

Travel Befikar



# MICE & Corporate Travel

- Family Holidays
- Luxury Travel
- Social Events
- Domestic & International Tours
- Air Tickets & Hotel Bookings
- Allied Travel Services

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# Globe TROTTERS Gazette

JULY EDITION 2024



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# Exploring Northern Thailand Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai

## Discovering the Charms of Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai; A Journey of Serenity and Wonder:

As I reflect on my recent journey through Northern Thailand, Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai emerge as vivid chapters in my travel diary—each city offering a unique tapestry of culture, nature, and unforgettable experiences.



## Why one should go Chiang Mai?

Chiang Mai boasts a rich cultural heritage, scenic mountains, and vibrant festivals like Yi Peng. Visitors go for the temples, adventure activities, and northern Thai cuisine.

## Why one should go Chiang Rai?

Chiang Rai features unique temples like the White Temple and serene landscapes. Travelers seek its artistic marvels, cultural experiences with hill tribes, and tranquil atmosphere.

## Chiang Mai: Where Time Stands Still Amidst Tradition

**A Spiritual Awakening at Wat Phra Singh:** Stepping into the sacred grounds of Wat Phra Singh felt like entering a realm where time stood still. The ancient Lanna architecture, adorned with intricate carvings and golden stupas, whispered tales of centuries-old traditions. Monks in saffron robes moved gracefully through the temple, their serene presence adding to the palpable spirituality of the place.

**Wandering Through the Night Bazaar:** The vibrant Night Bazaar of Chiang Mai lured me into a sensory feast. Stalls brimmed with colorful handicrafts, from delicate silk scarves to hand-carved wooden figurines. The aroma of sizzling street food filled the air as I savored my first taste of khao soi—a fragrant noodle soup that instantly became a favorite.

**Embracing Nature at Doi Suthep-Pui National Park:** A trek through Doi Suthep-Pui National Park was a rejuvenating escape into nature's embrace. Lush greenery enveloped me as I followed winding trails leading to the hilltop Wat Phra That Doi Suthep. The panoramic view of Chiang Mai from the temple's terrace was breathtaking, a moment of tranquility amidst the city's vibrant pulse.

## Chiang Rai: Where Artistry and Culture Converge

**The Enigmatic White Temple:** Wat Rong Khun, or the White Temple, was unlike anything I had ever seen. Its pristine white facade gleamed under the sun, adorned with intricate sculptures and mirrored fragments that reflected the sky. The surreal interior, a fusion of traditional Buddhist motifs and contemporary art, invited contemplation and awe.

**Encounters with Hill Tribes:** Exploring the hill tribe villages around Chiang Rai was a humbling experience. The Akha, Lisu, and Karen communities welcomed me warmly, sharing glimpses of their daily lives and age-old customs. Intricately woven textiles and skilled craftsmanship spoke volumes about their rich cultural heritage, leaving a lasting impression on my journey.

**Tranquil Moments by the Kok River:** Cruising along the serene Kok River offered moments of pure serenity. The gentle breeze carried whispers of rural life, as verdant landscapes unfolded before my eyes. Passing bamboo groves and traditional wooden houses, I felt a deep connection to the natural beauty and simplicity of Northern Thailand.

**Exploring Northern Thai Cuisine:** From the fiery flavors of nam prik num to the comforting richness of khao soi, Northern Thai cuisine captivated my taste buds at every turn. Dining at local markets and family-run eateries revealed the region's culinary diversity and dedication to fresh ingredients. Each meal became a celebration of flavors, shared with newfound friends and fellow travelers.

## Conclusion: Capturing the Essence of Northern Thailand

Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai captivated me with their blend of ancient traditions, natural beauty, and warm hospitality. Whether exploring ancient temples or cruising down tranquil rivers, every moment revealed a new facet of Northern Thailand's charm. As I bid farewell to these enchanting cities, I carry with me memories of serenity, wonder, and the enduring allure of a journey well-traveled.

Embark on your own adventure to Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai, where each experience promises to unfold the magic of Northern Thailand in its purest form.

## Suggested Itinerary for Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai

- Day 1 :** Arrival in Chiang Rai. Complete the immigration process, then transfer to the hotel. Check-in at the hotel. Day free for leisure and nearby sightseeing.
- Day 2 :** Explore the iconic White Temple and Blue Temple.
- Day 3 :** Check out and transfer to Chiang Mai, stopping en route at Pongyang Adventure Park for zip-lining and coaster rides.
- Day 4 :** Full-day excursion at Doi Inthanon National Park, with its beautiful waterfalls and pagodas.
- Day 5 :** Take a day trip to the Golden Triangle, where the borders of Thailand, Laos, and Myanmar meet.
- Day 6 :** A half-day city and temple tour in the morning and a visit to Doi Suthep and the White Hmong Hilltribe Village in the afternoon.
- Day 7 :** Check out and head to the airport for departure.




## What to See in Northern Thailand

- 1. Chiang Mai: The Cultural Heart**
  - o Temples: Wat Phra Singh, Wat Chedi Luang
  - o Panoramic views from Wat Phra That Doi Suthep
- 2. Doi Inthanon National Park: Thailand's Highest Peak**
  - o Attractions: Cloud forests, Wachirathan and Mae Ya waterfalls, Kew Mae Pan ridge trail
- 3. Mae Hong Son: The City of Three Mists**
  - o Highlights: Ethnic groups (Karen, Hmong, Lisu), Doi Mae U-Kho, Namtok Mae Surin National Parks, Baan Rak Thai village
- 4. Pai: A Relaxed Mountain Getaway**
  - o Activities: Hiking to Mo Paeng Waterfall, exploring Tham Lod cave, Pai Canyon, hill tribe villages, natural hot springs
- 5. Chiang Rai: Temples and Tribal Life**
  - o Sights: White Temple (Wat Rong Khun), Blue Temple (Rong Suea Ten), Khun Korn Waterfall, Doi Mae Salong village, Chiang Rai Night Bazaar
- 6. Sukhothai: Ancient Ruins and History**
  - o Must-See: UNESCO-listed ruins, Wat Mahathat, Wat Sri Chum, Ramkhamhaeng National Park, cultural activities like silk-weaving and pottery



**NEHA SIL**  
Director

# Exotic International Holidays

 <p><b>THAILAND</b> Land Package Starting From <b>₹24,900</b></p>	 <p><b>MALAYSIA</b> Land Package Starting From <b>₹33,800</b></p>	 <p><b>DUBAI/DUBAI</b> Land Package Starting From <b>₹35,900</b></p>	 <p><b>ALMATY</b> Land Package Starting From <b>₹38,500</b></p>
 <p><b>VIETNAM</b> Land Package Starting From <b>₹38,600</b></p>	 <p><b>SINGAPORE</b> Land Package Starting From <b>₹57,000</b></p>	 <p><b>EGYPT</b> Land Package Starting From <b>₹69,500</b></p>	 <p><b>TURKEY</b> Land Package Starting From <b>₹73,500</b></p>
 <p><b>SWITZERLAND</b> Land Package Starting From <b>₹1,49,900</b></p>	 <p><b>KENYA</b> Land Package Starting From <b>₹1,57,900</b></p>	 <p><b>JAPAN</b> Land Package Starting From <b>₹1,76,500</b></p>	 <p><b>EASTERN EUROPE</b> Land Package Starting From <b>₹1,80,000</b></p>

# Dil se Indian Holidays

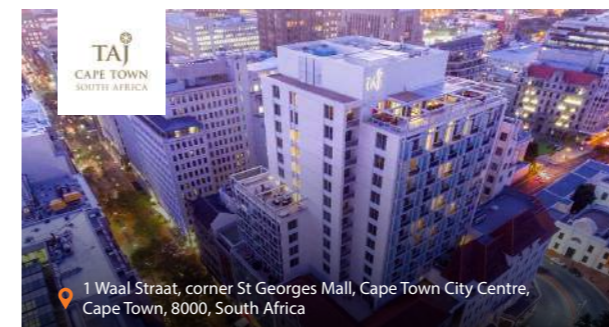
 <p><b>RAJASTHAN</b> Land Package Starting From <b>₹28,000</b></p>	 <p><b>ANDAMAN</b> Land Package Starting From <b>₹29,600</b></p>	 <p><b>KERALA</b> Land Package Starting From <b>₹29,900</b></p>	 <p><b>KASHMIR</b> Land Package Starting From <b>₹29,900</b></p>
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**Best Deals on Luxury Cruise Lines**






# MICE Destination South Africa



## Must do in South Africa for MICE Group

1. Spot the Big 5 and other wildlife in South Africa's parks (Lion, Leopard, Rhino, Buffalo and Elephant)
2. Hike or ride up Cape Town's iconic Table Mountain for the best views
3. Drive from Cape Town to Africa's south western most point to see where two oceans meets
4. Sundowner yacht party in cape town
5. Meet the penguins at Boulder's beach and take a Boat to the seal island
6. Wine tasting & picnic by the lakeside at one of South Africa's vineyards

## Suggested Itinerary

- Day 01: Arrival Johannesburg - Transfer to Sun City
- Day 02: Game Drive at Pilanesburg National Park - Sun City
- Day 03: Walk With Lion Tour - Fly to Cape Town
- Day 04: Cape Peninsula and Cape Point tour
- Day 05: Cape Town city tour with Table Mountain - Shopping
- Day 06: Departure Day

Note: The tours can be customized. For MICE groups please contact us on +91 98197 14082

# Featured Hotel - Le Méridien Ile Maurice



## Running Special MICE Promotion Deals

**Location :**  
MU, Village Hall Lane, Pointe aux Piments 21304, Mauritius

Perched beside a kilometer-long stretch of ivory sand, the refurbished Le Meridien Ile Maurice is designed for new discoveries. Born in an era of glamorous travel, today the vibrant tapestry of Mauritius weaves through this luxury family hotel. This beach resort boasts rooms stylishly spread along the beach, giving an exceptional feeling of space and relaxation. All guests can benefit from the breathtaking view over the Indian Ocean directly from their private balcony and admire the inspirational sunset every evening. For those wanting a little more privacy, discover Nirvana, an exclusive adults-only section of the resort. Le Meridien Ile Maurice redefines tropical resorts, inspiration is everywhere.

**Number of rooms :**  
261

### Fun Activities at Le Méridien Ile Maurice

Enjoy water sports, land sports, recreational activities, and a kids club; the biggest ballroom for up to 500 guests with modern facilities, and featured Indian cuisine at Kumin with live cooking stations.

# Spectacular

## Cruises to Watch Out for This Year



**Resorts World One from Dubai**

Resorts World Cruise provides luxurious voyages featuring world-class entertainment, diverse dining options, and top-tier amenities. Guests can enjoy state-of-the-art facilities, exciting shore excursions, and exceptional service, making for an unforgettable cruising experience starting from, October this year.



**Norwegian Viva NCL-Viva**

Embark on an extraordinary cruise experience with Norwegian Cruise Line's NCL Viva, offers a luxurious escape featuring state-of-the-art amenities, world-class entertainment, and diverse dining options. Guests will explore stunning destinations along the Mediterranean, enjoying unparalleled service and luxury. With Norwegian Cruise Line, your journey promises to be an unforgettable adventure, exceeding all expectations.



**Disney Cruise from Singapore**

The Disney Cruise from Singapore offers a grand experience with visits to various close destinations. These cruises typically feature beloved Disney characters, world-class entertainment, and themed dining experiences, making for an unforgettable cruising experience and will be open from next year onwards.



**Icon of the Seas by Royal Caribbean**

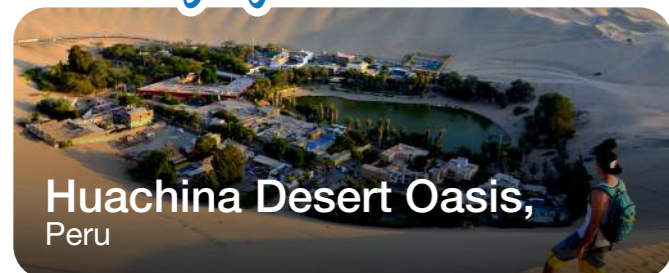
The Icon of the Seas by Royal Caribbean offers an extraordinary cruise featuring state-of-the-art amenities, world-class entertainment, and diverse dining options. Guests can embark on a voyages, exploring stunning destinations like the Bahamas and the Caribbean, all while enjoying the unparalleled service and luxury Royal Caribbean is known for.



**Arctic Cruise by Silversea**

Embark on a luxurious Arctic adventure with Silversea Cruises, departing round-trip from Copenhagen, Denmark. Enjoy state-of-the-art amenities, world-class entertainment, and exquisite dining as you explore the Arctic's stunning landscapes, majestic wildlife, and pristine icebergs. With unparalleled service and luxury, Silversea offers an unforgettable journey through one of the world's most awe-inspiring regions.

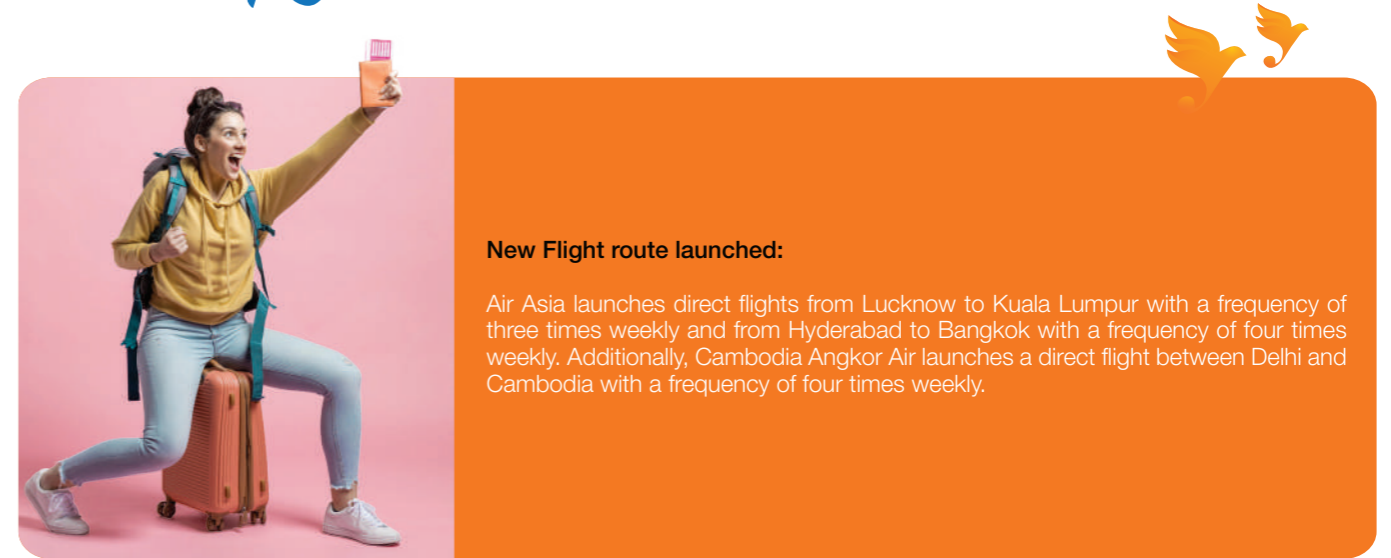
# Amazing Places on Earth



**Huachina Desert Oasis: Peru**

Think a holiday in the desert would be hot, boring, and absolutely the last option on your list? Hopefully, you will change your mind when visiting the Huachina desert oasis in southwestern Peru. This tiny but amazing village has a diverse array of street vendors, eateries, and hotels, and is surrounded almost entirely by massive sand dunes. Huachina is also renowned for its fantastic dune buggy and sandboarding tours. You can also camp in the sand and sleep under the stars if you want!

# Travel News



### New Flight route launched:

Air Asia launches direct flights from Lucknow to Kuala Lumpur with a frequency of three times weekly and from Hyderabad to Bangkok with a frequency of four times weekly. Additionally, Cambodia Angkor Air launches a direct flight between Delhi and Cambodia with a frequency of four times weekly.

### Israel is planning to launch an e-visa programme for Indian travellers,

marking the first time the country will be eligible for such a program... Union Budget 2024: On Monday, the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) called for several measures to support the domestic travel and

### Taiwan Tourism reinvigorates Indian market with renewed focus on MICE

The Taiwan Tourism Administration hopes that this year's visitor numbers from India will return to pre-pandemic levels. It is also expected that direct flights between the two regions will resume soon, making travel between Taiwan and India more convenient, comfortable, and economical. To attract Indian tourists, the TTA has introduced specific incentives and initiatives.

### Air India has enhanced its collaboration with Vistara (UK) by implementing a codeshare arrangement. Under this new agreement,

Air India's marketing code will be placed on all Vistara-operated flights, both domestic and international, subject to regulatory approval. This arrangement provides flexibility as sectors operated by Air India and Vistara can be sold either separately or in conjunction with Air India's flights. Additionally, the partnership will offer seamless travel experiences, with both airlines able to issue boarding passes for connecting flights at the point of origin through IATCI.

### IndiGo has announced the launch of direct flights from Mangaluru, Coimbatore, and Tiruchirappalli to Abu Dhabi.

The flights on the Abu Dhabi to Mangaluru route will operate daily, from August 9, and the Tiruchirappalli to Abu Dhabi will operate four times a week, starting from August 11. Starting from August 10, the direct flights from Coimbatore will operate thrice weekly.

### Air India will deploy its flagship Airbus A350

for twice-daily flights between Delhi and London Heathrow

starting September 1, 2024. The Airbus aircraft will operate the airline's daily Delhi-New York JFK flights from November 1, followed by Delhi-Newark from January 2, 2025.

### Air India launches baggage tracking feature on mobile app & website

Air India has rolled out an easy-to-use baggage tracking feature on its mobile app and website. Leveraging real-time baggage tracking information available from its network airports and a scalable cloud applications infrastructure, this capability will keep guests in the know of their baggage throughout the journey and significantly reduce concern, if any, about their checked-in bags.

Air India is one of the select few airlines in the world to provide this convenience directly to guests without any intervention from airline staff.

Guests can track their checked-in bags simply by scanning the barcode on their baggage receipts. Alternatively, this information becomes automatically available in the 'My Trips' section of the mobile app soon after the bags are checked-in, if the trip has been added there.

### Thailand rolls out "MICE one stop service"

To cement its position as a premier destination for international events, the Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau (TCEB) is introducing the "Thailand MICE One Stop Service" to ease access for international MICE travelers. In collaboration with key government agencies, TCEB is implementing measures such as extending visa stays for MICE visitors and organizers, expanding visa exemptions, and rolling out global e-visa services. Airport enhancements include adding officers at checkpoints, doubling passport processing capacity with a new Automatic Channel system, and implementing the Thailand Immigration System (TIS) and Advance Passenger Processing (APPS) for enhanced security and efficiency. MICE Lane Services for VIPs are operational in Bangkok, with plans to expand to Phuket, Chiang Mai, and Udon Thani airports by 2026.