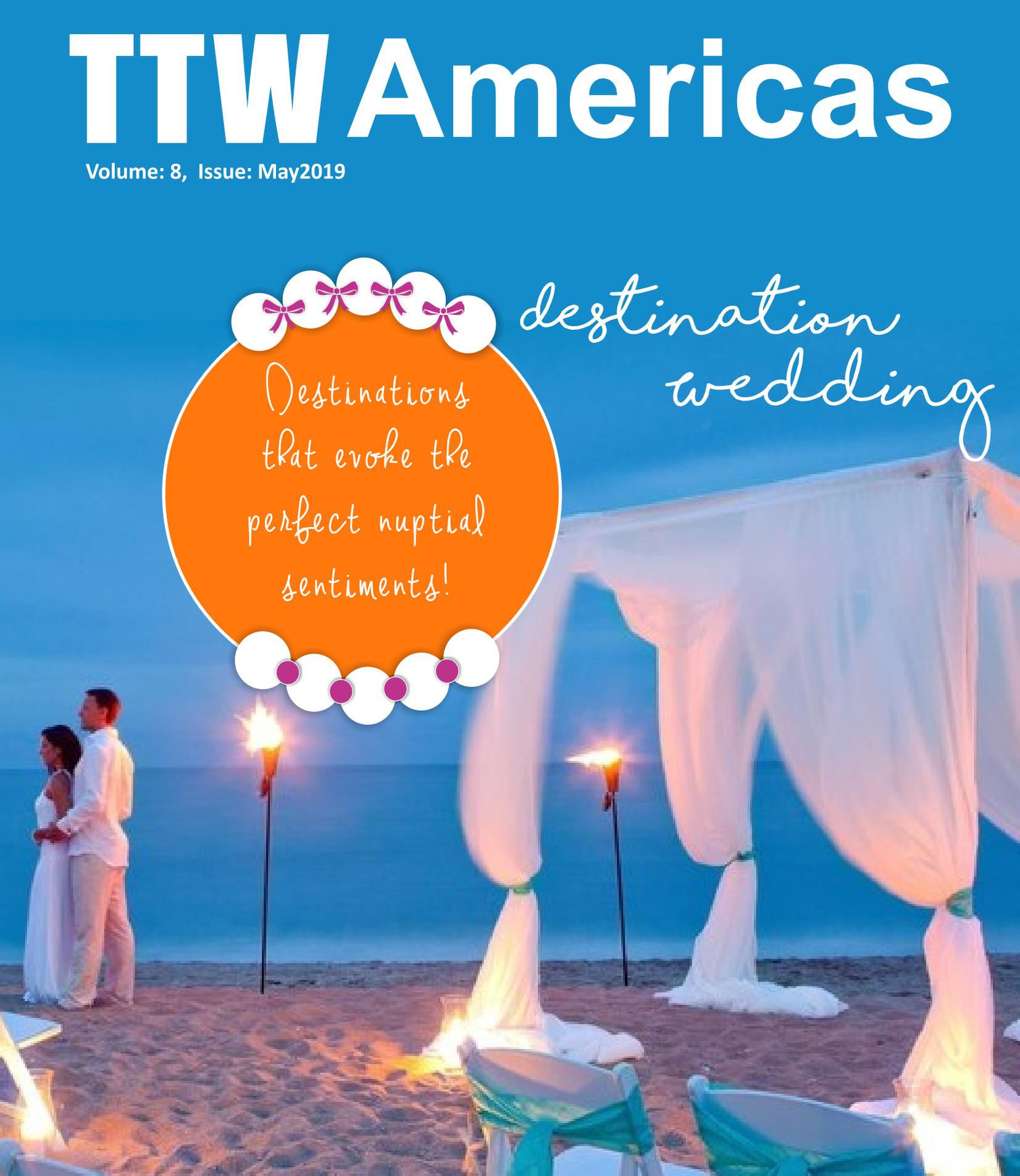


TTW Americas

Volume: 8, Issue: May2019

Destinations
that evoke the
perfect nuptial
sentiments!

*destination
wedding*



Dear Readers,

U.S. tourism industry has seen a Trump Slump in recent years. But now this is changing. According to World Travel & Tourism Council's annual research on the economic impact and social importance of travel and tourism, U.S. travel sector grew 3.9 percent to contribute a record \$8.8 trillion and 319 million jobs to the world economy in 2018. North and South America still preserved its status as the world's largest travel and tourism economy in 2018, both in leisure and business travel. In this issue, we are focusing on the MICE tourism scenario of Ecuador. The country boasts of new convention & visitors' bureaus, world-class international airports, modern convention centers, popular tourist locations and a vast range of accommodation and an enviable warm climate.

We are also highlighting some of the top-notch wedding destinations and heritage trails. The U.S. offers the best wedding locations with a warm atmosphere, vibrant music and good food. Whether you are looking to get married in a greenhouse or in a castle, up in a treehouse, and refined barn, or possibly even a summer camp, we have covered in our list the coolest wedding destination, so let's check them out. Next is heritage tourism. The heritage trail offers you a lot to know about the rich history of the USA, which is unifying the modern cultural scene. Visit the cities and historical landmarks that have influenced America's history and cultural spectrum. Travel deep into the heart of Virginia, the birthplace of neoclassical arts or explore the hidden places of Arizona or New Mexico and to know 1000 years history of local settlements. We have also included an exclusive interview of Sheema Vohra, Managing Director, India, Brand USA where she speaks about the current trends in heritage tourism and the changes in U.S. tourism market.

From uneven mountains to cliff-lined beaches to roaring rivers, the United States boasts of some of the epic adventure vacation destinations for every kind of travel enthusiasts. Belize is one of them. The sandy beaches, deep cave diving, and the exploration to dense forests are waiting for you.

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04- Meetings Point: With South America's Leading Meetings & Conference Destination 2018 award under its belt, **Ecuador** is becoming an emerging MICE destination of South America.

08- Special Feature: American destinations are varied and marriages can be held atop a glacier or in scuba gear under the sea, or the cruises. Most of the U.S. cities from beaches to historic resorts have budget-friendly wedding settings and have easy accessibility and accommodation.

15- Cover Story : The USA is home to 22 (of the total 981) UNESCO World **Heritage Sites** across the globe. Let's look into some of the outstanding heritage sites to get a glimpse of the enriching culture.

24- Destination Diary : Central America's most favored tourist destination packed with jungles and islands is **Belize**. It is a paradise for adventure lovers and culture enthusiastic. Belize offers you for a perfect vacation.

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Ecuador

Deepening
Its MICE Imprint

The culturally rich and topographically diverse Ecuador is deepening its meetings industry. South America's country Ecuador has won a total of 25 World Travel Awards in 2018 making it the most winning country in South America. With South America's Leading Meetings & Conference Destination 2018 award under its belt, Ecuador is becoming an emerging MICE destination of South America.

Some of the multi-functional convention centres that Ecuador boasts of are Eugenio Espejo Convention Center in Quito and Guayaquil Convention Center. The award-winning Mariscal Sucre International Airport in Quito is the busiest



airport in Ecuador. MICE delegates can fuse their meetings schedule with trips to diverse topography of Ecuador that includes the Andean highlands, Amazon Rainforest, and the Galápagos Islands. All these aspects make Ecuador a rising destination for conferences and congresses.

Mariscal Sucre International Airport connects Quito to the rest of the world. It has won Skytrax World's Best Airport Award 2019 (for category up to 5 million passengers) and has become South America's Leading Airport 2018 as per World Travel Awards. Guayaquil can be accessed through Jose Joaquin de Olmedo International Airport (GYE).

A Sneak Peek Into the Sprawling Meetings Spaces in Ecuador



Eugenio Espejo Convention Center

Located in the Avenue Gran Colombia, and diagonal to Alameda Park, this Convention Center, weaves the old and the modern Quito. The architectural space of its heritage building encompasses advanced and flexible infrastructure for the successful realization of the cultural event. It provides Wi-Fi internet service and modern technology. Eugenio Espejo Convention Center is easily accessible from the airport.

CEMEXPO

Centro de Exposiciones y Convenciones Mitad del Mundo popularly known as CEMEXPO, is one of the largest convention centres in Ecuador. It had hosted Miss Universe contest in 2004. Its 85,253 m² space includes business centre, offices and more. It offers corporate services such as advice on trade fairs and events, training, mounting and panelling, and corporate image branding. Apart from steady internet services, there is a provision of parking for 2500 vehicles.



Guayaquil Convention Center



Guayaquil Convention Center has the largest and most flexible infrastructure in Ecuador. Guayaquil Convention Center provides 59,202 sq.ft space of meetings space that includes 18 meetings rooms. The largest room is spread over 68,738 sq.ft while the second largest room occupies 19,171 sq.ft. The centre includes 69,965 sq.ft of exhibition space. They have advance audio-video capabilities and seamless internet access. It is close to the airport and it can organize events ranging from congresses, conferences, art shows, exhibitions, and more. They offer a comprehensive service that guarantees a

perfect atmosphere for the smooth flow of business.

The new MICE venue, the Metropolitan Convention in Quito will help Ecuador attract more business events. Divided over two floors, it provides 16.440 m² of space including two exhibition halls, two lobbies, a multi-functional auditorium for up to 500 people, and several meeting rooms.



Meetings Spaces in Hotels

Several hotels in Quito provide meeting spaces. The popular ones include 275-room Swissotel Quito (23,876 sq.ft); 255-room Hilton Colon Quito (16,772 sq.ft); and 257-room JW Marriott Hotel (15,380 sq.ft) to name a few.

In Guayaquil, some of the hotels offering large meetings spaces are 236-room Oro Verde Guayaquil (24,114 sq.ft); 294-room Hilton Colon Guayaquil (20,586 sq.ft) and 140-room Unipark Hotel (20,385 sq.ft). All of these hotels offer high-speed Wi-Fi connectivity.

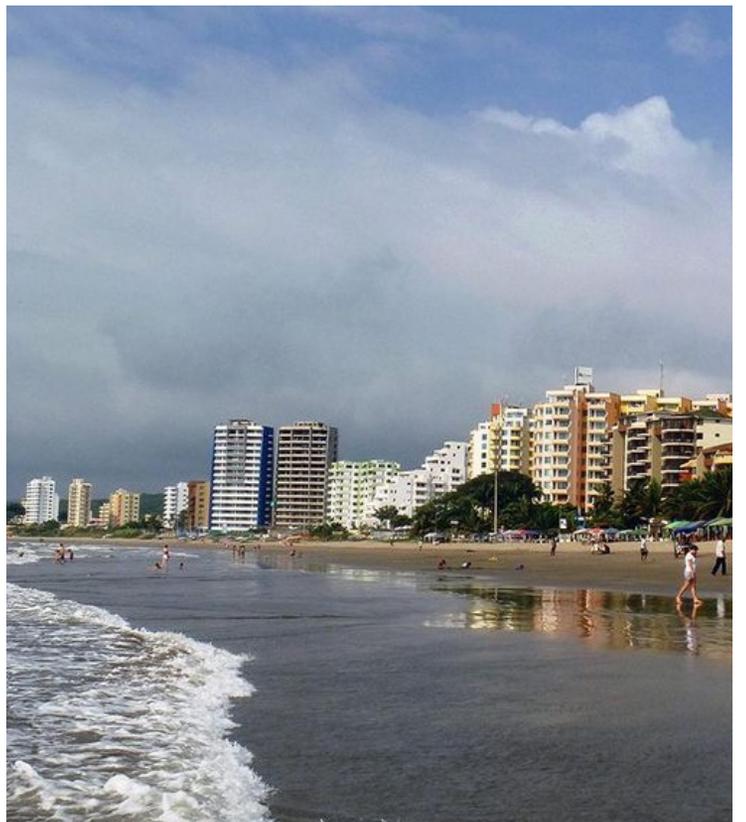
City Day Out

Ecuador offers a diverse landscape to allow for the delegates' deep engagement. The Galápagos Islands is considered one of the world's prime destinations for wildlife-viewing. There are only 116 visitor sites in the Galápagos including 54 land sites and 62 scuba-diving or snorkelling sites.

At over 400 m above the sea level, the Ecuadorian Amazon holds in its heart of darkness an infinite diversity of rich flora, fauna, landscapes and indigenous people.

The endless stretch of beaches across 1,600 km (1,000 miles) on the Coast of Ecuador is dotted with palm trees, dry as well as green rainforests, plantations and steep cliffs. Nature and water sports enthusiasts flock to these beaches year long for a variety of leisure activities. Perched between 1,500 meters (4,921 feet) to 6,310 meters (20,701 feet), the Andes in Ecuador, reveals the tapestry of volcanic lagoons, natural thermal waters, species of flora and fauna, and lakes.

Based on their location, the MICE delegates can visit any of these panoramas to draw their own experience on the canvas of their memory.



Special Feature



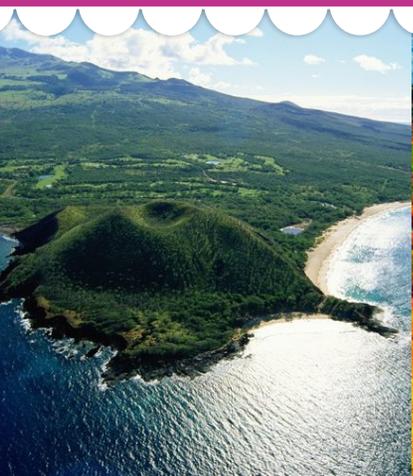
Destinations
that evoke the
perfect nuptial
sentiments!

Warm luxurious atmosphere, music, a sumptuous feast – a wedding that's completely you! Couples want to have a wedding ceremony that is more unique and that reflect their true colours. While traditional wedding still holds meaning an exotic paradise location is more sought after. Destination weddings can happen anywhere you want, it can be casual or very grand, short or an extended affair with no constraints on what you wear. All you need to know is the nation's wedding norms and have necessary documents for which a waiting period or a proof of inoculations may be needed. Some destinations in America need residency prior to the ceremony along with proof of citizenship and a nominal fees. However, many couples evade this by marrying in their local town hall and then holding a ceremony in the select destination.

Over the coming years, destination wedding tourism annual spending is estimated to account for US\$16 billion. It plays a key role for the businesses in the travel and tourism sector and revenue of the overall industry is set to increase in the days to come. American destinations are varied and marriages can be held atop a glacier or in scuba gear under the sea, cruises are another popular option. Most of the U.S. cities from beaches to historic resorts have budget-friendly wedding settings and have easy accessibility and accommodation.

The best thing to hold onto in life is each other.

Audrey Hepburn, actress



Hawaii islands have amazing beaches and outstanding snorkeling during any downtime and are one of the best places for a destination wedding in the world. On the Big Island's Kona Coast along Kealahou Bay dolphins pass by dancing in the backdrop.

Napa Valley, California offers a perfect backdrop for a wedding ceremony. It has breathtaking landscapes with rolling hills, lush valleys, and acres and acres of vineyards where guests can savour the best food and wine. Guests can go for a hot-air balloon ride, explore charming towns or indulge in spa treatments.



Florida Keys has an incredibly romantic escape with all sorts of attractions for lovers. It has an idyllic weather and picture-perfect beaches. The keys have a tropical appeal, is cheaper and easier for guests to reach. From glamorous sunsets to champagne sails, diving and snorkeling there are plenty of options to enjoy post wedding.

Exchange your vows in the **Cannon Beach, Oregon** - a wild, incredibly scenic coastline with some of the most beautiful beaches on the planet. Here the wind trails through ancient, old-growth forest at the edge of the Pacific with several picture-perfect spots for photos as well as romantic liaisons.

Mendocino, California overlooks the glistening expanse of the Pacific and sits atop the Northern California. It is one of the romantic places across the globe with Victorian-era homes. Guests can get picture-perfect spots for photos as well as romantic liaisons.



Aspen, Colorado has an ideal mix of natural beauty, rustic charm, and lavish amenities. It is full of outdoor adventures and unique activities like dog sledding, as well as sipping toasty après-ski drinks at the famous Ajax Tavern. During summer, some of the world's best hiking, mountain biking and whitewater rafting can be enjoyed.



Savannah, Georgia has historic squares, fountains and churches. Planning a wedding in the Savannah Riverboat Cruise will bring you close to the Civil War landmarks and other historic sites , art displays and exhibits. Exchange your rings against the backdrop of River Street and the Talmadge Bridge. A horse-drawn carriage ride through the city's street is a must.

And in the end, the love you take is equal to the love you make.

The Beatles

TRAVEL NEWS



WORLD'S LARGEST COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, SUPERJUMBO STARTS REGULAR FLIGHTS TO GLASGOW

Starting regular services to and from Dubai, the world's largest commercial passenger aircraft, Superjumbo, landed in Glasgow. On Tuesday at 19:45 the Airbus A380 touched down at Glasgow Airport which had spent more than £8m to prepare for its arrival. On routes operated by Emirates the Airbus A380 will fly twice a day between Glasgow and Dubai. The services started from April 16 for six months. To welcome Superjumbo, the Glasgow Airport which is the second-busiest in Scotland after Edinburgh took extensive preparation to ready the airport and introduced a triple airbridge. The three classes onboard will be Economy, Business and First which are Emirates' private suites.

High rents forcing families out of Venice with tourism taking over

In Venice, high rents are forcing families out of the city with tourism taking over. Venice's population has declined rapidly from roughly 175,000 after World War II to about 50,000 in the current context. Remaining residents complain that their city is seeing mass tourism while they have to pick up the bill for cleaning and security. Around 25 million tourists drop in to the Italian lagoon city each year, of which around 14 million spend just one day there. It has close to 8,000 Airbnb apartments for those who stay longer, soaking up the attractions around the canals.



WORLD'S FIRST 5G HOTEL UNVEILED IN CHINA, INTER CONTINENTAL SHENZHEN

The world's first 5G smart hotel in China by Inter Continental Shenzhen has opened the door for digital transformation for the entire hotel industry and will provide the guests with the ultimate innovative luxury experience. Guests will be guided by robots to their rooms and chat with them in the elevator. Today a strategic cooperation agreement was signed by Inter Continental Shenzhen, Shenzhen Telecom, and Huawei to create the world's first 5G smart hotel in China. It will have the first end-to-end 5G network along with integrated terminals and cloud applications, virtual reality, gaming, everything is connected to the cloud. Visitors could get a glimpse of the future of hotel business when China's Huawei Technologies unveiled the world's first 5G hotel in Shenzhen. After the launch of the world's first 5G railway station in Shanghai a month ago it was another step for the major Chinese carrier and the largest telecom equipment provider in deploying the next generation of mobile technology.



MACHU PICCHU PUEBLO IS THE FIRST CITY IN LATIN AMERICA THAT IS 100% SUSTAINABLE

Machu Picchu Pueblo has become the first city in Latin America to be 100 per cent sustainable as announced by Inkaterra. Inkaterra has succeeded in helping the pueblo manage 100 per cent of its solid waste by working in partnership with beverage distribution company AJE Group. Inkaterra is a hotel group focused on sustainable tourism and hotel development. AJE Group and Inkaterra presented the first organic waste treatment plant to the city. It is one of their initiatives to for the conservation and environmental care of Machu Picchu.



A dig into America's historical markers

Our heritage is the key link to our cultural, educational, aesthetic, inspirational, and economic legacies. Heritage trails not just make who we are but are also a unifying mechanism within the urban cultural tourism landscape that binds one and all.

Recently on April 18, UNESCO World Heritage Day was celebrated to raise awareness about historically and culturally significant monuments and sites. The International Council on Monuments and Sites in 1982 declared April 18 as UNESCO World Heritage Day but the UNESCO approved of it only in 1983. The USA is home to 22 (of the total 981) UNESCO World Heritage Sites across the globe and has numerous internationally recognized natural, man-made sites, areas, and structures. Let's look into some of the outstanding heritage sites to get a glimpse of the enriching culture.

Monticello and the University of Virginia, Virginia : An outstanding piece of a neoclassical work of art, it was designed by Thomas Jefferson, the third President of the USA and also the author of the Declaration of Independence, Monticello. It symbolizes the aspiration of the new American republic as the inheritor of the European tradition. It was designated as the World Heritage Site in 1987 as it was widely known for the integration of the building into the natural landscape. Its original design, plan, refined proportions, and décor have bagged appreciation from every corner. It is located at the heart of the University of Virginia and is an outstanding example of great educational institution from the Age of Enlightenment.



Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky- At a distance of more than 644 km rests the world's longest network of caves and underground passageways. The park supports more than 130 species of flora and fauna. It is rich in cave-dwelling wildlife habitat. Cave tours, surface hikes, canoeing, picnicking, horseback riding, bicycling, and camping are some of the activities in which the visitors can engage themselves. It was designated as a World Heritage Site in 1981. A brief tour of the park's website is suggested before coming here.

Taos Pueblo, New Mexico- It is the best reflection of the culture of the Pueblo Indians of Arizona and the New Mexico and the adobe settlement is situated in the valley of a small tributary of the Rio Grande. It was set up in the late 13th and early 14th centuries and had Adobe dwellings and ceremonial buildings with enduring culture. The National Historic Landmark with the multistoried adobe buildings had been continuously inhabited for more than 1,000 years. It was designated a World Heritage Site in 1992.

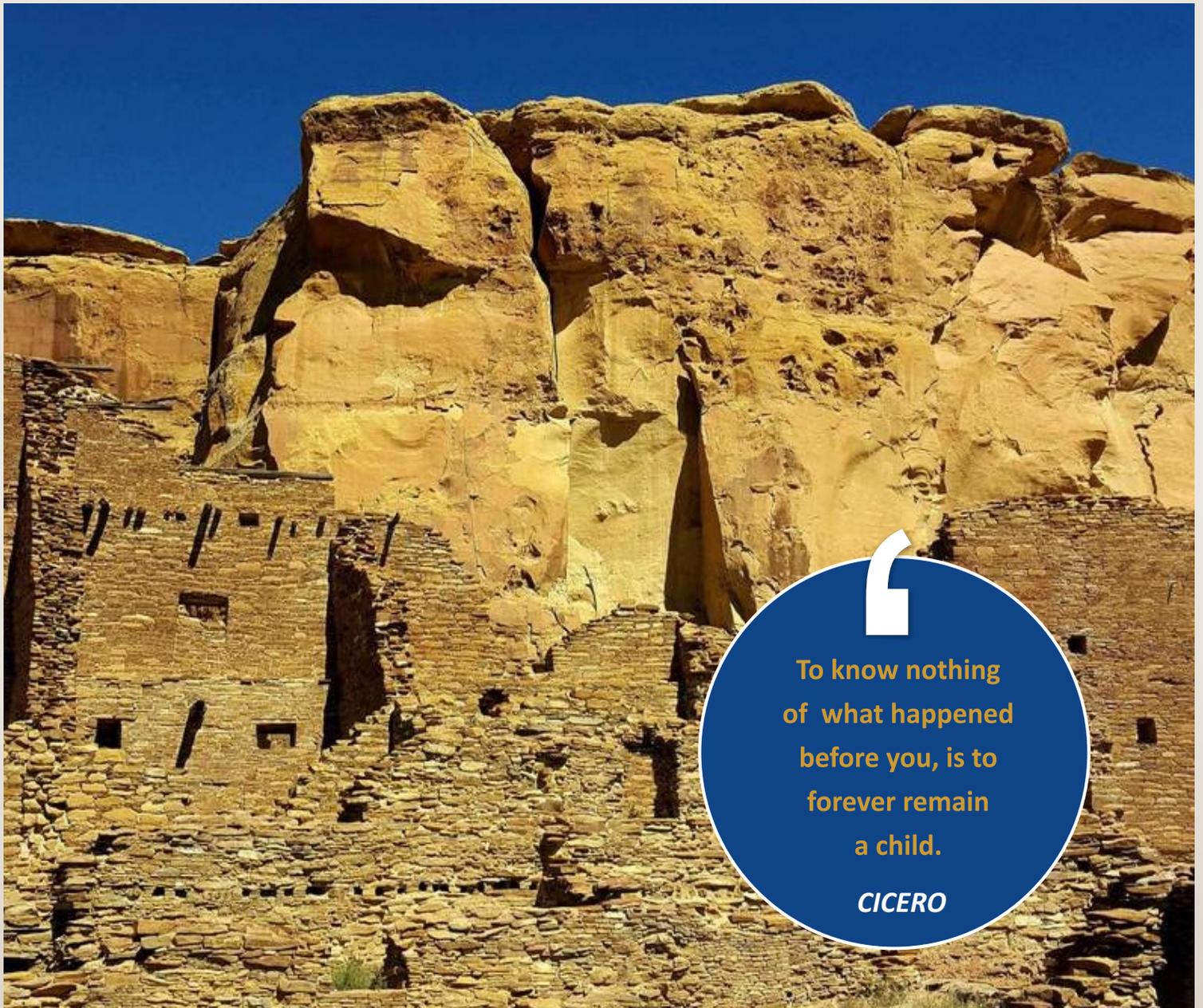




Statue of Liberty National Monument, New York- The Statue of Liberty enlightening the world was a gift of friendship from the people of France on the 100th anniversary of the U.S. independence. Standing at the entrance to New York Harbor, it has been welcoming millions of immigrants to the USA since October 28, 1886. It was designated a World Heritage Site in 1984. France aided the United States during the Revolutionary War as the two countries shared the same political views and situation in 1865. This led the French activist, Edouard Reene Laboulaye suggest that France give this as a symbol of friendship.

Chaco Culture National Historical Park, New Mexico- The ceremonial building and complex collection of monumental public show the deep and sophisticated understanding of astronomical phenomena. Designated as a World Heritage Site in 1987, the site offers its visitors a deep understanding of the people who lived here between 850-1250. Be there to explore Chaco by either hiking or biking trails, evening campfire talks or night sky programs.

America's past is inextricably linked to the present; understand the value and knowledge manifested from the historical sites and capture the story of each location wherever you go!



INTERVIEW ZONE



Ms. Sheema Vohra
Managing Director
India, Brand USA

TTW America: What is the current trend in heritage tourism in America?

Sheema Vohra: Cultural and heritage tourism to the USA is growing. Affluent families, millennials and even honeymooners love travelling to unique destinations, with distinct cultures and sites. They want to live like the locals do and indulge themselves in USA's rich cultural heritage. More and more Indian travellers are showing interest in activities around art, culture, music and heritage ethnicity which will continue to expand.

With regards to the musical heritage of the USA, there is the cowboy culture with their unique country music. Additionally, there are many forms of folk music that showcases the diverse and rich history and heritage of the country. There's an eclectic line-up of musical genres from Jazz to Zydeco, which draws many musicians and fans from all over the world.

TTW America: Tell us about the most desired places in the United States of America for heritage tourism ?

Sheema Vohra: The USA has 22 UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The Grand Canyon in Arizona is one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Around 5 million people visit the Grand Canyon National Park every year. Other heritage sites in the USA include Independence Hall in Pennsylvania and the Redwood National and State Parks in California, home to the oldest and tallest trees on earth, with remnants of a group of trees

that have existed for 160 million years. The Yosemite National Park in California offers a dramatic landscape and awe-inspiring views with its hanging valleys, waterfalls, cirque lakes, polished domes, moraines and U-shaped valleys.

Mesa Verde National Park in Colorado provides testimony to the ancient cultural traditions of Native American tribes and is among the best preserved in the USA. While the Everglades National Park in Florida is the largest subtropical wilderness in the USA providing important habitat for numerous rare and endangered species, including the manatee, the American crocodile and the elusive Florida panther. Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site in Illinois, Yellowstone National Park in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming, Mammoth Cave National Park in Kentucky, Carlsbad Caverns National Park in New Mexico and the Statue of Liberty National Monument in New York, are some of the other World Heritage sites in the USA.





TTW America: According to you what are the challenges and competitive threats in the heritage tourism market in the United States of America?

Sheema Vohra: Every market is unique and has its own challenges and competitive threats. It is anticipated that cultural and heritage tourism will further play a major role in tourism markets in the coming years. The main element that drives business to U.S. heritage sites is the authenticity of the destination, where visitors can experience lives of local residents, including local accommodation, engaging or attending a cultural

festival or a religious ceremony.

TTW America: What behavioral changes have been observed in the visitors demand in America for heritage tourism?

Sheema Vohra: We have witnessed a large number of millennials, affluent families and business cum leisure travellers visiting the USA for unique local holiday experience. Even honeymooners prefer visiting places that have rich culture and heritage affiliation. This is resulting in cultural and heritage tourism to grow at a rapid pace.

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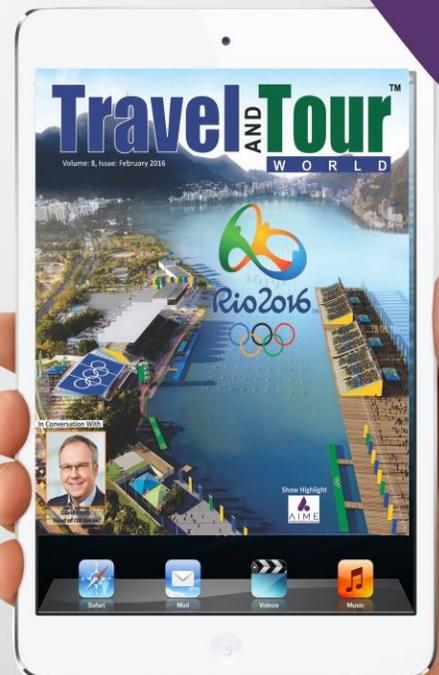
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Central America's most favored tourist destination packed with jungles and islands is Belize. It is a paradise for adventure lovers and culture enthusiast. Belize offers you a perfect vacation. Here you can enjoy with variant adventure sports like kayaking, windsurfing, paddle-boarding, swimming, fishing or lazing in a hammock. So let's embark on the journey...

Destination Dairy

BELIZE

*Journey to Cornucopia of
Adventure Tourists' Hotspots*

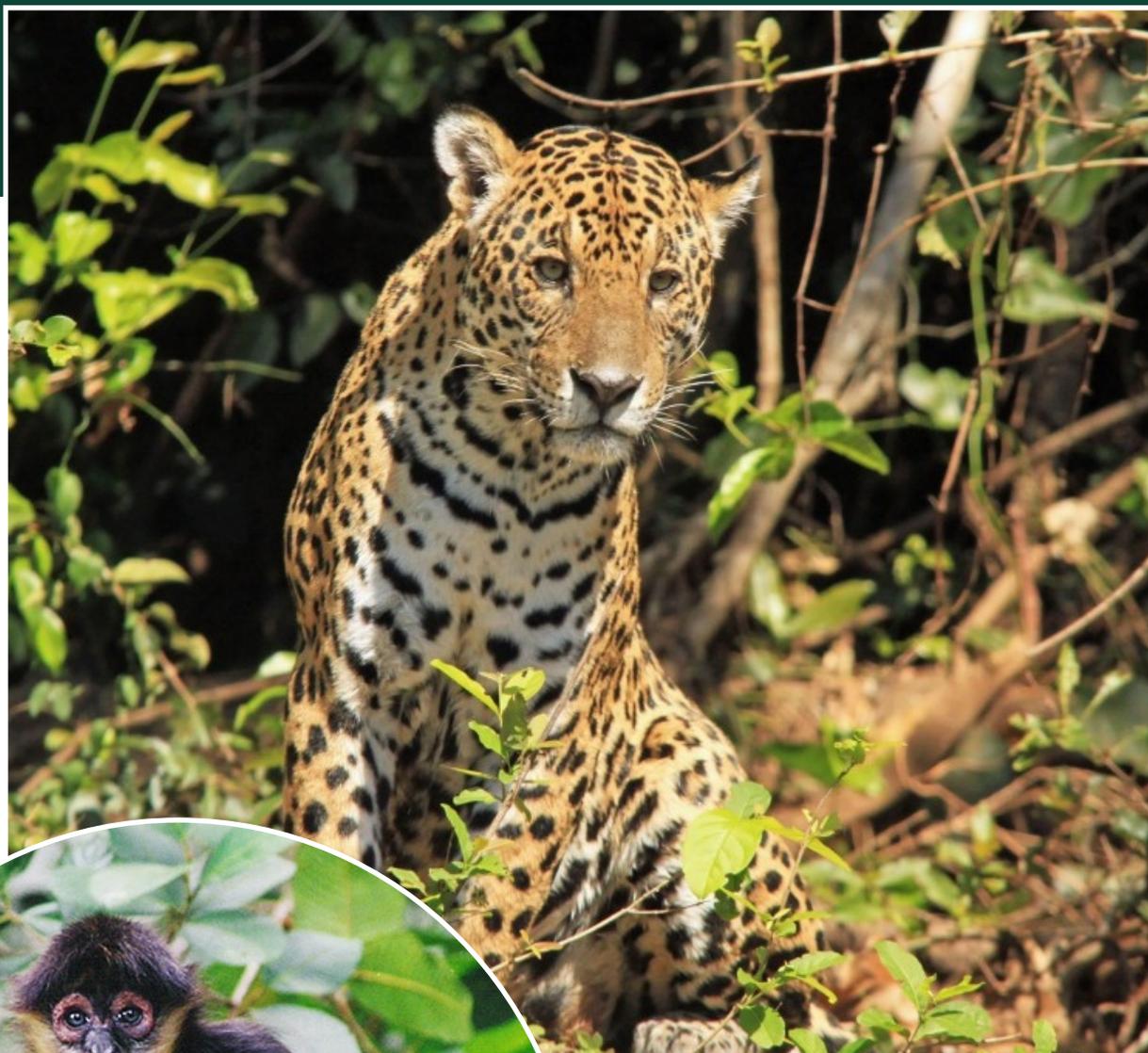


EXPERIENCE THE WONDERS OF BELIZE



Cave Diving

Cave diving at Belize allows one to plunge into the dark depths of Belize's underground universe. You can see abundant and colorful marine world while exploring the ocean. Also you can explore thousands of caves that spot the scenery of this small region, filled with nooks and crannies. There's a lot to see within these caves, including some charming Mayan ceremonial ruins.



Wildlife Adventure

Belize is rich in wildlife. It has verdant mountains and rainforests which are the abodes of Jaguars, ocelots, macaws and tapirs. All are ruling the lush green jungles of Central America. You can also spot lemur-like kinkajou, when you explore to rainforest in Belize Zoo, which is about a 45-minute drive outside of Belize City.



Coastal Escapades

Belize has 240 miles of long coastline. This region is the perfect place to pursue all kinds of saltwater activities. Here, you can enjoy sailing, windsurfing and kayaking and snorkeling. Belize Barrier Reef after Australia's Great Barrier Reef is the planet's largest living reef. Here the snorkellers and scuba divers will meet with an abundance of colorful coral and sea creatures, from curious sea turtles to parrot fish and barracudas. Located off the southern tip of Ambergris Caye, Hol Chan Marine Reserve is the oldest marine reserve of the country. This area has traditionally fascinated massive amounts of nurse sharks and stingrays.

Dive Deep at Great Blue Hole

At Belize, Great Blue Hole is one of the most important attractions. It is basically a gigantic sinkhole located in the middle of Light House Reef Atoll. This Hole is about 1000 ft across, and it is easily visible from the air. The hole is about 400 ft deep and this depth contributes to its rich, azure hue, which contrasts so noticeably with the surrounding turquoise waters.



Experience Hidden Culture

Belize has the most unique treasure that is culture of Garifuna people. The Afro-Caribbean Garifuna are descended from indigenous Caribbeans who mixed with Nigerian slaves shipwrecked on St. Vincent. In 2001, UNESCO declared the Garifuna's language, dance and music an "Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity" and likewise declared the language as "critically endangered." Experience here the local tribal food, music and culture of the Garifuna. In Dangriga, the largest town in southern Belize, you can visit the Gulisi Garifuna Museum. In Hopkins, a 30-minute drive south of Dangriga, you can see the traditional clothing of its people, cook an authentic Hudut meal (fish in coconut soup) and dance and play drums into the evening.

Island Safari

You can visit the islands to see the tourists' hotspots. Ambergris Caye, Belize's biggest island, is also the country's most popular destination for those looking to take full advantage of the country's beaches and water activities. You can spend much of your time at San Pedro, Ambergris' largest town. Aside from a communicable laid-back vibe, outstanding Belizean cuisine and an energetic nightclub scene, San Pedro is famous for its main mode of transport.





Carolina Strawberry Festival

May 03 - May 04, 2019

Downtown Wallace, NC



Carolina Strawberry Festival in Wallace is filled with performances by local music performers, craft vendors, lip-smacking food and dinosaurs' installations. You can also find other events like midway of rides, Beer & Wine Garden, Little Miss Strawberry Pageant.



Cinco de Mayo

May 05, 2019

Puebla, Mexico



Cinco de Mayo is an annual Mexican celebration in the United States. May 5 is the date of a battle that took place in Puebla in 1862, in which the Mexican army defeated the French armed forces. Now the people celebrate this day with street parades, performing arts and dance. People often mistake Cinco de Mayo for a celebration of Mexican independence. But that's not true.



Little Norway Festival

May 16 - 19, 2019

Petersburg, Alaska, Canada



Little Norway Festival Committee and Chamber of Commerce organize Little Norway Festival, which was held first in 1958. The residents of Alaska dress up as Vikings, Valkyries and colorful traditional Norwegian dress. The event line-ups include dancing and drama, arts and crafts, classes in the Norwegian parades, street dances and traditional amusement.



Hangout Music Festival

May 17 - 19, 2019

Gulf Shores, Alabama



Hangout Music Festival packs fun into every moment, featuring beach side volleyball tournament, rides, art, food, a hammock beach, and “the Big Tap,” pouring local and craft beers. Founded in 2009, this festival attracts millions of tourists every year.



When: 29 - 30 May, 2019

Where: Citibanamex, Mexico Centro

ibtm AMERICAS

For over 30 years, IBTM has been

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

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

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

During May 29th and 30th, IBTM Americas' second edition will be taking over Mexico City. Event professionals will get to exhibit and engage with an

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otherwise untapped audience and position themselves in a region that is developing at a rapid pace.

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

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

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

IMEX AMERICA

When: September 10 – 12, 2019

Where: Las Vegas, America

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

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

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

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

1. Transformation & collaboration

Partnerships can be truly powerful. IMEX is

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

2. Diversity & Inclusion

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

3. Sustainability

Sustainability continues to top the agenda as more and more companies recognise the importance of issues such as climate change, community

development and dwindling natural resources. It's an issue which has been firmly anchored in IMEX's business strategy since the foundation of the company in 2003, with performance benchmarked against industry standards including the APEX/ASTM Environmentally Sustainable Event Standards.

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

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



ITB China 2019

When: 15-17 May, 2019

Where: Shanghai World Expo Exhibition And Convention Centre, China

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

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

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

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

ITB China offer refers to both, business travel, MICE and leisure travel to international, partly



ITB
CHINA

undiscovered destinations including all aspects and travel-related services. The latest developments in IT and travel software will be presented as well.

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



ITE Hong Kong 2019

When: 13-16 June, 2019

Where: Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre

International
Travel Expo



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

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

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

香港國際旅遊展





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

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

TRAVELDAILY CONFERENCE

When: 28-29 August, 2019

Where: Shanghai, China

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

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

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

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

system to enhance networking and maximize business opportunities.

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

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



7th Annual Hotelier Series India

When: 20 – 21 MAY, 2019

Where: : W GOA, INDIA



The 7th Annual Hotelier Series India is set to revolutionize the Hospitality Industry this May! IDE is proud to have partnered with 'India's Leading Hotel Investment Consultants' - Noesis Capital Advisors, which makes Hotelier Summit India 2019, the most sought after hotelier gathering in the region. This gathering is scheduled to take place on May 20th - May 21st at W Goa.

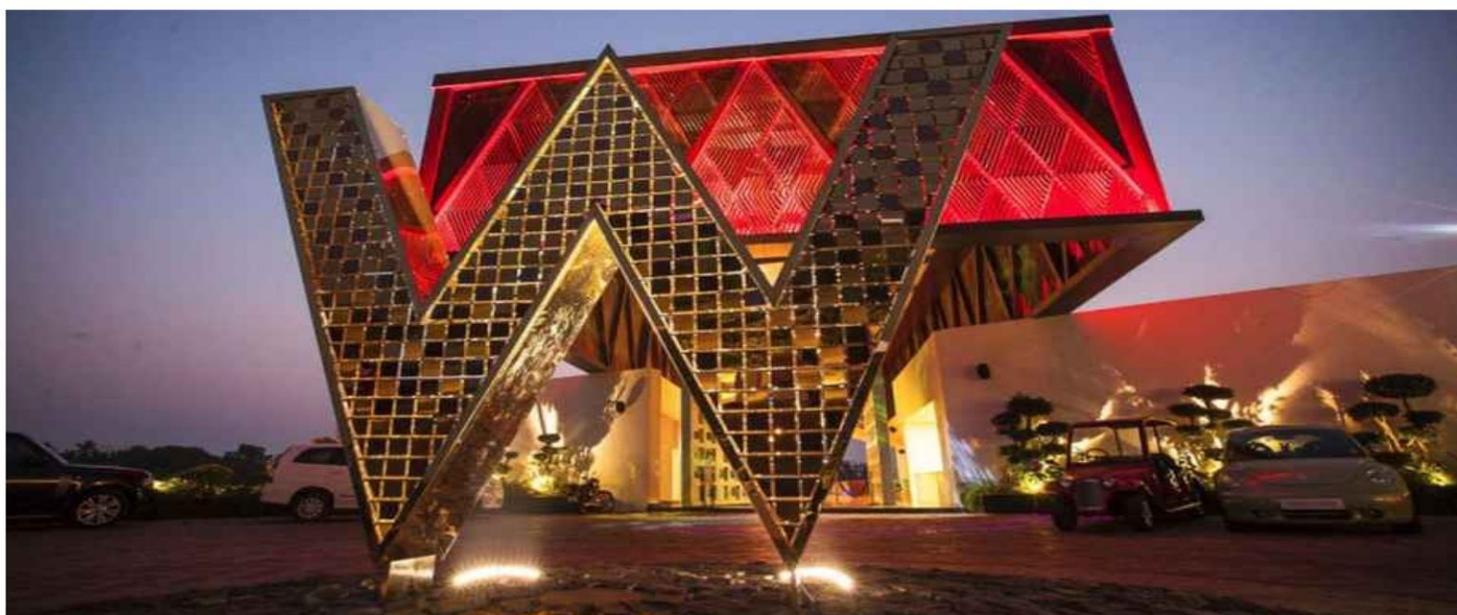
7th Annual Hotelier Series India is a game-changer for the hospitality industry. Hotelier Summit India 2019 initiative is designed to benefit those who invest, strategize, design, build and operate in the hospitality industry. This is an amazing opportunity to set up face-to-face meetings, network, demo/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

The two-day event consists of:

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

And more!

Some of the prominent brands participating at this year's initiative include brands such as, Kef Keterra, Advance 2020, Sony, Halton, Asian Paints and Roca, just to name a few. The summit is less than a month away, don't miss out! Come be a part of India's most extravagant hospitality gathering!



Hotelier Summit MENA 2019

When: SEPTEMBER, 2019

Where: : Cairo, EGYPT



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

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

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

amazing opportunity to set up face-to-face meetings, network, demo/ showcase your offerings, and just have some fun.

The event consists of:

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

And more!

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



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2-5 May 2019

connections
LEADERS DO BUSINESS

CONNECTIONS LUXURY

Terme Olimia, Slovenia

Podčetrtek, Slovenia

www.weareconnections.com

8-9 May 2019

 **3RD LATIN AMERICA
HOTEL AND RESORT EXPANSION SUMMIT**
8th - 9th May 2019 | Cancun, Mexico

**3RD LATIN AMERICA HOTEL AND
RESORT EXPANSION SUMMIT**

Cancún México

latinamerica.hotelandresortsummit.com

mit.com

9-12 May 2019

PATA[®]

Pacific Asia Travel Association

PATA ANNUAL SUMMIT

Cebu, Phillipines

www.pata.org/pas/



ITB
CHINA

ITB CHINA

Shanghai, China

www.itb-china.com

15-17 May 2019



WTM Connect Asia

Penang, Malaysia

www.wtmconnect.com

18-20 May 2019



Hotelier Summit (India)

Goa, India

www.hotelierseries.com/india

17-19 May 2019



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

LONDON, UK

www.eyefortravel.com/

21-22 May 2019

22 May 2019

Boutique + Lifestyle Hotel Summit

London, UK

www.boutiquehotelsummit.com



21-23 May 2019



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

23-25 May 2019



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



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

23-25 May 2019

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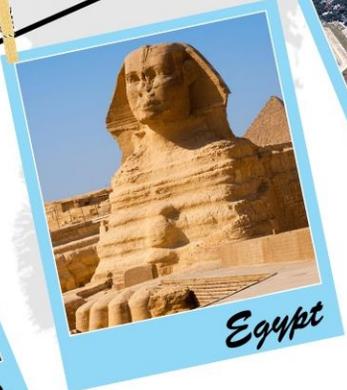
IBTM Americas
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29-30 May 2019

Travel AND Tour™ WORLD



Paris



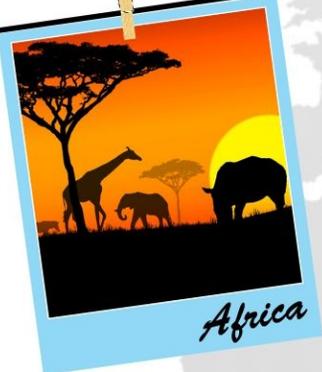
Egypt



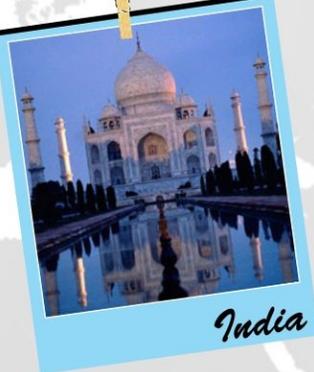
Brazil



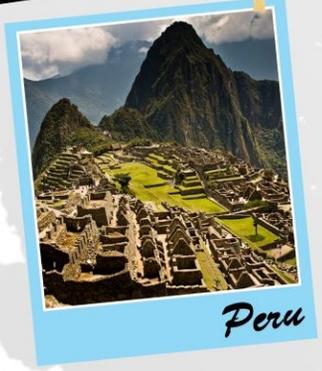
Italy



Africa



India



Peru



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