

TTWAsia



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Special Feature

SOAKING IN WARM WATER

ASIA'S BEST NATURAL GEYSERS



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Meetings Point: Sarawak is the largest state in Malaysia, located on the Borneo Island in eastern front and its economy is primarily driven by the export of main commodities like the liquefied natural gas (LNG) or crude petroleum.

Destination Diary: Sapporo is the capital of Hokkaido which is situated in the Northern regions of Japan, allowing visitors and tourists to experience a different taste of the country. Sapporo holds the credit of being the fifth largest city in Japan.

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Cover Story: If you walk around Macao, you see bamboo is everywhere. From transient bamboo structures to poetic installations, Macao's public art trail grows more dynamic day by the day.

Special Feature: Geysers and hot springs in Asia are natural features ensuing when ground water is heated by geothermal forces and brought to the surface. These natural elements provide a spectacular sight of boiling water eruptions, vivid colors and strange formations.

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Dear Readers,

Asia's tourism industry is suffering a majorly by the recent outbreak of the deadly Coronavirus in China. As the tourism industry is reliant on the growing number of Chinese visitors a noted decline is observed due to travel restrictions and grounding of flights in and out of the city.

CEO of the Pacific Asia Travel Association, Mario Hardy, found it hard to gauge how long the crisis would last and suspected that the impact would be between three to six months. Although this too depends on how the situation will change in the days to come.

In this edition of Special Feature we list some famous geysers and hot springs in Asia . These are formed when ground water is heated by geothermal forces and brought to the surface and one can note spectacular sight of boiling water eruptions, vivid colours and strange formations.

Destination Diary on Sapporo gives an overview of this cultural destination, its culinary dishes, events, points of interest and attractions worth a visit. Read the Cover Story on Macoa's Public Art Scene which is growing more dynamic with each passing day. One can see transient bamboo structures, poetic installations and other sustainable architectures which is a major attraction here. See the other side of Asia in Sarawak, the largest state in Malaysia whose economy rests on the export of main commodities. Go through the Meetings Point to know more about the businesses here.

Editor-In-Chief
Mr. Anup Kumar Keshan

Editorial Desk



for an
authentic
MICE
experience

Visit SARAWAK

Sarawak is the largest state in Malaysia, located on the Borneo Island in eastern front. Its economy is primarily driven by the export of main commodities like liquefied natural gas (LNG) or crude petroleum. It is known for natural resources and has strong manufacturing, energy and tourism sectors. The major ethnic groups here are Iban, Malay, Bidayuh and Orang Ulu, so the country is ethnically, culturally and linguistically diverse. There is no official religion here. Take the road less travelled when visiting Sarawak to see the other side of Asia. The Sarawak Convention Bureau was established in the year 2006 to supports events that look beyond tourism.



Create connections in Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCKK)

Amidst the tranquility of the tropical rainforest, this convention centre is innovative and easily accessible. The centre is known to have the latest in communication technologies as the wireless internet envelops the whole area. All the collaboration can be easily conducted inside as there is a provision for the latest audio/visual technology. The entire environment is ideal for people to think broadly about the challenges,

connect ideally and let their curiosity flow. The first dedicated convention and exhibition centre in Borneo is located 8 km from the city centre. It has an environmentally conscious design inspired by the surrounding rainforest jungle. It is managed by the Borneo Isthmus Development Sdn Bhd, a Sarawak state-owned company which looks after all the operational aspects. The construction of BCKK started in June 2006 and was completed in October 2009. The estimated cost of construction was about RM 200 million. The centre's roof is designed in the form of a 'Ririk' or leaf which grows aplenty in Sarawak. Ririk leaves are large and are used by many indigenous tribes for wrapping rice and food. The convention centre is designed on the east-west access to mitigate the effects of solar gain and is oriented to face towards Mecca. It has a Muslim prayer room. It is spread across a floor area of 36,500 square metres, with flexible internal design and functional spaces. At one time, it can accommodate 1,500 delegates in plenary and 2000 in banquet hall. There are 14 breakout meetings rooms. The largest pillar-free exhibition space is 2,500 square metres. There are structural elements that resemble the trunks and branches of rainforest trees.

Penview Convention Centre Demak

Located at the Sejingkat area, Jalan Bako, Kuching Sarawak is spread across 7025 square metres with an event hall called the Penview Grand Ballroom on the first floor and the Seri Simanggang VIP room. One can spot three function rooms and the Mayfair Café on the ground floor. Most of the territory is covered by dense rainforest. The capital has colonial architecture with vibrant Buddhist temples and street food. It provides a host of memorable experiences like sharing the lifestyle of the indigenous communities' longhouses, exploring caves in the UNESCO World Heritage Gunung Mulu National Park. The country is peaceful and stable giving you chance to connect with your inner traveller.



Bako National Park

From Kuching it is easy to reach the park which has jungle trails, deserted beaches and a community of proboscis monkey. A full day inside the protected zone is preferred and it is suggested to bring plenty of water, leech socks and fully charged camera. There are empty beaches and strange sandstone rock formation.

Know the rich heritage of the indigenous groups who lived in the rainforests of the Sarawak Cultural Village for centuries. Find out how they lived in communal wooden longhouses, their traditional costumes or taste their indigenous food. The village is located at the foot of the sacred Mount Santubong. Visit the rehabilitation centre for orangutans and rainforest wildlife in the Matang Wildlife Center which is about 26 kilometres to the west of Kuching. One can either prepare a day trip to the exclusive beach retreats on Sematan Beach or head to see the copper orange sand in the Damai Beach or explore the spooky mangroves in the northern part.

Santubong Mountain in the northwestern coastline has a profound cultural role and has a thriving ecosystem and habitat. There are endless opportunities in Kubah, so just escape the crowd and get acquainted with the jungle.

Accommodation - The Waterfront Hotel is located in the heart of the city above the Plaza Merdeka Shopping Center. It provides the best views of the Padang Merdeka and the Sarawak River and old heritage buildings are placed side by side along with the modern structures.

Pullman Kuching is uniquely designed to enrich guests with comfort. It was incepted in the year 2010 and provides panoramic view of the Kuching City and the Sarawak River. It has contemporary interiors and ideal atmosphere for a business escapade. It has outstanding facilities, restaurants and bars that boast 389 rooms.



ITB Berlin: Travel Technology boosts the global online travel market

With its wide range of topics including AI, self-driving cars, podcasts, blogging and digital nudging, the programme of the eTravel World at ITB Berlin 2020 has every trend covered. As a key topic concerning the future of the global travel industry, digitalisation is a main focus at ITB Berlin. At the eTravel World halls 6.1, 7.1b and 7.1c., numerous exhibitors are presenting technological solutions, including reservation systems, global distribution systems, payment methods and travel agency software. This year the eTravel Stage in hall 6.1 and the eTravel Lab in hall 7.1 are again the focal point of the eTravel World, with its short distances between event venues. In Hall 10.2 at the VR Lab the focus is on Virtual and Augmented Reality. Additional technology exhibitors are represented in halls 5.1, 8.1 and 10.1.

York Tourism injects £765 million revenue

The tourism figures show that York received 8.4 million visits, bringing an economic value of £765 million for the city. The headline statistics, released ahead of today's VisitYork tourism conference, are the latest available for York and show the industry also supported more than 24,000 jobs, a rise of 3,000 within the sector over the last five years. The visitor numbers, which will be highlighted at today's Visit York tourism conference, are up 12 per cent – 900,000 more visits, over the last five years. This spells a 20 per cent rise of £126m in the value of tourism.



Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre welcomed nearly 26 million MICE delegates

Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre embraces its 15th anniversary by breaking the RM9 billion marks in economic impact it has delivered to Malaysia from 2005 to 2019. In that time, the Centre has hosted 16,395 events and welcomed close to 26 million participants, who have all contributed to the economy and knowledge base of the country.



Korea last year welcomed nearly 90,000 Chinese incentive visitors.

Korea has seen an unexpected increase in inbound Chinese incentive groups, with two large-scale groups from China set to arrive in Korea the first two months of 2020. The inbound Chinese groups to Korea experienced a sharp decline back in 2016

due to a tourism boycott enforced by China in retaliation against Seoul's decision to allow the deployment of a U.S. Terminal High Altitude Defense (THAAD) anti-missile system. Now the number of Chinese incentive visitors to Korea hit a record high of 123,410 in 2016 and dropped to a mere 17,293 in 2017.



Australian government delivers \$50 million fund to develop suburb tourism.

The Andrews Labor Government in Australia is helping build new and improved community facilities across Melbourne's fastest growing suburbs. The Minister for Local Government Adem Somyurek announced the 32 successful projects that will receive \$50 million funding from the latest ground of the Growing Suburbs Fund. The Fund is delivering development towards community facilities, better services and more opportunities in Melbourne's 10 rapidly growing interface councils.

Situated in the northern mountainous region of the island country of Japan, Sapporo holds the credit of being the fifth largest city in Japan. Sapporo is the capital of Hokkaido which is situated in the northern regions of Japan, allowing visitors and tourists to experience a different taste of the country.



TAKE A
WONDERFUL TRIP
TO THE WINTER
WONDERLAND
OF JAPAN

SAPPORO

One of the many things that Sapporo is famous for is beer. The lofty mountains, the abundance of beer and the provision for snow sports like skiing make Sapporo one of the most visited and loved cities in Japan.

WHY SAPPORO?

Out of the many things that the city is famous for, its beautiful atmosphere, wonderful ambience, abundance of different types of beer and most importantly, winter snow sports deserve special mentioning. It was earlier one of the most loved winter Olympic destinations.



WHICH PLACES ARE IN THE MUST WATCH LIST?

The city has uncountable parks which turn into winter Wonderland during winter with almost constant snowfall. One of such famous parks in Sapporo in Japan is the Odoripark which is situated in the main hub of the city. Though in summers it is filled with lush green grass where kids and family can spend time together, during winter it is one of the perfect places to spot carvings on the snow done by the local creative artist there. You can also visit a few more such parks in Sapporo like Moerenuma Park, Nakajima Park, Maruyama Park etc. The most amazing things about these parks are that they are always accompanied by amazing Japanese architecture which is a delight for the eyes.





As beer holds a special place in the life of the people in Sapporo, the Sapporo Beer Museum is one of the most attractive places in the city. Along with this, there are an abundance of ski resorts on the outskirts of the city for visitors to experience some adrenaline-pumping snow sports all throughout. There are ropeways for a clear and beautiful picturesque view of the entire area.. The city is well planned and has almost everything that tourists are looking for while travelling.



JAPANESE FOOD

NOT ALL ABOUT SUSHI!

When it comes to food, Japan is one of the leading countries that has a variety to offer. This is true specifically in case of Sapporo because it is the birthplace of one of the most widely consumed food, miso ramen. There are a variety of different ways of cooking miso ramen which gives different flavours and options for you to choose from. One kind of ramen that is relevant in Sapporo is the Hokkaido Ramen. Most people in Sapporo like it with meat corn and butter with a minimal amount of noodles to go by it. It is healthy and delicious which is sure to fulfil your hunger cravings in the city. Other notable famous Japanese food items available in the city of Sapporo are sushi, HachikyoZangi, Jingsukan, Kobore etc.



HOW TO GET THERE AT THE WONDERLAND IN JAPAN

The easiest way to reach Sapporo is by boarding a flight and landing on to the New Chitose Airport which serves as the main airport for the metropolitan city of Sapporo .



FESTIVITIES TO INDULGE INTO

The main two festivals in the city of Sapporo are the Summer and the Winter Festival. During the Summer festival, the city folks gather together in the Odori Park sipping chilled beer, eating traditional Japanese food followed by dance and songs. The city hosts its simple carnival in which almost everyone happily participates. The Winter festival, on the other hand, is all about celebrating snow sports. With skiing and sledging, the people dive into these sports and indulge in enjoying their time in the city.



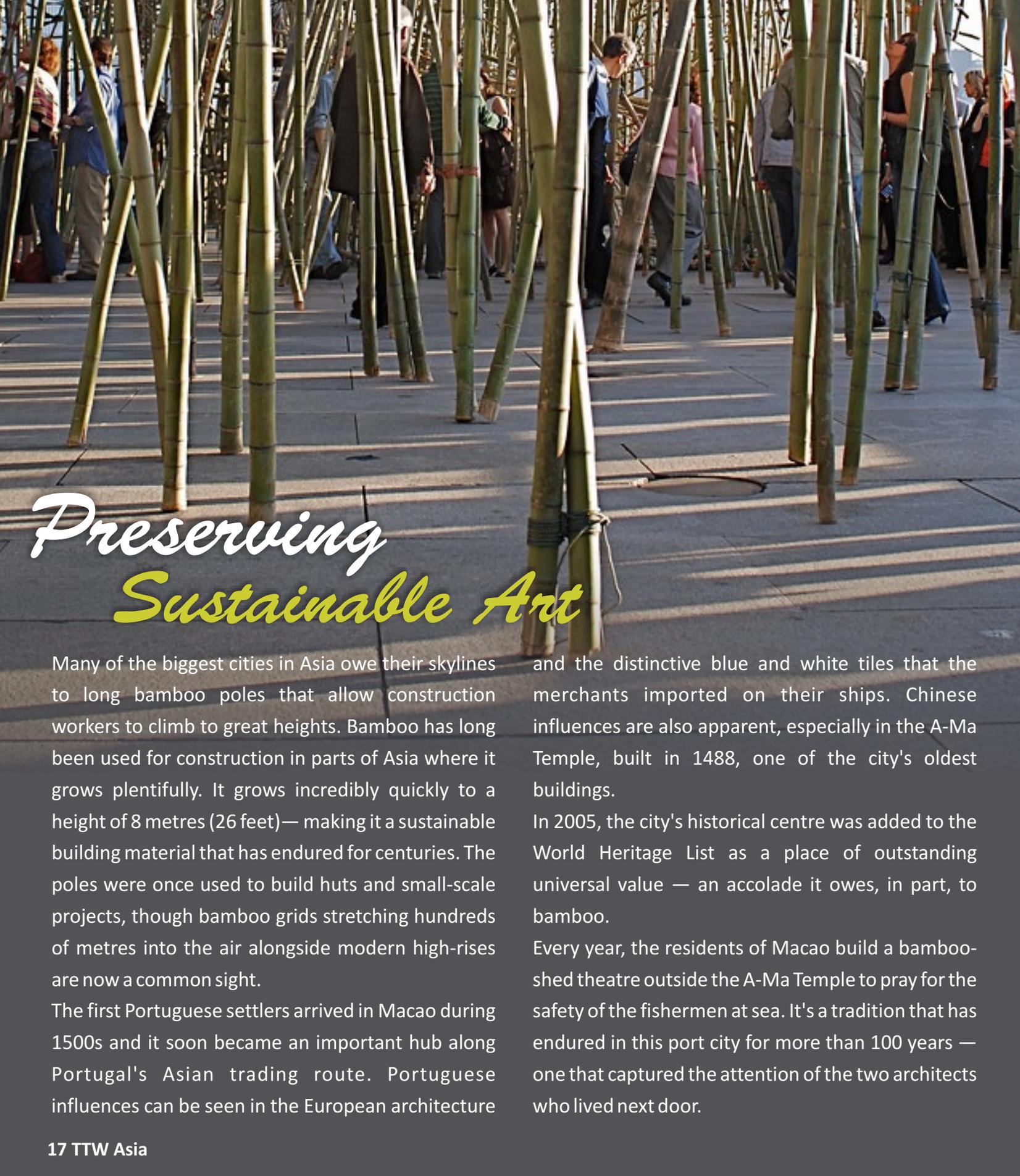
HOW IS THE NIGHTLIFE ?

The nightlife in Sapporo is unique and extremely exciting. The people are very chilled out and prefer to drink down their Monday blues. The pubs here prefer to serve the homemade beer along with spirits from all over the world. The dance floor witnesses folks letting their hair down and dancing their night out. Pubs like The Bow Bar, Jazz live Slow boat, BAR YAMAZAKI are a few of the indigenous and notable nightlife destinations of the city.



Macao's public art scene
Preserving
Bamboo Sculptures

Bamboo is prized around the world, especially in Asian countries like Vietnam, China and India for its durability and flexibility; the merits of the material have long been seen as pragmatic, employed ubiquitously in construction projects. If you walk around Macao, you see bamboo everywhere. From transient bamboo structures to poetic installations, Macao's public art trail grows more dynamic day by day. Now these sustainable architectures attract international tourists too.



Preserving Sustainable Art

Many of the biggest cities in Asia owe their skylines to long bamboo poles that allow construction workers to climb to great heights. Bamboo has long been used for construction in parts of Asia where it grows plentifully. It grows incredibly quickly to a height of 8 metres (26 feet)— making it a sustainable building material that has endured for centuries. The poles were once used to build huts and small-scale projects, though bamboo grids stretching hundreds of metres into the air alongside modern high-rises are now a common sight.

The first Portuguese settlers arrived in Macao during 1500s and it soon became an important hub along Portugal's Asian trading route. Portuguese influences can be seen in the European architecture

and the distinctive blue and white tiles that the merchants imported on their ships. Chinese influences are also apparent, especially in the A-Ma Temple, built in 1488, one of the city's oldest buildings.

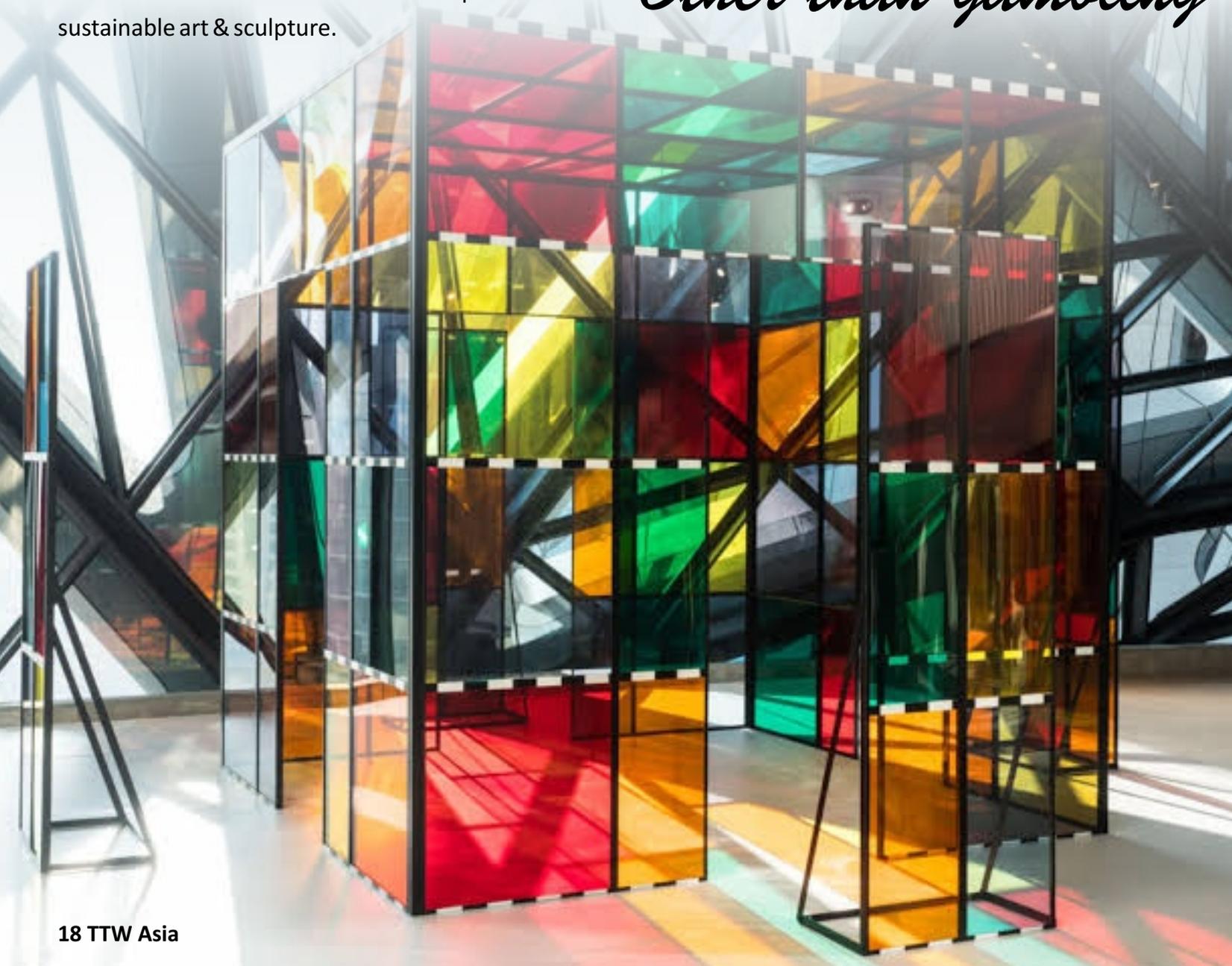
In 2005, the city's historical centre was added to the World Heritage List as a place of outstanding universal value — an accolade it owes, in part, to bamboo.

Every year, the residents of Macao build a bamboo-shed theatre outside the A-Ma Temple to pray for the safety of the fishermen at sea. It's a tradition that has endured in this port city for more than 100 years — one that captured the attention of the two architects who lived next door.

People all over the world often think of Macau as a backwater or as a more Old World kind of place whose narrow streets and colonial architecture speak a bygone era, but the reality is that it has always been as restless as its much larger cousin across the water. It is especially true now that it has spent years transforming itself into the world's largest gambling destination. Other than gambling, Macao prospers itself in bamboo art and sculpture. Macao art world also dedicates itself to promote this sustainable art & sculpture.

The students of the third semester of the Saint-Joseph University of Macau recently carried out an exhibition on bamboo sculptures. The pavilion structure is constructed as a bamboo poles in a lattice structure. The pavilion can be visited any time and offers an unforgettable sound and light show in the evening.

Other than gambling



Bamboo Art Festival promotes culture tourism

Art Macao, a six-month mega arts festival, presented last year a total of 41 events held at 55 locations, offering a new cultural tourism experience that breaks through the concept of space. A number of large-scale outdoor art installations by local and foreign artists, exhibitions organised by foreign consulates accredited in Hong Kong and Macao and hotels and integrated resorts turn local landmarks into photography hotspots, bringing an artistic summer. “Sanctuary”, supported by MGM, a bamboo structure designed by local architects,

designers and artists João Ó and Rita Machado, is exhibited at the Mount Fortress Garden.

This 7 m high installation in a unique style provides visitors a shady art space; the stainless steel sculpture “Contemplation of Loving kindness”, supported by Wynn Macau, Limited, designed by Hong Kong artist Mok Yat San, is exhibited around the Macao Museum of Art, combining Chinese ink painting with modern landscape elements in surreal proportions and in three dimensions, in order to remind the public to protect nature.





The Consulate General of Hungary in Hong Kong and Macao presented the exhibition “Looking out of the Credible – Tapestries of Zsuzsa Pérelí”. Metaphysical and sacred themes permeate Zsuzsa Pérelí's works, hovering between the real and the illusory world, insinuating and telling the audience all that can be perceived as intangible reality.

The main exhibition open at the Macao Museum of Art, the mega event's highlight, the “Art Macao: International Art Exhibition” features a number of valuable works selected by hotels and integrated resorts, presenting the essence of “Art Macao”.

The art exhibitions held at hotels and integrated resorts are equally fantastic and diversified., MGM,

in collaboration with contemporary artists, presents a new artistic conception of ink painting, offering the large-scale multimedia installation *A Metamorphosis: No End To End* by Jennifer Wen Ma and the digital landscape painting *Journey to the Dark II* by Yang Yongliang, presenting the essence of Chinese culture and art. The exhibition “Wynn – Garden of Earthly Delights” at Wynn Macau, Limited, features a series of extraordinary modern and contemporary art pieces, taking the public on a journey into a world of innovation and creativity through various media forms such as paintings, installations and digital art pieces.

SOAKING IN WARM WATER

ASIA'S BEST NATURAL GEYSERS

Geysers and hot springs in Asia are natural features ensuing when ground water is heated by geothermal forces and brought to the surface. These natural elements provide a spectacular sight of boiling water eruptions, vivid colours and strange formations. However, for the hot spring enthusiasts, the greatest pleasure comes not from just looking at the spring, but from getting into the water for its therapeutic powers. In this article, we bring you some of the famous geysers and hot springs which are best for viewing and bathing.

BEPPU Japan

Beppu is one of Japan's most famous hot spring resorts with the largest volume of hot water in the world apart from Yellowstone in the United States and the largest number of hot spring sources in Japan. Beppu contains nine spectacular hot springs, which are sometimes referred to as the “nine hells of Beppu”, and are for viewing rather than bathing. The most photogenic of the nine hells is the “Blood Pond Hell” featuring a pond of hot, red water.

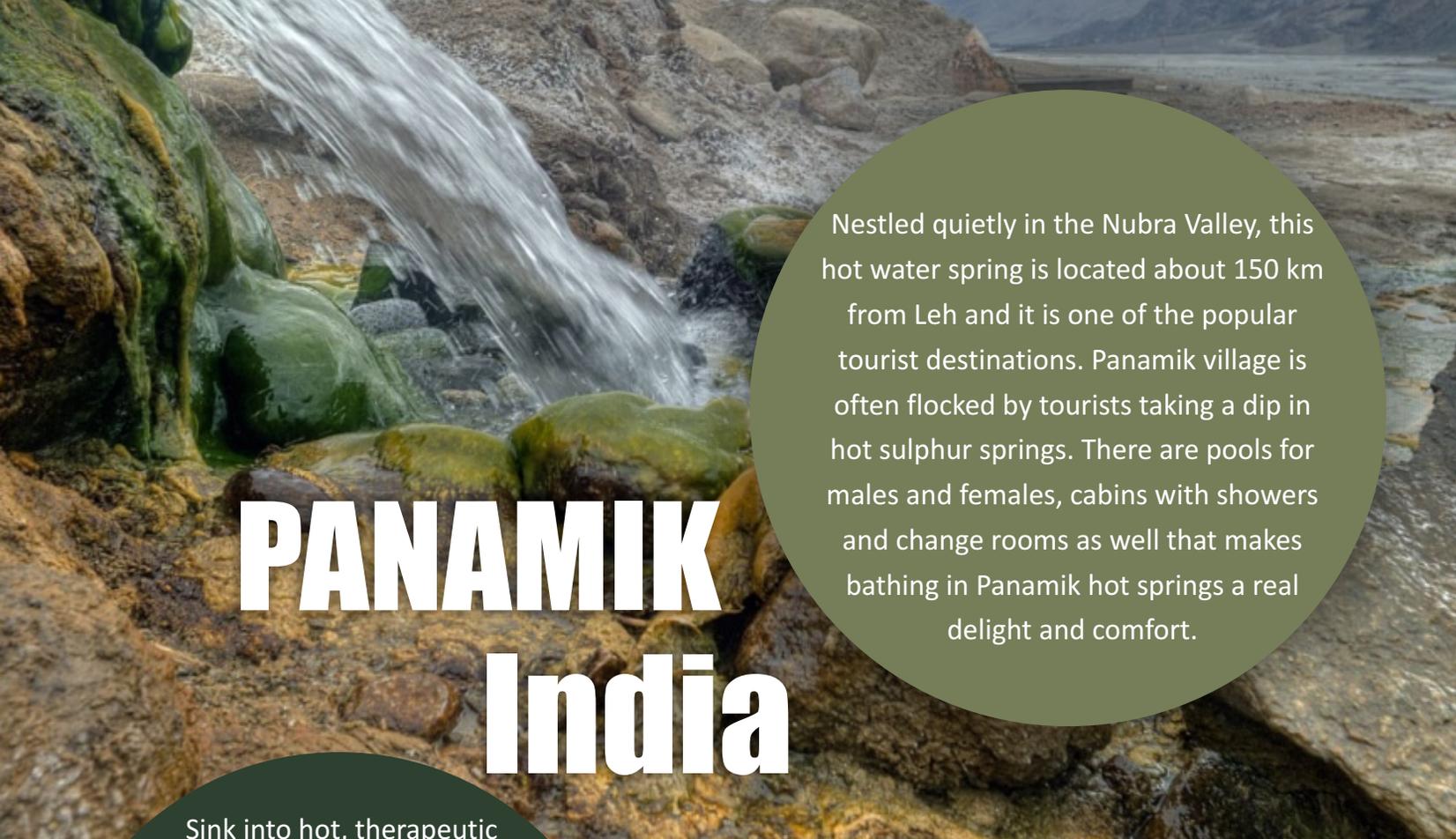


HUANGLONG China

Huanglong (Yellow Dragon Mountain) is central China's most popular tourist destination. This region is known for its colourful pools formed by calcite deposits as well as diverse forest ecosystems, snowcapped peaks, hot springs and waterfalls. Huanglong is also home to many endangered species including the famous Giant Panda. Pearl Boiling Lake, a hot, medical and mineral spring with a temperature of 21°C, is located towards the south of Huanglong. The best time of the year to visit the terraced limestone ponds is September and October when blue, yellow, white and green ponds can be seen.

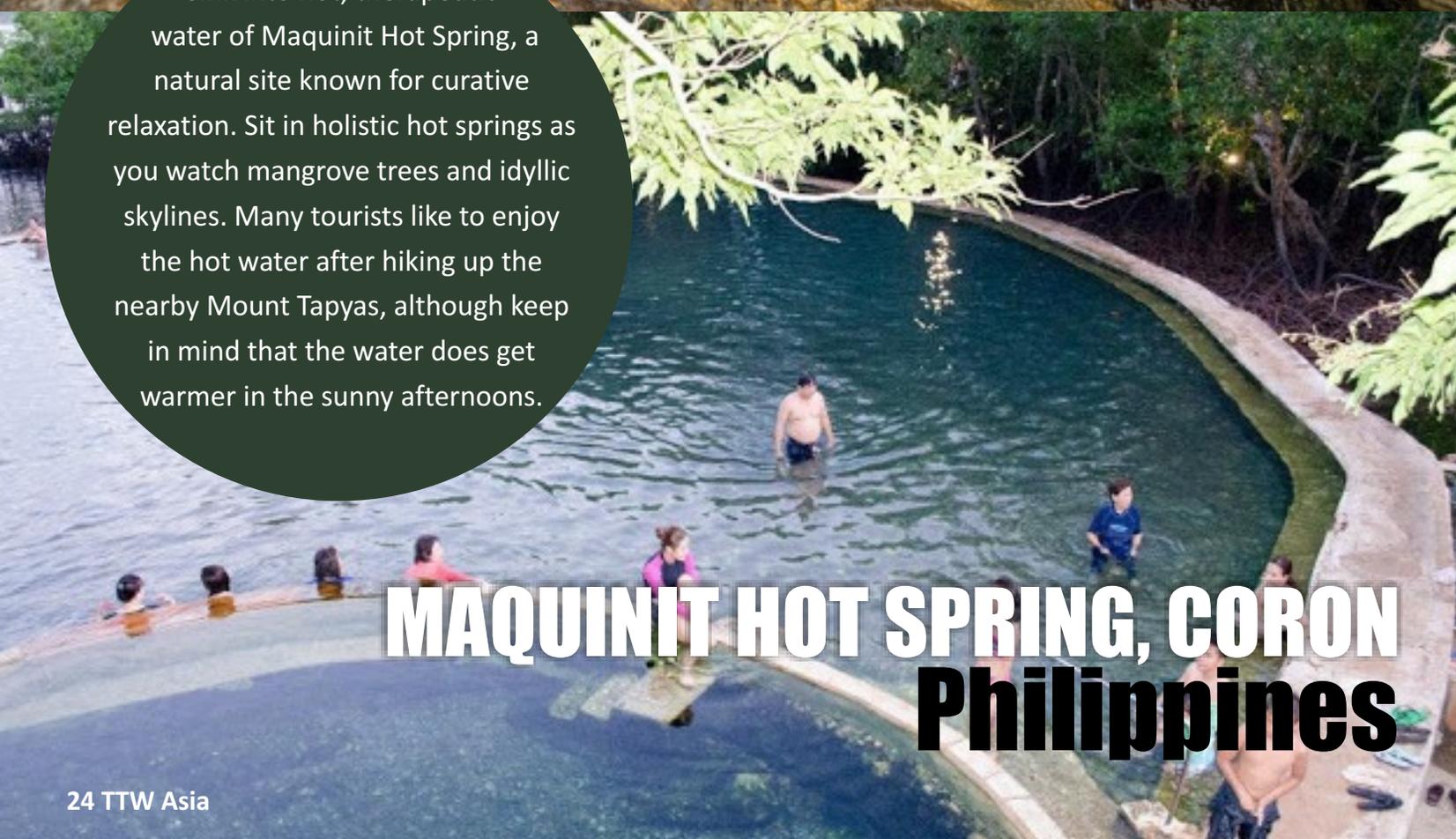
Jigokudani Monkey Park is a famous hot spring area near Nagano, Japan. The name Jigokudani (meaning “Hell's Valley”) is due to steam and boiling water that bubbles out the frozen ground, surrounded by steep cliffs and formidably cold and hostile forests. It is famous for its large population of wild Snow Monkeys that go to the valley during the winter when snow covers the park. The monkeys descend from the steep cliffs and forests to sit in the warm waters of the onsen (hot springs) and return to the security of the forests in the evenings.

JIGOKUDANI MONKEY PARK Japan

A photograph of a waterfall cascading over mossy rocks in a valley. The water is white and frothy, and the surrounding rocks are covered in green moss and lichen. The background shows a hazy, mountainous landscape.

PANAMIK India

Nestled quietly in the Nubra Valley, this hot water spring is located about 150 km from Leh and it is one of the popular tourist destinations. Panamik village is often flocked by tourists taking a dip in hot sulphur springs. There are pools for males and females, cabins with showers and change rooms as well that makes bathing in Panamik hot springs a real delight and comfort.

A photograph of a large, natural hot spring pool surrounded by lush green mangrove trees. Several people are seen swimming and relaxing in the water. The water is a deep blue-green color, and the surrounding vegetation is dense and vibrant.

Sink into hot, therapeutic water of Maquinit Hot Spring, a natural site known for curative relaxation. Sit in holistic hot springs as you watch mangrove trees and idyllic skylines. Many tourists like to enjoy the hot water after hiking up the nearby Mount Tapyas, although keep in mind that the water does get warmer in the sunny afternoons.

MAQUINIT HOT SPRING, CORON Philippines

ACE of M.I.C.E. Exhibition by Turkish Airlines

Date: 22-24 January 2020

Place: Istanbul, Turkey



More than 15,000 visitors attended ACE of M.I.C.E. Exhibition by Turkish Airlines fair with more than 230 International buyers from 54 countries for 3 days.

Between 22-24 January 2020, congress, meeting and event professionals came together at the Istanbul Congress Center. The ACE of M.I.C.E event provided the industry professionals with a unique MICE experience for the 7th time, while it offered the opportunity to bring together the sector professionals once a year to discuss the sector's problems, solutions, and new collaborations. The fair, which included the Vestel Production Talks held at the ICC Üsküdar Hall on January 22-23 and the Istanbul MICE Summit conference programs held on Friday, January 24, undertook the mission of shedding light on the future of the MICE sector.

For the first time in Turkey, the things to do to make Istanbul a leading MICE destination got discussed in a summit. The summit, which was moderated by Volkan Ataman, President of the Tourism Media Group, focused on the subject in 5 separate sessions in 5 separate sessions with protocol, important incentive companies, chairpersons of pcos and event agencies, directors of international chain Hotels and congress centers general managers. Also the directors of foreign Congress Bureaus, coordinated by ICVB, shared their success stories in this area with the participants.





In addition to intense business meetings, the entertainment night of the fair was also worthy of the MICE sector. An unforgettable night was accompanied by video mapping shows, music groups, DJ and dance performances full of surprises at the party where national and international hosted buyers, exhibitors, speakers, international MICE association heads were invited.

The next ACE of MICE Exhibition by Turkish Airlines will be on the date of 10-12 February 2021!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

31st Jan - 2nd Feb

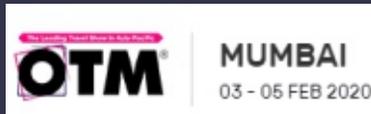


BALT TOUR EXHIBITION

Ragi, Latvia

www.balttour.lv

2 - 4 Feb



OTM MUMBAI

Mumbai, India

www.otm.co.in



**MCE CENTRAL AND
EASTERN EUROPE**

Vienna, Austria

www.europecongress.com

3 - 5 Feb



TTF BANGALORE

Bangalore, India

<https://ttfotm.com/>

7 - 9 Feb

**GLOBAL RESTAURANT
INVESTMENT FORUM**

Amsterdam
www.grif.com

11 - 13 Feb

GRIF

GLOBAL RESTAURANT INVESTMENT FORUM
11-13 February 2020 | NH Collection Amsterdam Grand Hotel Krasnapolsky

12th -14th Feb



PATA (ATRTCM)
Malaysia
www.pata.org



AIME AUSTRALIA
Melbourne Australia
<https://aime.com.au/>

17th -19th Feb

AVIATION FESTIVAL 2020

Suntech, Singapore
www.terrapinn.com



18th -19th Feb

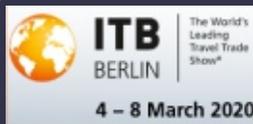
25 - 26 Feb



8th MALT CONGRESS

Dubai, UAE

www.maltcongress.com



ITB BERLIN

Berlin, Germany

www.itb-berlin.com/

4 - 8 March

JEDDAH INTERNATIONAL

TRAVEL AND TOURISM

EXHIBITION

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

www.jttx-sa.com/

26 - 28 Feb



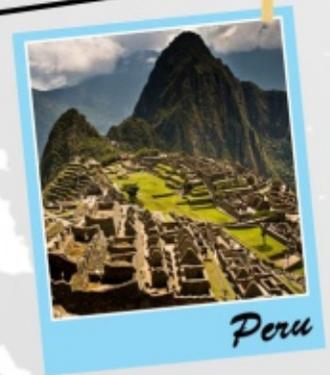
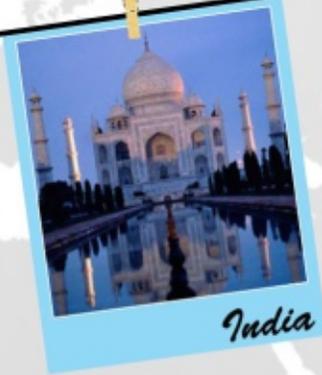
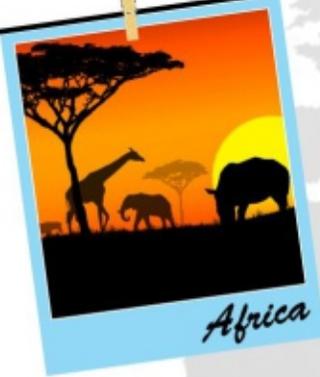
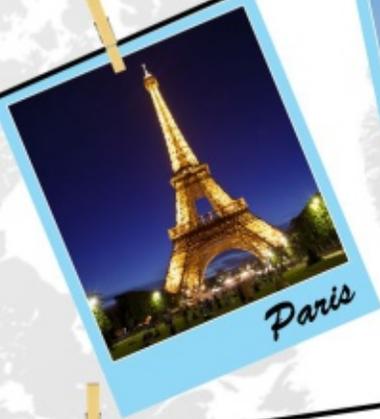
STAY BOUTIQUE BLLA

Los Angeles, CA

<https://stay-boutique.com/>

8 - 9 March

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