

Ultimate luxury: At home with spas

With Rs 4 lakh or more, you can have a high-end spa pool in the basement or on the terrace of your house

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IF YOU cannot seem to have enough of unwinding at a luxury spa on your last vacation and are looking forward to the sublime experience again at the end of a hard day's work, you need not wait till the next holidays or queue up at the neighbourhood club. All you need to do is set up a personal swimming pool right in your home – replete with all the additional facilities that are available at any spa.

Realising the potential for home spas and home luxury pools, Technology Pools, a European swimming pool design and installation company, has launched customised concrete tiled luxury spas in India for homes and corporate offices.

For Rs 4 lakh or more, the basement or the sunroom of your house can have a spa pool.

And for those of you who have a swimming pool, the company will set up a matching spa pool.

Technology Pools has already completed a number of projects in India as well in Europe and

West Asia, tapping the rising, affluent class that is no longer content with simple bath arrangements or even the regular steam, sauna and jacuzzi facilities and are looking for expensive accessories and a marked design focus.

"Yes, we are bringing spas into the homes of the rich and influential," says Hemant Atrish, CEO of Technology Pools.

"The rationale behind launching these spas was to introduce India to international standards of luxury living and service an upcoming niche market of luxury houses, hotels, resorts and farmhouses," Atrish said, adding that their target are "High net worth individuals, top-end luxury apartments and 5-7 star hotels, resorts and farmhouses."

Asked about their prominent customers so far, he declined to provide details citing client confidentiality. "We would not be able to reveal the details of any private client, but a number of upcoming hotels have shown interest and we are installing a high-end spa pool in a boutique hotel in Goa," he said.

Future plans include devel-



oping the luxury and spa pool market in India while maintaining international standards in quality and safety, Atrish added.

The company says it can also install its "beautiful, robustly built and extremely energy efficient" spas in apartment blocks to provide the residents their own special area to detoxify and relax.

For those unwilling to go in for something so exotic and are content with a simple dip, the firm also offers swimming pools, which it can build outdoors, indoors, in basements or on rooftops. It also can provide hydrotherapy pools or pools that are run at a higher temperature than normal pools and have massage jets and other features.

Another innovative offering is the new rage of infinity swimming pools — also known as negative edge or vanishing edge pools — which are built so that the edge of the water blends into the horizon.

No edges or walls can be seen on the "negative edge" as the water spills over a ledge down into a catch basin, which

then pumps the water back up into the pool. The result is an eye-catching, beautiful pool that blends seamlessly into the views beyond.

Other firms providing home pools include Faridabad-based importer and manufacturer, Smart Pools and Spas, which offers all the advantages of a splashing in a personal swimming pool, even though its size is far smaller to meet the space requirement.

Starting at Rs 8 lakh, the smart pool kit comes with a pool, adjustable current system as well as automatic machinery. Those in south India can avail the services of Bangalore-based Millennium Pools, which pays extra attention to the design elements.

They survey the site first and work towards building a pool according to one's budget. Following excavation, steel reinforcement, plumbing, filtration and tiling, the pool is ready for use, though the firm finally tests the pool for six days to ensure that everything is installed and functioning properly. ■

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