

**TRAVEL  
HOTELS**



Originally a business hotel, Jackson Inns now caters to leisure travellers



Some of the raw material for the restaurant is grown in-house

**STYLE AND  
COMFORT**

JAKSON INNS IN PHALTAN, SOUTH MAHARASHTRA, ATTRACTS LEISURE TRAVELLERS, LOOKING FOR SOMETHING MORE THAN LONAVLA, KHANDALA AND MAHABALESHWAR

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**I**n its location - in way-out Phaltan, Satara district, Maharashtra - may raise eyebrows. But dig a little deeper and you discover that Jackson Inns, launched in October 2014, makes sound business sense. The well-maintained property, located over six acres, caters to leisure travellers (mainly from Mumbai and Pune) interested in exploring the historic and other attractions in the locality (see box).

City slickers are often seen making a beeline to the property. Jackson Inns

offers rustic experiences in modern day environments. The city-bred can give their children experiences of milking cows, riding bullock carts, watch sugarcane turning into sugar crystals, see a mulberry worm turn into silk garments, learn ancient pickling recipes, have masala chai under a mango tree, eat zunka bhakar on the lawns or enjoy horse riding. The hotel is also a popular destination for guests seeking to visit the famous Kas Pathar, Maharashtra's very own valley of flowers.

Jakson Inns has 69 deluxe rooms of 290 sq ft each and four suites, each of 560 sq ft. There are rooms tailored for the single female traveller as well as for the physically challenged. The hotel boasts of a contemporary bar, a vibrant multi-cuisine restaurant and round-the-clock in-room dining service.

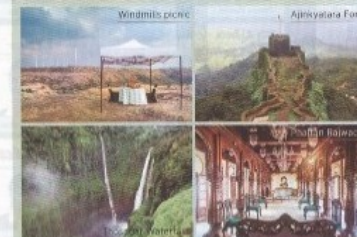
Jakson Inns Phaltan is India's first three star LEED GREEN platinum rated hotel and is located on a former pomegranate farm. Many of the vegetables and fruits used in the restaurant are grown in-house. As part of its initiative to promote environmentally and culturally friendly tourism, Jackson Hospitality is presently promoting eco and village tourism in Satara district. Smoking is not allowed in the hotel and much of its electricity needs are met by solar panels installed on the roof. Used water from the rooms and restaurants is recycled for gardening purposes.

The management has mandated that 30 per cent of the workforce should be women. They are selected from amongst widows, divorcees or those with abusive husbands. Their children can stay at a day-care centre attached to the property. This social concern extends to other areas of employment too. For example, the massage centre is manned by Dattu More, 30, who lost his eyesight a decade

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The Puzosgaon windmill site (left) and the spacious restaurant at the hotel



**THE OTHER ATTRACTIONS**

ago after a smallpox attack. A native of Kalyan, 250 km away, he learned the art of massage at NAB (National Association for the Blind), Mumbai.

There are indoor as well as outdoor recreation facilities suited for families. A full service gym is at the disposal of fitness enthusiasts. The hotel is part of Jackson Hospitality which aims to have its presence throughout the country with quality hotels and recreational resorts. Apart from Jackson Inns, Jackson Hospitality owns and operates Jackson Residency, Jackson Hotels, Jackson Spa and Jackson Resorts.

The hotel has been promoted by 60-year-old Jakson Ltd., headquartered at Noida, Delhi, and a pioneer in power generating solutions. Jakson Ltd. owns and operates in the silent commercial generators and solar power business. It has more than 1800 employees on its rolls.

Phaltan is renowned for its farms, forts, museums and other historic structures: windmill farms and waterfalls, among other attractions. The helpful staff at Jackson Inns can organise outings of your choice.

Located 3,200 feet above sea level in the Sahayadr Mountains, the Ajikyalara fort offers a magnificent view of Satara. For the best view, enthusiasts must start climbing up the hill from the base of the fort at around 3:30 pm. Inside the fort are a series of water tanks. It is a treasure-trove for hiking, trekking and mountaineering enthusiasts.

The Aunthi Museum houses rare paintings and

sculptures by well known Indian and European artists. Phaltan Rajwada is the former residence of the Phaltan royal family. Tourists are attracted to the grandeur of this palace along with its architectural beauty.

The Puzosgaon windmill site, with around 120 installations and set amidst towering hills and lush countryside, offers a chance to view the rotating fans from close proximity. These waterfalls, located very close to Jackson Inns, are a series of small and big waterfalls.

Tours can be organised to pomegranate orchards and sugarcane farms, as well as to Gladiolus and Rose plantations.