

# 08 HITLIST TRAVEL

## PICK YOUR SAIL TRAIL

Blue Whale Water Sports: 7208712402

Gateway Sailing Club: 8097900009

Aquasail: 22702041

Present Perfect: 9322972072

Nexus Travel Solutions: 22702041



(Right) Owner Suhasini Deshmukh of Luxus gives us a few tips about sailing in the high seas, as the yacht made its way further into the Arabian Sea.

### HOW THEY SET UP SAIL

Luxus is run by 30-year-old Suhasini Deshmukh, who has sailed many seas with her husband, who was a sailor by and is now a legal expert in the marine industry. "When I was in the UK, I studied the yacht industry and realised that we don't have this culture in India. When I moved back I researched this and it got me interested; the way the yachting industry is moving in India. It's picked up momentum in the last 3-4 years. I wanted to be a part of this growing industry."

**SAIL AWAY:** The company has sailing and motor yachts and can accommodate from four to 60 people. It also organises events on yachts and provides sailing training in a 10-session course of two hours each. Anyone above the age of seven can apply.

**YOU PAY:** While individual two-hour trips cost ₹1,500 per person, the cost of organising an event depends on client requirements.

**HOW TO SIGN UP?** Finalise a day and time, make your payment on their online portal ([www.luxus.co.in](http://www.luxus.co.in)) and get ready for your sail.

A sailing yacht for a smaller group. This accommodates up to four people. PIC COURTESY / LUXUS



# Smooth sail... literally!

## ADVENTURE SPORT

Watching the sun set can be a memorable sight. Now you get to experience this while sailing the high seas. The **GUIDE** was able to be part of this spellbinding visual while sailing on a yacht near Mumbai's harbour, and the best news is that getting a slice of this stunning view, doesn't come at a price



The bigger yacht is motorised; between 10 to 15 people can sail on this. PICS/SHADAB KHAN

### RUCHIKA KHER

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"Hark, now hear the sailors cry, smell the sea, and feel the sky, let your soul and spirit fly, into the mystic..." Northern Irish singer and musician Van Morrison has aptly elucidated the feeling one gets during sailing. Living in a city like Mumbai, which has the luxury of a sea, many of us, take its existence for granted and often don't even seem to notice its overwhelming presence around us. But now, few for whom sailing is a passion have introduced ways by which we can include the calming effects of the sea in our lives. One such company is Luxus that not just organises events on yachts but also provides individual trips in the morning and in the evening if you wish to capture the magic of sunset in your memory.

After hearing about a service like this, we were more than tempted to try it out, especially when we were conveyed that prior knowledge of sailing is not required for these trips. There are three options — either one can opt

for the morning session that starts at 7 am or try out the evening sessions that are available from 4 pm to 6 pm and 6 pm to 8 pm. Since watching the sun go down, soaked in the awe-inspiring magnificence of the sea was our wish, we decided to go for the 6 pm slot.

On reaching Gateway of India, we were directed towards jetty no 15 where the skipper (a person who has the command of the vessel) was waiting for us. With the

help of a speedboat our journey was facilitated to our yacht, which was stationed further away in the sea. Once we were on our little eco-friendly vessel (the yacht had the traditional sail which doesn't have a motor and is maneuvered with the help of a handle) the sails were hoisted. We were given our life jackets and we were ready for our voyage (a short one, in this case).

The two-hour sailing trip takes you away from the hustle and bustle of the city and into a world, which is serene, peaceful and exudes a tranquillising effect on a person, especially when the sky turns crimson from blue and eventually darkens with twinkling stars giving you company.

### DOS AND DON'TS

- >On a yacht ensure you're comfortably dressed.
- >Skip alcohol before getting on board (if you're sailing on a small sailing yacht) chances of seasickness are higher.
- >Those prone to motion sickness or seasickness, should take medication.
- >Follow the orders of the skipper and wear your safety equipment.

## Let the music play by the beach

Have a musical camping weekend with Blueberry Trails' Music in the Great Outdoors trip to Kashid where Indie band Sky Rabbit will be performing by the beach



## CAMPING

### THE GUIDE TEAM

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If you are a beach bum with love for live music, without the madness of commercialised events, this trip to Kashid is tailor-made for you.

Travel company Blueberry Trails has organised based on its

Music in the Great Outdoors concept, where they have different Indie artistes performing at camping destinations close to the city, but only with a limited number of seats. Last month they had Dischordian perform at their campsite atop a hill at Panchgani. The second edition will see Indie Electro / Rock band Sky Rabbit do an acoustic gig at Kashid.

With a few twinkling lights and a makeshift performance

area (with just about 20 people, so no bumping), the gig will guarantee that you become one with the nature with the help of music. The trip will include a barbecuing session, bonfire and even a fishing trip.

**ON May 4 (departure time 1 pm) and 5 COST ₹3,900 person (include travel, tent stay and food cost) CALL 9820925721 EMAIL [sudeepta@theblueberry-trails.co.in](mailto:sudeepta@theblueberry-trails.co.in)**