

spice route

THE INFLIGHT MAGAZINE

FESTIVE
FERVOUR



SPIRIT OF THE SEASON



Festivals in India are about spending time with your loved ones. It is also that time of year, when the last of the monsoon gives way to mellow autumn and adds a spring to our steps. And wherever you are, you'll find the spirit is infectious – including in our five destinations for the festive season.

BINDU GOPAL RAO

PORT BLAIR

Sea, Stories & Serenity

Port Blair's past may be sombre but its present looks confidently ahead. Located in the Bay of Bengal, Sri Vijaya Puram – as the capital of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands is now known – played a crucial role in India's push for independence. The Cellular Jail here presents a grim reminder of the sacrifices made by India's freedom fighters; inside its expansive premises, you will come across old paintings and exhibits evoking the dark days. And with its tribal artefacts, tools, photographs (and more), the Anthropological Museum is dedicated to telling the story of the indigenous tribes of the islands, among them the Jarawa, Onge, and Sentinelese. That's the history. If it's rest and relaxation you're after, head to Corbyn's Cove Beach, which also has water-sports activities for the more adventurous. And nature lovers should make time for Chidiya Tapu, a haven for birdwatchers and famous for its breathtaking sunset views.

Don't miss: Evening sound-and-light show at the Cellular Jail (ticketed event)



**SPICEJET OFFERS
FLIGHTS
TO **DUBAI** FROM
DELHI, KOCHI
AND OTHER
CITIES**

Right & Below

A megatall skyscraper in Dubai, the Burj Khalifa is the world's tallest structure at 829.8 m

An architectural and engineering marvel, Museum of The Future is a fine amalgamation of the past and the future

DUBAI

Forever Fun, For Everyone

Whether you like adventure, art, or entertainment, Dubai has it all, and continues to surprise every time. From the Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest building, to the famed Dubai Mall – with its 1,200-plus stores, ice rink, and aquarium – there is never a dull moment here. Head to the manmade island that is Palm Jumeirah for some high-end dining, or walk along the Dubai Marina, a recreational waterfront district that's home to several beach clubs. Adventure seekers must check out Deep Dive Dubai, Ski Dubai, House of Hype – and IMG Worlds of Adventure, a theme park unlike any other. Also boasting a vibrant art scene, the city is host to some fantastic (and award-winning) galleries, culture-forward hubs, and contemporary street art. And with its extraordinary diversity of cuisine offerings, Dubai is a veritable paradise for foodies.

Don't miss: Museum of the Future (book tickets in advance)





**SPICEJET OFFERS
FLIGHTS
TO NEW DELHI
FROM KOLKATA,
LEH AND OTHER
CITIES**

DELHI

Capital Treat

As you unpeel Delhi's many layers, the city's myriad wonders reveal themselves. With its heady mix of Mughal architecture, street markets, high-end shopping arcades, and a buzzing restaurant scene, Delhi has plenty of aces up its sleeve. Start at the Qutub Minar, a UNESCO World Heritage Site whose medieval minaret is visible from kilometres away on a clear day. After admiring Humayun's resting place (majestic in its red sandstone) and other tombs in the complex, hop over to Sunder Nursery next door and delight in its sprawling gardens and abundant biodiversity. The Red Fort and Jama Masjid will take you back in time, while Raj Ghat and Gurudwara Bangla Sahib are oases of calm, spaces in which to pay obeisance and reflect. Besides, Delhi is also home to some

Top & Right

Located at the heart of the capital city, Gurudwara Bangla Sahib with its prominent gold dome and a large holy pond, is an abode of peace

The sight of Chinese fishing nets has become synonymous with Kochi

incredible museums – consider a visit to the National Rail Museum, Shankar's International Dolls Museum, Museum of Illusions, or the Air Force Museum. Truly, the capital leaves you spoilt for choice.

Don't miss: A street art tour in Lodhi Colony.

KOCHI

Awakening The Senses

Lively Kochi wears its moniker of 'Queen of the Arabian Sea' with aplomb. Start your exploration at historic Fort Kochi with its Chinese fishing nets, then stop by at St. Francis Church, one of the oldest European churches in the country. The port-town's art pulse is impossible to ignore; numerous galleries dot the cityscape while the Kochi-Muziris Biennale has evolved into a much-anticipated date



in the cultural calendar. Wander the spice markets of Mattancherry, discover the antique shops in Jew Town, and embrace the history of Paradesi Synagogue. Commuting in Kochi is fun too, for this is the only city in India with a water metro network. You can also sign up for a backwaters tour, which



**SPICEJET OFFERS
FLIGHTS
TO **HYDERABAD**
FROM MUMBAI**

takes you through a web of narrow waterways, offers a peek into how the locals live along the banks – and ensures you savour the experience of a local meal.

Don't miss: Visit the Chendamangalam Handloom Village to see how the GI-tagged Kerala Kasavu sarees are woven.

HYDERABAD

Romance Without End

The City of Pearls is fast morphing into a cosmopolitan metropolis, all while managing to retain its old charm. Make your way to the old town to gaze upon the iconic Charminar – you can even climb up and get a ringside view of the marketplace that surrounds the monument (the Laad Bazaar here is



Top & Above

The thriving streets around the iconic Charminar is a shopaholic's dream come true

Golconda Fort is a proud masterpiece of medieval architecture and superb engineering

well known for its lac bangles). Then there's the opulent side of Hyderabad, just waiting to indulge you: the many-roomed Salar Jung Museum, featuring one of the finest displays anywhere, and Chowmahalla Palace, with its exciting collection of vintage cars. Also worth a visit are Golconda Fort and the Qutb Shahi tombs, still impressive despite the passage of time. Take a

stroll on Necklace Road and find a meditative spot at Hussain Sagar, a large manmade lake with a statue of the Buddha in its centre. And when hunger strikes, head over to vibey Banjara and Jubilee Hills, and take your pick from their amazing choice of restaurants.

Don't miss: Sign up for a chocolate tasting session at Manam Chocolates ●