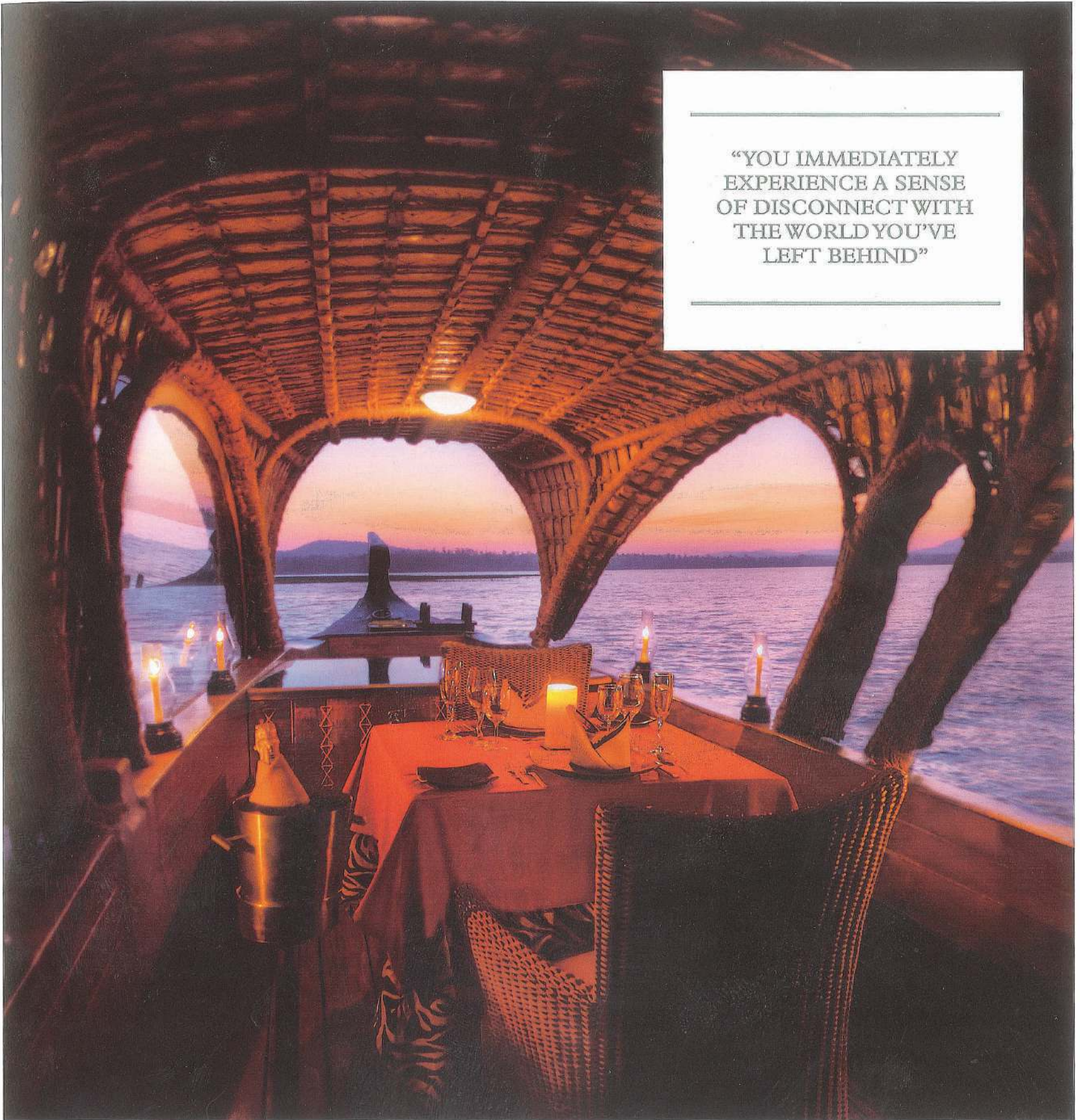


THE ROLLS-ROYCE ENTHUSIASTS' CLUB
— 2012 YEARBOOK —
A Celebration of Excellence



“YOU IMMEDIATELY
EXPERIENCE A SENSE
OF DISCONNECT WITH
THE WORLD YOU’VE
LEFT BEHIND”



SPIRIT OF *the land*

ENJOY AN INTIMATE ENCOUNTER WITH INDIA'S NATURE AND CULTURE AT ORANGE COUNTY'S LUXURY EXPERIENTIAL RESORTS

Deep in the south of India, where economic and technological development has been rapid in recent times, there remain some throwbacks to a bygone era when people lived in harmony with their environment. One of these is Orange County, one of India's leading luxury resort groups.



The company's flagship property is Coorg, set on a sprawling 300-acre working coffee and spice plantation. On one side, the resort is flanked by the River Cauvery, one of the seven holy rivers of India, and on the other by the lush Dubare Reserve Forest. 'When you step into Coorg, you immediately experience a sense of disconnect with the world you've left behind and

all its attendant stresses and strains,' says Jose Ramapuram, Marketing Director. This is due in part to the resort's location, high in the coffee-scented hills, but the accommodation does its bit to soothe the senses too. Luxurious Plantation Style Cottages offer a tantalising glimpse into what was once the privileged life of the gentleman planter. The Private Pool Villas – built using rust-red, hand-cut laterite bricks – are inspired by the architecture of the local Kodavas, the legendary natives of Coorg who can trace their ancestry back thousands of years to the Macedonian armies of Alexander the Great.

COFFEE AND SPICES: The resort encourages its guests to explore the surrounding sprawling coffee and spice plantations. Guests can also enjoy a birdwatching walk or visit the neighbouring village of Karadigodu to glimpse a way of life that has changed little in generations. The quaint riverside village tea shop is the perfect place to observe the rhythms of life while sitting on the riverbank sipping a local brew. In keeping with its responsible tourism policy, a good percentage of the resort's staff is recruited from the village. 'You will only be the richer for this wonderful off-resort experience,' says Jose. 'It allows you to feel the spirit of the land and its people up close.'

Voted India's leading wildlife resort at the World Travel Awards, Orange County Kabini, Coorg's sister property, is equally luxurious,

seeming to have sprung up organically on a sliver of land bordered on both sides by the Kabini River. This illusion owes much to the architectural style of the resort, which is inspired by a local tribal village, whose sensitive landscaping uses only native flora. The resort also pays homage to the neighbouring river by including either a Jacuzzi or pool in every hut – there are no 'standard' rooms here.

ABUNDANT ELEPHANTS: While the luxury of the accommodation can make it hard to venture further afield, the rewards will be worth it. The resort is bang in the middle of Asia's biggest biosphere, home to the largest population of Asiatic elephants in the world. Indeed, Kabini has wildlife in abundance, including tigers, leopards and dholes (wild dogs), and there's a team of expert naturalists on hand at the resort to guide guests to the best viewing areas.

'When you return home, you'll take back memories to last a lifetime,' says Jose. 'Memories of meeting the local people over a coffee at their village, or of confidences exchanged with Meenakshi, the resort elephant. At Orange County, we leave no stone unturned to give you the most luxurious holiday. Yet, no stone is turned unnecessarily, and the natural balance of man and his environment is always preserved and protected.'

www.orangecounty.in