

Exquisite range of bathroom ensembles launched in Delhi

A premium, complete bathroom ensemble based on aesthetics, durability and simplicity was launched by Jaquar, in collaboration with Matteo Thun & Antonio Rodriguez, popular hospitality, architecture, and interior design studio of Europe. Jaquar Laguna was showcased at a glittering awards night with India's leading hoteliers and designers in presence. "Thoughtful reduction of the obvious is simplicity, and this is what makes Laguna a special offering," said Sandeep Shukla, Head Marcom, Jaquar Group global operations.



Sanjiv Kapoor, President, Oberoi Hotels, Anuraag Bhatnagar, COO, Leela Palace Hotel and Rajesh Mehra

The brand says, "The main qualities of the Matteo Thun zero design philosophy are durability, simplicity, neutrality and sustainability. In all of his studio's designs, people can understand and use the product intuitively. It's almost a subconscious reaction and liking. For us, his overall vision was to design for a global audience, a collection that is clear in its purpose, elegant in its execution, simple in its use and offers a long product lifespan."

Thun says, "The strength of Jaquar is high quality - quality of design, quality of materials and the quality to implement an all-over design vision." Antonio Rodriguez adds, "They translated and realised the entire design concept to a 100%. We are happy to collaborate with a brand of excellence. We trust them, and they trust us."

for exquisite bath spaces, with its exquisite range of design and colour options."

According to the brand, "This latest collection offers multiple combinations blending a minimal design with direct functionality, bringing to form simplified shapes, warm colours and excellent material." The faucets are available in eight colour options, with both single and dual-tone shades. It includes a wide selection of faucets, sanitaryware, wellness products and shower enclosures.



Salil Panigrahi, founder and MD, Atmosphere Hotels and Resorts, Souvagya Mohapatra, MD for India, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bhutan- Atmosphere Hotels and Resorts, Dev Malhotra, Group Advisor, Sales and Marketing, Jaquar Group

VARIETY

Omicron has not altered the plans of Indian tourists, say travel agents



...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Shashank, owner of a Delhi-based travel company, says, "Work from home (WFH) is a major reason behind this sudden surge in travel enquiries and bookings in January. Due to rising omicron cases, offices have once again asked employees to WFH, and people are utilising this opportunity to go for staycations or plan short trips. People are going for locations like Kashmir, Himachal and Uttarakhand."

Last month, tourism in Kashmir hit an all-time high, with hotels booked out on New Year's Eve. Saurabh, a hotelier in Manali, says, "For New Year's Eve, prices of rooms went up from ₹3-4,000 to ₹10,000. We were the ones dissuading people from spending this extra amount on travel, but they did, and the pattern has continued since then. We are receiving bookings for longer stays now, and the numbers have been quite overwhelming."

DRIVECATIONS AND STAYCATIONS ARE BACK IN DEMAND

"Even in the face of the limited reopening of international borders and the rollback of commercial outbound aviation, there seems no stopping the Indian traveller," says Rajeev Kale from a travel agency, while officials from another travel agency stressed that leisure travel is what people seem to be going for. Given the high airfares, travellers are opting for drivecations to destinations like Shimla, Manali, Mussoorie, Nainital, Gulmarg, Coorg, Ooty, Pudukchery and Mahabalipuram - all of which are fully booked.

Meenakshi Prakash, who went on a road trip last week, says, "I'm not going to let omicron ruin my plans for this year's travel. You can travel if you know how to do so in a controlled environment. For example, one can drive to their destination instead of flying out. I am choosing to reduce the number of days I travel and stay at luxury resorts in isolated locations. I am completely avoiding overcrowded places or large gatherings."

Jimmy Ahuja, who works at a multiplex, has booked a staycation next weekend and says he won't be hopping on a plane for the next two-three months. "Having had such a harrowing time at airports, where there are long queues, with people not even wearing masks, I've decided to switch to road trips," he tells us.

DUE TO RISING OMICRON CASES, OFFICES HAVE ONCE AGAIN ASKED EMPLOYEES TO WFH, AND PEOPLE ARE UTILISING THIS OPPORTUNITY TO GO FOR STAYCATIONS OR PLAN SHORT TRIPS

- Shashank, owner of a travel company



HEADING FOR A VACAY? CARRY COVID NEGATIVE CERTIFICATE REGARDLESS OF STATE RULES: TRAVEL ORGANISERS

At the moment while states like Uttarakhand and Goa have a night curfew in place (11pm to 5am, and 11pm to 6am, respectively), Himachal Pradesh and J&K governments are yet to announce similar restrictions. Gaurav Chawla, director of a travel company, says, "With rules changing almost every day, we have been suggesting to all our clients to get double vaccination and carry an RT-PCR test 72 hours before travel, regardless of their mode of travel."

Saurabh Tiwari, CMD of a travel company, adds, "We are also suggesting that people travel during the day. Carry your hotel reservations with you while traveling during night curfew."

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