

WOW!

HYDERABAD

food

7 CHEFS,
7 ARCHITECTS,
1 ELITE POP-UP

books

THE LIT FEST
COMES TO
TOWN

trends

CLOUD DANCER:
PANTONE'S COLOR
OF THE YEAR

nightlife

NEW BREWERY
RECREATES
MESOPOTAMIA

PICKLEBALL
HAS THE CITY
HOOKED

SPOTTED
EPIC PARTIES
THIS SEASON



Curio Casa store is about thoughtfully designed objects for everyday living with a touch of quirk

Design Forward

As you walk into the **Curio Casa** store in Jubilee Hills, the focus quickly shifts from the space itself to what fills it. Spread across 6,500 sq. ft, the store brings together a wide range of home décor and small furniture pieces – meant for browsing, touching, and taking time with, rather than quick, checklist shopping.

WHAT YOU'LL FIND ON THE FLOOR

The décor, furniture and lighting store's shelves and display pockets carry planters, vases, mirrors, sculptural accents, tableware, and lighting, alongside select furniture pieces that sit comfortably in contemporary homes. "Materials move fluidly from ceramic and stone to wood, metal, and mixed media, giving shoppers plenty to explore depending on taste and use. Many objects lean toward sculptural forms, designed to add character to a room without overwhelming it," says co-founder Divyansh Sanklecha.

Our picks are the tiny figurines with swag, especially the orange mouse with sunglasses that doubles up as a phone holder. The crystal horse that goes well with a bar counter also took our breath away. They have a good range of hammock-style sofas that add quirk to the single pad aesthetic. The store with a base in Bengaluru can also customize furniture or lighting, as well.

BROWSING, NOT RUSHING

The layout avoids the typical retail grid, encouraging visitors to move slowly between collections. This makes it easy to pause, compare pieces, and imagine how they might sit at home. "We wanted to create an environment where people can slow down, observe materiality, and discover objects that speak to them," he adds. ■ MANJU

Price: Rs 500 onwards for tabletop décor

1st Floor, Kamala Residency, Road No. 45, Jubilee Hills

Timings: 11 am to 12 am

Instagram: curiocasa.in

Coast To Coast explores unexpected ways of working with veneer at the AD Design Show

Beyond the Surface Veneer

At the AD Design Show in Hyderabad, **Coast to Coast** moved the conversation on veneer beyond its familiar role as a finishing material. Instead of treating it purely as surface décor, the brand used the exhibition to show how veneer can frame ideas, narratives and even visual culture.

A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

Set within a circular pavilion, the installation encouraged visitors to look at Hyderabad through a new lens. Drawing from the seven-era legacy of the Nizams, the structure used arches, domes and gateways to suggest memory rather than replicate history. Veneer appeared not just on walls and ceilings but as a storytelling device, shifting attention to detail, texture and craftsmanship.

"This showcase is our artistic homage to Hyderabad, its architecture, its legacy and its quiet grandeur," said Ruchika Baid, Managing Director, Coast to Coast. "We've translated the spirit of the Nizams into a contemporary material language, where veneer becomes a medium of storytelling."

WHEN SURFACES TELL STORIES

Among the most talked-about elements was an imagined *Time* magazine-style cover featuring Mir Osman Ali Khan, framed entirely in veneer. The piece stood out for the manner in which it repositioned veneer as a graphic and framing element rather than a background finish. Alongside, marquetry panels crafted from custom-dyed veneers demonstrated how traditional techniques can still feel current when used with restraint.

BEYOND WALLS AND FURNITURE

Designed by Supraja Rao, the installation treated each surface as intentional. "We began with a shared belief that surfaces can be storytellers," she said. The approach reflects what the brand often highlights across its collections: veneer as adaptable, expressive and capable of moving between furniture, architecture and art-like applications. For designers and homeowners alike, the showcase served as a reminder that veneer's possibilities extend far beyond convention. ■ MANJU

Price: On request

Instagram: @coasttocoastveneers

