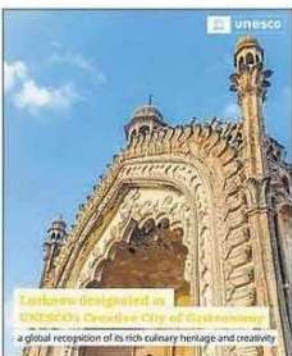


{ **CULINARY ELITE** } KEBAB TO KACHORI – EVERY FLAVOUR TELLS A STORY

Lko is 'creative city of gastronomy', courtesy Unesco's global tag



The X handle of Unesco regional office for South Asia in New Delhi posted a photo of Rumi Gate with a caption.

SOURCED

Rajeev Mullick

rajeev.mullick@htlive.com

LUCKNOW : The city of nawabs, Lucknow, known for its Awadhi cuisine, architectural marvels and poetic past, has added another feather to its cap. On World Cities Day (Friday), the UP capital was officially declared Unesco 'Creative City of Gastronomy' during the 43rd Session of the Unesco General Conference in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, placing the city among 70 global gastronomy hubs.

Till recently, India had only one city on that coveted list, Hyderabad, but in January this year, Lucknow was nominated

to claim the title for its delicious cuisine. Unesco Creative Cities Network (UCCN) admitted 58 cities, including Lucknow, as new members of the network for its wide range of delicious food.

The honour celebrates Lucknow's centuries-old culinary traditions — from royal kitchens to its vibrant street food culture — and recognises its living heritage that blends artistry, hospitality, and cultural harmony.

With this recognition, Lucknow joins cities such as Hyderabad (India), Al-Madinah Al-Munawwarah (Saudi Arabia), Kelowna (Canada), Quanzhou (China) and Zaragoza (Spain) in Unesco Creative Cities network.

On its X handle, Unesco South Asia education sciences culture (@unescoindia) posted the news: "Lucknow has been designated a Unesco Creative City of Gastronomy! Celebrating its centuries-old Awadhi culinary heritage and creative spirit shaping global gastronomy."

Unesco director-general Audrey Azoulay designated 58 cities as new members of the UCCN. Recognised for their commitment to championing creativity as a driver of sustainable urban development, these cities bring their proven expertise in building resilient and vibrant communities to the network.

In its June 7 edition, HT front

paged story with headline: 'Non-veg or veg, Lucknow is India's nominee to claim title of foodie haven'.

How Lko earned the title

The nomination process was led by the UP Directorate of Tourism, which submitted the city's dossier to the ministry of culture on January 31, 2025. Lucknow was officially selected as India's entry on March 3, 2025, before being confirmed by Unesco on October 31.

The dossier — prepared with

continued on →14

State and local news

→Pages 2, 3, 4 and 5