

MICE Travel Advisor

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A night photograph of the illuminated Osaka Castle, a large multi-tiered Japanese castle with white walls and dark roofs, lit up with blue and white lights. The castle is surrounded by cherry blossom trees in full bloom, with pink and white flowers in the foreground. The sky is a deep blue, and the overall scene is illuminated by the castle's lights and street lamps.

OSAKA

Stands Tall on the World MICE Map

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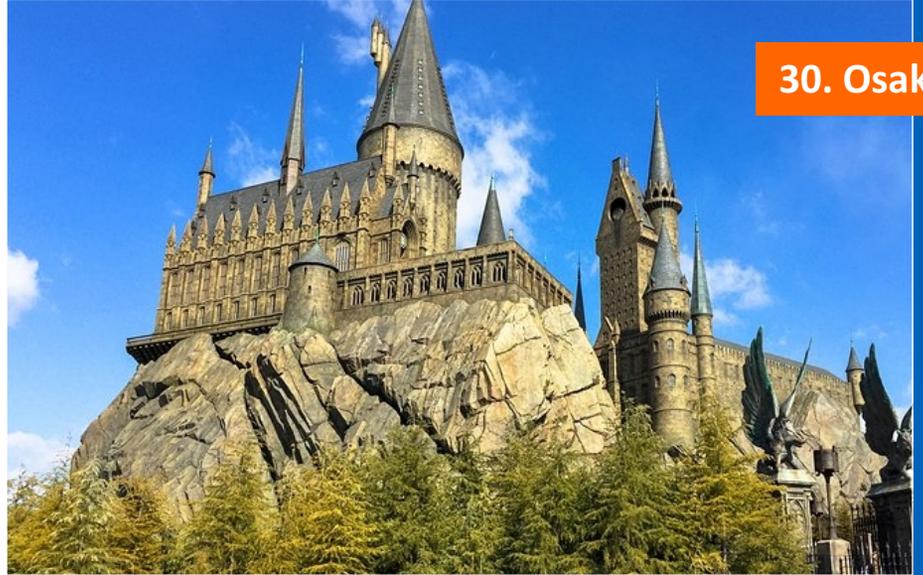
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Dear Readers,

This month expect members of the meetings and travel fraternity to gain new experiences and unleash their business potential. Key players of the industry will be at IBTM Americas, IMEX Frankfurt and ITB, China. These events will offer programs of valuable contents and a chance for insightful meetings and networking.

Attendees can let their imaginations soar high during IMEX Frankfurt as experts both within and outside the global business events industry will hold sessions. The forward-thinking event professionals can look forward to expand their business during the IBTM AMERICAS. Gear up for unlimited opportunities as more than 3,400 trade visitors will offer several business opportunities. Catch up the latest trends and innovations of the Chinese travel industry during the ITB China in Shanghai where more than 120 experts discuss the current issues.

For millennials running inclusive meetings is a must, it helps in building connections and increases the likelihood of having better global prospects. Read the Cover Story on how inclusive meetings facilitate equal participation. There has been major developments in Artificial Intelligence, Tech Talk covers this revolutionary technology which is constantly updating.

Pattaya offers diverse locations to hold meetings and incentive events. Thailand's –City of MICE is an excellent place with a variety of accommodations that is budget. Read Spotlight On to know more.

Killarney Convention Centre in Ireland is located amidst spectacular scenery, unusually mild climate which is brimming with intense beauty. Read Centre of Attraction and find out how it is delivering seamless meetings.

This edition of Venue Check shows how Osaka, Japan's second largest city is a major economic hub and is contributing immensely to the meetings industry.

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transforming meetings through artificial intelligence

Artificial Intelligence (AI) will create a new world in the office environment which was not possible a few years back, offering better facilitation, creative collaboration and a seamless experience. As per Adobe, the percentage of AI-driven enterprises is expected to increase from 15% in 2018 to more than 31% in 2019. Highly sophisticated robots with robot vision, multi-agent learning and self-supervised learning will grow within the purview of Machine Learning. AI will give rise to creative meetings when it gets more ingrained in the workplace collaboration technology. Mundane tasking, scheduling etc will get even easier, directing the real potential towards more purposeful jobs.

It is often observed at the end of the meetings that one hardly remembers the content of the meeting. For those taking notes during the meeting the entire duration goes off in chasing what the last speaker said. **With automated note-taking one can** brainstorm full-swing - it offers automated note-taking and accurate meetings transcripts. This helps the attendees to focus on the discussion. Post meeting each detail, key words and ideas will be fully absorbed and no one is burdened of constant note-taking enabling an uninhibited discussion with a free flow.

AI is equipped to take action items which is a more complex task and is founded in rules-based responses to decisions. It can be taught to recognize particular keywords through plug ins, which could be recognized and later reacted. Apart from that one can also record deadlines, send deadline reminders so that the follow-ups are not forgotten.

Capturing automated nonverbal cues unlocks crucial moments during the meetings that made a huge impact. Ideas are born during meetings when crucial deals are cracked and engagement and information sharing is at highest. To identify and capitalize on the instances is a challenge which maximises the engagement and productivity between the meetings.

Those moments can be easily recognized and recorded through AI by identifying through non-verbal cues like facial expressions, nods, peaks in the

audio etc. These moments can't be easily picked by the human note takers, so ideas cannot be misinterpreted or lost.



AI allows free-flowing exchange of ideas even in meetings that do not require a major brainstorm.

There can be more focus on collaboration as personal interaction gets simplified helping in building team rapport and coming out with better solutions. AI reduces the responsibility that comes with a meeting; people can get to relax and build candour both in and out of meetings.

Humans can work without constraints with the help of AI-powered assistants increasing the usefulness of the meetings by tenfold. From low-value tasks, note taking, agendas and reminders everything can be taken care of.

A look back - The term artificial intelligence was coined in 1956. Due to increased data volumes, advanced algorithms and improvements in computing power it has become more popular. In the 1950s, topics like problem solving and symbolic methods were explored and in 1960s, the U.S. Department of Defense started to train computers to mimic the basic human reasoning.

Before people got acquainted with Siri, Alexa and Cortana in the year 1970s, the Defense Advanced

Research Projects Agency (DARPA) completed the street mapping projects and it produced intelligent personal assistance in 2003. The process of automation and formal reasoning started way back and in modern times we see decision support systems, smart search systems which are designed to complement and augment human abilities.

Get ready for the massive adoption as AI which is set to revolutionise industries and businesses.



Top 5 AI trends in 2019

1. Natural language generation – this will convert data into spoken narrative
2. Speech recognition
3. Machine learning programs
4. Image recognition
5. Cyber security



Spotlight On

Pattaya

Known for its tropical beaches, royal palaces, ruins and ornate Buddhist and Hindu temples, Thailand has made strong inroads into the MICE sector. Thailand Convention & Exhibition Bureau (TCEB) that promotes international conventions and exhibitions in Thailand has secured 43 major events in 2019. It expects 133,435 MICE travellers to visit Thailand, generating more than 5,025 billion baht

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(approx 158 billion U.S. dollars). It is tapping events from industries including agriculture, food and pharmaceuticals, industrial machinery, health, finance, energy and new technology to name a few; in order to propel itself to being the top destination for conventions and exhibitions in ASEAN.

The famous resort city Pattaya anchored on the east



Rising MICE destination in Thailand

coast of the Gulf of Thailand is creating ripples in the MICE segment, as it becomes the rising destination for business events. It is a prominent MICE city of Thailand.

Besides beachside repose and the active nightlife, Pattaya offers innovative meetings spaces, flexible convention centres and diverse accommodations

across all budget plans to become the MICE city. It has more than 400 hotels to absorb the flood of MICE tourists to Pattaya.

Pattaya can be reached by two airports Suvarnabhumi Airport in Bangkok about 90 minutes away, and U-Tapao-Rayong-Pattaya International Airport which is 45 minutes away.

String Of Meetings Spaces in Pattaya



Pattaya Exhibition And Convention Hall (PEACH)

Built in 1999, PEACH offers 462,805 sq.ft of total meetings space. It can accommodate 30 to 10,062 guests across its various meetings rooms. Just an hour drive from Suvarnabhumi Airport, PEACH provides 1,020 guest rooms. Under the flagship of the Royal Cliff Hotels Group, it features modern and fully equipped facilities such as high-speed ISDN system and Wi-Fi, various size meeting rooms, halls, VIP guest room, business centre, display screen, helipad and parking. PEACH Hall A provides flexibility with its mobile partitions that can transform the hall into 3 smaller sections with dedicated entrances. Connecting foyer (1,000 sq.m) provides extra space for any activity or F&B (Food and beverage) function.

The column-free halls are ideal for product and automobile launches or exhibitions. There are 18 breakout rooms for small meetings and space for 474 booths (3x3 m). Amiable Thai hospitality beautifully completes this multi-functional meetings space.



Royal Cliff Hotels Group

It comprises four 5-star luxury hotels – 474-room Royal Cliff Beach Hotel, 89-room Royal Cliff Beach Terrace, 372-room Royal Cliff Grand Hotel and 85-room Royal Wing Suites and Spa. With 13,000 sq.m these hotels offer 'one-stop convention solution' for all conference needs including international conferences, a grand wedding, product launches and more.

Pullman Pattaya Hotel G

Landscaped with beach and tropical gardens, 352-room Pullman Pattaya Hotel G offers expanding views of the sea. It features various spa treatments, and an open kitchen. Its 15 event spaces over 21,517 sq.ft have advance equipment, professional support team, Wi-Fi, high ceiling and stylish decor. In theatre set up, it can host 30 to 420 guests.



Hilton Pattaya

The 302-room Hilton Pattaya offers delegates a premium choice for meetings. It offers a business centre, secretarial services, state-of-the-art audio visual technology, boardroom, three meeting rooms and a 640 sqm ballroom. It can host 25 to 600 delegates in theatre set-up.

Dusit Thani Pattaya

The 457-room Dusit Thani Pattaya has an array of meetings spaces. Its convention hall can seat up to 3,000 guests. In addition, it has 14 individual meeting rooms, a business centre and a meeting lounge. It can host 30 to 2,500 guests in theatre format.



Cultural Facade of Pattaya

Pre- and post-event engagement in Pattaya can be diverse. Nong Nooch tropical botanical garden, spread over 500 plus acres, is landscaped with an incredible variety of plants. Visitors will be startled by the Sanctuary of Truth which is an all-wood building filled with intricate teak sculptures focused on art and Eastern philosophy. Some other attractions are Sriracha Tiger Zoo, Pattaya Floating Market, Wat Phra Yai Temple with nearly 60 ft. tall Buddha. Entertainment is elevated to a different dimension with Ripley's World of Entertainment, Underwater World, Art in Paradise and others. Where there are beaches, can diving, fishing be far behind? Beach tourism is well complemented with golf tourism. MICE tourists will find ace event spaces and intriguing local experience of the city Pattaya.

Disability is a perception! Creating a legacy of inclusion, catering to the needs of specially-abled people in our community and helping them live beyond vulnerability.

Considering specially-abled when planning meeting and events makes it more proactive and doesn't cost a fortune. Through reasonable adjustments easy access can be a possibility - starting from mere changing the table layouts in the room, placing temporary ramps - these are some of the simple steps that can be taken.

Organisers can make meetings more accessible in multiple ways. They can hire induction loop facility for hearing aid users as excessive sound can be

extremely painful. Stages can be ramped, a server assist wheelchair users can be deployed for mobility impaired people and floor plan layout can be changed to facilitate wheelchair and mobility scooter circulation.

Slideshare, realtime video streaming , presentation and handouts in large prints or Braille should be available to access information.

For event organisers more than a moral obligation to make events more inclusive it makes sense from the business perspective so that equal opportunity is provided to all. Focused on three key areas –quality, safety and accessibility travel provision for the specially-abled people can improve businesses.

A welcoming world for specially-abled

inclusive meetings and events!



At the United Nations Headquarters in New York on December 13, 2006 the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Optional Protocol was adopted. It was opened for signature on March 30, 2007 it had 82 signatories to the Convention, 44 signatories to the Optional Protocol and 1 ratification of the Convention.

The Convention came into force on 3, May 2008 and is the first comprehensive human rights treaty of the 21st century. It is the first human rights convention to be opened for signature by regional integration organizations.



The convention clarifies and qualifies that different categories of rights apply to person with disabilities, identifying areas where adaptation are needed for effective exercises of the rights of person with disabilities. It also checks on the areas where their rights have been violated and where protection should be reinforced.

This was the fastest negotiated human rights treaty that changed the perception of persons with disabilities as objects of charity to subjects with rights capable of being an active member of the society.





Checklist for organizers

Be it a board meeting, an annual conference or a team party, organizers should ensure that it should be enjoyed by all. Each attendee's unique requirement should be considered.

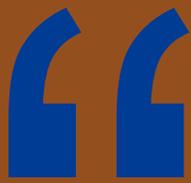
✦ Before choosing the venue check for accessible bathrooms, automatic doors and check the aquatics of the venue. Make sure that the digital invitation are accessible too, the best way to ask attendees to advise the accessibility requirements when registering so that adjustments can be made in advance. Both before and after the event written material should be provided in alternative format and signage, presentations and written material have sufficient contrasts.

✦ The event venue should be accessible with Braille signage and sufficient Tactile Ground Surface Indicators (TGSIs).

✦ The venue should remain free from obstacles and trip hazards, avoid strobe lighting or flashes however the venue should be lit throughout. For presentations the video should be captioned and the visual information in the presentations should be described by the presenters. Staffs should be trained and made aware to provide good service.

✦ Site selection, budgeting, catering, social events and onsite logistics –accessibility touches all aspect of a conference.

No disability can steal away the human spirit from courage and perseverance to conquer all.



We provide world-class universal accessibility features which include automatic doors and shallow grade ramps to provide direct access from road level at all its entrances; elevators which are fitted with low-level Braille numeral floor buttons, aural and visual indicators and wide door access; and dedicated parking bays adjacent to the parking level lift landings.

The Centre also welcomes all guide and assistance dogs and has double-leaf doors to facilitate wheelchair entry in all function rooms; wheelchair platform lifts and designated chairs that can be removed to accommodate wheelchairs in the Plenary Theatre and Plenary Hall. There are 12 fully-fitted unisex dedicated wheelchair accessible restrooms located adjacent to the public restrooms on every level; and a number of wheelchairs are available for use by visitors.



Alan Pryor, General Manager, Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre



Centre of Attraction

Ireland is a small island with immense reputation. We all know Ireland's breathtaking nature, fascinating friendly locals, majestic mountains of Mourne and dramatic wilderness of Donegal. In this article, we bring you the other side of this beautiful postcard-size country.

This is the MICE industry of Ireland. The country generates more than €669 million to the economy and business tourists are worth two-three times more than an average leisure tourist. In this scenario, Killarney Convention Centre has major contribution in the Irish MICE sector. Located in the southwest of Ireland, Kerry, this multi-functional centre outside Dublin (Ireland's capital) focuses on outstanding exhibitions and meetings with best quality facilities, technology, production and upscale accommodation.

An aerial photograph of the Killarney Convention Centre and its surrounding environment. The image shows a large, multi-story convention center building with a dark roof and light-colored walls, situated in a lush green landscape. The building is surrounded by a large parking lot filled with cars. To the left of the main building, there is a tennis court and a smaller building. To the right, there are several other buildings, including a large white building with a red roof. The background features a large body of water, likely Killarney Lake, with several small islands and a forested shoreline. In the distance, mountains are visible under a blue sky with some clouds. The overall scene is a scenic view of a well-developed convention center in a beautiful natural setting.

Ireland's Promising MICE Venue

KILLARNEY CONVENTION CENTRE

Explore Kerry's Marvellous **MEETINGS VENUE**

Killarney Convention Centre is an all-inclusive event complex. It comprises of 2500 tiered seat INEC auditorium which can transform from a large scale meeting or conference to gala banquet in 1½ hours; 3 Large Conference and Banqueting suites with capacities of 250-800 and 20 breakout spaces. Killarney Convention Centre has successfully hosted numerous internationally acclaimed conferences and events for groups of 25-2500 delegates.

Accommodation facilities

Killarney Convention Centre offers 500 guest bedrooms on site with accommodation facilities at The Brehon Hotel and The Gleneagle Hotel & Apartments. The Gleneagle Hotel has 245 rooms, The Brehon has 124 rooms whereas The Riverside Apartments has 57 two-bedroom apartments.



HASSLE-FREE AND INSPIRATIONAL MEETINGS POINT

Spread across 48,438 sqft space, this venue has the capability and smooth adaptability along with modern technology to host international standard events such as conferences, exhibitions, concerts, personal banquets, cultural shows, gala dinners, product launches and indoor sporting events. In addition, its location is apt for green meeting. Killarney is an abode of lofty mountains, isolated lakes and fascinated dreamers. This convention centre inspires every delegate to work, to connect and to relax.

Discover Kerry's Natural Treasure

Wild natural landscapes, sky-high cliffs and tranquil lakes can renew your spirit after a hectic schedule of meetings. Now have a look!

Killarney National Park

Rediscover your moments when you go to Killarney National Park. Walk around the park and spot the herds of wild Red Deer. It is very easy to spot the deer.

Ross Castle

Visit the 15th century castle, Ross Castle which is beautifully situated on the shores of Lough Leane. It is open to the public during summer months and tours are free.

Torc Waterfall

Torc Waterfall is located on the main Killarney to Kenmare road. It is just 5 minutes drive outside Killarney and can be reached by a short scenic walk from the car parking area to the main viewing area.

Killarney House and Gardens

Killarney House and Gardens is a treasure of the Killarney National Park. It is located on the doorstep of Killarney town centre. This house offers a sanctuary away from the maddening town. The weaving pathways through carefully manicured gardens provide a retreat of calm.









Ross Golf Course

Ross Golf Course is situated within walking distance of Killarney town centre. With its magnificent backdrop of the McGillicuddy Reeks, this golf course has become a favourite in the golfing circuit.

Innisfallen

The largest island on Lough Leane, Innisfallen is the largest of the three lakes of Killarney. A short boat ride from the nearby Ross Castle makes you feel like you are a million miles away once you step on to the shores of Innisfallen.

Old Weir Bridge

One of Killarney's oldest structures, this bridge is famous for arches for centuries. Experience the magical setting of the Old Weir Bridge in Killarney National Park when you walk.

Killeggy Chapel and Graveyard

Killeggy Chapel and Graveyard lies just off the busy ring of Kerry Road in the Muckross area of Killarney National Park. It is the burial site of some notable names associated with Muckross over the years including Henry Arthur Herbert and Arthur Rose Vincent.

Coolwood Wildlife Park and Zoo

Coolwood Wildlife Park is situated on a 10 acre green site. Enjoy a relaxed walk and allow yourself about two hours to comfortably make your way around the park.

Now, it is the time to discover your heartwarming moments...

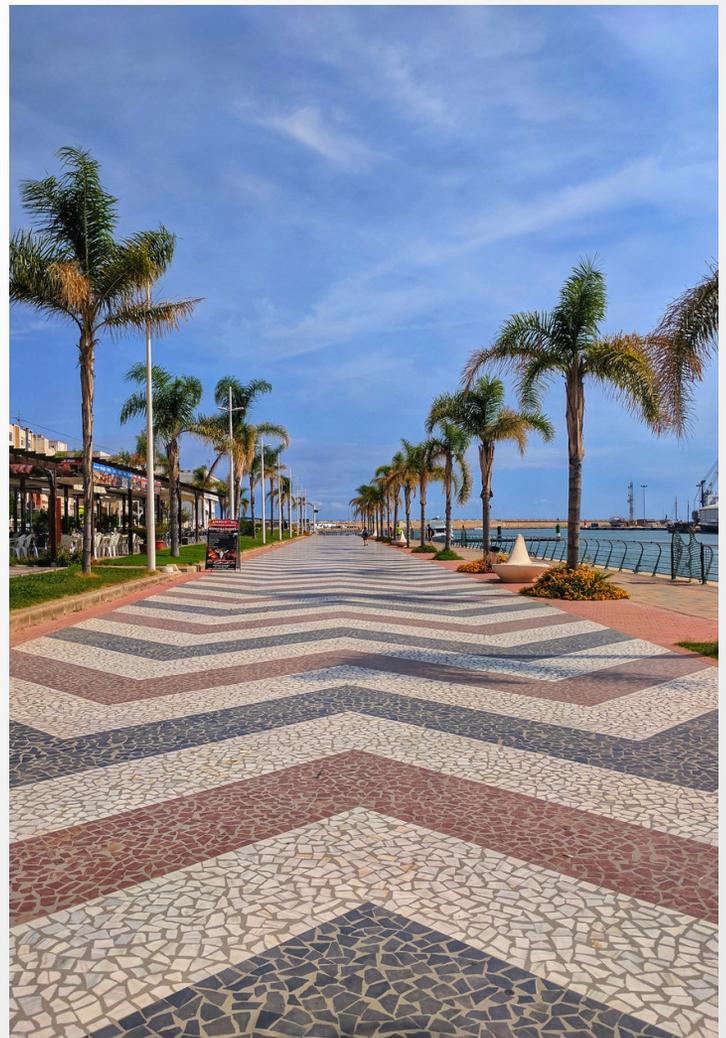
British Motor Museum offers its space for MICE after £2million renovation

After £2million refurbishment programme and four-year break, the British Motor Museum in Warwick will open its MICE services from July 1. This striking external event space spread across 65 acres, can seat 5,000 visitors making the British Motor Museum a unique environment for meetings, conferences, exhibitions, weddings, events and product launches. Dining amongst the historic British car collection provides special experience. The rooftop rooms 'The Sky Suite' can host up to 200 guests in theatre-style and 240 for dining. These feature panoramic views over the Warwickshire countryside and a patio roof-garden has been added to further enhance event options. The 'Conference Suite', seats up to 600 theatre-style, and the 'Lecture Suite', seats up to 150 theatre-style post refurbishment. Additional doors have been installed into the Lecture Suite to provide a second suite with vehicular access. The flexible room arrangements offer 2,000 sq. m of internal exhibition space which includes a 680 sq. m Exhibition Gallery, with an additional 20 rooms for smaller meetings seating up to 50 delegates.

Gandia shows promise to become a MICE tourism destination

Gandia has aroused the attention of the Association of Professional Organizers of

Congresses and Events of the Comunitat Valenciana (Opcecv) that came to know the capital of Safor. The members of this regional entity held their annual meeting at the RH Bayren hotel on the beach. The technician of the department, Olatz Megía, explained that the city “is fully prepared to host congresses” and detailed the services that exist. Also, the commercial director of the RH chain, Pablo Hernandez, spoke about the details of accommodation and convention rooms.



Korea to introduce new MICE communication message

Korea will introduce two new MICE communication messages to boost Korea's MICE industry. Korea's MICE Bureau will introduce a distinct message for each of its two divisions – Conventions and Corporate Meetings & Incentives. For Conventions, the new communication message is 'Stay Connected for Your Success'. For Corporate Meetings & Incentives, the new communication message is 'Light Up Your Passion'. 'Stay Connected for Your Success', the Conventions division message, summarizes Korea's 3 key strengths in the international conference division: 'Convenient', 'Advanced', and 'Network'. 'Convenient' describes Korea's accessibility and excellent MICE and IT infrastructure, 'Advanced' describes Korea's ability to lead cutting-edge trends, technology and tradition, and 'Network' describes Korea's

unlimited opportunities for industrial development and networking. 'Light Up Your Passion', the message for the Corporate Meetings & Incentives division, came upon analysis of Korea's 3 key strengths as a meetings and incentives destination.

Pride Hotels unveils its new resort and convention centre at West Indian city Rajkot

The Pride Group of Hotels announces the inclusion of “Pride Resort and Convention Centre Rajkot” as the 15th property under the Pride Umbrella. The resort is conveniently located on Rataiya Road, Ishwariya, Rajkot. It is well connected through rail, road and air to all major cities. Pride Resort and Convention Centre Rajkot will bring in a True Indian Touch in the Hospitality Industry in the city and will soon become the preferred venue for leisure & business travelers, conventions and events.





Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre reappointed Sally Hein as Business Development Manager

The Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre has reappointed Sally Hein to her former role as Business Development Manager. After returning to her former role at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre with a brief to develop the property's local Queensland market, Sally Hein takes the reins during current BDM Lauren Mead's maternity leave. She previously held the same role for four years, before departing Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre (GCCEC) for five successful years as Director of Sales at the Surfers Paradise Marriot Resort and Spa.



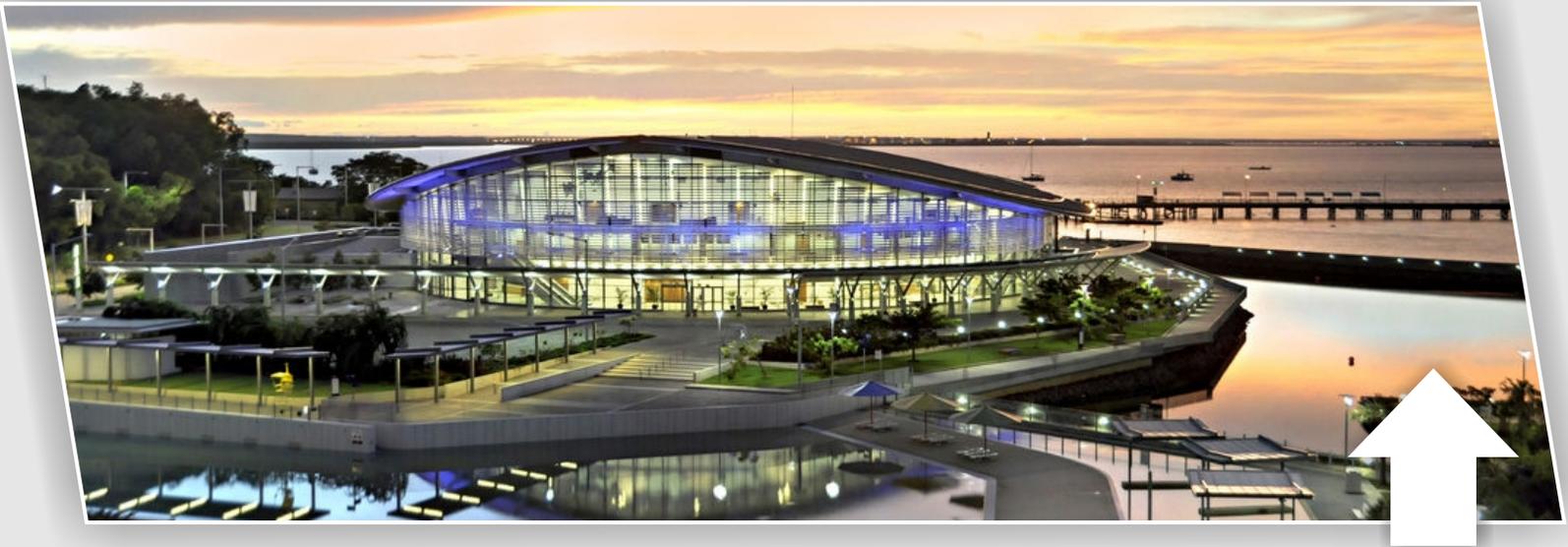
Kojo Bentum-Williams appointed as UNWTO's Senior Expert for Communications in Africa

The Managing Editor and CEO of Voyages-Afriq Media Limited, Kojo Bentum-Williams, has been appointed as the UN World Tourism Organization's Senior Expert for Communications in Africa. This new appointment took effect in March 2019 and part of his core mandates is to grow the UNWTO's ten-point agenda in Africa under the Zurab Pololikashvili-led administration. Kojo's appointment is a strategic move by the powers in Madrid to deepen the UN agency's engagement with the African continent and vastly improve and advance their agenda for and communications with Africa.



PM Hotel Group strengthen its management with new appointments

PM Hotel Group is expanding its business with the appointment of three new leadership positions in sales and marketing and hotel operations, promoting three of its own to the new roles. Seon Heo and Fran Owen both will work as Vice Presidents of sales and marketing and Chris Macary will serve as VP of hotel operations. PM Hotel Group promoted Heo from regional VP of sales and marketing, where she worked for a little more than a year. Before that she spent more than four years as regional director of sales and marketing. In both cases, she worked on the sales-and-marketing efforts for 17 hotels in Washington, D.C., Maryland, Virginia, Oregon and California.



Darwin Convention Centre appointed Peter Savoff as a new General Manager

An executive with extensive experience in international hotels, the professional services industry and law has been appointed the new General Manager of the Darwin Convention Centre. Peter Savoff will fill the role following the recent promotion of previous GM Janet Hamilton to manage the Cairns Convention Centre. Announcing Mr. Savoff's commencement today, Geoff Donaghy, AEG Ogden's Group Director for Convention Centres, said his proven record in a number of areas in within the hotel business over more than 25 years made him the ideal fit for the Darwin Convention Centre. Mr. Savoff joins the AEG Ogden family from the Anthony John Property Group where he managed the Emporium Hotel since opening in 2007. Under his leadership, the Emporium has become one of Australia's leading independent hotel brands, winning numerous major industry awards. In that time, the Centre has won the National MEA Award for Meeting Venue 500 delegates or more, Brolga Awards for NT Tourism Excellence, a Gold Plate and has been ranked in the top 20 Convention Centres globally by the Association of International Congress Centres (AIPC) for four years running.

Venue Check



OSAKA

Stands Tall on the World MICE Map

Osaka is one of the top MICE destinations of Japan. It has been the hub of commerce, domestic and international trade and cultural exchange since the ancient times.



Home to the world-leading companies, research institutes and universities, it has hosted several international events including Japan World Exposition (1970) and the APEC Summit (1994). It will be hosting the Rugby World Cup (2019) and the World Masters Games in Kansai (2021).

Kansai International Airport (KIX) and Osaka International Airport (ITM) connect Osaka to the rest of the world. Apart from connectivity to other Japan cities, KIX provides direct services to 74 cities in 27 countries and it is just 30 minutes by train to Osaka. Bus, boat, rail and taxi seamlessly connect guests to any coordinates of Japan.

Being at the centre of the Japanese economy, Osaka is called the 'kitchen of Japan'. The country's second largest city, Osaka is both affordable and safe. English is widely spoken and understood in this city and it provides Osaka-style 'omotenashi' hospitality.

In addition to these factors, the presence of a bouquet of first-class convention and event facilities and cultural diversity makes Osaka a leading MICE venue.

Outstanding Meetings Spaces



#1

Osaka International Convention Center (Grand Cube Osaka)

Grand Cube Osaka encompasses 26 meeting rooms spread over a total meeting space of 5900 sq.m. The largest room can accommodate 2754 guests. In addition to this, it has a concert hall and exhibition space. This convention centre has hosted Finance Ministers' meetings, several medical and engineering conferences and other types of events. It is a 10-minute walk from JR Fukushima Station and is close to KIX and ITM.



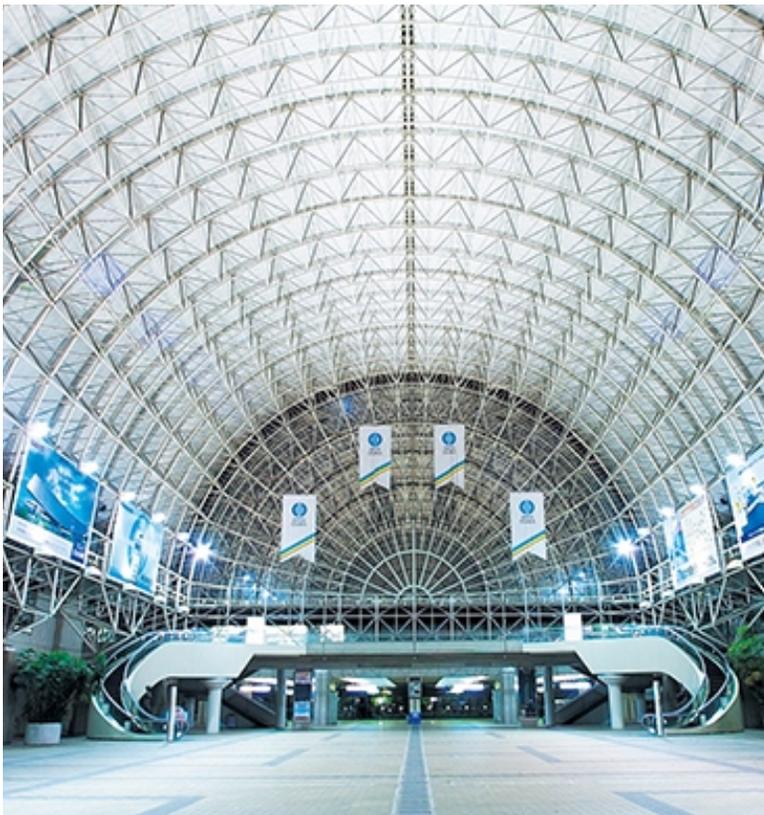
#2

Intex Osaka

Spread over 130,000 m² of space in total, Intex Osaka offers 25 conference rooms and 70,000 m² of exhibition space across 6 halls. The international hall can accommodate 300 guests. It has 10 zones comprising of spaces ranging from 4,728 m² to 10,535 m².

Intex Osaka can manage various events including trade fairs, exhibitions, concerts and conventions. It is just 5 minute walk from Nakafuto Station and is easily accessible from JR Osaka Station (30 mins approx) and JR Shinosaka Station (45 mins approx) by train. A limousine bus ferries the guests to the two airports KIX and ITM under an hour each.

Some other notable convention spaces are Congress Convention Center, Osaka Central Public Hall, Asia-Pacific Trade Center and Kyocera Dome Osaka.





Hyatt Regency Osaka

#3

The 480-room Hyatt Regency Osaka has 23 meetings rooms spread over a total of 45,919 sq.ft of space. It can accommodate 50 to 2,496 guests. It offers a panoramic view over the Bay Area and the city of Osaka. The hotel offers a free shuttle into the city centre and other fantastic destinations in Western Japan.

Other top hotel meetings spaces in terms of size are 562-room Hilton Osaka (20,000 sq.ft), 473-room ANA Crowne Plaza Osaka (20,000 sq.ft), 291-room The Ritz-Carlton, Osaka (25,000 sq.ft) and others.



#4

Swissotel Nankai Osaka

The 546-room Swissotel Nankai Osaka offers 18 meetings rooms with over 35,873 sqft of meetings space. It can welcome teams ranging from 10 to 1400. Located in the heart of Namba, it provides unparalleled in-room technology and a selection of spa treatments, Jacuzzi, sauna, indoor swimming pool and fully-equipped gym.



Imperial Hotel, Osaka

#5

The 381-room Imperial Hotel in Osaka offers 22 meetings rooms across 59,202 sqft. Its largest room Peacock East and West Room can welcome maximum 2000 people across 21,151.1 sqft of space. There are views of the Okawa riverbanks, which is also a great place to view cherry blossoms. The hotel provides complimentary Wi-Fi.



The corsage of conference spaces, easy accessibility and spectrum of cultural engagement makes Osaka stand out as the leading MICE destination in Japan.

When: 29 - 30 May, 2019

Where: Citibanamex, Mexico Centro

ibtm[®] AMERICAS

For over 30 years, IBTM has been inspiring the events world to deliver exceptional experiences by connecting high calibre suppliers with global event planners and MICE professionals. IBTM Americas, the newest event in IBTM's global portfolio of MICE industry tradeshows, was born after the merge of IBTM America and IBTM Latin America, as a way to offer more opportunities and a richer experience to our community.

This year IBTM Americas will look to increase participation of US buyers by 50%, with an overall increase in North-American Hosted Buyers, all the while continuing to attract senior-level decision makers from all across the globe.

Hosted Buyers have top-level purchasing responsibility, and commit to attend a set number of pre-scheduled appointments with exhibitors. They come from a range of different sectors all with a common goal in mind, to search for new suppliers who can create better business results for their organization. The pre-qualification of our Hosted Buyers helps attendees to extend their reach and meet planners from the US, Canada and Latin America.

During May 29th and 30th, IBTM Americas' second edition will be taking over Mexico City. Event

professionals will get to exhibit and engage with an otherwise untapped audience and position themselves in a region that is developing at a rapid pace.

Latin America's growth potential is huge and the region is increasing its recognition as a major player in the meetings industry. Besides working as a business bridge between North and Latin America, IBTM Americas is also the promotional window for destinations and companies seeking international connections.

David Hidalgo, Show Director for IBTM Americas comments: "We have developed an excellent working relationship with our partners in Mexico City and we are looking forward to continuing to build on that as we work together to deliver what I am confident will be an incredibly successful event with real longevity. Our customers mean everything to us, there really is nothing more important than them and I firmly believe the changes we are making will ensure we're delivering the very best value and opportunities to them for the long term."

For 2019, IBTM Americas will bring around 1,000 national and international buyers looking to do business, 600 exhibitors, and 3,800 event visitors. During these two days, they are estimating to generate 13,000 business appointments and negotiations of around 1,000 million USD. With which it's no surprise that many attendees say they accomplish more in two days at IBTM Americas, than they might otherwise achieve in several months!

IMEX AMERICA

When: September 10 – 12, 2019

Where: Las Vegas, America



Registration is now live for IMEX America taking place 10 – 12 September 2019 at the Sands Expo and Convention Center at The Venetian® | The Palazzo®. With the show hitting the Strip a whole month earlier than previous editions, planners and exhibitors alike are encouraged to prepare for three days of premium business, learning and networking opportunities. IMEX America is again preceded by the popular Smart Monday, a dedicated day of learning powered by Meeting Professionals International, on September 9.

Imagination, IMEX's Talking Point for this year, underpins the show, informing its content and education, and delivering fresh and surprising experiences along the way.

Carina Bauer, CEO of the IMEX Group explains: "Imagination is the glue that holds our events together –sparking creativity throughout the planning process in order to attract attendees time

and time again."

"By exploring various facets of imagination, we hope to open up ways for everyone in the global meetings and events industry to become more creative, to challenge assumptions in light of the period of change we're currently living in and to make a more positive impact whenever they can."

1. Transformation & collaboration

Partnerships can be truly powerful. IMEX is encouraging meeting and event professionals to consider how they can collaborate – not compete – with other organisations and the benefits this can bring. Within the event and incentive travel industry, airlines, hotel groups, designers, supply chain businesses, universities, software developers, architects...even whole countries and, especially, cities are all now forming alliances and in doing so they're transforming business models, customer service and events experiences.

2. Diversity & Inclusion

As an international organisation with a mission to connect people across the world, IMEX celebrates diversity and, through its Talking Point, wants meeting planners to embrace inclusivity. IMEX's sole aim is to unite and advance the meetings industry – connecting all kinds of people together in order to generate powerful relationships.

3. Sustainability

Sustainability continues to top the agenda as more and more companies recognise the importance of issues such as climate change, community development and dwindling natural resources. It's an issue which has been firmly anchored in IMEX's business strategy since the foundation of the company in 2003, with performance benchmarked against industry standards including the APEX/ASTM

Environmentally Sustainable Event Standards.

Through this year's Talking Point, the IMEX team seeks to prompt a fresh approach to greener meetings and events, encouraging planners to demand change.

IMEX America takes place 10 – 12 September 2019. Registration for the show is free of charge and open to all who work in the meetings, events and incentive travel industry.



ITB China 2019

When: 15-17 May, 2019

Where: Shanghai World Expo Exhibition And Convention Centre, China

ITB China 2019 will take place from Wednesday to Friday, 15 to 17 May, at the Shanghai World Expo Exhibition and Convention Centre in Hall 1.

ITB China is a three-day business to business travel trade fair that focuses exclusively on the Chinese travel industry. The ITB China Conference will take place parallel with the show and is co-organized by the leading conference organizer TravelDaily.

With an expected attendee number of 15,000, approximately 800 exhibitors and far more than 850 buyers, the marketplace for the Chinese travel industry provides an exceptional platform on which a diverse range of destinations and industry sectors are presented to Chinese as well as international hospitality and tourism professionals. In cooperation with Kairos Future and exclusively based on insights and data from our national Chinese buyers community we determine Chinese travel trends in our newly launched ITB China Travel Trends Report. It is yearly publication illustrating upcoming trends and the needs of Chinese travellers.

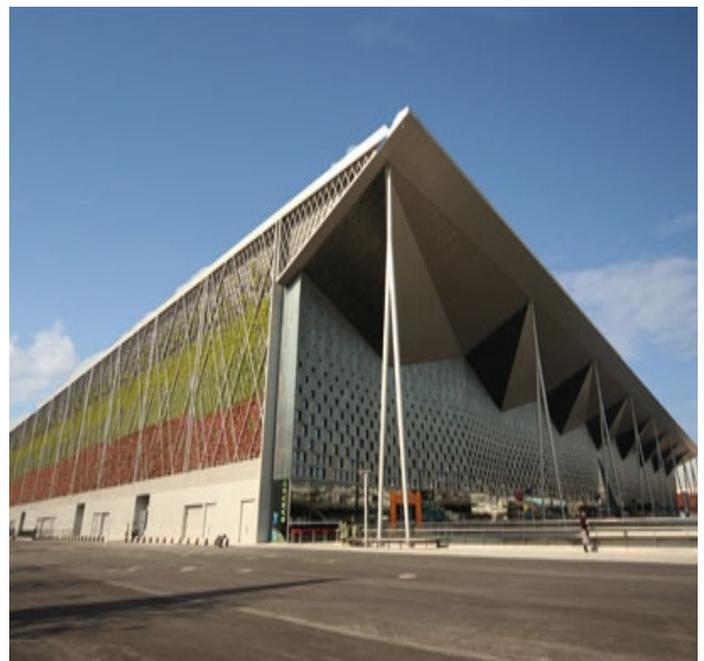
ITB China is targeted exclusively at handpicked B2B visitors involved in travel industry of China selected strictly in accordance with the interests of the exhibiting companies. This precise matching guarantees an efficient procedure with a high degree of successful business transactions.

ITB China offer refers to both, business travel, MICE and leisure travel to international, partly undiscovered destinations including all aspects and travel-related services. The latest developments in IT and travel software will be presented as well.

The accompanying conference provides valuable insights into future developments of the Chinese travel market. The venue, the Shanghai World Expo Exhibition & Convention Center is located in the city centre, close to Pudong International Airport and Hong Qiao airport. There are numerous tourist sites and hotels are located nearby. The centre is easily accessible by bus and subway.



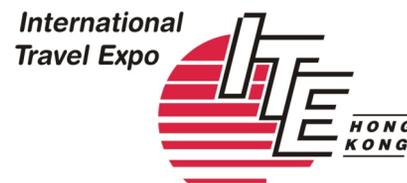
ITB
CHINA



ITE Hong Kong 2019

When: 13-16 June, 2019

Where: Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre



Attending ITE each year are some 650 exhibitors of which 85 percent from abroad; in two trade days are over 12000 regional travel trade and MICE visitor, and in two public days over 90000 visitors with over 84% FIT.

On display are in-depth and theme travel products for up-market travelers. For examples, Galapagos Islands Tour; Ice & Aurora tour in Finnish Lapland; train journey through Russia's Siberia; Rescue Elephant Centre in Thailand; Robot show in Tokyo, and Trekking in Himalayas etc.

For the first time China's High Speed Train will be exhibiting in ITE this year! In all, some 10 popular travel themes such as Cruise, Green and Sport Tourism, Culture and Gourmet are highlighted in each ITE. Highly international, around half of the some 55 participating countries and regions of ITE are from outside Asia with over 30 pavilions and official stands with the two largest from mainland China and Japan each with some 90 stands.

香港國際旅遊展





IMEX's business strategy since the foundation of the company in 2003, with performance benchmarked against industry standards including the APEX/ASTM Environmentally Sustainable Event Standards. IMEX is committed to implementing best practice in event sustainability and also offers education sessions at the shows designed to encourage exhibitors and buyers to reduce the environmental impact of their show participation.

Through this year's Talking Point, the IMEX team seeks to prompt a fresh approach to greener meetings and events, encouraging planners to demand change. Green materials, food choices, suppliers and more are now not only viable but also distinctly desirable. The IMEX team believes that there really are no excuses anymore and younger generations in particular will vote with their feet, their attention and their money to prove how much they want to protect the planet.

TRAVELDAILY CONFERENCE

When: 28-29 August, 2019

Where: Shanghai, China

Mark the calendar for the must-attend Chinese travel industry events in 2019, organized by ChinaTravelNews and its parent company TravelDaily China.

The annual events provide high-profile platforms for travel trade professionals to gain industry insights and network with counterparts:

On August 28-29, 2019, our three major conferences – namely the TravelDaily Conference, the China Hotel Marketing Conference, and the China Airline Merchandising Conference – will be merged to form a single mega event, bringing together travel industry professionals of China and the world. The show will be held concurrently with the second edition of Digital Travel Show, the only trade exhibition in China for promoting travel marketing and technology products.

TravelDaily Conference is also a joint-venture partner of ITB China. ITB China is a three-day business to business travel trade fair that focuses exclusively on the Chinese travel industry. ITB China brings together top and hand selected buyers from Greater China with industry professionals from all over the world, and provides various networking events and a unique state of the art matchmaking

system to enhance networking and maximize business opportunities.

ITB China 2019 will take place from Wednesday to Friday, 15 to 17 May, at the Shanghai World Expo Exhibition and Convention Centre in Hall 1. The ITB China Conference will take place in parallel with the show and is co-organized by the leading conference organizer TravelDaily China.

Make use of the occasion to meet and mingle with more than 2,000 key executives from major Chinese and global airlines, hotel groups and emerging accommodation providers, OTAs, TMCs, tour operators, travel technology companies and more. Take part in the events to build brand awareness in China and uncover new business opportunities through the industry gathering!



7TH ANNUAL HOTELIER SERIES INDIA

When: 20 – 21 MAY, 2019

Where: W GOA, INDIA



The 7th Annual Hotelier Series India is set to revolutionize the Hospitality Industry this May!

IDE is proud to have partnered with 'India's Leading Hotel Investment Consultants' - Noesis Capital Advisors, which makes Hotelier Summit India 2019, the most sought after hotelier gathering in the region. This gathering is scheduled to take place on May 20th - May 21st at W Goa.

7th Annual Hotelier Series India is a game-changer for the hospitality industry. Hotelier Summit India 2019 initiative is designed to benefit those who invest, strategize, design, build and operate in the hospitality industry. This is an amazing opportunity to set up face-to-face meetings, network, demo/ showcase your offerings, and just have some fun.

The two-day event consists of:

- Structure networking opportunities
- Your pre-scheduled Face-to-face meetings
- Product showcase at India's FIRST hospitality themed 'Experience Center'
- The return of the prestigious 'Hospitality Leader's Industry Choice Awards'
- Entertainment

And more!

Some of the prominent brands participating at this year's initiative include brands such as, Kef Keterra, Advance 2020, Sony, Halton, Asian Paints and Roca, just to name a few.

The summit is less than a month away, don't miss out! Come be a part of India's most extravagant hospitality gathering!



HOTELIER SUMMIT MENA 2019

When: September, 2019

Where: Cairo, Egypt

The only hospitality summit which focuses on two of the fastest emerging hotelier regions (the Middle East & North Africa)

- This summit is set to revolutionize the progress of the MENA real estate markets
- This summit aims to keep your focus on building business relationships, not sales
- The summit will focus on driving hospitality by including all the stakeholders (explained in the image below) of the Hospitality Procurement Project Cycle, registrations are now open
- The summit is set to be held in the month of September 2019, Cairo, Egypt

Hotelier Summit MENA 2019 is designed to benefit those who invest, strategize, design, build and operate in the hospitality industry. This is an amazing opportunity to set up face-to-face

meetings, network, demo/ showcase your offerings, and just have some fun.

The event consists of:

- Structure networking opportunities
- Your pre-scheduled Face-to-face meetings
- Product showcase at the region's FIRST hospitality themed 'Experience Center'
- The return of the prestigious 'Hospitality Leader's Industry Choice Awards'
- Entertainment

And more!

Book your slot now and avail a 15% early bird discount. Last day to avail the discount is May 31st 2019.

Be a part of this extravagant hospitality gathering!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2-5 May 2019

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Terme Olimia, Slovenia

Podčetrtek, Slovenia

www.weareconnections.com

8-9 May 2019

 **3RD LATIN AMERICA
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ITB
CHINA

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Shanghai, China

www.itb-china.com

15-17 May 2019



WTM Connect Asia

Penang, Malaysia

www.wtmconnect.com

18-20 May 2019



Hotelier Summit (India)

Goa, India

www.hotelierseries.com/india

17-19 May 2019



**Eye for Travel San Francisco
2019 Travel Acquisition & CX
Summit 2019**

LONDON, UK

www.eyefortravel.com/

21-22 May 2019

22 May 2019

Boutique + Lifestyle Hotel Summit

London, Uk

www.boutiquehotelsummit.com



21-23 May 2019



IMEX Frankfurt
Frankfurt, Germany
www.imex-frankfurt.com

23-25 May 2019



WTM Connect China
Hainan Island, China
www.wtmconnect.com



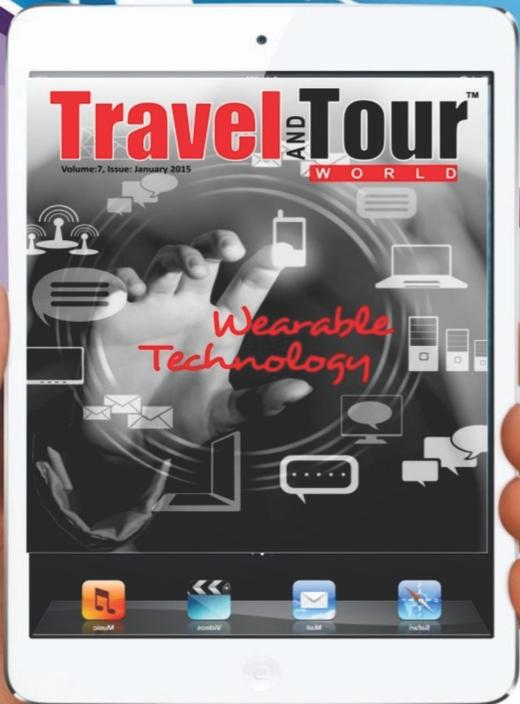
The Hotel Show Africa
Johannesburg, South Africa
www.thehotelshowafrica.com

23-25 May 2019

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29-30 May 2019



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