

A quiet renaissance is sweeping across the Indian hospitality landscape—one not led by sprawling chains or impersonal luxury, but by passionate Indian entrepreneurs reimagining travel through a lens of authenticity, creativity, and care. Indie India is a celebration of these homegrown gems—boutique hotels, intimate retreats, and experiential journeys crafted with heart and rooted in place.

From the Himalayan foothills to the sun-kissed shores of Tamil Nadu, a new generation of Indian hoteliers and experience curators is shaping an inspiring narrative. These independently owned ventures reflect not just aesthetic charm, but a deeper purpose—to preserve heritage, empower communities, and offer travellers a more thoughtful, immersive way to experience the country. In Rajasthan, century-old havelis have been restored into elegant family-run hotels where every arch, fresco, and courtyard tells a story. In the Western Ghats, wellness sanctuaries built with natural materials invite guests to disconnect from the world and reconnect with themselves through Ayurveda, yoga, and nature.

Each property carries a distinct personality—crafted not by committee, but by founders deeply connected to their land and legacy. In Goa, creative collectives have transformed heritage homes into art-forward stays that blend tropical minimalism with local crafts. In the Northeast, eco-lodges led by indigenous entrepreneurs highlight the rich biodiversity and cultural depth of the region, offering authentic experiences in places still off the mainstream map.

Beyond the walls of these stays, curated experiences elevate the journey further. Textile trails through Gujarat, spice garden lunches in Kerala, pottery sessions in Kumaon, or music heritage walks in Lucknow—each experience is a window into India's living traditions, guided by the people who preserve them.

These indie ventures are redefining luxury—not through opulence, but through intention. Sustainability, storytelling, community, and a strong sense of identity lie at the core of their ethos. For discerning travellers seeking to go beyond the expected, Indie India offers a soulful alternative—one where each stay is not just a destination, but a deeply personal narrative unfolding in real time.

Here, India is not just seen—it is felt, lived, and remembered. All through the lens of its own storytellers.

NEW HOTEL OPENINGS



Ramada by Wyndham Ranchi

Where? Ranchi, Jharkhand

What is unique?

Ramada by Wyndham Ranchi sets a new benchmark for contemporary hospitality in the heart of Jharkhand's vibrant capital. Just a 30-minute drive from the airport, this elegant urban sanctuary welcomes guests with a warm blend of comfort, style, and intuitive service. The hotel is home to the city's largest pillarless ballroom-rising 17 feet high-and a range of versatile event spaces ideal for corporate summits, conferences, weddings, and social celebrations of all sizes.

What truly sets the property apart is its elevated walking track at 40 feet, circling the hotel with sweeping views of Ranchi's skyline-a serene and unique experience high above the bustle. For those seeking wellness and recreation, the hotel features the city's largest swimming pool, a fully equipped fitness centre, and a Club Zone with table tennis, snooker, board games, and more. Dining is a highlight, with Ranchi's only star-category vegetarian gourmet experience, complemented by a range of venues including an All-Day Dining restaurant, Coffee Shop, Juice Bar, Ice Cream Parlour, Night Club, and Lounge Bar.

Why Choose Ramada by Wyndham Ranchi?

Whether travelling for business or leisure, Ramada by Wyndham Ranchi offers an exceptional stay tailored to your every need. The hotel features 67 elegantly designed rooms and suites—among the most spacious in the city—complete with modern comforts such as LED TVs, tea and coffee makers, in-room safes, hair dryers, ironing boards, and round-the-clock room service.

With over 9,600 square feet of flexible meeting space, modern audiovisual facilities, high-speed internet, and a professional events team, it's the ideal venue for seamless business gatherings or grand celebrations. From personalized service to thoughtfully curated amenities, Ramada by Wyndham Ranchi ensures every guest enjoys a relaxing, elevated, and memorable experience in the heart of the city.

Uday Suites, Cochin

Where? Cochin (Kochi), Kerala

What is unique?

Nestled in the cultural heart of Kerala's most cosmopolitan city, Uday Suites, Cochin blends timeless elegance with contemporary comforts to offer an enriching urban retreat. Surrounded by lush greenery and moments away from the city's key landmarks, this refined property offers a tranquil escape without stepping far from the vibrant pulse of Cochin.

Designed for both leisure and business travellers, the hotel features spacious accommodations, modern amenities, and intuitive service that reflects Kerala's legendary hospitality. Whether you're unwinding in the expansive courtyard, enjoying a refreshing swim in the pool, or indulging in authentic Kerala cuisine at the signature restaurant, every moment is designed to soothe the senses. The hotel's location also makes it a perfect base to explore Fort Kochi, the backwaters, art galleries, spice markets, and the city's colonial-era charm.



Uday Suites offers a harmonious blend of serenity and sophistication, ideal for those seeking comfort,

Why Choose Uday Suites, Cochin?

connectivity, and cultural immersion. Each room is thoughtfully designed, blending modern aesthetics with warm, earthy tones that mirror the lush landscapes of Kerala. Guests can enjoy amenities such as high-speed internet, flat-screen televisions, in-room dining, and personalized service that caters to both short getaways and extended stays.

With versatile event spaces suitable for intimate gatherings, business meetings, or celebrations, the hotel

adapts effortlessly to your needs. Whether you're in Cochin for a leisurely escape, a family holiday, or a corporate event, Uday Suites promises an experience where tradition meets modernity—infused with the grace and charm that Kerala is celebrated for.



Where? Alibaug, Maharashtra

Taj Alibaug Resort & Spa, Maharashtra

What is unique?

Taj Alibaug Resort & Spa offers a seamless blend of

refined luxury and coastal charm. Just a scenic drive or quick ferry ride from Mumbai, this tranquil retreat is nestled amidst swaying palms and lush gardens along the serene Konkan coast. It's a sanctuary where nature, wellness, and timeless elegance come together.

The resort's design draws inspiration from the surrounding landscape, with tastefully appointed spaces featuring soft hues and natural textures. Guests can unwind at the acclaimed J Wellness Circle, swim in the outdoor or kids' pool, work out at the fitness centre, or enjoy leisurely hours in the games room and children's activity zone. Whether for rest or recreation, the experience is tailored to soothe and uplift.

Why Choose Taj Alibaug Resort & Spa? Ideal for quick getaways or extended escapes, the resort offers spacious accommodations with private sit-outs or plunge pools, all surrounded by tranquil greenery. Dining is a highlight, with coastal and regional flavours at Aparanta, Konkan Café, relaxed bites at 24 Alive, and open-air moments at Mango Deck. The resort also hosts memorable weddings, celebrations, and corporate retreats in venues like Pinnacle, Chancellor, Oval, and the Green Lawn. Guests can explore Alibaug Beach, Kolaba Fort, Murud-Janjira, or discover local crafts like Pattharkar stone carving and coconut shell art. Taj Alibaug Resort & Spa invites you

to rediscover the joy of slowing down—where every moment is wrapped in the charm of unhurried luxury.

TAMARIND SUGGESTS



(Neemrana Hotels)

Will you be travelling for an experience or just for a restful night's sleep away from your city hum-drum home? Tijara Fort-Palace is really about both!

If it's truly about new experiences for you, immersed in Indian culture and heritage, then come to a 'non-hotel' for a non-luxury, authentic staycation that celebrates India's rich history of the 19th-century maharajas of the princely state of Alwar, at the restored and revitalised Tijara Fort-Palace.

A Fort-Palace built atop the 2 billion year old Aravalli hills, with 109 different rooms, each named after India's leading artists, designers, photographers, and creative aesthetes, where you can admire their artwork all day long in your room. Spread over eight acres with expansive hanging gardens, you can enjoy the luxury of breathing in fresh air and practicing yoga while overlooking the sunrise, or take a leisurely open-to-sky vintage car ride through bougainvilleas and palm trees that takes you back in time.

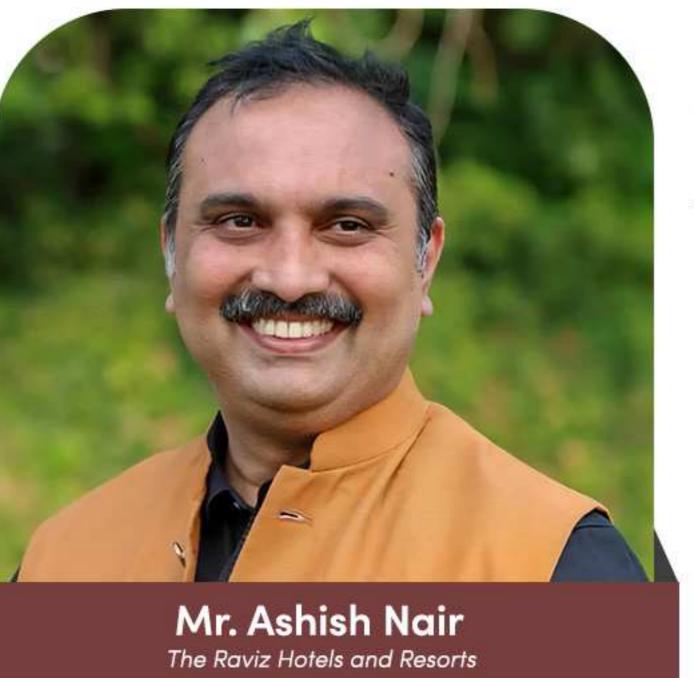
A Fort-Palace where the experience shifts with the seasons — from refreshing summer dips in a pool overlooking Rani Mahal to savouring sunny gardens and the hot flavours of winter, prepared using traditional recipes. As the sun dips, head to its Marigold Bar, where the floors and decor are crafted by master artisans from Srinagar, Jaipur, Udaipur, Bikaner, and Jodhpur. With a glass of wine, whisky or mocktail—you can relax and enjoy hours of good company with your friends.

For those wanting to cut off from the digital world and reconnect within—Tijara becomes a wellness retreat immersed in Ayurvedic therapies. Saturday evenings at Tijara have a unique charm with India's upcoming and leading artistes performing before you step into Khajur Mahal for dinner—where cuisine, cutlery, aesthetics, table mats, and flooring are customised to fill both your belly and heart. For a more intimate meal, just ask, and a candlelight dinner under a million stars will await you, with views of the fort in all directions.

If you travel to actually reach your destination fast, Tijara Fort-Palace offers nature, culture, wellness, and fun—just a short two-hour drive within Delhi-NCR.

- LEADER LENS -

This article is a personal account by **Mr. Ashish Nair** of RP Group, who has been instrumental in shaping and expanding the group's hospitality vertical-**The Raviz Hotels and Resorts**. With over 15 years of dedication to the brand, he shares heartfelt stories, milestones, and the guiding philosophy that continues to define their approach to hospitality in Kerala and beyond.



More Than a Stay A Story You Take Home

When our guest walks into any Raviz, they are not just checking in—they are becoming a part of a story. A story that began with our honourable Chairman, Dr. B. Ravi Pillai's vision to present Kerala to the world—not just through the luxurious accommodations or gourmet meals, but through exquisite destinations, experiences and love.

In search of Kerala, explorers once set sail and stumbled upon continents. The world's map changed forever, all in pursuit of the gentle breeze and bold flavours of this land. And today, in a quieter way, people still come to discover her soul. Weather it is at the famed Kovalam beach, the serene banks of Lake Ashtamudi or the scenic shores of Chaliyar River at Kozhikode. We truly celebrate these God's gifts in God's own country.

Our architecture reflects the spirit of the land. Our ever-welcoming colleagues, from the guards to the General managers, are people deeply rooted to the ethos of the land. Our guests are important—but so is our nature and community. Our roots grow all three ways.

At the heart of our hospitality is Atithi Devo Bhava—the belief that every guest is divine. It's a value we live by. Our guests will feel it in the way food is served, room are prepared. And we make sure the moments they spend with us are etched as everlasting memories. Our wellness rituals are rooted in centuries-old Ayurveda, every experience is designed to touch your five senses and is sure linger in our guest's memory.

The constant endeavour of our research team is to curates experiences that helps our guest fell the land, it's cuisine and its culture at its fullest. Be it the Copper Plate Circuit an itinerary that celebrates the history, art, architecture, cuisine and culture of Southern Indian once ruled by the Cholas and the Cheras.

The Raviz nirvana our signature delicacy which was born out of chance when the famous cricketer Chris Gayle visited the Leela Raviz Ashtamudi for his family vacation, is a classic example of how we curated a to wow the taste





buds of the legend. Similarly, we always celebrate the exquisite Flavors of Royal Travancore, Syrian Christan and the Mappila cuisine. We provide our guest with gastronomic journey that reflects the true spirit of Kerala. As a commitment to the society and the our endeavour to offer the freshest and organic meal to our guests, Araamam our 6 acre organic fruits and vegetable garden stands as a testament to this effort of ours.

The destinations that Raviz is present has one of the best gift that nature can give and that is the best Air Quality Index (AQI). Awarded by renowned bodies like National Geographic destinations like Ashtamudi has even come on the list of 10 least polluted places in the world. So take a deep breath and feel the pure nature when our guests stays with us.

Our Ayurveda experiences aren't just off-the-shelf activities, but they are soulful journeys, curated by experts who understand healing as both science and emotion. Nari Veda, our wellness experience for women, is one such example. Designed by women, for women, it nurtures health from the inside out.

At Raviz, we don't sell just sell accommodations and food, instead we offer moments and memories. Because in the end, "it's not about where our guest stays—but what they felt."