

World

# Luxury Travel

Magazine

Vol. 3 ■ Issue 11 ■ June, 2015

## Top Five Exclusive Private Island Resorts

### Thailand

*The Land of Smiles*

### Palace on Wheels

Remarkable Indian luxury on a train

July Festivals around the Globe



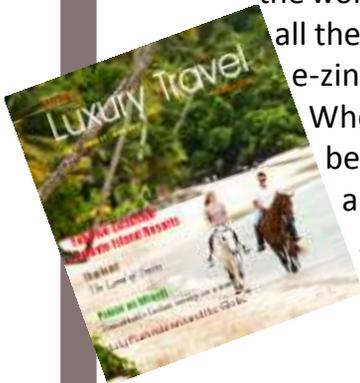


Any time is a good time to travel and an island retreat in a secluded island is the perfect way to heal the body mind and soul. In our cover story this month, we are talking about the top five amazing private island resorts. Take a look and pick the one that intrigues you the most.

I recently visited Thailand again. Every time I visit this incredible land of beautiful people, I bring back happy memories. Thailand is a getaway in Asia where nobody returns disappointed. It is also known as the sin city of the east. Read more about this Land of Smiles in our Country section of the magazine.

It might sound like an over statement, but life is incomplete without a trip on one of the luxury trains of the world. We have extensively written about all the luxury trains before. This issue of the e-zine talks about the Indian “Palace on Wheels” luxury train. Our readers have been requesting a feature on this train and here it is! Flip through the feature section and know more!

Wishing you all a splendid summer!  
Thank you!



Manashree Prakash  
Editor-in-Chief

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**World**  
**Luxury Travel**  
**Magazine**

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# Top Five Exclusive Private Island Resorts



If Robinson Crusoe fired up your imagination and you dreamt of an idyllic island lifestyle 'away from it all', we have just the right places lined up for you. Destinations where you can enjoy the sun, wind and water, laze in a hammock under palm trees and fall asleep to the gentle lapping of the waves. If it is peace and privacy you crave for, you cannot do better than to head to any of these exclusive retreats.





### North Island, Seychelles

Why would someone spend around £3,000 per night to stay in a barefoot luxury resort? The answer lies in North Island, the 500-acre private island paradise located in Seychelles in the Indian Ocean. Owned and developed by the Wilderness Safaris, this

all-inclusive island resort, consisting of just 11 luxury villas, guarantees privacy and the delightful sense of being cut off from the world. The villas are hand-crafted from local wood and stone. Each air-conditioned villa overlooks breath-taking ocean views, has a splendid private plunge pool, sala, kitchenette, sun deck and a covered lounge



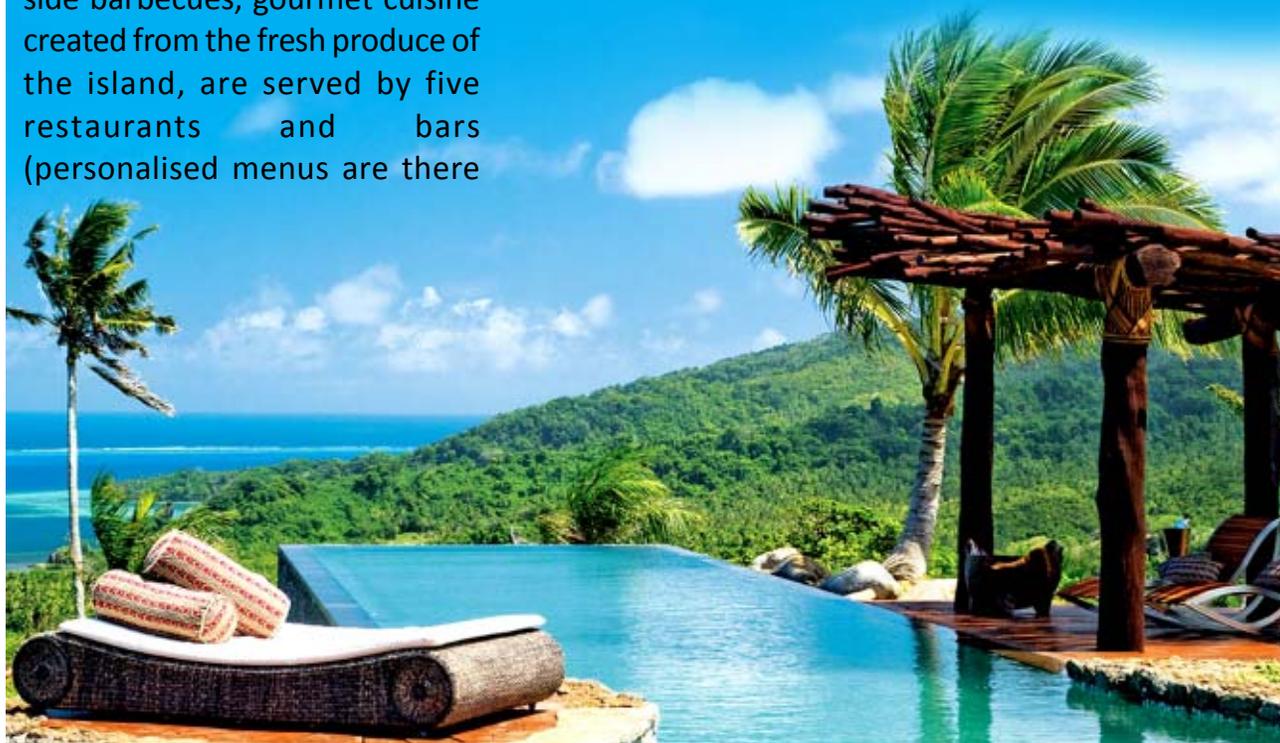
area. Wi-Fi, a central dining area, gym, a lovely outdoor spa, a personal butler and a personal buggy are some of the other facilities. The 'no menu' concept has the resort chef designing personalised meals for each guest. The resort stands out for its experiment in rehabilitating the endangered, indigenous animals like the giant tortoises, fruit bats and rare birds. Utterly lovely, unspoilt and exclusive, North Island is a haven for those who seek tranquillity.

*Did you know: Prince William and Kate Middleton chose it as their honeymoon destination!*



## Laucala Island Resort, Fiji

This private island resort is set in bewitchingly lovely surroundings of tropical rainforest, swaying coconuts, beautiful beaches and turquoise blue waters. Set atop volcanic mountains, on a 3500-acre property, the resort has 25 thatched villas (bures) with their own beach and garden. Beach-side barbecues, gourmet cuisine created from the fresh produce of the island, are served by five restaurants and bars (personalised menus are there





too). Swimming in the 2000 sq. m lagoon style swimming pool, your private infinity pool or the glass lap pool; water sports, horseback riding, snorkelling or pro golf, there is no dearth of activities to choose from. A spa with a range of rejuvenating Fijian treatments, a wedding chapel, a fitness centre and a kids club, a private cook and nanny complete the array of services. All this will of course set you back by at least £2,500 a night.

*Did you know: The Red Bull billionaire Dietrich Mateschitz owns the island. He bought it from its previous owner, Malcolm Forbes (who lies buried here as per his wish)!*





### **Necker Island Resort, British Virgin Islands**

This idyllic 74 acre private retreat is set in the Caribbean and one of the largest of the British Virgin Islands. The whole island is developed as a resort. Owned by Sir Richard Branson, the Virgin Group magnate, the island is open for hire only at certain times of the year and can accommodate up to 28 guests. Completely gutted by a lightning strike in 2011, the Great House at the island has been





refurbished with new additions like the outdoor terrace and a large dining table. The white sandy beaches, crystal clear waters, coral reefs and gorgeous views have drawn many famous celebrities including Princess Diana, Kate Winslet and Nelson Mandela to name a few. At £16,900 per couple, all-inclusive (reduced rates during Celebration Weeks), the stay here does not come cheap. Guests are not complaining though. The complete privacy, amazing rooms, dedicated service, variety of water sports, the beautiful spa, infinity pool, tennis court all combine to make for an incomparable holiday experience.

*Did you know: The Island is home to 200 flamingos, lemurs, giant tortoises, and guest can even feed them!*



## Mnemba Island Lodge, Zanzibar- Tanzania

Mnemba Island Lodge is barefoot luxury as exclusive and private as it can get. One of the most beautiful and romantic destinations in the Indian Ocean, the island is located close to the north east coast of Zanzibar. It is owned and run by &Beyond. There are just ten bandas, nestled in the tropical beach forest. Each has its own beachfront and is equipped with en suite bedroom, outdoor veranda and gorgeous views. The all-inclusive resort is beautifully decorated with traditional furniture and crafts.



Personalised attention from the friendly staff caters to every need of the guests. The delectable menu includes fresh fruits and sea-food.

Swimming, scuba diving, cruising, snorkelling, dolphin watching all are available here. Enjoy the unique experience of watching the green turtles laying eggs on the beach. Bill Gates, Tom Cruise and Naomi Campbell have all been guests at this resort.

*Did you know: The island is home to the suni antelope, the endangered green turtle, the rare crab plover and a variety of reef fish, anemone and a diverse range of marine life!*





### **Motu Tane, Bora Bora**

Bora Bora described as ‘the most beautiful island in the world’ lies in the French Polynesia. Just across the island, a ten-minute boat ride away, lies the tiny 3 acre island resort of Motu Tane. Motu Tane or ‘Island of Universal Love’ is enclosed by powder white sand beaches, sparkling blue waters and enchanting scenery. The resort island is rented out to just one party at a time, and perfect for those looking for exclusivity and privacy. Of course, it comes at a cost of \$36000 per night. Two luxurious presidential suites and living

areas, two family suites and nine individual African style bungalows form the main accommodation which can house 26 guests in all. A private chef serves up delicious meals. There is a complete gym. Polynesian dancers and singers add magic to the night's entertainment. The Bora Bora lagoon provides ample opportunities for snorkelling, diving, dolphin and whale watching.

*Did you know: Millionaire Francois Nars, of Nars cosmetics, is the owner of Motu Tane!*

Far from the madding crowd, these resorts are the ultimate, secluded getaways where you can immerse yourself in nature alone or with company of your choice.



# Thailand

The Land of Smiles



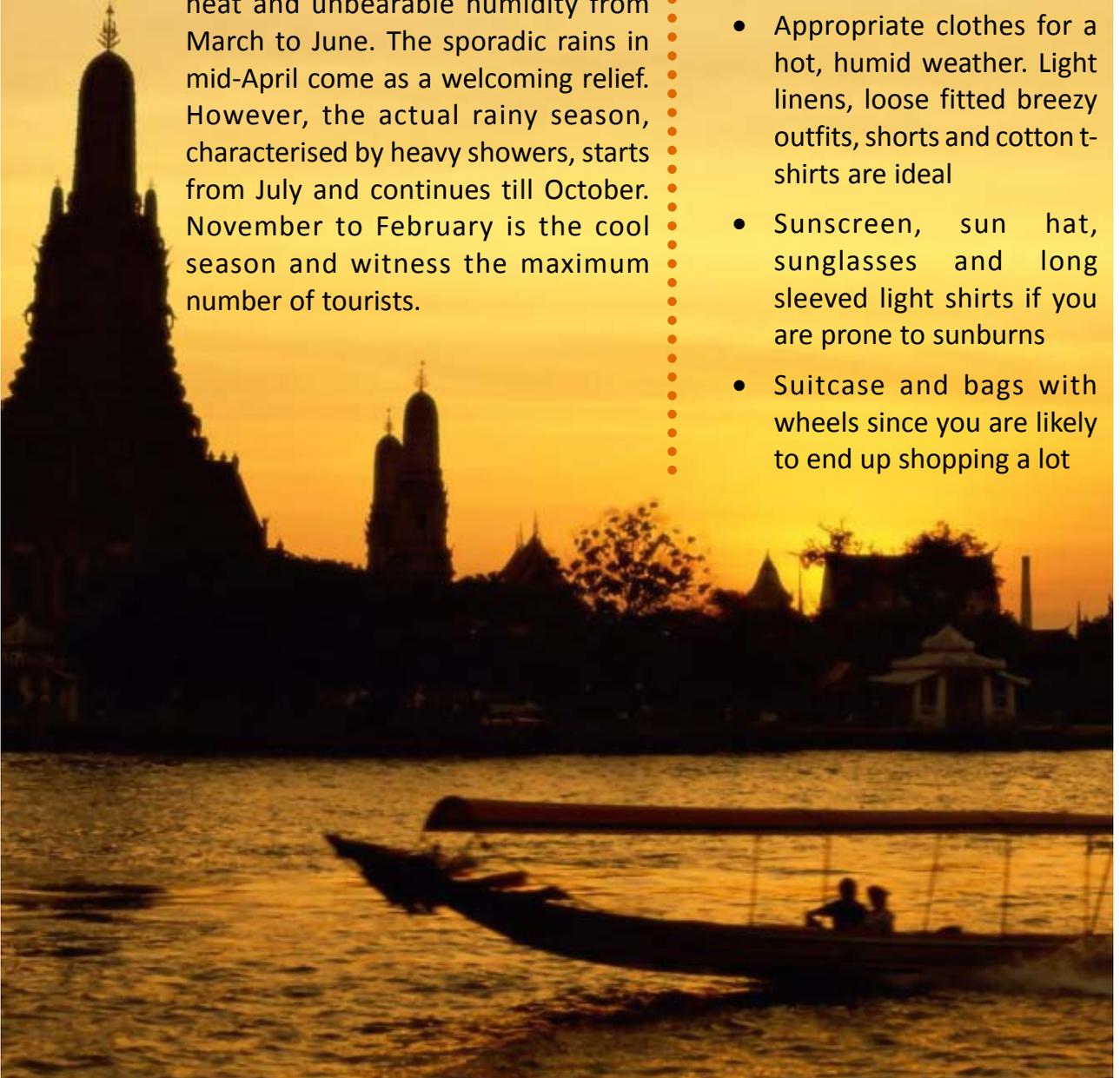
Thailand has emerged as the ultimate holiday destination in Asia in the last few years. Also known as the 'Land of Smiles' this Southeast Asian country is located just 15 degrees north of the equator with an approximate area of 514,000 square kilometres. Thailand's shape on the map resembles an elephant's head which is also one of its primary attractions coupled with many others. Its exotic wildlife, ancient heritage, fascinating landscape, Buddhist monasteries and wellness centres attract tourists from every part of the globe.

## Climate

Thailand has a hot and humid weather for most part of the year. The inland areas are typically plagued by intense heat and unbearable humidity from March to June. The sporadic rains in mid-April come as a welcoming relief. However, the actual rainy season, characterised by heavy showers, starts from July and continues till October. November to February is the cool season and witness the maximum number of tourists.

## Must carry items

- Mosquito and insect repellents
- English - Thai Dictionary
- Appropriate clothes for a hot, humid weather. Light linens, loose fitted breezy outfits, shorts and cotton t-shirts are ideal
- Sunscreen, sun hat, sunglasses and long sleeved light shirts if you are prone to sunburns
- Suitcase and bags with wheels since you are likely to end up shopping a lot



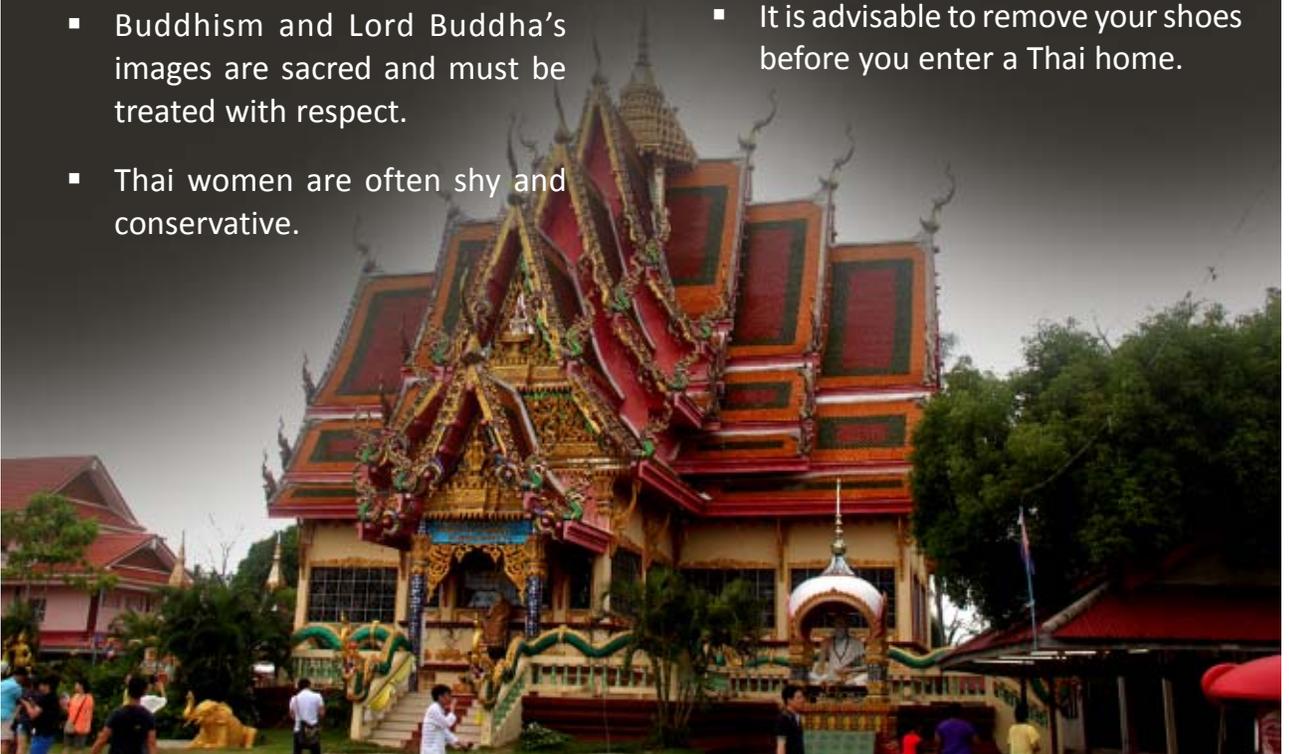
## Language and Culture

Thai is the official language of Thailand while English is the unofficial second language. Road signs are written in both Thai and English. Around 94.6 per cent of Thai people are Buddhists, 4.6 per cent are Muslims and 0.7 per cent people are Christians. Compassion and tolerance are considered to be true virtues by the people. Thai culture has been influenced by both Indian and Chinese cultures. The citizens are usually warm, friendly, easy going and very hospitable. Approximately 80 per cent of its nearly 65 million citizens are ethnically Thai while others are of Chinese, Indian, Malay, Mon, Khmer, Burmese, and Lao origin. The government here is one of constitutional monarchy. The economy is heavily dependent on export.



## To remember

- Possession of even a small quantity of drug can lead to imprisonment and severe consequences.
- It is important to respect the King and members of the royal family violating which can lead to prison sentence.
- Buddhism and Lord Buddha's images are sacred and must be treated with respect.
- Thai women are often shy and conservative.
- One must not touch another's head in Thailand as it is considered inauspicious.
- It is advisable to remove your shoes before you enter a Thai home.



## Trivia

- ❖ Thailand has changed its name many times and was known as Siam till 1939.
- ❖ Around seven million of its citizens live in Bangkok though the number varies seasonally.
- ❖ One-tenth of all animal species on Earth are said to inhabit Thailand.
- ❖ True to its name Prathet Thai in its native language, meaning “Land of the Free”, it is the only nation in Southeast Asia that was never colonised by a European country.
- ❖ A nuclear family is rare here and people live in large extended families.
- ❖ Thailand has been governed by kings since the 13<sup>th</sup> century.

## Places to see



**Railay Beach** – Railay is presumably the best beach of the Krabi province, which is famous for its numerous world class beach destinations. This crystal clear white sand beach with azure blue waters seems like a sparkling slice of paradise any day. Adventure sports especially rock climbing is very popular here.



**Khao Yai National Park** – Elephants are the most popular species of animals in the country. Khao Yai National Park is the perfect place to watch and befriend them. You can see them bathing in water falls, lazing around and roaming about in the jungle and also help feeding them. Exotic birds, monkeys and various tropical animals are the other inhabitants.

**The Grand Palace** – This architectural masterpiece is one of the best sights of Bangkok. Royal halls, temples, and ancient relics and Wat



Phra Kaeo, Temple of the Emerald Buddha adorn the historical palace.

**Sukhothai Old City** – Historical tourists and photographers simply cannot miss Sukhothai's Old City which is a UNESCO World Heritage site. The origins of Buddhism and many wats which are Buddhist places of worship can be found here. Much of the ancient ruins have been restored.

**Floating Markets** – The famous floating markets are not only an amazing way to shop and eat but also provide a sneak peek into the authentic local life. Vendors sell fresh fruits, vegetables, spices, flowers, goods and food items on their long wooden boats. The floating markets near Bangkok, Amphawa and Damnoen Saduak are quite renowned.

### Things to do

**Gastronomical Expedition** – Thailand is a heaven for foodies from any part of the world. From fine dining restaurants to a variety of street food, you will never run out of options. Rice, curries, spices and seasonings form an integral part of the gastronomy. Many night bazaars, Sunday night walking streets and markets let you sample delectable local varieties.



**Shopping** – The country is touted to be the best hub of holiday shopping and visitors are advised to save space in their luggage beforehand. Thai silk, leather goods, silver, gold, precious and semi-precious gems, pearls, furniture, paintings, antiques and handicrafts are popular. The glitzy shopping malls feature international brands while the local markets and night markets are abuzz with unlimited bargain buys.



### **Adventure Sports**

– If you like adventure sports go for snorkelling, diving, elephant trekking, white-water rafting, kayaking, hot air ballooning, kite surfing, rock



climbing, scuba diving, bungee jumping, camping, hiking, wildlife tours, paragliding, skydiving, caving, mountaineering, sailing and much more.

**Medical Tourism** – Many international patients travel to Thailand to take advantage of its highly advanced medical facilities, cost effective treatments, state-of-the-art technology and excellent services. Hospitals, health clinics, medical spas, wellness retreats and massage centres offer a variety of healing therapies. Surgical procedures such as laser, cosmetic, and cardiovascular are also renowned here.

**Ecotourism** – More than 100 national parks, over 20 marine parks along with plenty of rainforests, natural habitats house a number of rare animal and bird species. The flora, fauna and marine life is extensive and awe inspiring to say the least.



## Getting there

The Suvarnabhumi International Airport in Bangkok is the main gateway into Thailand and serves all the leading airlines from major international destinations. The Chiang Mai International Airport, Phuket International Airport and the privately owned, relatively small Samui International Airport are the other viable options.

## Getting around

**Air** – There are around 20 domestic airports connecting all the major cities of Thailand. Thai Airways is the most popular carrier whereas Nok Air, Air Asia and One-to-Go are preferred by budget travellers.

**Train** – Travelling by train is the next best option and is more convenient as well as faster than bus journeys. All the major railway routes are available from Bangkok. Low cost trains, rapid, express, special express and diesel rail cars are the various options.



**Bus** – Long distance bus routes connect the places which are not serviced by railways. The government run buses are plenty and offer great variety of ticket prices and facilities. Luxury buses are equipped with recliners and hostess service.



**Car** – Taxis and rented cars are widely accessible. Both international companies as well as local agencies provide cars for hire.



Tourism is a huge draw in Thailand but the recent political tensions have led to a drop in the visitor figures. However the tourism board is optimistic about recovering from this phase. The tourist friendly policies and advanced infrastructure continue to attract a growing number of business and leisure travellers.

# Palace on Wheels

Remarkable Indian  
luxury on a train

**Feature**



Air conditioned cabins, restaurants for dining, a well-stocked bar and treatment fit for royalty - sounds like another hotel? Pull back the curtains from the windows and you will see fields, sand dunes and villages whizz by! Welcome to Palace on Wheels, India's first luxury tourist train. The Palace on Wheels was started on January 26, 1983. Voted the 4<sup>th</sup> luxurious train in the world, the Palace on Wheels is a fantastic way of exploring the historic state of Rajasthan.



## Luxury Interiors

Rajasthan is the home to the valorous Rajputs, the warrior kings of India. Rich in history, the state abounds in forts and palaces bearing testimony to the grandeur of its past. The décor of the train resonates with the spirit of the era of bygone royalty. There are 14 luxurious cabins or saloons as they are called. Wall to wall carpeting, local handicrafts, paintings and furnishings adorn the interiors. Each coach is



named after a former state of Rajasthan. The beautiful mirror work, upholstery, miniature paintings and antique decor in each saloon reflect the colours and images of the respective state.





### **The Journey**

This is a fascinating journey consisting of 7 nights and 8 days and comes with a price tag of \$5600 per person for the journey. During the journey there are stops at chosen top destinations, in Western and North Western India. Together they weave a kaleidoscope of rich experiences

revealing India in her multi-faceted hues. You can visit World Heritage sites, forts and palaces, and shop to your heart's content at the colourful bazaars. If you are lucky, you can even get to see the famous Royal Bengal Tiger prowling in its natural habitat.

## The Itinerary



New Delhi (Day 1) - The trip is flagged off in New Delhi, India's capital city. Board the train at the Safdarjung Railway Station, but not before you explore the charms of this city where history and

modernity rub shoulders with ease. Take the guided tour to India Gate, Qutub Minar and other attractions. Once at the railway station, a traditional welcome awaits you, complete with a royal garland and turban. After a sumptuous dinner you can call it a day while the train moves on to its first destination - Jaipur.

Jaipur (Day 2) – Arrive at the Pink City and explore the city after breakfast on board. Marvel at the City Palace and the charming facade palace Hawa Mahal (the Palace of Winds). Relive history at the Amber Fort and proceed to the local bazaars for shopping. Choose from local handicrafts, souvenirs, antiques, gemstones or jewellery.





Sawai Madhopur, Chittorgarh (Day 3) – Here is your chance for some wildlife spotting (tiger, Sambar deer, hyena etc.) at one of India's largest, the 392 sq. km. Ranthambore National Park. Breakfast is served at the jungle lodge. The train then proceeds to Chittorgarh. Enjoy a visit to the splendid Chittorgarh Fort and the light and sound show there.

Udaipur (Day 4) – The 'City of Lakes' will enchant you with its picturesque lakes and palaces. The lovely Jag Niwas Lake Palace is a dream in marble. The Jag Mandir is nestled on an island in the Lake Pichola here. After lunch at a heritage hotel visit the City Palace and the Crystal Gallery. The day ends on a magical note with a sunset boat ride on the Lake Pichola. On return to the train, evening tea and delicious dinner get served with royal grandeur.

Jaisalmer (Day 5) – Jaisalmer in all its historical glory in the heart of the Thar Desert awaits you next. Visit the World Heritage Site of Jaisalmer fort, the golden sandstone towers, beautifully latticed like Nathmalji ki Haveli (mansion), Patwon ki Haveli and Salim Singh ki Haveli. Shop for souvenirs at the local markets. The evening closes with an exotic camel ride at the sand dunes followed by dinner, bonfire and cultural shows under starry skies.

Jodhpur (Day 6) – Arrive in the morning at Rajasthan’s second largest city Jodhpur. Do not miss the imposing Mehrangarh Fort and the lovely Moti Mahal and Sheesh Mahal. This is followed by lunch at a palace hotel. Shop here for silverware, tie and dye clothing and the embroidered slippers.

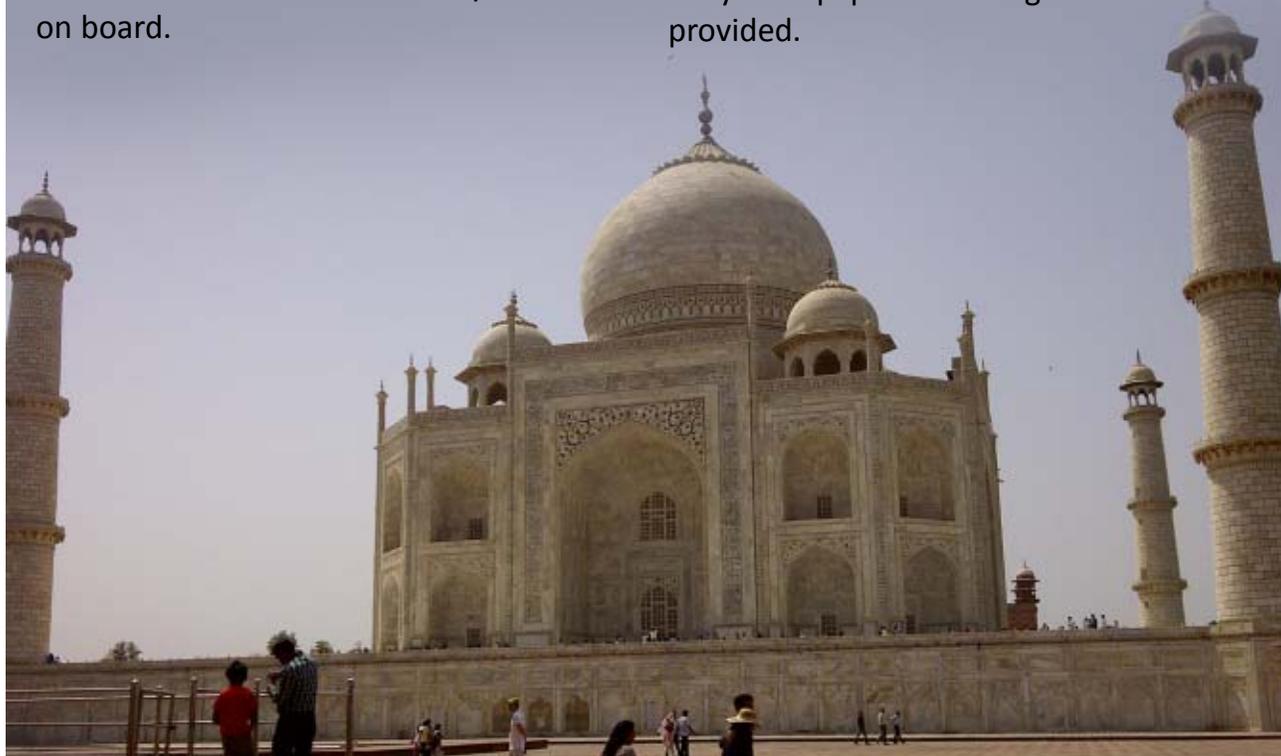


Bharatpur/Agra (Day 7) – Spot egrets, Siberian cranes and hundreds of bird species and wildlife at the Keoladeo Ghana National Park. Relax over breakfast at a jungle lodge before proceeding to Agra.

The name Agra conjures up the name of India's most famous monument, the graceful and lovely Taj Mahal. Delight in the beauty of the Taj and other Agra attractions. After a light and sound show in the evening and dinner at a city hotel, it is time to return to the train. The journey ends in New Delhi after a hearty breakfast on board.

### Saloon Amenities

Each air conditioned deluxe saloon has four twin-bedded chambers with a mini bar, channel music, intercom, a lounge, hot and cold water, attached toilets and shower. Expect personalised service from the ever-attentive 'khidmatgaar (personal attendant). The luggage is deposited at your saloon by the attendants and an arrival kit is also gifted to the guests. Mineral water is available throughout the journey. Essential toiletries, mineral water, daily newspapers and magazines are also provided.



## General Amenities

**Restaurants** - There are two beautiful restaurants 'The Maharaja' (meaning the king) and 'The Maharani' (meaning the queen). Seated in twos or fours you can watch the scenery fly by as you dine on Continental, Chinese and Indian fare freshly cooked in the train kitchen. Do not miss the Rajasthani specialties. The emphasis is on fresh ingredients and local flavour.

**Bar** - A well-stocked bar with the choicest selection of Indian and international brands is available.

**Lounge** - There is a charming lounge where you can relax, sip a drink and catch up with

fellow passengers.

**Indoor games** - A selection of board games including chess, cards, puzzles, carom are available should you wish to beguile the hours playing.

**Royal Spa** - Wash away the tiredness of the day's sightseeing and shopping at the Royal Spa. You can get rejuvenating massages and a variety of pampering treatments here.

**Internet** - Wi-Fi and laptops are available on board.

**Events** - Personal celebrations, meetings and conferences can be organised aboard the train.



Others – Arrival kit, on board mailbox, medical aid, security arrangements, souvenir shop etc. also form part of the entire experience.

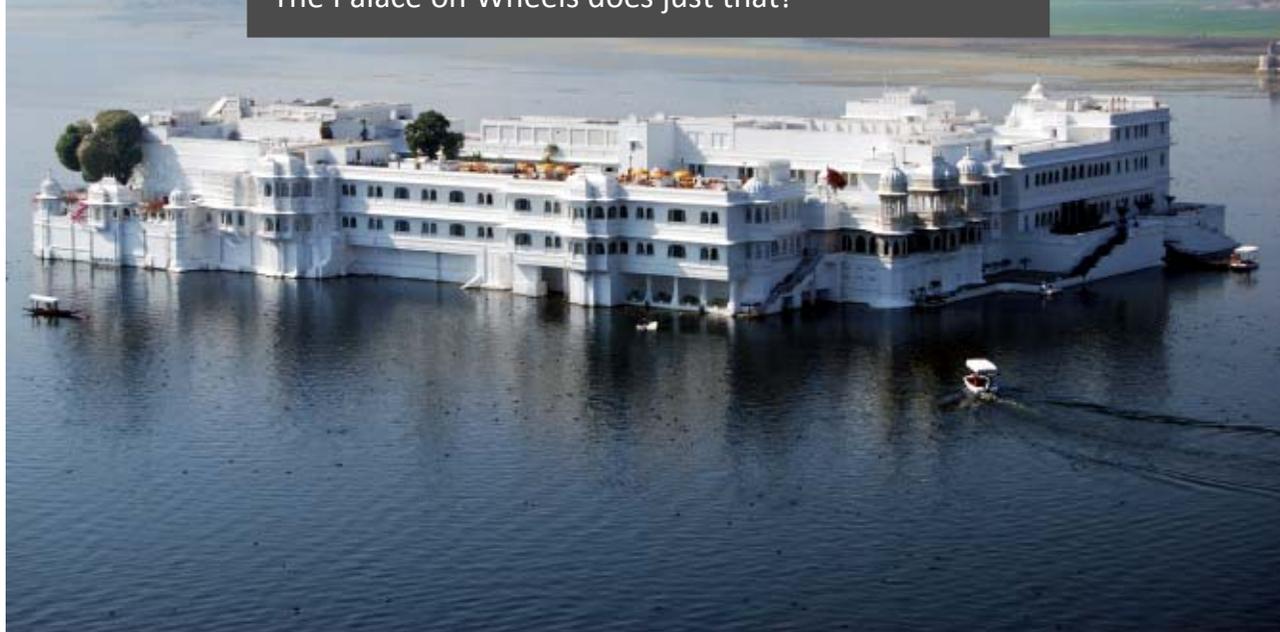
**Please Note:**

The Palace on Wheels is a no-smoking train. In case you wish to smoke please contact your captain.

Voltage on train: 110/230 V

**A Royal Experience**

India has the fourth largest railroad network in the world. For those who want to connect with the heartbeat of India, a railway trip is the best way to do so. However, the regular rail journey may seem a bit daunting to the foreign tourist. A luxury train provides a great base from which to explore the country while enjoying a ready-made itinerary and royal treatments. The Palace on Wheels does just that!



# July Festivals around the Globe





## International Mango Festival

**Place:** New Delhi, India

**Dates:** July 2, 2015

The delectable mango, dubbed 'king of fruits' by its lovers, holds centre stage at Dilli Haat, the venue that hosts the festival. Displayed in all their golden, juicy glory are over 1100 varieties of mangoes including popular varieties such as Alphonso, Langda, Himgiri and Malda as well as new hybrid ones. Not only mango lovers, but sellers,

growers and buyers visit the fair both from India and abroad. Agro industries, food processing companies grab the opportunity to advertise their wares like jams, preserves, juice, canned fruits and fruit pulp before a world-wide audience. There are various competing categories for mango growers. Visitors can enjoy interesting events which are all part of the festival. They can pick up mango based recipes at cooking stalls, learn mango carving and of course taste delightful samples of the fruit.

**Trivia:** *India is the leading mango producer of the world, producing almost half of the world's mangoes!*



## Brian Boru Festival

**Place:** Killaloe and Ballina, Ireland

**Dates:** July 1 – 5, 2015

This festival is dedicated to Brian Boru, the legendary High King of Ireland and the hero of the Irish people. The king fought for the freedom of the Irish people and was killed during his victorious battle at Clontarf against the Vikings. Celebrated in the twin towns of Killaloe and Ballina, the king's native place, the festival keeps his memory and legacy alive. Among this year's events is the parade, complete with music, colour and fun. This is a great time to visit these places. The pubs ring out



with traditional Irish music and there is an air of gaiety everywhere. There is a power boat race on the River Shannon. Street parties, street theatre, live music and entertainment, competitions for children, craft exhibitions, workshops and a grand fireworks display are all part of the festivities.

***Trivia:** 2014 saw the 1000<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the Brian Boru Festival!*

## World bodypainting festival

**Place:** Poertschach, Austria

**Dates:** July 3 – 5, 2015

Pöertschach at Lake Wörthersee is the venue of the World Bodypainting Festival every year. Be prepared to gape at a breath-taking variety of creative art. Spectacular body art is on display at every turn with body-painting artists from 40 countries vying with each other for the coveted awards. The Body Paint City is the centre of action with fashion shows, street artists, bands and shows, tattoo stalls, trade show area for body painting, photography and make-up workshops. There are various competing categories including brush and sponge, airbrush and special



effects. Thousands of visitors including models and photographers come for this event every year. Art, music, markets, workshops, kids' events, music bands, DJs and a host of other events enliven the event.

*Trivia: The Body Circus, held at the Monte-Carlo Square, is the main attraction of the festival. It features fantasy costumes, decoration masks, body painting, extreme make up and fantasy fashion.*



## Fiesta del Fuego

**Place:** Santiago de Cuba, Cuba

**Dates:** July 3 – 9, 2015

This week-long festival is the most important cultural event witnessing the merging of cultures of various Caribbean countries. Over 200,000 artists from 18 countries take part in the events. There are workshops, competitions, religious ceremonies, art exhibitions and academic seminars, all showcasing the history, religion and culture of the Caribbean. The atmosphere is vibrant and for a whole week the city is flooded with street parties, parades, colourful floats, lively music and drum beats. The main events include the grand



cultural gala held at the Heredia Theatre, the famous snake parade and the finale of 'Burning of the Devil'. A giant effigy of the devil is created and it is set to fire to the accompaniment of ritual dancing, music and drum beats. This cleansing ritual symbolises the end of evil and a fresh start.

***Trivia:** 2015 marks the 35<sup>th</sup> year of the festival celebrations!*

## Bastille Day

**Place:** Paris, France

**Dates:** July 14, 2015

On July 14, 1789, the long suffering French peasants stormed the fortress prison of Bastille. They later executed King Louis XVI and his wife Marie Antoinette and several nobles and the chain of events form what is famous today as the French Revolution. The storming of the Bastille marked the end of monarchy and the birth of the modern republic. Today it is celebrated as the French Independence Day and is a national holiday. There is an impressive military parade at the Champs Elysees (ending in the Arc de Triomphe) with infantry, marines, air force, soldiers, police officers and fire fighters turned out in full ceremonial splendour. This is a time for wonderful balls, picnics, parties, fun and feasting. Especially



popular are the firemen's balls hosted at the fire stations. The celebrations reach a crescendo with an enthralling show of fireworks at the Eiffel Tower. The burst of colours and lights dazzle the night sky in a fitting finale salute to a grand celebration.

*Trivia: The Bastille Day military parade is the oldest one in Europe!*





## Pflasterspektakel

**Place:** Linz, Austria

**Dates:** July 23 – 25, 2015

Pflasterspektakel is a dynamic street art festival. The word literally means 'pavement spectacle' in German. The live-wire action brings together jugglers, musicians, acrobats, clowns, fire dancers, mimicry artists and a host of other performers and entertainers from around the world. The acts are breath-taking, lively and as varied as any



you can see. The action is centred in the Hauptplatz, the large city square. Thousands of spectators come from all over the world to enjoy the lively proceedings. The performers are selected through a rigorous screening process and the performances are nothing short of electrifying. Some of the antics will have you whistling and throwing money into collection hats. Remember the artistes are not paid, so be generous!

**Trivia:** Siegbert Janko founded the festival and it was first held in 1987!



## Splendour in the Grass

**Place:** North Byron Parklands, Australia

**Dates:** July 24 – 26, 2015

Held near the Byron Bay, New South Wales, this music festival was started in 2001 by the Village Sounds and Secret Service music companies. It has evolved into a three day festival attracting thousands of visitors and is considered the largest winter music festival of Australia today. Various genres of music are featured and the festival contains an impressive line-up with many famous names as well as new talent. Food is an important part of the festival with drinks

and snacks often woven into the musical experience. Apart from feasting on music and delicacies you can also participate in the yoga sessions, get relaxing massages, watch circus performances and other shows. Browse through crafts bazaars, attend workshops and relax and stroll around in general absorbing the good times.

***Trivia:** The name of the festival has been inspired by the famous poet Wordsworth's Ode: Intimations of Immortality!*



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