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Luxe thrills in Lonavala's hills

DO YOU DARE TO DELLA?

Della Adventure Park and Luxury Resorts offers beautifully constructed villas as weekend homes. But, more than that, it's pegged as 'India's largest extreme adventure park'. With more than 70 activities spread over 43 acres, it's certainly more than most can handle over a single weekend!

The luxe factor:
Rating: ★★★★★

MD and chief designer Jimmy Mistry certainly brings a gorgeous design aesthetic to the sumptuous space. The five fab restaurants includes Café 24 (which manages to execute a high standard of fine-dining Indian, Oriental and Continental), the very vegetarian Crème Della, and the unique Parsi Dhaha. The same attention to detail extends across all their bars, lounges and nightclub, the bakery, 24-hour spa and multiple swimming pools. Of note is the sheer opulence of the Luxury Resort room with a 140 sq ft bath area, whose best feature, was the Jacuzzi bath-tub with a heated chromatherapy back, just perfect for unwinding with a drink and the telly after a rough day of high-adrenaline adventure!

The X factor:
Rating: ★★★★★

The activities are divided into six zones and offer varying levels of scream quotient. There's the 1,250-foot zip-line (termed the Longest Flying Fox), a thrilling ride with a view of the entire property and surrounding hills. Then there's the hundred-foot long Swoop Swing and the Rocket Ejector which shoots you four-and-a-half storeys high. ATV or quad rides (right up to a heavy-duty 700 CC Yamaha Raptor!) and Motocross Dirt will let you get up close and personal with the monsoon mud. On the other hand, paintball, archery, rock-climbing and a plethora of rope-and-bridge ensembles are super for corporate team-building activities. Young kids will love the horse rides (rather tame) and milking the Jersey cows, while the older ones also enjoy zorbing through water (Aqua Zorb) and the gamut of balancing boards and transport gadgets (gyros, hoverboards, Segways, and Trikkes). When the weather gets too bad to be out, there's a big indoor gaming section and even a flight

simulator. Della's also presenting patrons with local colour by offering a guided 13-km trek to Rajmachi Fort through the lush Sahyadri forests. With phews leading to oobs over the spectacular views, that's another way to get your blood racing this monsoon.

Della's Camp Rooms are actually luxury AC tents on the top of the hill priced at approximately Rs 12,110 plus taxes. Luxury Resort Rooms with King or Twin Beds cost Rs 13,200 plus taxes per night. The Jumbo Pass for Rs 4,999 per person gives you access to every single activity (some are subject to age and weight limits), while a Day Pass costs adults Rs 1,750 and children and senior citizens Rs 1,250, both exclusive of taxes). Call 1800 3070 5050 or check www.delladventure.com for more information.

The author is a freelance writer

