KARMA konnect



KARMA
LAKELANDS
GOLF RESORT & RESIDENCES

EDITION XI

A Sanctuary of Sustainability and Serenity

Growing Up Close to Nature

Own a Piece of Paradise Forever

Reflecting on Our COP29 Journey

ACHIEVEMENTS THAT INSPIRE



STEWARD LEADERSHIP 25
2024

Jointly curated by

STEWARDSHIP ASIA · INSEAD Hoffmann Global Institute for Business & Society · wtw · THE STRAITS TIMES

Karma Lakelands has been recognised as one of the "25 Best Projects in Steward Leadership Excellence" in the entire Asia-Pacific region. The SL 25 list is curated by a distinguished Jury highlighting projects that redefine success—beyond profit—to include a positive impact on society and the environment, October 2024.

Congratulations!

You chose us, and together we succeeded—thank you!

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Roots of Karma



Nestle In Nostalgia at Karma Chalets



Love Blueberry Cheesecake? Let Us Turn It into the Sweetest Massage Ever!



Media Buzz

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A SANCTUARY OF SUSTAINABILITY AND SERENITY

Nestled in the heart of Gurgaon, Karma Lakelands is more than just a retreat; it is a celebration of nature, wellness, and sustainability. My second home in India, it inspires tranquillity and harmony, with every corner telling a story of ecological balance.

Discover five unique forest zones designed to celebrate biodiversity. Spot birds like the Bharadwaj (Indian Coucal), listen to the evening symphony of jackals, and learn about their ecological significance. Play a round of golf or savor an organic meal at one of five restaurants.

A Model of Sustainability

Karma Lakelands redefines sustainable living by harmonising environmental stewardship, employee well-being and profitability. With 70% green cover across its 270-acre landscape, it is a testament to sustainable land use, featuring afforestation and ecological landscaping in collaboration with Peepal Baba of the Give Me Trees Trust.

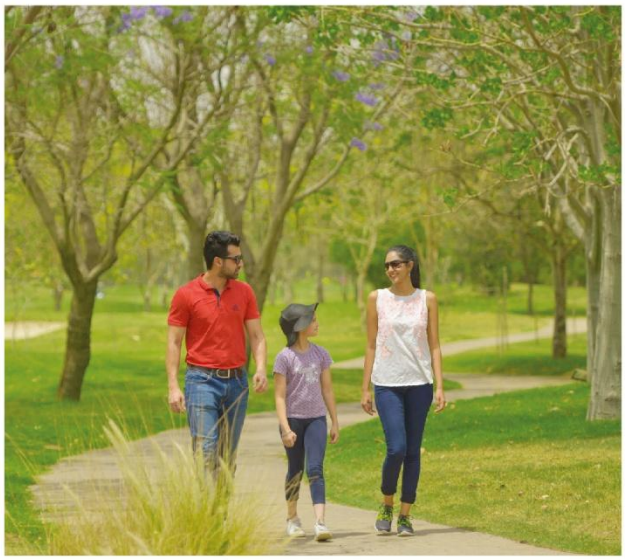
Sustainability in Action

Zero-Waste Practices: Rainwater harvesting, on-site biowaste treatment, and composting create a closed-loop system aligned with circular economy principles. Single-use plastics are eliminated, making it a truly responsible haven.

Energy Efficiency: Solar panels in the parking areas provide shade while generating clean-green energy, advancing the goal of achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2030.

Water Conservation: With waterless, plastic-free eco-urinal blocks introduced in partnership with Aspire Solutions, Karma Lakelands conserves millions of litres of water annually. Rainwater harvesting and collaborations with abutting communities ensure use of recycled water for irrigation without putting burden on the aquifers.

Local Ecosystems: Regenerative farming with farm animals, composting, and bee farming enhance biodiversity, pollination, and natural habitats.



Soundscape: Nature's symphony replaces urban noise. Birds, peacocks, and jackals serenade visitors, while honking and firecrackers are strictly prohibited.

A Culture of Well-Being and High Performance

Karma Lakelands thrives on three guiding principles:

1. Namaskar: Every visitor is greeted with a heartfelt Namaskar symbolising respect, mindfulness, and unity more than an SOP, it is a practice of reverence and inclusiveness.

2. Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: The belief that the world is one interconnected family fosters unity and compassion.

3. Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah: Striving for collective happiness and health through actions that promote well-being.

Daily practices like morning prayers instil acceptance and gratitude. Leadership meetings begin with laughter yoga, and staff and guests sing the national anthem at 5 PM under the 108-foot Indian Flag, a sign of unity and pride. Programs like amazing Habit Adaptation encourage healthier routines, creating happier teams and delighted customers. This culture ensures employees feel valued, motivated, and engaged, fostering innovation and collaboration.

Recognition and Leadership

Diki Bhutia, Director of Environmental Sustainability, and Ashwani Khurana, Chief Eternal Optimist (CEO), were honoured with the prestigious SL25 Award by the Stewardship Asia Centre, Singapore. This award recognizes projects that redefine success by integrating societal and environmental impact into their mission.

A Blueprint for the Future

Karma Lakelands offers a visionary model of sustainability, inclusivity, and well-being. It stands as an inspiration for communities worldwide, demonstrating how mindful leadership can create thriving ecosystems for both humanity and nature.

- By Dinesh Chandra
Transformational Coach,
Co-founder/Convener of
Global Wellbeing Network, USA



GROWING UP CLOSE TO NATURE:

A Childhood of Adventure and Discovery

Raising a Child at Karma Lakelands





When my daughter, Lylah, was two months old, I returned to work and fully embraced life at Karma Lakelands. I knew I didn't want to raise her in a boxed-in city life filled with malls and monotony. Instead, I dreamed of giving her a childhood rich in experiences, connected to nature.

We started small, staying under a self-imposed "house arrest" until she was three months old. During this time, we introduced her to the sounds of nature—the chirping of birds, the occasional howl of a jackal. At first, it was just an experiment, but soon we realized how much she responded to these real, unfiltered sounds. If toys are all about sensory stimulation, why not let her experience the authentic ones?

As she grew, so did her curiosity. Crawling turned into exploring the soft grass and feeling textures like pinecones and leaves. By her first birthday, she was running across the estate, constantly seeking new adventures. Her favorite outings ranged from sugarcane fields, where she delighted in her "natural teether," to golf cart rides where she eagerly spotted porcupines and other critters.

Farm animals became a daily ritual. Lylah took to feeding them with such enthusiasm that the staff lovingly nicknamed her "our little Mowgli." She grew fearless and confident, happily getting her hands dirty alongside the team. Watching her embrace this raw, earthy lifestyle, I felt validated in our decision to ground her in nature from the very beginning.

We also wanted to instill the right attitude from the start. When the Karma team organized clean-up drives, Lylah would gleefully join in, toddling alongside them to collect bottles and packets scattered on the grounds. What started as a fun "game of picking things up" quickly

became her favorite request: "Mama, let's go clean up!" While she delighted in the simple joy of collecting, I secretly celebrated. Framing the citizen of tomorrow and keeping her entertained at the same time? It was a parenting win-win.

By 18 months, she was ready to contribute in her own unique way. Her grandparents taught her how to de-weed the golf course, and it became a cherished family tradition. Every evening, we spent half an hour together, pulling out weeds and making little piles. Even the golf team was thrilled to have a pint-sized helper whose efforts made their jobs a little easier.

Now, as Lylah grows, I see the impact of those early years. The trees we planted alongside her are blooming, just as she is. There's a sense of grounding and connection in both her personality and her surroundings.

Parenting isn't about following rules; it's about finding what feels right. For us, Karma Lakelands gave us the space to nurture Lylah in harmony with nature, and it's a journey I'll always cherish.

- By Aashna Khurana
Director Brand Management and Marketing











OWN A PIECE OF PARADISE FOREVER, AT SOBHA ARANYA AT KARMA LAKELANDS

Established in 1989, Karma Lakelands is spread over 270 acres (1.09 mn sq m), with an eco-responsible golf resort and luxury residences. Home to five forests with over 200,000 trees, this serene haven practices waste management, groundwater conservation, solar power, and bio-composting.

The 9-hole golf course at Karma offers an 18-hole experience amidst lush greenery and eco-conscious luxury. Designed by Pacific Coast Design, Australia, it has earned numerous prestigious awards, including India's Eco-Friendly Golf Course Award (Golf Digest, 2016), No.1 Eco-Friendly Golf Club (Golf Industry Association of India, 2022), Best Golf Resort in Delhi NCR (Today's Traveller, 2022), and Best Private 9-Hole Course in India (Golf Industry Association, 2023).



Some of their core values are respect for Mother Earth, ownership of commitment, customer delight, and integrity. According to Mr Ashwani Khurana, the CEO (Chief Eternal Optimist) of Karma Lakelands and renowned environmentalist, "Apart from our sustainability practices and golf course, we have crafted luxurious stay experiences in this sprawling campus. To take this one step further, we were looking for a globally renowned developer who shared our values, and we found the perfect partner in SOBHA."

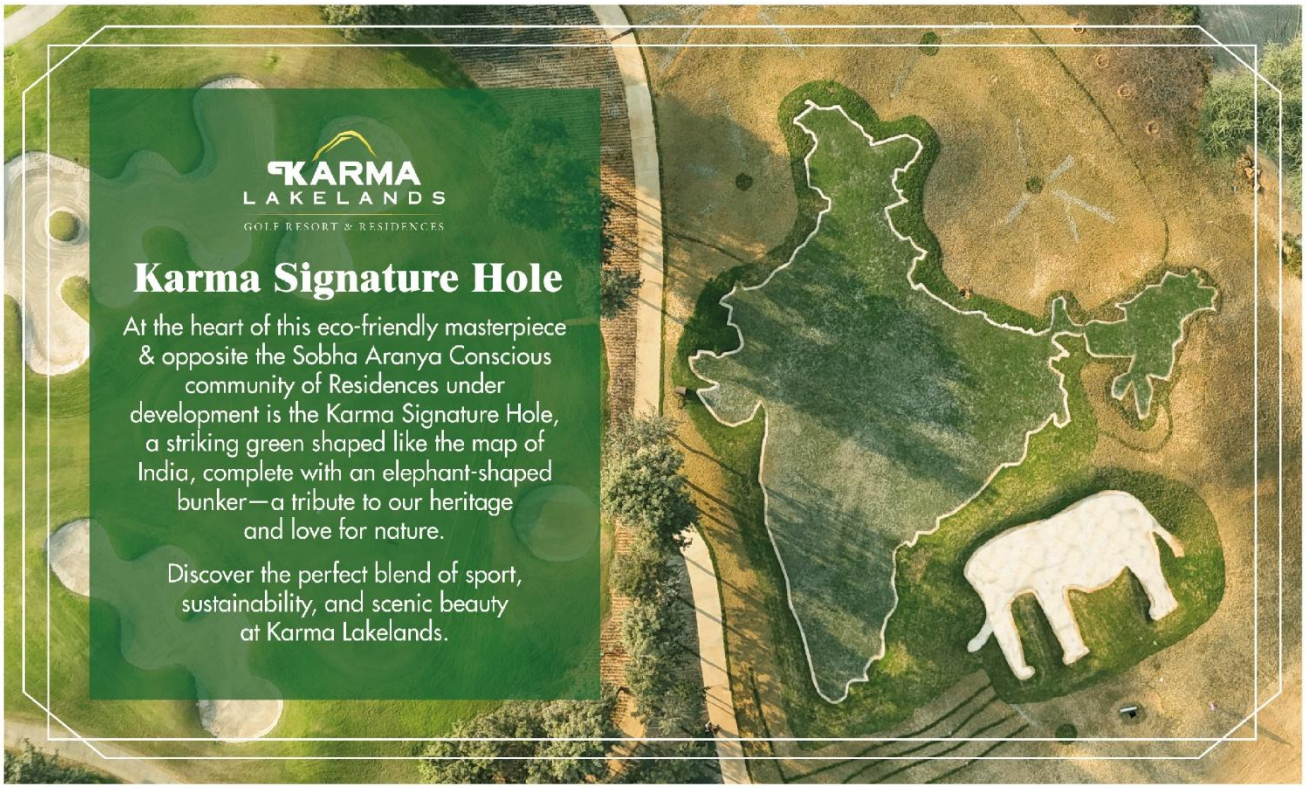
With the vision to transform the way people perceive quality, SOBHA Limited was established in 1995. The company has created over 548 landmarks across India, winning 230+ coveted awards. With international lineage and unmatched quality, SOBHA shares many values with Karma Lakelands – such as customer-centricity, sustainability, and world-class quality.

This partnership has resulted in a unique residential experience – SOBHA Aranya. Nestled within the biodiverse paradise of Karma Lakelands, this exclusive project offers 524 limited-edition apartments to a select few. Discerning homebuyers seeking the eco-conscious, luxurious lifestyle of Karma Lakelands can avail the limited-period opportunity of booking their homes here.

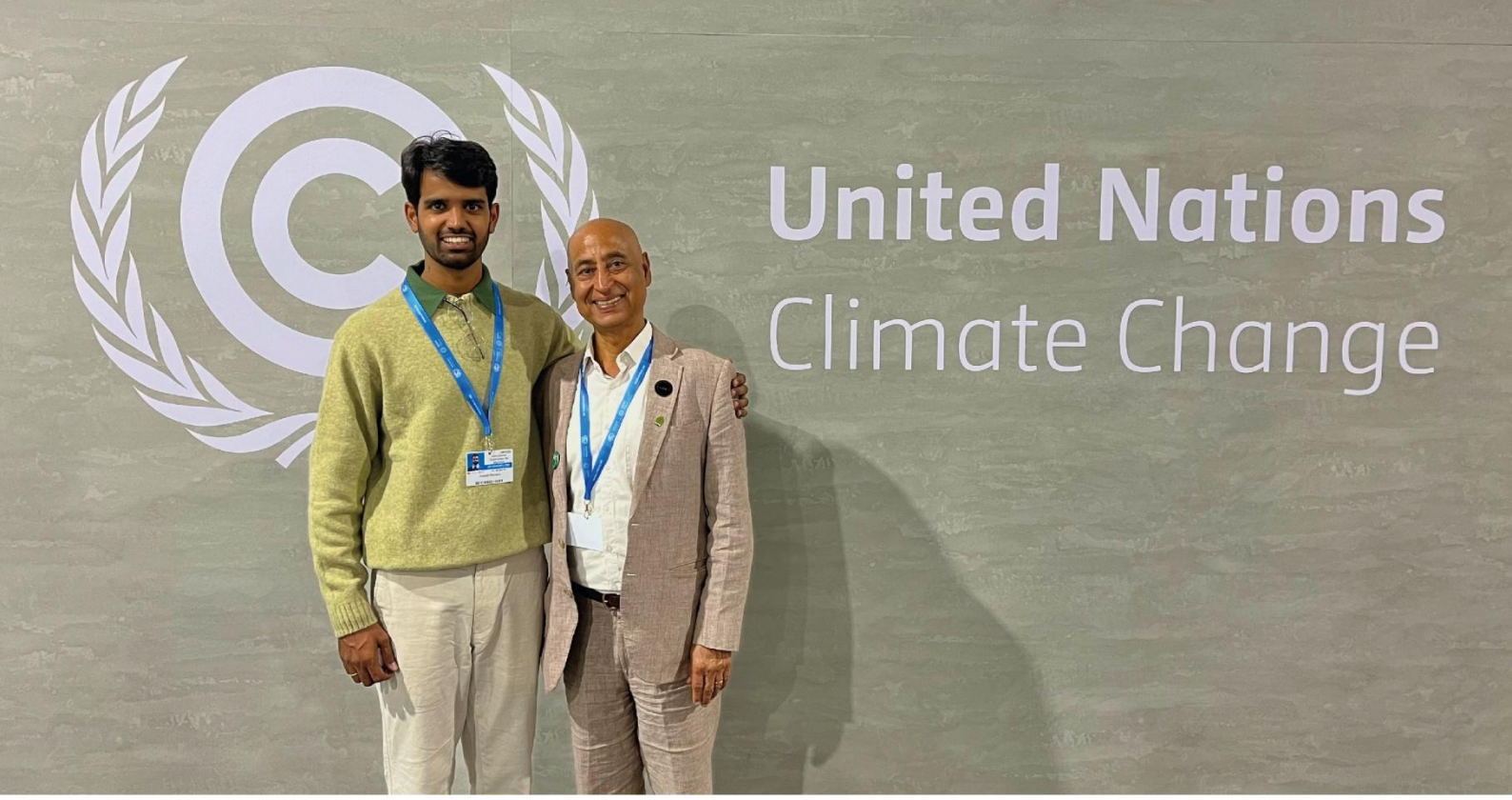
This luxury gated community is designed with 85% open spaces, sustainability features, and 46+ amenities for all age groups. These include Jogging / Cycling Path, Olympic-size Pool, Play Park, Camping Grounds, Forest Grove, Celebration Lawn, grand Clubhouse, and more. With the walk-to-golf concept, SOBHA Aranya residents will cherish the lifestyle of the eco-conscious community at Karma Lakelands.

Inspired by Nature's grand design, the 5 residential towers have green terraces, double-height visitors' lounge, and privacy-focused layouts. The ultra-spacious 3BHK and 4BHK residences offer panoramic views of forestscapes and the award-winning golf course. These homes are designed with Vastu-compliant entrances, large balconies, private gardens, and enhanced natural light & ventilation. Sobha Aranya is seamlessly connected to key areas in Delhi NCR, with renowned schools, workplaces, hospitals, and malls in the vicinity.

Another Jewel in the crown!



Gift your family the Karma Lakelands way of life, for life. Call 080 4646 4500 to take the eco-luxe guided tour and view the intricate scale model. The RERA number of the project is RC/REP/HARERA/GGM/808/540/2024/35 dated 01-April-2024.



REFLECTING ON OUR COP29 JOURNEY:
Art, Culture, and Climate Action

Attending the United Nations COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, was a transformative experience. Alongside my friend and climate optimist, Aakash Ranison, we explored the critical role of art and culture in addressing climate change. I was also accompanied by Diki Bhutia, the Director Environmental Sustainability at Karma Lakelands. Being part of such a globally significant platform was not just an honour but a call to action.

Art as a Catalyst for Climate Action

A highlight was the unveiling of *"Below 2 Degree,"* a climate-responsive art installation by Aakash Ranison in partnership with Karma Lakelands Golf Resort. This powerful piece will symbolise hope and collective responsibility to limit global warming. The session at the Digital Innovation Pavilion in the Blue Zone, titled *"Culture as Catalyst – Art, Nature, and Climate Action,"* showcased how creative narratives through art, music, and culture can amplify scientific research and policy efforts.

Aakash also represented youth voices under the International Organization for Migration's (IOM) banner, joining 23 other changemakers to advocate for solutions to climate-induced displacement. These passionate youth leaders highlighted the critical intersection of migration and climate change, emphasizing the need for global collaboration.

At The Faith Pavilion, we explored the role of faith in climate action. Sean Clarke of the Spiritual Science Research Foundation stressed that 2024 is likely to become the hottest year on record, underscoring the urgency of addressing the climate crisis. Speakers also called for youth empowerment in leadership roles, connecting faith, dignity, and climate justice.



Insights from the Save Soil Pavilion

The visit to the Isha Foundation's Save Soil Pavilion was particularly rewarding. We discussed Karma Lakelands' environmental initiatives, including soil-building practices using farm animals and bio-waste. Our latest project, converting bio-waste into biochar, was well-received as an innovative step toward sustainability.

A Sobering Reminder on Climate Finance

While COP29 was inspiring, it also highlighted ongoing challenges. The summit's climate finance agreement fell short, with developed nations pledging $300 billion per year by 2025, blending public and private funds instead of exclusively public funding as demanded by developing countries.

India criticized the outcome, pointing out its low historical and per capita emissions despite its large population. This inadequate resolution reminded us of the persistent gap between ambition and action, strengthening our resolve to advocate for equitable climate solutions.

Cultural Insights: The Taxi Smoking Dilemma

One unexpected observation in Baku was the prevalence of cigarette smoke in taxis. A striking 80–90% of my rides smelled strongly of fresh smoke, reflecting a widespread habit. The lack of regulations prohibiting smoking in taxis raised questions about public health priorities and cultural norms.

COP29: More Than a Conference, a Collective Journey

COP29 was more than an event—it was a reminder that sustainability is a shared responsibility. Through vibrant dialogues and art installations, the conference underscored the deep connections between culture, environmental sustainability, and economic systems.

As we move forward, we carry the insights, collaborations, and renewed purpose cultivated at COP29. Now is the time to push boundaries, inspire action, and integrate sustainability into our lives and communities. At Karma Lakelands, a Golf Resort with Residences, we remain committed to these values, and we're proud to be developing Sobha Aranya—a Conscious Community of apartment homes that embodies our vision for sustainable and mindful living.

Ashwani Khurana is the Founder and Chief Eternal Optimist (CEO) of Karma Lakelands, a Golf Resort with Residences in Gurugram, Haryana. The resort is dedicated to sustainability and environmental stewardship and is also developing Sobha Aranya—a Conscious Community of eco-Luxe apartment homes.



ROOTS OF KARMA

Thriving in Harmony!

The professional journeys of Surendra Pal and Karbe Tonaishim beautifully embody the spirit of a collaborative culture and the nurturing environment that flourishes at Karma Lakelands.

Life, with its subtle artistry, has an enchanting way of weaving unexpected connections, and for 45-year-old Surendra Pal and 30-year-old Karbe Tonaishim, destiny orchestrated a shared workplace for them that they could never have envisioned—a tranquil, opportunity-rich sanctuary called Karma Lakelands.

Surendra Pal's journey began in the vibrant heart of Faridabad, a city alive with the hum of industry and the relentless rhythm of hard work. Raised in a family where diligence and perseverance were deeply valued, Surender developed a wide range of skills, steadily building a career grounded in ambition and determination. Yet, despite his professional accomplishments, a quiet yearning stirred within him—a desire for something more, something beyond the ordinary. Fifteen years ago, that longing led him to Karma Lakelands, a place where he could merge his wealth of experience with a meaningful, sustainable work environment. Over the course of more than a decade and a half, Surendra has been an integral part of the transformative journey that Karma Lakelands has undergone. “The area was so different back then, with just a small club for golfers. Now, it’s a thriving hub, with multiple restaurants, villas, and a banquet hall—truly an engaging and dynamic workplace,” he reflects.



Hailing from the serene, green hills of Imphal, nestled in the northeastern expanse of India, Karbe Tonaishim, fondly called as Shim, has always been a welcoming face at the front desk of Karma Lakelands. In 2019, she completed a short-term course in hotel management, which expanded her world beyond imagination, opening doors she had never dreamed of. Her career took her across diverse cities, from Gujarat's warmth to Delhi's bustling energy. However, it was in 2022, guided by a friend, that she found herself in the green sanctuary of Karma Lakelands. Here, she discovered the perfect intersection of her professional aspirations and personal desires—a place where her expertise in hospitality could flourish alongside the values of sustainability.



Both Surendra and Shim feel that it's the people and culture of Karma Lakelands that have been a constant source of motivation for them. The culture, steeped in respect for nature and a collaborative spirit, nurtures growth, creativity, and environmental stewardship. "The journey of the last three years has been absolutely fascinating here. I could feel and experience the seamless blend of progressive thought and community spirit that makes my professional life so smooth and comfortable," she shares.

Karma Lakelands, with its unwavering commitment to responsible living and its vibrant, forward-thinking business ecosystem, has become a beacon of opportunity for several professionals like Surendra and Shim. United in purpose, they have blossomed within the warm embrace of a collaborative culture, where a nurturing environment has offered a rich and fertile ground for both personal evolution and professional transformation.

- By Rao Narender Yadav
Senior Journalist



NESTLE IN NOSTALGIA AT KARMA CHALETS

Envision a sun-drenched afternoon, where time slows down. You pause and stroll into to the hues of nostalgia. You travel back to a time when families gathered on cozy verandahs and in warm, intimate interiors, flipping through old photo albums that whispered stories of laughter, love and memories.

As children played in the garden, their fingers stained with earth's bounty and hearts fuelled with happiness. In one nook, grandparents shared tales of their youth while sewing a wollen sweater for the younglings. Meanwhile, nearby, family members crafted juices from freshly picked seasonal produce from their garden.

As the sun subdued into a dusky haze, the warmth of shared experiences wrapped around everyone like a comforting blanket, enveloping them in a song of contentment—a hum of knowing that enjoying the simplest moments of growing together weave the real luxuries of life.



@KarmaLakelands

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Does it ring a bell?

The heart and soul of Karma Chalets, Ms.Anu Khurana and Vanshika Ahuja, along with principal Interior Designer of EDC Space Design Ms. Heena Handa, have revamped our Lion's Den Chalet to help you relive the warmth of yesteryears. While staying there, guest can take a stroll down to an idyllic ambience, surrounded by nature's abundance that resonates like the colorful mulberry trees around your grandmother's house. While sipping traditional concoctions in the private backyard, with every sip, one can soak in not just the nourishment, but the joy of connection, and magic in the simplest of things.

Here, the albums aren't just digital—they're etched into the very walls, each one a living memory, tucked into the corners of our hearts and homes. Furthermore, the interiors hum with a soul of their own, a symphony of heartfelt musings, not machines woven through every detail.

Even at Under the Neem, Cafe/ Kraft Kitchen, feel the quintessence of a time when families gathered under the shade of a neem tree, savoring farm-to-table delicacies made with love and tradition.

Getting goosebumps, a sense of deja vu, already? Then come, drift away from the humdrum of city life, and step into Karma Chalets, where every experience is a journey back to simpler and warmer days.

Stay with us at Lion's Den - your cozy Chalet in a quaint, personalised Boutique Hotel. True to its name, it's as majestic as a lion - full of soul and 'English' to the core. It carries the anecdotes of yesteryears, a poetic journey where the past beautifully intertwines with the present.

- By Meha Khera





LOVE BLUEBERRY CHEESECAKE?

Let Us Turn It into the Sweetest Massage Ever!

You love it, and we've heard you! At Seven Seas Spa at Karma Lakelands, indulgence meets innovation with our Blueberry Cheesecake Massage. This therapy transforms your favourite dessert into a luxurious spa experience, perfect for pampering your skin and uplifting your soul.

A Sweet Treat for Your Body

This unique massage starts with a skin-softening scrub made from natural nuts and vanilla extracts, exfoliating your skin for a radiant glow. A creamy blend of cheese cream and lotus extracts follows, deeply hydrating and relaxing tired muscles. Finally, an antioxidant-rich blueberry gel infused with olive extracts revitalizes your skin, leaving it radiant and nourished.

More Decadent Therapies Await

Why stop at cheesecake? Indulge in our Chocolate Fondue Massage, where the nourishing essence of cocoa leaves your skin silky smooth and your mood lifted. Or try the Espresso Coffee Clay Body Mask, which exfoliates, detoxifies, and energizes using finely ground espresso and jojoba oil.

Say Goodbye to Stress

If stress has turned your shoulders into bricks, it's time to unwind with our Aroma Healing Therapy. A blend of rose, sandalwood, lotus, and mineral oils penetrates deep into your skin, releasing tension and calming your mind. This isn't just a massage—it's a reset for your emotional and physical well-being.



Why Your Body Will Thank You

With life's endless hustle, your body deserves care. Our Customized Deep Tissue Massage tackles stubborn knots and activates your lymphatic system, flushing out toxins, reducing bloating, and leaving you energized. For radiant skin, the Moroccan Scrub & Polish delivers unparalleled exfoliation and hydration, making your glow impossible to ignore.

Your Escape Awaits

Set in the serene, eco-friendly landscapes of Karma Lakelands, Seven Seas Spa offers a tranquil retreat from the chaos of daily life. Imagine indulging in these luxurious treatments while surrounded by nature, reconnecting with your body and mind.

What are you waiting for? The Blueberry Cheesecake Massage—and so much more—is calling. Discover the sweetest way to relax, rejuvenate, and rediscover yourself.

— Dr. Arpit Sharma
CEO, Seven Seas Spa



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Karma Lakelands hosts Karma Karnival Golf Tournament

Karma Lakelands
BW Online Bureau | December 2024

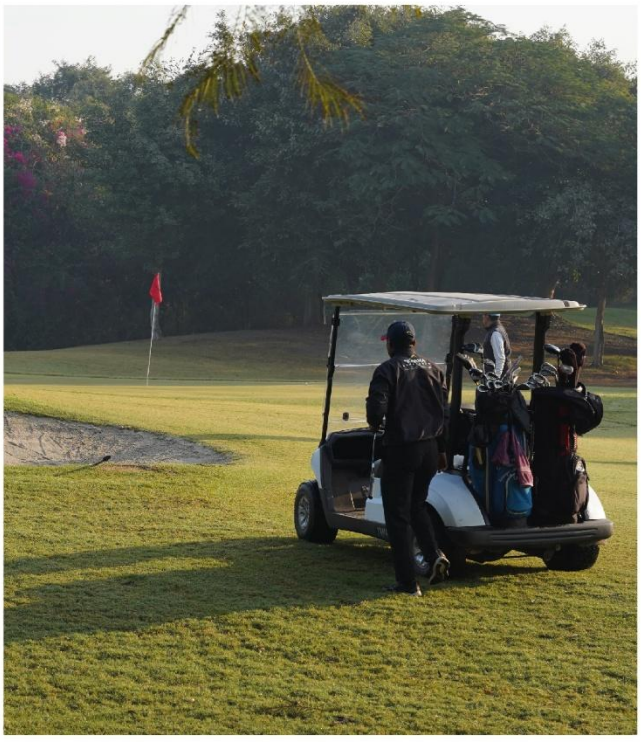
Karma Lakelands hosted the Karma Karnival Golf Tournament on December 7, 2024. The event brought together passionate golfers, industry leaders, and sustainability enthusiasts for a day of sport, luxury, and environmental awareness.

Set amidst the nine-hole course at Karma Lakelands, the tournament offered participants an unparalleled golfing experience. Crafted by renowned golf architect Phil Ryan, the course transforms into a full 18-hole challenge, providing both excitement and a connection to nature.

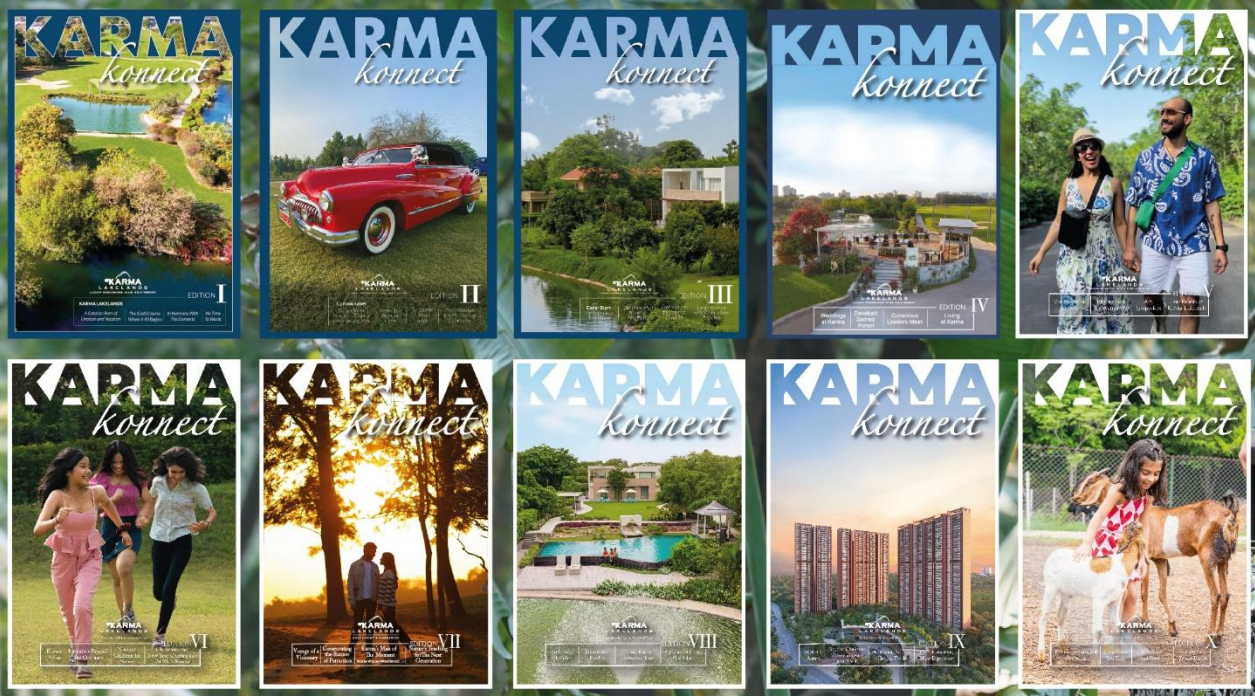
Aryadev Khurana, Vice President, Karma Lakelands, stated, "We were delighted to host the Karma Karnival Golf Tournament once again. This event is more than just a celebration of golf; it's a testament to our commitment to sustainability and creating a luxurious eco-conscious experience. We thank all participants and partners for making this event a success."

-BWHotelier.com





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