



**2021 HOSPITALITY**  
#BounceBack



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## India's hotel bookings recover with the news of the vaccine

According to a report by RateGain Technologies the hospitality sector recorded 15% higher bookings YoY in December. India's recovery was above 100% for December and Indians booked last minute travel during the end-December and early January; the annual Edelman Trust barometer suggested 80% Indians surveyed wanted to get the Covid-19 vaccine within the first 6-12 months of it being available.



### Jharkhand Govt planning eco-retreats

Following in the footsteps of the Odisha government which set up eco-retreats recently, the Jharkhand tourism department is now planning to do the same across multiple locations in an effort to boost the pandemic-battered sector. If all goes well, the initiative will be launched by the end of February or in March. Currently, the tourism department is looking for private players to organise tourist-centric activities in those retreats.

### 49% of Indian travellers plan to explore country

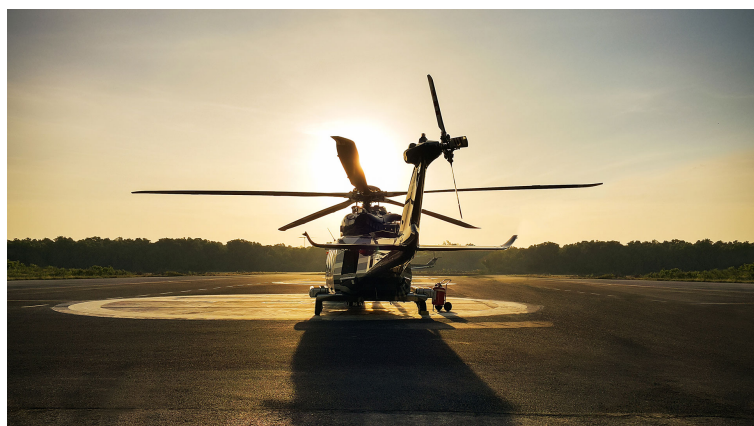
According to Booking.com's Future of Travel research findings, 57% of Indian travellers intend to travel somewhere they've already been previously for its familiarity and 49 per cent of Indian travellers plan to explore a new destination within their home country. Srinagar, Digha, Manali, Goa and Alibaug are some of the top trending Indian destinations according to the survey

### North-East, set to be a favourite tourist destination

Minister for Development of North East Region (DoNER), Dr Jitendra Singh said that the north eastern region of India will emerge as the preferred tourist and business destination post-Covid. Speaking at the valedictory session of the 69th plenary of the North Eastern Council, he said that the government through its consistent effort has been able to bring North East at par with other regions of the country in terms of progress and development.

### Assam Gets Its First Heliport in Majuli

Recently Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the first heliport of the state in Majuli, the world's largest riverine island. The heliport having facility for simultaneous landing of three helicopters was constructed at an expenditure of Rs 50 lakh. The heliport will boost tourism in Majuli and put it as an important tourist destination.



### 34.5 per cent full-year occupancy in Indian hotels in 2020

According to a report by Horwath STR, full-year occupancy in Indian hotels recovered to 34.5% by the year-end from 27.8% when the country was under the grip of the Covid-19. The ADR and RevPAR during this period was INR 4,095 and INR 1,137 respectively, indicating that the worst time is over.

## In West Bengal Budget, travel & hospitality in focus

Presenting the pre-election State Budget for West Bengal, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said that the state has allocated INR 10 cr to provide loan—to the tune of Rs 10,000 to Rs 50 lakh to individuals—to tourism and hospitality stakeholders; the state will pay 50% of the first year's loan repayment instalment. The state will continue its special tourism incentive schemes and has also approved Rs 150 cr for Andal Airport, which is to be completed in the next two years. All kinds of road tax have been lifted from January 21 to June 21 for West Bengal.



### Maha govt signs Rs 2,905 crore MoUs to boost tourism

Recently the Maharashtra government inked MoUs worth Rs 2,905 crore with various entities from the hospitality sector to encourage tourism in the state, where more than 6,750 jobs will be generated under the agreements.

### Positive EBITDA in Q3 for IHCL; two new properties in East

The Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL) reported that its revenues went up by 90% to 615 crore in Q3 vis-à-vis Q2. The company also reported positive EBITDA of 38 crore for the first time in FY20-21. The hotel group signed six new hotels with over 1100 rooms across India. This includes Taj Chia Kutir in Darjeeling, West Bengal, and a new Ginger hotel in Kalinganagar, Odisha.