

TTW Europe

Volume:7, Issue: August 2018

Yerevan

Celebrating Unified Culture



Dear Readers,

International backpackers continue to make their presence keenly felt in the European Union marking sustained growth following the global economic crisis of 2009 with annual growth rates surpassing 4% in the last five years. This finding was noted by a report 'European Union Tourism Trends' prepared by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) in cooperation with European Commission. Continued synchronised strength in economic activity in the Eurozone as well as in long haul in developed and in emerging markets highlights this growth outlook.

Gastronomy is currently the favorite buzzword for millennials and for this issue our 'Cover Story' elaborates on some of the top themed restaurants strewn across the continent. On this note let us introduce you to the traditional gourmet delicacies of Europe with 'Destination Diary' that are Food and hospitality are essential elements spicing up a tourist locale. Check our 'Special Feature' that enriches with an exclusive take on Yeravan that celebrates its 2,800th year of its foundation.

Another region luring visitors from far and beyond, thanks to its spectacular tourist attractions and potential in terms of the global meetings industry is Barcelona. In this issue 'Meetings Point' guides readers to the tourism significance of this part of the world for bleisure travellers. The other chapters include Travel News, Europe Festivals, Show Highlight, Show Review, Face to Face, Interview Zone and Calendar of Events.

Keep reading TTW Europe for the latest updates on European tourism industry and allied sectors!

Happy Reading!

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Pique your Appetite

Europe's Classic Cuisines



Crème brûlée, croissants, pizza or pasta – continental culinary flavours constantly tease the gourmet traveller's fantasies...

An attractive enigma personified, Europe never disappoints visitors, radiating rich, historical charm in every nook and corner. Backpackers can seldom resist selfies at the Eiffel Tower, London's stately Buckingham Palace and finally indulging in exclusive Catalan platters at El Celler de Can Roca!

Traditional Epicurean Breaks, Europe

After all, Europe is an interesting cradle of appetising and incredible culinary wonders. So during an enriching trail across this continent exploring ecstatic castles, palaces and churches, why not pamper your taste-buds with authentic European bites? Gastronomy tourism marks a hot trendsetter in contemporary tourism sector, all across the planet! Here is a multifarious spread of traditional European cuisines for every wanderlust-struck food connoisseur:





Palacinky, Czech Republic

How about some delicious Czech food to relish your whiskey? The Czech Republic is noted for its combination of pilsner beers. Palacinky pancakes of Prague are also worth a try. Crammed with fruit jam, these crepe-like desserts are impressive.



Pizza, Italy

Savouring a pizza at its very country of origin tempts vacationers like none other. Italy boasts of enticing dishes and their chefs find international favour. Pizza-addicts need to sample the ones they find in Naples, before surrendering to sweet tooth and enjoying a generous fill of gelato!



Breakfast in England

Egg, ham, beans, fried tomatoes and black pudding – a royal English breakfast offers much beyond! One must experiment with greasy bacon butty sandwich, especially at one of the East London bakeries.





Crème Catalan, Spain

Traditionally, crème brulee might appear to be slightly French. However, the best custard dish enriched with burnt caramel is sourced from Catalonia, a northern state of Spain. Crème catalan is cooked on the stove instead of the oven, served proudly by trendy restaurants in Barcelona.



Herring, Netherlands

A major chunk of the national diet being a seafaring country, herring is best relished in the first catch of the season in the Netherlands. The special Dutch herring preservation process has earned it a coveted title of being an iconic Dutch food!



Crepes in France

Savoury or sweet, crepes can never go wrong, particularly in if you are exploring France. The best ones are usually found throughout the country and one might also try out the ones with Nutella on the inside.





Currywurst, Germany

Visitors to Germany have inevitably explored the wurst! No wonder Berlin possesses an entire museum dedicated to currywurst. Foodies can gorge into currywurst either with or without the skin of the sausage. The sausage is served with ketchup and curry powder sprinkled on top, best enjoyed with a cola.



Banitsa, Bulgaria

The 'Banitsa' is probably the best of Bulgarian food. It is a lovely mixture of eggs, Bulgarian feta cheese and filo pastry baked in an oven. It is served as a breakfast dish and can be sampled hot or cold. Special bakeries strewn across the nation offer you with ample choice.



Haggis, Scotland

Stuffed sheep's stomach bathed in spice and oats might be fascinating for several people touring Europe. It is truly a stunning revelation for the taste-buds. You can even get deep-fried haggis burgers in Edinburgh.





Pierogi, Poland

Tin Poland, dumplings are known as 'pierogi'. Traditionally, they are baked or fried in butter with onions, but always served with sauerkraut. One can choose a vegetarian pierogi (that implies potatoes in Poland) or with ground meat.



Beer in Belgium

Beer is practically a meal in Belgium thanks to an exceptional collection of 150 different breweries. Belgium tourism is exciting with various beer breweries, festivals and tours on its official website.

There is far more to European culinary assortment than these classics. As delicious as their famous siblings, they are enough to spice up a party!



Happy dining!

Study finds airlines collapse will affect nearly one million passengers by 2030

A study by Airline Insolvency Review revealed that one in 200 passengers will be affected by the airline collapse over next 15 years.

The report also says, a typical airline failure could affect nearly 900,000 passengers, compared with half a million today; roughly the number caught up in the Monarch collapse. There are around 110,000 Monarch passengers when their airline company collapsed.

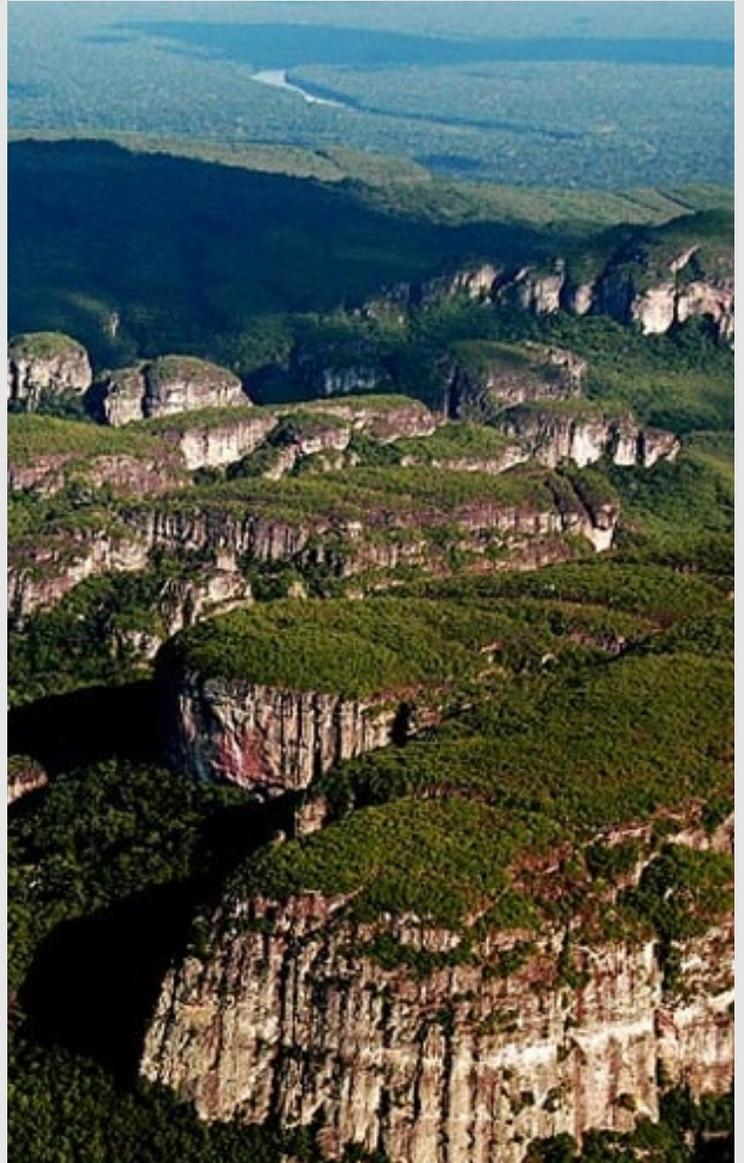
The Monarch Airlines collapse revealed that the widespread confusion over consumer protection happened. Mark Tanzer, chief executive of ABTA, said that the association has been highlighting for some time that the lack of any formal protection arrangements for scheduled flights leave many passengers at risk.

Colombia's largest tropical rainforest, Chiribiquete National Park declared as World Heritage Site

Colombia's Chiribiquete National Park has been named as the UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is the last remaining national environmental treasures and expanded recently to approximately 4.3 million hectares. It spans across the Caqueta and the Guavaire departments of the northwestern region of Colombia's Amazon forest.

In 1989, the area was declared as a national park and is now named as country's ninth World Heritage Site

along with Mompox and Cartagena's Walled City. This national park houses a major portion of the country's biodiversity, tepuis (Native American for table-top mountains) and sheer drops of sandstone plateau which is of the same length of the Eiffel Tower. The new UNESCO World Heritage Site was earlier used for coca production. It is now the abode of around 300 species of birds and 313 butterfly species.



Chinese travellers paid US\$115 billion digitally in international market

In 2017, Chinese outbound travellers spent US\$115 billion in different overseas destinations along with 130 million outbound trips. With this, China became world's biggest source of outbound tourism. Thailand, Japan and Singapore were the top three destinations for Chinese travellers using WeChat Pay.

The WeChat has a user base of around one billion globally. WeChat's payment server, WeChat Pay is currently available in over 40 counties and regions across the world in 13 currencies. There are around 800 million users have linked their bank accounts or credit cards to the service. It will focus on building payments infrastructure in these markets so that Chinese outbound tourists can pay for goods and services to overseas outlets. The outbound tourism

in China has propelled the flow from the region. It has emerged as not only the region's but the world's fastest growing source market.

Russia offers “visa-free” travel all year round to foreign visitors

Russian government announced “visa-free entry” to all foreign visitors holding “fan ID” cards for the World Cup 2018. Russian President Vladimir Putin said foreign supporters who currently have ID cards will be able to benefit from multiple entries into Russian Federation without a visa until the end of the year.

The chairman of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) Russia-2018 Arkady Dvorkovich said that 2018 FIFA World Cup is a huge driver for tourism development in Russia.



Sun Princess aims to invest over \$450 million to boost its global fleet

Sun Princess will now have access to the newest onboard enhancements following an extensive 14-day, multi-million dollar dry dock in Singapore, continuing the line's "Come Back New Promise" commitment focused on investing more than \$450 million across the global fleet.

From Singapore, Sun Princess is sailing the waters of Southeast Asia before returning to Australia for the 2019 winter season, where her itineraries begin on the Western coast of the island nation before transitioning to eastern coast and New Zealand itineraries. Sun Princess is the latest ship in the fleet to receive the elegant livery design featuring the Princess Cruises logo, one of the most recognized brand logos in cruising.



Virgin Galactic successfully launches its test flight to space

Virgin Galactic has successfully launched its spaceship VSS Unity into Earth's mesosphere. The test spaceflight over the Mojave Desert is the third supersonic flight for the craft, this time

surpassing Mach 2, reaching nearly 1,900 mph, or 2.47 times the speed of sound.

Once the craft was released from its ferry vessel, the VMS Eve at 46,500 feet, the crew of Unity, Dave Mackay and Mike "Sooch" Masucci, piloted the craft in a near-vertical, 42-second rocket burn to 170,800 feet, which is past Earth's stratosphere and into the mesosphere. The craft then used its unique re-entry system to safely return to the Mojave Air and Space Port. Branson's Virgin Galactic has been trying to break into space tourism since 2004. Virgin Galactic's main competitor for space tourism is Blue Origin, the creation of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos as well as possible plans from Elon Musk's SpaceX.



Founded in 782BC by Urartian King Argishti I, Yerevan, only 29 years older than Rome, derives its name from the Urartian military fortress of Erebouni. The city gradually prospered with trade routes and soon formed its own culture developing the city with temples, palaces and fortress.

The capital city of Armenia, Yerevan is dotted with landmarks portraying unique architecture, developing urban infrastructure and hospitality. Yerevan with its 1.3 million population is an event-tourism city, as many autumn and winter festivals are in pipeline. So, come and experience some of the unique festivals.

Yerevan

Celebrating Unified Culture

Make it Happen in Yerevan



Enjoy *Khorovats* (barbecue) Festival (19th August) in Akhtala. Taste and learn how to make *lavash*, *khorovats* (barbeque), wrap tolmaj green leaves and authentic Cognac. Go to Artsakh Wine Festival (15th September) and taste wide range of Armenian wines. Another Armenian festival in pipeline is Harisa Festival (17th September). Locals cook *Harisa* (made of chicken and wheat mixed together until it becomes like porridge) and celebrate with local dance while cooking. Erebuni-Yerevan 2800 (29-30th September) another biggest attraction, welcomes tourists with street parades, exhibitions and performing arts.

Let's discover and explore

Walking around the City Center

Want to get immersed in Armenian culture, history and cuisine? Take a free walking tour here. The locals here will volunteer to show you their hometown. Here check out grand Republic Square, Aznavour Square, impressive Opera House, 18th century Blue Mosque and the famous Cascade complex. Please include Kond, one of the oldest quarters in the city, dating back to the 17th century.

Vako Armeno, organiser of Yerevan Free Walking Tour says, "Walking Tour enlightens you with city's deep secrets. It gives comprehensive idea about city's history, architecture, art and culture".



©Vako Armeno



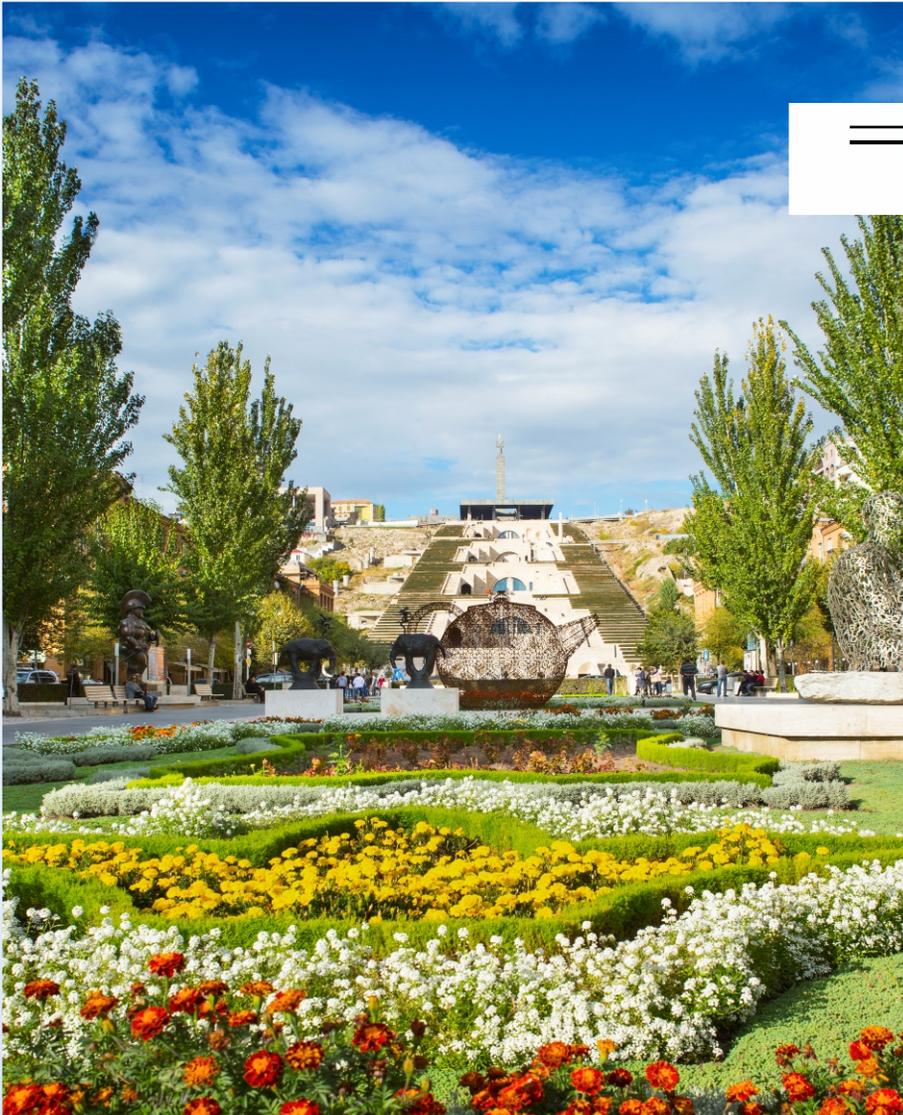
Vako Armeno says: "June to September is best time to visit. We get maximum number of travellers from August to September. In these months, we have Taraz Festival (national costumes), Beer festival, Sevan Music Fest, Honey and Berry fest in Berd, Tea & Coffee fest, Carpet Fest and Areni wine festival in Vayots Dzor."

Visit the museums to witness city's history

It is a giant staircase with many porches decorated with artsy statues and beautiful floral decoration. Built in Soviet era (1971), Cascade Stairway and Museum connects the Kentron area of the city. It has eight levels, all of which are accessible.

Taste the diverse Armenian dishes

Armenian cuisine falls in Caucasian food genre. National Geographic included Yerevan in its list of *"Six Unexpected Cities for the Food Lovers"*. Armenian cuisine is quite delicious, with freshness and quality coming before flavour and spices. Take a gastro-tour to taste *dzhash* (stew), *kabob* (grilled meat) and *pilaf* (rice with meat).



Take city's panoramic view from Cascade Stairway and Museum

To learn about the city's past, head to its museums. The Armenian Genocide Museum, Matenadaran and History Museum of Armenia are the popular spots to visit. It has a collection of over 400,000 objects. Here you can learn more about *"hidden 19th century backyards and modern sculptures"*.



Shop at Vernissage Flea Market

If you are shopaholic, go to Vernissage Flea Market located in Aram Street. You can find Armenian artworks such as rugs, wood carvings, paintings, musical instruments and jewellery in this open air market. It stretches from Republic Square metro station to the statue of Vardan Mamikonyan.



MUST DO:

- ★ Trek to Mount Aragats, Azhdahak, Spitakasar in Geghama and Khustup mountain range
- ★ See the Terracotta cliffs of Vayots Dzor
- ★ Visit cave town of Old Goris and the meteors of Khndzoresk
- ★ Take part during Harisa Festival and see Armenian dances and performing arts form
- ★ Relax and refresh at any spa at coniferous fortified forest area at Dilijan and Jermuk

Plan a trip to Geghard monastery

A UNESCO Heritage Site, the Monastery of Geghard and Upper Azat Valley are surrounded by trees and cliffs. The main Armenian chapel belonged to Proshyan Dynasty, was built in 1215, though the monetary complex itself was founded in 4th century. There you can find a school, scriptorium, library and many rock-cut dwelling cells for clergymen.



- Get Yerevan Card to have free access to 40 museums. Avail attractive discounts on other tourist spots
- Take proper precaution while cycling on the rugged landforms
- Do not overload while trekking as it has extreme diverse terrains
- Travel by *marshrutka*, electric trolleybus and metro



See Garni Temple & Byurakan Observatory

Garni Temple and Byurakan Observatory are the unusual attractions of the city. Garni Temple dates back to 1st Century AD and has been fantastically preserved. Byurakan Observatory is Armenia's most premier centre of astrophysics research. Victor Ambartsumian was the father figure behind its establishment. Founded in 1946, it is home to largest telescope in Soviet Russia, a 2.6m Cassegrain reflector.



Maria Hovsepyan
Events Coordinator
Cafesjian Center for the Arts

Trained in linguistics and international journalism, **Maria Hovsepyan** is serving as the Events Coordinator at the Cafesjian Center for the Arts since March 2012. Maria coordinates all public events and programmes along with media relations. Before joining here, Maria Hovsepyan worked with various international organisations operating in Armenia.

Face to Face

TTW Europe: How does Cafesjian Center for the Arts work to attract tourists?

Maria Hovsepyanhas: The Cafesjian Center for the Arts (CCA) offers a wide variety of exhibitions featuring the artworks of modern and contemporary Armenian artists. We also attract visitors with diverse cultural programmes. We dedicated ourselves to present best of Armenian culture to the world. We organise lectures, films, concerts, and numerous educational initiatives for adults and children also.

TTW Europe: Yerevan is celebrating its 2800th anniversary. What are the steps taken by Cafesjian Center for the Arts to celebrate its foundation day?

Maria Hovsepyanhas: We are organising multiple events to celebrate. Cafesjian Center for the Arts (CCA) has developed diverse line-ups with the year's most celebrated events and themes. This year, Cafesjian Center for the Arts (CCA) celebrated International Child Protection Day on 1st June, 2018 under the theme "*Old Yerevan: Memory Alive*". Now we are celebrating 2800th anniversary of Yerevan giving a chance to every visitor to see the cultural evolution of the city. The visitors can experience the history of Old Cascade through its *Old Yerevan: Animated History* project. More than 200 children participated in the creation of a mosaic representing the waterfall created before the construction of the Cascade complex by the sculptor Derenik Danielyan (1912-1994).



TTW Europe: Elaborately describe about the business tourism in Yerevan. Does Cafesjian Center for the Arts provide its space to MICE business or cultural events?

Maria Hovsepyanhas: Armenia is not only a perfect vacation spot, but also continues to grow as a destination for business tourism. Many national and international companies choose Armenia for their business meetings and as a site for conventions and meeting. The Cafesjian Center for the Arts offers its space for business meetings, conferences, presentations, banquets and other special events. The artistic and aesthetic environment, beautiful setting and location make CCA a major landmark for Yerevan. The Cascade Complex makes an unparalleled modern venue for any corporate event.

TTW Europe: What are the steps taken by CCA to promote cultural tourism?

Maria Hovsepyanhas: Every year CCA offers new exhibition programs, a two-concert series, Cafesjian Classical Music Series and Music Cascade, and numerous educational initiatives. All programmes are developed to express its mission and vision.

We dedicated ourselves in bringing the best of contemporary art to Armenia and presenting the best of Armenian culture to the world. Stimulated by the vision of its founder, Gerard L. Cafesjian, the CCA offers a wide variety of exhibitions, including an important selection or works from the Gerard L. Cafesjian Collection of contemporary art.

We also foster contemporary performing arts. On May 25, 2012, the Karin Ensemble, a traditional folk dance restarted at the Cafesjian Center for the Arts. It was organized at Cafesjian Sculpture Garden.

Every year, hundreds of locals and tourists participate in this traditional dance programme at Cafesjian Sculpture Garden.

TTW Europe: Tell us about the membership facilities that CCA is providing?

Maria Hovsepyanhas: Cafesjian Center for the Arts is a premiere institution in Armenia, offering museum membership for individuals and companies.

We also offer multi-level membership opportunity to make events or seminars. We are continuously creating a unique bond with locals and tourists, inviting them to become a sustaining part of the Cafesjian Center for the Arts and enjoy a number of membership privileges.

The Cafesjian Center for the Arts provides companies with a unique partnership opportunity, where sponsorship is a rewarding and mutually beneficial experience. Corporate Sponsorship offers excellent opportunities for high visibility, while providing vital support for exhibitions and programs that continue CCA's role as a major cultural institution.

INTERVIEW ZONE

**Dr. Ghassan AIDI, President
International Hotel &
Restaurant
Association (IHRA)**

TTW Europe presents a brief discussion with Ghassan AIDI, President, International Hotel & Restaurant Association (IHRA) who enlightens readers about inherent culinary passions of Europeans and contemporary trends.

Officially recognized by United Nations, International Hotels and Restaurants Association represents the only global business organisation catering to the hospitality industry all across the globe. It was established in 1869 in Koblenz Germany and moved to Switzerland in 2008. Its members comprise national Hotels and Restaurant Associations and also regional local and international hotel chains. It monitors all agencies, approximately 500,000 hotels and 7 million restaurants worldwide.



TTW Europe: Please enlighten our readers about traditional European culinary delights that continue to be popular among food connoisseurs and foreign tourists visiting this continent?

Ghassan AIDI: French food continues to hit the palmares in European food in general worldwide while some dishes are also in a big hit from several countries as the Paella in Spain or pasta dishes in Italy.

TTW Europe: How has culinary taste evolved among Europeans in the last decade? Also comment on changing trends of food choices for tourists in Europe?

Ghassan AIDI: Today people have started to be conscious about what they are eating, for instance certain food items with less grease, more vegetables and salad, lean meat and grilled meat.

TTW Europe: Do you plan to introduce food trips for tourists, for instance factory tours or anything of this sort to raise awareness in terms of traditional European food?

Ghassan AIDI: It is difficult for food trips but then it is okay for wine tasting, especially in France.



TTW Europe: How would you leverage traditional European cuisine's potential in terms of attracting business or MICE (meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions industry) professionals arriving in Europe?

Ghassan AIDI: Food can be an asset to attract business incentives or conferences especially in France, Italy or Spain as well as now Turkey.

TTW Europe: What plans do you have to promote sustainable tourism this year?

Ghassan AIDI: There exists a lot of potential for sustainable tourism. For instance they did create Emeraude Hotel to certify hotels worldwide and they also opened an office in Hong Kong for sustainable tourism certification for hotels in Hong Kong and Mainland China.

TTW Europe: Kindly state your growth goals for this year. What are the challenges if any?

Ghassan AIDI: IH&RA is looking forward to have all hotels worldwide as a member to help together to achieve a strong network and defend the private sector worldwide. We need to focus on the issue that every day 10 new hotels are open that implies that our industry keeps hiring people and employees which has a great potential in limiting poverty in the world.

Themed restaurants in

Europe worth a visit!

Bon appétit! Eating at stylish restaurants and feasting your eyes with rich interiors is on the cards for millennials. The overall feel of food is vastly influenced by architecture, décor, music and theme of a location. Themed restaurants are catchy, instantly recognisable with an articulable concept; it is the presentation of an idea that evokes or transports one to another world.

We list some unique restaurant concepts in Europe which have distinctive designs and ideas:



Nocti Vagus – Germany's first 'Dark Restaurant'

All servers in this Berlin's restaurant are either blind or visually impaired, rightly proving the saying that if you deprive a man of his senses other gets heightened. The dinner is served in pitch black environs and when the light goes off, experience speaks. There is an increased awareness and your brain gets the sensory information. To enhance your dining experience, there are entertainment options like 'dark theatre', live music and poetry reading.



Image Credit: www.noctivagus.com add.

Dinner in the Sky, Belgium

Discover Antwerp's sumptuous cuisine in the most extraordinary way where 22 guests and 1 'starred' chef curate an unforgettable gastronomic experience 150 feet in air with an unparalleled view of the city. In this exclusive, adventurous Belgium-based restaurant, diners can stay up in the air for a maximum period of 8 hours. The restaurant is safe and can go anywhere where there is a securable surface of 500 sq.m.



The Disaster Café, Spain

Did you ever imagine people would actually pay to experience simulating 7.8 earthquake while having meals? Yes, people are now having an appetite for disaster! Normally people are scared of earthquakes but at the Disaster Café located in the Lloret de Mar, Spain they look for an earth shattering experience. Here, there is no warning when the earthquake might surprise to the thrill seeking diners looking to balance their food and preventing their drinks from spilling.

The ground level is an alienated themed restaurant for kids designed like a spaceship where kids enjoy with the wacky aliens. For adults an elevator takes them to the depths of the Earth and they are made to sit in a cave-like restaurant. The staff here wears construction helmets and other safety equipment.

Sur un Abre Perché in Paris, France

Go back to childhood, relish swings along with traditional dishes, unwinding in the most unique way. Sur un Abre Perché in Paris means 'perched on a tree' and complies with the saying that meals are a time to relax and getting away from the hustle and bustle of our daily lives. There are masseurs ready to knot out the achy muscles of the guests or give a Shiatsu massage before dessert. The décor is based on tree theme; vines are used as staircase handles and bird nest shaped lights are used to give an exotic feel of nature.



Killarney, Ireland

Imagine food without price tag and good service! This post modern restaurant in Ireland is interesting where the guests pay as much they think the meal is worth! The eclectic, kitschy restaurant has a funky vibe and friendly atmosphere and is based on the hippie ethos that garnered a lot of attention since its launch in 2011. The food here is of top-notch quality; short menu with specials dishes are offered here daily like delicious soup or crispy, thin-crust pizzas with mouthwatering toppings such as salami, goat's cheese or roasted garlic. There are home-baked cakes catering to the sweet quotient. Here, the opening time is unpredictable, so it is suggested to call before visiting.

BARCELONA



In the last few years, Barcelona in Spain has made a great headway into the MICE industry and is already dominating as the 'economic driver' of southern Europe and the cultural capital of Catalonia. European cities and towns, over the last few months, are competing hard due to a revival in the meetings industry with the top firms giving more preference to Europe for their next meeting. Barcelona has been consistently ranking top among the cities popular for international meetings. When it comes to meetings and conventions, Barcelona is one of the most preferred choices for European and American event organisers.

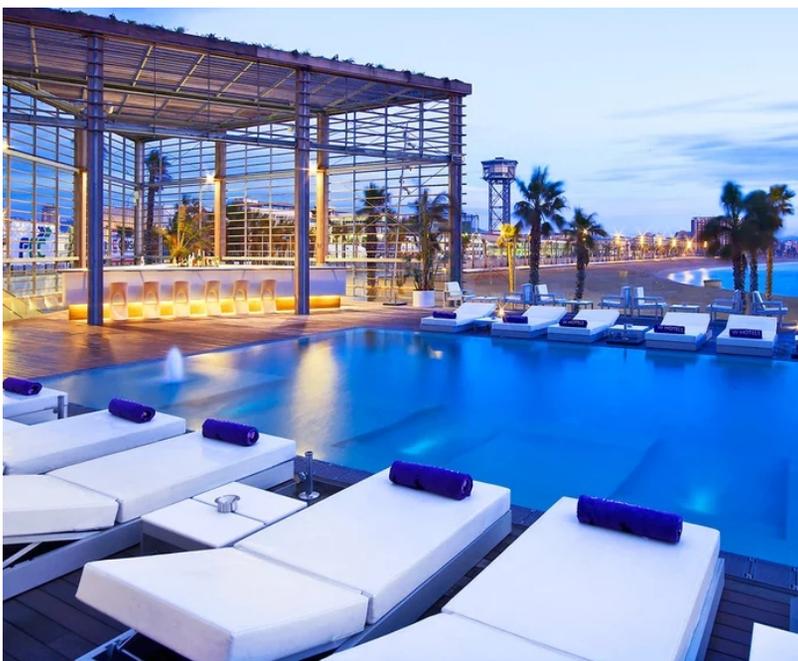
A city which sets the pulse racing for every event professional!

***A snapshot
Why Barcelona
is an important
meetings
destination!***



- The city is one of the most welcoming metropolises in Europe.
- It's easily accessible.
- The city is known for its modern infrastructure and communication system with cosmopolitan and dynamic population.
- According to the ICCA statistics 2015, Barcelona ranks 3rd in the world with regard to the number of association meetings held and the number of delegates hosted.
- As per State of World's Cities, 2012/2013 –UN Habitat, Barcelona is the 5th best city in the world for quality of life.
- According to Guardian Cities Global Brand Barometer, 2014, Saffron Brand Consultants, Barcelona is the 6th best city brand in the world.
- As per a leading foreign direct investment publication European Cities and Regions of the Future 2014/2015, Barcelona is voted as the 7th top European city with the best future prospects.
- According to Global Cities Investment Monitor 2014, KPMG, Barcelona is the 10th city in the world in terms of international investment projects received.

Other amenities that makes Barcelona a preferred choice for event managers



Excellent Accessibility – When it comes to reaching MICE venues, transportation plays a vital role. Reaching Barcelona from other parts of Spain or foreign destinations is a cake-walk as the city has brilliant land, sea and air connectivity. Barcelona-Ei Prat, the international airport, connects the city with all European capitals and world destinations. Barcelona has a wide variety in sea links as road and rail network is equally good in connecting the city. Also, public transportation system of Barcelona is outstanding as anyone can tour the city by buying T-10 ticket and travel in metro and buses, available every three minutes.

Accommodation – The city with more than 67,640 hotel beds, Barcelona has everything for everyone. The city hotels experience an influx in guests round the year. Besides, the hotels have grown considerably in numbers these days. In addition to the elegant hotels, Barcelona experienced a major growth in hotels with special banquet suites and conference rooms for events and seminars. Side by side, there are several bed and breakfast accommodations, hostels and home-sharing apartments spread in and around Barcelona.

Stunning Venues – The city has innumerable hotels with rooftop terraces, dazzling and spacious meeting rooms, and green oasis, ideal for event of any size. Top four event locations of Barcelona are Fira Gran Via, CCIB, Fira de Barcelona and Palau de Congressos de Catalunya. Other than this, the city has quite a lot of unique venues like museums, breweries, art galleries, vineyards and other such locations which can be customized according to the wish of the organisers.

Silicon Valley of Europe - In Spain, Barcelona is one of the most pioneering cities in terms of angel investors and tech start ups. Majority of the street corners and even beaches in the city have Wi-Fi facility that allows any traveller to access ground-breaking apps like Barcelona Contactless, Glovo and Apps4BCN with detailed information on accessible facilities, services and events.

Besides, Barcelona is a paradise for white water adventure, spectacular boat rides, murder mystery dinner party, treasure hunt, racing the entire city with Go Carts, taking part in outdoor Mini Olympics and many more exciting activities.



To sum it up, Barcelona confirms its position as one of the most sought-after cities for business tourism in Europe with recognitions and awards like World Travel Award. It is the second-most favoured destination for MICE tourism. In 2017, the city was third in terms of arranging the highest number of international conferences (181 meetings in all), just after Paris and Vienna. Conferences, conventions and incentive travel have added value activity to the business tourism of the city.



EUROPE FESTIVALS

TTW picks some of the widely acclaimed summer fiestas of Europe. From France and Spain to Germany and Finland the festivals show Europe's diverse culture.

Wacken Open Air

Date: 2nd -5th August, 2018, Place: Wacken, Germany

Europe's biggest open air metal party, Wacken Open Air is north Germany's musical event attracted more than 80000 visitors last year. Founded by Thomas Jensen, Holger Hübner, Andreas Göser and Jörg Jensen, this music festival welcomes guests from over 80 nations.



Corso de la Lavande

Date: 3rd -7th August, 2018 Place: Nice, France

This cultural fest begins with firework display over the river. The fair lasts for 4 days with themed festivities like parades, street art, musical band march, floats covered with flowers and dance party. The local people dressed in purple coloured costumes celebrating festive time with gala dinner.



Duszniki International Chopin Piano Festival

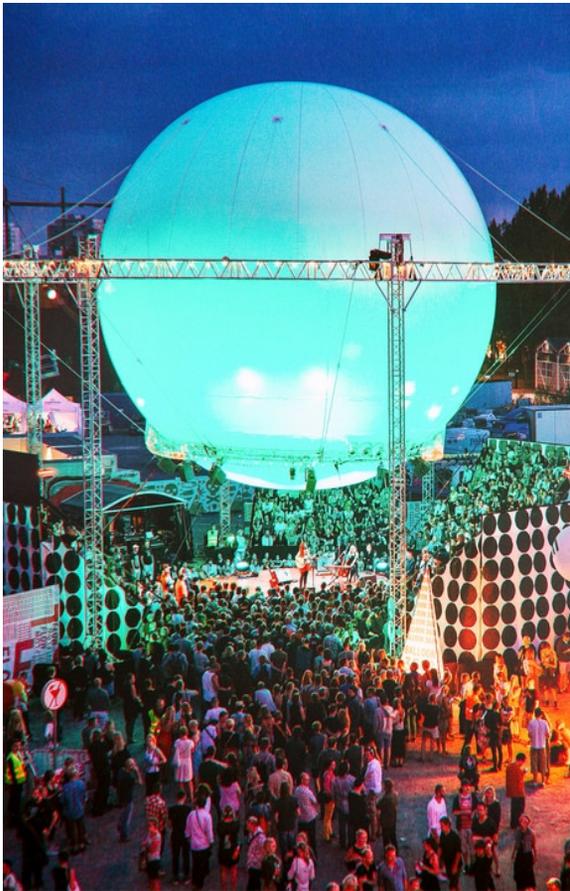
Date: 3rd to 11th August 2018 Place: Poland

The oldest piano festival in the world, Duszniki International Chopin Piano Festival attracts global music composers. Here audience can listen finest interpretation of musical works of many outstanding pianists.

Sziget Festival

Date: 8th -15th August 2018, Place: Budapest, Hungary

Budapest becomes lively, when Sziget Festival comes with its massive cultural form. Sziget offers over 1,000 live performances and has been labelled as the Burning Man of Europe for its otherworldly melodious atmosphere.



Flow Festival, Helsinki

Date: 10th -12th August, 2018, Place: Helsinki, Finland

Flow Festival presents best line-up of on-trend acts to sophisticated crowd. The tourists can taste delicious vegan and non-vegetarian food from the capital's avant-garde restaurateurs – served up in vans and kiosks.



Creamfields

Date: 23rd -26th August 2018, Place: Daresbury, United Kingdom

Europe's most prestigious dance festival, Creamfields is decked up with the performances of worldwide stars. First held in 1998, this dance fiesta hosts live performances of DJ's and dance acts.



International Travel Expo Ho Chi Minh City 2018

The International Travel Expo Ho Chi Minh City 2018 (ITE HCMC 2018) will expect more than 300 international companies and brands to set up booth at the Saigon Exhibition & Convention Center on September 6th to 8th, 2018.

ITE HCMC 2018 is the largest and most established annual international travel trade event in the Mekong sub-region is now in its 14th edition, and features services and products for both inbound and outbound markets.

Domestic Participation in ITE HCMC 2018

The participants include the Department of Tourism (DOT) for several Vietnamese provinces, as well as various National Tourism Organisations (NTO) and Tourism Promotion Organisations (TPO) from top travel destinations in Asia.

There are over 30 DOTs from Vietnamese provinces and cities are expected to participate in this year's ITE HCMC, like Ben Tre, Binh Dinh, Danang, Daklak, Dong Nai, Dong Thap, Gia Lai, Hai Phong, Hanoi, Hue, Khanh Hoa, Lam Dong, Long An, Ninh Binh, Ninh Thuan, Quang Nam, Thua Thien Hue, Tien Giang, Vinh Long, and Vung Tau and many more.

International Participation in ITE HCMC 2018

The buyers and visitors will also find kiosks from India Tourism; Japan National Tourism Organization; Korea

When: 6th to 8th September, 2018
Where: Saigon Exhibition & Convention Center, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Tourism Organization; Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board; Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, Laos; Ministry of Tourism of Cambodia; Ministry of Tourism of Republic Indonesia; Myanmar Tourism; Nagoya City; Penang Global Tourism; Taiwan Tourism Bureau Bangkok Office; Tokyo Convention & Visitors Bureau; and Tourism Authority of Thailand (HCMC Office).

Confirmed International Exhibitors in ITE HCMC 2018

The companies from the tourism hotspots of Australia, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, South Africa, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam, will also be present here.

Hosted Buyers and Hosted Media Programme

Three hundred Hosted Buyers have also been invited in the show's International Hosted Buyers Programme, a long-standing and prominent feature in ITE HCMC. The buyers, like the exhibitors, will be able to book appointments

with sellers online, conduct buyer-seller meetings, and attend various networking functions during the three-day event.

Purpose of ITE HCMC 2018

The B2B Buyer-Seller meetings are a highly efficient and popular feature with almost 5,300 meetings conducted in last year's edition. The organisers anticipate a 15% increase in the B2B meetings this year. All hosted buyers, from leisure, corporate, MICE, luxury, and special interest travel companies, are carefully selected and approved by an Advisory Committee comprising of travel industry professionals from independent parties in the region. 30 international hosted members of the media and bloggers from prominent travel, lifestyle, tourism, and broadcast platforms will also be present, and they will enjoy a customised itinerary programme featuring curated pre- and post-show tours to enjoy the best of Vietnam.

The Only Travel Event Endorsed by the Tourism Alliance

ITE HCMC 2018 has become a prime platform for local and international industry players and leading brands to showcase their latest tourism products and services. The source for quality agents and distributors; and expand their business into Vietnam and the Mekong sub-region.

Scope for ITE HCMC 2018

ITE HCMC 2018 also provides attendees ample opportunities to build contacts, foster new relationships, and discover new business leads through activities and networking opportunities like the glitzy Grand Opening Ceremony and Gala Dinner; exclusive buyer-seller meetings; business matching and online pre-appointments; as well as seminars on key tourist markets and other tourism-related topics.

Organised by the Vietnam National Administration of Tourism, Ho Chi Minh City Department of Tourism, VINEXAD Trade Fair & Advertising JSC, and Informa Exhibitions, the exhibition is the only travel event endorsed by the Tourism Alliance of all five countries in the Mekong sub-region.

This includes the support from the Ministry of Tourism, Cambodia; the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR; the Ministry of Hotels & Tourism, Myanmar; and the Ministry of Tourism and Sports, Kingdom of Thailand. It is also endorsed by the Ministry of Culture, Sports & Tourism, Vietnam; and the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City.

Meeting Planners Russia

The annual edition of Meeting Planners Russia will take place on 10 and 11 September 2018 at Hotel InterContinental Tverskaya with a mission to enhance the MICE industry.

This long running workshop sees key worldwide destinations and MICE suppliers coming to Moscow in order to meet up with Russian and CIS event planners.

The selected hosted buyers are keen to find new business partners from various destinations and to discuss about their upcoming outbound MICE business.

The Hosted Buyers from leading outbound agencies as well as main corporate accounts will give 'acte de presence'. The corporate buyers are representing the strongest industries as Oil & Gas, IT and Pharmaceuticals, placing most outbound MICE business in international destinations.



When: 10th to 11th September 2018
**Where: Hotel InterContinental Tverskaya,
Moscow, Russia**



Business Development Director Asya Revina from Europe Congress said while discussing on the success and growth of Meeting Planners Russia, the events have reached over the years have been staggering. They are confident that the time they spend on thorough selection procedures and communication with the buyers have been paying off in terms of bringing high ROI to all participating Convention Bureaus, Tourism Bureaus and MICE suppliers. Many of the participating suppliers are returning yearly. They are looking to increase the values within for all participants, by improving the format, content and of course the outcome of the pre-scheduled and guaranteed meetings.

The 2018 forum in Meeting Planners will offer in total, two action-packed days, with pre-scheduled match-made face-to-face meetings, keynotes, networking, social sessions as luncheons and receptions.

The keynotes will be hosted by with the Meetology Lab. The Meetology Lab conducts in depth behavioral research to come to a better understanding why we communicate the way we do and how we can all improve ourselves professionally as well as personally. The Forum MC Jonathan Bradshaw, also CEO of the Meetology Lab will further host the destination promotions included in Europe Congress' forum programme every morning.

Key Benefits:

- 2-day exclusive B2B one-stop-shop forum;
- 30-40 pre-scheduled, match-made meetings;
- Boutique event with exclusive attendance;
- Max 60 destinations and providers only, assuring exclusivity;
- Keynote sessions by MICE industry experts;
- Varied event program with education, networking and socializing;
- Onsite supportive Europe Congress team
- High quality event setting and services
- 6th annual edition with proven business concept and results.

Agenda and Programme:

- Pre-scheduled and match-made one-to-one meetings
- Day networking, benchmarking and socializing in an inspiring environment
- Keynotes by industry experts addressing trending industry topics
- Social gatherings as coffee breaks, luncheons and receptions

Pacific Asia Travel Association's one of the signature events and Asia-Pacific's international travel trade exhibition PATA Travel Mart is featuring its networking and contracting opportunities to help travel and tourism organisations access decision makers, meet new clients, expand their networks, establish new relationships, and consolidate existing business partnerships.

This three-day event is expected to attract more than 1,000 delegates from over 60 countries, facilitating over 10,000 pre-matched appointments and bringing together qualified international buyers and sellers for face-to-face meetings, educational forums, and networking functions.

Besides the Mart, PTM 2018 will also include the Travolution Asia Forum in partnership with Travel Weekly Group, the World Tourism Forum Lucerne (WTFL) Start-Up Innovation Camp, the 2018 PATA Gold Awards Lunch and Award Presentation hosted by the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO), and PTM Talks, as well as various social functions for networking.

PTM 2018 will also once again feature a Digital Hub exhibition that provides online, tech, and digital marketing companies with the opportunity to boost brand awareness while contracting directly with relevant businesses and organisations in the tourism and travel industry.

When: September 12-14, 2018
Where: Mahsuri International Exhibition Centre (MIEC), Langkawi, Malaysia

Malaysia's Langkawi is the venue of PTM 2018. It is a tropical paradise known for its unrivalled natural beauty, friendly people, excellent food, duty-free shopping, and luxurious hotels and resorts. A cluster of 99 islands, Langkawi boasts emerald waters, stretches of white sandy beaches, and natural attractions. It is famed as one of the region's best holiday destinations, offering superb beach resorts, an international airport, picturesque golf courses, and well-equipped marinas.

Langkawi boasts with UNESCO Global Geopark in Southeast Asia, accorded for its geological formations dating back 550 million years comprising stunning landscapes, karsts, caves, sea arches, stacks, glacial dripstones, and fossils. The Langkawi SkyCab is offering some breathtaking views of the Andaman Sea and the Langkawi island group through an exhilarating cable car ride, with walking trails and viewing platforms offering panoramic landscapes at its middle and top stations. The Dataran Lang (Eagle Square) is situated near the Kuah Jetty and the most prominent landmark in Langkawi with its magnificent statue of the reddish brown eagle majestically poised for flight, from which Langkawi derives its name.

Hotel Management Asia Summit

Hotel Management Asia Summit is an independent and ultimate platform will return to Hong Kong on 27 September, 2018 at The Mira Hong Kong.

This event will come to address all key management, operational, commercial and financial challenges that impact corporate and property P&L. Here the tourism has been recovering and increases in overnight stays.

Yet, 2018 will escort in new hotel openings for both cities- Hong Kong and Macau. The coming of new hotels, and new brand will inject huge vibrancy into the Asian travel markets. While the existing hotels will face challenges in room rates due to the increased supply.

In additional, recent launched of various lifestyle hotels, luxury accommodations, co-living spaces and extended-stay products have added to the competition, giving a new impetus in travel business. As such, hoteliers must innovate and reinvent, in order to drive financial results.

Hotel Management Asia Summit in Hong Kong will explore the latest consumer trends and revolutionary business models to help inspire hotel industry leaders in their quests to reinventing their operations.

Hotel Management Asia Summit will focus on:

- Navigating the ever-changing distribution landscape
- Leveraging new consumer trends to grow rates and

When: 27th September 2018
Where: The Mira Hong Kong, Hong Kong

generate peripheral revenue

- Enhancing operational efficiency through technology adoptions
- Strategizing on segment mix and source markets to ensure competitiveness
- Developing talents and controlling overhead costs





HOSPITALITY QATAR 2018

4th Hospitality Qatar is the country's premier International Hospitality and HORECA Trade Show that continues to be at the forefront in guiding local, regional, and international businesses to Qatar's emerging opportunities in the hospitality sector.

From 6 to 8 November at the Doha Exhibition and Convention Center (DECC), in the heart of Doha, the exhibition will connect Hotel operators, HORECA suppliers, investors, and other industry professionals to display the latest products and solutions and discuss business partnerships.

With a keen focus on Hotel Supply and Design, Hotel Franchising and Investment, as well as Food and Beverages, Hospitality Qatar addresses the requirements of the key elements that make up rising hospitality industry of the country.

This event is a full-fledged platform that covers the HORECA market from every angle. The show offers a dedicated B2B Matchmaking program to help exhibitors and visitors of matching profiles meet and identify potential business opportunities. It also encompasses a wide range of dynamic concurrent events dedicated to HORECA specialists.

Hospitality Qatar Fostering Culinary Heritage

In 2017, Hospitality Qatar introduced a new complementary section, HQ-Food Qatar. This new addition in 2018 was solely dedicated to the food and

When: 6th to 8th November, 2018
Where: Doha Exhibition and Convention Centre, Doha, Qatar

catering industry in Qatar. Qatar's food market presents a timely opportunity to claim market share and grow businesses. HQ-Food Qatar provides platform for food and agricultural produce traders, suppliers, manufacturers, and other industry specialists, to meet major Qatari buyers and sign sizeable deals.

Here are the other concurrent events:

Salon Culinaire

It is a signature culinary event that celebrates gastronomic excellence and creativity. The Salon will feature competitions and live demonstrations dedicated for top local and international chefs to showcase their skills and artistry across various scrumptious categories.

Live Cooking Competition

This will be a sizzling competition that will foster the skills and creativity of participating chefs to the test. Competitors will go head-to-head in this heated culinary face-off to present the finest dishes and claim the number one spot. It is a great chance for visitors to watch and learn from the very best.

Mocktail Competition

It is a juicy opportunity for best bartenders to exhibit their beverage knowledge and skills, and experiment with different flavors and ingredients to create unique Mocktails. The competition will highlight the best talent in town.



Barista Competition

It is a platform dedicated to the art of coffee making. This contest allows baristas to shine under the spotlight, express their passion, and stretch their imagination to serve classic coffee beverages and unique creations.



Bangladesh International Tourism Fair

8th Bangladesh International Tourism Fair is the country's biggest and most prestigious tourism event in 2018.

BITF 2018 will be held from 4th to 6th October 2018, at Bangabandhu international Conference Centre, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar Dhaka. It is the world class conference center only centrally located as an upscale venue of the country giving easy access to all the national and international visitors.

It is mainly Business-to-Consumer event with little scope for B2B with vast presentation of international and national tour operators. Though mainly focused for out bound market but domestic products are showcased for visitors. Discounted tour packages for all types of customers are available at all stalls. This event will focus on the better communication of customers/ consumers with travel agents, tour operators, national / regional tourist organisations, government tourism departments, hotels, resorts, adventure tourism operators, airlines companies, car rental firms, Bangladesh railways and coach operators to give better services on different cruise lines, local guides, travel accessories & equipment for camping, biking, photography and amusement parks.

Bangladesh Foundation for Tourism Development (BFTD) is a nonprofit organization engaging for the development of local and regional tourism. BFTD conducts Road shows, FAM tours abroad establishing

When: 4th to 6th October 2018
**Where: Bangabandhu International
Conference Centre, Dhaka**

closer business contact with stake holders of neighboring countries.

The seminars on regional tourism will be organised, on request power presentation and B2B session are arranged for exhibitors. There are about ten neighboring countries will be participating along with high officials and cultural team. It is expected that the event will attract around 80,000 visitors including 100 foreign delegates.

8th Bangladesh International Tourism Fair will be inaugurated by Honorable Minister for Civil Aviation & Tourism in presence of Ambassadors, VIPs, and dignitaries.





2018 China (Guangdong) International Tourism Industry Expo

Successfully held for 13 years, China (Guangdong) International Tourism Industry Expo (CITIE 2018) gives an exposure to boost global tourism.

This event will be held in the Zone A of the China Import and Export Fair Complex in Guangzhou, China from September 7th to 9th, 2018.

Since 2005, CITIE focus on both B2B and B2C market to attract worldwide high-quality tourism destinations, service providers and suppliers, which is a professional platform sharing information, purchasing produce and business development for exhibitors and buyers.

CITIE 2018 has become the largest-scale international tourism exhibition in China. It covers a total area of 100,000 sqm, including the Belt and Road International Tourism Hall, China Holistic Tourism Hall, Tourism Hypermarket Hall, Tourism Gifts and Time-honored Brands Hall.

By taking the brand new destination image display, forward-looking think-tanks forum, diverse social activities and experiential tourism market and multiple other scenarios as breakthroughs, CITIE 2018 will show the best tourism destination resources around the world.

Previously, CITIE 2017 witnessed the participation of 55 countries, out of which the European countries accounted for 35% and the remote destination countries outside of Asia account for more than a half.

When: 7th to 9th September, 2018
Where: China Import and Export Fair Complex, Guangzhou, China

There are more than 200 domestic and foreign travel agencies from Seychelles, Madagascar and Northern Mariana Islands, etc. joined the CITIE for the first time.

The number of new exhibitors increased by 80% compared with CITIE 2016. There were 56 introduction and marketing events and forums, about 20,000 professional buyers and 5,000 overseas buyers. The number of visitors was close to 500,000 person-times.



2nd Annual Global Hotels and Resorts

It is a 2-day conference organising by Bricca Consulting Pvt. Ltd, 2nd Annual Global Hotels and Resorts will be on 24th -25th September, 2018 at the GEM Centre in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

With an economic growth topping 6 per cent annually for more than 15 years, it's no surprise that Vietnam's cities are flourishing as never before.

From Da Nang to Hai Phong, and from Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh City - tourism is booming along with the country's economic fortunes.

2nd Annual Global Hotels and Resorts is attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) which has always been a key part of Vietnam's external economic affairs. This conference focuses on Vietnam as an emerging market for luxury Hotels and Resorts.

Vietnam National Administration of Tourism (VNAT) has come up with a master plan as Vietnam Tourism Development 2020 vision 2030 that includes boosting investment for Tourism Development and Tourism Management. They aim to increase GDP by 10% by 2020.

This plan also highlights an insight of the development of 7 tourism zones with specific tourism products 46 national tourist areas; 41 national tourist spots; 12 tourist cities and other key tourist spots.

This 2-day annual conference gives a knowledge sharing platform to the Delegates and Sponsors to

When: 24th-25th September 2018

**Where: The Gem Centre –
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam**

network with the Speakers who are the Government Officials. This is the platform where government authorities and industry leaders will get an opportunity to network.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Identifying the significant market trends in the competitive hospitality market
- Understanding the needs of a diversifying market and discussing ways to tackle it
- FDI opportunities in Vietnam in 2018





Tourism, Hotel Investment & Networking Conference (THINC) Indonesia 2018

The 6th edition of Tourism, Hotel Investment & Networking Conference (THINC) Indonesia will return to Jakarta where all industry stakeholders come together for unparalleled networking opportunities and an engaging conference agenda.

It will give a chance to explore latest trends, identify new opportunities, exchange ideas, share best practices and foster new partnerships at the THINC Indonesia 2018.

After a successful run for four consecutive years in Bali, THINC Indonesia 2018 would have the Opening Reception held at the Artotel Thamrin on the 5th September, 2018 evening and the conference will start at 9 in the morning of the 6th at the Fairmont Hotel.

Hosted by Hotelivate, THINC Indonesia pioneered hotel investment conferences in the region. The event provides a platform for business leaders and key decision makers to deliberate on the development and direction of the growing Indonesian hotel and tourism industry.

Since its inception, the conference has been the founding grounds for some of the most defining hospitality trends in this part of the world. Each year, THINC Indonesia brings together nearly 250 industry stakeholders, business leaders and key decision-makers from close to 15 nations.

When: 6 September, 2018
Where: Fairmont Jakarta, Indonesia

To continue with the ethos of the event and to capture the true essence of the Indonesian markets, the one-day conference programme this year will be more fast-paced and content-driven than ever before.

THINC Indonesia 2018 is featuring master classes, one-on-one interviews with industry stalwarts, keynote addresses by subject-matter experts and interesting panel discussions. It promises to raise the bar, offering true value-addition for a diverse range of attendees.



Organising by TBEX Event, TBEX North America 2018 is expecting to attract 650 travel bloggers, content creators, influencers, photographers, videographers, and travel brands from around the globe.

This year, it will be 21st travel media conference, which will be held at Corning Museum of Glass in Finger Lakes, New York.

Patti Hosking, TBEX Vice President said that the Finger Lakes region of New York was selected as host destination for TBEX North America 2018 because of its diversity of stories and experiences that travel bloggers will find there.

With the introduction of Gorilla Glass, Corning Enterprises has become an integral part of every content creator's daily life.

And from the world-class Finger Lakes Wine Country region to quintessential Americana found in the

When: 11th – 13th September, 2018
Where: Corning Museum and Finger Lakes Wine Country, New York, U.S.

Gaffer District to the extraordinary outdoor adventure opportunities, TBEX North America 2018 attendees will discover a myriad of reasons to explore, enjoy, and share with their audience. The opportunities for discovery and storytelling are boundless.

TBEX North America 2018 co-hosts have organized several Pre-BEX tours for attendees, and a series of post-conference FAM trips for select bloggers and influencers. These tours and trips are specifically designed so that those who participate can share stories of their experiences in Finger Lakes, New York with the world through their social feeds and blog and websites.



OTDYKH Travel Market is one of the leading travel and tourism event in Russia, The word OTDYKH means “leisure”, which is exactly the central aspiration of this fair.

The annually travel event in Moscow is the perfect start for the upcoming winter season on the Russian inbound and outbound market.

The Dominican Republic will be the official sponsor of the tourism Moscow fair OTDYKH 2018, and will double its stand to 200 m².

The Dominican Republic will transfer to the Moscow fair its well-known atmosphere of popular festivals and visitors will enjoy the rhythms of its music, traditional dances,

When: September 11–13, 2018
Where: Expocentre Fairgrounds, Moscow, Russia

culinary offerings and the presentation of the immense tourist potential of the island, both for agents of the travel industry as for investors.

The Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) will be back to OTDYKH Leisure, this year as partner country. Japan National Tourism Organization stand will have 70 square meters, with exclusive design that will show to visitors the Japanese offer to tourists, with a comprehensive entertaining program including cooking corner with traditional Japanese foods.





TTG Travel Experience

TTG Travel Experience is a prestigious annual show organised by the Italian Exhibition Group for companies operating in the field of tourism.

This mammoth European B2B marketplace for tourism supply- and demand-side operators (attendance of 73,000 from 90 countries in 2017) is unrivalled, particularly as regards its offer for Italy as a destination, with almost all regions in attendance.

Within the Italy Area, alongside hundreds of companies, consortia, chains, product clubs and all the leading players, the Outdoor Hospitality area will provide an interactive and evocative space dedicated to the trendiest and most innovative forms of outdoor hospitality.

TTG Travel Experience rationalises the exhibition space to make it even easier for visitors to navigate, as each area can be seen as a macro product cluster.

The high-end and most exclusive offer of various sectors will be concentrated in Exclusive Travel Experience, with refined and original layouts to host the companies that set themselves apart in their offer of exclusive travel experiences, by destination or type.

TTG Travel Experience's B2B vocation is reflected in concrete proposals that bring operators together.

When: FIERA DI RIMINI
Where: 12 to 14 October 2018

These include Meet Your Destination, the online appointments diary that matches operators with Italian buyers specialising in the outgoing market, and the Meet & Matchspeed contact platform, which facilitates meetings with the buyers attending TTG Travel Experience.

Meet your Blogger is a tool designed to put operators in touch with experts in communication on social networks; while the workshop Travel & Association Day again gives exhibitors the opportunity to meet Italy's best and largest associations.

The companies at the show will be able to talk to more than 1,500 buyers, from Italy, Europe, North and South America, South East Asia, the Far East and the Arabian Gulf. Guided by TTG Travel Experience, the buyers will also have the opportunity to tour Veneto, Val d'Aosta, Campania and Lake Como.



The Hotel Show Dubai, Middle East's leading hospitality event returns this September and it is considered as the most hands-on hospitality experience to date.

This annual exhibition will be the gathering point of more than 30,000 international decision-makers. It is the premier platform for the Gulf's ever-growing hotel industry.

This event is renowned for being the one-stop shop where GMs, buyers, restaurateurs and developers can get their hands on products for every element of their guest experience – from décor, furniture and in-room technologies, to F&B supplies, gym and leisure equipment, and everything in between.

Now in its 19th year, this conference will be spread over seven halls at the Dubai World Trade Centre. It will offer a 360-degree showcase of modern hospitality with a show that educates, celebrates and defines both the present and future of the industry in the Middle East.

At the heart of that will be a raft of interactive features, live competitions and discussion seminars that will give a platform to those who are the lifeblood of the hotel and tourism industry, from housekeepers and sous chefs to property owners and franchisees.

When: 16th to 18th September, 2018
Where: Dubai World Trade Centre

1. The Middle East Leadership Conference

The Hotel Show Dubai's three-day duration has highly-influential talks will welcome a pool of more than 50 speakers, all of whom will be of General Manager position or above, making it the forum for hospitality-based discussion, debate and learning.

2. The Middle East Housekeepers' League of Champions

A simple yet thrilling live concept: a pair of typical hotel rooms –complete with bedding, curtains, flooring and entertainment facilities – are set-up back to back...then trashed! There are two teams at a time compete head-to-head to put the room back to its original state in just seven minutes, with a knock-out competition whittling the predicted 30 entrants down to one eventual winner over three-days.

3. The Chef's Table

The Chef's Table will pit head chefs and their teams from 12 Middle Eastern hotels against each other in a timed cooking competition, where the ingredients won't be revealed until the countdown clock starts ticking.

Sponsored by Carrefour and judged by four expert chefs, led by Chef Uwe Micheel, President of the Emirates Culinary Guild, each three-hour battle will see three full lunches and three dinner menus cooked-up daily.

4. Huge number of attendees

Spread across sections dedicated to Interiors, Lighting & Design, Technology & Security, Operating Equipment, Bathroom & Sanitary Ware and HORECA, more than 600 exhibitor stands will fill The Hotel Show Dubai floor – with organisers expecting to welcome in excess of 30,000 visitors.



As, South America has huge potential in many countries in promoting tourism, SAHIC South America is an ultimate platform where all the tourism industry leaders meet.

SAHIC South America is going to feature four influential industry leaders and innovators: Elie Maalouf, CEO, The Americas of IHG and Fernando Poma, Vice President and Managing Director, Real Hotels & Resort, Grupo Poma and Herman Bern, President & Founder of Empresas Bern will represent the lodging industry and talk to issues and concerns that impact hotel owners, operators and brands on a global basis.

Additionally, speaker and peace leader Chef Juan Manual Barrientos, will share his “food for thought” with a keynote aptly titled “A Powerful Recipe for Colombia's Peace.”

Maalouf, Poma, Barrientos and Bern will address nearly 400 hospitality developers and executives with interest in South America to share their vision and insights regarding any and all aspects of travel, tourism, hospitality and development including expansion of travel accessibility to the continent, and

When: September 24-25th 2018
Where: Inter Continental Medellín, Colombia

perspectives about the nuances of conducting business in the region.

SAHIC South America 2018 is the leading conference organizer for hotel and tourism investment in Latin America that promotes business and real estate projects in the region. SAHIC is an annual conference with its location rotating every year through different cities in South America.



One of the premier autumn professional tourism event in Kazakhstan, Astana Leisure 2018 focuses on the tourism potential of Kazakhstan, trends of autumn and winter seasons, the most convenient air flights, informative workshops, favorably priced solutions and special proposals for recreation, innovations in tourism industry.

Popularization of tourism, coverage of its contribution to the economy of the world community, the development of relations between the peoples of different countries are the main purposes of the event, which are fully shared by the exhibition organizers, Iteca LLP.

Participating Countries in Astana Leisure 2018

Number of participating countries in Astana Leisure 2018 will be from Egypt, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Russia, South Korea, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Vietnam.

Sections in Astana Leisure 2018

The traditional section “Medical tourism” will present the process of medical treatment abroad: from advice on choosing a clinic to obtaining a visa and a pleasant journey. This format allows visual demonstrating and effective presenting services for diagnostics, treatment and rehabilitation in health care establishment, not only to the end users, but

When: 26-28 September, 2018

Where: Exhibition Centre Korme, Astana, Kazakhstan

also to potential agents, which in the future will sell the product on the market. Among the announced participants are clinics, travel agencies and health resorts from Georgia, Kazakhstan, South Korea, Turkey and Ukraine.

A journey through the unique and uncharted expanses of Kazakhstan may happen right at the exhibition, thanks to the exposition of the regional Departments of Tourism, which will unleash the immense potential of Kazakhstan as a tourist destination. In addition to the tourism industry trends, new price offers and packages, Astana Leisure 2018 will present educational activities, special programmes and promotions for travel agents and informative workshops.

The organizers of the Exhibition Astana Leisure 2018 are the Exhibition Company Iteca (Kazakhstan) and ITE Group Plc (Great Britain).

When: 13th - 14th July 2018

**Where: Hyderabad International
Convention Centre, Hyderabad, Telangana**



With an excellent response from more than 930 travel trade visitors and 900 walk-in visitors, and with the support from Ministry of Tourism of Government of India, State Tourism Boards and National Tourist Offices, Travel and Tourism Fair (TTF) in Hyderabad concluded giving an excellent platform in showcasing varied tourism products as exhibitors from 12 countries and 19 Indian states.

Inaugurated by Panyala Bhoopathi Reddy, Chairman, Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation and B Manohar Rao, Managing Director (FAC), Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation, TTF Hyderabad became the heaven of dignitaries and senior tourism officials.

Expressing his happiness on visiting TTF, Panyala Bhoopathi Reddy, Chairman, Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation said that TTF is a great platform for learning about tourism developments in different countries and states and it gives a chance to accept these policies to improve varied tourism products. The organisers of TTF have done an excellent work in bringing all the countries and state together under one umbrella.

B Manohar Rao, Managing Director (FAC), Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation mentioned, organised for 15 years now TTF Hyderabad has also helped the general public in knowing about various destinations

where they can enquire about the destination and book them.

The participants from different countries have participated here and helped in boosting the local tourism.

Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau participated with a large delegation as the Partner Country and Bahrain was the Feature Country. India, China, Dubai, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, Russia, Switzerland and Thailand were the other countries represented in TTF Hyderabad. Among the Indian states, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh participated as Host States and Goa, Gujarat and Karnataka were the Partner States.

About 24 corporates and 160 travel trade buyers from all over India were hosted for the show within the show venue hotel Novotel, attached to HICC. The hosted buyers have pre-scheduled appointments with exhibitors, using online diary.

Sanjiv Agarwal, Chairman and CEO, Fairfest Media Ltd said that this show is a leading travel trade show that no one can miss. He added that HICC gave an excellent exhibition facility within a hotel premises with possible communication with buyers and sellers. He also hoped that 2019 TTF Hyderabad will come up with excellent new features.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 31st - Aug 1st

6th Annual MICE India & Luxury Travel Congress

Venue: Delhi, India

www.miltcongress.com



3rd -5th August

IITM Chennai

Chennai, India

www.iitmindia.com/



Travel  Fair

18th -19th August

Travel O Fair

Surat, India

www.travelofair.in



Aug 21 - 22

The Travel Industry Exhibition

Sydney, Australia

www.travelindustryexpo.com.au

Aug 28 to 30
IITM Mumbai
Mumbai, India
www.iitmindia.com



Sep 5th -6th
IBTM Americas
Mexico City, Mexico
www.ibtmamericas.com



5th - 6th September
Thinc Indonesia
Jakarta, Indonesia
www.thincindonesia.com

5th - 7th September
Aviation Festival
London, United Kingdom
www.terrapinn.com/conference/aviation-festival/index.stm



6th -8th August
ITE HCMC 2018
Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam
www.itehcmc.com/en/home.html



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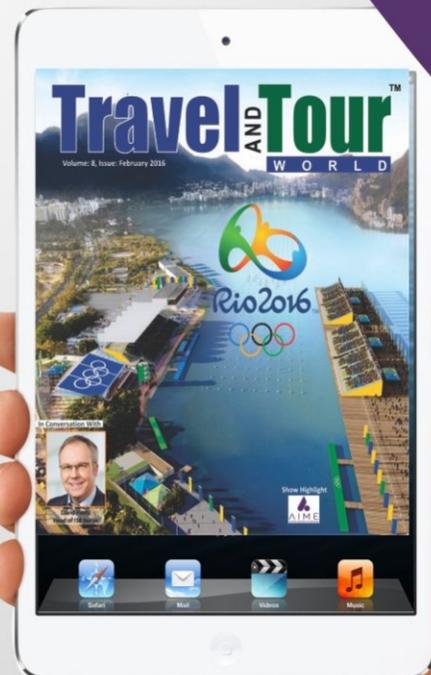
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