

TRANS INDIA ON DESTINATIONS, EXPERIENCES & SPECIALITIES



KAPIL GOSWAMY
Founder & Managing Director

Dear Friends of Trans India Holidays!

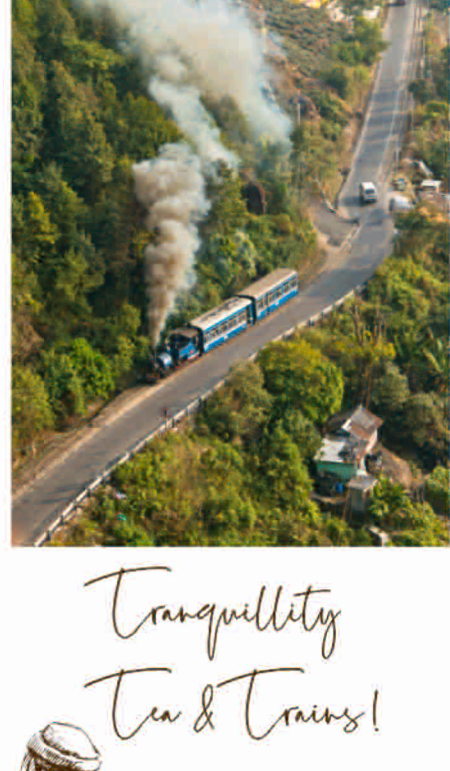
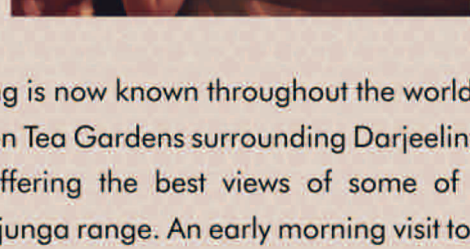
It is with great pleasure that we bring to you this mid-summer edition of 'TIDES' - our Newsletter. Our team has spent a great deal of time and put efforts in shaping this Newsletter in a way that you may find it useful, interesting and inspiring. We hope that it will help in enhancing your knowledge of the Indian sub-continent. After a busy and very successful season of Winter 2024-25, our Team has kept itself busy during the low season, inspecting new hotels and resorts, researching and trying out new experiences and developing new itineraries - all with a single-minded goal of giving your clients the best travel experiences throughout Indian sub-continent.

Kapil Goswamy

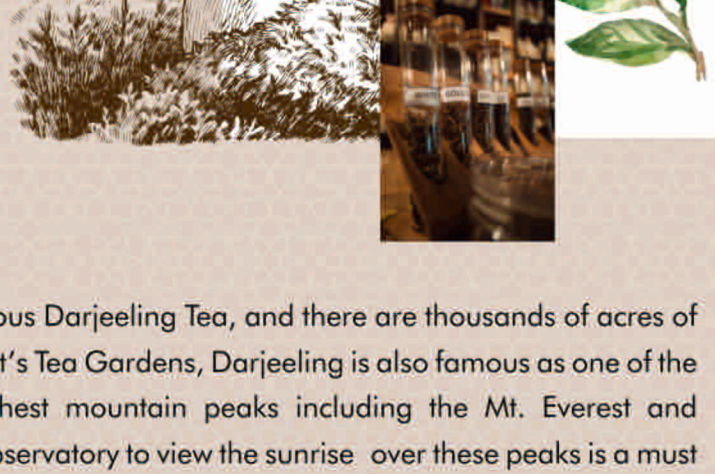
DESTINATION OF THE MONTH:

Darjeeling

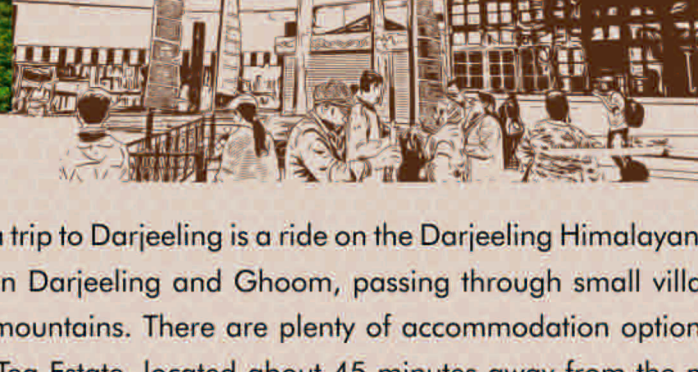
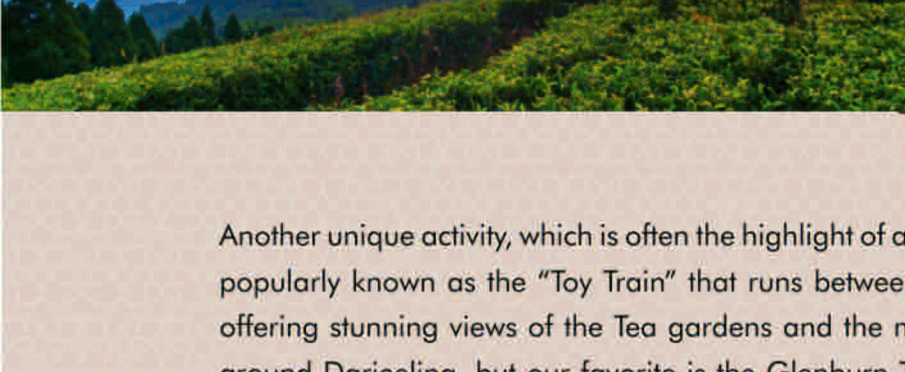
A beautiful hill station located in the north-easterly state of West Bengal in the Himalayan foothills, Darjeeling became a popular hill station, during the days of the East India Company, when the British officers found it as a good respite from hot and humid Calcutta.



*Tranquillity
Tea & Trails!*



Darjeeling is now known throughout the world for its eponymous Darjeeling Tea, and there are thousands of acres of lush green Tea Gardens surrounding Darjeeling. In addition to its Tea Gardens, Darjeeling is also famous as one of the places offering the best views of some of the world's highest mountain peaks including the Mt. Everest and Kanchenjunga range. An early morning visit to the Tiger Hill Observatory to view the sunrise over these peaks is a must do in Darjeeling.



Another unique activity, which is often the highlight of a trip to Darjeeling is a ride on the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, popularly known as the "Toy Train" that runs between Darjeeling and Ghoom, passing through small villages and offering stunning views of the Tea gardens and the mountains. There are plenty of accommodation options in and around Darjeeling, but our favorite is the Glenburn Tea Estate, located about 45 minutes away from the main city. The Glenburn Tea Estate is a wonderful colonial style Planter's Bungalow set amidst a functioning Tea Estate and Factory. Glenburn not only offers boutique accommodation, but also offers guided walks through the Tea plantation, visits to the Tea factory, picnics in the surrounding gardens. All in all, a great place to relax, enjoy the views, and ofcourse learn about the nuances of tea tasting.

EXPERIENCE OF THE MONTH:

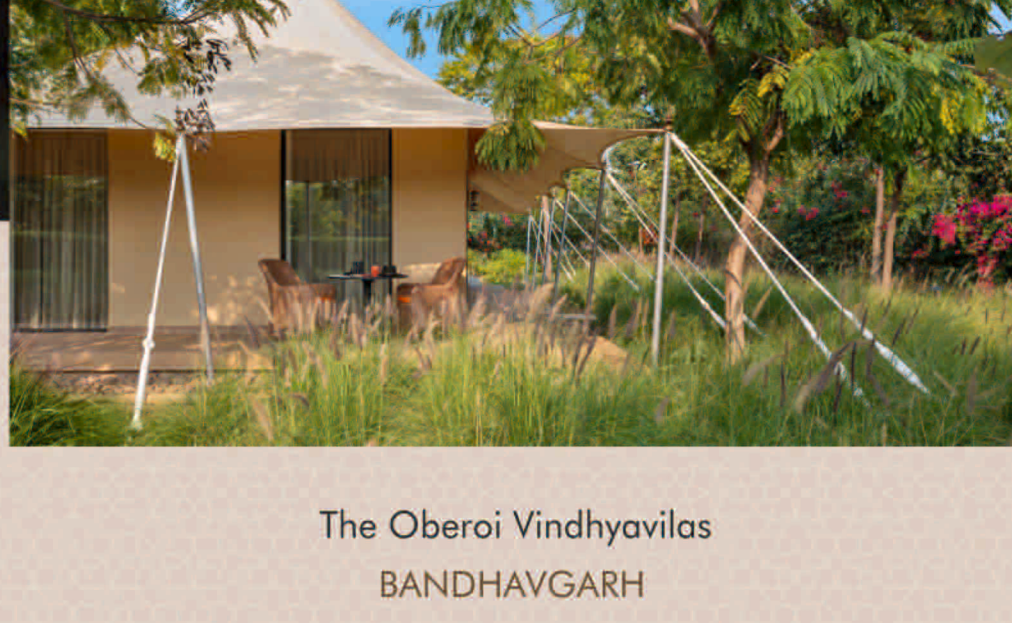
Everest Flight

EX KATHMANDU



A must do for any visitor to Nepal, is the early morning Everest flight. The flight that lasts about 60 minutes, really gets you up close to the Mt. Everest, as well as to 20 other high Himalayan peaks. Every seat on the plane is a window seat, offering excellent views, and in our view, for any one not trekking the high Himalayas, this is about as close as you would get to seeing Everest and the other peaks in all their glory.

HOTEL OF THE MONTH



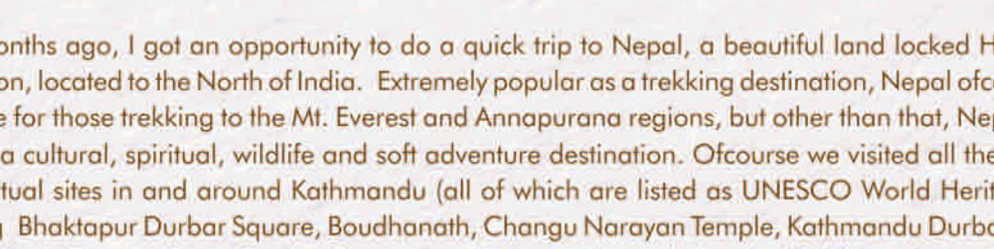
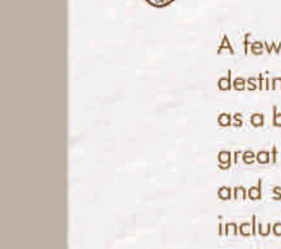
The Oberoi Vindhyavilas

BANDHAVGARH

Oberoi luxury comes to Bandhavgarh. The Bandhavgarh National Park is famous for its Tiger population, and is often regarded as one of the best places to sight Tigers, as well as Leopards and lots of other species of mammals and birds. Early this year, the Oberoi Hotels, known for their impeccable service standards and world class hospitality, opened the Oberoi Vindhyavilas Luxury tented camp in the outskirts of the Bandhavgarh National Park. With just 19 luxury tents and 2 pool villas set in 21 acres of wild forest style grassland, this will certainly be the place for well heeled travelers to Bandhavgarh.

Travel Diaries

Nepal Revisited



A few months ago, I got an opportunity to do a quick trip to Nepal, a beautiful land locked Himalayan destination, located to the North of India. Extremely popular as a trekking destination, Nepal ofcourse acts as a base for those trekking to the Mt. Everest and Annapurana regions, but other than that, Nepal is also great as a cultural, spiritual, wildlife and soft adventure destination. Ofcourse we visited all the religious and spiritual sites in and around Kathmandu (all of which are listed as UNESCO World Heritage sites) including Bhaktapur Durbar Square, Patan Durbar Square, and Swayambhunath, but the highlight of the trip was the trekking in the Annapurna region, starting just outside of Pokhara. The Mountain Lodges of Nepal (earlier called the Ker & Downey Lodges) offer excellent facilities for anyone interested in soft trekking and enjoying the views of some of the world's highest snow capped peaks, but still wanting to sleep in a comfortable bed, eat warm food, and have hot showers.

Next stop was the Chitwan National Park, where we had wonderful sightings of the one-horned Asiatic Rhinoceros. With a sprinkling of culture, spirituality, adventure and wildlife, all done in 7 days, Nepal should really be on the bucket list of all travelers.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Besan Chilla

a savory Indian pancake made from gram flour, perfect for breakfast or a light meal.

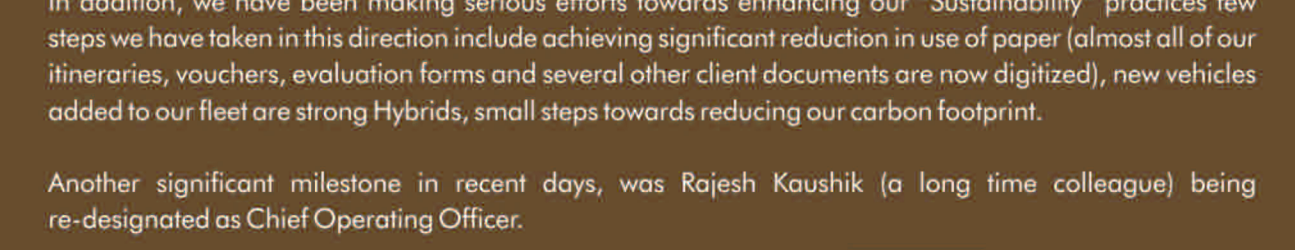
INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup besan (gram flour)
- 1/4 cup finely chopped onions
- 1/4 cup finely chopped tomatoes
- 2 tsp finely chopped coriander
- 1 green chili, finely chopped (optional)
- 1/2 tsp turmeric powder
- 1/2 tsp carom seeds (ajwain)
- Salt to taste
- Water, as needed
- 2 tsp oil for cooking

COOKING INSTRUCTIONS

- In a bowl, combine gram flour, onions, tomatoes, coriander, green chili, turmeric, carom seeds and salt.
- Add water gradually to make a smooth, pourable batter.
- Heat a non-stick pan and grease it lightly with oil.
- Pour a ladleful of batter and spread it like a pancake.
- Cook on medium flame until golden brown on both sides, using a little oil.
- Serve hot with ketchup or yogurt.

COMPANY UPDATES



Trans India Holidays and Platinum by Trans India have had a busy, eventful and rewarding last few months. Significant happenings and milestones at our end include us receiving Top Performer Agent Awards from the Taj Group of Hotels, Leela Hotels, The Imperial New Delhi and Evolve Back Resorts, and also us getting certified as a "Great Place to Work".

In addition, we have been making serious efforts towards enhancing our "Sustainability" practices few steps we have taken in this direction include achieving significant reduction in use of paper (almost all of our itineraries, vouchers, evaluation forms and several other client documents are now digitized), new vehicles added to our fleet, using Hybrid, small steps towards reducing our carbon footprint.

Another significant milestone in recent days, was Rajesh Kaushik (a long time colleague) being re-designated as Chief Operating Officer.

We're Proud to be **Certified**

