

# Outlook

# TRAVELLER

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## THE *Readers'* ISSUE



WE GOT OUR OUTLOOK TRAVELLER COMMUNITY TO SHARE THEIR TRAVEL TALES, OFFERING A GLIMPSE INTO PLACES, PEOPLE, AND MEMORIES

**FREE**  
**DUBAI**  
**GUIDE**  
**BOOK**  
WITH THIS  
ISSUE!



+  
NEW YEAR  
ROAD JOURNEYS  
FEATURE



**ANCIENT STONES**  
CINEMATIC  
CHARM OF  
MATERA, ITALY

**DIVING DREAM**  
IN THE DEPTHS  
OF SIPADAN,  
MALAYSIA

**SPOOKY STOP**  
AT MAINE'S  
HERBERT  
GRAND HOTEL

**EARTH'S END**  
DISCOVERING  
ANTARCTICA  
AT 72



IT'S NOT WHERE — IT'S HOW



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## Foreword



**SHRI PREM SINGH TAMANG (GOLAY)**  
 Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim

**“Sikkim is a destination, an experience, and a revelation. But above all, it is a journey shared between humanity and nature”**

**T**his year marks a golden milestone, the 50th year of Sikkim's Statehood. It is a moment of immense pride and joy for every Sikkimese as we celebrate our journey from a Himalayan kingdom to a vibrant and progressive state of the Indian Union. On this historic occasion, I am delighted to present this Special Sikkim Booklet of Outlook Traveller, which captures the beauty, diversity, and spirit of our beloved state.

Sikkim is a rare gem of the Eastern Himalayas, a living mosaic of natural splendour and cultural harmony. From tropical forests to the majestic summit of Mt. Khangchendzonga, Sikkim traverses every climatic zone—tropical, temperate, alpine, and cold desert. Within this compact landscape lies an extraordinary variety of ecosystems, traditions, and ways of life, all bound by a shared reverence for nature.

I cordially invite the world to experience Sikkim, to feel the heartbeat of the Himalayas, to breathe the freshness of our valleys, and to witness how people and nature coexist in graceful balance.

Here, every mountain, river, and forest carries a story of resilience and devotion. Our people's deep respect for nature continues to guide our path towards sustainable growth and mindful tourism.

We view tourism as a partnership between travellers and the land, between exploration and preservation. With more than a thousand homestays across the state, we are empowering local communities and offering visitors authentic, immersive experiences rooted in Sikkimese warmth. Our focus on eco-tourism, cultural tourism, and community-based initiatives ensures that the benefits of tourism are shared widely and responsibly.

At the same time, we are strengthening infrastructure, improving connectivity, and investing in skills to make Sikkim an all-season destination, welcoming nature lovers, adventurers, and spiritual seekers alike. Sikkim today stands proudly among India's cleanest and greenest states, steadfast in preserving its ecological integrity while embracing progress.

Sikkim is a destination, an experience, and a revelation, but above all, it is a journey shared between humanity and nature.

I extend my warmest commendations to the publishers, editors, and writers of Outlook Traveller for dedicating this special booklet to Sikkim at this historic juncture. May this edition inspire travellers everywhere to discover the magic, peace, and wonder that define our Himalayan home.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim