

Varanasi or Banaras as it is also known, is overwhelming. Unlike many of the cities that you have visited, this city goes on in spite and not because of its visitors. It is a city that requires you to be sensitive, spiritual, careful and open minded – even if the experience is not quite the one you expected. So, plunge in headlong – cruise the river; visit the temples; go for a live sarod concert; be mesmerized by the evening aarti (prayer); walk the small lanes which go back a thousand years and have the power to make time stand still.

Walking through the lanes of Varanasi, you lose your sense of time, place and self and are accompanied by constant sense of discovery. It is said that the city is home to some 330 million Hindu Gods. Of the pantheon of gods, Shiva is the most prominent. He is the god of death, destruction, dance, compassion and defies all conventions. The maze of lanes then give way to steps which form the 'ghats' and sweep down to the water's edge of the 'sacred mother' Ganga. The lanes, the ghats and the river make up the fabric of Banaras!



The Tree of Life Resort &
Spa encompasses all that
Varanasi is, with a twist it is your oasis of peace
and calm after an overwhelming experience of
the city!

## The Accommodation:

18 Junior Suites: Varanasi as a city, competes for every inch of space. You will experience the crowds, the noise, the struggle of traffic while in the city. Coming back to the solace of your Resort, we offer you our Junior Suites, each with a private area of around 650 sq.ft. Done in a local style architecture, each Junior Suite allows you the luxury of space and privacy. High ceiling, teak wood carved furniture, hand painted Shiva on the wall, a separate living area with a sofa and a large flat screen television; very spacious and well en suite 150 sq.ft bathroom with a style so unique you would not have seen else where. And added to all of this, is your large private sit-out overlooking the gardens, and the 'Ganga Kund' (religious pond) and the open spaces around.

# Activities:

- Teach A While Back To Basics Temples, Ghats & Mystic
- Mother Ganga & You An Evening With The Gods In The Steps Of The Buddha • Just For Two • The Chef In You • The Buggy Ride • Yoga & Meditation • Yours Again Vows •
   Pamper Your Senses

# Dining:

- AnnTripti Our multi-cuisine restaurant derives its name from two Sanskrit words - 'Ann' which means food and 'Tripti' which means satisfaction - AnnTripti. As in all our properties, we believe that food must be cooked and served fresh and to your delight. It is for this reason that we do not do buffets. We offer Indian and Continental options, along with some special local Banarasi signature dishes. Our menus change every day.
- Leechi Vriksh Cheeku or mud-apple, is a very popular fruit in Banaras. Our lovely sit-out is conceived around a cheeku tree for you to enjoy your dinner under the stars or a meal under the warm winter sun during the day. A crackling fire place adds to the charm of the winter nights. Stroll to the other end, to The Herb Garden where we grow our own exotica.

# **Facilities:**

• Barja - A Sanskrit word for balcony, this charming sit out overlooks the swimming and is an ideal place to order from our Tea Menu, browse through a book and just let the world go by.

- Ekam The Spa Loose yourself for a while and indulge in exquisite wellness treatment at our spa. Our experienced therapists will sooth your body and mind with a blend of traditional Indian wellness in our two treatment rooms. Steam and Sauna facilities are also available.
- Ganga Kund Banaras is known for its huge steps going down to the River Ganga called the ghats. We have our own smaller version at the Resort, which is also blessed with water from the River Ganga. Participate in the morning and evening prayer ceremonies; pray at our Temple dedicated to Goddess Vindya Vasni; or then light the floating lamp in the evening with a wish on your lips.
- Yantra This 'watering hole' of the Resort takes inspiration from a symbol which represents aspects of the divine. The ceiling is hand painted 18th century Sri Yantra with devotees in meditation moving through chakras and points of spiritual power. Yantra serves as a lounge and library located between the Shiva Courtyard and the swimming pool.



#### Location:

Given that a visit to Varanasi city is such an intense experience, it is our belief that guests want to indulge in that experience for whatever time they can, but then get back to some calm and solitude to re-capture what they have experienced. The Tree of Life Resort & Spa provides that solace. Like all our other properties, this one is located away from the crowds, noise and chaos that India is. Situated in rural surroundings, 11 kms from the airport and just 12 kms from the city centre (Cantt area), the new expressway connecting the airport and the city makes it a convenient 20-25 minutes drive to either location. The new Ring Road to Sarnath starts just a few kilometers from us and once operational, will make it a pleasurable 25 minutes drive.

### Distances from:

Airport 11 kms (20 minutes) City Centre - Cantt 12 kms (30 minutes) Cantt Station 17 kms (30 minutes) Sarnath 18 kms (25 minutes - when Ring Road operational)

Bhataoli - Sarai Kazi, Babatpur, Varanasi - 221105

## Reservations:

Tel: +91 9015242000 / unwind@treeofliferesorts.com

