



Meet the Manager with...

Kuldeep Badesha, Hotel Indigo Edinburgh

The evening of 23rd March saw the UK thrown into uncertainty about what lies ahead for our nation and the globe. When lockdown measures were put into action, most people not classified as essential or key workers were to reside in their homes. While many industries started to furlough staff and cut workdays short, Kuldeep Badesha, General Manager of Splendid Hospitality Group's Hotel Indigo Edinburgh, saw her workday extended by 13 weeks!

Living in Hotel Indigo Edinburgh for the entirety of the lockdown, Kuldeep struck a chord with us. We've captured an interview with her, where she divulges her experience of lockdown from behind the walls of our, now very empty, hotel.

? Looking back, what was it like living in the hotel as opposed to your home during the lockdown?

In ways it was good, as it meant no housework, I was able to use the gym, it actually felt like a weird kind of holiday. Towards my fourth week in, though, it did get emotional as I hadn't seen my friends, family and my two fur babies (Loki and Thor) in weeks.



Can you name your biggest high and low point of lockdown?

Well the high point was definitely paying off my credit card, that's something at least! However I think my low point was managing my mental wellbeing. It's difficult when you're not around those you love the most, as they can often set you on the right track.



If you were to write a diary about your time, what would a typical day look like for you?

I tend to wake up at 04:00am, and have a coffee and chat with the night team. After coffee I'm able to do some work. Once that's done I get to watch an insane amount of box sets, and then, if I get a bit restless I tend to use the gym or go for a walk before eating my dinner. Then more box sets! It's not very exciting but that was my life seven-days-per-week! There were points when you could relax a bit, but not any more than usual



It's so important to keep a positive mindset. What did you do to remain positive during lockdown?

I stayed in touch with friends, as pretty much everyone was at home and available, which was nice. The most effective thing for positivity for me was starting to plan my wedding in 2021!



And finally, what life lesson have you taken from this experience?

You know, the things we initially thought were important truly weren't. We should be grateful for what we do, and not just what we aspire to. I've learned to take life more slowly and learn to enjoy it fully.

Kuldeep Badesha has finally returned to her home in the last couple of weeks. Her actions, coupled with her mindset has really personified everything we represent as a hotel group, and as such we wanted to tell her story to our wonderful guests and colleagues. We hope you enjoyed this read, and keep your eyes peeled for more of Splendid Hospitality Group's Meet the Manager!