

ANYTHING BUT ORDINARY™



## ***The Tiffin Box***

Origin: Unknown

USP: Helping India stay off junk food and reclaim home cooking

Function: Keeping the wet separate from the dry and the sweet from the savoury

Claim to Fame: Starring role in the world's most efficient food distribution system; and nearly making it to the Oscars with 'The Lunchbox'

Design: Intelligent

Perception: Taken for granted as Ordinary

Reality: Anything But



# POCKET-SIZED PERKS



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*Comfort is where small things delight, offering unexpected luxury. You didn't know your brow was furrowed with stress, till you meditated on the zen-like green accents around you. You didn't realize how the heat could sap your energy till you had a picnic with a funky re-invented tiffin trolley in the cool stillness of your room (minus the grass stains and the ants in your sandwich). You'd never missed your personal space till you sat ensconced in a secret lair, the buzz of the lobby, a distant, soothing murmur. And you'd never imagined work could be calming, till you could do it curled up in your bed. Little things at The Park. But aren't they grand?*

*The Park Hotels work on the pocket-sized perks that matter.*



# EAT | *Liquid* Earth



## Ingredients:

100g dark chocolate, chopped  
100g butter  
150g light soft brown sugar  
3 large eggs  
1/2 tsp vanilla extract  
50g plain flour

## Method:

- 1 Preheat the oven to 200°C. Butter four earthen tea *kuldahs* well, and place them on a baking tray.
- 2 Put the chocolate and butter in a heatproof bowl and set over a pan of hot water (or alternatively, put in the microwave) and stir until smooth, then set aside to cool slightly for 15 minutes.
- 3 Mix in the sugar, then the eggs, one at a time, followed by the vanilla extract and finally the flour. Divide the mixture among the *kuldahs*.
- 4 Bake for 8-10 minutes, or until the tops are firm to touch but the middles still feel squidgy. Serve immediately on a bed of cooled ash for dramatic effect.

**Mud Pot Molten Chocolate Cake:** You might think that there's nothing better than the divine flavor and texture of melted chocolate... till you taste this clever, sensual dessert by Chef Sharad Dewan of The Park, Kolkata. An aroma of warm, dark, sun-baked earth is swirled into it by baking the chocolate in mud pots. That's mud heaven twice over!

# MEET | *Love* Dot Com

First he made us travel with *makemytrip.com*. Now he makes us fall in love, with *Truly Madly*, the wildly successful dating site for young, urban Indians. **Sachin Bhatia's** a CEO who has lots of tricks up his sleeve, especially when it comes to playing cupid. Also an adventurer and explorer, Bhatia is a self-avowed basher of stereotypes.



## Dream Destination:

Lhasa via the Z 21, Beijing-Lhasa train

## Book on Bedside:

The 100-Year Old Man Who Climbed Out Of The Window & Disappeared by Jonas Jonasson

## Design to Die for:

Onitsuka Tiger Sneakers

## Song on Repeat:

Homegrown by Lynyrd Skynyrd

## Art du Jour:

Cows by Mohammad Osman

## Fashion Accessory:

Microsoft Band 2

## Food Fetish:

Char Kway Teow, a popular noodle dish from Malaysia

**Idle Pleasure:** Roasting and grinding coffee beans!

**Go-to Place for Inspiration:** Penang, Malaysia

**Aha Moment:** Driving up a winding road along the Andaman Sea in Penang, Malaysia with my wife, and realizing that this is where we want to live

**1 Reason I Love The Park:** Agni at The Park, New Delhi has fuelled many a date back in the day, and with many interesting memories

# SPOT | *Renaissance* Man



It must be fun to be **Swarup Dutta**. To spend your days designing unforgettable experiences for people in any number of fabulous ways; like an acrobat, to turn your art into so many jaw-dropping shapes and forms. Swarup started by studying fashion and textiles in the UK, but now he is a stylist, a graphics and interior artist, and a photographer in the world of fashion and beyond.

He has created a compelling experimental space for design and cuisine in Kolkata. He is also involved in design and craft education. Perhaps the word that sums him up best is 'scenographer', which literally means setting the stage for a performance, which, in his case, is utterly sensory and delightful, and **Anything But Ordinary™**.

## Join The Club

The Park Hotels, a part of Design Hotels™, has joined forces with the Starwood Preferred Guest Loyalty program. This means that SPG members can now book and avail points at The Park Hotels in Kolkata, New Delhi, Chennai, Hyderabad & Bangalore and experience the unique and bespoke portfolio of The Park Hotels. Recently, Starwood officially named Design Hotels™ as its 11th brand. Design Hotels™ represents and markets a hand-selected collection of hotels around the globe, offering the unexpected and the original, as well as genuine hospitality, cultural authenticity and thought-provoking design and architecture. Over 21 million active SPG members can redeem points with The Park Hotels.





# EXPLORE

## Hyderabad through the eyes of...



**Kishan Lohiya** makes cooking oil. But he also makes and remakes SUVs, two wheelers and a mean vegetarian barbecue. Businessman, sharpshooter, car designer, and altogether passionate about life, he is one-of-a-kind in Hyderabad.

This 400 year-old city is a beguiling mix of rich history and modern attractions. The most visited of Hyderabad's sights is the Charminar, known as much for the bustling bangle bazaar as the ancient monument dating back to the 1500's. Ramoji Film City can make all your cinematic dreams come true with Bollywood and Tollywood themed parks and walks among gigantic film sets. Make friends with an Egyptian mummy at the Salar Jung Museum and recreate a Nizam's world at the beautiful Falaknuma Palace. Offer prayers at the famous Balaji temple in Chilkur, or try out the world's whackiest cars and bikes at the Sudha Cars Museum. Hyderabad is no slacker when

it comes to shopping and partying either, with boutiques and brands vying for space in malls like GVK and Inorbit, and young people flocking to night-clubs and bars, some of which are designed by the country's best. Your trip to this city will not be complete without the delicious and authentic biryani and meat dishes at Paradise, and rare pearls at Mangatrai for your retail fix.

**Start off Kishan's recommended tour of Hyderabad with breakfast at The Verandah at The Park Hyderabad, and its incredible view overlooking the expanse of the pool and the Hussain Sagar Lake beyond.**



# Potty PROBLEMS

**Those who sh\*t in glass toilets shouldn't.**

Anything transparent is good. Blouses, relationships, and financial dealings. But who came up with the transparent toilet? Who was the brain behind the idea that keeping a constant eye on your hotel room while you tend to your daily ablutions would be something of a trend? Who decided that the inhabitants of a double occupancy room would want to watch one another floss their teeth?

Conceptually I get — it's one heck of a sexy idea — but then again only if your roommate happens to be built like Channing Tatum. And while a number of 'adult videos' may have given many of us (and by us I mean you) the idea that watching someone shower could be fun I personally find the thought of it stressful. Look I'm self-conscious, not on stage of course, that is one place I have no boundaries, but when it comes to my real life I am exactly like the next girl — I want to keep my cellulite, amongst other things, to myself. It takes either exceptional thigh-gap or a colossal amount of self-confidence to allow another human to watch you bathe and I have never claimed to have either. I would require professional grade lighting and some sort of fog machine before I allow anyone to watch me shampoo my hair, and say nothing of answering Mother Nature's call. Can a girl read her Hello! Magazine in peace? I am judged by my pedestrian choices all day long, reading utter crap while taking one is a guilty pleasure I would like to hold on to without being told I am 'better than that'.

And finally, with all this transparency where is a person to cry, text nasty stuff about her roommate, or smoke an illicit fag? Yes I know most rooms are non-smoking. Which is why we smokers want our walls back.

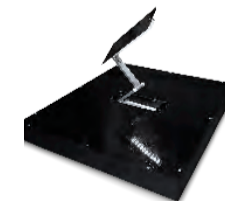
**Radhika Vaz** gave up a career in advertising to become a comedienne and writer. Yes - **Anything But Ordinary**; which is why we value her opinion on things. But we can prove her wrong about fluid spaces and open loos and show her how sexy they can actually be. Her book "Unladylike, A Memoir" is available on amazon.in and Flipkart. Follow her on Twitter @radvaz

# SCOOP

## All's Fair In Design

The Park Hotels breathe design. India Design ID 2016 is an event that is the frontispiece of innovation in India. In a headlong collision of creativity, The Park Hotels are the event's Strategic Design Partners. Our Student Contest in tandem with Elle Decor finds the most talented upcoming designers of spaces, accessories, lighting, textiles, furniture and more in India, and displays their work at India Design ID. Our original installation at the event designed by Mayank Mansingh Kaul is a pop-up eatery called The Café. *Bharnis* for pickles, *kulhads* for tea and aluminium tiffins become works of art that tell stories about food culture.

Mayank Mansingh Kaul is a textile and fashion designer, curator and writer, and is Founder-Director of The Design Project India.



**Winners of The Park Elle Decor Student contest** 1 'Square Nut Table' Sakshi Taplu from IILM School of Design, Gurgaon 2 'Camouflage' Nandha Gahlawat from RV College of Architecture, Bangalore 3 'Truine Stool' Hemachandiran B. from National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad 4 'Lumi' Bhavana Brindavan from RV College of Architecture, Bangalore 5 'SARC' Neha Gahlawat from RV College of Architecture, Bangalore 6 Priya Paul, Chairperson, Apeejay Surrender Park Hotels, with the student winners at the event

Apeejay Surrendra Park Hotels Ltd.  
Apeejay Techno Park  
B-11/42, Mohan Co-operative Industrial Estate  
Mathura Road, New Delhi 110 044, India

Toll free 1800 102 PARK (7275)  
[www.theparkhotels.com](http://www.theparkhotels.com)  
For more information, please email us at  
[pr.corp@theparkhotels.com](mailto:pr.corp@theparkhotels.com)

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