

Himachal Pradesh's heavy showers paralyse tourism in Kasauli; hoteliers relive lockdown nightmares

Massive showers across Himachal Pradesh have brought tourism in Kasauli to its knees. Zero tourists' inflow and empty hotels have reminded the tourism industry of this small hill station of the lockdown periods, as many shopkeepers of the Heritage Market have shut down their businesses.

According to a Hotel Manager in Kasauli, "It was last during lockdowns due to Covid-19 that our hotels were completely empty with zero bookings and tourist inflow. All the bookings of the hotel stand cancelled. It is on the business of these three months of May, June, July that the hotel industry survives the entire year. With zero income, it would be difficult to pay even the salaries of our staff."



Surge in hotel prices ahead of major tournament; five-star room rates soar to unprecedented levels

Industry sources reveal that even when booked three-and-a-half months in advance, a base category room at a five-star hotel in the city is in some cases going for INR 50,000 per night, a significant

increase from the usual rates of INR 6,500-10,500. This surge in prices comes ahead of the tournament scheduled to be held in India from October 5 to November 19, featuring high-profile matches at Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad, including the opening match, the final, and the much-awaited India-Pakistan showdown.

"There is also great traction for the match between India and Pakistan, likely on October 15. Bookings have already been made for the October 13-16 period and hotel rooms in the city are expected to be sold out on most match days," said Keenan McKenzie, GM, ITC Narmada.



Taiwan, Vietnam, and Indian Rank as Top 3 Nations for choosing Breakfast-Inclusive Hotel Reservations in Asia: Agoda

Digital travel platform, Agoda, unveils the user preferences of Asian travellers and the choices they make while booking hotels. The insights collected over the past two months reveal that almost half (46%) of the travellers from Taiwan opted for breakfast included, followed closely by Vietnamese (43%), and Indian travellers (42%). On the other end, the statistics found South Korea (29%), Japan (27%), and Malaysia (23%), ranking 8, 9, and 10 respectively on the breakfast requirement popularity table.

OceanSky Cruises and Les Roches launch a partnership setting a new service standard in aviation and experiential luxury travel

OceanSky Cruises, the airline of airships with a commitment to sustainable aviation, is excited to announce a groundbreaking partnership with Les Roches, one of the world's leading luxury hospitality Swiss universities. Together, they will develop the hospitality operations and service protocols that will define the future of luxury air travel, which will take passengers on a trip to the geographical north-pole on its first expedition.



Carlos Díez de la Lastra

IIHM Institute of Hospitality Skills opens doors in Delhi; aims to open 100 centres across the country within the next two years

The IIHM Institute of Hospitality Skills (IIHS), which is India's largest training centre affiliated with the Tourism and Hospitality Skill Council (THSC), has opened its state-of-the-art facility in Delhi. The Centre aims to provide comprehensive courses on hospitality skills, catering to professionals seeking to upskill and enhance their career prospects.

IIHS aims to open 100 centres across the country within the next two years, with a mission to educate 100,000 young unemployed professionals and help them join the hospitality industry.

