

# TTW Americas

Volume: 7, Issue: November 2018

## Aurora Borealis



## Dear Readers,

It's a pleasure to lay out the Meetings Point of this edition – Scottsdale, Arizona. Bleisure trip that combines work and leisure is gaining popularity. Scottsdale presents a tango of business and leisure. You will get a bird's eye view of the top tourist attractions punctuated with high tech convention centres to amalgamate both the purpose of work and play.

In every edition, Americas maps a destination that you can always add to your bucket list. Tempered with beaches, woods, gardens, underwater wonders, Grenada the Isle Of Spice is a perfect place to escape the humdrum of life and enjoy nature. You can know more about it in this edition.

We join our readers in America, Canada, U.K., Carribean Islands and other countries in expressing gratitude for the autumn harvest and every single blessing that we have had. We wish them all joy as they rejoice, reunite, and celebrate. The cover story traces the history of Thanksgiving, as the traditions form an integral ingredient of festivities that include Thanksgiving turkey, parades, drink, and American football.

Aurora Borealis is a phenomenon prominent between late September and early April. The special feature on Aurora Borealis covers the whole spectrum of places where you can feast your eyes on the scintillating light show organized by nature itself. In addition, keep yourself updated with the latest travel happenings.

Do not forget to share your views on our magazine with your friends on this Thanksgiving.

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Mr. Anup Kumar Keshan

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**05-Meetings Point: Scottsdale** 'The West's most western town' promising tempting indulgence – tennis, golf, resort spa, hike and bike in desert mountains and much more!





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**W**ealthy CEOs of the millennial generation have been making a beeline for 'The West's most western town' promising tempting indulgence – tennis, golf, resort spa, hike, and bike in desert mountains and much more!

About 31 miles long and 11 miles wide, the city of Arizona brims with culinary scenes and vibrant arts.

*Scottsdale is the enchanting destination we have chosen to enlighten readers about - the place where corporates come to play and stay to do business.*

# Scottsdale

Where Commerce & Tourism Co-Exist!

## Why Scottsdale is a Synergy of Business and Leisure

Tourism is the most lucrative industry in this American city based in the eastern part of Maricopa County.

Therefore, it has emerged as a successful growth trigger for business development in Arizona. Business professionals are so taken with the exclusive enigma of the city that they buy vacation homes and move their companies here! The town has managed to make a niche in the hearts of leisure tourists. After all it is strewn with some amazing attractions including museums, parks, shopping areas, and concert halls. With a populace of 230,500 as of 2014, the city beckons tourists with luxurious amenities, great weather, and spectacular beauty of the surrounding desert.

## Mesa Convention Center

This is a premier conference and meeting facility in the East Valley of Phoenix, Arizona.

The Mesa Convention Center is a full-service event facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa, Arizona.

It is situated on 22 acres of mature parkland and comprises of Buildings A, B, and C.

- The facility features 19,000 square feet of exhibit space and an additional 19,000 square feet of flexible meeting space.

- The fifteen meeting rooms offer a wide variety of sizes and configurations, and the experienced and friendly staff is here to assist in making your event a success.

- The 5,000 capacity outdoor Mesa Amphitheatre is located on the property and is a fun, unique venue

for outdoor events, festivals and concerts.

- The adjacent Phoenix Marriott Mesa hotel makes sleeping room accommodations easy and accessible.

## Phoenix Convention Center

Phoenix Convention Center is inspired by the red-rock walls and turquoise waters of the Grand Canyon. It is one of the most beautiful and sophisticated convention centers in the United States.

- Its interconnected campus includes three ballrooms, 99 meeting or breakout rooms, a 2,300-seat performance hall and an Executive Conference Center.

- The award-winning catering staff can feed 360 people and its bright and airy food court features five themed eateries.

- The four-level structure occupies a city block and boasts 635,000 square feet of meeting and exhibition space.

- It features a street-level ballroom, 11 exhibit halls, 56 meeting rooms and 20 climate-controlled loading docks.





### Top Tourist Attractions

Some of the Southwest's premium shopping hubs are ready to surprise you in Scottsdale with an array of museums, art galleries, architecture, and so on.

#### Scottsdale Museum of the West

The pioneering spirit of the American West is celebrated at Scottsdale Museum of the West. Visitors admire the changing exhibitions of fine historical exhibits, fine arts, and cultural treasures.

#### OdySea Aquarium

Among city's newest attractions, the OdySea Aquarium features interesting features like Dolphinaris, Butterfly Wonderland, and OdySea



Aquarium where one can be one with aquatic creatures and swim with dolphins!

#### Desert Botanical Garden

Nature enthusiasts are in awe of the Desert Botanical Garden at this part of the world, famous for Las Noches de las Luminarias, the Music in the Garden concert series, summer Flashlight Tours, etc.

#### Scottsdale Wine Trail

Some of the state's most acclaimed vineyards and craft breweries can be discovered along with the much-anticipated Scottsdale Wine Trail! Head off to Scottsdale for your next vacation or business tour.





# Thanksgiving

## Americans' favorite Fiesta of Gratitude

**G**ratitude for life's choicest blessings is graceful and its energy is equally infectious. So is celebrating small mercies!

This practice of acknowledging showers of blessings is ancient, observed by people in America and Canada, renowned internationally as the 'Thanksgiving Day'.

Thanksgiving bears its origin from the harvest festival. Americans love to offer thanks to God for the autumn harvest and every success they have been bestowed with. Steeped in legend and symbolism, the traditional fare of the festival is spread with a tempting platter of turkey, cranberries, potatoes, bread stuffing, and pumpkin pie.



## Origin and History of Thanksgiving

In the United States, the annual national holiday is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November, kick starting the so-called 'Holiday Season' amidst echoes of merriment, peace, and joy! Americans believe that Thanksgiving is modeled on the 1621 harvesting feast that was once observed by the English colonists (Pilgrims) of Plymouth and the Wampanoag people.

This day was declared a federal holiday by Abraham Lincoln in the year 1863. The very first Thanksgiving dinner took place in Texas. Historians state that a sailing vessel known as 'Mayflower' crossed the Atlantic carrying 102 pilgrims, progressing through violent storms. The passengers comforted themselves by singing.

After 66 days they arrived in Plymouth. But owing to ill weather conditions they were unable to proceed to their destination Virginia, and the cold weather killed 46 pilgrims.

Survivors learnt how to grow food from a native Indian named Squanto. However, a severe drought followed that compelled the pilgrims to pray and keep fasts – hopeful of a bountiful harvest. Luckily, the prayers were answered by rains that enabled cultivation of beans, corn, and pumpkins.

In the autumn of 1621, Governor William Bradford organized a three-day feast to thank God for his favors. Although there is no evidence, it is believed that this was the first Thanksgiving Day by the pilgrims.

Pomp and gaiety are the vibrant hues. Thanksgiving marks a great time to exchange gifts with your favorite people and share amazing messages with each other. The best way to celebrate this day is by throwing a surprise party for family and inviting friends at your place for a special Thanksgiving menu and turkey along with a variety of vegetarian dishes.!

People celebrating can even consider attending Macy's Thanksgiving Parade in New York City amidst lively performances.

These parades usually mark the official opening of Christmas retail therapies! Though it has been observed for over four centuries, traditions continue to dazzle the festivities. Feasting and family reunions set the mood for intense jubilation. Prayers are offered to the Almighty for His continuous grace.

Early Thanksgiving revelers feasted on fowl and beef, rather than a traditional turkey. On Thanksgiving, people in the US gather with their family and friends to eat, drink, and watch American football. Families and friends meet to share and celebrate their accomplishments. Major cities host massive parades, complete with floats, brass bands, and giant inflatable balloons. It is a day off for American workers.

## Celebratory Traditions



## Countries celebrating Thanksgiving

The United States is not the only place where people love to offer gratitude to the divine annually, though it is an original American holiday. Besides the U.S., Thanksgiving is also celebrated in Canada and various Caribbean islands. Even the UK has its own version of Thanksgiving, although it is not widely observed.

Other places reveling in the festival include:

- ✪ Grenada
- ✪ The Netherlands
- ✪ Liberia
- ✪ Japan
- ✪ Germany
- ✪ Korea
- ✪ China
- ✪ Australia
- ✪ Philippines
- ✪ St. Lucia



Vehicular travel is the busiest during this time of the year, as family members congregate for joyous celebrations and reunions with friends and beloved ones.

This year, this graceful day would be observed on 22nd November. Brace yourself for good humor, gaiety, and glee as you plan an interesting itinerary for a rejuvenating reunion this Thanksgiving.





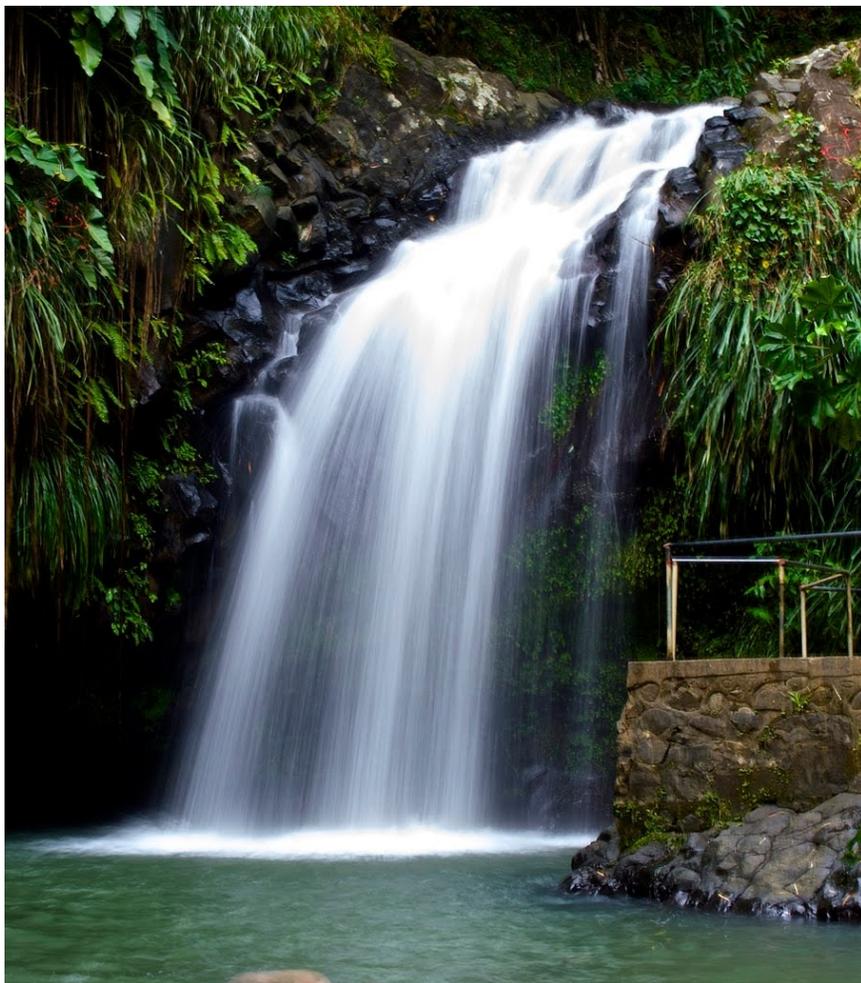
Beautiful and lush green national parks, gushing waterfalls, wide untouched beaches and golden sunset points make Caribbean's most charming destination, Grenada a perfect place to escape heat and enjoy nature. Tourists enjoy different adventure and leisure activities like hiking, island tours, sailing, snorkelling and scuba diving throughout the year.

# GRENADA

*Spend a year  
and never be bored!*



**Isle of Spice** Grenada offers you picturesque moments. It is called Isle of Spice! This tiny destination packs a punch with the wide range of spices that are grown and exported from Caribbean island. Nutmeg and mace production has been a part of Grenada's history and economy for more than 100 years. The island was the second major international exporter in the world, after Indonesia. Grenada celebrates Nutmeg Spice Festival every year. This fiesta is used as a symbol of nation. Grenada also produces saffron, cinnamon, cloves, pimento, bay leaf and ginger.



**Trip mapping out** Discover underwater sculpture, rugged mountain ranges covered with forests and secluded beaches as you explore Grenada's wilder side.

### Explore beaches in isolation

If you want to spend time in isolation, Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique will be a good choice. Grand Anse Beach offers to explore local culture and enjoy the nightlife. Visit La Sagesse, Bathway and Levera Beach. These are the perfect hideaways with journeys that allow you to explore the countryside.

### Take a walk in the woods

Vibrant vegetation and lakes make Grenada more lovely and lush. The rainforest and Grand Etang Lake offer breathtaking scenery and give a chance to meet the flora and fauna. The trails meander around the area's eye-catching waterfalls as well as the blue waters of Grand Etang Lake. Levera National Park holds a triumphant reputation as nation's most scenic coastal area. Consisting of an extensive mangrove swamp, the lagoon is a sanctuary of many birds. Grenada's volcanic origin has produced topography of great beauty and environmental variety, ranging from mountainous rainforest to dry lowlands and coastal mangroves. The highest point is Mt. St. Catherine at 2,757 ft. and ancient volcanic craters can be found in the central massif.



## Discover Grenada's waterfall

Annandale Falls is a short drive from the capital city of St Georges. It is perfect for rock hopping and picnicking. Discover nature's hidden treasures that reveal the beauty spots. Also visit Victoria Falls, Concord, Mount Carmel and Seven Sisters Waterfalls.

## Taste great Caribbean food

Taste delicious South Caribbean breakfast at any cafeteria near the sea beach. People here originally belongs from Trinidad. Try sweet and spicy chickpea curry wrapped inside a soft bara bread. You can also taste Oil Down (national dish), Fried Bake & Saltfish Souse, Cou Cou Pois, Callaloo Soup, Pelau and lambie Souse.



## Walk through underground tunnels and medieval forts

Grenada respects old. They preserve old forts which glorify its history. Belmont Estate, Fort Frederick, Fort George, Fort Mathew are the historical hot spots. You can also take a tour to Grenada National Museum, River Antoine Rum Distillery, Carriacou Museum and Westerhall Estate to witness nation's evolution in tradition and culture.

## See underwater wonders

Underwater adventure offers visitors a world full of excitement. Grenada has popular snorkelling sites which are worth visiting. Molinere Beauséjour Marine Protected Area is an ecological underwater sculpture gallery, reflecting nation's culture. These sculptures enhance the reef, making natural use of its varied topography of rocky areas and sun-dappled sandy patches. Created by British sculptor Jason deCaires Taylor, this park consisted of concrete human figures onto the ocean floor facing into the oceanic currents.



## Take garden tours

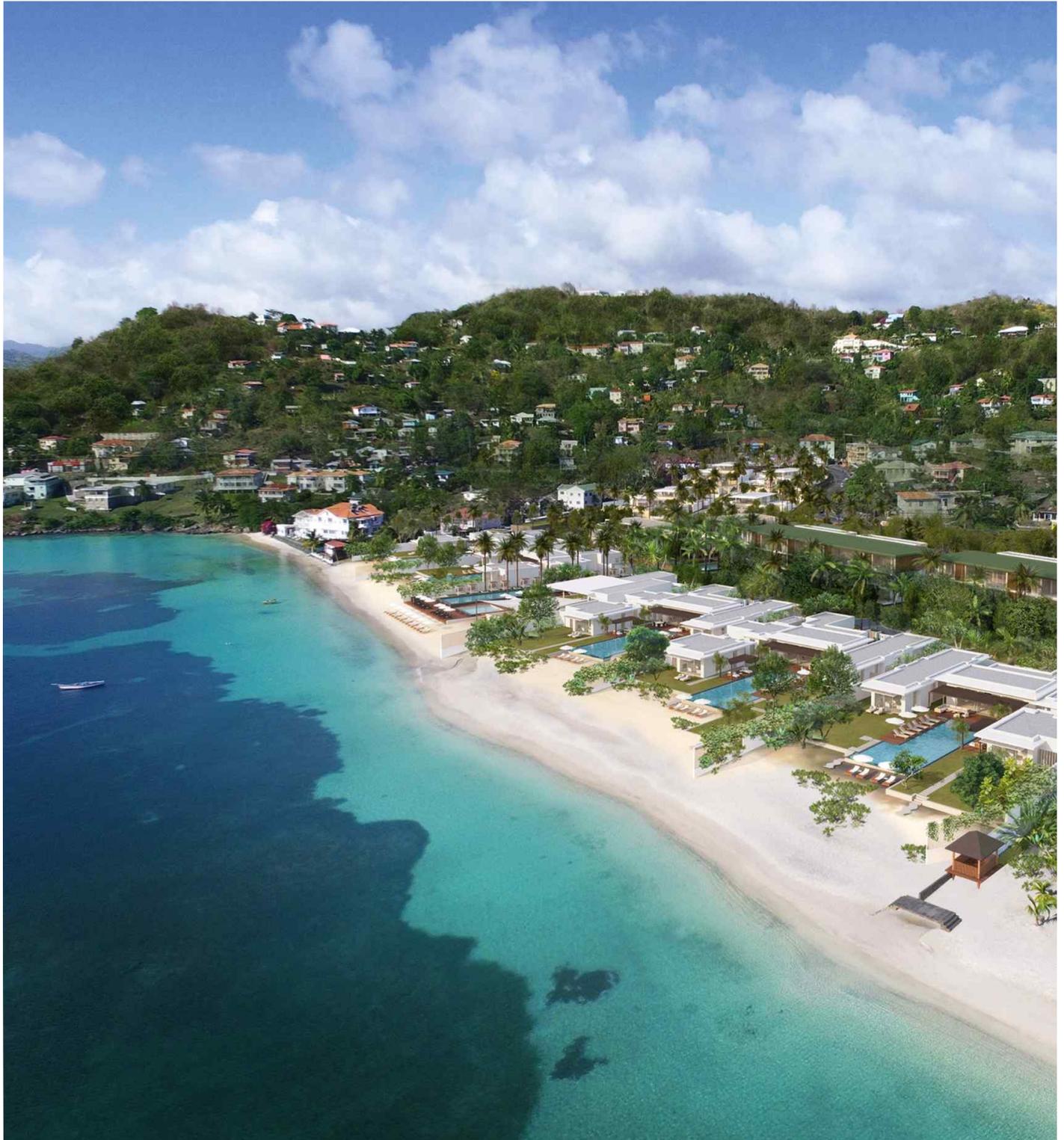
Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique possess some of the most beautiful assorted gardens. These well-decorated gardens feature a wide range of spices, herbs, tropical plants and exotic flowers. Take a garden tour to learn more about the herbal remedies and to taste fresh fruits and spices. Belmont Estate Spice Plantation, De La Grenade Nutmeg Garden, Hyde Park Tropical Garden, Palm Tree Gardens, Jessamine Eden Tropical Botanic Garden and Laura's Herb & Spice Garden are the popular gardens.



## Helpful hints:

Travel the city by bus or taxis. When you are in Grenada, you should not miss the opportunity to visit Carriacou and Petite Martinique. Ferry service is a good option. The ferries depart from the Carenage in St. George's.

*Air Canada and American Airlines have added new flights to Grenada to meet the increasing demand for travel. There are numerous things to do in Grenada. Visit Grenada and enjoy purity, solitude and bliss.*





**A surreal sight of  
shimmery light display!**

# **Aurora Borealis**



**A**n evening light show colors the sky in myriad shades of green, blue, violet, red, pink, and yellow! Aurora Borealis is the most spectacular and enchanting light show, also known as the polar lights, northern or southern lights. It is most prominent in high-latitude regions. It is caused when charged particles from the Sun enter the Earth's atmosphere. Catch the stunning northern lights in destinations across the USA. This is visible between late September and early April.

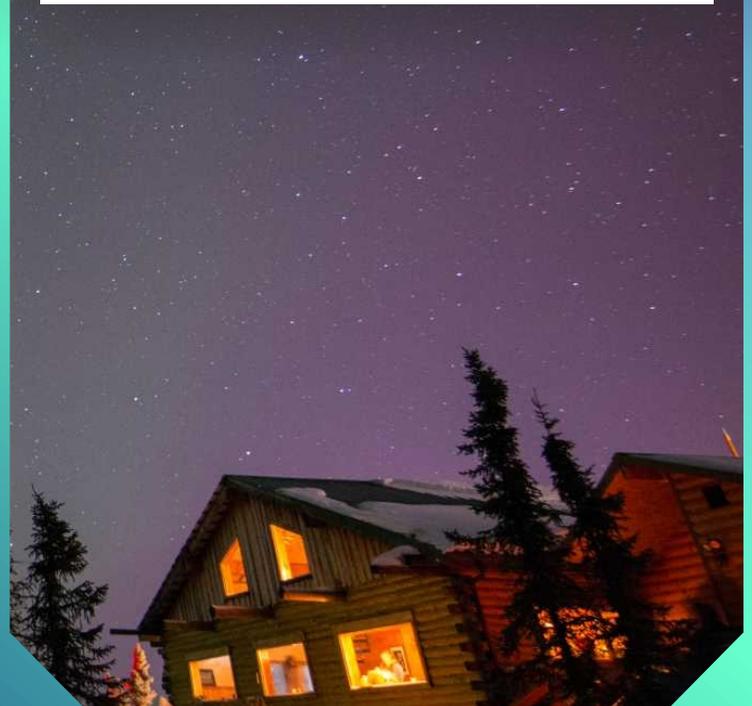
# Priest Lake Idaho

The state's Panhandle National Forest and Priest Lake benefits for viewing the northern lights in the backdrop of beautiful mountains and water adding to its charm. Priest Lake is about 30 miles south of the Canadian border where one can immerse in nature while witnessing the dazzling colors, dramatic scenery, and wildlife. There are plenty of outdoor recreational activities for every season.



# Fairbanks Alaska

This vantage point offers the clearest and most dazzling view. It has the highest number of sightings than any other U.S. state. Geographically located under the aurora oval, it has ideal condition for viewing the northern lights coupled by cold weather and dark skies. Other destinations in Alaska are Denali National Park, Anchorage, and the Chena Lakes area. The northern lights viewing is at its peak between September and April.



# Beaver Bay Minnesota

It boasts some of the best places to sight the Aurora- Kittson County, Beaver Bay, Cooky County, and Sherborne National Wildlife Refuge .Cooky County placed on the northeastern tip of the state along the shores of Lake Superior has some of the tallest mountain peaks and the highest waterfall. It is about 400 kms from Minneapolis and lights appear most often during late fall and winter between 9 p.m and 4 a.m. Lake Superior, Oberg Lake, and Moose Mountain are the main destinations for northern lights sightings.



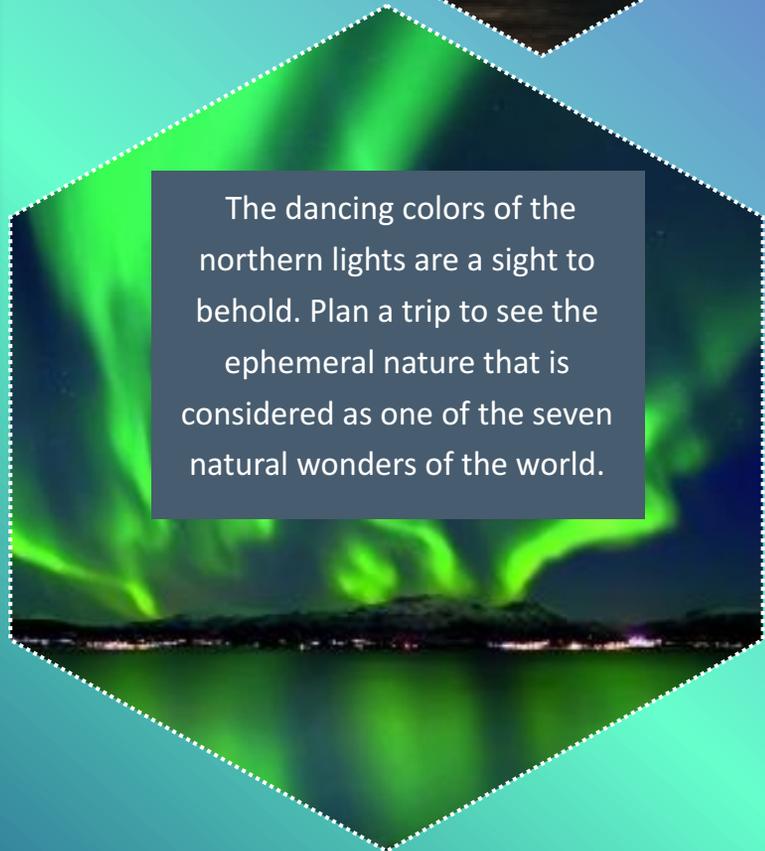
# Aroostook County Maine

Some epic star trails happen here and the Aroostook National Wildlife Refuge area is the most preferred viewing spot for the lights. There are more than 2,100 hectares of wetlands, forest, and grasslands that inhabit wildlife like black bears and moose. The area is close to the border with Canadian Province of New Brunswick. Discover Maine's other highlights for the spotlight as you plan your trip.



# Upper Peninsula Michigan

Get unobstructed views of the night sky from Michigan's northernmost part in the country providing a 180 degree view till the horizon. Due to low light pollution the aurora sightings are common here. Head to the Keweenaw Peninsula, the state's northernmost area for grasping the best view or go to Marquette, the major port on the Lake Superior. Isle Royale National Park, a remote island in the northwest corner of Lake Superior, is another option to be explored. The park remains closed from November to mid-April, however the visitor center is accessible throughout the year to the visitors.



The dancing colors of the northern lights are a sight to behold. Plan a trip to see the ephemeral nature that is considered as one of the seven natural wonders of the world.



# Travel News

## Caspian countries welcome 35 million international visitors in 2018

Four countries in Caspian region- Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan and Russia – welcomed nearly 35 million international visitors this year. It is a two percent increase from the year prior. Globally, a record 1.32 billion tourists travelled internationally last year, spending a total of \$1.3 trillion. Around 2.4 million tourists visited Azerbaijan, 4.8 million went to Iran, another 3.5 million arrived in Kazakhstan, and nearly 25 million went to Russia.

## Singapore Airlines and Tata Sons pump Rs 20 bn into Vistara Airline for expansion

Tata Sons and Singapore Airlines have pumped Rs 20 billion into Vistara as the airline charts its expansion

plan. This is the largest single dose of equity infusion into the joint venture (JV) since its launch in January 2015. It will help Vistara finance its \$3.1 billion (around Rs 220 billion) aircraft order. The airline's board passed a resolution for issuing capital in August. Fresh shares were issued to the two promoters earlier this month, filings with the corporate affairs ministry show.

The investment signals the Tata group's ambition to propel its aviation business. This comes amid firming of its control in AirAsia India and talks with Jet Airways to buy a stake in the latter. Vistara Airlines plans to induct 56 aircraft between 2019 and 2023. It has placed a firm order for 13 Airbus A320neos and six Boeing 787-9 planes. Nearly 37 A320neos will also be taken on lease.



## American Airlines exploring ways to sell expensive tickets to business tourists

American Airlines is exploring the ways to sell the travellers more legroom, free cocktail and other perks and even after book their trips.

It is noted that air travellers this year have shown they're willing to pay higher fares for more comfort on board, by buying seats in business class or more expensive coach seats with more legroom and amenities kits, airline executives said during earnings calls this month. It is a good news for airlines, when the company scrambles to grow revenue after a surge in fuel costs, generally their second-biggest expense after labour, took a bite out of profits during the third quarter. American Airlines reported that record revenue in the third quarter, which includes the busy summer travel season, but said its profit fell by 48 percent, as it took a hit from more expensive fuel.



## Chinese technology firm Baidu launches artificial intelligent guide tour for Barcelona

China's search engine giant Baidu Inc. launched artificial intelligence (AI) guide tour programme, the Baidu Wi-Fi Translator, for Chinese travellers in Barcelona, the second most populous municipality of Spain. The Artificial Intelligence guide gives tourists a rich audio-introduction of all architectures designed by Antonio Gaudi, a great Spanish architect. Xu Ming, the program manager of the Baidu Wi-Fi Translator said that with the help of the Barcelona tourism authority, they designed two routes for tourists, both of which connect a string of classic works by the great architect, Antonio Gaudi.



# AMERICA FESTIVALS

During festive days, the American cities become more vibrant, gallant and illuminative. Here TTW America picks some of the unique American festivals, that feature live music, urban arts, scenes, theatre, craft beer and even offbeat locals. These urban fiestas surely make a chronicle for you.

## Fire, Flour & Fork

**Where: Richmond VA**

**When: 1-4 November 2018**

Fire, Flour & Fork is a four days celebration with food, beer, wine and the different recipes from the different countries of the world. This year Richmond, the place of the historical beauty will make 5th year celebration with the food meets, culinary talks and a gathering of not only food lovers but also the cookbook authors, historians, bartenders and bakers.



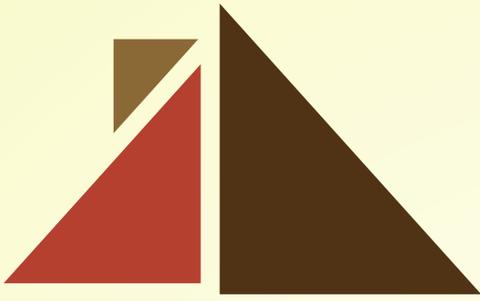


It is not just a food festival, but a movement to stay healthy, as Seed Food & Wine Festival offers miscellaneous platter of vegan dishes to its visitors. This festival stands for the protection of plant-based foods, sustainability, cognizant living and mostly the safety of animals.

## **Seed Food & Wine Festival**

**Where: Miami Beach, FL**

**When: 7-11 November 2018**



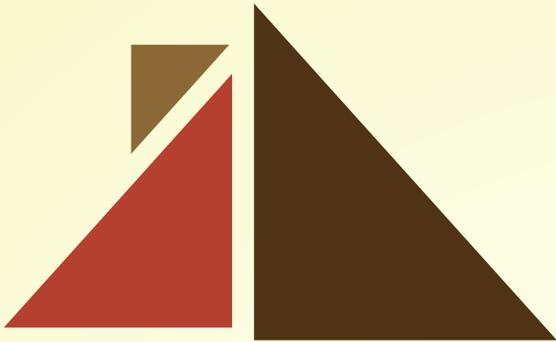
## Thanksgiving Day

When: 22 November 2018

Where: All over United States

Thanksgiving Day is traditionally a day for families and friends to get together for a special meal. Originated as a harvest festival, Thanksgiving Day is a time for many people to give thanks for what they have. Thanksgiving Day parades are held in Canada, the United States, some of the Caribbean islands, and Liberia. Turkey is the most common food served during the Thanksgiving Dinner. American farmers raise millions of turkeys every year in preparation of the Thanksgiving Holiday. Other common meals on this day include potatoes, pumpkin pie, cranberry sauce and an assortment of vegetables.





## Winter Festival of Lights

Where: Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada

When: 3 Nov 2018 - 31 January, 2018

Canada's one of the illuminative festivals, Winter Festival of Lights will bring the classic and modern luminescence with beautiful decoration on the five kilometers long route along the Niagara Parkway, with an aim to promote the tourism and the culture to the global populace. During this festival, the city will turn into a palette of breathtaking colors on the waters, trees and architectural landmarks, making it gorgeous with Fallsview Sound & Light Show, Laser Light Shows and WFOL Opening Ceremonies.





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## **Electric Daisy Carnival Orlando 2018**

**Where: Orlando, FL**

**When: 9- 10 November 2018**



## Indywood Film Carnival

**A**s the canvas of films grows bigger in India, so does the need to develop beyond conventional borders and to tap the full spectrum of the domestic audience, Indian diaspora and the global film market.

Project Indywood, the USD 10 billion visionary project has been at the front position of uniting all Indian regional film industries under one umbrella and connecting the industry with global stakeholders of cinema.

By bridging the gap between the Indian and International film market, and opening new avenues for international trade and investments, Indywood Film Carnival will help to promote Indian cinema globally, thereby benefitting its film industry, both financially and qualitatively.

After the overwhelming response received by Indywood Film Carnival in Kochi (2015) and Hyderabad (2016 & 2017), the event shall return with its fourth edition which promises to be three times bigger than its predecessors in all aspects. The fourth edition of the Carnival will be a forum for more than 5000 delegates including visits from 1000 International delegates from over 100 countries to the state of Telangana. The film festival expects to see 20000 footfalls from the visitors

When: December 01 - 05 , 2018

Where: HITEX Convention Centre, Hyderabad

including eminent film producers, directors, cine artists, government officials, tourism boards, international buyers and sales agents, film associations, film institute, film journalists, film commissions, film enthusiasts and students etc. Other major events at Indywood Film Carnival will include Media Interactions, Conferences & Panel Discussions, Workshops & Seminars, Film Business Awards, Golden Frame Awards, Excellence Awards, Red Carpet & Networking Events, Indywood Academy Awards, Indywood Fashion Premier League, Film Tourism and Investors Meet.





Indywood Film Carnival has always been a platform to meet, connect and showcase the best of India's numerous film industries with national and international stakeholders of cinema. It is where film makers, production houses, technology providers and aspiring artists converge to make the dream of a unified Indian film industry a reality. Continuing the success streak of its predecessors,

Indywood Film Carnival shall return for its fourth edition from Dec 1-5, 2018.

Adhering to Make in India policy and promoting local industries such as tourism and entertainment, IFC shall continue its mission to attract foreign delegates and tourists thereby promoting film tourism in the state. .



## AIME Australia 2019

**A**sia Pacific Incentives and Meetings Event (AIME) relaunches to market 18-20 February 2019 at Melbourne Convention Exhibition Centre, Australia.

With the booming MICE industry delivering year on year growth to reach \$1,245 billion by 2023, Asia Pacific leads this growth with the emerging mega economies of China and India, regional cooperation and easy global accessibility. AIME is the pre-eminent event that gathers together the largest numbers of buyers for Asia Pacific who are wanting and qualified to do business. It's dynamic, big business and carefully curated to deliver return on investment for all participants.

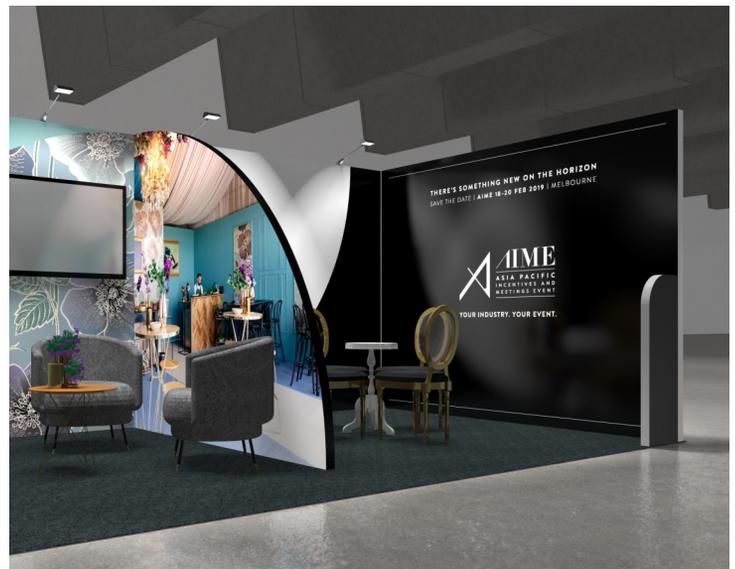
New organisers to AIME are committed to a 60% increase on buyer numbers from previous years, welcoming experienced buyers from across Australasia and are also targeting 35% of buyers from the Asia Pacific region with a further 25% from across Europe, the Middle East and the Americas. The AIME team has reviewed multiple facets of the event experience, introducing personalised vetting of every single buyer, ensuring that only quality buyers with business to contract will be at AIME.

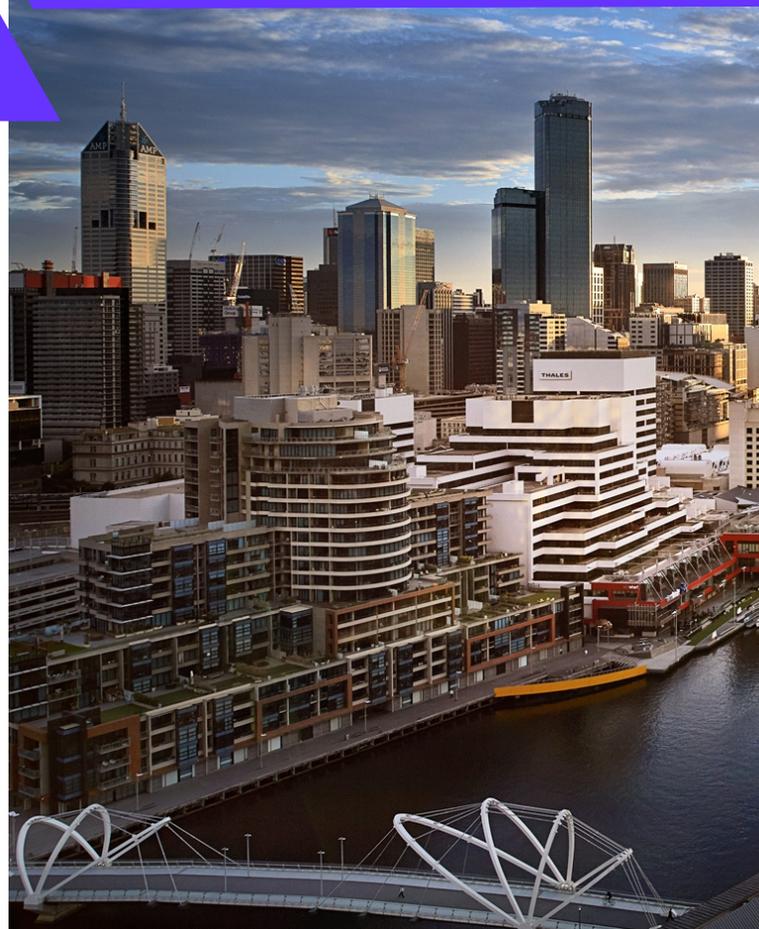
Talk2 Media & Events Director Matt Pearce said

When: February: 18-20 2019

Where: : Melbourne Convention Exhibition Centre, Australia

that hosted buyers, both quantity and quality, together with geographic spread are core to underpinning the future success of AIME. AIME has invested heavily into the Hosted Buyer Program and it's pleasing to receive strong interest from buyers in Asia-Pac and Australia alike.





The industry is responding with zeal. Already, AIME has contracted more hosted buyers than previous years with 58% Asian Pacific and international buyers, and 44% of all buyers are first timers to AIME. Interest from India has exceeded expectations, with organisers having to create a waiting list to cater for this demand. Destinations, associations and venues across the globe are signing up with many exhibitors who have shunned the past few years, recommitting to the new vision for AIME, including Dubai Business Events, Thailand Convention and Exhibition

Bureau, Silversea Cruises and Hilton Hotels Malaysia. The new participation model, which includes stand build, all networking events and attendance to the Knowledge Program simplifies the investment, but is driven by the delivery of 32 appointments, carefully matched between the exhibitors' destinations and services against the business needs of the buyers. Meeting preferences open mid-November, so don't miss the opportunity to do business at AIME. Focus on a commercial outcomes, this revitalised event is truly worth your time.



When: 13- 15 February, 2019

Where: Convention Centre- Jeddah Hilton, Saudi Arabia

## Jeddah International Travel and Tourism Exhibition

Jeddah International Travel and Tourism Exhibition organized annually in Jeddah to provide a platform for local and international inbound and outbound tourism professionals and gives information to the exhibition visitors on amazing tourism destinations, accommodation options, medical and educational tourism, travel services and airlines in the Middle East and around the world.

Jeddah International Travel and Tourism Exhibition 2019 will attract more than 200 exhibitors from more than 20 countries and will attract more than 30,000 visitors including managers of travel and hospitality industries, and public visitors interested to discover personally the displayed travel services in the planning period for the next trip. Maya Helfawi, president of the organizing committee and manager of 4M Event Management the organizer of the event said: "the next edition will highlight family tourism in the Middle East".

She added that the statistics of the Middle East travel market has shown that more than two-thirds of the population prefer luxurious hotels to spend their holidays, also the size of the family tourism sector has grown significantly in recent years, prompting tour operators to design special holiday packages for families and showcase this product

directly to the exhibition visitors to familiarize them with its features and advantages.

Eng. Hamza Nasser, Executive Director of the exhibition said that this event is organised for the eighth consecutive year in time when the sector is witnessing rapid growth thanks to the efforts of the Saudi Commission for Tourism and National Heritage in addition to the various efforts and support provided by the relevant government sectors. The integration of the tourism sector into the priorities of the Saudi Vision 2030 will enable the acceleration of this growth and increase its efficiency in supporting the national economy. He pointed out that the local and international statistics confirm this growth, where the tourism information and research centre "MAS" recently revealed in its statistics that the number of jobs in the tourism sector has exceeded 880 thousand jobs, also the number of inbound tourist trips has exceeded 18 million trips and spending \$ 22 billion, while the number of outbound tourist trips approached 21 million trips and spending \$ 22.4 billion.

## OTDYKH International Russian Travel Market 2018

**When: 11-13 September 2018**

**Where: Expocentre Fairgrounds, Moscow, Russia**

**T**he 24th edition of OTDYKH Leisure, took place on 11-13 September 2018 at Expocentre Fairgrounds in Moscow. This event brought together 870 exhibitors from 41 countries and 44 Russian regions, covering the total area of 15 000 sq. m with over 38 300 visits during the 3 days of the Expo.

The key feature of OTDYKH 2018 edition was a significant increase of the Russian domestic travel exposition as well as the strong advertising campaigns of well-established exhibitors.

Traditionally strong participation was shown by Asia and Latin America. European countries intensified their marketing efforts to attract more tourists to their destinations.

Large and exclusive expositions were demonstrated by the top destinations such as Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, China, Georgia, Spain, Greece, Serbia, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Hungary, Cuba, Tunis, Egypt and many others.

A record number of Russian regions took part at the event to introduce their tourist attractions to the exhibition's guests, increasing their exhibition area by 26% compared to 2017.

The exhibition was accompanied by a

comprehensive business programme, featuring more than 40 business events in 11 conference halls with 200 speakers and over 2.000 participants including representatives of government authorities and travel industry. During the exhibition, 15 governmental agreements have been signed.

The highlights in the field of outbound tourism became a Hosted Buyers Programme 2018 and a series of roundtable meetings between Russian large tour operators and international authorities in total of 4 roundtable meetings dedicated to Serbia, India, Indonesia and Japan. The meetings were co-organized by ATOR (Association of Tour Operators of Russia).

The key event in the area of inbound tourism became the conference on the domestic tourism development in Russia. The so-called "All-Russia Meeting on Inbound and Domestic Tourism Development" was held on 11th of September and attracted over 200 participants incl. key decision-makers, governors, heads of tourism-related ministries and authorities.



The Ministry of Culture of Russian Federation, the Association of Russian Tour Operators, the Russian Union of Travel Industry, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation and other national and regional authorities have, once again, extended their support to OTDYKH, noting that the exhibition is well-established and high-demanded B2B platform.

OTDYKH 2018 welcomed numerous newcomers as well as a series of returning exhibitors. Among newcomer were Palestine, Andhra Pradesh, Taiwan and Sintraas well as the Republic of Bashkortostan, Omsk and Penza regions. Maldives and Japan returned to the leading travel exhibition with collective stands after a short break. The OTDYKH business programme was of great interest among experts, industry associations and companies actively engaged in the Russian tourism industry and covered a large number of events including conferences, seminars, work-shops, case-study presentations, roundtable meetings and other

networking events. The business programme reflected the major industry trends and combined all relevant sectors of the tourism value chain, from MICE and Luxury Travel to Health and Gastronomy. One of the key events of OTDYKH Leisure 2018 became the Conference on domestic and inbound tourism development in Russia, which was held on 11th of September. The outcome of the Conference became a draft resolution with practical proposals for tourism development in Russia. The resolution will be submitted to the tourism-related ministers for their consideration and approval. The Hosted Buyers Programme 2018 received special interest. The high-level buyers, tour operators and travel agencies from 23 Russian regions attended the exhibition to conduct meetings with exhibitors. In 2019 OTDYKH International Travel Market will celebrate its 25th anniversary. Don't miss out the opportunity to enter one of the largest tourism markets in the world with over 20 million outbound travellers per year. Become part of OTDYKH 2019- where the world of travel is at home.

Nov  
1-4

**THE LUXURY TRAVEL FAIR**  
Olympia, London  
[www.luxurytravelfair.com](http://www.luxurytravelfair.com)



Nov 2

**GLOBAL EUROPEAN MARKETPLACE**  
London, UK  
[www.etoa.org](http://www.etoa.org)



Nov  
5-7

**WORLD TRAVEL MARKET**  
London, United Kingdom  
<http://london.wtm.com/>



Nov  
5-7

**CRUISE CONNECT SUMMIT**  
Manila, Philippines  
<https://maritime.knect365.com/crew-connect-global/>



Nov  
7

**TOURINVEST FORUM**  
Paris, France  
<http://tourinvest.com/en/home/>



Nov  
7-9

**Cruise World**  
Florida USA  
[www.cruiseworldshow.com](http://www.cruiseworldshow.com)



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov  
7-9

**ADVENTURE NEXT LATIN AMERICA**

Campo Grande, MS, Brazil  
[www.adventuretravel.biz/events/adventurenext/latin-america-2018/](http://www.adventuretravel.biz/events/adventurenext/latin-america-2018/)



Nov 8

**AIRPORT SOLUTIONS DUBAI**

Dubai, UAE  
[www.airportsolutions.com/dubai](http://www.airportsolutions.com/dubai)



Nov  
6-8

**HOSPITALITY QATAR**

Qatar  
[www.hospitalityqatar.qa](http://www.hospitalityqatar.qa)



Nov  
13-14

**FUTURE TRAVEL EXPERIENCE ASIA EXPO**

Marina Bay Sands, Singapore  
[www.futuretravelexperience.com/fteasia/](http://www.futuretravelexperience.com/fteasia/)



Nov  
13-16

**AMOUR THE AMERICAS**

Los Cabos, Mexico  
[www.amourforums.com](http://www.amourforums.com)



Nov  
14-15

**BALTIC SEA TOURISM FORUM**

Riga, Latvia  
[www.balticseatourism.net](http://www.balticseatourism.net)



Nov  
14-15

**China Destination Marketing Conference**

China  
[www.chinatravelnews.com](http://www.chinatravelnews.com)



Nov  
14

**INTERNATIONAL HOTEL TECHNOLOGY FORUM**

Dubai, UAE

[www.airportsolutions.com/dubai](http://www.airportsolutions.com/dubai)



Nov  
14-15

**Hotel Management Indonesia Summit**

Jakarta, Indonesia

[www.questexevent.com/](http://www.questexevent.com/)

[HotelManagementSummit/2018/indonesia](http://HotelManagementSummit/2018/indonesia)



Nov  
20

**PACIFIC AREA INCENTIVES & CONFERENCE EXPO**

Auckland, Australia

[www.paicexpo.co.nz](http://www.paicexpo.co.nz)



Nov  
21-22

**MICE Place Brussels**

Brussels Belgium

[www.bruxelles.mice-place.com](http://www.bruxelles.mice-place.com)



Nov  
22-24

**TT Warsaw**

Poland

<http://ttwarsaw.pl/en/>



Nov  
23-25

**IITM Hyderabad**

Hyderabad, India

<http://iitmindia.com/>



Nov  
27-29

**ACI Airport Exchange Conference**  
Oslo, Norway  
[www.airport-exchange.com](http://www.airport-exchange.com)



Nov  
27-29

**IBTM World**  
Barcelona, Spain  
[www.ibtmworld.com/homeb](http://www.ibtmworld.com/homeb)



Nov 29 -  
Dec 1

**Chengdu International Tourism Expo**  
Chengdu, China  
[www.citechina.asia/](http://www.citechina.asia/)



Nov 29 -  
Dec 2

**MEETING & INCENTIVE FORUMS- MICE MASTERS**  
Girona, Spain  
[www.mi-forums.com/suppliers/experiences/2018/MICE\\_masters.aspx](http://www.mi-forums.com/suppliers/experiences/2018/MICE_masters.aspx)



Nov  
30

**IITM Pune**  
Maharashtra  
<http://iitmindia.com/>



Dec  
12

**Uzakrota Travel Summit 2018**  
Uzakrota, Turkey  
[www.uzakrota.com/tag/uzakrota-travel-summit-2018](http://www.uzakrota.com/tag/uzakrota-travel-summit-2018)



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