

High on design

Khosla Associates display the manifestation of dynamic spaces with investigative forms and innovative materiality at High Ultra Lounge

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Photographs by Manoj Masand





Located in Bengaluru, High Ultra Lounge is a rooftop restaurant designed by Khosla Associates for Brigade Hospitality.

Case study

Perched at the height of 421ft, atop the roof of the World Trade Centre, Bengaluru, High Ultra Lounge bar and restaurant celebrates the majestic view of the city with its superlative ambience and pan Asian cuisine.

Usually, spaces designed within urban contexts often delve on the difficulties of their site conditions – tight boundaries and other constraints that include area, structure, heritage, etc. However,

if the function is commercial, the intent is to metaphorically spread the sphere of influence far beyond the physical peripheries of the bounding box. Khosla Associates attempt to tackle this by a simple strategy in collaboration with Bengaluru-based hospitality giant, Brigade Hospitality.

The approach conceptualises apt elements within the space, making a unique statement yet acknowledging their particular context by sheer contrast in terms of detailing and materiality.

High Ultra Lounge is planned as a linear floor space spread over 10,000sq-ft, divided into four zones – High View, High Mix, High Edge and High Dine. Each addresses a unique function while simultaneously maintaining the flexibility to integrate with each other; all the four zones are ingeniously melded into a singular entrance foyer.

High Mix, being the first at the entry point, features the bar, which is fused in with the high-energy dance floor and the console. High View is an open-to-sky lounge space, adjacent to which is High Dine, a smaller party area. Both, High View and High Dine boast of promising views of Bengaluru. Meanwhile, leading off directly from the foyer is High Edge, an exclusive, enclosed area for members and to host private events.

The foyer's vertical surfaces are adorned with sculpted fluid resin that further flows into the entrance of High Mix. Its futuristic aesthetic is awash in hues of magenta and purple light, juxtaposed with warm contrasting walls of vertical-slatted timber. The material



The material palette of High Mix comprises of a velvet-cladded bar fascia, wooden flooring and an artistic ceiling.



View of High Edge.

Perched on the rooftop of the World Trade Centre in Bengaluru, the lounge enjoys a majestic view of the city lights below.



palette of the bar comprises a velvet-cladded bar fascia and wooden flooring. It is complemented by an artistic ceiling, custom designed by the architects, as a series of suspended translucent fibre glass rocks. Resembling tiny asteroids in an undulating pattern, the suspensions are immersed in light. Subjected to withstand high wind velocities at that height, the bar is enveloped with structural glass and buffered with acoustically-treated panels.

A surreal undertone of white is washed over the High View area; metaphorically accentuating the lightness of being perched high above the city. Subtle hues



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Case study



High View is an open-to-sky lounging space with a commanding view of the city.



Subtle hues compose the ambience of the outdoor space embracing nature within its bounds.

Project information

Project: High Ultra Lounge – Bar and Restaurant
Location: Rooftop, World Trade Centre, Bengaluru
Client: Brigade Hospitality
Designers: Khosla Associates
Principal designers: Sandeep Khosla and Amaresh Anand
Design Team: Sandeep Khosla, Amaresh Anand and Bijeta Bachaspati
Interior Contractor: Ashish Interbuild
Lighting: Cona Lighting Solutions
Furniture: Vis-a-vis, SFA works
Sculptors: Mandana Arts
Electrical consultant: NA Iyer
Project cost: ₹15 crores (approx)

compose the ambience of the space – the earthy timber flooring, white-mesh furniture accented with sky-blue cushions, spatial expanse of glass, imposing green wall and pebbled water body. Embracing the nuances of nature within its bounds, it is through this space that the architects chose to communicate the harmony and balance between ‘earth and the sky’, the ‘natural and the ethereal’, thus, perpetuating the aspect of ‘timelessness’. The green wall reflects the city’s pride – its green cover – which has been gradually perishing due to rapid urbanisation over the years.

The lounge also features a pre-programmed LED lighting system that emits colours resembling the aurora borealis, thereby, submerging the complete expanse in its surreal hues.

The design elements integrate details such as lighting, ambience and materiality within themselves and in totality, functions effectively in creating a fluid energy throughout the different zones. 