

Thinking green in the ‘City of Dreams’

Amidst the soaring skyline of Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC), where commerce and culture intersect, stands a hotel that goes far beyond five-star luxury. Sofitel Mumbai BKC, the only Sofitel in India, is redefining hospitality by weaving together French sophistication, Indian heritage, and an unwavering commitment to sustainability. At its helm is Manish Dayya, a seasoned hotelier with over two decades of industry insight and a decade-long journey with Accor, championing both operational excellence and cultural depth.

A Cultural Statement in Concrete and Light

What sets Sofitel BKC apart is its seamless cultural synthesis — a living dialogue between Paris and Mumbai. “Our hotel serves as a bridge between two rich cultures,” says Dayya. Designed by acclaimed French architect Isabelle Miaja, the property marries Parisian Art Deco with Indian artistic traditions — from a diamond-inspired façade to Kashmiri paisley motifs and sandstone sculptures rooted in local craftsmanship.

Yet, the experience isn’t just visual. At sunset, the hotel glows to life through its signature Candle Ritual, a homage to Paris – La Ville Lumière. “It’s an emotional touchpoint,” says Dayya. “It reminds our guests that true luxury is not just about opulence, but how it makes you feel.”

India’s First Green Key-Certified Hotel

Beyond beauty lies purpose. Sofitel Mumbai BKC recently became India’s first hotel to receive the Green Key certification, a prestigious global eco-label that marks excellence in environmental responsibility.

“Sustainability is embedded in our DNA,” Dayya affirms. From AI-powered food waste tracking using the Winnow system to LED lighting, key-card automation, low-flow water fixtures, and rainwater harvesting, the hotel is designed to tread lightly on the planet. Dedicated environmental management personnel use tools like GAIA and HCMI to monitor carbon footprint, while guests are invited to opt into green practices like linen reuse, plastic-free stays, and refillable amenities.

The hotel's F&B offerings further push the envelope — with plant-forward dining at Tuskers, locally sourced ingredients, and minimal packaging across operations.

A Community-Conscious Approach

Sofitel Mumbai BKC's sustainability mission extends beyond the hotel. Its partnership with Project Mumbai drives plastic and e-waste recycling, turning waste into opportunity. Meanwhile, EV charging stations, recycled water systems, and training for green hospitality practices keep both staff and guests aligned with global ESG goals.

“Sustainability isn't a checklist; it's a lifestyle,” Dayya stresses. “It has to be practised daily, embraced by every team member, and felt by every guest.”

Leadership Rooted in Purpose

Under Dayya's leadership, the hotel has aligned itself not only with mindful travellers but also with ESG-conscious corporates, responding to rising global demand for responsible luxury. “Leading Sofitel Mumbai BKC to become India's first Green Key-certified hotel is one of the proudest moments of my career,” he shares. “It signals a larger transformation — where performance, purpose, and people go hand in hand.”

The Road Ahead: Responsible Luxury Redefined

Looking forward, Sofitel Mumbai BKC aspires to lead a new wave in Indian luxury hospitality — one that values cultural authenticity, environmental consciousness, and meaningful experiences.

“Today's travellers want more than five-star service,” says Dayya. “They want stories, values, and moments that resonate long after check-out. Through heartfelt service, innovation, and cultural storytelling, we aim to make every stay not just luxurious — but truly unforgettable.”