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## Mumbaiwale: One-of-a-kind city souvenirs you'll never want to part with

Tile-themed wallpaper, postcards of mill areas, a map through a UNESCO site and other collectibles

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There's a column building up in my mind about the questions I get asked as a Mumbai columnist. Being everyone's first port of call for city queries is a mixed blessing. On the one hand, I have no power over (or interest in) the BMC's garbage collection system in your locality. On the other hand, some questions are wonderful gateways to understanding how people see Mumbai.

All winter, as NRIs descended, friends kept asking me for recommendations on gifts that represent our city. There was a time when they could be placated by the odd autorickshaw fridge magnet, a vintage print of Flora Fountain, or a three-tiered

stainless steel dabba with a personal message engraved onto it. There's more to choose from now. If you're looking for presents or souvenirs,



Simran Arora's postcards of central Mumbai

**Art Deco Mumbai's fold-out map:** When south Mumbai's ensemble of Victorian Gothic and Art Deco structures became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2018, the city rejoiced. One organisation did more. Art Deco Mumbai, a small team dedicated to documenting Mumbai's Art Deco buildings and advocating for their conservation, put out a much-needed guide to locating and understanding the structures. The map (main pic) is a thing of beauty, with illustrations and photographs marking locations, landmarks, design motifs and their relevance to the city's design heritage. They've even included lettering and a walking path. The team also has a set of beautiful bookmarks featuring design elements from Mumbai's Art Deco cinema halls. Get both.

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