



## The Month of We

pg 54

## Leading the Way

pg 66

Serendipitous  
real-life love story:  
Line Training Captain,  
Fleet Captain Dhruv  
Arya and Sr. Captain  
Punav Arya, GoAir

pg 74

Tales of a Traveler's  
Swati and Sam on  
their eclectic travels

pg 76

An (un)conventional  
tale of love: A boy and  
his bike

pg 78



# The Month Of We

It is the season to celebrate love. Book yourself a getaway to break free of everything and everyone to focus just on each other. Take in the breathtaking views as you hike, dive in to witness the thriving underwater marine life. We have curated a list of destinations to help you unwind and indulge in some quality time.

Text **DIVYA RAI**

**BHIMTAL**



**TOSH**



**PHUKET**



**ALAPPUZHA - (ALLEPPEY)**



**KODAIKANAL**



**MANDAWA**



**SATPURA**



**SWARAJ DWEEP - (HAVELOCK ISLANDS)**





# Phuket

For couples travelling to Phuket, there can never be a dull moment as there is something to do for everyone. One of the popular beach destinations in Asia, the island has many adventure options, so make a list of what you want to experience.

You and your significant other could go island-hopping together to Koh Phi Phi and James Bond Island, or could spend your day in the water marvelling at the aquatic life at Koh Lanta. If you are on a short trip, visit the Koh Hey island for swimming, parasailing, kayaking, snorkelling or simply spend your time at the beach.

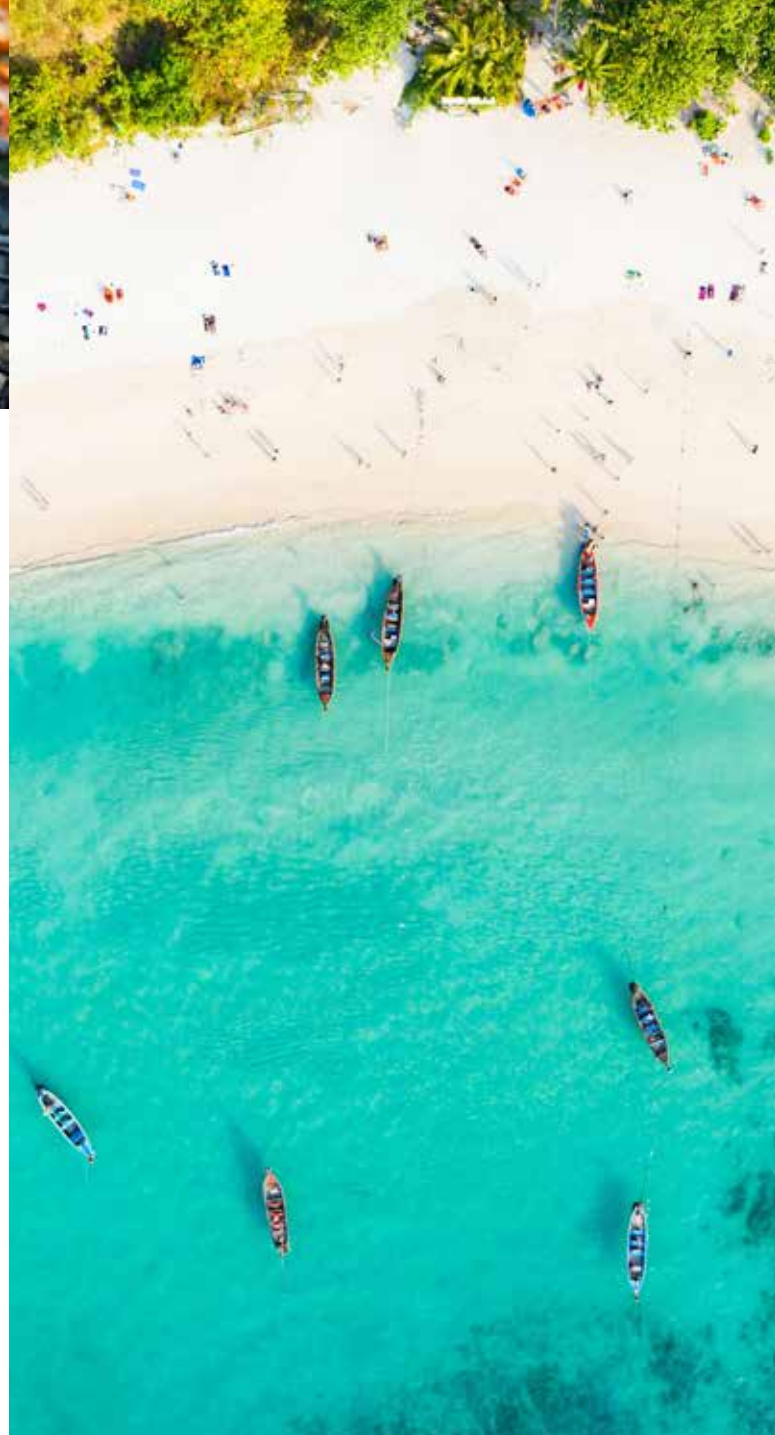
If nightlife is what you prefer, reserve your evenings and nights for Patong. You and your partner can bar-hop your way through several themes of watering-holes, while enjoying the festivities in the streets. Pro tip: There is more to Thai food than just sticky rice and Pad Thai. Phuket

is known for its street food as well as fine-dining options, so plan well and explore both. Street food is a way of life here. Be sure to sample curries, noodles, salads, soups, dumplings and spring rolls. One Chun in Old Town Phuket is not to be missed for traditional Thai cuisine!



## Shopping tip

Don't forget to buy pearls and Batik-printed T-shirts, stoles and Thai spa products as souvenirs for your friends back home.



Phuket



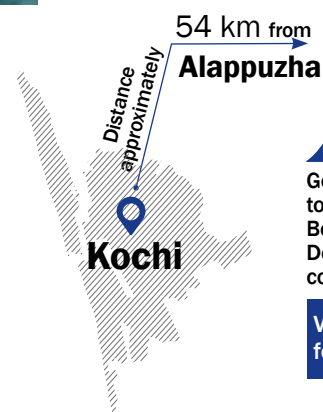
GoAir offers daily direct flights to Phuket from New Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru as well as convenient connections from Kolkata and Patna via New Delhi. The airline also offers connections to Phuket from Goa and Ahmedabad via Mumbai; and Lucknow and Pune via Bengaluru.

Visit [GoAir.in](http://GoAir.in) or mobile app for more information.

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# Alappuzha (Alleppey)

This beautiful city is known for its backwaters in Kerala. Needless to say, Alappuzha has plenty of water-bodies, and hence, there are a lot of activities for tourists. You and your partner can go on a houseboat cruise. Have a freshly prepared traditional lunch while floating on the surreal waterway of Alleppey. Or, go for an overnight cruise, and spend the night gazing at the stars, as you take in the tranquillity of the moment. If you like to imbibe, you mustn't miss the local liquor called toddy. Spend a day at a spa especially for an Ayurvedic massage; something that Kerala is noted for.

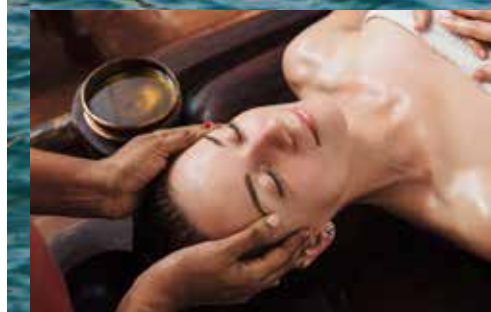

54 km from  
Alappuzha

Kochi



GoAir offers direct flights to Kochi from Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Mumbai and New Delhi as well as convenient connections.

Visit [GoAir.in](http://GoAir.in) or mobile app for more information.



## Shopping tip

If you consider yourself to be a cook, go for some fresh spices like pepper, clove, cinnamon, nutmeg and cardamom straight off the local market.



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# Swaraj Dweep

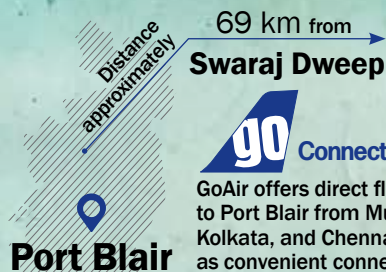
(Havelock Island)

**S**waraj Dweep is famous for its glass-like clear sea that takes on the colour of the sky through the course of the day. Both of you can start your morning with snorkelling or deep-sea diving, and try to spot exotic underwater species such as dugong, sea cucumber, leatherback turtle and Irrawaddy dolphin. Have a lazy breakfast at one of the cafes or dhabas between Beach no. 3 and 7. Spend the afternoon lazing around at the Radhanagar Beach, which is known to be the cleanest beach in Asia. Find out if kayaking is on, and you can explore the mangroves,

rowing your own kayak! Keep an evening free to just watch the sunset. It is something that happens every day, but the Andamans makes it simply surreal. If you are looking for something to nosh on, don't miss the brilliant seafood. Try the artisanal meals at Cafe Salt Water and Full Moon Cafe.

## Shopping tip

A few local shops sell hand-made souvenirs made out of coconut shells. You can buy these as a reminder of your vacation.



**go** Connect

GoAir offers direct flights to Port Blair from Mumbai, Kolkata, and Chennai, as well as convenient connections.

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## Tosh

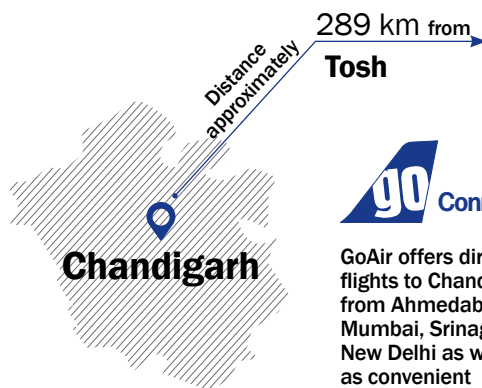
If mountains are where you and your partner find peace, then there is no better place than Tosh. Nestled in the Parvati Valley, Tosh is a popular destination amongst the younger crowd for its psytrance parties. Here, you don't have to look for places to spend some "us time"; just being surrounded by hills and a beautiful nip in the air is enough to notch up the romance factor. Start the day with a chai-omelette breakfast, go

for a hot-spring bath, and have a lazy pizza lunch. Tosh has an enviable nightlife. By dusk, the village comes alive with parties in every corner. If live music, great vibes and amazing food are some of the things you and your partner love, then Tosh is the place to be.



### Shopping tip

Show the warmth of your love with hand-made woollen products straight from the local markets.



GoAir offers direct flights to Chandigarh from Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Srinagar, New Delhi as well as convenient connections.

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# Kodaikanal

**K**odaikanal is a hill station, with beautiful, lush greenery all over the town. Kodai Lake, surrounded by Palani Hills, is where you can spend your time paddling your boat along its perimeter. Spare 2-3 hours on a lovely morning, to hike up to Dolphin Point for a 360-degree view of Kodaikanal. The vista is worth the effort. If you love photography, don't

miss the pine forest which displays a beautiful play of light throughout the day!

Take your time to explore the food shops. Visit the Pastry Corner, a bakery that makes fabulous goodies that are often sold out within an hour! Have a cosy lunch at Cloud Street. It is known for its Italian fare with pure cheese and a wood-fired oven. Walk off the guilt of the sinful lunch at Bryant Park, which is a botanical garden with huge varieties of horticulture species. It will be a good idea to book a coffee-estate homestay, so that both of you get to experience 'the estate life' during your holiday.



**Shopping Tip**

Don't forget to bring back home-made chocolates, eucalyptus oil, cheese and local spices for your friends.

Distance approximately 303 km from **Kodaikanal**

**go Connect**

**Kochi**

GoAir offers direct flights to Kochi from Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Mumbai and New Delhi as well as convenient connections.

Visit [GoAir.in](http://GoAir.in) or mobile app for more information.

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A town in Rajasthan, known for its grand fort and havelis, Mandawa is a part of the glorious legacy of the Rajputs. If you and your partner have a penchant for historical sites, Mandawa is non-touristy and hence a great option for a romantic weekend. Stay at a restored haveli, and let the grandeur and old-world luxury of the Shekhawati region slowly rekindle your romance. The walls of the havelis are adorned with artistic frescoes, which tell tales of an era lived in love and bravery by the people of Mandawa. Murmura Haveli, Jhunjhunwala Haveli and Sewaram Saraf Haveli are some beautiful works of art and architecture. In the evening, head to Castle Mandawa Hotel, which is a meticulously

### Shopping tip

Embroidered patchwork textiles of Mandawa make for a great gift.

restored haveli, for dinner. Let your evening be brought alive by folk dancers and singers.

If you want to explore on foot, set out to enjoy the town and let the locals regale you with stories of Bollywood movies such as *Bajrangi Bhaijaan*, *PK*, *Jab We Met*, *Paheli* and *Love Aaj Kal* that were shot here. Don't miss feasting on dal-bati-choorma, a Rajasthani delight relished across the state. Some of the guided tours that run in Mandawa take you around various palaces and havelis and other places of interest.



GoAir offers direct flights to Jaipur from Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Mumbai and other cities, as well as convenient connections.

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## Bhimtal

Let the clouds roll out the red carpet for you and your sweetheart in Bhimtal, a lake-town in Nainital district. As soon as you enter Kathgodam, the foothills of Nainital region, you are welcomed with the misty fragrance of pine-wood. This is a sign that you have started ascending the hills around this beautiful town. Hike deep into the woods or go on a lunch date. You and your partner can set aside a day to visit the orchards and sample organic fruit and pure cheese, and spend time by Bhimtal Lake, a tourist attraction. The lofty highlands with a spacious valley make Bhimtal an ideal spot for paragliding.



Visit [GoAir.in](http://GoAir.in) or mobile app for more information.

### Shopping tip

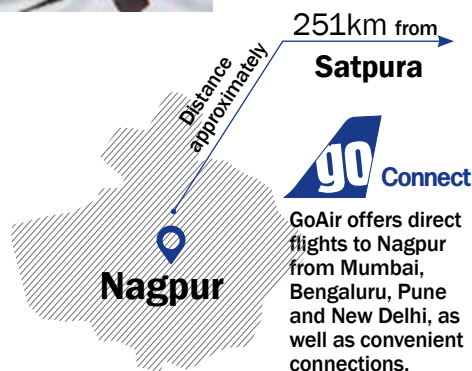
On your way back, carry preserves, jams, squashes and honey from the hills; with summer on the way, it would be a much-appreciated gift.

## Satpura

If you are wild at heart (pun intended), spend your Valentine's Day at Satpura Tiger Reserve. This is home to tigers, sloths, crocodiles, boars and about 200 species of birds in its beautiful hilly terrain. It is advisable to pre-book your safari from



the Madhya Pradesh Government website ([www.forest.mponline.gov.in](http://www.forest.mponline.gov.in)), as only a limited number of vehicles are permitted on the route. If you'd rather enjoy your evenings in the forest, book a night-time safari. Bonus: Satpura has been left alone by the touristy crowd,



Visit [GoAir.in](http://GoAir.in) or mobile app for more information.

### Shopping tip

If you intend to carry something for yourself, do so from Pachmarhi, which is known for metal-work and paintings.



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