight scheduled for 16thFebruary.

Operating twice a week on Tuesdays and Fridays, this service will be available until 22ndDecember.

Saudia has made AlUla even more

accessible to Europe, with the relaunch of its seasonal flights from Paris. The first seasonal flight took off on 28th January, and the service will continue until 28th April. Flights will operate once a week, every Sunday, offering a convenient and direct link between the enchanting city of Paris and the historical wonders of the Saudi destination.

Current direct flight options encompass services from Dubai through flydubai, and from Doha via the Qatar Airways route. Additionally, travellers can access AlUla through direct flights from Riyadh, Jeddah and Dammam via Saudia and flynas.

#### Aviation

## Vietjet Welcomes the Year of the Dragon with Irresistible Travel Offers!

In celebration of the Year of the Dragon, Vietjet, Vietnam's leading new-age carrier, presents an exclusive offer: one-way, all-inclusive economy tickets priced at INR 5,555 (\*) on both domestic and international routes. Moreover, passengers can enjoy a 20% discount on Business tickets.

he promotion runs from 20thFebruary, 2024(12:00) to 26thFebruary, 2024 (23:59), providing passengers, along with their families and friends, the chance to travel during the Lunar New Year period. The promotion covers flights scheduled between 1st April and 30thNovember2024. Furthermore, those booking international or connecting international flights can benefit from a 20% discount on Business tickets by applying the code SPRINGBU20. Passengers can avail themselves of this offer at www. vietjetair.com and the Vietjet Air mobile apps.

In celebration of the new spring season, passengers can easily plan trips to many attractive destinations in Vietnam. The airline also operates flights from Vietnamese cities to various international destinations, including Chengdu, Shanghai (China), Australia, Jakarta (Indonesia), Vientiane



(Laos), and Siem Reap (Cambodia). Each journey presents a wonderful opportunity for everyone to explore new and fascinating things and discover a better version of themselves in the new spring.

To start the year off right, passengers flying with Business tickets can fully enjoy premium amenities, including a dedicated check-in area and entrance, luxurious lounges, private cabins with flatbed seats, and organic food with diverse international cuisines at an altitude of 10,000 meters. The airline offers all passengers free Sky Care travel insurance, ensuring absolute peace of mind throughout their journey and complete protection for all flights.

The airline currently operates 35 roundtrip flights per week across five major cities in India: Mumbai, New Delhi, Ahmedabad, Kochi, and Tiruchirappalli. The airline provides four distinct ticket classes, namely Business, SkyBoss, Deluxe, and Economy, ensuring a comprehensive range of services to cater to diverse passenger needs. Business class tickets offer an exquisite travel experience on Vietjet's modern wide-body aircraft A330, featuring exclusive privileges such as private check-in counters, business lounges, private cabins, cocktail services, and the opportunity to savor Vietnamese specialties like Pho Thin, Banh Mi, as well as specially crafted Indian vegetarian dishes and Halal options.

#### Stephen Chung assumes responsibility for Hahnair's airline business in APAC

n his new position, Stephen will support the partner airlines using Hahnair's distribution solutions throughout all stages of the partnership. This includes guidance throughout the implementation and setup phase, technical support and strategic consulting, as well as optimisation of sales results in indirect distribution channels in close cooperation with the partner.

In addition, Stephen will advise existing and potential partner airlines on interline opportunities within Hahnair's extensive network of more than 350 partner airlines and support the acquisition of new partner airlines. Based in Hong Kong, he will work closely with Mr. Angus Chang, Account Manager for Hahnair's Airline Business for APAC.

Stephen holds a Bachelor in Tourism Management from The University of Strathclyde in Scotland. Before joining Hahnair, Stephen accumulated over two decades of experience in the commercial field with positions at various international airlines, including Qatar, Finnair and Royal Jordanian. Most recently, he held the position of Commercial Manager at the Cathay Pacific Group, where he oversaw a team within the commercial division and managed the sales and marketing operations of three of Cathay's subsidiaries.

"We are pleased to welcome Stephen to our team of experts", said Adriana C. Carrelli, Vice President Airline Distribution at Hahnair. "With over 20 years of industry experience, a strong network in the APAC region and a wealth of expertise in airline distribution, he will optimise the distribution strategies of new and existing partner airlines with the Hahnair solutions."

Aviation 📒

## **Emirates to Expand its South American Network**

Emirates announced it will launch a new daily service from Dubai to the Colombian capital, Bogotá, starting 3 June.



s well as connecting Colombia with the United Arab Emirates, the new services will establish a historic first-ever link between the greater Middle East region and the northern part of the South American continent. Emirates' entry into Bogotá will expand its South American network to four gateways, complementing its scheduled services to São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires. The latest destination will also enhance the airline's operations in the Americas to now serve 19 points across the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina and Colombia.

The daily services will link Dubai and Bogotá via Miami, with Emirates set to become the first airline to offer a host of premium services on the popular route between south Florida and Colombia.

The daily flights to Bogotá, South America's second largest city by population, will help cater to strong and growing demand for air travel between Colombia and the United Arab Emirates as well as between Colombia and numerous destinations on Emirates' global network beyond Dubai which are not served directly from Bogotá. It will also provide convenient flights between Bogotá and Miami, allowing travellers to fly between the two cities in unprecedented style and comfort. Due to the high altitude of the city of Bogotá, it is not possible to operate a non-stop flight from Dubai, deeming a stopover necessary. Miami was selected due to its tourism and trade links with Bogotá.

Passengers on flights in both directions between Dubai and Bogotá should meet entry regulations for the United States and hold the required documents, due to immigration procedures in Miami. Colombian and UAE citizens can enjoy visa-free entry for up to 90 days in Dubai and Bogotá respectively, thanks to reciprocal visa arrangements in place between both countries.

#### Sir Tim Clark, President Emirates Airline



We've long wanted to serve Colombia, and the addition of Bogotá to our network is part of our strategy to deliver better connectivity, expand options and choice for travellers and provide unparalleled premium experiences on the ground and in the air. The launch of our daily operations to the dynamic capital of Colombia also underscores our deep commitment to South America, and is poised to foster increased business and leisure travel opportunities for customers.

There is a huge demand for travel to and from Bogotá and we can't wait for customers to experience Emirates' signature products and services on the flights between Bogotá and Dubai as well as between Bogotá and Miami. We would like to thank all the authorities involved for supporting our plans and making this new route possible. We look forward to adding value to the new communities served and building new partnerships to promote tourism and trade.

#### Hospitality

# **"WHISPERS OF ROMANCE:** Luxury Escapes for Couples' Summer Retreats"

In the golden glow of summer's embrace, whispers of romance float on the warm breeze, leading lovers to the world's most luxurious retreats. Here, amidst opulent settings and breathtaking vistas, couples embark on a journey of indulgence and intimacy, creating cherished memories that last a lifetime.

#### Aman Venice, Italy:

Nestled along the Grand Canal in the heart of Venice, Aman Venice is a palatial sanctuary where history and luxury converge. Housed within a 16thcentury palazzo, the hotel exudes elegance and sophistication, with sumptuously appointed suites adorned with Murano glass chandeliers and antique furnishings. Couples can explore Venice's labyrinthine streets by gondola, savor romantic dinners in the hotel's private garden, or indulge in bespoke spa treatments inspired by Venetian traditions.



#### Hospitality 📘

#### Four Seasons Resort Bora Bora, French Polynesia:

Set amidst the turquoise waters of Bora Bora's lagoon, the Four Seasons Resort offers an idyllic escape for couples seeking paradise. Overwater bungalows feature private plunge pools, glassbottomed floors, and unobstructed views of Mount Otemanu. Couples can snorkel among vibrant coral reefs, enjoy sunset cruises with champagne and canapés, or unwind with Polynesian-inspired massages in the open-air spa pavilion.











#### Hospitality

#### One&Only Reethi Rah, Maldives:

Surrounded by the pristine waters of the Maldives' North Male Atoll, One&Only Reethi Rah is a secluded haven of luxury and tranquility. Villas with private infinity pools, sunken baths, and dedicated butler service offer couples the ultimate in privacy and indulgence. Couples can dine beneath the stars at the resort's overwater restaurant, embark on diving adventures to explore vibrant coral gardens, or simply relax on the white-sand beaches and watch the sunset paint the sky in hues of pink and gold.







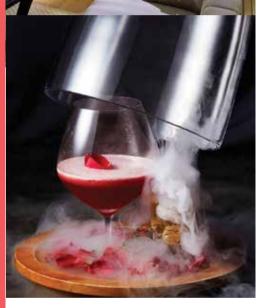
#### Hospitality 📘



#### The Ritz-Carlton, Kyoto, Japan:

Set amidst the serene beauty of Kyoto's Higashiyama district, The Ritz-Carlton embodies the timeless elegance and refinement of Japanese hospitality. Traditional ryokan-inspired suites feature tatami mat floors, sliding paper screens, and panoramic views of the city and the Kamo River. Couples can partake in traditional tea ceremonies, wander through the hotel's tranquil Zen garden, or embark on guided tours of Kyoto's historic temples and gardens.







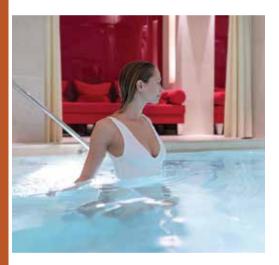




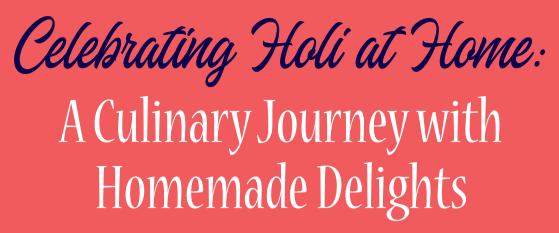


#### La Reserve Paris Hotel and Spa, France:

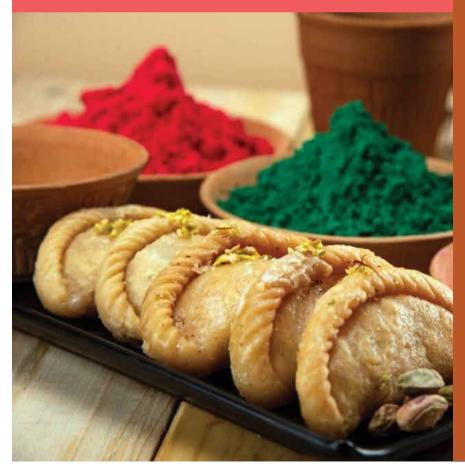
Perched on the Place du Trocadéro with sweeping views of the Eiffel Tower, La Reserve Paris Hotel and Spa is a romantic oasis in the heart of the City of Light. Luxuriously appointed suites feature silk-lined walls, marble bathrooms, and private balconies overlooking the city's iconic landmarks. Couples can enjoy candlelit dinners at the hotel's Michelin-starred restaurant, indulge in rejuvenating spa treatments, or take strolls along the Seine hand in hand







Holi, the festival of colors and joy, is a time for celebration, togetherness, and indulgence in delicious food. While the festivities might look a bit different this year, there's no reason why we can't create a memorable Holi experience right in the comfort of our homes. Embracing the spirit of togetherness and culinary exploration, let's embark on a flavorful journey through some traditional Holi recipes that you can easily recreate at home.



## Gujiya

Let's kick off our Holi feast with the quintessential sweet treat – Gujiya. These delectable dumplings, filled with a rich mixture of khoya (reduced milk), nuts, and aromatic spices, are a hallmark of Holi celebrations. Here's how you can make them at home:

#### Ingredients:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup ghee (clarified butter)
- 1 cup khoya (mawa)
- 1/2 cup powdered sugar
- 1/4 cup chopped nuts (almonds, cashews, pistachios)
  - 1/4 teaspoon cardamom powder
  - Oil for frying

#### Method:

• In a mixing bowl, combine the flour and ghee. Knead into a stiff dough using water as needed. Cover and let it rest for 30 minutes.

• In a separate bowl, mix together the khoya, powdered sugar, chopped nuts, and cardamom powder to make the filling.

• Divide the dough into small balls and roll each ball into a small circle.

• Place a spoonful of the filling in the center of each circle. Fold the circle in half and seal the edges by pressing with a fork.

• Heat oil in a deep pan and fry the gujiyas until golden brown and crispy.

• Drain excess oil and let them cool before serving. Enjoy the sweetness of homemade Gujiyas with your loved ones.

#### Food 🧧



## Thandai

No Holi celebration is complete without the refreshing goodness of Thandai. This flavorful drink, infused with nuts, spices, and saffron, is sure to cool you down amidst the excitement of the festivities.

#### **Ingredients:**

- 1 liter milk
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup almonds
- 1/4 cup cashews
- 2 tablespoons poppy seeds
- 1 tablespoon fennel seeds
- 1 teaspoon cardamom powder
- A pinch of saffron strands
- Rose water (optional)
- Ice cubes for serving

#### Method:

• Soak the almonds, cashews, poppy seeds, and fennel seeds in water for a few hours or overnight.

• Drain the soaked nuts and seeds and grind them into a fine paste along with saffron strands using a blender.

• In a saucepan, heat the milk and sugar until it comes to a boil.

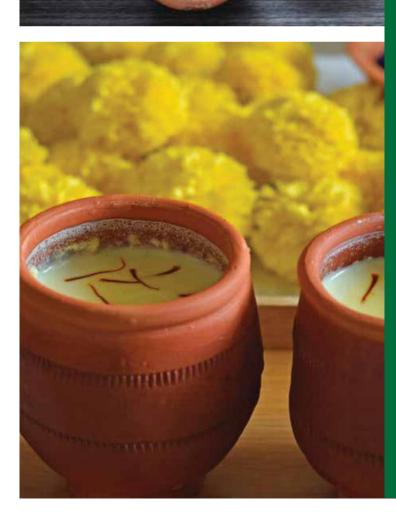
• Add the nut and seed paste to the milk along with cardamom powder. Stir well and let it simmer for 5-7 minutes.

• Remove from heat and let the Thandai mixture cool to room temperature.

• Strain the mixture using a fine sieve or cheesecloth to remove any solids.

• Add a few drops of rose water if desired and refrigerate until chilled.

• Serve Thandai over ice cubes and garnish with additional saffron strands. Savor the aromatic flavors of this homemade delight as you celebrate Holi with your family.





#### Papri Chaat:

Adding a savory twist to our Holi spread, Papri Chaat is a delightful medley of crispy papris, tangy chutneys, yogurt, and spices. Let's dive into the recipe:

#### **Ingredients:**

- 20-25 papris (store-bought or homemade)
- 1 cup boiled potatoes, diced
- 1 cup boiled chickpeas
- 1 cup yogurt, whisked
- 1/4 cup tamarind chutney
- 1/4 cup mint-coriander chutney
- 1 teaspoon chaat masala
- 1 teaspoon roasted cumin powder

• A handful of chopped coriander leaves

 Sev (crispy chickpea flour noodles) for garnish

#### **Method:**

• Arrange the papris on a serving plate.

• Top each papri with diced potatoes and boiled chickpeas.

• Drizzle with whisked yogurt, tamarind chutney, and mint-coriander chutney according to your taste.

• Sprinkle chaat masala and roasted cumir powder over the chaat.

• Garnish with chopped coriander leaves and sev.

• Serve immediately and enjoy the burst of flavors in every bite of this homemade Papri Chaat.





#### Lifestyle ]

# "Summer's Symphony: **Embracing the Hottest Trends of the Season**"

As the summer unfolds in all its splendour, these trends serve as a guide for individuals seeking to infuse their wardrobes with the spirit of the season.

sthesun rises high in the sky and the days stretch lazily into the warm embrace of summer. the world awakens to a symphony of colors, textures, and styles that define the hottest trends of the season. From fashion runways to city streets, beaches to boardwalks, summer 2024 brings forth an array of trends that capture the essence of the season's spirit.

**Sunny Shades:** As the temperature rises, so does the popularity of vibrant and playful colors. This summer, shades of sunshine yellow, ocean blue, and coral pink dominate the fashion scene, infusing wardrobes with а burst of energy and optimism. From flowy sundresses to tailored suits, these sunny hues brighten up every





ensemble and evoke the carefree spirit of summer.

**Effortless Elegance:** While comfort remains a top priority, summer 2024 sees a resurgence of effortless elegance in fashion. Flowy maxi dresses, lightweight linen separates, and breezy jumpsuits take centre stage, offering a chic and sophisticated take on summer style. With their relaxed silhouettes and understated details, these pieces effortlessly transition from day to night, making them perfect for everything from beachside brunches to sunset soirées.

Nautical Nods: Inspired by the timeless charm of coastal living, nautical-inspired fashion makes a splash this summer. Crisp white stripes, classic navy accents, and anchor motifs adorn everything from Breton tops to espadrilles, channelling the laid-back sophistication of seaside escapes. Whether lounging by the pool or strolling along the waterfront, these maritimeinspired pieces evoke a sense of timeless elegance and adventure.

**Sustainable Chic:** With a growing emphasis on eco-consciousness and ethical fashion, sustainable materials and practices take centre stage in summer 2024. From organic cotton and linen to recycled plastics and upcycled fabrics, eco-friendly materials make their mark on the fashion landscape, offering stylish and sustainable alternatives to traditional textiles. Whether it's a swimsuit made from recycled ocean plastics or a dress crafted from organic cotton, environmentally conscious fashion allows individuals to make a statement while minimizing their carbon footprint.

#### Accessorize with Abandon: In the

realm of accessories, bold and statementmaking pieces reign supreme this summer. Oversized sunglasses, chunky jewelry, and embellished hair accessories add a touch of drama to every look, elevating even the simplest of outfits. From oversized straw hats to beaded handbags and shell-inspired earrings, accessories serve as the perfect finishing touch, allowing individuals to express their personal style and embrace the season's hottest trends with confidence.

**Sunny Shades:** As the temperature rises, so does the popularity of vibrant and playful colors. This summer, shades of sunshine yellow, ocean blue, and coral pink dominate the fashion scene, infusing wardrobes with a burst of energy and optimism. From flowy sundresses to tailored suits, these sunny hues brighten up every ensemble and evoke the carefree spirit of summer.



#### Jewelry Style 📘

# **Radiant Beginnings**: Jewelry Style Guide for Newlyweds this Summer

As the warmth of summer envelops the air, newly married couples embark on a journey filled with love, joy, and endless possibilities. For these radiant souls, summer serves as the perfect backdrop to showcase their newfound bond and celebrate their union in style. In this jewelry style guide, we explore exquisite adornments and trends tailored to complement the glow of newlyweds, adding an extra touch of elegance and sophistication to their summer adventures.

#### Delicate and Dazzling Earrings:

For the bride seeking understated elegance, delicate earrings adorned with shimmering gemstones are the perfect choice. Opt for classic studs featuring sparkling diamonds, pearls, or colored gemstones such as sapphires or emeralds. These timeless pieces add a touch of sophistication to any ensemble, whether it's a casual daytime outing or a romantic evening soirée.

#### Statement Necklaces for Glamour:

Make a bold statement with a stunning necklace that commands attention and exudes glamour. Opt for a statement collar necklace embellished with intricate designs, pearls, or cascading crystals to add a touch of drama to your summer wardrobe. Whether paired with a simple sundress or an elegant evening gown, a statement necklace is sure to elevate your look and leave a lasting impression.



#### 📘 Jewelry Style











# Stackable Bracelets for Boho Vibes:

Embrace the carefree spirit of summer with stackable bracelets that exude bohemian charm. Mix and match an assortment of bangles, cuffs, and charm bracelets in varying textures, metals, and gemstones to create a unique and personalized look. Whether lounging by the beach or exploring new destinations, stackable bracelets add a touch of whimsy and individuality to your summer style.

# Floral-inspired Rings for Romance:

Celebrate the beauty of summer blooms with floral-inspired rings that capture the essence of romance and femininity. Opt for rings featuring intricate floral motifs, delicate petals, or blooming gemstones such as rose quartz or pink tourmaline. These romantic pieces add a touch of whimsy and enchantment to your bridal ensemble, serving as a constant reminder of love's enduring beauty.

#### Anklets for Beachside Bliss:

Embrace the laid-back vibes of summer with dainty anklets that evoke the spirit of carefree beach days. Opt for delicate chains adorned with charms, beads, or tiny gemstones that shimmer in the sunlight as you stroll along the shore. Whether paired with sandals or barefoot on the beach, anklets add a touch of bohemian chic to your summer look, perfect for honeymoon adventures or casual outings.

As newlyweds embark on their summer journey together, let jewelry serve as a symbol of their love, unity, and shared adventures. Whether it's delicate earrings that capture the sparkle in their eyes, statement necklaces that command attention, or stackable bracelets that reflect their individuality, let each piece tell a story of their radiant beginnings. With these jewelry style inspirations, newly married couples can embrace the magic of summer and embark on their next chapter in style, creating memories that will last a lifetime.

#### HOLI DRESS and jwel

## Embracing Holi's Radiance: A Magnificent Fusion of Dress and Jewelry

oli, the festival of colors, is a time of joy, togetherness, and vibrant celebrations. As the festival approaches, there's an air of excitement that sweeps through the streets, with people eagerly preparing to immerse themselves in the kaleidoscope of colors. Central to the festivities are the attire and jewelry that adorn individuals, reflecting the spirit of Holi in their vivid hues and intricate designs. In this write-up, we delve into the exquisite fusion of dress and jewelry for Holi, exploring how these elements come together to create a mesmerizing tapestry of beauty and tradition.

#### **Dress:** Traditional Elegance:

Traditional attire holds a special place during Holi, with its rich fabrics and intricate embellishments adding to the festive fervor. Women adorn themselves in vibrant sarees, lehengas, or salwar suits, each garment a canvas of color and craftsmanship. Fabrics such as silk, chiffon, and georgette are adorned with exquisite embroidery, mirror work, and sequins, reflecting the exuberance of the occasion.

#### **Contemporary Flair:**

While traditional attire remains popular, there's also a growing trend towards contemporary interpretations of Holi fashion. Designers experiment with modern silhouettes, playful prints, and unconventional color combinations to create ensembles that resonate with the younger generation. Indo-western fusion outfits, such as crop tops paired with lehenga skirts or palazzo pants, offer a refreshing take on Holi attire, blending tradition with contemporary style.

## Accessorising with Dupattas and Odhanis:

Dupattas and odhanis play a pivotal role in completing the Holi ensemble, adding an extra layer of elegance and flair. These versatile garments are often adorned with intricate embroidery, tassels, and



#### HOLI DRESS and jwel

mirror work, elevating the overall look. Whether draped gracefully over the shoulder or styled in a playful manner, dupattas and odhani add a touch of sophistication to any outfit.

#### Jewelry: Radiant Gemstones:

Gemstone jewelry takes center stage during Holi, with its vivid colors echoing the hues of the festival. Rubies, emeralds, sapphires, and amethysts adorn necklaces, earrings, and bracelets, infusing them with a captivating allure. Whether set in gold, silver, or platinum, these gemstones shimmer and sparkle, reflecting the joy and vibrancy of Holi.

## Enchanting Enamel Work:

Enamel jewelry adds a pop of color to Holi celebrations, with its vibrant hues and intricate designs mesmerizing onlookers. From colorful bangles and cuffs to intricately crafted pendants and rings, enamel jewelry adds a playful touch to the festivities. The meticulous craftsmanship and attention to detail make each piece a work of art, worthy of adorning during Holi celebrations.

# Timeless Gold and Silver:

Gold and silver jewelry hold a timeless appeal during Holi, symbolizing prosperity, beauty, and tradition. Intricately crafted necklaces, earrings, and bangles in gold and silver reflect the rich cultural heritage of India, adding an aura of elegance to the festivities. Whether adorned with traditional motifs or contemporary designs, gold and silver jewelry are cherished keepsakes that are passed down through generations.

As Holi approaches, the fusion of dress and jewelry creates a visual symphony of color, texture, and craftsmanship, elevating the spirit of the festival to new heights. Whether embracing traditional attire or experimenting with contemporary fashion, individuals adorn themselves in garments and jewelry that reflect the joy and exuberance of Holi. In every intricately embroidered saree, every shimmering necklace, and every sparkling gemstone, there lies a story of tradition, culture, and celebration, weaving together the rich tapestry of Holi's radiant splendor.







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