

The Ghungroo
What: 50-200 tiny bells knotted together and worn around the ankles of classical dancers
Favoured by: Respectable schoolgirls and disreputable courtesans
USP: Adding oomph to the rhythm of the dance, and spooky drama to Bollywood horror films
Design: Flawless
Perception: Taken for granted as Ordinary
Reality: Anything But



Hedonism at The Park Hotels

At The Park Hotels, we've unleashed the best DJs and music acts on unsuspecting and delighted partygoers for over fifty years. Each of our award-winning nightspots strums to a unique frequency of design and energy, giving night-time revellers varied hedonistic experiences. We know that sometimes you want to recline on a divan, sip a glass of good wine and be seduced by a decadent, lounge vibe (Pasha at The Park, Chennai). Sometimes you want to headbang to retro-metal live bands while chugging down beers (Someplace Else at The Park, Kolkata). Then, there are times you want to tap your feet to some new chill tunes over nibbles and a cocktail, gazing at the moonlit water (Peace Bar at The Park Calangute, Goa, or Aqua at The Park, Bangalore). And every so often, you want to let down your hair to some thumping, edgy house sounds on a pulsating dance floor mixed by the DJ du jour (Kismet, the stunning nightclub at The Park, Hyderabad). And sometimes, well, you want to do all of those in one evening, from mellow to swinging to hectic. At The Park Hotels, you can.

Lounges, Bars and Nightclubs at The Park
 Agni at The Park, New Delhi
 i-Bar at The Park, Bangalore
 Dusk at The Park, Navi Mumbai
 Peace Bar at The Park, Calangute, Goa
 Pasha and The Leather Bar at The Park, Chennai
 Tantra, Rovy and Someplace Else at The Park, Kolkata
 Someplace Else Bar at The Park, Visakhapatnam
 Kismet, Carbon and The Sicca Bar at The Park, Hyderabad
 Aqua at The Park, across all our locations



1 Sizzle and pop at Agni at The Park, New Delhi 2 The many facets of Kismet at The Park, Hyderabad 3 Glam warmth at Rovy at The Park, Kolkata 4 Larger than life: DJ Ma Faiza 5 Jumpstarter: DJ Nucleya

EAT | Freshly Farmed at Fire



Fire and earth combine with all their elemental passion at Fire, The Park New Delhi's award winning restaurant. Organic ingredients riddle the menu, and are cooked in ways that are true to tradition and authentic in content, form and

taste. Yet the cuisine is contemporary, reflecting India and the way we eat now. We partner with organic producers and sustainable farmers for products that are conscious of their environmental responsibility. No fakes here.

Father Michael's Burrata Cheese and Rocket Leaf Salad, Crispy Curry Leaf Dressing

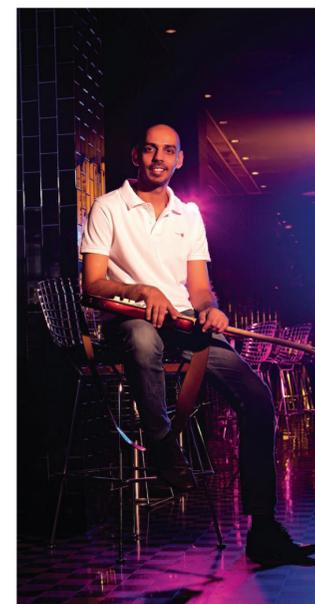
Ingredients:

150 g Fresh burrata cheese
 75 g Crunchy baby rocket leaves
 25 g Vine-ripened tomatoes
 10 g Curry leaves
 15 ml Olive oil
 10 g Mustard seeds
 Salt to taste

Method:

1. Wash and clean the rocket leaves. Drain them well. Ensure no water remains.
 2. Cut the ripened tomatoes into halves.
 3. Slice the burrata cheese ball into 6 pieces.
- For the Dressing:**
4. Sun-dry the curry leaves for about 24 hours till crisp. Then crush them into a powder. Keep aside.
 5. In a pan, heat olive oil on a slow flame. Add mustard seeds and curry leaves. When they begin to crackle, take the pan off the flame and allow it to cool. Add the curry leaf powder, honey and salt. Whisk well to make the dressing.
- Assembling the Salad:**
6. Arrange the burrata, rocket leaves and tomatoes in a bowl.
 7. Generously pour the curry leaf dressing on top.

SPOT | Tangled up in Blue(s)



Rohan Ganguli is in a relationship. It gives him the blues, and it makes him rock. In a landscape populated with laptops and mixers, Rohan goes for the real stuff. His blues guitar strums and redolent in its notes are influences as varied as Jimi Hendrix, Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan and John Coltrane. With his band, The Supersonics, he has released two albums. They've performed at Someplace Else at The Park, Kolkata, and at music festivals including the UK's Great Escape Music Festival, Blue Frog and Bacardi NH7 Weekenders. Self-taught, Rohan's been playing the guitar since he was fifteen. He's twanged every string — been a busker, a travelling blues boy and an acoustic pub entertainer, improvising his way through Italy. Now he's formed the 'Big Family Blues Ensemble', stirring up Kolkata's music lovers. Rohan says, "The blues! It's a way of life, it's a philosophy, it's music, it's about freedom. Words are not good enough." That's why Rohan has been featured in The Park's 2016 Calendar. Because he is **Anything But Ordinary™**

MEET | Forces of Attraction



Under a starry, cold sky in the Thar desert, you can groove to future-facing sounds and revel in an alternative culture at **Magnetic Fields**, already ensconced in the top-50 list of music festivals in the world. The experience is sparkly and sublime, and includes some of the best and newest indie music from India and the world. In its fourth year, the 3-day festival at **Alsisar Haveli in Rajasthan** was co-founded by **Munbir and Sarah Chawla**, who also started the online music magazine and event platform, **Wild City**. Sarah gives us her take on cool.

- Dream Destination:** The Antarctic, swimming with whales. I've had recurring dreams since childhood
- Book on Bedside:** Evelyn Waugh's *Handful of Dust*
- Design to Die for:** Alexander McQueen's *Moon Cape*
- Song on Repeat:** Romare's *Who Loves You*
- Art du Jour:** Big fan of the way Rajni Pereira and Amanda Charchian use the female form
- Fashion Accessory:** Kichu moon earrings
- Food Fetish:** Cake. Really good cake
- Idle Pleasure:** Wake and bake
- Go-to Place for Inspiration:** Home in Somerset
- Aha Moment:** Life is a series of aha moments
- 1 Reason I Love The Park:** One of the most thought-out hotel chains in the country, and they throw some fun parties!

22 Years of Boogeying!

It's 22, but it's still rocking Kolkata's nights. Live music by the coolest bands. New music, old favourites. Drinks and food to definitely write home about. A pulse that connects to the city then and now. That's Someplace Else at The Park, Kolkata. And to celebrate its birthday, Anjan Dutt with Neel Dutt and Amyt Datta set the mood with their unique mix of Bengali music with western folk influences. And then there's the irrepressible DJ Austin Smith with his retro party starters. Try and keep off the dance floor for this one!

EXPLORE

Goa Through the Eyes of..



Photograph: Bernd Slotta

Watchers reflect and refract in a thousand shards. Engrossed in the creative oeuvre of French-born artist [Yahel Chirinian](#), they see themselves differently. For these installations and sculptures writhe with mirrors, tiny parts making organic wholes that adorn the homes and galleries of collectors around the world, and form unusual collaborations with architects and interior designers. Chirinian works from Goa, where she employs village women to assist in her glittering work.

Lifestyle is a misunderstood word. It is profoundly important and not merely happenstance or just fashionable. It represents the sum of the basic choices we make every day about who we are and how we live. Indeed, you are where you live. As old institutions fade and social structures crumble, nationality and class are being replaced by lifestyle-tribes. People find their place in the world through sensibilities and style, not merely wealth.

I live in Goa permanently since 25 years. My favourite places in Goa are owned by people I know, old friends of mine. I love them and their dedication over the years. A Reverie in Candolim is definitely my best table in town. Love to go there for the exquisite gastronomic food, the fabulous vibe, the kindness and professionalism of the staff. For more chill out, in Anjuna I love to go to Basilico. My friend Susana is from Venizia, her pizzas and her chocolate mousse are the best. Gunpowder in Assagao is a must if you are curious about non-vegetarian South Indian food. These guys do great job, I love to go there!

I very much enjoy spending the day in Panjim, Fontainhas the ancient Portuguese quarter has hidden gems at every corner, little taverns, memorable Viva Panjim, lovely fashion shops like Sosa's and Barefoot. Also in Panjim, perched on the green and leafy Altinho Hill, Sunaparanta, Goa Centre for the Arts is a hub for creativity, a place where both contemporary and traditional art is made accessible to the public.

When I have a bit of time, I like to come on Candolim beach which is also close to my house. Everyone has their favourite shack. I always like to go to Pine Tree for a fresh juice and a swim. Calamari Restaurant, also on Candolim beach, for great seafood with my friends is an old time classic!

People in Goa are anything but cool. They are hot, vulnerable, beautiful, passionate, wild... they are Goans, they are Indians, they come from the different corners of the planet, to participate to this very alive colourful patchwork. Mixing is part of the keyword. In Goa we drink coffee. We drink more coffee. We drink tea. We drink Kingfisher beers, feni and Old Monk. We are activists. We love animals. Dogs = bonus points. We rescue dogs and cats. We love music. Any kind of music. From rock 'n' roll to jazz to vinyl and EDM. We are happy. Also we deny labels ;)

Goa is a "parti pris" of existence. I guess Goa is showing that today you can be artsy and spirit-like in being modern and connected. Peace, love and Macintosh!

Take a peek at [Yahel Chirinian's sculptures displayed at The Park Calangute, Goa](#), designed to perfectly embody your myriad Goan experience.



Dance Like No One Is Watching You

As a stand up comedian I perform at night and quite often those shows are staged in bars and nightclubs. But once my gig is done I leave, I go home, and I go to sleep. This isn't discipline, this is middle age. I know if I stick around long enough I will wake up with a hangover that lasts at least three days. And while I am the biggest supporter of people doing age-inappropriate things, hanging around a dark room, drinking over-priced cocktails and watching 20-year-olds with no cellulite and an obvious thigh gap dance like no one is watching them (when in fact everyone is watching them and they know it) is not how I choose to chill.

I wasn't always like this. In fact, I was a major proponent and participant of the club culture right through the 90's. I gave that decade my all. Ask the Spice Girls, or Robbie Williams or The Pet Shop Boys they were all there — in spirit. And speaking of spirits I drank copious amounts of really lousy vodka, took up cigarette smoking, and danced like Madonna's back-up dancer — the one that got fired. There wasn't a good time I was willing to miss and for the record I discovered FOMO years before it was invented and have the dark circles to prove it.

But that was then. Today, I keep threatening my nephew with the idea that one night he and his friends are going to take me to hang with the cool kids. The Neph said he would call to set that up but he seems to have lost my number. Which tells me everything I need to know about today's club scene — I am not welcome. And that by the way is fine by me.

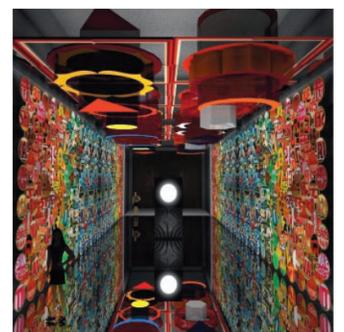
Radhika Vaz gave up a career in advertising to become a comedienne and writer. Yes, [Anything But Ordinary™](#) which is why we value her opinion on things. Her book "[Unladylike, A Memoir](#)" is available on Amazon and Flipkart. Follow her on Twitter [@radvaz](#)

SCOOP

Utopia by Design

The London Design Biennale was a remarkable event that brought together installations, artworks and design from around the world in September 2016, addressing the theme 'Utopia by Design'. Representing India in a discussion about this theme, was Priya Paul, Chairperson of The Park Hotels, known as a pioneer of boutique luxury travel in India. She is also an avid art collector and design enthusiast. In the discussion, which was in collaboration with the India Design Forum, she exchanged thoughts with Sunil Khilnani, Professor and Director of King's College London India Institute, Rajshree Pathy, founder of India Design Forum, James Soane, the London-based Indophile designer who founded award-winning design studio Project Orange and Alice Cicolini, the celebrated jewellery designer, whose work is inspired by the Silk Route. The panel explored culture, heritage and the future of design in the subcontinent while also explaining what utopia means to them.

The Park Hotels are known for their design-led properties, pushing the boundaries of modern architecture. While they collaborate with globally respected design teams, Priya Paul's own version of design utopia is the blend of old and new, east meets west, tradition fused with trends, and local communities working alongside universal brands.



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