

# TTW Americas

Volume: 7, Issue: September 2018

# *UTAH*





**04- Meetings Point:** Also known as “The Gathering Place”, **Oahu** is the third largest Hawaiian island with best nightlife and urban culture. Home to diverse population, Oahu has a perfect contrast between the ancient and modern culture

**08- Destination Diary:** **Utah** means people of the mountains and is among the best places for paleontology in North America. Southern Utah is home to the Mighty Five national parks and several national monuments

**16- Cover Story:** Traveling to unknown landscapes can be exhilarating and scary at the same time, but such an apprehension need not hold travelers back! Here are the top tricks for the supercool **female solo** backpacker

**20- Special Feature:** America's awe-inspiring natural beauty is best seen in its idyllic **foliage** across the country. The leaf peeping season is here; so rejoice pumpkin picking, apple treats, cozy weather in scenic towns for autumn displays and views

**Interview Zone: 14**

**America’s Festival: 23**

**Travel News: 28**

**Show Highlight: 30**

**Show Review: 37**

**Calendar of Events: 39**

## Dear Readers,

Oahu is brimming with a wide variety of industries and is a popular business destination. The island's beauty is jaw dropping and the tropical paradise is perfect for bleisure trips. Go through Meetings Point on Oahu to gather more insights about the third largest island of the Hawaii chain.

Thousands of visitors flock to Utah to explore outdoor scenes in national parks and indulge in adventurous activities like river rafting, hiking and skiing. However, there are activities galore for those who wish to remain indoors. So, read our Destination Diary to unveil this region.

Cover Story on Solo Female Travel reflects how travelling on your own is an amazing experience, where you are your own boss. Although it might sound daunting for some but the only person you need to be bothered about is yourself!

America, over the next few months across its several states will be experiencing unique fall .Special feature on Autumn Foliage suggest where to head to view the stunning leaf changing action that transforms the country into a beautiful palette.

Grab a copy of this edition and remain updated from the world of travel!

**Editor-In-Chief**

Mr. Anup Kumar Keshan

# Editorial Desk

**President & Editor-In-Chief**  
Mr. Anup Kumar Keshan

← →

**Editor**  
Mr. Apratim Ghoshal

← →

**Executive Editor**  
Mrs. Puja Keshan

**Associate Editor**  
Mr. Devansh Keshan

← →

**Content Writers**  
Ms. Arpita Paul  
Ms. Hena Ahmed  
Mr. Tuhin Sarkar

**Design Team**  
Mr. Mufaddal Chithiwala  
Ms. Sonali Khan  
Mr. Rajat Singh ( Web)  
Mr. Kaushik Das(Web)

← →

**Marketing Executive**  
Mr. Vijay Kumar

**Asst. Communication Exe.**  
Mr. Rana Singh

← →

**Circulation**  
Mr. A.K. Sharma  
Mr. Kajal Mandal

Follow us



Meetings Point

Central Pacific's  
Transcendent Meetings'  
Destination



# Oahu

**A**lso known as “The Gathering Place”, Oahu is the third largest Hawaiian island with best nightlife and urban culture. Home to diverse population, Oahu has the perfect contrast between the ancient and modern culture. This city has exceptional meeting and wedding venues. It is the place where thinking evolves out of the proverbial box, perspectives are forever altered and professional relationships are propelled to new heights.



# Oahu Meeting Destinations

## **The Royal Hawaiian**

Waikiki's best known place is The Royal Hawaiian. This place is an ultimate icon of comfort and romance. Opened in 1927, The Royal Hawaiian promises to cater to professional meetings or events amidst the inspiring royal elegance of the "Pink Palace". Its flexible indoor area includes 12,000 square feet of gracefully designed rooms with modern meeting facilities and services. On contrary, its outdoor space spans 66,000 square feet that leads to its private beach area and coconut grove.



## **Hawaii Convention Center**

One of the premier convention and exhibition center in Hawaii, Hawaii Convention Center is located on the island of Oahu. HCC with its luminous structure offers luxurious meetings, events, and exhibitions.

Designed by Wimberly Allison Tong & Goo and LMN, HCC has state-of-the-art modern technology with authentic island ambiance that projects solitude, romance, and tranquility. The Hawaii Convention Center hosts a wide variety of events in its 200,000 sq.ft Kamehameha Exhibit Hall and 35,000 sq.ft Kalakaua Ballroom.



## **Alohilani Resort**

One of the freshly redesigned Hawaii meeting facilities is Alohilani Resort. This can be your next meeting destination that creates seamless and memorable experience. Its 3,700 square feet Bluefin meeting room is ideal for meetings or exhibitions. Alohilani Resort can accommodate up to 1,500 guests for a wedding reception and two-dozen professionals for meeting.

## Iolani Palace

Iolani Palace was the official residence of Hawaii's monarchy. It is a wonder of opulence, innovation, and political intrigue. Meticulously restored to its former grandeur, this National Historic Landmark tell the tales of Kamehameha Dynasty. You can enjoy the impressive living restorations in all of Polynesia and immerse yourself in Hawaii's royal heritage.

## Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum

Designated as the Hawaii State Museum of Natural and Cultural History, it is a collection house of natural history and science. Founded in 1889, Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum displays world's largest collection of Polynesian cultural artifacts and natural history specimens.



# Top Attractions in Oahu

## Pearl Harbor

Largest natural harbor in Hawaii, Pearl Harbor commemorates the historic events that changed the course of history during the World War II.



## Leeward Coast

Lies at the foot of the Waianae mountain range, Leeward Coast is rural part of Oahu. This rustic place is less developed, dotted with picturesque towns, beautiful off-the-beaten-path beaches and rural landscapes to explore.

If you want to experience Oahu after a day long meeting, just indulge in short trips and guided tours. With the island being spread across just 44 miles, tour planners can easily incorporate Oahu's main attractions into short day trips.

### **North Shore**

Haleiwa Town is the gateway to Oahu's big-wave surfing area, and its shops and cafes reflect the casual culture that stems from the wave riders of Waimea Bay.

### **Ko Olina**

It is a luxurious waterfront offering a variety of activities, pristine golf courses and two first-class, meeting-friendly resorts with sumptuous amenities.



# *Exclusive Resort Areas in Oahu*

### **Kahala**

It is the island's most luxurious residential neighborhoods dotted with private lagoon, dolphin swim experience, spa, and more.

Follow the path of surfing forefather Duke Kahanamoku on the Waikiki Beach; visit the royal quarters of Iolani Palace and go to Pearl Harbor. Taste the hot malasadas (local doughnuts) while shopping for vintage floral-print shirts in Kapahulu Avenue.



Destination Dairy

**UTAH**



## Where adventure awaits!

Scenic drives, cultural highlights, skiing, hiking, mountain biking, ATV motorcycle riding, and different off-road pursuits – Utah is an outdoor-adventurers' paradise! It has incredible national and

08 TTW Americas

state parks, natural wonders from the alpine forest to deserts and dinosaurs with endless options to explore. Utah means people of the mountains and is among the best places for paleontology in North America. Southern Utah is home to the Mighty Five national parks and several national monuments. Crafted by wind, water,



and time, Utah is an ideal destination where you can create memories of your next adventure.

# Zion National Park



The Zion National Park stretches 30 miles in length and 15 miles in breadth near St. George and Springdale Utah. Its elevation ranges from 4000 to 8,700 feet.

The 5 miles round trip offers great view of the canyon. It is suggested to trailhead from the main entrance beginning at the Grotto drop off point. Crossing switchbacks the trail passes between Angles Landing

and the Zion Canyon and then enters the Walter's Wiggles which is a series of 21 steep switchbacks. 'Scout lookout' is the turnaround point for those who do not want to opt to the top of Angels Landing as the last leg of the trail is tough with sharp drop offs narrow paths.



### ***Ice Climbing***

There are easy to hard routes in Provo, Joe's Valley, and Maple Canyon, all of which are easily reachable from the Salt Lake City. The state's best and longest routes are found in Joe's Valley.

There is a 600-foot Tyrannosaurus to the impressive Donor circle. Do ensure that the right conditions prevail for ice climbing.

### ***Downhill Mountain Biking***

The Salt Lake area is ideal for it. The local resorts take you up via lift placing you at the mountain top. You are in for an exhilarating ride. Those in the

southern part of Utah can opt for cross country mountain biking in Moab.



## ***Wake Boarding***

The placid blue water in Lake Powell in southern Utah is ideal for swimming, boating, hiking, camping, and more. Lake Powell is also known as the America's lost national park as the flooded

canyons resemble the federal destination surrounding it. Indulge in the gorgeous red rock views and wakeboarding here.

## ***Kayaking***

The Sand Hollow State Park has a warm-water reservoir for kayakers. In Utah's newest state park, one can boat, fish, and dive or ride the dunes of Sand

Mountain on an off-highway vehicle. Sand Hollow is located approximately 15 miles from St George and 7 miles from the I-15 Hurricane exit.



*Image Credit: Rachel Bremer*

Mark Twain wrote: “Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So, throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the

trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.” If you go by the saying, it is time to take up essentials and head to these adventure zones.

# 'Roadmap to Net Zero is in development'

## Rachel Bermer speaks on international visitation in Utah, the strong MICE market and major inclusion in the aviation industry.

**TTW Americas:** There was 4% drop in international visitation last year. How are you dealing with this? How are you luring the Chinese visitors?

**Rachel Bermer:** International visitation is above the national average. We are marketing to the Chinese visitors via WeChat, Weibo, and other social/digital channels. We also rely heavily on our travel trade partners, working with them to develop more immersive, experiential itineraries for the Chinese

market.

**TTW Americas:** Tell us about the MICE sector in Utah?

**Rachel Bermer:** MICE is a strong market for our urban partners, such as VisitSaltLake, Park City, and Ogden. We work with these partners, as well as others across the state to support IMEX/IBTM trade show attendance and other MICE initiatives.

## Global Travel Trade & Destination development Manager at Utah Office of Tourism



# Rachel Bremer

### **TTW Americas: What will be the key highlights of the reconstructed airport in 2020?**

**Rachel Bremer:** Flexible, Right-Sized Design for the Future: The new facility will be designated to meet Salt Lake City's need for decades and be adaptable to the constantly changing aviation industry. We will make room for increased number of flights, more dining and shopping with a focus on locally-produced goods.

**More Efficient:** The new terminal will eliminate airplane parking bottlenecks and allow airlines to get planes back in the air more quickly, meaning fewer delays for passengers.

**Sustainable:** The new building will be designed to high environmental standards. Designers are aiming for a LEED Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. A "Roadmap to Net Zero" is in development, which gives designers a plan for how the facility can ultimately generate as much power as it uses.

**Remain Cost-Competitive:** SLC is one of the nation's most cost-efficient airports for airline operations and replacing aging facilities will help keep costs low.

The program is funded by federal grants, user fees, airport revenue bonds and airport reserves. No local tax dollars will be used for the airport redevelopment program.

**Maintain Partnership with Airlines:** SLC has a great partnership with the airlines that serve Salt Lake City. Delta Air Lines, the airport's largest user, is supportive of the terminal redevelopment program, as are other airlines.

Construction on the \$3.6 billion program began in July 2014 and will continue in phases through 2023/2024. The parking garage, terminal building and west portions of the north and south concourses will be completed in 2020.

### **TTW Americas: Share your future tourism plans?**

**Rachel Bremer:** Our future strategy is to align all B2C marketing and all B2B co-op's, campaigns and partnerships, with our Red Emerald initiatives. We are also working with our communities to develop a more robust tourism product, create opportunities to improve their tourism economies and plan for visitor capacity.

## A Guide to Solo Female Travel

# Solitary Sojourns

### ***Independence is intriguing.***

*So, as a pensive 32-year-old Katherine Lewinsky sat at her writing desk one morning, a brilliant idea crossed her wanderlust-sprinkled soul. The Colorado resident had long been planning an escape to Cambodia in the Far East. However, she had little choice but to put the plan on the backburner every time she did so. Either, her girl pals were too busy with their kids, or Katherine's husband was away on his corporate trips!*

*Tapping her head with a pen, she decided to embark on a solitary trip to her dream destination.*

*After all, vivid imageries of Angkor Wat Temple and gorgeous pagodas of Cambodia she had witnessed in her favorite movie years ago had continued to haunt her dreams for the last two years..*

*And peace simply eluded Katherine till she shared a selfie on the ornate Angkor Wat premises!*



# Why Wait when you

## can Travel Solo?

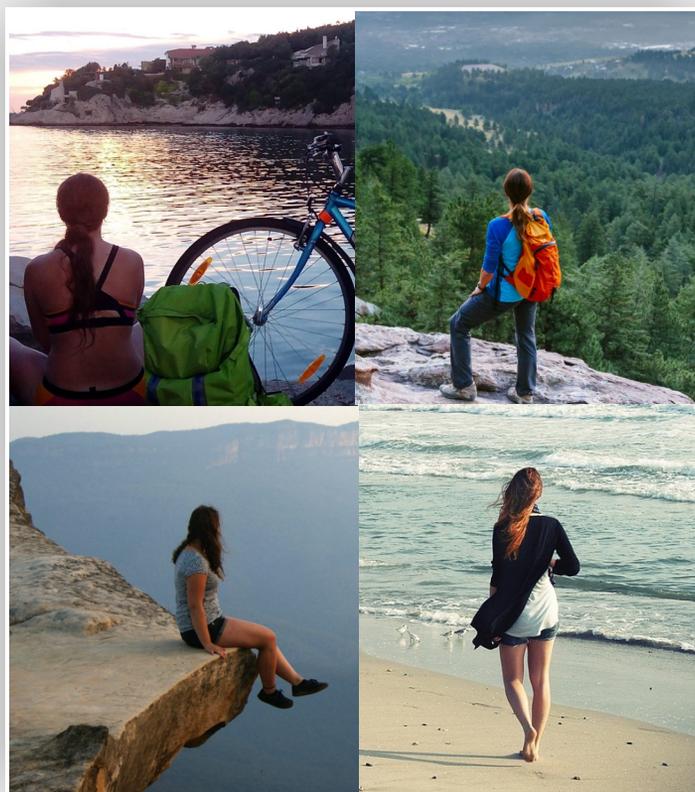
Katherine did not intend to wait any further. Promptly, she booked a flight to her favorite locale for next week, albeit solo!

Hundreds of contemporary women across the world think akin to Katherine. They refuse to compromise on dreams. In the absence of a travel companion, they are absolutely cool with the concept of traveling to any destination, all on their own.

Google Trends has recently recorded a spurt in popularity of this hot trendsetting idea.

A study conducted by it indicates that solo travel has been increasing steadily over the last ten years while enthusiasm about solo female travel has only gained considerable traction since 2013. Furthermore, a survey by Booking.com finds that nearly 65 percent of US women are embracing vacations without their partner.

By the next year, lady travelers worldwide are expected to be among the leading contributors to global consumer spending. No wonder, mothers, sisters, aunts, business women, and students in various corners of the earth are exploring quaint villages, large cities, deserts, beaches, forests, waterfalls, and mountains like never before!



### Top Tricks for Female Solo Backpackers

Traveling to unknown landscapes can be exhilarating and scary at the same time, but such an apprehension need not hold travelers back!



The BMO Wealth Institute had estimated in 2015 that 51 percent of personal wealth in the United States was controlled by women.

## Here are the top tricks for the supercool female solo backpacker

### ➤Book in advance

First of all, choosing an appropriate destination following an extensive research is the key to a successful solo trip, dear women!

Make sure you research about the weather, local customs, etiquette, and traditions of a place before booking flights. It is wise to book the first night's accommodation in advance.

### ➤Be Safe than Sorry

Being safe than sorry is a smart trick up your sleeve. Solo tourists should have the address of their accommodation with them throughout the trip. They should also keep contact details of local police and be vigilant about passports and credit cards.

### ➤Avoid overpacking

Next, the urge to overpack needs to be checked!

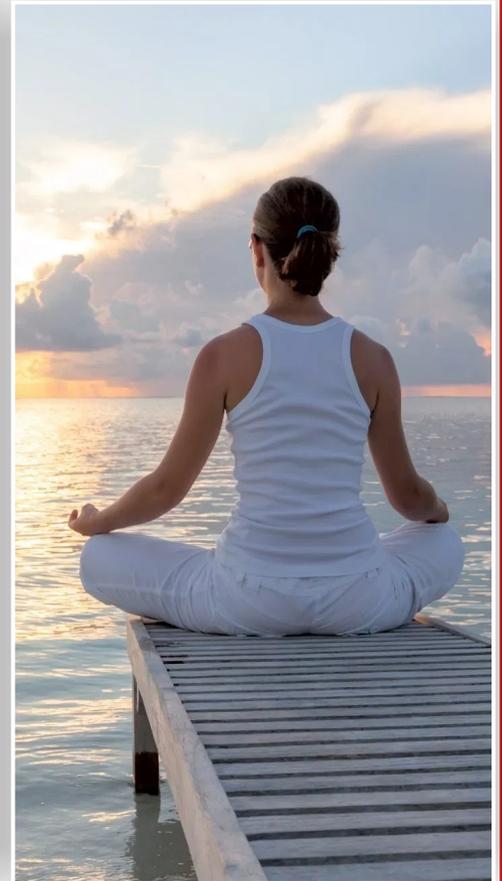
Make a checklist of essential items and pack a few shirts, pants, dresses, shorts, and accessories. Then simply pack two or three pairs of shoes and a casual pair of sandals or pair of boots.

### ➤Stay healthy

Travel tends to create obstacles to fitness routine. So, maintaining a healthy, balanced diet and grabbing quality sleep will go a long way in retaining that amazing glow on your skin!

### ➤Meet new people

While traveling alone, most people are quite hospitable. It is a fantastic opportunity to network and connect with new acquaintances that might grow to lifelong friendships.



# How can Tour Operators Ensure

## Safety for Female Solo Travelers?

- Tourism industry needs to motivate local women to assist female travelers to enable better experiences
  - On-arrival services for travelers can help them feel comfortable in unfamiliar locales
  - Companies can post more reviews from previous lady tourists to encourage others
  - Tour operators can run tours for small groups and create friendly environment
  - Brands can also connect solo travelers to local female guide to learn more about a place
  - Destination companies should offer safety tips for solo female travelers especially when they first arrive
  - Destinations could share information about neighborhoods that are safe for women to explore alone.
- Solo sojourners, are you ready to savor super delightful experiences on your next trip?

Bid farewell to fears,  
live your dreams  
and fly high!



# Immerse in the spectacular autumn foliage

**A**merica's awe-inspiring natural beauty is best seen in its idyllic foliage across the country. The leaf peeping season is here; so rejoice pumpkin picking, apple treats, cozy weather in scenic towns for autumn displays and views. A perfect weekend trip will not be complete if you do not visit the below listed destinations. Get out and discover the dazzling display of color!

## Aspen, Colorado

The town's name is coined after a tree. During fall, the leaves turn yellow and when sun hits them, these shine in the breeze which sets a perfect picture backdrop amidst evergreen mountains. Paragliding adventure provides an aerial view of Aspen's fall foliage from the top of the mountain peaks. Visitors can taste cheesy concoctions in local restaurants or go for stand-up paddle boarding.

# The Berkshires, Massachusetts

Apart from notable art and culture, The Berkshires is known for world-class foliage viewing and serves as an essential escape for urbanites in New York, Boston, and Philadelphia.

Immerse in the sweeping views as you pass by the narrow winding roads that connect hamlets beautifully located in crimson, yellow hue. A road trip is the best way to experience the foliage by traversing the scenic byway, seeing the bright display of leafy color, and picking apples. Its vibrant communities and routes are dramatic. Mohawk Trail along Route 2 near Clarksburg offers exclusive view. For spectacular display of foliage from golden yellow to blazing orange and mesmerizing scarlet Mount Greylock, the highest peak in Massachusetts is ideal. Travel south on Route 8 from North Adams to reach 3,491 feet mountain.



## Green Mountain Byway, Vermont

New England sees a dazzling display of color with maple, birch, and beech trees adorning the 11 mile route that bisects Vermont. Opt for a gondola in Stowe, a ski area, to get a bird's-eye view of the forested slopes and easy access to hiking. Vermont is covered by three quarters of forests and has highest percentage of maple trees in the country. The state comes alive with a riot of red, orange, and yellow alluring visitors for activities galore as many relish the season. Harvesting fruits and vegetables, visiting farms, game hunting are some of the outdoor things to make the most out of this season.

# Great Smoky Mountains, North Carolina & Tennessee

It flaunts more than 100 species of native trees which include scarlet oaks, maples, sweetgums, and hickories and is among the most visited national parks in the U.S. The scenic display of colors while crossing the 800 miles scenic roads and along the hiking trails will leave one spellbound.

Here, peak color changes happen with the start of the first frost depending on elevation. The mountain is so well spread that some or other area is always at peak.

Areas in Clingmans Dome, Mount LeConte, Newfound Gap, Andrews Bald, Alum Cave Bluffs, Chimney Tops, Ramsey Cascades, and Balsam Mountain have the highest elevation, more than 4,000 feet peak. Cataloochee Valley and Oconalufee lie in 2000-3000 feet range peak and Cades Cove has an elevation of 1716 ft. Start planning right away, don't miss the chance to see fall colours!



# AMERICAS FESTIVALS

Celebrate the arrival of autumn by booking a trip to experience these top-rated festivals across USA. From Ribfest to wine harvests, enjoy a wide range of unique local food and culture. Discover some of the remarkable extravaganzas in America.



## FOREST PARK RIBFEST

Place: Forest Park, IL

Date: September 8, 2018

This fun-filled fiesta welcomes with great food, live rock and alternate music, rib sampling, bungee run and face painting. Every year, amateur chefs present a full slab of pork ribs (12 ribs) for the RibFest competition and can sell a 2-rib sample to the public.



## KENTUCKY BOURBON FESTIVAL

Place: Bardstown, Kentucky

Date: September 12-16, 2018

Kentucky Bourbon Festival is a weeklong fun-filled fiesta featuring various types of bourbon and whiskeys for tasting. This festival promotes and educates visitors on the history and production of Bourbon and support local non-profit organizations. Initiated 23 years ago as a bourbon tasting and dinner event, Kentucky Bourbon Festival attracts visitors from 44 states and 14 countries.

Grapefest is a grape-harvesting and wine festival featuring grape stomping contests, endless fun rides, unlimited wine tasting, live music show, and wine-tasting competition. Presented by Bank of the West, this fiesta also gives a scope to taste sumptuous American food. So, make plan to sip and taste premium countryside and international wines and champagne.

## GRAPEFEST

Place: Grapevine, Texas

Date: September 13-16, 2018



# ADIRONDACK BALLOON FESTIVAL

Date- September 20-23, 2018

Place- Glens Falls, New York

Started in 1972, Adirondack Balloon Festival features live hard rock & jazz music, unlimited children's entertainment activities, food vendors and the flight of up to 20 hot air balloons (wind and weather permitting). The performers at the Adirondack Balloon Festival actively participate in musical acts.





## MUSIC TASTES GOOD

Place: Long Beach, CA

Date: September 29-30, 2018

Music, food and art- all are present in Music Tastes Good festival. It presents over 40 amazing music performances by different rock bands, a culinary adventure, and the best crowd. Music Tastes Good also offers unlimited American and European food to its visitors. It is a celebration of cerebral and visceral connection of taste and creativity.

## Portugal welcomes 9.6 million international visitors

Portugal welcomes 9.6 million international visitors in first half of 2018. The tourism revenue reaches around 6.9 billion euros reaching 13.9 percent. In June alone, the tourism revenues increased by 13.6 percent year-on-year to 1.43 billion euros. The tourism revenues in Portugal are growing 5 times more than the rate of growth in the number of visitors. In the first half of the year, the number of visitors grew 2.6 percent to 9.6 million and overnight stays rose 0.5 percent to 25.4 million.



## Europe measles outbreak leaving 41000 infected in just six months

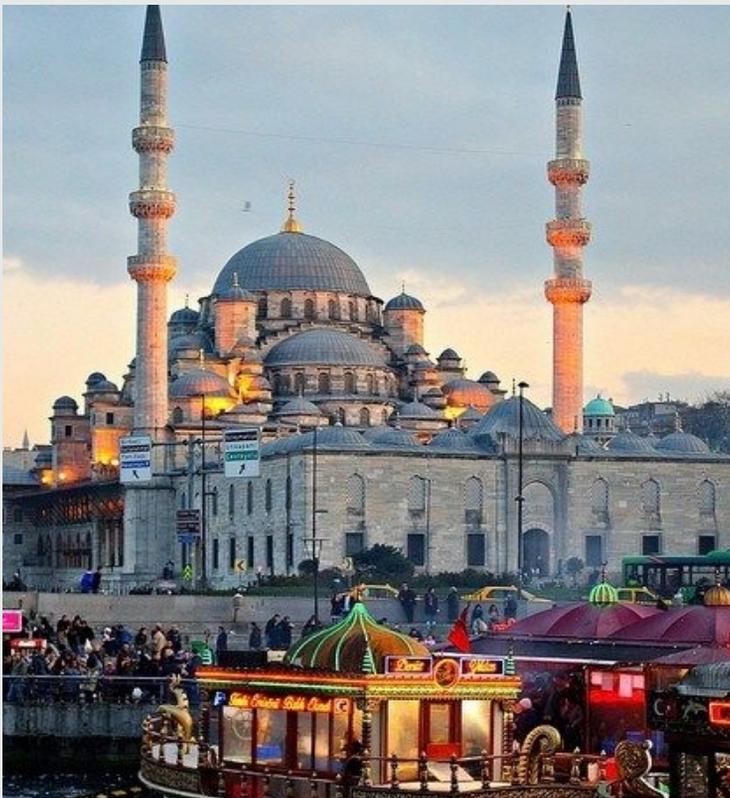
Measles outbreak in Europe has reached an eight-year high, with more than 41,000 cases reported in the first six months of the year. The tourists travelling to Europe this summer, particularly for festivals

where there will be lots of people in close contact, are at most risk. This measles outbreak far-exceeds the end of year totals from every other year this decade and at least 37 people are believed to have died from the disease, which can be almost entirely prevented with vaccination. The seven countries, including France, Italy and Greece have had more than 1,000 infections this year and all have reported at least one death. Ukraine has reported the largest number of cases with more than 23,000 children and adults infected, although Serbia has seen 14 measles-related deaths, the highest in Europe.



## **Tourists spent more than £4.1bn in North East UK, supporting 15000 jobs**

The international tourists spent more than £4.1bn in the North East UK last year. The amount spent by the international and domestic tourists visiting in UK's North East increased by nearly 4.5% between 2016 and 2017. Newcastle and Gateshead continued to benefit the most from the tourism industry with 18m visitors spending more than £1.6bn last year. The UK tourism sector is also a major employer across Newcastle and Gateshead and employs 15,481 people, 3% more than in 2016.



## **Turkey welcomes 1.91 million Chinese tourists in first half of 2018**

The Chinese tourists visiting Turkey in the first six months of this year climbed 91 percent to 191,000,

compared to the same period last year. Turkey is renowned for its cultural treasures as well as its natural beauty, has experienced an influx of foreign tourists recently. Around 18.9 million tourists visited Turkey in the first half of 2018. Russians tourists led the way with 2.4 million, followed by Germans and Iranians. The increase was partly affected by China's declaration of 2018 as the "Year of Turkey," Xiao Zhang's song about Turkey as well as other promotional activities to revive tourism in the country.

## **Cuba tourism sees 6.6% drop in tourist arrivals, travel restrictions & hurricanes responsible**

There was a drop in Cuba's tourism this year because of the travel restrictions imposed by the U.S. President Donald Trump and hurricanes. So far the country received three million tourists, it is noted that this level was hit 16 days later than that in 2017. The drop was majorly due to the devastating hurricanes last year and the stringent travel restrictions by the Trump government. The entry to Cuba was made more difficult due to the U.S. measures of prohibiting citizen's trips to Cuba. Tourism was an important industry for Cuban economy and since 2012 the foreign tourist's numbers grew at an average of 13 percent annually. However, 2017's record visitor number of 4.69 million might be beaten in 2018 according to the Ministry of Tourism as around 5 million tourists are expected to visit Cuba.

The annual 4th edition of MCE South Europe will take place in Thessaloniki, Greece, from the 21st till 23rd October 2018. This high-end workshop will once more be the start of new business cooperation for up to 200 event industry professionals from the MICE & tourism industry.

Europe Congress dedicates itself to create synergy among its participants, hence its complex screening activities. The convention bureaus and tourism boards as the MICE suppliers as hotels, DMCs and congress centres come majorly from South Europe/As MICE suppliers convention bureaus, tourism boards, hotels, DMCs and congress centres come majorly from South Europe. Their selected counterparts, the international event planners, are brought to the event destination based on their upcoming business needs in exactly that area. The suppliers get an impressive 35 pre-scheduled and match-made meetings with event planners, all with upcoming leads towards their specific destination.

### KEY BENEFITS:

- 2,5 days MICE one-stop-shop B2B forum;
- High quality event venue: Four Points by Sheraton Catania Hotel & Conference Center
- Minimum of 30 to 35 pre-scheduled and match-made one-to-one meetings with Hosted Buyers most likely to be your next business partners;
- 80-100 qualified, reference checked and high volume MICE event producing Hosted Buyers

having outgoing MICE business for South Europe will meet exclusively with 60 Solution Providers from the region;



- Total of up to 200 persons remain together for the event days: No visitors;
- Numerous educational sessions by MICE industry experts
- Promotional sessions emphasizing the potential of South Europe;
- Networking sessions offering full catering such as coffee breaks, luncheons, welcome reception, dinners and an after-dinner party to increase interaction.

### AGENDA AND PROGRAM:

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

2018 MCE South Europe will be held in the amazing seafront located hotel Makedonia Palace. Eva Saringala the Director of Sales of the hotel said that this palace was chosen by Europe Congress to host the highly successful annual B2B forum between suppliers and buyers of congress, tourism and MICE in the area of South Europe.

MCE South Europe is coming for the first time to Thessaloniki, as a result of combined effort among all the stakeholders of the city.

Makedonia Palace Hotel has played a significant role in the excellent effort that was undertaken to have the MCE South Europe 2018 organized in the city of Thessaloniki and we are absolutely thrilled the B2B appointments and accommodation will be hosted in Makedonia Palace.

The organization of the congress in the second largest city of Greece is an ideal opportunity for the promotion of the city as a MICE destination, which

is yet to be discovered. We are delighted to showcase the vibrant city of Thessaloniki along with the most iconic hotel in the Northern Greece.

This MICE B2B show will offer the deal flow one-to-one meetings and will be completed with numerous networking and social gatherings in exclusive local venues. The Thessaloniki Convention Bureau will assure the evening program to be a memorable experience for all participants, creating more reasons why to choose Thessaloniki as a destination for anyone's upcoming MICE events.



IMEX America is going to project its experiential innovations, learning, industry trends and new exhibitors to the global tourism industry. This event is going to take place from October 16 – 18, 2018 at the Sands® Expo and Convention Center at The Venetian® | The Palazzo® in Las Vegas.

## PARTNERSHIP WITH C2 INTERNATIONAL

A new collaboration with C2 International, the ground-breaking leader in business conferences, will bring a huge dose of creativity and excitement to the show. Following an enthusiastic response to their Learning Labs at IMEX in Frankfurt, C2 will be presenting a suite of different Learning Labs at IMEX America, as well as a Thursday morning, open-to-all, Masterclass on the show floor.

## PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES TO DO GLOBAL BUSINESS

Driving business success remains at the heart of IMEX and with over 3,300 destinations, venues and suppliers from 130-plus countries under one roof, this year's show is no exception. IMEX America has moved into a larger hall to accommodate new and expanded exhibitors, such as Meet New York, Malta Tourism Authority, Nobu Hotels and Visit Dallas Pacifica Hotels – all at the show for the first time. Many exhibitors are increasing the size of their booths including Detroit Metro Convention &

Visitors Bureau,  
DMI Hotels,  
Croatian National  
Tourist Board,  
Mexico, Royal  
Caribbean

International and Bermuda Tourism Authority who have all doubled their presence.

The show kicks off on October 15, Smart Monday - a full day of complimentary, cutting-edge professional development which is powered by MPI. Additionally, an Association Leadership Forum, created by ASAE exclusively for association leaders and an Executive Meeting Forum dedicated to senior corporate executives with a focus on SMM program management, procurement leadership or meetings management are also on offer on Smart Monday.



## MISSION OF IMEX AMERICA 2018

Once again IMEX America 2018 will live out its mission to 'educate, innovate and help all its clients to make powerful connections with the right people' by presenting easy-access professional development each day of the show. The Inspiration Hub, situated on the show floor, will be the central point of focus for hundreds of sessions on hot topics including security, sustainability, creativity, innovation, technology, experiential events and legacy – IMEX's Talking Point for this year.

## RECOGNISING PERSONAL IMPACT AND LEGACY

Various aspects of legacy will be covered throughout the program - political, personal, environmental, CSR and social impact/knowledge legacy - all designed to help planners produce more engaging, topical events with longer-lasting positive outcomes.

Following great feedback, a 'Legacy Wall' launched at IMEX in Frankfurt will also premiere at IMEX America, showcasing heart-warming and inspiring stories case studies from exhibitors, partners and IMEX staff.

Carina Bauer, CEO of the IMEX Group, explained, with an expanded show floor, new exhibitors and numerous networking events, the opportunities to do business at IMEX America are second to none this year. IMEX is always committed to putting on a great show – one that ignites fresh thinking, explores new trends and encourages people to connect and do business easily. In a fast-changing world, we believe that coming together in the same place to see, hear and talk commerce- and to understand the wider forces shaping our industry- is fundamental to business success.



The 2nd Travel Tech Middle East 2018 scheduled for the 26th & 27th of September 2018 in Dubai, UAE is all geared up for its second annual!

Sabah Parvez, the managing director of Verve Management UAE remarked that this will be an exciting time for the Middle East countries, as they are gearing up for the World 2020 Expo in Dubai. 2nd Travel Tech Middle East 2018 is an event that has been generated an estimated \$50 billion in direct and indirect investments, with \$8 billion being allocated to transport and infrastructure projects alone.

Sabah Parvez believes that this will generate business for the travel & tourism industry and will only keep getting bigger. This is a good time to



invest in the Middle East market and travel as an industry will be one of the main benefactor as it will

play a major role not only for the expo but tourism point of view as well. With these factors in mind, Verve Management started the Travel Tech Middle East congress to cater to the travel industry and to provide a platform for all operators and parties involved in this sector to come together for a two-day event to discuss the current and future of the travel market and resolve any issues faced by operators through panel discussions and meetings through networking sessions.

## KEY FOCUS FOR TRAVEL TECH MIDDLE EAST 2018

The 2018 Travel Tech Middle East will have key focus on data insights and technology; there will be presentations on top traveller behaviour trends to watch by airlines, hoteliers & OTA's, travel tech trends to watch: current & future, travel marketing in 2018, Artificial Intelligence: future of customer engagement & travel experience, alternative accommodation models and the future of hotels, future of bitcoin and blockchain in travel and tourism sector: how will it revolutionise the travel industry, connectedness and use of technology amongst older persons and a many more.



**2**nd Planners Xtraordinaire Show will give a chance to explore travel and tourism market that caters to the flamboyant lifestyle of the Rich & Famous such as Royalties, Celebrities, Ultra High Net Worth Individuals and International Luxury Brands, and it consists of the select few luxury connoisseurs of the special events industry – High end Party Planners, Luxury Wedding Planners, Milestone Celebration Specialists, along with luxury suppliers such as Luxury Hotels, Tourism Boards, Exclusive Venues, Renowned Photographers, Famous Cake Designers, Top Floral Designers and many more, all of them coming from over 40 different countries.

## WHAT WILL BE IN 2ND PLANNERS XTRAORDINAIRE SHOW

Set in the foot hills of majestic snowcapped Alps with deep valleys running through them, Lake Como is surrounded by mesmerizing clear lakes and breathtaking scenery. Some of the biggest names of the luxury events industry will be coming down to Lake Como this year to share their experience and knowledge. Renowned celebrity wedding planner David Tutera (USA) will be the opening keynote speaker. Other speakers include internationally recognized luxury special event planners such as Jennifer Bassett (Canada), Andrey Fomin (Russia), Claire Ptak (UK), Natalia Bonavita (Brazil) & many more.

Tarun Tahiliani, one of India's top couture designer who has worked



with some of the biggest names in Bollywood, will be delivering a joint session titled “Stepping into the World of Big Fat Asian Weddings” with Sonal J Shah who is an expert on cross culture weddings based in USA. Martin Da Costa, the founder & CEO of Seventy Event Media Group – one of the top event management companies in India is also set to give his insights into the industry at this exclusive platform.

Sidh N.C, the Director of QNA International remarked that they are very excited for 2nd edition of the Planners Xtraordinaire Show. This year it will raise the bar and take it a notch higher than the successful 1st edition by making it bigger, better and more boisterous than before.



**T**TF West series is coming up at Ahmedabad, Surat, Pune and Mumbai. The dates are: September 7 to 9 in Ahmedabad, September 14 to 16 in Surat, September 28 to 30 in Pune and from October 5 to 7 in Mumbai.

TTF Ahmedabad which is traditionally a big favourite among exhibitors is going through an unprecedented growth phase. The space at the venue - Gujarat University Exhibition Hall is filling fast and additional hangar space may be built to accommodate last minute bookings.

In view of huge demand, TTF summer has been launched in Ahmedabad (February 1-3, 2019) as well as in Kolkata (February 22-24, 2019), to help exhibitors tap the huge summer travel markets.

The State Tourism Boards who have in principle confirmed their participation for TTF West India series include Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Mizoram, Madhya Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim and West Bengal.

Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau will have a large pavilion in TTF Ahmedabad, as the Partner Country. Other countries who have confirmed their participation at TTF Ahmedabad are Bahrain, China and India.

Other major participants include Cox & Kings,

India's Biggest Travel Show Network



Ezeego One Travel & Tours Ltd, Nihar Hospitality Pvt Ltd, FSR Travels Pvt Ltd, Rayna Destination Management, Make Plans Holidays, Chokhi Dhani Group, Samode Hotels, Tag Resorts and Shriji Tours.

TTF is visited by travel trade as well as avid travellers. The first one and half day of the show is reserved for the travel trade and remainder one and a half days for the general visitors, in Ahmedabad and Mumbai. However, for the satellite shows in Surat and Pune, two full days are kept for general visitors and only the first day is reserved for the trade.

More than 1,000 trade buyers have already registered for TTF Ahmedabad, 150 for Surat, 550 and 300 for Mumbai and Pune respectively.

Cox and Kings is the Knowledge Partner of TTF. They will organise a workshop at TTF Ahmedabad, wherein they will present destinations - Finland, the Baltic States and Indonesia on the first day of the travel fair i.e. September 7 at 3:00 pm.

## Show Review

### 6<sup>th</sup> MICE India & Luxury Travel Congress

#### When :

July 25-26, 2018 &  
July 31 - August 1, 2018

#### Where :

Mumbai and Delhi



The 6th annual of the MICE India & Luxury Travel Congress successfully concluded in July and August highlighting the importance of “experiential travel” while emphasizing on personalization, value-for-money, creativity and innovation as business game-changers. This years' annual saw business at an all-time high with handpicked MICE & luxury travel buyers from across India, world class suppliers and more than 20 hours of networking, thus making it one of a kind platform, carefully curated for organizers of MICE, business & luxury travel, as well as destination weddings and film production houses.

#### 6th MICE India & Luxury Travel Congress (Mumbai Edition)

6th MICE India & Luxury Travel Congress opened its doors with a keynote session by Bo Kruger, Europe's leading meeting designer and innovator, renowned for developing Denmark's famous Meetovation meeting design concept. He opened the congress with his presentation on “360 degree perspective of MICE” that emphasized on why MICE organizers should break the script, innovate and use gamification as a tool to create exceptional experiences whereas the Delhi edition kick started with a powerful session by Middle East's prominent motivational speaker, Kevin Abdulrahman who highlighted the continuous journey of leadership.

#### What MILT Congress Offered

The MILT Congress provided buyers with a personalized schedule of one to one meetings with a handpicked selection of leading suppliers. Both the Mumbai & Delhi edition delivered more than 4000 mutually matched and pre-selected meeting appointments over the two power packed days. Elaborating on the seamless business that the MILT Congress facilitates, Stephanie Tanpure, VP Sales, Sands Resorts Macao, their Platinum partner said that they must say that the organization of MILT in India is second to none. What brings us back to MILT is not only the impeccable organization of the trade show but it's the caliber of the buyers and the relationships they can bring to the table.

India's booming travel and tourism sector is estimated to generate 6.5 million outbound luxury and MICE tourist annually by 2020 and MILT Congress has become the biggest platform for suppliers around the world looking to capitalize on the market.

Emphasizing on networking opportunities at the congress, Ayyappan Syamkumar, Manager Corporates & TMCs - India at Oman Air said they are participating along with their partners Ministry of Tourism, Oman and through MILT, they have been able to promote Oman as a MICE destination and even as a wedding destination. The leads that they got over two days are top quality and they look forward to closing deals with them, will look forward to participating next year.

Over the past six years, the MILT Congress has grown in importance and stature attracting not only business leaders, but high calibre industry professionals and other senior decision makers with a big focus on corporate buyers.

Sidh N.C. , Director QNA International LLC said that they had an exciting two days both for the Mumbai & Delhi edition, a clear pattern of trends and business game changers emerged over the course of the event, and these we see as imminent and important characteristics in the world of MICE and Luxury Travel. Creating memorable & personalized experiences continues to be a defining attribute of MICE, business & luxury travel from the region. This year also saw an increase in the number of top Indian buyers, thanks to great feedback from our participants and partners, this will help us plan for the next annual of the MILT Congress.



# Calendar of Events

05 - 07  
SEP

## Aviation Festival

Islington, London

[www.terrapinn.com/template/live/add2diary.aspx?e=9417](http://www.terrapinn.com/template/live/add2diary.aspx?e=9417)



05 - 07  
SEP

## Beijing International Travel Mart

Beijing, China

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



06 - 08  
SEP

## ITE HCMC

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

[www.itehcmc.com/en/home.html](http://www.itehcmc.com/en/home.html)



06  
SEP

## THINC Indonesia

Jakarta

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



07 - 09  
SEP

## Hosfair

Guangzhou, China

<http://en.hosfair.com/>



07 - 09  
SEP

## China International Travel Industry Expo

Guangzhou, China

<http://en.gzlmice.cn/>



China (Guangdong) International  
Tourism Industry Expo  
7-9 Sep, 2018  
Canton Fair Complex  
Guangzhou, China

07 - 09  
SEP

## TTF

Ahmedabad, India

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

India's Biggest Travel Show Network



10 - 11  
SEP

## Meetings Planners Russia

Moscow, Russian Federation

[www.europecongress.com/event-buyer-meetingplanners-russia-2018-moscow-48](http://www.europecongress.com/event-buyer-meetingplanners-russia-2018-moscow-48)



11 - 13  
SEP

## TBEX North America

Finger Lakes Wine Country, North America

<http://tbexcon.com/2018-north->



11 - 13  
SEP

## OTDYKH Lesiure

Moscow, Russia

[www.tourismexpo.ru/leisure/en/](http://www.tourismexpo.ru/leisure/en/)



**12 - 13  
SEP**

**IBTM China**

Beijing, China  
[www.cibtm.com](http://www.cibtm.com)

**ibtm** CHINA  
BEIJING, CHINA  
12-13 September 2018

**12 - 14  
SEP**

**Pata Travel Mart**

Langkawi, Malaysia  
[www.pata.org/ptm/](http://www.pata.org/ptm/)

**PATA**<sup>®</sup>  
Pacific Asia Travel Association

**14 - 16  
SEP**

**TTF**

Surat, India  
[www.ttfotm.com](http://www.ttfotm.com)

India's Biggest Travel Show Network  
**TTF**<sup>®</sup>

**15 - 18  
SEP**

**World Routes, China**

Guangzhou, China  
[www.routesonline.com/events/](http://www.routesonline.com/events/)

**R**<sup>™</sup>  
Routes

**16 - 18  
SEP**

**Hotel Show Dubai**

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

THE  
**HOTEL  
SHOW**  
DUBAI

16 - 18  
SEP

## The Leisure Show Dubai

Dubai, UAE

[www.theleisureshow.co](http://www.theleisureshow.co)

THE  
Leisure  
Show  
SPORTS • RESORTS

19 - 20  
SEP

## Seatrade Europe

Lisbon, Portugal

[www.seatradecruiseevents.com/med/](http://www.seatradecruiseevents.com/med/)

Seatrade  
Cruise  
Med

20  
SEP

## Hotel Management Singapore Summit

Singapore

[www.questevent.com/Hotel](http://www.questevent.com/Hotel)

[ManagementSummit/2018/singapore#/about](http://ManagementSummit/2018/singapore#/about)

HOTEL MANAGEMENT  
SINGAPORE SUMMIT

24 - 27  
SEP

## Lodging Conference

Phoenix, Arizona

[www.lodgingconference.com/index.html](http://www.lodgingconference.com/index.html)

The Lodging Conference®

24 - 27  
SEP

## ILTM North America

Riveria, Maya, Mexico

[www.iltm.com/northamerica](http://www.iltm.com/northamerica)

ILTM  
LATIN AMERICA

24 - 25  
SEP

## 2nd Annual Global Hotels and Resorts

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

<https://bricsaconsulting.com/event/2nd-annual-global-hotels-resorts/>



24 - 25  
SEP

## Sahic South America

Colombia, South America

[www.sahic.com/south-america/en/home/](http://www.sahic.com/south-america/en/home/)



24 - 25  
SEP

## Hotel Technology Conference

Fira Center, Spain

<https://ihgtechnologyconference.com/>



26 - 27  
SEP

## 2nd Annual Travel Tech Middle East

Dubai, UAE

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



26 - 28  
SEP

## Astana Leisure

ASTANA, Kazakstan

<http://www.iteexhibitions.com/events/astana-leisure>



28 - 30  
SEP

**TTF**  
Pune, India  
[www.ttfotm.com/](http://www.ttfotm.com/)



28 - 30  
SEP

**Asian Tourism fair**  
Dhaka, Bangladesh  
<http://asiantourismfair.com/>



28 - 30  
SEP

**IITM**  
Mumbai, India  
<http://iitmindia.com/#>



04 - 06  
OCT

**Bangladesh International Tourism Fair**  
Dhaka, Bangladesh  
[www.bitf.com.bd](http://www.bitf.com.bd)



04 - 06  
OCT

**IITM**  
Delhi, India  
<http://iitmindia.com/#>



DESTINATION  
JOURNEY  
LUXURY CRUISE  
**TAP THE TRAVEL AND TOUR WORLD APP**  
AVIATION HOSPITALITY  
TECHNOLOGY EVENTS  
MICE



**Promote Your Brand With Us...**

pr@travelandtourworld.com  
+91 33 30583353

