



tamarind global
BESPOKE LUXURY EXPERIENCES

THE TAMARIND GLOBAL NEWSLETTER MAY 2026

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BREAKING — THE — MONSOON TABOO

Why India's most
misunderstood travel
season deserves
a second look

*Rain slows down the world.
It also shows you
its truest beauty.*



MONSOON, RECONSIDERED

Time to See the Rains Differently

Somewhere along the way, India gave monsoon a terrible reputation.

Rain? Cancel the trip.

Clouds? Delay the holiday.

Wet roads? Stay home.

For years, we've treated monsoon like the "do not disturb" sign of travel seasons. But the irony is - some of India's most memorable experiences arrive exactly when the skies turn grey.

Because monsoon isn't off-season. It's simply misunderstood.

This is when Goa drops the party noise and becomes effortlessly charming. The beaches breathe, cafés slow down, forests glow greener than your photo filters, and luxury resorts suddenly feel far more personal. Kerala turns into one giant mood board of rain-drenched backwaters, plantation stays, Ayurvedic retreats, and lazy afternoons that don't need an itinerary.

The Western Ghats? Absolute overachievers during monsoon. Waterfalls appear out of nowhere, mist rolls dramatically across winding roads, and hidden hill stations suddenly look straight out of a film scene. Coorg, the Nilgiris, and boutique plantation bungalows truly come alive during this season.

And then there's the Northeast - perhaps India's most poetic monsoon destination. Shillong feels moodier and more magical under cloudy skies, Meghalaya's waterfalls are at full drama mode, and rain becomes less of a weather condition and more of the entire atmosphere. The landscapes here don't just survive the monsoon; they thrive in it. Of course, monsoon may not always be the perfect season for rushed sightseeing or checklist tourism. But perhaps that's exactly the beauty of it. This is the time to travel slower. To finally enjoy the property you booked. To sit by a rain-facing balcony with chai, spend long afternoons in a wellness retreat, watch clouds drift across palace windows, or simply do nothing without feeling guilty about it. Luxury hotels and resorts across India are increasingly curating monsoon experiences around comfort, calm, and immersive stays rather than packed itineraries.

And then India pulls its favourite plot twist. While one side of the country dances in the rain, Ladakh and Spiti sit under striking blue skies looking spectacular as ever. Rajasthan softens too - Udaipur's lakes grow dreamier, Jaipur cools down, and palace hotels somehow become even more cinematic with monsoon clouds behind them.

Maybe the rains were never meant to stop us from travelling.

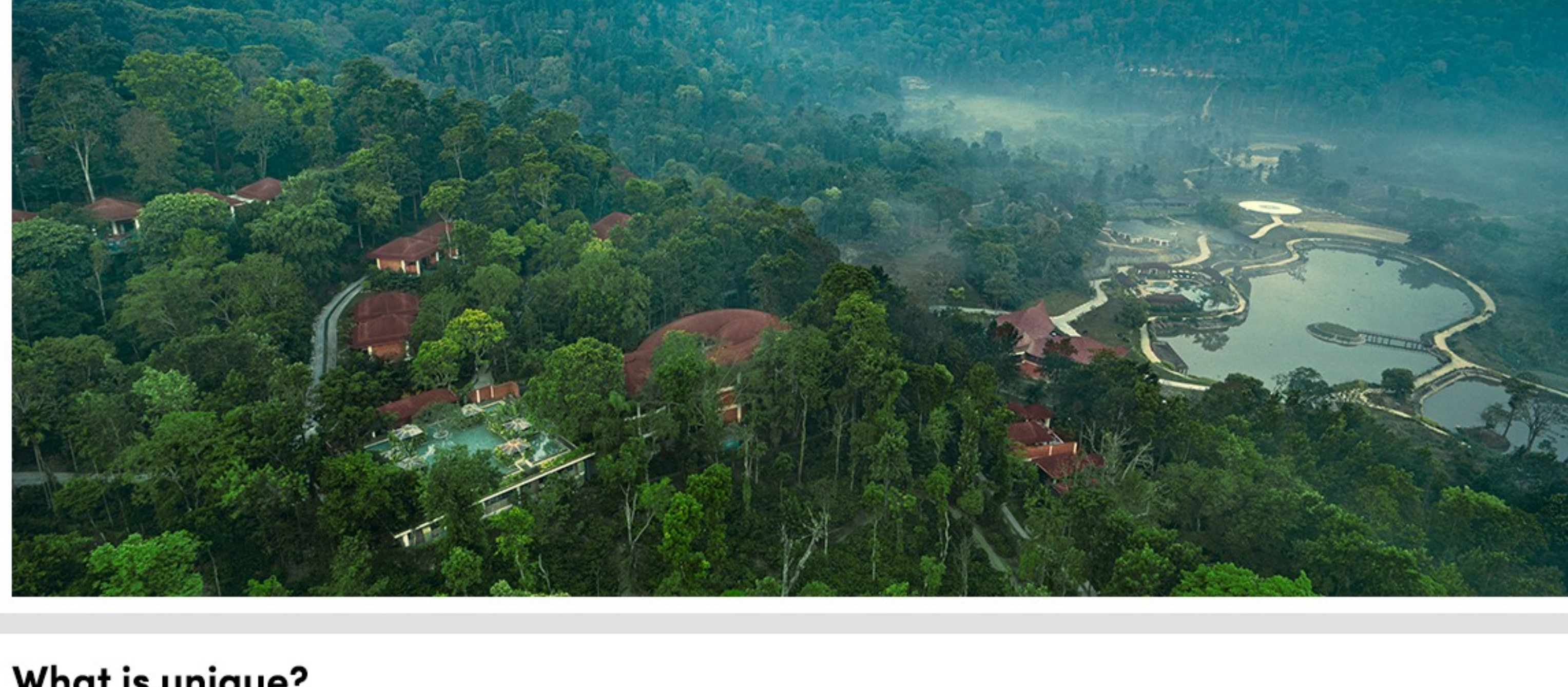
Maybe they were simply asking us to experience India differently.



NEW HOTEL OPENINGS

The Leela Coorg Forest Sanctuary

Where? Coorg, Karnataka

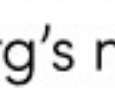


What is unique?

The Leela Coorg Forest Sanctuary is The Leela's first-ever Sanctuary concept - a nature-led luxury retreat in Western Ghats wilderness. The property combines immersive forest experiences with wellness, sustainability, and slow living in a setting shaped by Coorg's landscape and culture. Begin mornings with yoga on the Vinyasa deck overlooking misty waters, enjoy guided birdwatching and nature walks, kayak across the 7-acre lake, cycle through scenic trails, or experience stargazing under clear forest skies. Wellness is central to the sanctuary experience. Aujasya by The Leela spans 27,000 sq. ft. across three levels and blends Ayurvedic traditions with modern recovery science. The centre features personalised therapies, infrared sauna, steam rooms, longevity-led programmes, and notably, the only luxury Turkish Hammam experience in Karnataka. Accommodation further enhances the experience with temperature-controlled pools, floating breakfasts, open-air showers, and dedicated in-villa therapy spaces.

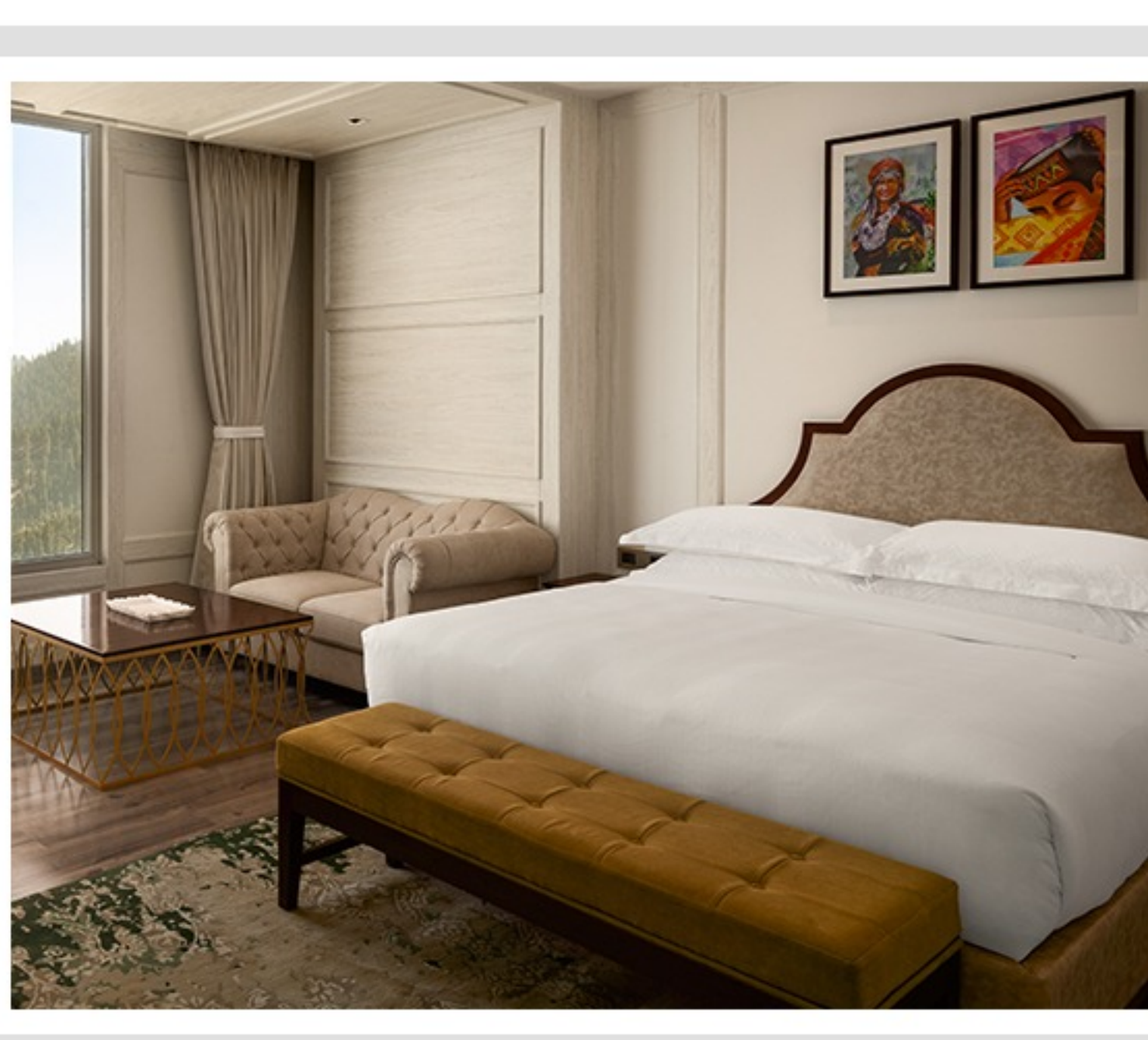
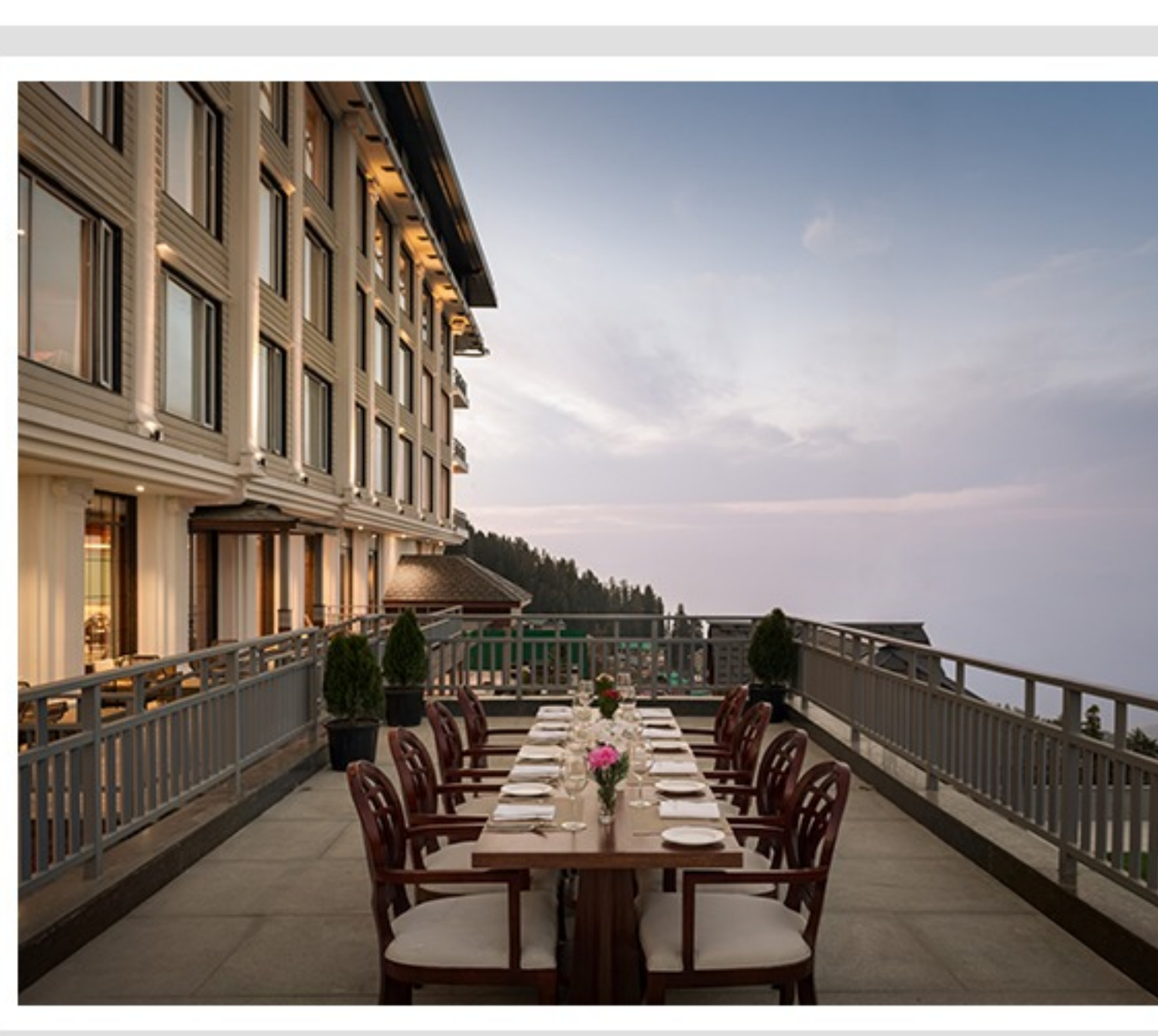
Why Choose The Leela Forest Sanctuary?

Choose The Leela Coorg Forest Sanctuary if you are looking for a deeply restorative escape rather than a conventional luxury resort. The sanctuary offers the rare combination of expansive wellness, curated nature experiences, destination dining, and spacious private villas within an untouched forest environment. Dining here is designed as an experience in itself - from Zen's floating Pan-Asian gazebos set over tranquil waters to plantation-inspired coffee journeys and handcrafted cocktails at the coffee experience deck. Combined with holistic therapies, immersive outdoor activities, and personalised hospitality, the resort creates a stay that feels private, grounding, and thoughtfully connected to Coorg's natural surroundings.



The Greenberry Mountain Resort, Narkanda, Shimla

Where? Narkanda, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh



What is unique?

The Greenberry Mountain Resort offers a contemporary mountain retreat set amidst pine forests and panoramic Himalayan landscapes in Narkanda, near Shimla. The property blends modern comfort with the slower rhythm of the hills, creating a stay experience centred around nature, relaxation, and exploration. Surrounded by snow-capped ranges, the resort provides easy access to experiences such as Hatu Peak, skiing points, Tani Jubbar Lake, Thanedar orchards, and scenic mountain trails that showcase the charm of Himachal beyond conventional sightseeing. The hotel features 45 mountain-inspired rooms and suites with valley-facing views, spacious layouts, and warm interiors designed to complement the surrounding landscape. Wellness and recreation remain key highlights, with a temperature-controlled indoor swimming pool, dedicated kids' pool, fitness centre, and outdoor spaces designed for unwinding amidst fresh mountain air. Large indoor and terrace venues overlooking the Himalayas further make the resort ideal for destination celebrations and corporate retreats in the hills.

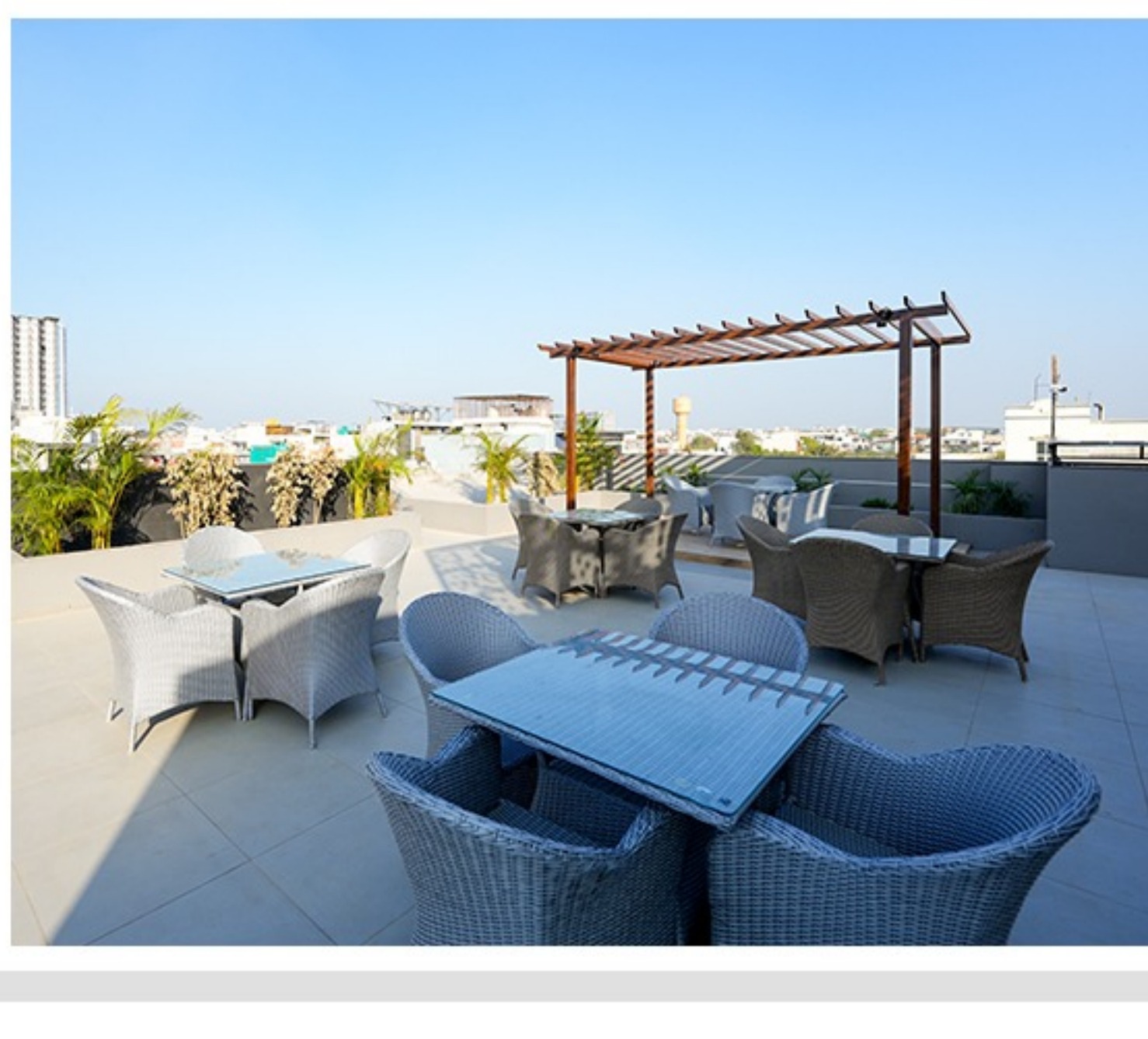
Why Choose The Greenberry Mountain Resort, Narkanda, Shimla?

Choose The Greenberry Mountain Resort if you are looking for a peaceful Himalayan escape that combines accessibility, comfort, and scenic surroundings. The property is ideal for leisure stays, family holidays, destination weddings, and intimate group retreats, offering spacious accommodations and versatile indoor and outdoor venues against a striking mountain backdrop. Guests can enjoy curated dining experiences inspired by regional flavours and global cuisine while overlooking the Himalayan landscape. Combined with wellness facilities, guided excursions, modern amenities, and personalised hospitality, the resort delivers a stay experience that feels refreshing, immersive, and well-suited for both relaxation and celebration.



Alivaa boutique Hotel Gurugram

Where? Gurugram, Haryana



What is unique?

ALIVAA Boutique, DLF Cyber City offers a contemporary boutique stay experience designed around comfort, efficiency, and urban convenience in the heart of Gurugram's corporate district. Located close to DLF Cyber City, Ambience Mall, and major business hubs, the hotel combines an intimate scale with thoughtfully designed interiors, creating a more personalised alternative to larger city hotels. The property features well-appointed rooms with refined layouts, balcony options, modern workspaces, and functional amenities suited for both business and leisure travellers. What sets ALIVAA Boutique apart is its balance of accessibility and relaxed hospitality, allowing guests to move seamlessly between work, dining, and downtime. The hotel also offers curated dining experiences, flexible event spaces for intimate gatherings and corporate meetings, and rooftop venues that add a distinct social character to the stay. Positioned close to metro connectivity and within convenient reach of the airport, the property is designed for travellers seeking ease without compromising on comfort or style.

Why Choose Alivaa boutique Hotel Gurugram?

Ideal for corporate travellers, transit stays, and short urban getaways, ALIVAA Boutique combines strategic location advantages with a warm and efficient hospitality approach. Positioned close to Cyber City, major business hubs, rapid metro connectivity, and Indira Gandhi International Airport, the property offers convenience while maintaining a quieter and more personalised environment than larger commercial hotels. The rooms are designed for both productivity and relaxation, featuring modern amenities, spacious layouts, and work-friendly settings. Guests can also enjoy curated dining experiences, personalised concierge assistance, and flexible hospitality tailored to individual travel preferences. Blending functionality with understated sophistication, the hotel delivers a stay experience that feels seamless, contemporary, and comfortably refined.



lebuva Udaipur Daulatgarh

Where? Udaipur, Rajasthan



What is unique?

lebuva Udaipur Daulatgarh marks lebuva's debut in India, bringing the brand's globally recognised hospitality to the cultural landscape of Udaipur. Located near Fateh Sagar Lake and surrounded by the Aravalli hills, the property is designed entirely in the architectural language of Rajasthan, featuring carved stone facades, jharokhas, open courtyards, and intricately detailed spaces centred around the Aangan - the living heart of the hotel. The property features heritage-inspired design with immersive local experiences that reflect Udaipur's living culture. Guests can enjoy traditional celebrations, curated cultural interactions, intimate evening gatherings, and expansive outdoor settings that create a strong sense of place. With only 49 rooms and suites, each accommodation carries its own distinct personality, allowing every stay to feel individual, intimate, and deeply connected to Rajasthan's heritage and artistry.

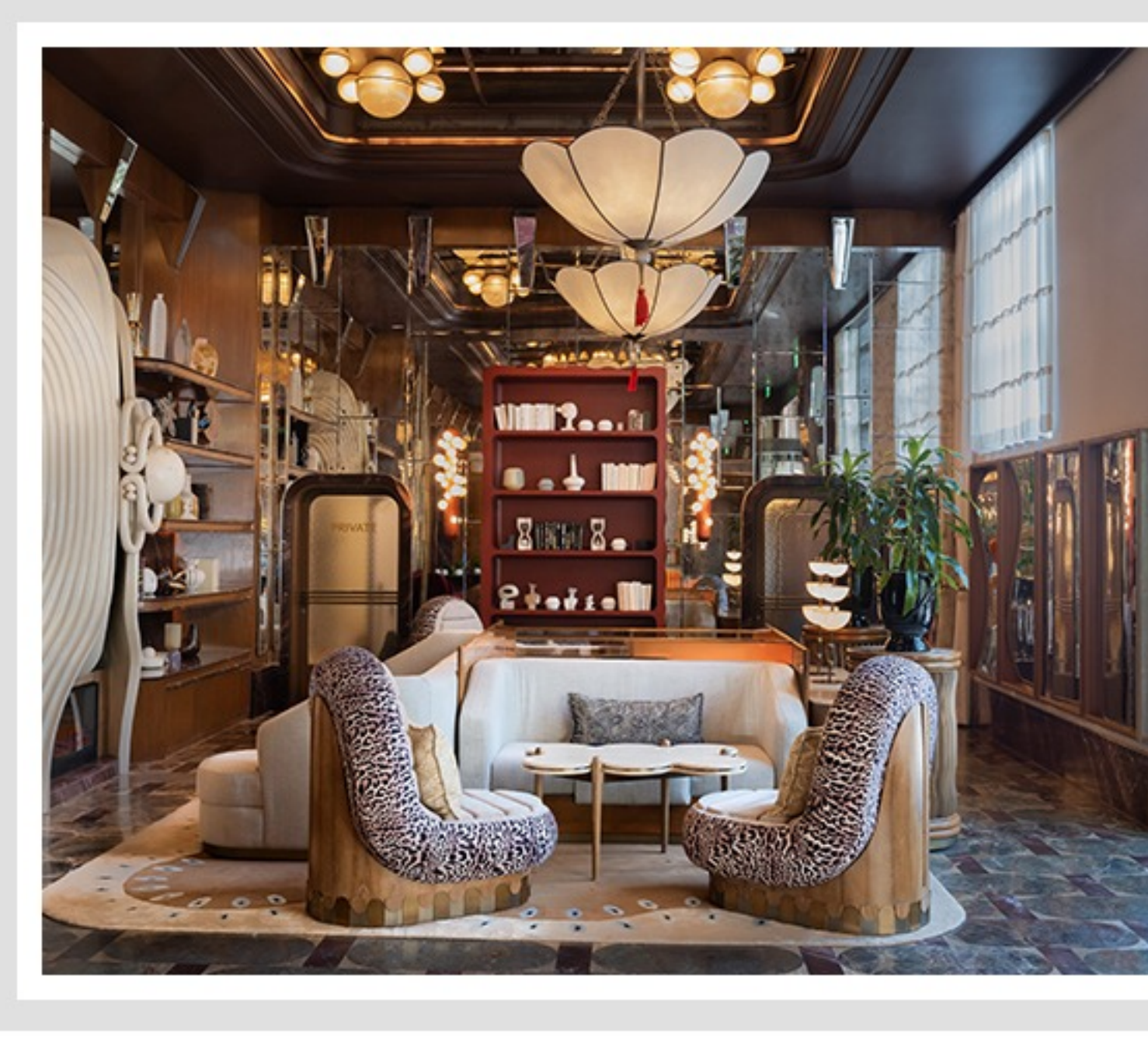
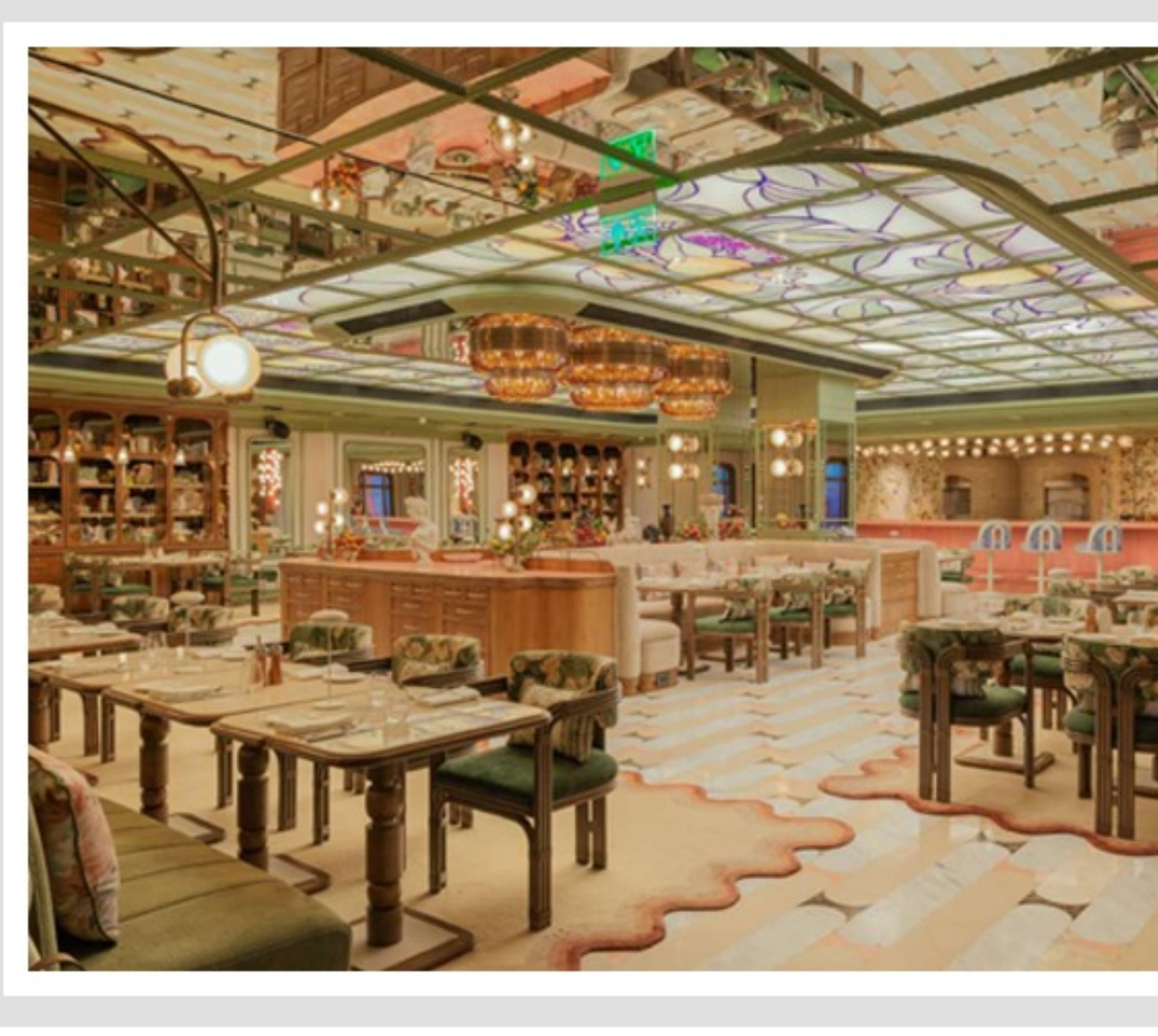
Why Choose lebuva Udaipur Daulatgarh?

lebuva Udaipur Daulatgarh is perfect for a stay that balances architectural character, refined hospitality, and experiential luxury within a serene setting. The property offers spacious accommodations, personalised service, and thoughtfully designed spaces while remaining conveniently close to Fateh Sagar Lake and Udaipur's key attractions. Ideal for destination weddings, celebrations, romantic escapes, and leisure stays, the hotel features expansive lawns, a grand banquet hall, an amphitheatre, and versatile venues suited to gatherings of different scales and styles. Combined with curated dining experiences, landscaped surroundings, cultural depth, and lebuva's internationally recognised hospitality standards, the property delivers a stay experience that feels immersive, elegant, and intentionally crafted.



Roswyn, A Morgans Originals Hotel

Where? Mumbai, Maharashtra

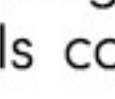


What is unique?

Roswyn, A Morgans Originals Hotel brings a fresh, lifestyle-led hospitality concept to Mumbai as India's first Morgans Originals property under Ennismore. More than a conventional airport hotel, Roswyn has been designed as a social and cultural space inspired by the rhythm and character of the city itself. Its 109 suites function as true residential-style living spaces, featuring lounges, kitchenettes, home bars, and dedicated study areas that create a sense of ease for both short and extended stays. The hotel's culinary experiences add distinct personalities to the property. Fi'lia celebrates generational Italian cooking with handmade pasta and comforting family-style recipes, while Black Lacquer introduces a Japanese-inspired listening bar centred around vinyl music, crafted cocktails, and immersive evenings. Roswyn also houses Blu Xone, India's first luxury longevity-led wellness concept, focused on mindful wellbeing through modern therapies and medical insight. Altogether, the hotel blends design, wellness, dining, and conversation into a stay experience that feels expressive yet intimate.

Why Choose Roswyn, A Morgans Originals Hotel?

Choose Roswyn if you are looking for a hotel that balances connectivity, comfort, and personality. Located minutes from Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, it offers convenience without being transactional or generic. The spacious suite-style accommodations provide the flexibility and warmth of a private residence combined with the service standards of a luxury lifestyle hotel. Roswyn is equally suited for business travellers, long-stay guests, and leisure visitors seeking a more immersive Mumbai experience. From thoughtfully designed social spaces and destination dining to wellness-focused experiences and personalised hospitality, the hotel creates an atmosphere that feels contemporary, welcoming, and intentionally curated rather than overly formal.



TAMARIND SUGGESTS

Amaraanth, South Goa



Who decided Goa was only a winter destination anyway? The moment the rains arrive, the crowds disappear, the beaches grow moodier, the air smells of wet earth and salt, and the entire coast slips into a slower, sexier version of itself. And honestly? That is exactly when Amaraanth Goa makes the most sense. Hidden away near the rain-drenched shores of Fatrade Beach in South Goa, this intimate design-led retreat feels tailor-made for travellers who prefer their Goa with thunderclouds, long lunches and absolutely nowhere urgent to be.

Amaraanth doesn't try to be flashy. It doesn't need to. Instead, it quietly pulls you into its world of "considered luxury" – where every detail feels intentional, every space invites you to slow down, and every corner looks like it belongs in a moody design magazine shoot. Think laterite stone walls glowing richer in the rain, open-air bathtubs made for dramatic monsoon soaks, lush greenery spilling into living spaces, and art by Indian artists that gives the property a soulful, lived-in character. It feels less like checking into a hotel and more like being invited into the holiday home of a very stylish friend who also happens to have exceptional taste in cocktails and wellness.

And monsoon here? It is not a compromise. It is the main character. Rainy afternoons become excuses for lingering Hydrobed therapies at The HVN spa, inspired by the calming practice of Japanese forest bathing. Evenings drift effortlessly from comforting coastal meals at Amaraanth Kitchen to inventive feni-forward cocktails at The Lab, where Goa's local flavours are shaken, stirred and served with serious flair. There is something oddly satisfying about sipping a cocktail while rain crashes against palm trees outside.

The best part, though, is what Amaraanth does to your pace. Suddenly, you stop planning and start lingering. Breakfast stretches into lunch, books get finished, naps feel necessary and the sound of rain becomes better than any playlist. Amaraanth gently reminds you that Goa does not lose its charm when the skies turn grey. If anything, this is when the coast feels most intimate, most atmospheric and most beautifully alive.



Contact Your Relationship Manager For Bookings!

For Mr. Jibran Asif, Director of Abad Group of Hotels, Kerala's monsoon is far from an off-season—it is when the state reveals its true charm. Raised in a hospitality family, he has witnessed how the rains transform Kerala into a more authentic and immersive destination. Leading a portfolio of 16 properties – hotels, resorts & wellness retreats, he promotes experiences that connect travellers with Kerala's natural beauty, culture and wellness traditions.

From One Hotel to Sixteen: Growing with Kerala The Abad Story



Mr. Jibran Asif
Director of Abad Group of Hotels

Hospitality has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember. Growing up in a family business, I was exposed to the industry from an early age, and what began as familiarity gradually turned into a passion. What continues to inspire me is that hospitality is ultimately about people, experiences and continuous learning. There is immense satisfaction in creating memorable moments for guests and seeing them return year after year.

The hospitality journey of the Abad Group began in 1982 when my uncle, Mr. Riaz Ahmed, Managing Director of Abad Hotels & Resorts, established Hotel Abad Fort in Mattancherry to cater to traders and business travellers visiting Old Kochi. This was followed by Abad Plaza on MG Road in 1987, laying the foundation for what would become one of Kerala's most trusted hospitality brands. I joined the industry at the age of 25, and today, we operate 16 hotels, resorts and wellness retreats across Kerala, with three more properties in the pipeline.

Over the years, I have witnessed significant changes in the hospitality landscape. Guest expectations have evolved, technology has transformed operations and businesses have had to navigate unprecedented challenges. One of the most important lessons I have learned is that long-term success depends on the ability to adapt while staying true to your core values. This became particularly evident during the pandemic, when we used the disruption as an opportunity to rethink our growth strategy. By adopting an asset-light expansion model through long-term leases, we accelerated growth while remaining agile and financially prudent.

Our vision has always been to be Kerala's most trusted mid-market hospitality brand, delivering quality, reliability and authentic experiences. Looking ahead, we aim to double our inventory and expand into neighbouring states such as Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

As traveller preferences have evolved, so has our approach. Guests today seek more than comfortable accommodation—they want meaningful experiences, local connections and stories they can take home. In response, we have enhanced our offerings to include immersive activities and experiences that showcase the culture, nature and traditions of each destination.

This is especially true in Kerala during the rains. As a brand deeply rooted in the state, I have always believed that this season reveals Kerala at its most authentic. The backwaters, forests and hill stations come alive with renewed energy, creating a landscape that is greener, calmer and more immersive. It is also the ideal time to experience Kerala's wellness traditions, local cuisine and slower pace of travel. Many guests arrive expecting a season to avoid and leave having discovered a side of Kerala that is both refreshing and unforgettable.

Equally important is our commitment to responsible tourism. We strive to conserve natural resources, support local communities and ensure that tourism contributes positively to the destinations in which we operate.

For me, hospitality is built on trust, quality and genuine care. These values continue to guide our journey and are reflected in our brand promise: "A legacy of trust. A future of excellence." Above all, I want every guest to leave with unforgettable memories, a deeper connection with Kerala and the feeling that they were welcomed not merely as travellers, but as part of the Abad family.



Abad Dutch Bungalow, Fort Kochi



Abad Turtle Beach Resort, Marari Alleppey



Abad Whispering Palms, Kumarakom



Abad Cruise on the Lake, Kumarakom

Contact Your Relationship Manager For Bookings!