

# IATO

*A Tourism Industry Communication by  
Indian Association of Tour Operators*

## SPEAKS

### **IATO URGES THE TOURISM MINISTRY TO HOLD PHYSICAL ROADSHOWS IN THE OVERSEAS MARKETS**



AN INITIATIVE BY IATO



**37<sup>th</sup> IATO ANNUAL CONVENTION**  
at  
Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India

**16-19 December 2022**



# Contents Page



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<b>Inside IATO .....</b>	<b>05-07</b>
<b>The Postcard .....</b>	<b>08-09</b>
<b>Government and You .....</b>	<b>10-15</b>
<b>Voice of Media .....</b>	<b>16-19</b>
<b>Voice of Fraternity .....</b>	<b>20-21</b>
<b>Charms of India .....</b>	<b>22-24</b>
<b>India Fabric .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Professional Wisdom .....</b>	<b>26-27</b>
<b>Spiritual Fountain .....</b>	<b>28-29</b>
<b>Subcontinental Pearls .....</b>	<b>30-31</b>
<b>Foreign Shores .....</b>	<b>32-33</b>



# President's Message



*Dear Fellow Members,*

Compliments for the festive season. I pray, this Diwali brings lots of health, wealth and happiness to you all.

The meeting of State Tourism Ministers in Himachal Pradesh was a watershed in many ways; they all agreed to give due importance to tourism and bring it at the centre stage. Lots of verbal commitments were made, now watch them to take shape. The Ministry of Tourism mentioned that the overseas marketing funds will soon be made available, and we can expect a sizeable number of international promotions.

Your annual convention is now scheduled to take place in Lucknow from 16th to 19th December. Elaborate arrangements are being made, and none other than Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will inaugurate and deliver the key-note address. You are all aware that Uttar Pradesh is one of the leading tourism states, which has the world famous Taj Mahal, the oldest living city in the world Varanasi, Sarnath, and the Imambara. I encourage you all to register and attend in large numbers. It is time that the inbound industry comes together on this platform and shows its commitment towards the future.

Lastly, I suggest everyone to come forward with new ideas and suggestions that could help grow India's inbound tourism. A good idea if not shared remains idle, you can make it work through your association. Together we can and shall make the difference. Look forward to hearing from you all.

Stay safe - remember, Covid hasn't gone away. Maintain distance and enjoy the festive season.

*Your President*



## JULY

❖ IATO Extra Ordinary General Meeting on 18th July 2022 at The Park Hotel, New Delhi at 1030 hours



❖ All Active Members were informed on TPCI's Industry Delegation to Australia for the Travel & Hospitality Sector

❖ All Active Members were informed on the Invitation for NAMASTE VIETNAM Festival from 16 - 21 August 2022

❖ All Active Members were informed on the Joining Link for Incredible India Reconnect 2022 (Virtual Road Show): Portugal Edition on Tuesday, the 2nd August 2022 at 4 pm IST

## AUGUST

❖ IATO requested Shri Arvind Singh, Secretary (Tourism), to set up India Pavilion in Top Resa 2022 and WTM 2022 and invite industry stakeholders to participate

❖ IATO Feedback regarding Incredible India Reconnect 2022 (Virtual Road Show): South Korea Edition held on Tuesday, the 30th August 2022

❖ All Members were informed on the Hospitality & Tourism Services Conclave 2022 on 9th September 2022 at Hotel Taj Palace, New Delhi, organized by SEPC

❖ IATO members at the Namaste Vietnam Festival - 16-21 August 2022



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”



## Inside IATO



❖ All Members were informed on the IATO Interactive Meeting on Wednesday, the 24th August 2022 at 1900 hours at The Park Hotel, New Delhi

❖ All Members were informed that with IATO's vigorous follow up and untiring efforts and with the support from the Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India, Tax Collection at Source (TCS) has been completely withdrawn on sale of overseas tour packages to foreign tourists/individuals as well as FTOs with immediate effect.



❖ All Active Members were informed on the Joining Link for Incredible India Reconnect 2022 (Virtual Road Show): Japan Edition on Thursday, the 25th August 2022 at 1130 hours IST

❖ IATO EGM at The Park Hotel, New Delhi

❖ Interactive Meeting with the members at the Park Hotel, New Delhi after the EGM



- ❖ Memento Presented to Mrs. Rupinder Brar, Former ADG Tourism



- ❖ All Allied Members (Tour Operators & Travel Agents) were informed on the Change in Membership Criteria for Active Members under the new IATO Memorandum of Association and Rules & Regulations

- ❖ All Members were informed on the Minutes of the IATO Extra Ordinary General Meeting on 24th August 2022 at The Park Hotel, New Delhi

## SEPTEMBER

- ❖ On Tuesday, September 6, 2022, at 1100 IST, all Active Members received information regarding the Joining Link for the Incredible India Reconnect 2022 (Virtual Road Show): Sri Lanka edition.

- ❖ The invitation to the PATA India Chapter's Jewel of India webinar with Goa Tourism on September 7, 2022, at 11:30 a.m. was shared with all members.

- ❖ On Thursday, September 8, 2022, at 14:30 IST, Incredible India Reconnect 2022 (Virtual Road Show): Netherlands edition was announced to all Active Members.

- ❖ All Active Members were made aware of the email requesting participation in BLTM that was sent by Indiatourism Delhi, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India. By 5 p.m. on September 9th, members who have been given permission by the Ministry of Tourism to participate may send their expressions of interest.

- ❖ On Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at 8 p.m. IST, all Active Members received information regarding the Joining Link for Incredible India Reconnect 2022 (Virtual Road Show): Canada edition.

- ❖ The invitation for the Bahrain Tourism Roadshow Delhi, which will be held on September 16, 2022 at the Hyatt Regency, New Delhi, was sent to all members (tour operators and travel agents).

- ❖ Physical roadshows in foreign countries by MOT is the need of the hour: Rajiv Mehra. Rajiv Mehra, President, IATO, recently addressed the National Conference of State Tourism Ministers in Dharamshala. He said that the need of the hour is to organise physical roadshows in foreign countries under the leadership of the Ministry of Tourism. "This needs to be done on an urgent basis. The state governments are already participating in major travel marts overseas."



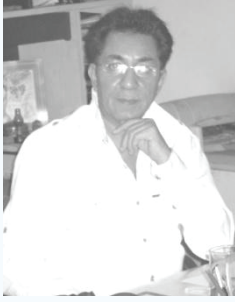
- ❖ IATO requests Tourism Minister to declare 2023 as Visit India Year for foreign tourists. Rajiv Mehra, President, IATO, recently addressed the National Conference of State Tourism Ministers in Dharamshala, where he requested G Kishan Reddy, Union Minister of Tourism, Culture and DoNER, to declare 2023 as Visit India Year for foreign tourists. "This will help the industry to revive, otherwise I expect just 35% business to come by 31st March 2023," he said. ❖

”  
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to the PATA  
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## The Postcard



### *Story of Himalayas!*



It had been snowing lightly all day, the long mountain trail was covered in white. Grey clouds hung in the sky, chilling winds were tearing through the canopies of our polaris anoraks, freezing our ear lobes. It was late in the afternoon when we stumbled into the small entrance of the cave. Inside was dark and still, the only signs of life were the faint sound of water trickling somewhere and a male's voice reciting some mantras. Outside we had left a lengthy pattern of footprints on the fresh snow leading to the cave.

The rumble of an avalanche, far in the distance, thundering down some mountain ridge, broke the dark silence enveloping us. It had been a long march, we were cold, wet and exhausted. A husky voice from inside the cave, suddenly said; *"aap dev bhumi mein ho.... shaant raho"* (you are in the domain of gods.... remain at peace). I switched on my maglite torch we felt reassured, the darting beam of light gave us hope that there was nothing to fear.

Combating the unknown and unimaginable wilderness, after five days of camping and walking across high mountain passes and encountering Himalayan black bears, we had eventually found our way to the cave. Devoid of vegetation, there was nothing around except patches of lichen and moss. The tree-line had been left far below, it seemed like an immortal world of high mountains, windy silences and snow covered ridges. Infinite immensity of 'Himalayas' met the eyes in which ever direction we turned our heads, we were at an altitude of 3704 meter, above the edge of a nine kilometer long icy glacier.

The sun was beginning to set, a tall man in his early sixties emerged from the dark; *"raat yahin par bitaa lo, kal laut janaa, aage jane ka rasta nahin hae....."* (spend the night here, go back tomorrow, there is no path to go any further.....". It was difficult to see his face clearly, his silhouette suggested he had shoulder length hair and was wearing only a loin-cloth and nothing else. An avalanche rumbled again somewhere.

It was a fitful night, despite of our warm down-feather sleeping bags, we were unable to sleep, the effects of lesser oxygen at higher altitude made us restless. Around 3:15 am we became aware of the chanting of sanskrit mantras; we seemed to be living through a strange experience and were not able to decide if it was real or some fantasy prompted by effects of higher altitude on human brains. The clouds had drifted away, a few hours later the sun rose, mild streaks of light began to dissolve the darkness inside the cave.

It was a new day, one which was to remain etched in our mind for ever. It was the day we discovered the story of Himalayas. The man handed us a bowl of boiled rice cooked



in wild rhubarb and introduced himself; *"I'm professor Kaul"*, we were taken by surprise, he spoke perfect English *"you may like to call me an eccentric professor or a gentleman in exile obsessed with the genesis of the Himalayas, or a hermit of some kind"*, he paused. *"I have been living here for nearly two years trying to further my understanding about the Himalaya, I am a geologist"*. The morning had just begun. It was a fateful rendezvous with a stranger who seemed to have devoted himself to unraveling the great mysteries of the Himalayas. We decided to spend the day in the cave, learning from him.

Earth's landmass was once connected, it was a mega-super-continent known as Pangea. Approximately 200 million years ago, it broke away into fragments which began to drift across the vast Earth. These fragmented landmasses eventually came to rest at different geographical locations forming the present-day continents, now inhabited by humans.

The formation of Himalayas was the result of a 'tectonic event' that took place between 50 to 40 million years ago. Geological studies showed that about 225 million years ago, the landmass which we now call the 'Indian subcontinent' was a large island near the Australian coast, it was separated from Eurasian landmass by the Tethys ocean. It kept drifting northwards through million of years and finally began to collide with Eurasian landmass starting the closing of Tethys ocean which eventually disappeared completely.

This event kicked-off the process of the emergence of the grand Himalayas. The thicker accumulated sediments of the Tethys ocean's floor began to get scrapped-off, leading to the upward wedge like formations, which we today see as the grand Himalayan range. He continued; *"and this tectonic miracle extends over 2900 kilometers and reaches a maximum elevation of 8848 meters at the top of Mount Everest, the highest point on the Earth, the Indian landmass has not stopped moving northwards and the Himalayas are still rising by roughly 0.7 to 1 centimeter each year....."*.

After Antarctica and the Arctic, the Himalayas are the third largest deposit of 'snow and ice' on our planet. Their freezing terrains sustain about 15000 glaciers which store about 12000 cubic kms. of fresh water. It was afternoon already, we sat there completely awed by his narration. The professor opened a wooden box, it contained a few fossils of the remnants of a coral, sea plants and other marine life. *"today, it is impossible to imagine that these Himalayas were once an ocean bed, thriving with countless marine creatures..."*, there was a thoughtful look in his eyes.

Next morning, we began our march back towards civilization, the snow on the trail had melted. We heard the noise of a sudden crash, an enormous chunk of glaciated ice and debris had broken off from the glacier somewhere behind us. As we walked along the path, we could not stop wondering about the prehistoric times before life existed on our planet and the unfathomable tectonic processes ever active under its Earthly crust.



*The author, Neelam Thakur (Neel) has been a devoted Tourism and Travel professional for over 3½ decades.*  
[thakurquest@gmail.com](mailto:thakurquest@gmail.com)

# IATO ASKED ARVIND SINGH TO SET UP INDIA PAVILION AT TOP RESA AND WTM 2022

IFTM Top Resa, 20th – 22nd September 2022, in Paris

World Travel Mart (WTM), 7th – 9th November 2022, in London

”  
**IATO was aware that the Ministry of Finance had not yet released any funds to the Ministry**  
”

Both of the above mentioned events were crucial for the tour operators since they attracted a sizeable number of foreign tour operators, giving the Indian tour operators a chance to meet them, renew their relationships, and instil

trust in them so they may begin marketing tours to India. IATO was aware that the Ministry of Finance had not yet released any funds to the Ministry, but a special approval could be obtained for the two markets that were listed. ❖

## RESPONSE TO SOUTH KOREA EDITION OF INCREDIBLE INDIA RECONNECT 2022

IATO wrote to Arvind Singh, Secretary (Tourism), on the aforementioned matter and informed him that there were technical difficulties because the speech by the Embassy employee could hardly be heard.



Show, which took place on August 2, 2022. Not a single foreign tour operator attended, and we were the only ones organising the presentations and discussions.

IATO suggested that in order for these programmes to be effective, the president or representative of each local outbound tour operator association as well as their members be invited. The Indian Missions abroad should host physical meetings, Indian nights, and cultural dinners where foreign travel operators could be invited for conversation. India Tourism offices overseas afterwards arranged real road shows whereby Indian and foreign travel operators were invited for B2B meetings. ❖

”  
**IATO suggested that in order to make these programmes effective, the president or representative of each local outbound tour operator association as well as their members be invited**  
”

Despite the presence of an interpreter, no translation was performed. One of the Korean participants in the Q&A session asked a question in his native tongue, but it was not translated, and as a result, he did not receive a response.

Similar issues plagued the Portugal Edition Virtual Road



# MEMO OF ASSOCIATION UPDATED AND RULES EXPLAINED TO ALL MEMBERS

Allied Members who are recognised by the Ministry of Tourism are required to meet the updated requirements for Active membership; apply for a change in status from Allied to Active members.

Members who are eligible and meet the above criteria can apply as per following:-

## To Apply Online

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfESIN5fosX4fPBAkbXl6azDW8Ww1AYIvaII0bLhki\\_835RRA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfESIN5fosX4fPBAkbXl6azDW8Ww1AYIvaII0bLhki_835RRA/viewform)

## To download the form and submit physically

[https://iato.in/uploads/pdf/MEMBERSHIP\\_APPLICATION\\_FORM\\_2016.pdf](https://iato.in/uploads/pdf/MEMBERSHIP_APPLICATION_FORM_2016.pdf)

## Fee to be paid for change of status:-

- Members who have paid annual subscription for the financial year 2022-23 need Total Rs. 236
- Members who have not paid annual subscription for the financial year 2022-23 need to pay Rs. 1200 + GST Rs. 216 = Total Rs. 1416
- Members who have not paid their annual subscription for the financial year 2020-21 & 2022-23, need to pay Total Rs. 8496. ❖

”  
Members who have not paid annual subscription for the financial year 2022-23 need to pay Rs 1200+GST Rs 216 = Total Rs 1416  
”

# ARVIND SINGH, SECRETARY TOURISM, REQUESTED TO RENEW E-TOURIST VISA

IATO got feedback from a foreign tour operator that it was taking 6-week time in the UK and Canada to get an Indian Visa and no e-Tourist Visa was being issued for applicants from the two countries.

For the growth of tourism, the sector has to compete with our neighbouring countries to attract foreign tourists to India by offering competitive rates, and at present the industry is losing a large volume of business in absence of any Government support. The main reason is the high effective GST percentage of 20 to 23% on our tourism package cost compared to 6 to 8% by our neighbouring countries. Due to non-availability of E-Tourist Visa

for UK, Canada and other source markets, the industry was losing business and tourists from those countries were avoiding to visit India and opting for alternative destinations.

IATO requested Secretary Tourism to kindly impress upon the Ministry of Home Affairs to open e-Visa for UK, Canada and other countries which were there in the list before Covid-19 period. ❖

”  
The industry was losing business and tourists from UK, Canada and other markets, which were opting for destinations other than India  
”

# TRANSPORT COMMISSIONER ASHISH KUNDRA APPRISED OF TOUR OPERATORS' PROBLEMS

Malfunctioning of automatic testing machines at Jhuljhuli created a lot of problems for the vehicles, which were going for testing.



less polluting. IATO requested that registration of Euro-VI diesel passenger vehicles above six seats be allowed in Delhi.

3. Permit of tourist vehicles such as Dzire, Ertiga, Electric vehicles, etc. using clean fuel i.e. CNG, Electric and operated under AITP should be allowed to operate up to 15 years.
4. Considering the non-availability of speed governors for certain vehicles Government of Delhi had exempted these models from fitment of Speed Governors. IATO requested that mandatory requirement of speed governors on AITP vehicles should be waived off as the industry was facing huge shortage of desired vehicles to cater to India Tourism
5. Tourist transport vehicles should not be stopped on the pretext of checking documents unless there was a visible violation of traffic rules to avoid unnecessary harassment to the tourists and to extract undue favors from the driver.
6. Even though as per CMVR, fixation of retro-reflective tapes on commercial vehicles having less than 9 seats was not required, still some of the staff at Fitness center were insisting for fixation of blue and yellow tapes across cars. ❖

1. Request for exemption of All India Tourist Permit and Inter-state permit vehicles from the ambit of order No. EO/HQ/TPT/ENF/2022/907-1917/40329 dated 6.5.2022 regarding the instructions to strictly implement the bus lane driving discipline in compliance of the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. As these were Tourist vehicles and could not stand in queue behind local buses on bus stands they were supposed to overtake otherwise Tourists would waste lots of time just waiting at the bus Stops.
2. Euro - VI norms confirmed diesel vehicles were not being registered in Delhi since December 2016 and now latest model Euro-VI vehicles are manufactured by vehicle manufacturers and used by IATO members which were

”  
**Permit of tourist vehicles such as Dzire, Ertiga and electric vehicles using clean fuel i.e. CNG, electric and operated under AITP should be allowed to operate up to 15 years**  
”



# MOT URGED TO EASE MANDATORY NORMS FOR TOUR OPERATORS AND TRANSPORTERS

IATO requested PK Singh, CEO, GeM, Ministry of Commerce, to waive off requirement of three years experience for MOT recognised tour operators/ travel agents to provide services through GeM Platform.

Regarding transporters the vehicles were exceptionally well maintained and were of high class and most of them possessed "Tourist Permit". They provided services to foreign and domestic tourists as per the demand of tourists according to their budget.

One of IATO's members was registered on GeM Platform as Cab/Taxi Operator under 'Services Category' but was refused to provide service due to the reason that he did not have prior experience of assisting Government departments / PSU's. Whereas the fact is that the IATO member who was registered with GeM had been in this tourism industry for last 2 decades and getting rejected by GeM for the reason 'no prior experience' to provide services was not justified and very discouraging. IATO vide the letter requested to kindly consider streamlining the Services

category by introducing "Travel Services Category" on the GeM Portal for the MoT Approved MSME's under the enumerated services recommended and to be introduced: Transportation, Air/ Rail Ticketing, Hotel Booking, All Inclusive tours (Transport/ Hotel/Tickets and other related services), MICE Services

Further the clause of Prior Experience of assisting Government department/PSUs should be relaxed and removed for all Ministry of Tourism, Government of India recognised operators and they should be eligible to provide such services as mentioned above under 'Travel Services Category' on GeM platform.

Shri P K Singh responded by return mail and said that he had passed the request of IATO to their Services team. He would follow up and revert with a response at the earliest. ❖

”  
IATO, vide the letter, requested to kindly consider streamlining the Services category by introducing "Travel Services Category" on the GeM Portal for the MoT Approved MSMEs under the enumerated services recommended and to be introduced

”



# AUTHORITIES REQUESTED FOR SEIS TO BE RESTORED UNDER FOREIGN TRADE POLICY

Our Hon'ble Minister of Commerce had given a target of 1 trillion Service Exports by 2030; we expect tourism service export to grow to US\$ 100 bn that needs some hand-holding from the Government.



In order to compete in International markets IATO requested to restore SEIS as without the help of Government financial support, all Tour Operators were facing huge challenges to compete with competitive neighbouring countries.

- To offer competitive package tours to foreign tour operators/clients to compete with neighboring countries and add value for tourists' products in order to compete with other foreign countries/competitors and divert tourists to India. Round the year Door to Door aggressive Overseas Sales Promotion and Marketing through multiple sales tours to various source markets and emerging markets.
- Printing of brochures in different foreign languages,

creating websites and online promotion showcasing Indian tourism products, Culture, Heritage, History, best available hotels and palaces.

- Marketing and promotions through participation in international travel marts/exhibitions/expo and road shows covering all source markets and emerging markets.
- Showcasing India by extending Familiarization Tours to India. Active promotion on Social Media -Web promotions, facebook, Instagram, Webinars and so on.

IATO hence recommended to consider under New Foreign Trade Policy 2022-27:-

1. Continue SEIS in the same format as it was working very well before. To consider scripts minimum 7% with additional 2% incentive for incremental business growth.
2. Capping of 5 cr needed to be relooked as it was a disadvantage for Chain Hotels submitting one balance sheet.
3. To encourage MICE business it needed a separate incentive as per International norms to lure big overseas Mice organizers to look towards India as this segment of business has big potential to grow. ❖

”  
**Round the year Door to Door aggressive Overseas Sales Promotion and Marketing through multiple sales tours to various source markets and emerging markets**  
”





# AID REQUESTED FROM NIRMALA SITARAMAN, MINISTER OF FINANCE

IATO asked the Hon. Minister of Finance, Mrs. Nirmala Sitharaman, for assistance to the tourist and hospitality industry, which has been hit by the pandemic and the current global crisis.



IATO apprised that

1. There was still a hesitancy amongst India's core international markets of elderly travelers who have a residual fear of the pandemic and potential Covid infection and needs for suddenly having to be quarantined or hospitalized in a foreign country.
2. Due to major layoffs of crew the airlines were not able to re-employ in large numbers leading to substantial parts of their fleets being grounded. This had caused a shortage of air seats and exorbitant airfares making long haul travel from our traditional Western markets unaffordable for the bulk of the potential tourists. This had further reduced the international traveler's arrival to India.

3. The ongoing worldwide economic issues also led to an adverse impact on generating international travelers.
4. There has also been a delay in launching the national tourism campaign on a worldwide basis leading to India not being publicized and therefore, the travellers selecting other destinations.

All the above conditions have led to international arrival recovery of only 30-35% this winter season of 2022-23.

IATO was grateful that the Ministry of Finance had approved a Rs 50,000.00 crores fund under the could enhance the 50% capping on ECIGS loans to over 75% as this would infuse the last tranche of liquidity in the industry for it to cross the last challenges it was facing. ❖

”

**Due to major layoffs of crew the airlines were not able to re-employ in large numbers leading to substantial parts of their fleets being grounded**

”

12:19 Priyanka Saxena BOTT last seen today at 13:18



**BOTT Weekly Roundup: July 10 to July 16, 2022 |**  
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**BOTT Weekly Roundup: July 10 to July 16, 2022**

- PM inaugurates Deoghar Airport; lays a foundation for more development projects
- TAFI Convention to be held in Kuching, Malaysia from September 20 – 23
- 37th IATO Annual Convention scheduled for September in Bengaluru has been called off
- Amit Rana joins Holiday Inn New Delhi International Airport as General Manager
- Aviareps wants to grow with the growing Indian economy; Robert Obollogiani



## FE SUNDAY Fe Lines

STORIES AND TRENDS FROM INDIA AND AROUND



## The cool code

QR codes are being used in several sectors in innovative ways, beating digitisation

INNOVATION

**K**ALKA JARDINE & CO, a global brand, has launched a QR code-based system to track its products from the factory to the consumer. The system is designed to provide a seamless and secure way to track the products and ensure the quality of the products.

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The Indian government has introduced a QR code-based system to track its products from the factory to the consumer.

The system is designed to provide a seamless and secure way to track the products and ensure the quality of the products. The system is designed to provide a seamless and secure way to track the products and ensure the quality of the products.

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IATO MEMBER - YOUR RELIABLE PARTNER



**INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF TOUR OPERATORS**



**IATO hails Govt decision to scrap TCS on sale of overseas tour packages**  
IATO expresses its sincere gratitude to...  
www.bottmedia.com

### BOTT: News of the day

IATO expresses its sincere gratitude to the Government for withdrawing completely 5 per cent Tax Collection At Source (TCS) charged on the sale of overseas tour packages to foreign tour operators. The same was earlier withdrawn only for individual foreign tourists but now on IATO's representation, Govt. has announced the removal of tax, both on individual foreign

Message















21 minutes ago

## news

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Get 4th Complimentary  
Total of \$1350

**Sign up and discover Seem with 'Know Valencia' webinar on Sept 6**

**JOIN INDIA'S MOST TRUSTED B2B TRAVEL PLATFORM**

**Tourism industry is facing a staffing deficit of 1.2 million this year: WTTC**

**In coming years, technology will change the way travel trade works: Ravi Gosain**

**India's airlines will lead global air traffic growth by 2040, states Boeing**

**RECONNECT. REFRESH. REVITALIZE.**

**infocomm**

WEDNESDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER 2022

## TOURISM BREAKING news

**Book for 3 nights**  
Get 4th Complimentary  
Total of \$1350

**VFS Global's webinar on Azerbaijan to educate travel trade today at 12pm**

**INDIA TO AUSTRALIA**

**Roadshows for domestic and international markets are a must: Mehra**

**Kenia records 3.8 mn domestic tourist arrivals in first half of 2022: Minister**

**Opening day of InfoComm India 2022 provides glimpses into future of business**

**RECONNECT. REFRESH. REVITALIZE.**

**infocomm**

## news

**INDIA TO AUSTRALIA**

**Atlys webinar on simplifying visa process on 19 September at 3pm**

**Book for 3 nights**  
Get 4th Complimentary  
Total of \$1350

**Promote Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat for interaction between states & UTs**

**India most important MICE source market for Abu Dhabi: Al Shamisi**

**The Future of Travel Starts Now**

**India should advertise its G20 presidency to invite tourists: Mehra**

**Experience Oman**





# WOMAN ENTREPRENEUR LEADS INNOVATIVE IDEAS

The global image of our country has received a serious boost in the last two decades, and is set to grow further in these coming years. It would be a pity if our tourism fails to harness the potential we have as an unmatched destination in the world. The next 10 years, for us, are going to be crucial.

”

The global image of our country has received a serious boost in the last two decades, and is set to grow further in these coming years. It would be a pity if our tourism fails to harness the potential we have as an unmatched destination in the world. The next 10 years for us, are going to be crucial, when more and more people would be wanting to know, discover, explore and understand India.

”



**Q: How did you enter the profession of tourism ?**

**A:** Earlier I was trying to make a career out of digital travelogues and documentaries. I was prompted and encouraged into this profession by a senior member of the tourism industry, whose ideas I found appealing and wanted to give them shape

in the form of unique India products. This was the beginning.

**Q: What challenges you faced being a woman, what would be your advise to other women entrepreneurs?**

**A:** I think by and large, women of my generation have had it far easier than the generation





before, because the initial set of successful women leaders and entrepreneurs in the 1980s and 1990s had in some ways set the stage for what was to come and brought about that shift in mindset. As we are a very small part of the professional fraternity, it seems we still carry the burden of being judged as a woman and not necessarily as an individual. If a man is successful or if he fails, it's his own thing and not a reflection on the entire man force, but if a woman does something wrong, or is unsuccessful, she fails all women.

And this is what I would like to share with other women entrepreneurs as well, that not to get bogged by their failures, because all of us fall and fail and some of us more often, and that's alright. It is the only way to emerge stronger.

### **Q: Where do you see India's Tourism in 10 years?**

**A:** The global image of our country has received a serious boost in the last two decades, and is set to grow further in these coming years. It would be a pity if our tourism fails to harness the potential we have as an unmatched destination in the world. The next 10 years for us, are going to be crucial, when more and more people would be wanting to know, discover, explore and understand India.

Therefore our tourism industry needs to be innovative, think of new ideas, revise our thinking and be ready to offer destination India like never before. This decade will be the biggest opportunity we will have since India's independence and we must begin by understanding the profile of the new age traveller,



because after Covid, that profile has changed. We must prepare ourselves to deliver as per their expectations.

### **Q: What company did you help to form and what new are you doing?**

**A:** The concept of Rudra Experiences was conceived to bring a certain innovation in tourism experiences that had been missing from the India's tourism products, a country that has so many unique experiences to offer. The idea was to present glory filled tourism experiences in India. We innovated variety of new experiences including the country's very first Dinner theatre performance show, special experience City tour vehicles, Baggi tours, Vintage car tours and some other exclusive activities.

Prior to Covid, we were operating a total of 14 experiences in 5 cities across India. We were growing at 100% annually and had plans to set foot in 3 more tourism destinations in 2020 when Covid struck, when our revenues went down, as it happened for the entire Inbound industry. But now we have already restarted some of our operations and are all set to go all out towards the beginning of 2023. ❖

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**The concept of Rudra Experiences was conceived to bring a certain innovation in tourism experiences that had been missing from India's tourism products, a country that has so many unique experiences to offer**

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# RE-LIVE AWADH

Historically, the Awadh region was referred to as Lucknow, the state capital of Uttar Pradesh. It serves as the administrative center for both the Lucknow District and the Lucknow Division today. It has always been a city with many different cultures, affectionately known as the "City of Nawabs."



■ Bryan

## Introduction

Historically, the Awadh region was referred to as Lucknow, the state capital of Uttar Pradesh. It serves as the administrative center for both the Lucknow District and the Lucknow Division today. It has always been a city with many different cultures, affectionately known as the "City of Nawabs" or the "City of Tehzeeb."

Shia Nawabs of the city, who adored Persian literature, had become patrons of its lovely spreading gardens, refined manners, superb cuisine, music, and poetry (Shayari). Other names for the city include Shiraz-

i-Hind, the Golden City of the East, and The Constantinople of India. It is presently regarded as one of the most significant cities in the nation and is rapidly growing in a variety of industries, including manufacturing, retail, and business. The city of Lucknow has something special to offer visitors that is a seamless fusion of its illustrious traditions and the contemporary expansion of new fashions. Its USP is the same. It is Uttar Pradesh's second largest city after Kanpur.

## Culture and Cuisine

The Golden City of the East, also known as Lucknow, has fully kept its old-world charm, which attracts tourists. The Uttar Pradesh state capital is undoubtedly one of the top towns in the country when it comes to culture and etiquette. The inhabitants of Lucknow have a beautiful sense of culture that blends high standards of living, total sophistication, kindness, and good manners (etiquette). Many local cultural symbols have developed into Tehzeeb landmarks. Drama, literature, Urdu poetry, dance, and music are all given a lot of emphasis here. The Nawabs of Awadh deserve praise for this because they were curious about every facet of life. They placed a high priority on excellence.

The cooking style of Lucknow, often known as Awadhi cuisine, is distinctly Nawabi. The biggest draws are the kebabs,



biryanis, and particular breads (nahari-kulchas, roomali rotis and warqi parathas). Tunde ke kebabs, Kakori kebabs, Shami kebabs, Galawati kebabs, Boti ke kababs, Patili ke kababs, Seekh kebabs, and Ghutwa kebabs are just a few of the many varieties of kebabs available. Lucknow can be compared to a culinary paradise.

### Places To Visit In Lucknow

The amazing architectural wonder Bara Imambara will astound you with more than just outmoded styles. While you're here, you can view three of its USPs, or areas of expertise. The first structure in this style is the mosque built by Imam Hussain. The planet's oldest maze, which is its second gem, is a tall and dependable structure. The maze is said to have over a thousand entrances, but there is only one way out. When you're inside the maze, you can hear someone whispering from several feet away thanks to the amazing architectural design.

The Prince of Wales Zoo, formerly known as the Lucknow Zoo, is situated in the center of the city and provides tourists with the opportunity to see amazing exotic animals. Its total area on land is 71.6 acres. Numerous species of animals call the zoo home, some of which include the black bear, lion, wolf, blackbuck, hog deer, and so on.

### Accommodation

The beautiful architecture and rich history of Lucknow, the city of the Nawabs, have drawn tourists for years. There are hotels in Lucknow for every price range. Station Road is the ideal place to stay cheaply in the city because it is lined by some of the

best eateries. It is the finest place for travelers because it is teeming with guesthouses, hostels, and inexpensive motels. Shivam Inn and Charans Guest House stand out among them for providing the greatest services at a competitive price. Among the alternatives you can think about are Hotel Raj and The Residency Inn.

There are many luxurious hotels where visitors may unwind and take in the splendor of this ancient city. To guarantee that visitors have a wonderful stay, these resorts provide friendly, individualized services in addition to contemporary conveniences. Only two kilometers from the main bus station and the Charbagh railway station, York Inn is the perfect choice if you want to take in the charm of old Lucknow. For those looking for riverside lodging in the city, Clarks Avadh is well situated on MG Road, adjacent to the Palace of the Nawabs. The Lineage Hotel's rooms all provide stunning views of the downtown skyline. Other boutique hotels in the city are Golden Tulip Lucknow and The Piccadilly. Travelers can unwind and spend time admiring the city's stunning vistas at one of Lucknow's many boutique hotels. With Lucknowi etiquette, these elegant resorts provide individualized service and a calm environment. Hotels like Hotel Arif Castles and Hotel Gemini Continental are conveniently located in the Hazratganj commercial district, which is home to a large number of eateries, shopping centers, and well-known tourist destinations. Others, such as the ANR Hotel, York Inn, and Best Western Plus Levana, are close to the city's primary train station and a number of tourist destinations. You can count on

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# Charms of India



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**Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport, also known as Lucknow Airport, is the city of Lucknow's main airport. It's about 15 kilometers from the city center and has excellent access to all the major Indian cities. There are frequent flights to and from major cities operated by well-known airlines including Air India, Jet Airways, IndiGo, GoAir, and Air India Express**

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having an amazing experience when you stay at one of these upscale Lucknow hotels.

## Connectivity

Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport, also known as Lucknow Airport, is the city of Lucknow's main airport. It's about 15 kilometers from the city center and has excellent access to all the major Indian cities. There are frequent flights to and from major cities operated by well-known airlines including Air India, Jet Airways, IndiGo, GoAir, and Air India Express. Via a rail network, Lucknow is completely connected to all of India's major cities. Charbagh Railway Station, which is in the very center of the city, is there. Lucknow Junction, Lucknow Junction NER, Lucknow NE, and other significant railway stations are located in Lucknow. Numerous AC special trains depart from Lucknow as well.

## Convention in Lucknow

The 37th Indian Association of Tour Operators (IATO) conference will be held in Lucknow in December at the invitation of the Uttar

Pradesh government. The occasion is viewed as a major boost for the state, which will have the opportunity to highlight its tourism-related accomplishments as well as freshly built historical and religious tourism destinations.

IATO President Rajiv Mehra remarked, "After a 26-year absence, we are visiting Lucknow once again, and our members will get the chance to take in the state's upgraded and enhanced infrastructure. Since the last IATO conference was held in Lucknow in 1996, numerous new hotels have opened in the city and the rest of the state, providing tour operators promoting the region to domestic and international tourists with first-hand knowledge of the state's facilities and infrastructural development."

The Ram temple in Ayodhya, which will be pushed internationally to tourists, would be the new attraction this time, according to Mehra. The convention is the most anticipated event in the tourism industry, according to Prateek Hira, the IATO's chairwoman for UP, and it has been observed that the state hosting it has experienced a measurable boost in its tourist traffic.

"Uttar Pradesh is a tourist-friendly state that has realized how important tourism is to achieving chief minister Yogi Adityanath's goal of having the state's GDP worth \$1 trillion. It's anticipated that about 900 delegates from all over India would attend the three-day event. Discussions will be made to develop a plan for resolving issues, with a special emphasis on the host state. ❖

## JULY



## AUGUST

### PUNJAB CHAPTER

❖ Chapter Chair Punjab Felicitated Honourable Punjab Tourism Minister. Had a Long discussion on different Tourism aspects at her residence.



### IATO TS&AP CHAPTER

❖ India Tourism, Hyderabad conducted the FAM / Study tour to YADADRI (Rs.2000 crores reconstructed Hindu Temple, 75 kms from Hydeabad)





# REFLECTIONS ON POST COVID-19 RECOVERY AND REBUILDING TOURISM

One of the sectors most severely impacted by the Covid-19 situation is tourism. The figures have been astonishing. Major percentage of the 100-120 million employment in the tourism industry were small and medium-sized businesses.



■ IATO Bureau

The corona virus pandemic is expected to become endemic at some point, meaning that it will occasionally reappear in places with insufficient immunity, despite not actively spreading among big populations worldwide. A sufficient proportion of the world's population may not be immunized for quite a while before an endemic state is reached, this is despite the fact that several countries are continuing implementing vaccination distribution programmes. Even if this stage is attained, the tourism sector will need to continue discovering new ways to

operate while Covid-19 is still lingering around. Digitalization - New technologies have long been adopted by the tourism sector. A few decades ago, people used to schedule their vacations in person with a travel agency and had to physically provide their travel documents. Today, a large portion of the booking procedure is completed online on the smartphone apps with all relevant paperwork in a digital format.

Covid-19 has further made the tourism industry more dependent on technology. As travel restrictions are getting eased, vaccination passports are now being implemented around the world to stop the spread of Covid. These vaccination passports are kept on digital platforms in many nations and are automatically updated based on a citizen's medical history. In addition to this, many hotels have switched onto digital technologies to streamline their operations and minimize physical interaction. The convenience and effectiveness of check-ins and check-outs experiences are improving by granting hotel customers access to their rooms using facial recognition softwares.

Insurance - Travel insurance shields a traveler from the cost of







any unplanned events including last-minute cancellations, medical costs, or property losses. For travelers, the Covid era has produced an unpredictable environment, in which many variables, such as travel limitations, sudden changes in travel dates are beyond their control. To ensure that travel is still feasible, travel insurance providers are being forced to adapt suitably by devising more flexible insurance coverage.

Travel insurance is changing as a result of the Covid pandemic, including softer rules regarding the refunds, and a longer cancellation window. Comprehensive coverage is valued more than ever before, there are indications that at least 25 to 35% of Western travelers are now expected get insurance, compared to a much lesser percentage prior to the pandemic. This will have an effect on how much travelers are ready to pay for services related to travel, considering the new element of a revised insurance coverage.

Although the chances of a pandemic of this magnitude

occurring again in our lifetimes are unlikely, however our tourism and hospitality industry should be well aware of the potential effects of such infectious diseases on the travel business.

**Sustainability** - The decline in foreign travel has been seen as a chance for businesses to reshape their processes and procedures to become more ecologically friendly given the urgency of changes.

Domestic travel is a more cost-effective and sustainable option for the customers, and it may continue to drive the industry long after the Corona pandemic has fully subsided. It is already assisting in the revival of hospitality and tourism sector, while International travel begin to enter its stage of recovery.

It seems to be quite a challenge to develop a more sustainable global tourism scenario. However considering the changing dynamics of today, it is essential that we pay due attention to the importance of sustainability. ❖



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**The decline in foreign travel has been seen as a chance for businesses to reshape their processes and procedures to become more ecologically friendly given the urgency of changes**  
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# COURAGE

Fortune favours the brave, we have often heard this many times, but have we ever thought about applying it in our life?



■ IATO Bureau (Resourced by Mukesh Manra)

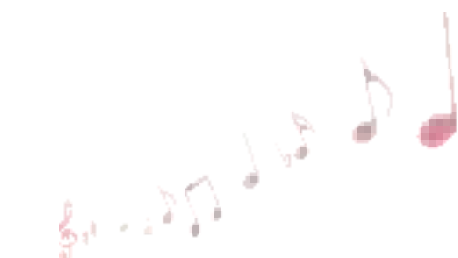
“**C**ourage is not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear”, says a quote of Nelson Mandela.

Fairytales and folklore would have us believe that courage is reserved for super heroes and crusaders. But it's simpler than that. Courage is often found in the quiet moments with no audience. It's a teenager fighting through anxiety, a single mom providing for her family, or

someone standing up for what they believe in.

Don't we all want to meet the best version of our selves?. Let us start by learning how to be brave. Taking steps to live courageously and getting out of our comfort zones is the quickest path to reaching our full potential.

The problem is, many of us let our fears get in the way. We do not go for a particular job because we're afraid we're not qualified enough. Or we don't make a positive change in our life because we're afraid of the unknown.







Sound familiar? That's because we all experience fear. It is a natural human emotion. But always living in fear of the "what-if" can hold us back in our professional and personal lives.

For example, If you're afraid of public speaking, try to give a presentation in front of a dozen people. It can be extremely empowering and will help you to develop into a more confident person. Improving and mastering the art of public speaking skills is essential if you want to stay competitive in today's job market.

On the other hand, when fear consistently holds you back from living your life to the fullest, it becomes a problem and a handicap.

Often, this fear manifests itself as anxiety. This anxiety is a consistent habitual response you may have, to the things that may in reality not pose any serious threat to you, but these are the things you start to anticipate that may not happen.

- Worrying about being negatively judged and

ridiculed by others in social settings.

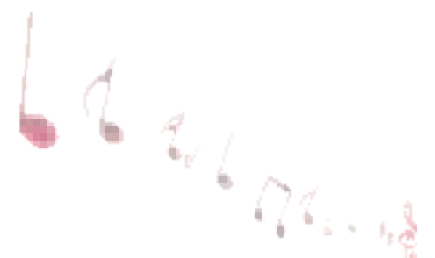
- Not trying something new or innovative because you fear failure and rejection.
- Not attempting any kind of changes because you fear change and uncertainty.
- Not going after what you really want because you fear you are inadequate.

This kind of fear keeps you locked away in your comfort zone and robs you of the opportunities and experiences that can enhance your life and help you to achieve greater goals.

Overcoming this fear does not happen overnight, but it is certainly possible to overcome it. The problem doesn't exist outside, the problem lies within us. Becoming aware of this fear is itself a positive change. All we now need to do is to gather a bit of courage and push ourselves a little, and we will see that we have broken the shell and have emerged as more fearless beings. This is the way towards an absolute level of happiness. ❖



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**The problem is, many of us let our fears get in the way. We do not go for a particular job because we're afraid we're not qualified enough. Or we don't make a positive change in our life because we're afraid of the unknown**  
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# AN AFFAIR WITH PRISTINE WILDERNESS AND MORE...!

An 'unknown valley' of mesmerizing dimensions and enchanting attractions adorns the southern side of Sariska Tiger Reserve. A virgin untouched and unexplored destination, the magical 'Tehla Valley' lies in the laps of the oldest mountain ranges and eco-system on planet Earth.



■ Bryan

Endowed with an endless bounty of natural biodiversity, flora and fauna, lakes and water bodies, heritage and history, mythological spots and archeological sites, wildlife, native birds and tigers, striking cultural highlights and festivities, this Valley offers an experience that brings you closer to the imagination of bliss and utopia. It is an isolated dream, mysteriously detached from the noisy stress and unrest of the world. Its visual character, sharp appeal, and stimulating activities from sunrise to sunset seems to have no match.

The Tehla Valley is now on the thresholds of kicking off a story of becoming one of the most sought

after destinations closest to the international airports of Delhi and Jaipur. Located south of Alwar, it is easily accessible by road, rail or air, and lies between Agra and Jaipur, making it an ideal travel destination within the traditional golden triangle.

Touching the Sariska National Park and Tiger Reserve, it has a lot to offer the visitors including undisturbed wildlife, birding and tiger safaris, picnics hikes and winter treks through pristine forests, bush dinners and sundowners, high tea in wilderness, romance filled honeymoon sojourns and theme based activities in nature in the surrounding Aravali hills.

Sariska, is now well known for the grand success of its tiger re-location programme. It is the first park in the whole world to relocate the majestic tigers and ensure their effective multiplication in the wild through rigorous implement of its habitat conservation. Tehla valley and all its surroundings are alive with Sarisk's wildlife, its hill tops are studded with medieval forts. Mythological temples from 8th and 12th centuries CE overlook the tranquil beauty of the valley, singing birds and dancing peacocks greet the rising sun each morning.





Frequent sightings of leopard and glimpses of colourful birds often become the talk of campfire evenings and poolside sittings. Sariska sanctuary is home to a variety of fauna including sambhars, chitals, nilgais, four-horned antelopes, wild boars, rhesus monkey, hyenas and crocodiles in the nearby lake.

Leisure safaris on camels, 4x4 jeep drives exploring the rural heritage, visit into ancient historical forts and ruins, forest drives and wildlife encounters, destressing in wellness pools, indulging in the best of cuisines and candel light dinners, the list goes on. Today, the Tehla valley at Sariska offers an “exclusive experience.....!” that very few people had imagined before. It is no wonder, the valley is well on its way to making a branding for itself and is destined to soon settle itself in the mainstream tourism flow both from within the country and from other countries. It is aiming to position itself as a premium destination with honest hospitality practices, disciplined ethics, high eco sensitivity and complete respect for nature, and not as a place for mass tourism.

The stretch of Tehla Valley is the only landscape which has come up with charming upmarket boutique sized resorts and hotels that compliment the destination’s core value and are giving this lovely area its rightful place on the tourism map of Rajasthan in Incredible India.

Amongst the few such exclusive places we came across, is ‘The Little Affair’, a family-run boutique jungle lodge with six opulent stone cottages situated on the road into Sariska, in the



Tehla valley. It was designed to be environmentally friendly and was influenced by its natural surroundings. Offering the best of wild nature from the luxury of it’s private villas with open-to-sky showers, it is set on the edge of the forest and seems to be a place of characteristic style in luxury with a wiff of chic sophistication. The surroundings are natural and pleasing, there are several on-site activities to keep the guests engaged. It is providing a custom crafted cuisine with a variety of specialities, the secrets of which only its chef and his kitchen team knows. The delicacies served are made from organic farm-fresh foods. A range of mock tails make the dinning experience memorable. There are also some other hospitality properties already within the valley area, each one of them has tried to bring in something special in its architectural concept and essence. The captivating ‘Tehla valley’ of Sariska is the closest get away from Delhi, Gurugram the millennium city, Jaipur and Agra, and also easily reachable from anywhere in India.

Indeed, it is an unexplored pearl in the crown of Aravalis hills in Rajasthan. ❖

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**Sariska and its surroundings have limited choices for stay. The stretch of Tehla Valley is the only landscape which has come up with charming upmarket boutique sized resorts and hotels that compliment the destination’s core value and are giving this lovely area its rightful place on the tourism map of Rajasthan in Incredible India**

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# KNOW MORE - PHILIPPINES

The Republic of the Philippines is an archipelago of over 7,640 islands near the equator in the Pacific Ocean, roughly 2,000 of which are inhabited. The Philippines can be divided into three main regions: Mindanao, the Visayas, and Masbate, and Luzon, the largest island, which includes Manila.



despite the prominence of such Anglo-European cultural traits.

### Land

The Philippine Sea to the east, the Celebes Sea to the south, the Sulu Sea to the southwest, and the South China Sea to the west and north define the boundaries of the Philippine archipelago. The islands are arranged in the form of a triangle, with the Batan Islands to the north of Luzon forming the triangle's apex and the islands south of Palawan, the Sulu Archipelago, and the island of Mindanao defining its southern base.

The big islands are divided into three groups: the Visayas group in the centre, which includes Bohol, Cebu, Leyte, Masbate, Negros, and Panay, and the Luzon group in the north and west, which includes Luzon, Mindoro, and Palawan.

### Climate

The Philippines has a tropical, heavily monsoonal climate (i.e., wet-dry). In general, drier winds flow from the northeast from November to February while rainy winds come from the southwest roughly from May to October. As a result, throughout the year, temperatures are fairly stable from north to south, and the seasons are made up of wet and dry periods. However, there are significant regional differences in the volume and frequency of precipitation.

The most pronounced dry and wet seasons are on the western coasts

■ Bryan

The Philippines are named after Philip II, monarch of Spain during the 16th-century Spanish colonization of the islands. The Philippines shares many cultural traits with the West due to its 333 years of Spanish rule and the additional 48 years of U.S. tutelage. It is one of only two countries in Asia with a primarily Roman Catholic population and the second most populous nation in Asia after India (the other being East Timor). The people of the Philippines are Asian in consciousness and aspiration





that face the South China Sea. The rainy season lasts the remainder of the year and typically starts in June and finishes in December, with the first three months being cold and the last three being hot.

### Language and culture

The official languages of the Philippines are Filipino and English, although more than 150 other languages are also spoken there due to the country's ethnic diversity and 300-year history as a Spanish colony.

One common dialect is Tagalog. The Catholic religion is the one that predominates in the Philippines, and there are numerous churches there. In the Philippines, the older generations are frequently highly devout.

### Places to Marvel at

The capital of the country is Manila, also referred to as the "Pearl of the Orient." There are a tonne of attractions in this thriving historic city, including museums, parks, theatres, retail centres, and an abundance of dining options. Foodies are increasingly travelling to the Philippines, and Manila is well renowned for its wide variety of cuisine and street food markets, including Binondo, the nation's very own Chinatown, and the Quiapo Market and Legazpi Sunday Market.

Davao City, the headquarters of the Davao region and regarded as the largest city in the Philippines (by area), is a wonderful escape. Popular locations include Eden Nature Park (a tranquil mountain resort), Malagos Garden Resort (12-hectare nature theme park), and Jack's Ridge (which houses the country's first chocolate museum) (a dining destination with a spectacular view of the city). Davao City is also home

to Mount Apo, the highest mountain in the Philippines and a mountaineer's paradise. Its highest point is 2,954 metres above sea level (9,692 feet). The critically endangered Philippine Eagle, also called the monkey-eating eagle and designated as the national bird of the Philippines, calls Davao its home.

Cebu City, one of the Philippines' most popular tourism destinations for both domestic and international visitors, strikes the ideal balance between island shore and modern living. It is also the oldest city in the nation and one of the places where Christianity first emerged in the Philippines. Tourists can engage in more daring pursuits like canyoneering at Kawasan Falls or enjoy swimming with a variety of species off the island's coast just beyond the city limits.

### BEACHES

Since there are so many islands in the Philippines, a beach is never far away. You might want to check out one of these hidden beaches that are becoming well-liked vacation spots beyond Boracay, the most well-known beach in the Philippines.

### NATIONAL PARKS

More than 30 national parks can be found in the Philippines, including the top-rated ones: Calauit Safari Park, Mounts Iglit-Baco National Park, Aurora Memorial National Park, Biak-na-Bato National Park, Caramoan Peninsula National Park, Libmanan Caves National Park, Fuyot Springs National Park, and Minalungao National Park. The parks provide opportunities for activities like kayaking, zip line, boating, camping, hiking, and river cruise. ❖

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The archipelago has a length of around 1,150 miles (1,850 km) from north to south and a width of approximately 700 miles from east to west at its southern base (1,130 km). The Malaysian portion of the island of Borneo is to the south of Palawan, the island of Taiwan is to the north of the Batan group, and the eastern Indonesian islands are to the south and southeast of Mindanao

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# INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF TOUR OPERATORS

## Offices and chapters across the country

