

TAMARIND  
GLOBAL



TAMARIND GLOBAL NEWSLETTER

# tang

AUGUST 2024 EDITION OF TANG HIGHLIGHTS  
HANDLOOMS AND HANDICRAFTS OF INDIA

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As we observed India's Independence Day and National Handloom Day this August, this edition of TANG is dedicated to the artisans across India who are working to preserve India's rich culture, history, and traditions.

India's handlooms and handicrafts are a rich blend of tradition, artistry, and heritage, merging the past and present in a stunning array of color and texture. The handloom industry, with its deep historical roots, is more than just a craft; it's a living tradition passed down through generations, reflecting the essence of India's diverse cultures.

Among the oldest known handlooms, Khadi stands out, dating back to Mahatma Gandhi's era. Far more than just a fabric, Khadi symbolized self-reliance and independence during the freedom struggle, combining simplicity with elegance in a way that has endured over time.



The oldest form of Indian handicraft is Dhokra Art.



The Pochampally saree is the first handloom cloth patented in India.

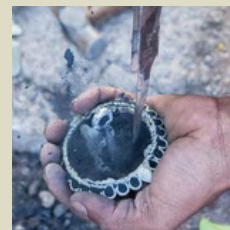
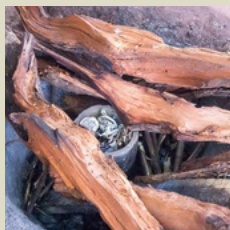
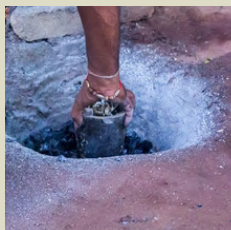
In the realm of handicrafts, India offers a spectacular range of artistic expressions. The Pattachitra paintings from Odisha and West Bengal are particularly notable for their intricate scrolls, created with natural colors and depicting mythological tales. These artworks provide insight into the spiritual and artistic lives of ancient communities. Similarly, the Kalamkari art of Andhra Pradesh uses a painstaking process to produce beautiful textiles rich in narrative and detail.

The Banarasi sarees of Varanasi are famed for their luxurious brocades and intricate zari work, often worn on special occasions and symbolizing grace and grandeur. Each saree is a masterpiece of design and craftsmanship. Equally esteemed are the Pashmina shawls of Kashmir, made from the fine wool of the Pashmina goat. The detailed process of creating each shawl—from combing the wool to weaving—results in a treasured heirloom of exceptional beauty.

India's handlooms and handicrafts are more than just functional items; they are a celebration of the country's rich heritage. Each piece reflects the skill and artistry of the artisans who keep these ancient traditions alive. Through their work, these crafts invite us to experience the enduring beauty of a heritage that is both timeless and continuously evolving, preserving the essence of India's cultural legacy.



Process of making Dhokra Art pieces



Blue pottery is the only pottery in the world made without clay, using a special blend of quartz instead.



## TAMARIND SUGGESTS

### Niraamaya Retreats Backwaters & Beyond, Kumarakom

Nestled in the serene enclave of **Kumarakom**, Niraamaya Retreats Backwaters & Beyond offers an unparalleled sanctuary where nature and luxury harmoniously intertwine. This exquisite retreat invites guests to experience a unique fusion of tranquillity and opulence, set against the iconic Kerala backwaters of **Lake Vembanad**.

The retreat's prime location on the picturesque backwaters provides guests with breathtaking views and a peaceful atmosphere. **Elegantly appointed villas, each with private access to the water**, offer panoramic vistas of the lush surroundings, ensuring an immersive natural experience.

A cornerstone of Niraamaya Retreats Backwaters & Beyond is its commitment to **holistic wellness**. The retreat's **Ayurvedic treatments** are crafted to meet individual needs, utilizing locally sourced herbs and traditional techniques to restore balance and vitality. Guests can indulge in **personalized wellness programs**, including rejuvenating spa therapies, yoga sessions with serene water views, and guided meditation.

Culinary experiences at the retreat are exceptional, with the on-site restaurant presenting **the rich flavors of Kerala** through gourmet dishes made with fresh, local ingredients. Dining is enhanced by stunning **backwater views**, transforming each meal into a feast for the senses.



The retreat's architecture, inspired by traditional Kerala design, seamlessly integrates with its verdant surroundings, creating an **authentic and harmonious ambiance**.

At Niraamaya Retreats Backwaters & Beyond, every moment is a journey into the heart of Kerala's natural beauty, offering a rejuvenating escape for both body and spirit.

#### Featured Experiences:

**Tea by the Lake:** Enjoy a serene tea service by Lake Vembanad at dawn or dusk, in an exclusive setting.

**Kumarakom Village Life Experience:** Engage with local traditions and crafts in rural Kerala.

**Cooking Class with The Chef:** Master traditional Kerala dishes with expert guidance from our Executive Chef.

**Luxurious Houseboat Cruise:** Relax on a refined houseboat cruise across Lake Vembanad, with tranquil waters and views of local life.



Tipu Sultan invited Persian artists to teach wooden toy making in Mysore, leading local families to continue and develop this craft across generations.

## NEW HOTEL OPENINGS

### Fortune Resort & Wellness Spa, Bhaktapur Nepal

#### Located in the timeless capital of art and culture

Nestled in the historic charm of Bhaktapur, Nepal's cultural gem, Fortune Resort & Wellness Spa promises to be a sanctum of soulful rejuvenation and relaxation for those who seek inner calm. Just about an hour's drive from Kathmandu, it offers a scenic drive through serpentine lanes around the Durbar Square for a glimpse into the mélange of Newari culture. Set adjacent to the iconic Kailashnath Mahadev statue, this resort is the new haven of comfort.

#### Elegant Accommodation and Wellness Spa

The resort encompasses 66 spacious rooms, cottage rooms and suites adorned with warm and modern décor.

Indulge in a range of wellness facilities at the luxurious spa, featuring relaxing treatment rooms, a couple therapy room, sauna and steam rooms, a well-equipped gym, and an outdoor pool with stunning views.

#### Delightful Dining

Enjoy the ambrosial vegetarian delights at Rainbow, unwind at Neptune Bar and Lounge or chill at the Pool Bar alongside other customizable dining experiences, ensuring a memorable gastronomic journey.

#### Versatile Event Spaces

This serene resort is an ideal wedding destination with expansive banquet venues and over 8,000 sq.ft. of event space. The venue seamlessly connects to an 11,000 sq.ft. pool area and deck, accommodating up to 600 guests. It also features a party terrace and versatile meeting spaces, making it perfect for social events, conferences, and celebrations.



### Lemon Tree Wildlife Resort, Kanha

Nestled within the **sprawling Kanha National Park** in the Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh, Lemon Tree Resort Kanha is a prime destination for wildlife enthusiasts and adventure seekers.

The park is home to majestic tigers, leopards, sloth bears, and various deer species, including the rare barasingha. Visitors can explore the park's beauty, spot diverse birds, and enjoy safaris.

#### Luxurious Accommodations

Lemon Tree Resort Kanha features 15 premium cottages and comfortable villas, designed to blend seamlessly with the surrounding landscape. The contemporary interiors, complemented by wooden textures and lush greenery, create a serene and inviting atmosphere.



### Dining Delights

Citrus Café, the all-day dining spot, serves a diverse menu that includes Indian, European, Western, and Pan-Asian cuisine. For a unique dining experience, indulge in a bush dinner under the stars, complete with a sizzling barbecue and a cozy bonfire. Sundowner offers a serene riverside setting where you can relax with your favorite beverages while watching the sunset.

### Activities and Experiences

Guests can enjoy a refreshing swim in the pool, enjoy board games, and explore the photo wall of fame. The resort offers a souvenir shop, Gond art sessions, pottery workshops, and bush dinners under a kathal tree. For relaxation, there are birdwatching by the pond, butterfly garden visits, star gazing, tribal dance performances, and high tea under the Mahua tree. Engage with the in-house naturalist for insights on local flora and fauna, wildlife documentary screenings, and nature walks for an educational and memorable experience.



## The Old court house by Abad, Fort Kochi

**Located in Fort Kochi**, The Old Court House by Abad is a luxurious haven that harmoniously combines historic charm with modern sophistication. Housed in a meticulously restored 200-year-old courthouse, this heritage hotel has evolved from its origins as a judicial venue to serve as the first ANZ Grindlays banking office and a warehouse for spices and teas. Today, it stands as a unique destination that beautifully marries the past with the present.

### Luxury Accommodation and Cultural Experiences

Guests at The Old Court House will enjoy a prime location, just steps away from the picturesque Beach, iconic Chinese fishing nets, and the historic St. Francis Church. The vibrant Parade Ground and the renowned Synagogue and Mattanchery Palace are also conveniently nearby. It is 40 Kms from Cochin International Airport and 12 Kms from Ernakulam Railway station.

The hotel features 10 Boutique rooms, 4 Classic rooms, and 2 Imperial Suites, each offering a blend of modern amenities and historical elegance. The top-floor pool provides a serene retreat with stunning views of the surroundings.

### Elegant Event spaces

For events, the hotel's versatile banquet hall combines modern functionality with timeless elegance, making it ideal for corporate gatherings, weddings, and product launches.

### Dining Delights

Dining at the hotel is a culinary delight, with a menu that specializes in exquisite Indian seafood while also offering a range of international dishes. The restaurant's elegant ambiance enhances the dining experience, promising a memorable gastronomic journey.



## Svatma Ramnivas Mayavaram

**Located in the village of Asikkadu, Mayiladuthurai (Mayavaram), Tanjore**, Svatra Ramnivas Mayavaram is your gateway to holistic wellness and rejuvenation. Nestled amidst serene surroundings, this wellness retreat offers a unique blend of personalized healing and traditional therapies, making it an exceptional destination for those seeking a profound connection between body and mind.

### Holistic Healing and Wellness

At Svatra, every guest receives a customized wellness experience tailored to their individual physical and emotional needs. The retreat specializes in bespoke treatments, including therapeutic massages, scrubs, packs, and infusions, designed to promote deep healing and relaxation.



### Wholesome Organic Cuisine

Integral to the Svatma experience is the emphasis on nutritious, organic food. The retreat's culinary offerings are crafted from fresh, organic ingredients sourced from local villages, including milk, whole grains, and vegetables. This commitment to organic produce not only supports detoxification but also enhances overall well-being.

### SVARAM Soundbed Experience and Naturopathy

Experience the SVARAM Soundbed NidraAnantar, a specialized massage table with 50 finely tuned strings. This acoustic massage creates deep harmonizing vibrations that promote profound relaxation and a dreamlike state. The session aims to alleviate stress, relax muscles, and stimulate self-healing, leaving guests refreshed, clear-minded, and revitalized.

The core objective of Naturopathy at Svatma is to maintain overall health—physical, mental, moral, and spiritual. Naturopathy massages open the body's energy pathways, enhance circulation, and improve skin tone, aiding in detoxification and the absorption of healing herbal treatments.



## Taj City Centre Patna

### Located at Patna

Nestled in the heart of Patna, Bihar's historic capital formerly known as Pataliputra, Taj City Centre Patna stands as a beacon of luxury and heritage. This premier property offers a blend of rich architectural splendor and contemporary elegance, making it an ideal choice for both business and leisure travelers.

### Signature Experiences

Strategically situated in the city center, guests enjoy effortless access to Patna's significant landmarks. Explore the fascinating Nature Trails at Kumhrar Park, take a day tour of the Patna Museum, or visit renowned Buddhist pilgrimage sites. For a touch of local culture, embark on boat rides at Gandhi Setu, indulge in excursions at Buddha Smriti Park, or experience the vibrant local markets.

### Luxurious Accommodations & Event Spaces

The hotel boasts 124 rooms that harmonize rich heritage with modern amenities. Each room features intricate design elements and refined decor, ensuring a stay that's both elegant and inviting.

With one of the largest banquet areas in Patna, spanning 818 square meters, Taj City Centre Patna is perfect for grand weddings, corporate events, and special celebrations.

### Exquisite Dining Options

Dine in style at Shamiana, their all-day dining venue offering a diverse international menu in a relaxed setting. House of Ming captures the grandeur of the Ming Dynasty, offering authentic Oriental dishes and signature favorites from its 40-year history.

### Essence of Luxury

Enhance your stay with yoga, Ayurveda treatments, and spa therapies. Enjoy the rooftop pool and unwind with beauty scrubs and wraps.



### KUTCH EMBROIDERY, GUJARAT

Kutch Embroidery dates back to the 16th and 17th centuries, when migrants from Afghanistan, Greece, Germany, Iran, and Iraq settled in Gujarat.





Pattachitra, originating in the 12th century with the Jagannath Temple at Puri, is renowned for its intricate details and mythological narratives.

## LEADER LENS

### Mr. Debasish Chakraborty

#### Chairman & Managing Director, Hill Crest Hotels and Resorts Private Limited

My name is Debasish Chakraborty, and I am the Chairman and Managing Director of Hill Crest Hotels and Resorts Private Limited. My journey, deeply influenced by my upbringing in the Ramkrishna Mission Ashram in Rahara, West Bengal, has been a blend of perseverance, strategic vision, and an unwavering passion for hospitality. Beginning my career in the service industry, I eventually ventured into the logistics sector, where I co-founded DTDC Courier and Logistics. As a promoter, I focused on driving strategic growth and innovation, which helped establish DTDC as a leading name in the logistics industry. This experience laid the foundation for my future entrepreneurial pursuits.

In 2011-12, driven by a new vision and supported by my wonderful wife, Mrs. Rinku Chakraborty, and my son, Mr. Suhasish Chakraborty, I embarked on a new journey into the hospitality industry. Together, we established Hillcrest Resort & Spa Private Limited. Our first major project was the Radisson Blu Resort & Spa Karjat, which we proudly opened in 2016. This resort has since evolved and is now known as Radisson Blu Plaza Resort & Convention Centre Karjat. With 300 luxurious rooms and expansive banquet facilities, our resort has become a premier destination for both relaxation and business.



The transformation of the Radisson Blu Resort & Spa Karjat into the Radisson Blu Plaza Resort & Convention Centre was a significant milestone. Our rebranding was not just a change of name but a reflection of our commitment to excellence and our desire to offer an unmatched experience. With breathtaking views of the Sahyadri Mountains and the tranquil Ulhas River, our resort has become a haven for conventions, corporate events, social gatherings, and leisurely escapes.

Our resort, conveniently located between Mumbai and Pune, blends Thai and Balinese architectural influences to offer a unique and enchanting atmosphere. Just 70 km from Mumbai and 100 km from Pune, Perfect for MICE events, large conventions, and both corporate and social gatherings, our property features a spacious banquet hall for up to 1000 guests, seven state-of-the-art indoor spaces, and four stunning outdoor areas ideal for gala dinners or team activities. With a 10,000 sq ft Fun Park, full of various activities, and a dedicated Kids' Zone, we cater to every need, whether for business, family fun, adventure, or relaxation.

In our commitment to enhancing the experience, we are excited to announce the upcoming Presidential Avenue. This exclusive addition will feature 78 luxury rooms equipped with modern amenities, ensuring exceptional comfort for both business and leisure stays. We're also thrilled to introduce Forest Avenue, offering 22 luxurious tents nestled in lush greenery. This unique setting provides a serene escape, allowing you to reconnect with nature while enjoying contemporary comforts.

My entrepreneurial journey is characterized by a keen ability to identify opportunities and transform them into successful ventures. I'm excited to share that we are now focused on expanding our presence in the hospitality industry with an upcoming hotel project near the new Navi Mumbai International Airport. This project represents the next step in our growth and is a testament to our ongoing commitment to innovation and excellence.

Thank you for being a part of this journey. I look forward to what the future holds and to continuing our tradition of excellence in the hospitality industry.



# FROM TAMARIND'S DESK

## Har Ghar Tiranga



## Handicrafts at Khajuraho by Jighyasa Prajapati

I'm excited to share some photos of traditional handicrafts and pottery that I've admired since childhood in Khajuraho. Witnessing the entire creation process—from crafting the perfect clay mix and skillfully shaping the wheel to the final kiln firing—is truly amazing. This art form, passed down through generations, remains vital for both daily use and sales at national events such as the International Film Festival in Khajuraho, Lokrang Samaroh in Bhopal and many more.

Among the handcrafted items are terracotta utensils, like the classic handi for cooking and the modern terracotta bottle designed to keep water cool. Beyond pottery, local families have also crafted a variety of unique accessories. One of the highlights is a doll dressed in attire of the Badhaai dance, a traditional folk performance from Madhya Pradesh.



# INDIA'S HANDLOOM TRADITIONS



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

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

Mumbai: 601, AJ House Marol Maroshi Road, Andheri East, Mumbai 400 059, India

Tel: +91-22-66802500 | Fax: +91-22-67102876

Gurugram: 5th Floor, Building No 91, Sector-44, Gurugram, Haryana- 122003, India

Tel: +91-124-4565454 | Fax: +91-124-2570337

Website: [www.tamarindglobal.com](http://www.tamarindglobal.com) | Online: [www.tamarindglobalonline.com](http://www.tamarindglobalonline.com)

Email: [info@tamarindglobal.com](mailto:info@tamarindglobal.com)



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