

The Primer

Urban hotels, extravagant spas, evocative train journeys and inspiring locations—our 2017 holiday goals will leave you excited.



THE PENTHOUSE VIEW

Hôtel du Ministère, Paris

Stay here for: The beautiful views of Paris's cultural district and its pared-down interiors.

This lovely hotel, located at a stone's throw from the cultural centre and retail hotspots, has been a haunt for discerning travellers desiring a piece of the Parisian dream. The sunrises-washed penthouse, evocatively named La Tête dans les Étoiles or 'head amongst the stars', has a south-west facing living area that's designed by interior expert François Champsaur. It features a wall of steel-framed Crittall Glass windows, which open to views over the Parisian rooftops. Chic black and beautiful grey décor accents contrast beautifully with raw oak floor boards, sleek walnut wood furnishings and vibrant furnishings in colours of red and yellow. • ministerehotel.com

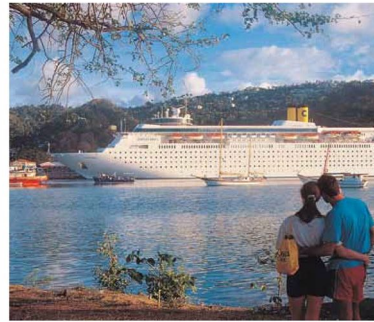


ON THE HIGH SEA

Costa Cruises

Why take this cruise: India debuts as both, a boarding point and a port o'call.

India has been a stepchild as far as the cruising industry goes. We have to take a flight out of India, to the shore from which we could take that cruise of our dreams: Maldives or Singapore, Vietnam or Cambodia, Italy or Canada, the Arctic or the South Americas...



So it is with great pleasure that we announce the Maximum City's debut as a boarding point for a cruise that takes you to two seaside getaways within India—Goa and Cochin, or outside—Colombo or Maldives.

Every week, starting December, Europe's leading cruise operator Costa Cruises will send luxury lovers and cruise enthusiasts sailing on its Costa neoClassica ship out of Mumbai.

The pleasure boat can carry almost 1,700 passengers and features 654 cabins that include ocean view cabins and luxury suites with private balconies. It also boasts fully-equipped casinos, theatres, discotheques, ballrooms and a grand bar, amongst others. A wellness centre, spread across 1,300 sq m with a well-equipped gym, plush treatment rooms, a sauna and steam rooms, outdoor jogging tracks, spacious Jacuzzis and swimming pools, a shopping centre and even a serene library in fabulously elegant settings will keep you entertained on the days the cruise hasn't docked on any island that you can explore.

Although suffused by world-class facilities, the cruise ship experience is characterised by its incredible dining options: Neapolitan pizza at Pizzeria Pummid'oro, lavish Indian spreads and a lot more.

The seven-night package can start at either Mumbai or Male. The ship sails along India's south-western coast, with stopovers at Cochin and Mangalore on the way to Maldives, and via Colombo and Goa on the way to Mumbai. • costacruise.com