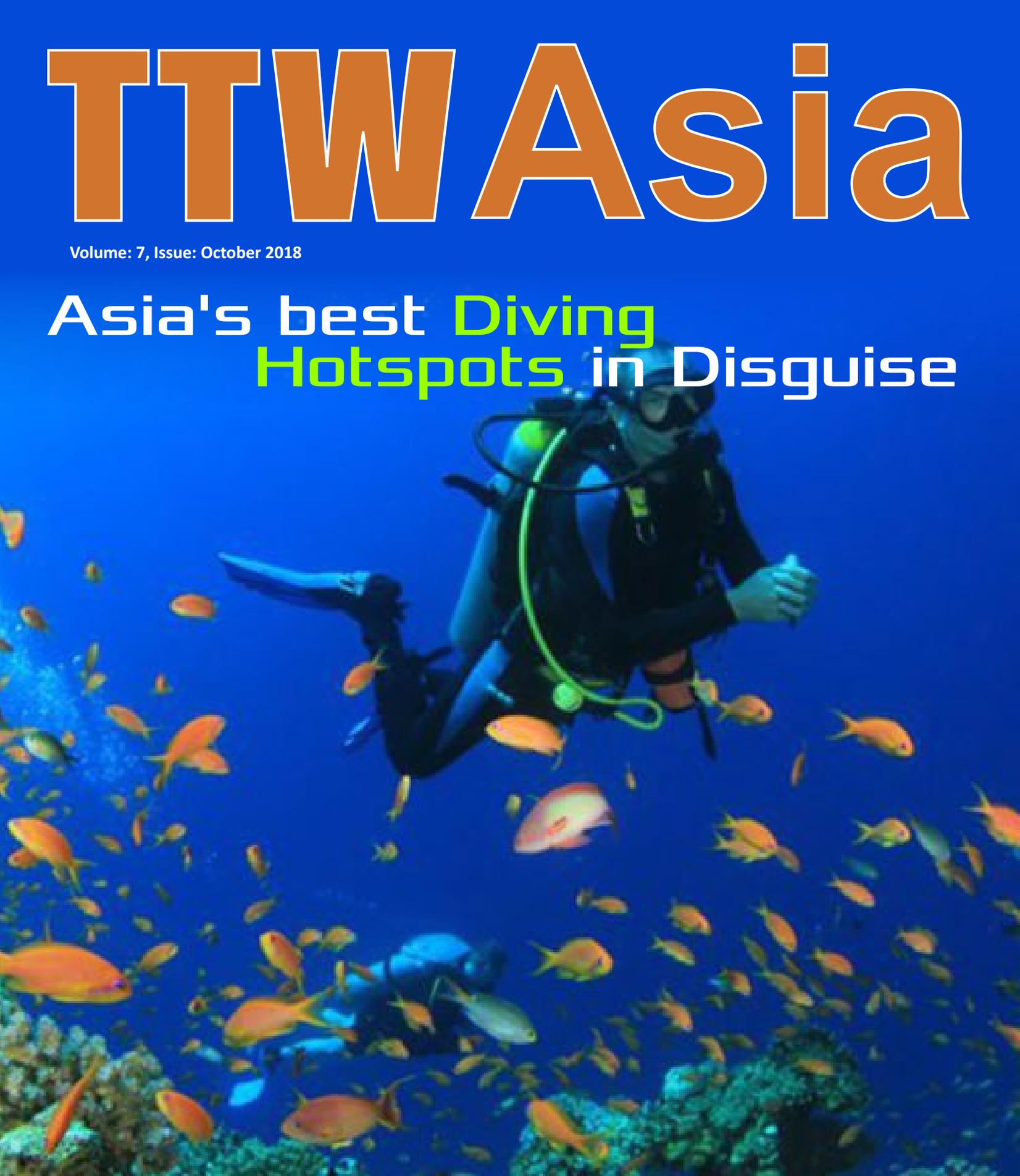


TTWAsia

Volume: 7, Issue: October 2018

Asia's best Diving Hotspots in Disguise



DESTINATION DIARY:

04

Travellers come to **Sichuan** to experience bustling ring road, see the giant pandas, and appreciate a wide variety of beautiful landscape including sacred and mysterious mountains. Here Tibetan culture still thrives in the midst of beautiful waterfalls, limestone caves and evergreen bamboo forests.



04. Sichuan

SPECIAL FEATURE:

13

Phuket's Vegetarian festival is celebrated in a bizarre way to honour animals as participants shove knives, swords, umbrellas into their faces. Read here to know more on Vegetarian festival.



22. Japan

COVER STORY:

17

Here you can have a virtual tour to the five destinations which are iconic to see the **underwater world**. Let's explore!



17. Underwater world



13. Vegetarian festival

MEETINGS POINT:

22

Japanese cities have exceptional characteristics and are very appropriate for holding business meetings. Explore the unique meeting destinations in Japan in this section.

TRAVEL NEWS 11

SHOW HIGHLIGHT 30

ASIA FESTIVALS 26

SHOW REVIEW 31

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 38



From the Editor's desk

Dear Readers,

Warm autumnal greetings from TTW Asia. While writing the preface of this month's edition, I felt heartbroken as Indonesia, Japan and South India's Kerala experienced natural disasters that crippled the tourism industry totally. These destinations attract millions of tourists every year. These tourist hotspots are adjacent to hazard zones. For this, the places are closed for tourism. Japan saw dramatic loss as most of the airports and cities experienced severe damages. Now the locations in these countries are slowly restoring.

If you are checking where to go in Asia in this season expect Indonesia and Japan, I think your search will stop here. We are presenting some of the refreshing and soul-stirring destinations that offers the perfect combination of nature, adventure, leisure, great weather and less crowd.

We are presenting China's hidden secret- Sichuan. It has the most world natural and cultural heritage and national key scenic spots. If you want to visit Thailand this month, you can take a tour to Phuket as this province is gearing up for the Vegetarian festival. The locals express the honour to animals by piercing knives and swords in their body. Or if you want to take the charm of underwater world, you have five best options to go. Exploring the underwater world is an awesome experience. This month, we selected Japan as a meeting destination. Japanese cities have exotic atmosphere for business meetings or cultural events. The country ranks 29th in the world for giving a conducive stage for conducting business summits.

Keep reading and send us feedback pr@travelandtourworld.com

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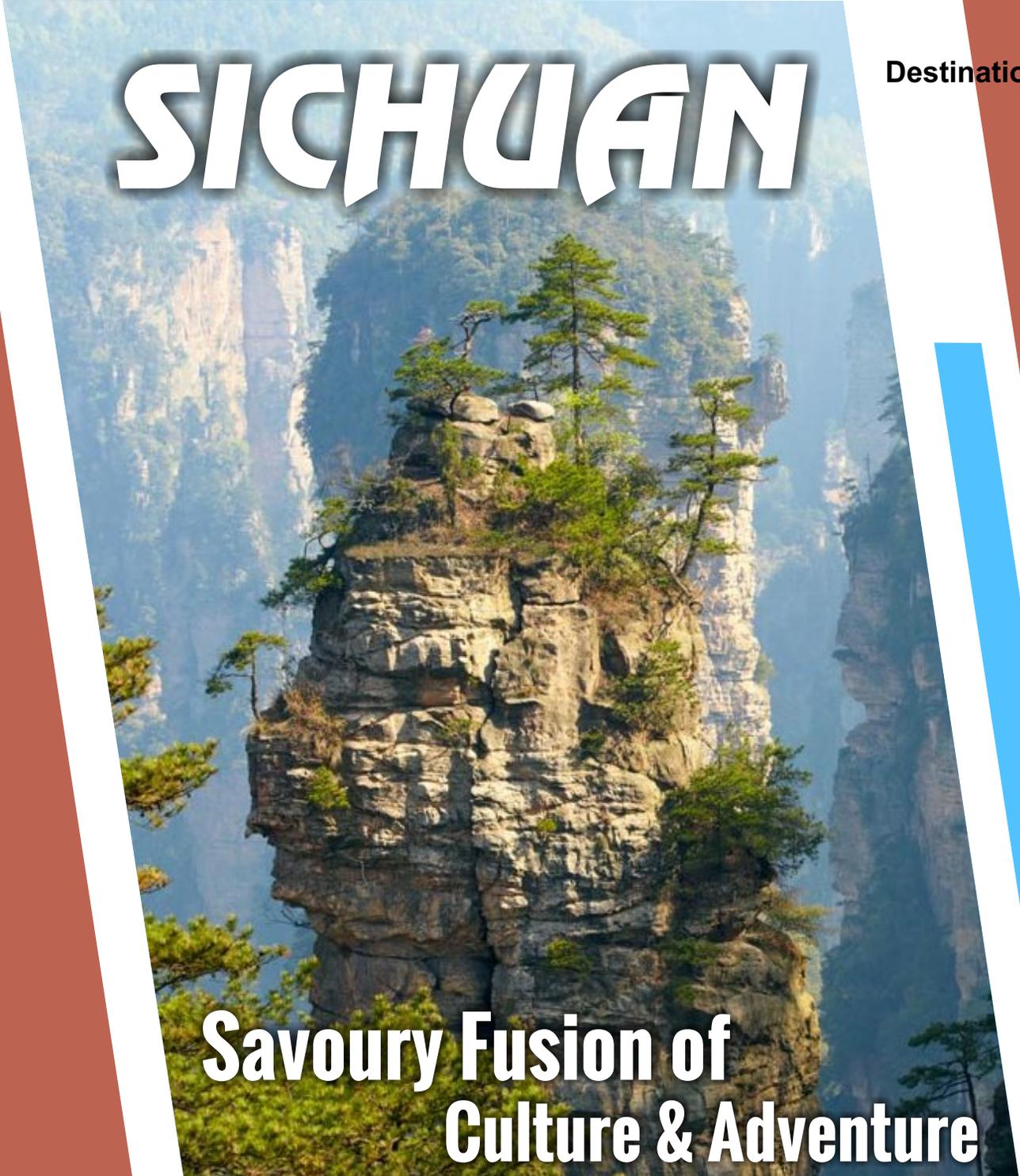
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SICHUAN

Destination Diary



Savoury Fusion of Culture & Adventure

A homely retreat in the land of many guises, culture aficionados continue to be captivated by ancient magic-sprinkled 'opera' – the indigenous biànlǎn (face-changing cultural treat) – in China's very own Sichuan!

The Chinese province flaunts giant panda, the pride of this Southeast Asian country. Its capital, Chengdu has more than what meets the eye, thanks to the bustling ring roads greeting visitors with mist-shrouded mountains and a countryside scattered with cliffs of carved Buddhas.

Muted Beauty of Chinese Fairyland

To the north, traditional landscape dons a cloak of unexcelled exuberance through lush alpine valleys and blue-green lakes.

Sichuan's Tibetan countenance appears as backpackers venture west. This is 'Kham', one of the former Tibetan prefectures. It represents a vast landscape of plateaus and glacial mountains where Tibetan culture continues to thrive awaiting to bewitch curious explorers!

Etymology

Formerly Romanised as 'Szechuan' or 'Szechwan', this Chinese province in southwestern part of the nation occupies most of the Sichuan Basin and easternmost portion of the Tibetan Plateau with Jinsha River on the west, the Daba Mountains in the north and the Yungui Plateau to the south. Sichuan's capital city is Chengdu.

In Modern Chinese, the name Sichuan implies "four rivers", and in folk etymology this is usually believed to be the province's four major rivers: Jialing, Jinsha, Min and Tuo.



Magnet for Globetrotters - Sichuan

Sichuan is an awe-inspiring province with mind-blowing tourist thrills.

An addictive fusion of nature, culture and adventure beautifies this part of the world, irrespective of your passion – you would love to indulge in its mystic charms.

Be it cuddling cute pandas at Chengdu Giant Panda Breeding and Research Base or climbing the sacred Mount Emei for a memorable sunrise, Sichuan is China's sweetest best place! We tell you how:



Jiuzhaigou valley

A famed world heritage site and national park, Jiuzhaigou Valley is considered as a spectacular wonderland. Its name was derived from the Nine Tibetan Fortified Villages.

Jiuzhaigou boasts of awesome sceneries of waterfalls, colour lakes and crystal-clear waters.

Giant Panda Breeding Research Base

Giant Panda Breeding Research Base is among the top attractions to check out in Chengdu tour. It is 10 km away from Chengdu downtown. The Panda Base is the world's only museum focusing entirely on the critically endangered giant pandas.

Mount Emei

An enchanted package of monasteries and lush forests, Mount Emei is yet another renowned world heritage site in Sichuan.

Visitors are impressed by the breathtaking landscape. It is one of the four Great Buddhist Mountains in China.

Leshan Giant Buddha

The largest Maitreya Buddha statue carved out of a cliff, Leshan Giant Buddha was listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1996 along with Mount Emei. It is situated at the confluence of Qingyi, Dady and Minjiang River.





Sanxingdui Museum

Sanxingdui Museum is a repertoire of interesting artifacts of bronze ware, jade ware, stone ware, gold ware and much more, flaunting beautiful diversity in terms of shape.

These artifacts reflect a glittering era in ancient Shu history.

Shunan Bamboo Forest

The largest forest in China spanning 120 sq. km is the largest and oldest bamboo forest here.

Scenes of famous Chinese movies 'Crouching Tiger' and 'Hidden Dragon' were shot here. Also, the first scene at the opening ceremony of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games was shot here.

Taoping Qiang Village

Taoping Qiang Village is a hot tourism spot in Sichuan.

Wayfarers can soak in the ambiance of authentic watchtowers and folk houses all over the world, experiencing a golden history of more than 2000 years old. Lifestyles of Qiang people and their dances can be witnessed in this village.

Shopping Spree at Sichuan

Though not as reputed as Hong Kong, Chengdu in Sichuan too is a shopper's delight. It is enriched majestically by ancient 'Shu' culture that radiates local flavours.

Shu Brocade and Embroidery

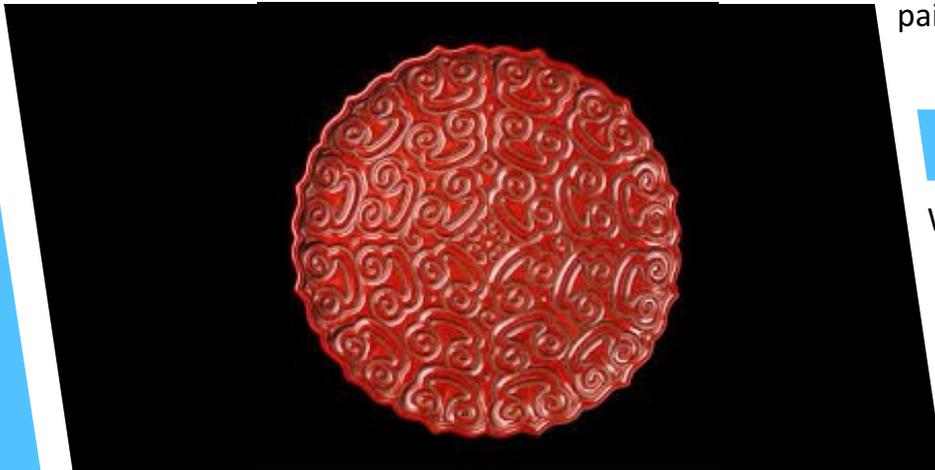
The Chinese character 'Shu' means silkworm breeding and mulberry growing. Several hundred designs are used by the minority nationalities in southwest China. Silk-woven, but durable, the brocade has a soft feel. With a unique technique and elegant colours, the products look like Chinese ink and wash paintings embroidered on satins.

Lacquer wares

When the Mawangdui Han Dynasty Tombs were uncovered in 1972, a large number of exquisite Chengdu- lacquer ware pieces were discovered. Visitors are astonished that their brilliant appearance has remained for over 2,000 years.

Bamboo

Bamboo can actually be woven around porcelain roughcast. This amazing technique can be seen in Chengdu; in various bamboo products, such as bamboo sticks, baskets and fans.



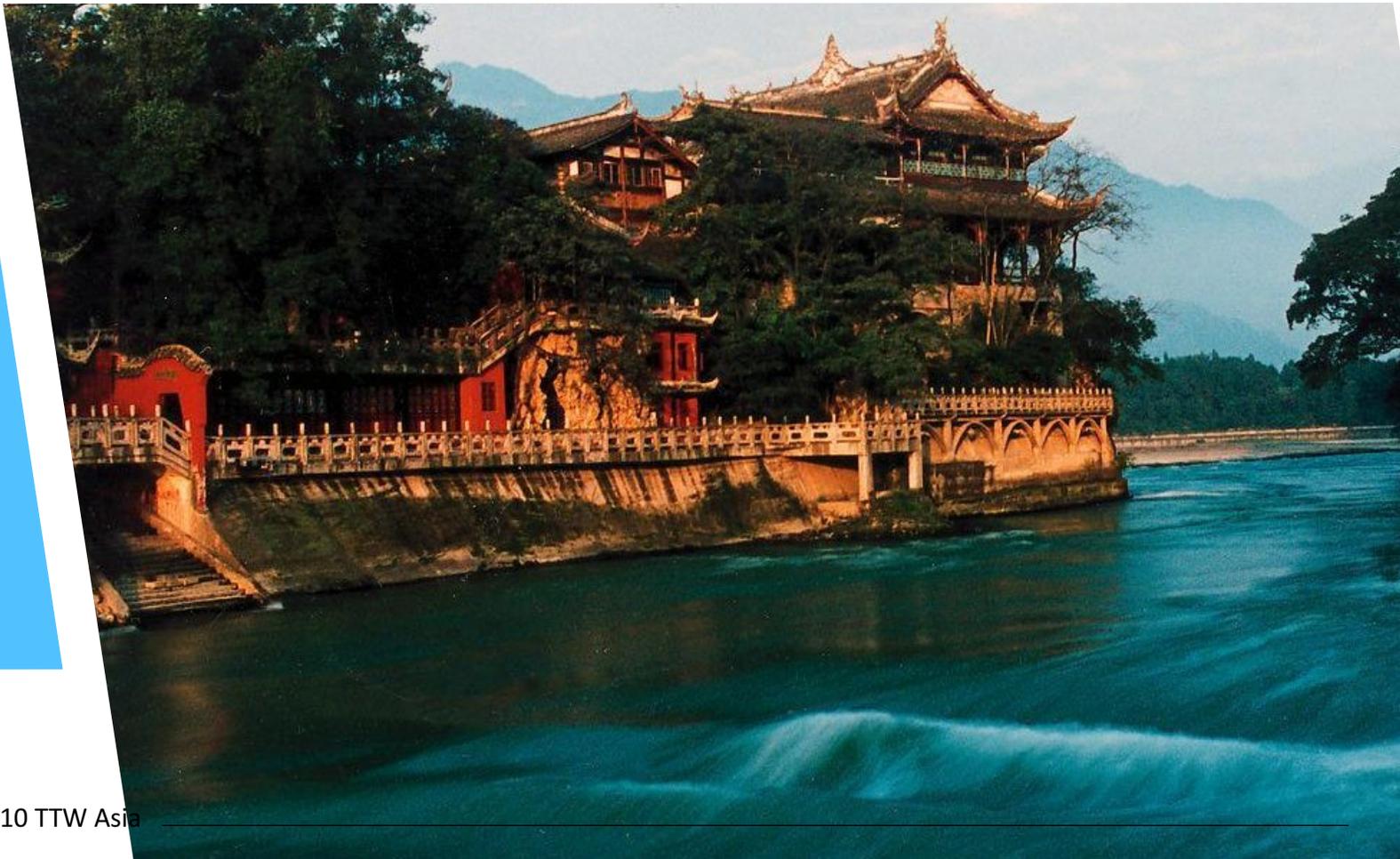
Silver Inlaid Products and Bamboo Products

As a traditional area for silver inlaid technology, Chengdu shares its reputation with Beijing, which is famous for the applied weaving technique.

Local Products

Chinese alcohol, tea and local food also deserve a try including jasmine tea, Huangshan maofeng tea, hot pickled mustard tuber, mix-flavoured horsebean, etc.

The self-effacing Sichuan with imposing peaks and impressive infrastructure represents an ethereal blend of aesthetic pleasures!



Travel News

Refreshed WTM Ministerial Summit to Tackle

Innovation & Technology Investment: UNWTO

2018 World Travel Market (WTM) will introduce a disruptive new format to the long-running UNWTO/WTM Ministerial Summit. With the private sector crucial in setting the tourism agenda, private sector leaders will be involved for the first time via a panel on investment in tourism technology.

The UNWTO/WTM Ministerial Summit will be hosted by CNN's Richard Quest, anchor of Quest Means Business. Developing an innovation ecosystem, data-driven decision making, digital destination branding, and the role of government and policy in smart tourism management are among the topics to be addressed this year. The Summit will reflect on a hyper-connected and informed world where tourists are one click away from their next destination and share their interests and emotions in real-time – and where technological advances have an exponential impact on management efficiency and sustainability. It will expand its practical impact with a focus on creating and exchanging innovative ideas and partnerships that can boost investments in tourism technology.

American Airlines redesigned its campus museum for a new era of aviation

The American Airlines CR Smith Museum reopens to the public following the successful completion

of a redesign.

The redesign, made possible through a lead donation by the American Airlines Group and gifts by PACMIN and Boeing, marks the first major redesign in the museum's 25-year history. In a simulated operations center, they would be capable of making judgment calls about whether to send a virtual aircraft through bad weather. The recently completed multimillion-dollar renovation of the museum along Texas 360 in far northeast Fort Worth (just south of Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport) is aimed at making the whole experience more hands-on. Uli Das, museum executive director said that via this renovation, they wanted to refocus the experience to give visitors a greater insight into the operations of an airline and the people that run it every day. The museum is governed by its own nonprofit board of directors, and is named after Cyrus Rowlett Smith, who served as the airline's chief executive from 1934-68 and 1973-74.



Trump administration to annual work permit for families of H1B visa holders within 3 months

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) told a federal court that within three months it will make a decision on cancelling the work permit to spouses of H-1B visa holders. This move will significantly affect India women who are the major beneficiary of the Obama-era rule. The US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) issues H-4 visas to immediate family member (spouse and children under 21 years of age) of the H-1B visa which is the most popular among Indian IT professionals. The department has urged the court to suspend its decision on a lawsuit filed by 'Save Jobs USA' which represents a group of US workers claiming their jobs suffered due to the government's policy announced during the Obama rule.

World's first interactive marijuana museum debuts in Las Vegas

Cannabition, the world's first interactive museum celebrating all things cannabis was launched in Las Vegas, Nevada on 20 September. Buying Marijuana for recreational use has now become legal for adults and after 15 months, this museum has opened. Still consuming drug in public is still banned, nine US states, Washington DC including Oregon, Alaska, Maine and Colorado have legalized the recreational marijuana use. The museum has a perfect selfie zone, there can be lighting of exhibits- a giant spliff where visitors can pretend to smoke. The attraction is specially designed for

the social media generation. Those above 21 and over can buy tickets and located in the heart of the city.



SNFC expects to launch driverless train in France by 2023

France is geared for innovation in the rail sector and the SNCF group president Guillaume Pepy expects the train drivers to work like pilots and be able to monitor journey as technology is constantly optimising performance. In northern France the state-run enterprise tested a circuit by driving the locomotive by a “téléconducteur” at the control centre in Lyon. Driverless freight trains is expected to run by 2021 and the passenger trains will run on the RER network through Paris by 2023 plying at a speed of to 75mph. The number of services to run on a line will increase from 13 to 16 per hour by 2025 as the TGV high-speed trains will be automated. Mick Cash , Union's general secretary mentioned that the RMT will not tolerate a position where the members will suffer due to corporate failures.

Vegetarian Festival Phuket's Annual Taoist Event

Phuket is Asia's finest beach destination dotted with white sands, dozing palm trees, sparkling seas and vibrant towns. Phuket offers the best nightlife, flea markets and local Thai food throughout the year. During autumn, Phuket becomes lively with traditional religious festivals. Nine Emperor Gods Festival or Vegetarian Festival is one of them. Every year from 8th Oct – 17th Oct 2018, locals celebrate this colourful event.



Discover true Thai traditions

Vegetarian Festival is a nine-day celebration. It follows Taoist rituals and Chinese lunar calendar. The residents in Thailand believe that self-restraint from meat and various stimulants will help them to obtain good health and peace of mind. This festival was most widely celebrated among Chinese mine workers who were settled in



Phuket, 150 years ago. During the Chinese ninth lunar month, Phuket was hit by an epidemic and consequently loss many lives. Since then, they began to worship Nine Emperor Gods (Kiu Ong lah) in the first nine days of the month. The Chinese living in Phuket started following the tradition of abstinence from eating meat and drinking alcoholic drinks.

The epidemic ceased, and since then every year, the people of Phuket have continued to celebrate the festival. Now, this tradition community festival is a popular celebration in the province. It is now an explosion of colour and a hugely-photogenic cultural celebration across Asia. The visitors are impressed by the spectacle of people, street parade, ostensible possession by Gods, sights of people piercing their tongues, cheeks and other parts with sharp objects.

Meet the locals in Phuket

Vegetarian Festival is energetic, chaotic and loud. People take part in the street parade by chanting spiritual hymns and throwing firecrackers; a lion dance weaves through the crowd. Devotees wear unique costumes and pierce their bodies. The chosen mah song (devotee) — always unmarried men and women — pierce their faces with everything from hooks to large spears with the help of a support team; some walk on hot coals or lie on beds of knives. Some suggest that the piercings were influenced by similar acts that are performed during the South Indian Thaipusam festival.

The locals follow the below listed steps:

Maintain cleanliness of the body

Use only clean kitchenware which has not been used by others

Dress in white.

Abstain from eating meat, fishes, onion and garlic

Refrain from alcohol



Get a taste of local culture

Reachable in less than 12 hours from London, Phuket is one of the southern provinces (changwat) of Thailand. This tropical beach uncovers eye-catching museums, Peranakan cooking, Chinese religious shrines and historic mansions and shop-houses built in Sino-Portuguese style. See some of the exquisite temples in Chalong and Thalang, while two national parks and wildlife sanctuaries await exploration in the island's northern area. Even a fast trip to Big Buddha connects to modern-day Phuket's pulse. Here Thai cuisine takes on its own distinct character.





Taste the vegan dishes

Spicy and salty Thai cooking collides with Chinese and Malay flavours and influences. The Thai-style dim sum or wheat bread dipped in curry for breakfast, along with local culinary creations like mề pad hokkien (stir-fried hokkien noodles in a soup) and pàk miang (scrambled spinach-like leaves) are special treats.

Asia's best **Diving** **Hotspots** in Disguise

A London-based marine engineer Graham Hawkes once remarked that 'flying' is a universal passion but flying 'underwater' is more exciting than flying in air, since underwater divers can enjoy a vast multitude of sights and sounds around him!

Allure of azure deep-sea wonders is addictive. Maneuvering through cool depths of dark ocean beds, the eye of a curious explorer glows in anticipation of rich discoveries for instance colourful reefs, ornate sea anemones among several thriving marine ecosystems! Carefully preserved wrecks greet bubble-blowing scuba divers underneath infinite aquatic expanses, waiting to gift them a once-in-lifetime experience of heavenly thrills.



Call of the Marine Marvels: Do you dream of enriching vacations with a pinch of spice? How about snorkelling within the ecstatic depths of 'Amazon of the Seas'? Southeast Asia awaits with its treasure trove of incredible mysteries that have lured scuba fanatics for centuries! Also famously known as the 'Coral Triangle' this portion of the globe has enough to offer for aquatic thrill seekers. Flirt with manta rays in Similan Islands of Thailand or spot sharks and sea turtles Tubbataha Marine Reef in the Philippines – or even an astonishing biodiversity in Indonesia's Raja Ampat.

Diver's Delights: Asia's Top Diving Spots People with an intense affinity for the underwater paradise should include the following in their bucket list:

Raja Ampat, Indonesia : The Indonesian tourism board often features this spectacular group of islands on its easternmost point in its advertisements! Some of the region's most outstanding coral reef walls can be observed here. Its rich biodiversity is famed for sightings of whitetip reef sharks, wobblehong sharks, manta rays, tuna, mackerals and so on.



Similan Islands, Thailand : Based about 100 kms on the north-western part of Phuket that comprise a part of National Marine Park, nine granite islands flaunt whale sharks and manta rays. Gently sloping coral reefs are noticeable on the East Coast. And the West Coast is comparatively more challenging owing to its giant granite boulders, submarine rock formations and fan corals. Sea moths and ghost pipefish are popular.

Tubbataha Reef National Marine Park, Philippines: It is always teeming with marine wildlife – no wonder it was declared a world heritage site in 1993 by UNESCO. Doing a liveboarding here would add to the amusement quotient and thrill factor in this marine reek park that is situated in the middle of Sulu Sea and Coral Triangle. A large number of green turtles, hawksbill and sharks can be found here.

Sipadan Island, Malaysia : A hypnotic barracuda vortex grips unassuming deep sea diver in Malaysia's Sipadan Island, where they are caught up in amazing pools of whirling jackfish. Sipadan is an oceanic island off the coast of Sabah, Malaysia, sits on top of an extinct undersea volcano and surrounded by almost 1,900ft deep canyons!





Banda Islands, Indonesia: Accessing Indonesia's breathtaking Banda Islands in Molucca region might appear tricky. However, once you reach here, divine sights of the 11 islands of this archipelago is rewarding. A series of tiny islands in the Banda Sea in an area known as the 'Ring of Fire' for its frequent volcanic activity has kept this island a mystery for a prolonged time.

An array of eagle rays, melon-headed whales, dogtooth tuna, barracuda and turtles heighten a scuba diver's fascination! A short trip away from Singapore, these turquoise waters represent fabulous specimens of aquatic legacy thanks to their unique biodiversity. They are priceless underwater gems akin to pearls tucked away neatly in the womb of oysters!

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Meetings Point

Japan is encapsulated with several individualities, close to natural beauty. Its cities inspire new ideas that lead to business innovation. Since ancient times, Japan's diverse natural landscapes and rich environment have a harmonious influence.

The country is gearing up for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic games as the Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) aims to grow inbound tourism to 40 million by 2020. Multilingual promotional campaign has been launched to introduce the game for travellers in North America, Europe and Australia. This will be the second time that Tokyo will be hosting the game, the first time being 1964 that transformed the country. Almost all its cities have unique characteristics and are apt for holding business meetings, be it industrial, academic or

Japan



A hot bed of innovation and world class events

hospitality related. Hokkaido is compact and has everything you need. It is known for rich cuisine that is considered as one of its many charms. Kobe is a national strategic special zone known as the highest level bio-medical cluster. This city has an exotic atmosphere, thanks to its historical significance as a trade port.

Hiroshima is known for automobile and other manufacturing industries and is home to the renowned World Heritage Site, Itsukushima Shrine. Fukuoka excels in convenience for its large and small facilities and being the nerve centre of Kyushu. Tokyo, Osaka and Kyoto are world renowned cities which are bound to make 23 TTW Asia

your business meeting a success.

Japan has massive footprint in the world of trade and business

and Japanese products and innovations are world renowned. The country ranks 29th in the world for providing a convenient platform for conducting business and is the third largest economy in the world.



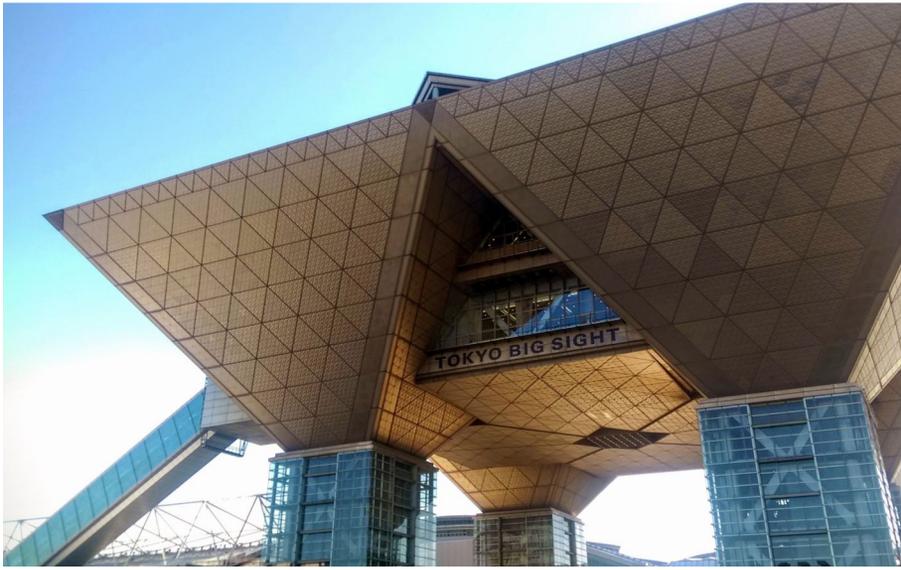
It is among the countries with the highest purchasing power in the world and stands first in terms of technology, research and development. It is a premium market for product and services critical to the needs of successful international business venture. For any international business to succeed, the Japanese market is highly regulated. The existing digital trends lifted several restrictions for free flow of trade and facilitating emerging business opportunities. To maintain superiority in design and manufacturing, the Japanese businesses is focused in advanced engineering and technology. The country is a major gaming centre and has the largest music industry in the world.



A continent with diversity

There is a great variety in destinations and activities available to the visitors here due to the vast stretch of land starting from Hokkaido in north to the subtropical zone in southern Okinawa. There are large metropolitan areas and villages. There is everything for a business traveller –the snow-capped mountain to the coral reef-ringed islands.

Interesting Venues



Tokyo Big Sight

It takes the first spot in terms of being the biggest convention centre in the world. Major show held here is the Tokyo Motor Show hosted in October or November. It is located in the Odaiba area across the Sumida River from central Tokyo.



Makuhari Messe

Located in Chiba Prefecture, this is Japan's second largest convention show venue and major events taking place here are the Foodex, the Tokyo Game Show and CEATEC, among others.

Intex Osaka

Osaka's largest expos are held here and this is west Japan's largest convention centre. Major events like Osaka Auto Messe, the Osaka Motor Show and the Pokemon Fest are held here.



Osaka International Convention Center

(also known as the Grand Cube Osaka)

Large national jamborees and non-profit events like the All-Japan Band Competition are conducted here.

FOR
THE

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planet.



ASIA FESTIVALS

A

sia festivals are deep rooted with the flavour of spiritualism, strong humanism and faith. Experience Asia's diverse religious rituals, traditional dances, food culture and folk music.

Venue:
Paradiso Ubud, Indonesia

4th Annual Bali Vegan Festival

Date:
4-7 October, 2018



Eat fresh and stay healthy is the focal dictum of Annual Bali Vegan Festival. This fest will be a heaven of world class vegetarian chefs, yoga teachers, comedians and the psychological healers. This festival gives a message to make the earth cruelty free and adorn the world with the thought of kindness, peace and solitude.

Venue: Phuket, Thailand

Phuket Vegetarian Festival

Date: 8-17 October, 2018



Swords, spikes, extreme facial piercings and the gorier performances attract visitors in vegetarian festival. This fiesta turns Thailand's most hunted destination, Phuket into a mind-boggling place. This festival includes daring facial adornments along with fire walk and parade.

Venue: Indian states

Dussehra Festival

Date: 19 October, 2018



Hindus observe Dussehra through special prayer and food offerings to the Gods at home or in temples throughout India. Locals celebrate Dussehra with large procession, fireworks and burning of the gigantic effigy of Ravana.



Hotel Management Indonesia Summit (HMI), a neutral one-stop strategy platform, will

return to Jakarta on 14 November to directly address all key management, operational, commercial and financial challenges that impact corporate and property P&L.

Hotel Management Indonesia Summit will explore the latest consumer trends, technological advancements and cross-industry best practices to help inspire hotel leaders in their quests to boost financial performances.

It has been a few exciting yet challenging years for hoteliers in Indonesia. On one hand, the tremendous growth in the industry has provided vast opportunities for career advancements. On the other hand, the supply growth has out-paced demand growth and human resources readiness, resulting in margin compression and talent shortage. In

this highly competitive but fragmented market, new openings, rebranding and de-flagging are unpredictable constants.

While the Government is working relentlessly to boost visitor arrivals, the industry needs to strategize on revenue generation, technology adoption, productivity enhancement, talent development and brand differentiation. These are the only ways forward until tourism demand closes with the supply surge.



2nd Beijing International Travel Mart 2018



When: 5 – 7 September 2018

Where: China International Exhibition Center (CIEC), Beijing

The 2nd Beijing International Travel Mart (BITM) 2018 was successfully concluded with some 3,120 business matching sessions between its exhibitors and hosted buyers.

Over the three days from 5-7 Sept, the event hosted 130 exhibitors from 20 countries and welcomed some 250 buyers and some 1,800 trade visitors at the China International Exhibition Center (CIEC) Halls.

The highlight this year was the staging of the Second African Dialogue, setting the tone for 'China-Africa Tourism Development Opportunities'. Amongst the key industry speakers were Professor of International Tourism, China Tourism Academy, Professor Yang Jinsong; General Manager of the China Youth Travel Service (CYTS) Middle East-Africa department, Mdm Huang Yan; Head of China Desk, Sudan Ministry of Tourism, Antiquities & Wildlife, Mr. Mohamed Mudathir Abass; and Chief Representative of Moroccan National Tourist Office in China, Mr Khalid Fathi.

The panel discussion was moderated by Mr Kwakye Donkor, Chief Executive Officer of African Tourism Partners, who described how the African travel agencies could tap into the huge potential of the Chinese tourism and travel market.

Dr Ali Elnour Idris, general manager of Amal Travel and Tourism Agency, from Sudan said that BITM this year has satisfied all its requirements.

As a prelude to the event, the exhibitors of the Singapore pavilion, GTMC Travel, Far East Hospitality Management (S) and Mega Adventure Park had the privilege to meet with bellwethers of the Chinese outbound travel industry, such as Beijing China International Travel Service; FTXTrip; China Travel Service Head Office; and Comfort International M.I.C.E. Service.

BITM 2019 will be held at China International Exhibition Center (CIEC), Beijing, China in September 2019.

Travel Industry Exhibition 2018



When: August 21-22, 2018
Where: Darling Harbour, Sydney, Australia

The Travel Industry Exhibition 2018 delivered a new model offering exhibitors a clean, professional, easy lay out. The success of the new model was evident through both the quantity and quality of exhibitors from around the world.

House hold names such as Scenic Luxury Cruises & Tours, Conventions and Incentives New Zealand and AYANA Resort & Spa exhibited for the first time whilst emerging destinations such as Timor- Leste and Shandong Tourism were able to showcase and promote their unique offerings.

The combination of both established and emerging exhibitors was undoubtedly one of the draw cards for attendees who showed their enthusiasm in numbers.

An unrivalled lineup of industry leading speakers was assembled to inform, inspire and share their expertise. This was a unique opportunity for the trade to discuss key industry challenges, uncover trends and have their say in the future direction of the industry.

The high quality seminars over the two days aimed towards the mobile, luxury and MICE industries were a big highlight for the event. Crowds were at capacity for all speakers with the likes of Bond Leung – Head of Business Travel for Airbnb, Rian Smith – Hootsuite, Neil Rodgers – MD for Adventure World, Simone Clarke – World Animal Protection and many others.

This year saw Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau represent in numbers as the official Destination Partner for the two day event. Starting off with a traditional Sri Lankan breakfast and dancers, the media was able to attend an invite only press conference announcing the latest developments within the Sri Lankan Tourism Industry. This was followed by traditional performances and the official lighting of the oil lamp on the show floor surrounded by thrilled attendees, Sri Lanka Tourism and many VIPs including ministers and consulate personnel.

Both days were capped off by two networking functions allowing everyone to interact in a relaxed environment with drinks and canapés flowing. The first night's networking drinks were complimented with eight lucky and very happy winners walking away with some fantastic prizes donated by some

very generous exhibitors.

The team at The Travel Industry Exhibition 2018 would like to thank everyone who participated in making the two days a success and looks forward to working with everyone again.



TBEX North America 2018



When: September 11-13, 2018

Where: Finger Lakes Wine Country, Corning, New York

TBEX Events recently presented their 21st travel bloggers conference at the Corning Museum of Glass in Corning, New York.

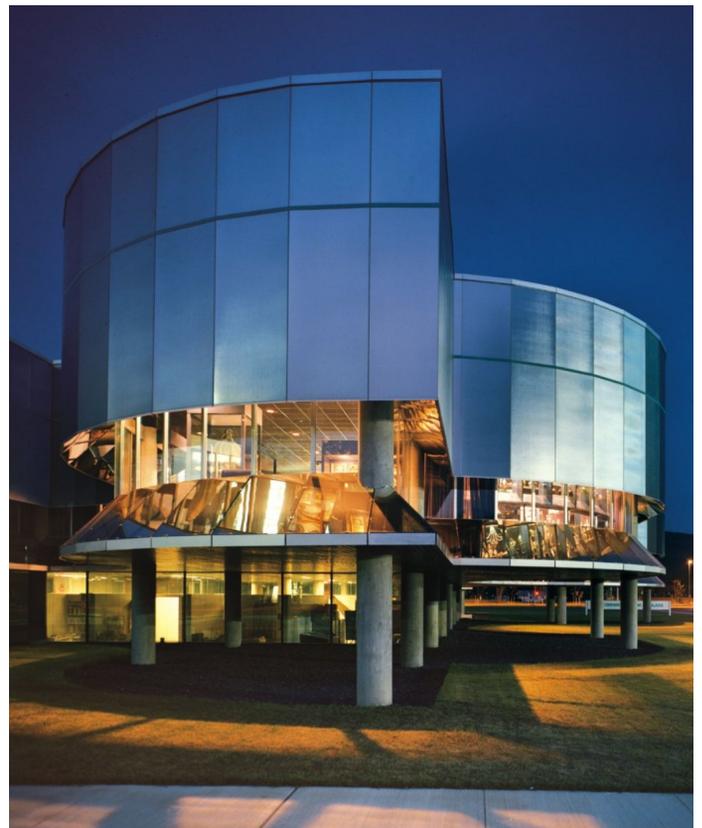
Held on September 11– 13, TBEX North America 2018 was co-hosted by the Corning Museum of Glass and Finger Lakes Wine Country. This event attracted nearly 650 travel media including bloggers, content creators, influencers, photographers, videographers, and travel brands from around the globe.

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

Finger Lakes Wine Country was recently named 2018's Best Wine Region in the United States by USA Today 10 Best.

From this multi award-winning wine region to quintessential Americana found in Corning's Gaffer District to extraordinary outdoor adventure

opportunities, TBEX North America 2018 delegates found a myriad of reasons to explore, enjoy, and share their experiences with their audience. They quickly discovered that the opportunities for storytelling here are boundless.



Event co-hosts also organized several Pre-BEX tours for attendees, and a series of post-conference FAM trips for select bloggers and influencers. These tours and trips were specifically designed so that those who participate can share engaging stories of their experiences in Finger Lakes, New York with the world through their social feeds and travel blog/website.

The official event hashtag, #myFLXtbex, continues to saturate Facebook, Twitter and Instagram bringing Finger Lakes, New York to millions of travel

searchers across the globe. In a two-week period between September 6th and September 20th, 4,614 tweets referencing #myFLXtbex hashtag were delivered to nearly 67 million Twitter timelines and reached over 8 million consumers. In that same period, 1,435 Instagram posts including the hashtag logged 4.6 million impressions and reached 1.3 million Instagram users. TBEX North America 2018 has demonstrated the sheer power of digital influence in the travel space, and is tourism marketing at its very best.



PATA Travel Mart 2018



When: September 12-14, 2018
**Where: Langkawi International Convention Center,
Langkawi, Malaysia**

PATA Travel Mart 2018 (PTM 2018), hosted by Malaysia, attracted over 1,400 delegates from 70 global destinations.

The delegate numbers embraced 389 sellers from 208 organisations and 33 destinations with local sellers comprising 32% of the total, along with 252 buyers from 241 organisations and 53 source markets.

The Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) was also pleased to welcome 210 local and international young tourism professionals including PATA Student Chapter members from Bangladesh Dhaka University, Canada Vancouver Capilano University, Malaysia Taylor's University, Nepal, Philippines LPU-Manila, and Singapore Temasek Polytechnic. The students were part of the PATA Youth Symposium held on Wednesday, September 12, hosted by the Langkawi Development Authority (LADA) and the Alumni Association of UiTM Students' Representative Council (PIMPIN)

in collaboration with the PATA Malaysia Chapter, Tourism Malaysia and Langkawi UNESCO Global Geopark.

PTM 2018 officially opened in Langkawi, Malaysia on Wednesday, September 12 with the PTM 2018 Welcome Reception, presided by the Right Honourable Dato Seri Dr. Wan Azizah Dr. Wan Ismail, Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia, taking place at the Langkawi International Convention Center (LICC).

During the Welcome Reception, the Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Malaysia, YB Tuan Mohamaddin Ketap noted that for many, PTM is considered the biggest tourism trade platform in Asia Pacific. As the host country of PTM, it is an opportunity for us to promote Malaysia as the ideal leisure and business destination. With an overwhelming 67 Malaysian sellers on board this year, they are really leveraging hard on this opportunity to meet international buyers.



Early in the day, delegates had the chance to gain insights into product development, machine learning, data analytics and artificial intelligence at the Travolution Asia Forum 2018, organised in partnership with Travel Weekly Group.

Furthermore, for the first time at PTM, the world's 15 most innovative travel and tourism start-ups and pitched their business models to a

jury panel at the World Tourism Forum Lucerne (WTFL) Start-Up Innovation Camp 2018.

Addressing a media briefing on Thursday, September 13 at the Mahsuri International Exhibition Centre (MIEC), the official venue of the event, Dr. Hardy said that for over 40 years, the event's continued success has been due to its ability to strike the right balance between quality and quantity when it comes to buyers and sellers.

2-4th October

Africa Hotel Investment Forum
Nairobi, Kenya
www.africa-conference.com



4-6th October

Bangladesh Tourism Fair
Dhaka, Bangladesh
www.bitf.com.bd



6-8th October

Global Wellness Summit
Cesena, Italy
www.globalwellnesssummit.com



4-7th October

51st International Fair And Tourism, Novi Sad Fair
Novi Sad, Serbia
www.sajam.net



10-12th October

TTG Incontri
Rimini, Italy
www.ttgincontri.it



11-13th October

INWETEX
St. Petersburg, Russia
<http://travelexhibition.ru>



16-18th October

Imex America
Sands Expo, Las Vegas, USA
www.imexamerica.com



18-19th October

**EyeforTravel North America
2018**
Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas
www.eyefortravel.com/



17-19th October

**Fifth Annual Hotelier Summit
Africa –North**
Shikirat, Morocco
www.events.ide-global.com



17-19th October

ITB Asia, 2018
Marina Bay Sands, Singapore
www.itb-asia.com/



19-21th October

World Travel Show 2018
Mazowieckie, Poland
<https://warsawexpo.eu>



21-23rd October

MCE South Europe
Thessaloniki, Greece
www.europecongress.com



25-27th October

World MICE Day
Qingdao, China
www.worldmiceday.com/



29-31st October

2nd Annual Px Show
Sheraton Lake Como Hotel, Italy
www.plannersxtraordinaire.com



23-25th October

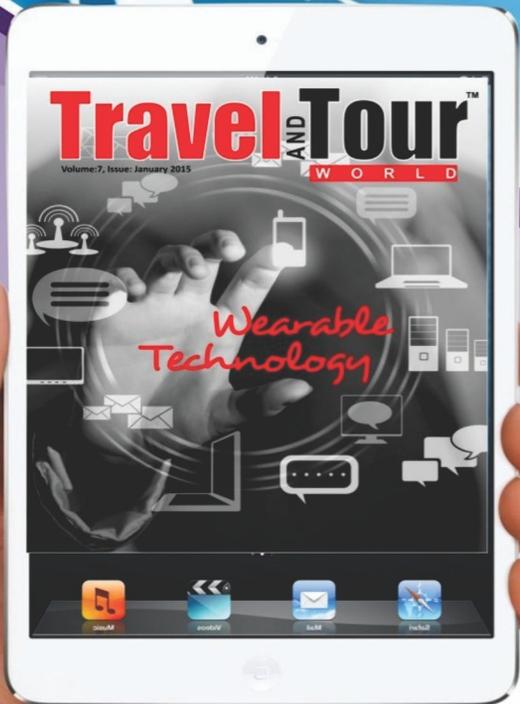
Seatrade Cruise Asia Pacific 2018
Shanghai, China
www.seatradecruiseevents.com



31st Oct-2nd Nov

ILTM China 2018
Shanghai, China
www.iltm.com/china





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