



tamarind global
BESPOKE LUXURY EXPERIENCES

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ROAD TRIPS *India*



YOUR WINTER DRIVE EDITION

Winter in India invites a slower, more intentional way of travelling. The air turns crisper, the roads open up, and the journey itself becomes as meaningful as the destination. This is the season when long drives feel indulgent rather than tiring—where every turn reveals changing landscapes, quiet pit stops, and the pleasure of unhurried movement. Road trips, especially in winter, offer a rare sense of freedom: personal, flexible, and deeply immersive.

From the coastlines of Maharashtra to the mist-laced hills of the Himalayas, India's winter roads lead to experiences best savoured at a gentle pace. A drive out of Mumbai unfolds into serene seaside escapes marked by empty beaches, temple towns, and meals steeped in coastal flavours. From Bengaluru, winding highways carry you through coffee estates and wildlife corridors, where mornings begin with mist and evenings settle into stillness by the river. North of Delhi, the plains give way to pine forests and quiet hill towns, where book-lined cafés, boutique stays, and panoramic views create the perfect setting for winter introspection. Along the east coast, a short drive from Chennai brings you to a world of pastel façades, artisanal cafés, yoga retreats, and a slower rhythm shaped by the sea.

These journeys are not about ticking off destinations, but about how travel feels when done well—unrushed, comfortable, and thoughtfully curated. Winter road trips allow travellers to reconnect with the romance of the open road, blending privacy with discovery and spontaneity with refinement. As the year draws to a close and new beginnings take shape, these drives offer a graceful way to step into early 2026—refreshed, inspired, and quietly indulgent.



From Mumbai

Sawantwadi Palace – Sindhudurg

Where? Sawantwadi, Sindhudurg – Maharashtra



What is unique?

Sawantwadi Palace offers a rare kind of stay – personal, unhurried, and rooted in the rhythm of a lived-in royal home. Suite-style rooms inspired by Ganjifa art, heirloom Konkani cuisine, and the stillness of courtyards and verandas create an atmosphere that feels residential rather than curated. Time softens here; mornings slip into long breakfasts and afternoons unfold at their own pace.

Meals draw from palace recipes and seasonal local produce, cooked with memory and context rather than performance. Cultural connection happens quietly – Ganjifa workshops, artisan interactions, and gestures that feel natural, not staged. Guided by Shraddha Bhonsle, the experience bridges heritage and modern life with intention and care.

Best enjoyed over two or three nights, Sawantwadi Palace is not a stopover but a stay that lingers – a place where history is lived, not looked at.

Why Sawantwadi Palace?

For those who want heritage without spectacle, culture without staging, and hospitality that feels like being welcomed into a home. Sawantwadi Palace offers time, texture, and a sense of place that stays with you long after you leave.



From Bengaluru

Java Rain Resorts by The House of Shambhala

Where? Chikmagalur, Karnataka



What is unique?

Perched on a hill above coffee plantations and drifting clouds, Java Rain Resorts is a refined retreat where contemporary design meets the raw beauty of Chikmagalur's forests. The arrival sets the tone – an open lobby framing Mullayanagiri Peak on one side and the shimmering lights of the town and lake on the other. Villas feature floor-to-ceiling glass, drawing the landscape indoors with warm tones, soft textures, and a sense of calm that feels quietly intentional.

Guests can choose from open-to-sky shower villas, indulgent jacuzzi suites, or the region's only temperature-controlled private pool villas – offering year-round comfort in the mountain breeze. Dining at Mirra overlooks the valley and infinity pool, while evenings at Crimson Peak, one of Karnataka's highest bars, unfold with cocktails, drifting clouds, and dramatic sunsets.

Why Choose Java Rain Resorts by The House of Shambhala?

For travellers who seek luxury measured in views, silence, and effortless design. Ideal for couples, nature lovers, and slow getaways where the world feels distant and the mountains feel close.



From Delhi

Mary Budden Estate – Almora

Where? Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary, Almora – Uttarakhand



What is unique?

Perched 8,000 feet above sea level inside Binsar Sanctuary, Mary Budden Estate is where silence becomes a luxury. Pine forests wrap the estate in an ethereal stillness, and the cottages – stone-built, candle-lit, wood-floored – offer a mountain life that feels timeless. The estate holds an almost spiritual quiet: wind in the oak trees, fireplaces crackling at dusk, and sunrise spilling gold across the valley like a benediction.

Every detail is deliberate: handwritten menus, woolen shawls by the hearth, brass teapots steaming on window ledges, and dining rooms warmed by Himalayan nostalgia. Walks here are not hikes – they are meditations. Meals are not courses – they are rituals. Nights carry the hush of the forest, where every star feels within reach.

Why Choose Mary Budden Estate?

Perfect for seekers, honeymooners, writers, and those who crave solitude with soul. Forest walks, guided sanctuary trails, stargazing sessions, ancestral recipes, and deep restorative rest define the stay. Ideal for intimate gatherings, wellness retreats, and reflective escapes into nature's embrace.



From Rajasthan

jüSTa Luxé – Highpoint Jawai

Where? Jawai, Rajasthan



What is unique?

Jawai has a way of pulling you in quietly – granite hills on the horizon, an ancient kind of silence, and a landscape that feels like memory. jüSTa Luxé – High Point Jawai sits at the heart of it, designed with restraint and intention. The resort feels generous: open spaces, uncluttered architecture, wide views that let the hills breathe. Suites are indulgent without excess – soft lighting, plush bedding, and terraces that frame the landscape like a canvas. Select categories offer private plunge pools where afternoons linger and the sky changes color at its own pace.

The pool becomes a rhythm of the day: morning laps, long afternoons, energy and calm co-existing. Experiences unfold without hurry – leopard safaris across rocky terrain, birdlife around Jawai dam, high tea when the breeze turns gentle, and wildlife documentaries that deepen what you witness outside. Weekends bring folk performances, slow mornings with music at breakfast, and a Rabari welcome that feels personal rather than performed. Luxury here is not loud; it is thoughtful, rooted, and quietly memorable.

Why Choose jüSTa Luxé – High Point Jawai?

For travellers who want the wild without chaos, luxury without noise, and intimacy without isolation. It's for those who'd rather feel the landscape than merely look at it – those who value atmosphere over opulence, connection over spectacle. Jawai leaves a mark, and jüSTa Luxé lets you feel it fully.



From Kochi

CGH Earth Lockhart Bungalow – Munnar

Where? Lockhart Tea Estate, Munnar – Kerala



What is unique?

Wrapped in rolling tea gardens and colonial-era charm, Lockhart Bungalow offers a window into the past – a planter's home brought back to life with CGH Earth's quiet craftsmanship. Whitewashed walls, wicker reading chairs, sloping tiled roofs, and windows opening into endless green – every corner feels like an old photograph you can step into.

The days pass gently: plantation walks at sunrise, tea tastings in verandas washed in fog, and fireplaces warming evenings scented with eucalyptus and woodsmoke. The bungalow isn't opulent – it is honest, graceful, and deeply soulful. It is luxury measured in stillness.

Why Choose Lockhart Bungalow?

For tea lovers, birders, families, and those longing for a quiet, colonial-era escapade. Ideal for long weekends, intimate gatherings, and slow mornings with fog-soaked views. A stay here feels less like travel and more like returning – to a memory you never knew you had.



TAMARIND SUGGESTS

Rosetta by Ferns – Sakleshpur

Where the rainforest breathes, and life finally slows.



In Sakleshpur's Western Ghats, where the air smells of earth after rain and mornings arrive wrapped in mist, Rosetta is not just a retreat – it is an exhale. A place that strips away rush, noise, and arrival agendas, until all that remains is the quiet rhythm of nature. Here, the world softens. Conversations feel unhurried, footsteps slower, and the hours stretch like silk between raindrops. It is a reminder that peace isn't found at the end of a journey, but in the pause itself.

The property sits like a whisper inside 100 acres of rainforest and plantations – coffee bushes, cardamom trails, bamboo groves, and pathways that open into green horizons. Architecture stays gentle on the land: low rooftops, warm timber, stone corridors, verandas open to monsoon winds. Rooms feel restful rather than designed, with muted palettes, tactile materials, and windows that invite the forest in. You wake to birdsong instead of alarms, light filtering through leaves instead of screens.

Experiences unfold like rituals instead of activities. Plantation walks that smell of coffee blossoms and rain. Long, lingering meals overlooking emerald slopes. Spa therapies steeped in natural oils and silence. A pool that mirrors the sky. Evenings spent beneath trees that have stood longer than memory, where conversations drift into stillness and stillness becomes its own language. Here, presence feels effortless. Rest feels earned. You feel closer to yourself without trying.

Because some places don't ask you to do anything to feel restored.
They simply offer space — and wait.

At Rosetta, luxury feels like clarity.
And healing feels like coming home.



Contact Your Relationship Manager For Bookings!

FROM MANAGING PARTNER'S DESK

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As we come to the close of 2025 and step into a brand-new year, on behalf of the Tamarind Global team, I wanted to personally thank you – our partners, collaborators, friends and well-wishers across the industry.

2025 has been a year of contrasts. While there were moments of strong momentum and opportunity, there were also geopolitical developments, shifting markets, and competitive pressures that required all of us to rethink, recalibrate, and adapt. Like many of you, we treated this year as one of learning, sharpening focus, and building for the long term.

What stood out most through the year was the strength of our relationships. The trust you placed in us, the openness of conversations, and the willingness to work together through both opportunities and challenges made a real difference. Whether it was strengthening partnerships, delivering meaningful experiences, or navigating a changing landscape, collaboration remained at the core of our progress.

Every discussion, booking, idea, and shared effort played a role in moving things forward, and for that, I am truly grateful.

As we look ahead to 2026, we do so with renewed clarity, optimism, and a strong belief in the value of long-term partnerships. We look forward to building on what we have created together and exploring new opportunities in the year ahead.

Thank you for walking this journey with us in 2025. Wishing you and your teams a healthy, rewarding, and successful 2026.

Warm regards,
Louis D'Souza
Managing Partner



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