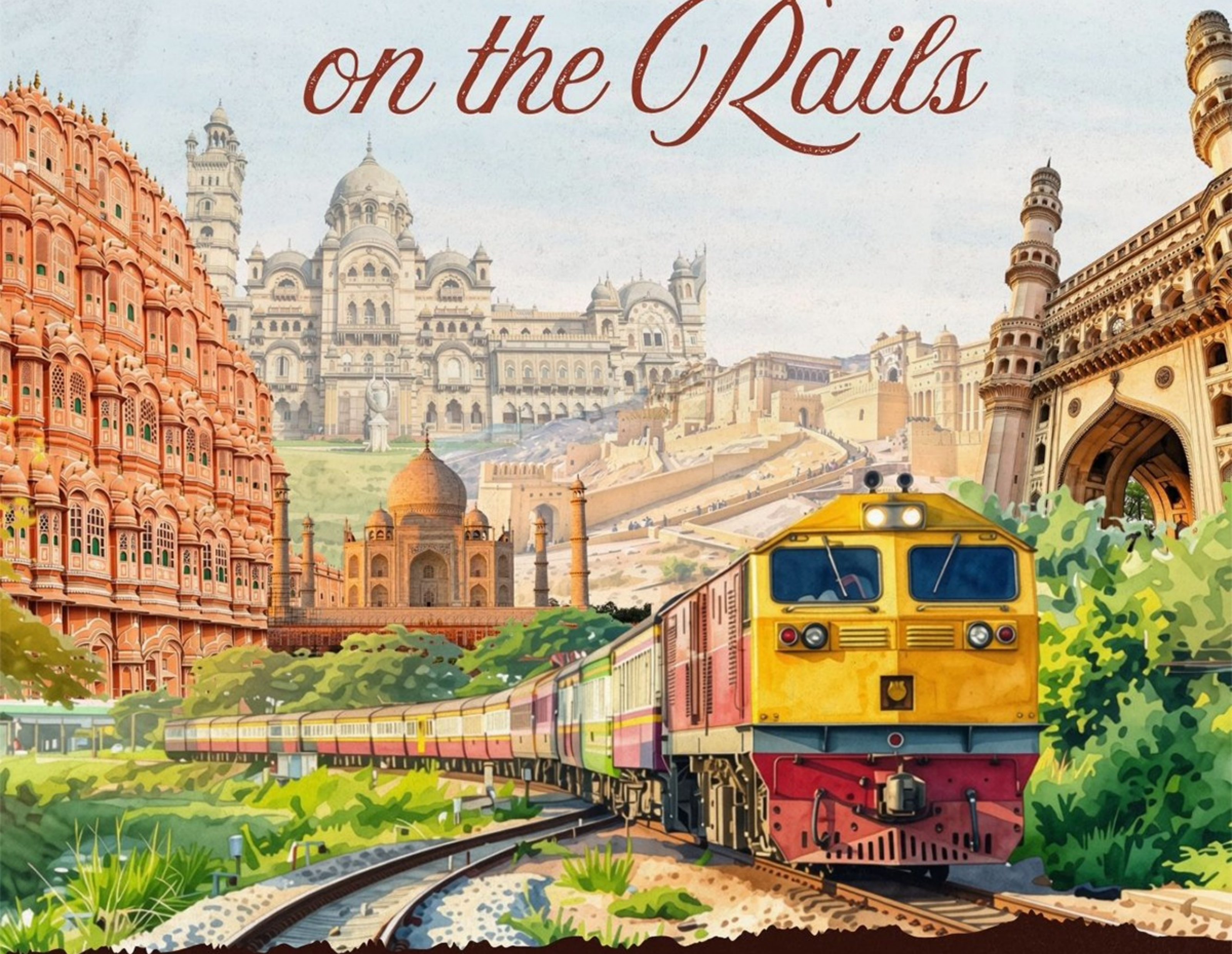




tamarind global
BESPOKE LUXURY EXPERIENCES

THE TAMARIND GLOBAL NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2026
tang

THE
Royal Soul
OF INDIA,
on the Rails



**Palatial interiors, personalized service and
extraordinary hospitality on the move**

A PALACE WITH A VIEW THAT KEEPS CHANGING

Your bedroom has its own bathroom. Dinner is served in regal surroundings. Every detail, from the décor to the dining, echoes a royal era. Outside, India keeps changing – from Rajasthan's grand forts to the wild landscapes of Madhya Pradesh and the historic treasures of the Deccan.

This is luxury train travel in India. Not simply a way to get from one destination to another, but a **five-star hotel on wheels**, crafted in the spirit of Royal India. This is the promise of India's legendary luxury trains, where the country's rich history unfolds one carriage window at a time.

Step aboard, and you step out of ordinary time. Brass fittings gleam like temple lamps. Silk cushions whisper of Mughal courts. Somewhere between the clink of afternoon Tea and the rhythmic clatter of wheels on ancient tracks, India stops being a destination and becomes a companion – travelling with you, one state at a time.

Board in Delhi, and by sunrise you're wandering the pink sandstone lanes of Jaipur, where maharajas once rode elephants to their own weddings. By nightfall, you're gliding past Ranthambore's wild silences, tigers unseen but felt. Wake again, and Udaipur's lake palaces float past like a dream someone forgot to end.

This isn't sightseeing. It's time travel with excellent room service.

From the majestic **Palace on Wheels**, shining with the royal charm of Rajasthan's maharajas, to the **Deccan Odyssey**, winding through Maharashtra's colourful landscapes, these trains weave India's diversity into one unforgettable journey. **The Maharajas' Express** takes luxury to dazzling heights, with royal-style interiors and celebrated routes between iconic destinations. And the **Golden Chariot** brings South India to life with its vibrant mix of grand temples, ancient wonders, lush greenery and coastal landscapes.

Each of these storied trains is less a vehicle than a moving expression of India's heritage, with interiors inspired by royal traditions and routes that connect some of the country's most remarkable treasures. The journey threads through forts that have outlived empires, temples older than nations, and markets where bargaining is still an art form passed down like a family recipe.

And the beauty is: India does the storytelling for you. You don't need a guidebook when the Aravalli hills are narrating in gold and dust, when the Arabian Sea appears at Goa's edge, or when a spice market's aroma tells you exactly which region you've entered before any signboard does.

By journey's end, you haven't just seen India. You've been folded into it – one border, one dawn, one destination at a time.

Some countries are meant to be visited. India is meant to be travelled – slowly, luxuriously, unforgettably.

All aboard.



NEW HOTEL OPENINGS

Park Inn & Suites by Radisson, Rajkot (Managed by Nile Hospitality)

Where? Rajkot, Gujarat



What is unique?

Park Inn & Suites by Radisson Rajkot is set to bring Rajkot its first internationally branded hotel, combining the globally recognised Park Inn & Suites by Radisson brand with NILE Hospitality's local market expertise. The 54-room property is designed around the needs of today's business and leisure traveller, with contemporary accommodation, an all-day dining restaurant, and approximately 2,500 sq. ft. of banquet space. The hotel will also operate as an exclusively vegetarian property, making its culinary offering particularly relevant to the local market.

Why Choose Park Inn & Suites by Radisson, Rajkot?

? Located in a central and strategic micro-market, the hotel offers convenient access for travellers visiting Rajkot for business, leisure, meetings, and social occasions. Its compact scale allows for an efficient stay while maintaining the consistency and service standards associated with an international brand. The all-day dining restaurant provides an easy option for meals throughout the day, while the flexible banquet facilities are suited to corporate meetings, celebrations, and social gatherings. The property also benefits from NILE Hospitality's established presence across Gujarat and its partnership with Radisson Hotel Group, bringing together international brand standards with regional understanding. NILE Hospitality manages hotels across multiple Indian markets and works with global brands including Radisson, Marriott, Hilton, Hyatt, Wyndham, and Accor. This combination makes Park Inn & Suites Rajkot a practical choice for travellers seeking reliable branded hospitality, vegetarian dining, modern facilities, and convenient access in one of Gujarat's growing commercial centres.



Maharaja Kothi by Alivaa

Where? Bandhavgarh, Madhya Pradesh



What is unique?

Maharaja Kothi by Alivaa brings together the royal history, cultural heritage and natural character of Bandhavgarh in one property. With its Kothi-style character and connection to the Maharajas of Rewa, the property carries stories from the region's past, including Tansen Ki Palki and Gol Ghar, a dining space set beneath a 500-year-old Banyan Tree. The grounds are also home to rich flora and fauna, making nature an important part of the experience. What makes Maharaja Kothi special is the amount of history and nature guests can discover within the property itself. The Heritage Museum showcases royal artefacts, vintage hunting memorabilia and traditional weapons, while the Panch Vriksh Parikrama takes guests around five significant trees, Neem, Mahua, Banyan, Bel and Amla. Even breakfast or high tea at Gol Ghar becomes part of the experience, with guests sitting beneath the centuries-old banyan tree and taking in the surroundings.

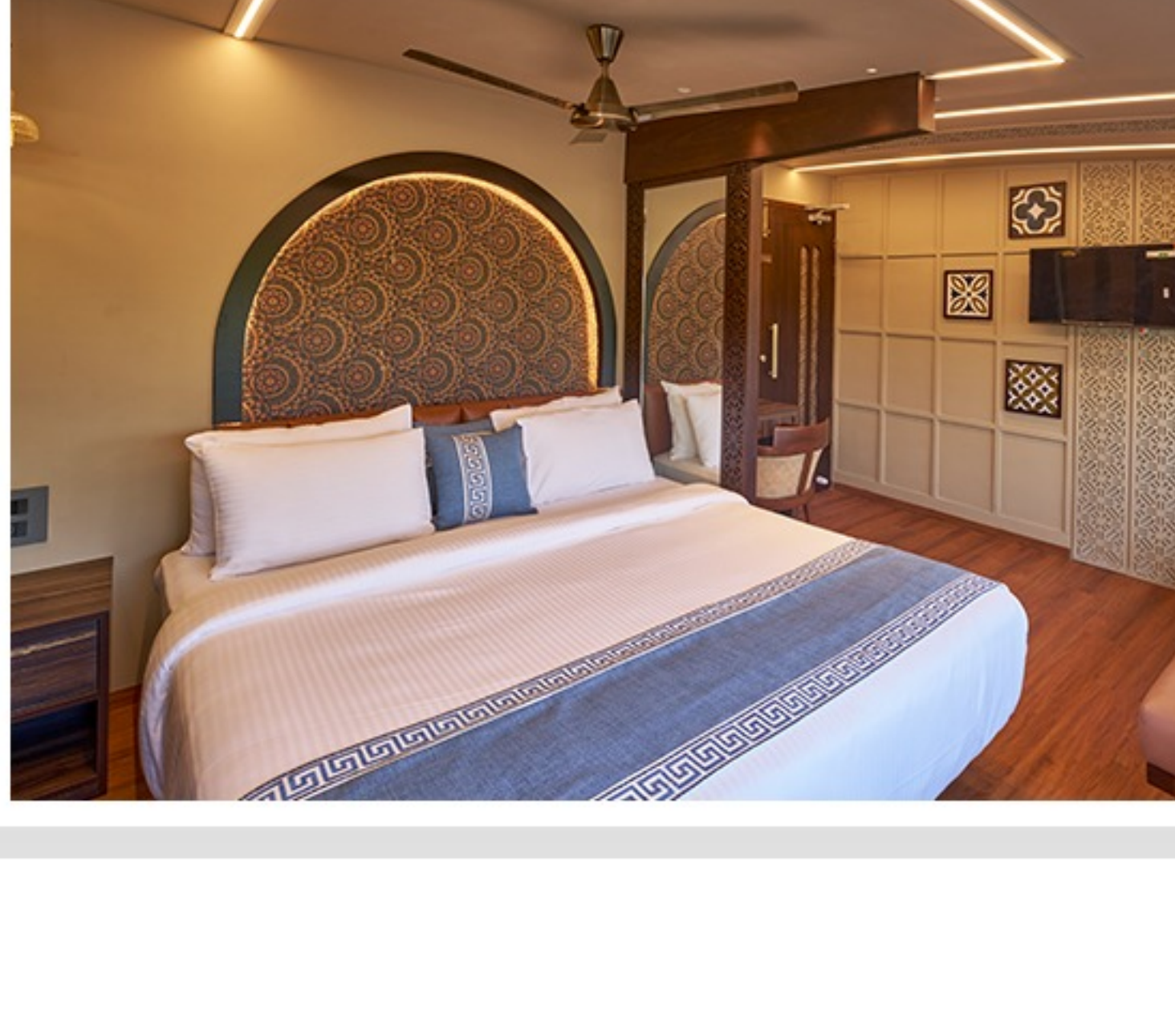
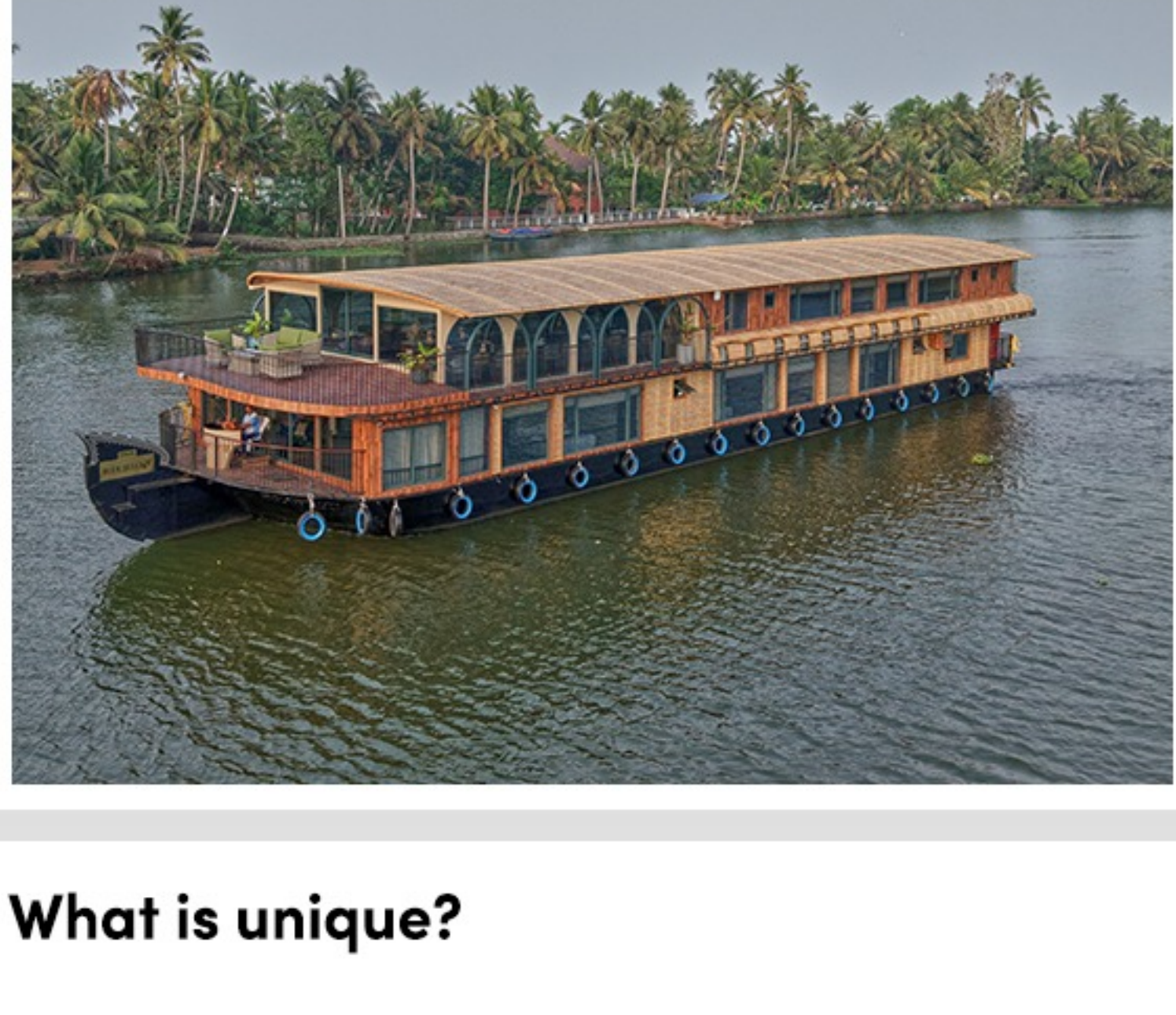
Why Choose Maharaja Kothi by Alivaa?

Located at The TALA GATE, Maharaja Kothi offers a different way to experience Bandhavgarh, bringing together wildlife, royal heritage, culture and nature. Guests can head out to explore the forests and attractions of the region and return to a property where there is still plenty to discover. From the property's heritage and natural surroundings to experiences such as local tribal dance, dinner with Maharaja Ji, naturalist interactions, bonfires and daily movie screenings, there are different ways to spend time between safaris. The result is a stay that feels connected to Bandhavgarh's story rather than simply serving as a place to stay while visiting the national park.



Blue Jelly Cruises & Resorts

Where? Champakulam, Alleppey, Kerala



What is unique?

Blue Jelly Cruises & Resorts offers a distinctive way to experience Kerala – where the destination is not simply somewhere to arrive, but something to be lived slowly and beautifully. Set in the tranquil backwaters of Alleppey, the experience combines refined houseboat comfort with the changing landscapes of palm-fringed canals, villages, paddy fields and waterways.

The collection of floating palaces includes Blue Jelly Onyx, Opal, Amber, Pearl, Topaz and Coral, each offering its own interpretation of luxury. From intimate stays to larger group experiences, the houseboats are designed around comfort, privacy, exceptional hospitality and an immersive connection with Kerala's backwaters.

Blue Jelly Coral is a 10-bedroom floating masterpiece designed for larger private groups, celebrations and corporate retreats. Its generous accommodation and communal spaces bring together the intimacy of a private floating escape with the scale required for larger gatherings.

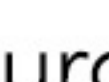
The true luxury of a Blue Jelly journey lies beyond the interiors. Time acquires a different quality on the water: meals unfold against changing landscapes, afternoons invite quiet contemplation, and evenings arrive with the gentle sounds of Kerala's waterways. Departing from Champakulam, the journey offers an intimate perspective of the region that cannot be experienced in the same way from a conventional hotel or road journey.

Why Choose Blue Jelly Cruises & Resorts ?

Blue Jelly houseboat journey lets guests enjoy Kerala's beautiful backwaters at a relaxed pace. Guests can enjoy delicious meals, watch fishermen and village life, and enjoy the peaceful views along the waterways. Depending on the houseboat, guests can enjoy Jacuzzi facilities, spacious upper decks, Club rooms, suites, and a 1,992 sq. ft. Presidential Suite. Its dining scene adds further character: Chithirai brings together Madurai flavours, Tamil festive specialities and global favourites; The Grand Trunk presents regional Indian cuisine; Chin Chin serves Pan-Asian dishes; while Eden offers cocktails, premium spirits and small plates in a garden-inspired setting. Guests can also unwind at AAVRAA Wellness Spa, the swimming pool, gym and dedicated yoga room.

Signature Experiences

- Jacuzzi experiences
- Backwater sightseeing and village life
- Spectacular sunset views
- Exotic native and international cuisine
- Grand lobby and comfortable communal spaces
- Upper sundeck relaxation
- Group dining and private celebrations



The Residency Signature Madurai

Where? Madurai, Tamil Nadu



What is unique?

The Residency Signature Madurai is a 191-key luxury hotel that combines contemporary hospitality with the cultural richness of one of South India's oldest living cities. Its location, just 1.5 km from Madurai International Airport, makes it particularly convenient for both leisure travellers and business guests. The property offers a broad accommodation portfolio, from Executive and Premium rooms to Club rooms, suites, and a 1,992 sq. ft. Presidential Suite. Its dining scene adds further character: Chithirai brings together Madurai flavours, Tamil festive specialities and global favourites; The Grand Trunk presents regional Indian cuisine; Chin Chin serves Pan-Asian dishes; while Eden offers cocktails, premium spirits and small plates in a garden-inspired setting. Guests can also unwind at AAVRAA Wellness Spa, the swimming pool, gym and dedicated yoga room.

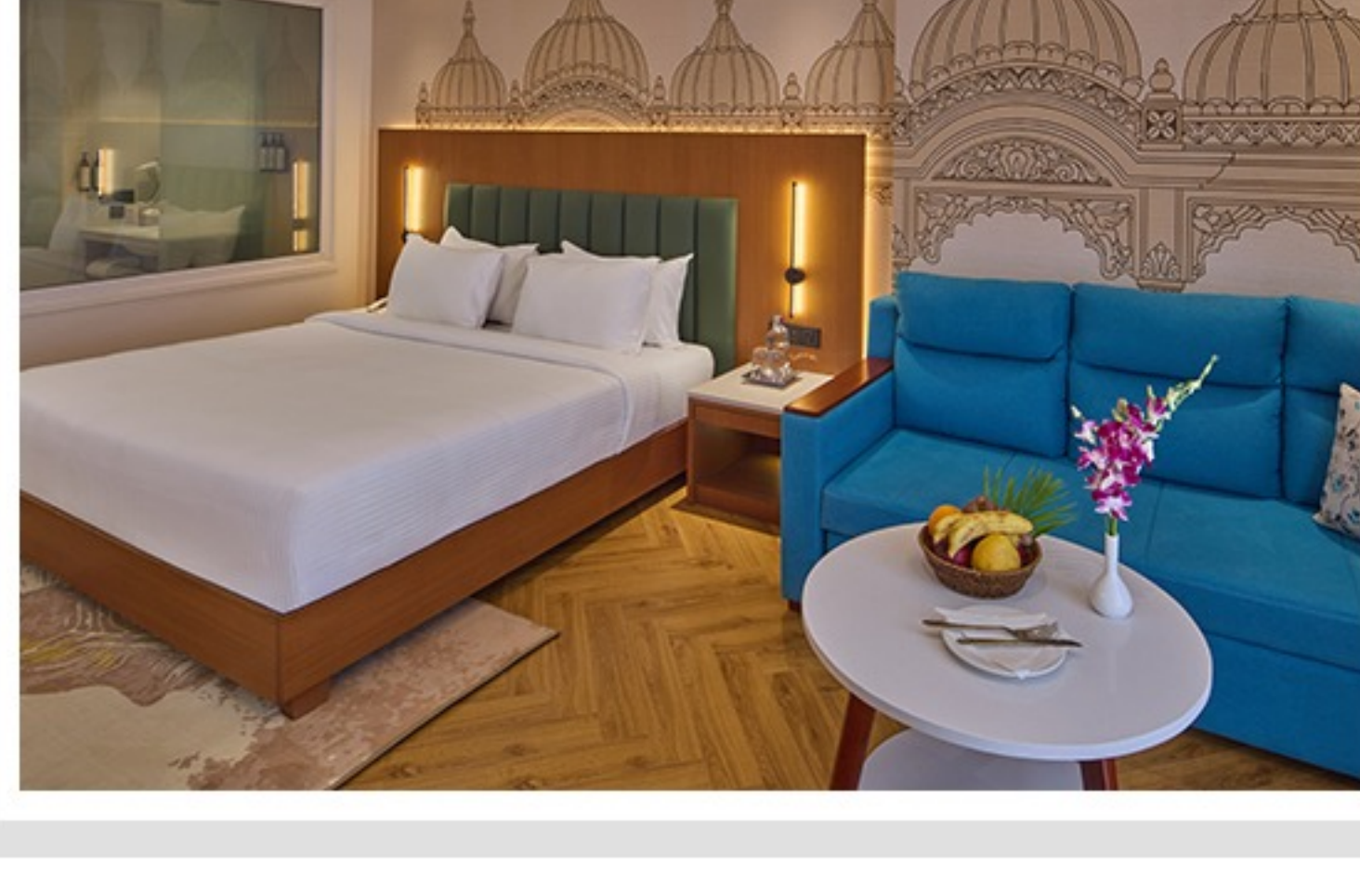
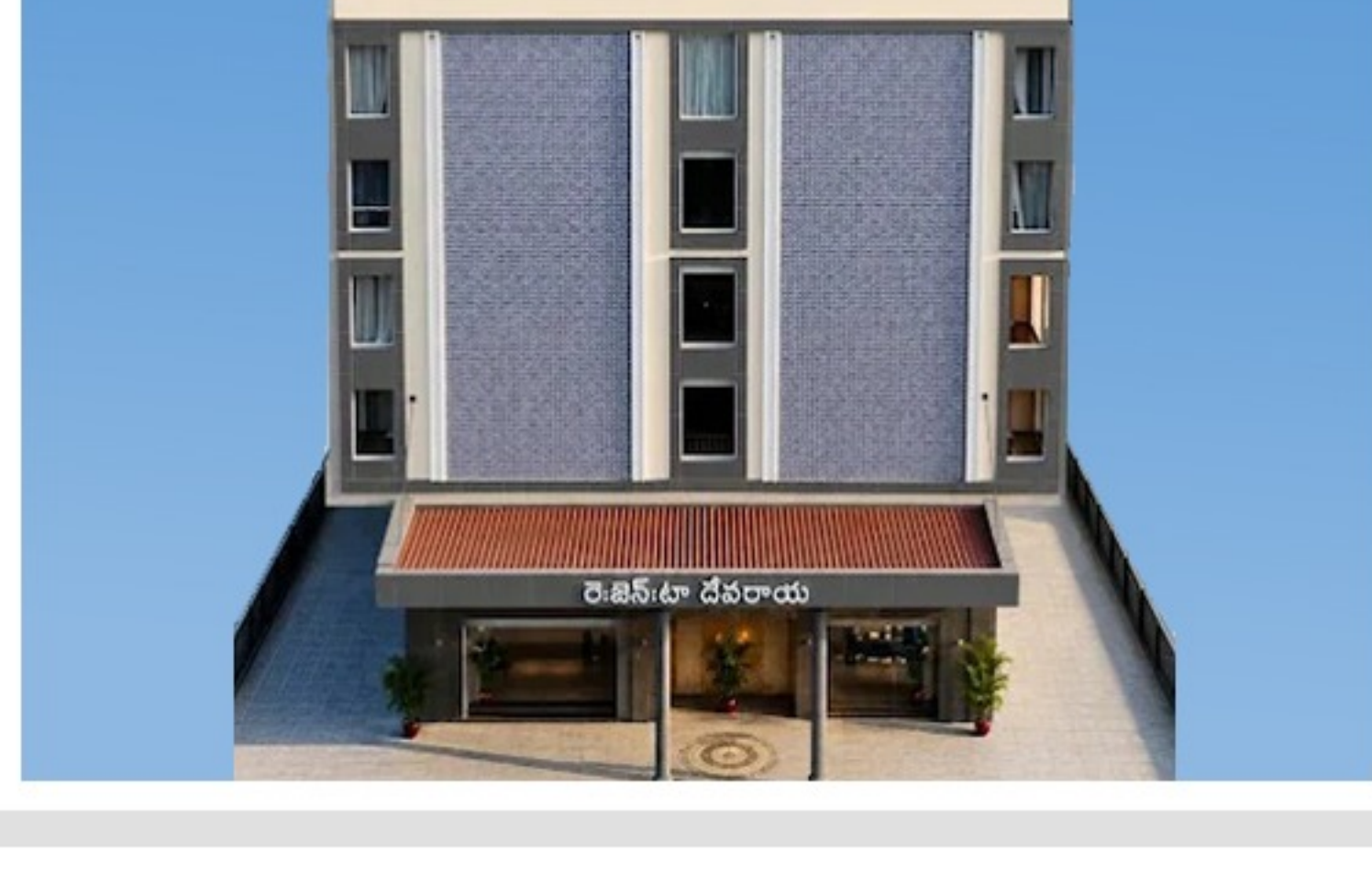
Why Choose The Residency Signature Madurai?

The hotel is an excellent base for discovering Madurai's cultural heritage, with the Meenakshi Amman Temple, Thiruparankundram and Thirumalai Nayakkar Mahal easily accessible. Its proximity to the airport, combined with comfortable rooms, 24-hour in-room dining and warm South Indian hospitality, makes sightseeing effortless while ensuring a relaxed return after a day of exploration. For families, the Kids' Club adds convenience, while travellers looking to extend their journey can reach Kodaikanal and Munnar for scenic escapes. For business and celebrations, the property's nearly 80,000 sq. ft. of event space includes a 20,000 sq. ft. rooftop Mandap and an 18,000 sq. ft. ballroom, making it equally capable of hosting intimate meetings or large gatherings.



Regenta Devarayah Tirupati

Where? Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh



What is unique?

Regenta Devarayah, Tirupati is positioned as a contemporary hospitality destination along the Bengaluru-Tirupati Highway, offering convenient access to the city's spiritual landmarks, railway station, airport, and key attractions. More than a traditional pilgrimage stay, the property brings together stylish rooms and suites, premium dining, a rooftop infinity pool, modern fitness facilities, and dedicated spaces for celebrations and business gatherings. Its combination of leisure and event facilities gives travellers the flexibility to stay, unwind, dine, and celebrate under one roof.

Why Choose Regenta Devarayah Tirupati?

The property is well suited to pilgrims, families, corporate travellers, and social groups looking for a comfortable base in Tirupati. Its strategic location makes travelling to the city's spiritual landmarks convenient, while the range of amenities provides opportunities to relax between visits. The rooftop infinity pool offers a refreshing retreat, complemented by the fitness centre for guests who prefer to stay active. For celebrations and corporate requirements, Regenta Devarayah offers elegant event spaces suitable for weddings, receptions, conferences, business meetings, and other social occasions. Premium dining adds another reason to spend time at the property, whether for a relaxed meal or a gathering with family and colleagues. With contemporary accommodation, wellness and recreation facilities, dining, and versatile event infrastructure brought together in one address, the hotel provides a practical and polished option for both pilgrimage-led stays and wider leisure or business travel



TAMARIND SUGGESTS

PALACE ON WHEELS:



Some journeys take you to India's royal heart. The Palace on Wheels lets you travel through it in royal style.

Since its debut in 1982, this iconic luxury train has transformed the art of seeing India. Inspired by the private carriages once used by the maharajas and princely rulers, it brings the grandeur of a bygone era into a beautifully appointed journey of today. Over seven nights and eight days, Rajasthan and beyond unfold outside your window, while your own elegant world travels with you.

Step aboard and the mood changes instantly. Richly detailed interiors, regal furnishings and thoughtfully crafted cabins echo the heritage of Rajasthan's former princely states. Private accommodation, refined dining, elegant lounges and attentive service make the train feel less like a mode of transport and more like a luxury hotel that happens to move.

And then there is the itinerary.

One journey brings together some of India's most extraordinary sights. Wander through the pink-hued grandeur of Jaipur, venture into the wilderness of Ranthambore, and discover the romantic lakes and palaces of Udaipur. Continue to the golden sands and imposing fort of Jaisalmer, explore the blue-painted lanes of Jodhpur, uncover the avian treasures of Bharatpur, and stand before the timeless beauty of the Taj Mahal in Agra.

It is a remarkable amount of India, without the constant unpacking and packing that usually comes with it. By day, the journey takes you into forts, palaces, wildlife sanctuaries and cultural landmarks. By evening, you return to the comfort of your carriage. Dinner unfolds in elegant surroundings, conversations linger over a drink, and the rhythmic sound of the train carries you towards the next chapter.

That is perhaps the true luxury of the Palace on Wheels: the freedom to experience more without feeling rushed.

Because luxury is not only about beautiful surroundings. It is about having the space to savour them. It is about waking up somewhere new, knowing that the journey itself is part of the experience.

The Palace on Wheels does more than connect destinations. It connects travellers with the royal soul of India — through its architecture, landscapes, cuisine, culture and stories.

Here, India doesn't simply pass by your window.

It travels with you.



Contact Your Relationship Manager For Bookings!

In this edition of Leader Lens, **Mr. Arun Kundu, Chief Business Officer**, shares his perspective on the evolving experience of luxury train travel in India. Through the story of the **Deccan Odyssey**, he explores how the journey goes beyond simply reaching destinations—bringing together heritage, comfort, hospitality and the joy of watching India unfold, one remarkable mile at a time.

INDIA IN MOTION: DISCOVERING THE MAGIC OF THE DECCAN ODYSSEY



For me, train travel in India is about far more than reaching a destination. It is about watching the country unfold beyond the window: bustling cities giving way to quiet villages, golden fields stretching towards the horizon, and ancient landscapes revealing stories shaped over centuries. When that journey is paired with luxury, comfort and impeccable service, the experience becomes truly unforgettable. That is precisely what the Deccan Odyssey offers.

More than a luxury train, the Deccan Odyssey is a moving celebration of India. Launched in 2004 as a joint initiative between Indian Railways and the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation, it was created to showcase the country's extraordinary heritage while combining the grandeur of a bygone era with the comforts of modern travel.

From the moment guests step aboard, the atmosphere evokes the splendour of Indian royalty. Richly decorated interiors, elegant furnishings and thoughtful details create the feeling of travelling through a magnificent palace on wheels. Yet the experience is never merely nostalgic.

With 21 coaches featuring passenger saloons, two dining cars, a bar lounge, conference car, spa and mini-gym, the train offers every comfort travellers could wish for. Guests can choose between Deluxe Cabins and spacious Presidential Suites, each equipped with air-conditioning, attached bathrooms and attentive service.

What makes the Deccan Odyssey especially compelling is the way it transforms the journey itself into an experience. Every itinerary opens the door to a different facet of India. Travellers may explore Mumbai's energy, Nashik's vineyards, the extraordinary Ajanta and Ellora Caves, Goa's coastal charm, Jaipur's royal heritage, Udaipur's lakes, Agra's timeless monuments or Vadodara's cultural treasures. The Maharashtra Splendour itinerary, for example, connects Mumbai, Nashik, Ellora, Ajanta, Kolhapur, Goa and Sawantwadi over seven nights and eight days – an extraordinary introduction to the region's history, landscapes and living traditions.

And between each destination, the train continues to enchant. Gourmet dining, elegant lounges, rejuvenating spa treatments and ever-changing views make time aboard the Deccan Odyssey as memorable as the excursions themselves. Days are filled with heritage sites, monuments, wildlife and local culture; evenings bring guests back to the warmth and comfort of their private retreat on wheels.

For me, the true appeal of the Deccan Odyssey lies in its ability to make every moment count. It invites travellers to slow down, look closer and experience India at a more meaningful pace. Here, royal hospitality meets regional cuisine, ancient history meets contemporary comfort, and spectacular landscapes become part of the story.

Ultimately, the Deccan Odyssey is not simply a way to travel across India. It is a way to feel the country's rhythm – to wake up somewhere new, carry yesterday's discoveries into today's adventure and let the journey become part of the destination.

That is the magic of the Deccan Odyssey: **it doesn't just take you across India; it brings India to life in motion.**



Contact Your Relationship Manager For Bookings!