Packages for Goa: Goa is a dream world of beaches and churches by Archi Mehra

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Goa, a small state nestled in the south-western corner of India, is a beguiling and captivating place known for its multitude of beaches and medieval age cathedrals that have stood the test of time. A holiday in Goa is craved by people from all parts of the world and especially by the sea-lovers because the beaches of Goa are, simply, awe-evoking. From serene to crowded, from bustling ones to the lonely ones, from palm-fringed ones to the picturesque ones- the beaches out here differ magnificently and are immensely satisfying. Also, with the easy availability of cheap packages for Goa, people from all walks of life can now turn up into this heavenly place and enjoy the sights & the sounds.

Your holiday in Goa will also be remembered for the beautiful churches that this tiny but giant state has to offer. There is a breath of Portugal and British colony in those age-old churches of Se Cathedral, Basilica of Bom Jesus and Church of our Lady of the Rosary which will also evoke lot of nostalgia.

Outdoor activities: When you are at the beaches, you can play volleyball, bath, swim and splash about. And for the adventure freaks, the aqua sports of surfing, parasailing and boating are some of the must do things. Shopping is another favourite outdoor activity and you must head to the traditional bazaars to get a taste of the local culture. Wildlife activities can be performed at the Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary or Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary.

Under the packages for Goa, you can also sink your teeth into some of the most sumptuous meals and delicious cuisines that you have lever laid your hands on.

Where to stay: There are many modest Goa hotels which will easily fit into your budget. Also, if you are ready to splurge, you can spoil yourself in the 5-star Goa hotels, luxurious resorts and beach huts.

Major Goa attractions: The major Goa attractions include

â€¢ Basilica of Bom Jesus

â€¢ Se Cathedral

â€¢ Church of our Lady of the Rosary

â€¢ Dudhsagar Falls (a shimmering waterfall)

â€¢ Mayem Lake

â€¢ Arvalem Waterfalls

â€¢ Kesarval Spring

â€¢ Carabolin Lake

â€¢ Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary

â€¢ Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary

â€¢ Braganza House (a medieval age mansion built during 16th century)

â€¢ Solar Dos Colacos (a 18th century heritage house known for its architectural wonder)

When to visit: A holiday in Goa can be taken throughout the year. But the best time to visit Goa is between October-April especially during the festive winter season.

Local festivals: Goa is a state that loves to go over-the-top when it comes to feasts and fests. Be it the riotous Winter Carnival or the zealous All Saints Feast or the Feast of St. Francis Xavier- all of them are celebrated with great fanfare.

Emergency Number: Police- 100, Ambulance- 102, Tourist Info- 0832-2438520/ 0832-2541644

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