

AKSHAR

RE-SCRIPTING HOSPITALITY



CHRIST
UNIVERSITY

Declared as Deemed to be University under Section 3 of UGC Act 1956

Department of Hotel Management, Christ University, Hosur Road, Bangalore 560029

Vol. 3 (5), MAY 2013

REPertoire

We are bang in the middle of May, with the blistering heat and the holidays nearing an end. But the holiday spirit seems not to have abated. In this issue of Akshar, we ask students and teachers what's on their list of things to do before they get "back to school". Also read about some Global food culture and interesting places in Bangalore to beat the heat. We hope you enjoy!



– AVIN THALIATH, EDITOR-IN CHIEF

So Much To Do, So Little Time!

–Tulika Agarwal

The college life extravaganza, celebration and enthusiasm are entirely a different experience from any high school stuff where as young kids and children we would pray for endless holidays, breaks and much more.

The two month long hiatus that kick-started with the conclusion of our exams, is ultimately about to witness its closure. The budding christites have expressed mixed responses (as expected) to the statement "holidays coming to an end"! This much awaited break proved quite an eventful one for all the university students. The end semester results, trips and tours with friends, assignments, and the most formative, or important of all, so to say – the ecstasy and merriment of beginning yet another new year in the fulfillment of their endeavors.

Personally, holidays like these are the gems students cherish and crave for due to the heavy workload and stressful schedules, but on the contrary there is a degree of excitement to meet the fellow classmates, mentors and all the members a part of their college life.

One year just flew by and filled our hearts with nostalgia, bitter-sweet memories and the love and care gathered from our second home. But as they say, "Every end leads to a new beginning" and I hope we all have a rocking start to our yet another year in the campus.

When asked what would be the things they would do to prepare themselves to get back to college, these are the top responses we received from students and teachers-

**Cover
Story**

“Emptying the cupboard with the old books for new” — Neha

“Sharpening the Chef knife” — Chirag.W

“Grooming the nails perfectly” — Poorvi I.

“Keeping an ample pile of stockings for our everyday needs” — Sarthika

“Getting a new hairstyle”— Tejas A

“Visit Tirupathi Balaji for seeking blessings” — Anurag A.

“ A conscious effort to acquire new skills and attempt to focus on activities that benefit our future course of action” — Avin Thaliath.

“Ensuring a fresh and relaxed mindset” — Riya A.

“Getting friends to pick you up on time” — Upamanyu U.

“Catch up on all the books I’ve missed reading and shop enough to make up for the rest of the year!”— Srujana.S

These witty responses made me think of a million more things to do before a refreshing start to our college again. It is indeed hilarious to think about the responses received, some of them being quite funny! So pick up a pen, make your bucket list and work on it while you can! Here’s wishing you all a fun-filled and a joyful academic year ahead.

CALIFORNIA– GOING GLOBAL DESI !

-Swarup Tellakula

Travelling alone on a huge flight with strangers around was an experience of a lifetime for me as teenager. On arrival to the country and being inquisitive about their culture, i discovered home away from home during my stay in the Bay area of Sanfransisco because of the huge population of Indians.

Being an Indian and more importantly, a vegetarian, I was not disappointed. Every authentic resturant in the bay area has made a provison for the vegetarians to try the flavours of their cusine with veg alternatives. To name a few, Redrobin serving the American burger with beef patties had vegetarian tofu veggie patties, which blended perfectly with all the other ingredients. The bay area has a huge number of supermarkets depending upon the population near by. Each supermarket is dedicated to its country of origin, making it easy to find all the key ingredients of a particular cuisine at one place.

The fact that it offers something for all kinds of tastes be it regional, vegetarian or vegan, is what makes California so Global and diverse.

It is also home to many wonderful bakeries with a huge variety of pastries, cookies and cakes to offer. The establishments use fresh produce and this made a huge difference in the taste. The cakes i tasted were an experince of heaven to a food lover. Some of them where so light ,yet moist with a natural flavour, mouth melting delights. Bakeries also had a provison for all the allergic and vegan customers. My experience in the resturants and the supermarkets showed me how each allegric, vegan and vegetarian customer could still enjoy the food without any negotians to make.

I must mention the restaurant “Cheese cake factory” made popular by the TV show, “The Big Bang Theory”. I was pleasantly surprised to discover that it actually exists. It specialises in Italian cuisine and needless to say, it is famous for it’s cheesecake and others huge variety of cakes. The 'original cheesecake' they serve has no egg, and is not baked, yet does not comprmise on taste .

My pesto crepe in the city of Montrey was a fruit of my prongled wait in the queue at an evidently popular outlet. A blend of a savoury and a sweet dish, this was quite mind-boggling. The caramel popcorn near the coastline is a delicacy to eat and something you cannot get enough of.

My culinary journey has been an amazing and satisfying one, encouraging me to try more and more with out a regret This jouney coming to an end is a sad farewell for me. Yet with a huge smile i say goodbye to this country to come back soon for more surprises .



ICE CREAM FIXATION

-Shraddha Patil

On a hot summer day, there's nothing that comes to mind better to cool things down than some old-fashioned ice cream!! Well, Bangalore has many such places that could satisfy your cravings.

Starting with one of our favorites, the Corner House which is known for its unique creations like the ragingly popular Death by Chocolate, Trilogy, Cake fudge and other thick classic shakes. Polar Bear is a premium chain of ice cream parlors. They have 36 flavors that are both exotic and natural. Yoghurt Razzle, Natural Berry flavours, Belgium chocolate, Rum Jamaica are a few specialities.

Baskin Robins was one of the first premium foreign ice cream chains that came to India. They use rich ingredients and is equally nutritious and craved among all age groups! They are well known for their 31 classic flavors which include the yummy mint chocolate chip, daiquiri, oreo cookies 'n' cream, gold medal ribbon and so on.



Swensen's is a popular ice cream outlet. It serves an endless variety of ice creams, sundaes, shakes and much more! It's a must visit outlet for those who can relish ice cream as a meal itself! And of course, when speaking of high end fancy ice cream innovations how can one forget Haagen Dazs. Though expensive they provide you with the best of flavours and textures, that will make every penny worthwhile. Ibaco serves not only the best looking dishes but also the tastiest...the Italian wonder and the peach and strawberry duet are the ones to look out for!

An all time favorite in Koramangla is the Pabrais which serves ice creams that are mostly made of 100% natural ingredients. This place I would suggest to all those who are "diet conscious". Here one has to taste

the famous Nalen Gur ice cream which was one of the most successful inventions of the Pabrai! Much like Pabrais is Naturals which widely popularised natural ice cream in flavours that were not very common before.



As if these numerous options were not enough, new establishments are opening every other day, like the new Mini Melts which offers a unique experience with ice cream in the form of tiny frozen beads. Bangaloreans is certainly have more than their fair share of places to indulge their Ice Cream Cravings in.



Photo Credits— www.google.com

The Hopeless Traveller

MUMBAI TRAVELOGUES!

-Poorvi Iyengar

After a year of monotonous routine I knew a break was essential. I've always ensured that I spend a considerable amount of time to plan and make the 2 months of the summer break eventful. This year I had travel on my mind. I'd spent a whole day on research for cities safe for single female travellers, women hostels (since the eva floors on the itc properties are way above my budget) and other such details. While I had my research set and ready to be presented to the authorities at home (parents) a new plan was in the stages of formulation. A group of my classmates had decided to head to Mumbai for a week and the persuasion of a good friend from the group helped me consider this destination as the right choice to satisfy my interests of travel.

Prolonged discussions took place at "Mumbai meetings". Train reservations or flight bookings were the agenda of most of these meetings at college. The whatsapp group ran a constant countdown. Discussions included food, accommodation and travel and most importantly, our budget. After over a month of constant planning and considerations the plans were finalized and we were set to explore India's city of dreams!

Train journeys have always fascinated me.. for some it took a while to be convinced that the journey wasn't going to feel very long, our coach was next to the pantry and constant availability of food to munch and family gossip from co passengers kept us occupied! Before we knew it, we had stepped off the train onto the platform and there we were, the city of the seas, trains and people had welcomed us with humidity, blistering sun and still air. Having stayed down South all my life, my exposure to the other regions was limited to what I saw on TV and opinions of others. But seeing Bombay was an overwhelming experience. Each day presented new situations and towards the end it led to self realization of how unique the city is and the "my city is the best" argument falters. As far as the eye could see there was the sea. Most evenings were spent watching the sun set and envious remarks were constant of how everyone wished Bangalore had a beach.

Shimmering waters, the Gateway of India and The Taj Mahal Palace, Mumbai in the background.



Food was never an issue. For Bombay provides an array of food ranging from the carts to high end restaurants . It is the city for the vada pav. Nowhere across the city will you notice a vadapav cart without people. Some carts open as early as six in the morning and cater to all sections of people throughout the day. The city's love for food is expressed through the number of establishments they have. Roads are incomplete without a café or a restaurant. This love had its influence on me , food topped my shopping list and I had prepared myself to pay for the extra kgs at the airport. However on the downside, because every restaurant is assured of guests, little effort is made to treat guests courteously. In our efforts to explore as much as we could we ensured we had Starbucks, Leopold and ethnic restaurants on our itinerary. The brewed coffee and kothimiri vadi left us longing for more. Kokkam juice, the most favored ingredient in Maharashtrian cuisine is quite the refresher!

Mumbai is truly a sea of people, busy at all times, humility describes them! Being the city of the celebrities , the sight of a celebrity is quite common. Hordes of people swarm houses of actors and it has become quite a tourist destination. Often, celebrity pets are taken for walks by the shore and through personal experience I state they are given equal importance as those celebrities!

Public transport is remarkable in Mumbai.. We've traveled several kms on the sea link, Siddhivinayak temple, the Haji Ali mosque and numerous other places constantly switching taxis buses and trains. The joy of spending meagre amounts on travel isn't achievable in Bangalore.

Mumbai is known to be the Indian city that never sleeps, its quite a feeling of liberation to walk the streets late at night without having to bother too much about your safety .The freedom in the city added to the holiday experience, allowing us to be carefree. Mumbai left us with the feeling of having made the right choice to be in on a vacation on our own. Also, a high point for us was visiting the Oberoi Trident Hotel and the Taj Mahal Palace. Being hotel management students, this was much awaited by us and sent us into a flurry of excitement when we finally got around to visiting.

There exists an immense pleasure in travelling, exploring and meeting new people but there is no greater joy than that of coming back home! And so, we ended this vacation of ours with pictures to cherish, stories to tell.



Editor-in chief

Avin Thaliath

Conceptualized and Designed by

Bryan John Fernandes

Editorial Team

Avin Thaliath

Keerthan John Noble

Vishal Bose

Aravind Varghese

Anahita Girish

Vishwas Badami

Mahira Alvares

Angelina Maben

Bryan John Fernandes

Karan Nagpal

Srujana Sagi

Contact us at:

Christ University, Hosur Road

Bangalore— 560029

Karnataka India

Phone Numbers: +91.80.4012.9100

+91.80.4012.9600

Fax: +91.80.4012.9000

Email: akshar@bhm.christuniveristy.in

Website: www.christuniversity.in

Available on:

© For Private Circulation Only

