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India's Deccan Odyssey Set to Start New Season

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The Deccan Odyssey, Maharashtra's luxury train, is set to begin its 2007-2008 season on Oct. 3, 2007. The Deccan Odyssey takes visitors on an eight-day/seven-night journey through Maharashtra, departing every Wednesday from the Chatrapati Shivaji Terminus (CST) in Mumbai (Bombay) between the months of October and April. The train traverses the Deccan Plateau traveling about 1,500 miles, visiting attractions in Maharashtra. Every morning, passengers awake to a breakfast to begin their day of sightseeing excursions. An afternoon



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boat-ride through the mangroves of the Tarkarli backwaters is included in the journey, as are visits to Bibi-ka-Maqbara (a 17th century replica of the Taj Mahal), Daulatabad Fort and two UNESCO World Heritage Sites: the Ellora Caves, dating from the 8th century and the ancient Ajanta Caves, dating back to the 2nd century B.C., home to the oldest Buddhist frescoes in India. The Deccan Odyssey features 21 air-conditioned coaches, which include two restaurants, a spa, gym, hair salon, steam/sauna, and massage, yoga and business centers. The Taj Group operates the spa, dining and housekeeping facilities, which includes 24-hour room service. Visit www.maharashtratourism.gov.in.