



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Hoteliers are looking at differentiated experiences for the new aged well-heeled traveller to make sure a break is more meaningful than ever before.

BY BINDU GOPAL RAO

The way guests choose the hotels they wish to stay in today is guided by how sustainable and local the property is and how it can offer guests an insight into the same.

Located on the Dehradun-Mussoorie Road in Uttarakhand, Hyatt Regency Dehradun is the first 5-star hotel in Dehradun and the largest luxury hotel in the state of Uttarakhand. The hotel offers 263 rooms across seven floors, four distinctive food & beverage venues, each with an alfresco seating option, Regency Club, Rooftop Pool, Spa & Salon, Stay Fit Studio and Camp Hyatt.

Being well-connected to major Indian cities, the hotel's unique location enables the guests to explore what Dehradun has to offer. Be it scenic mountain or forest treks/ hikes, exploring mind rolling monasteries, or visiting iconic properties. Designed by Giampiero Peia, the Milan-based Italian architect, the hotel's design is based on the theme of Pine trees and their elements, representing Dehradun in the interior space with a perfect balance of luxury and nature. "Some designs also include mountainous leaves of Dehradun engraved on a collage of different woods, overlaid by a magnificent brass leaf. Inspired by the radial language of the fir pine leaves, a brass mural is placed that adds the perfect accent to the luxurious interiors. Some of the artwork also includes a collage of 3D carved stone murals predicting abstract flora life of Uttarakhand," says Harkaran Singh, General Manager, Hyatt Regency Dehradun.

Another aspect of choosing a hotel is guided by the kind of local connections a property can make. "At Hyatt Regency Dehradun, we are committed to caring for people and the communities we operate in. The market, located at the lobby level, is a casual grab and go venue, where we retail artisanal products sourced from local vendors and small-scale industries who celebrate local produce and provide livelihood to local population. Under the aegis of Hyatt Loves Local - we are also working with local brands like Gulmeher Green, Artisan Palate, Darima Cheese, Namakwali, Slurrp



Harkaran Singh, General Manager, Hyatt Regency Dehradun

Farm and more," says Singh.

The hotel is also working with regional chefs in Uttarakhand and providing them with a platform to showcase native food at their cosmopolitan food gallery, Range, during breakfast. "In addition to these, there are ongoing initiatives to adopt and support neighbourhood schools and assist them with basic supplies, stationery, and upkeep of the space. Also, our onsite water bottling plant, rainwater harvesting systems, sewage treatment plant, and key-less operations in guest rooms through

Leutron sensor-controlled lights and power help us make a difference towards the wellbeing of our planet."

The property offers its guests various onsite and offsite activities to help them make the most of their stay in #HeartOfTheHills. Some onsite activities include forest treks and picnics, food trails, spiritual and adventure trips to neighbourhood destinations, cooking sessions with our regional chefs, kids' activities and games at Camp Hyatt, as well as an array of onsite recreation options like Playstation, Table Tennis, Badminton, Camp Hyatt, Spa, Rooftop pool and more.

The property's location allows guests to explore what Dehradun has to offer. Be it scenic mountain or forest treks/ hikes or exploring mind rolling monasteries or visiting iconic properties like the Forest Research Institute or going on a local food trail savouring the flavour of Doon with the famous Bun Tikki, Sadarji ke Pakode, Chetan ki Kachori, Katlambe Chole and wrapping it with the nostalgic cream roll at Ellora's Bakery. The location also provides easy access to famous tourist destinations like Mussoorie, Rishikesh-Haridwar, which can be enjoyed in half or full-day trips.

Post the pandemic, safety measures are of paramount importance. Hyatt's Global Care & Cleanliness Commitment is an important expression of their purpose to care for people so they can be their best, now and in the future. Some new measures at Hyatt Regency Dehradun include the GBAC STAR cleanliness and training accreditation. "Measures may include touch-free options, more frequent sanitization with hospital-grade disinfectants, and the use of electrostatic sprayers. We remain committed to showing care for the wellbeing of our colleagues and guests in many ways, which may include revised capacity guidelines, face mask or covering re-



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quirements and appropriate personal protective equipment for colleagues, and more," says Singh.

Singh is a firm believer that challenges never come without opportunities and at Hyatt Regency Dehradun his team chooses to embrace the opportunities ahead. From developing local suppliers' networks to employing locals, sourcing local ingredients, and promoting the local culture and destination Dehradun, the team is committed to making a difference in the lives of those who have welcomed them with open arms in their home state. "We are positive that with our integrated efforts and collaboration with local government and the people of Dehradun who have embraced us as their own, we will create a new benchmark in the hospitality world, guided by our commitment to care. We are committed to growing with intent and continue to support local communities, employ a diverse workforce to support our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion and deliver authentic experiences to our guests," he signs off. ■





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