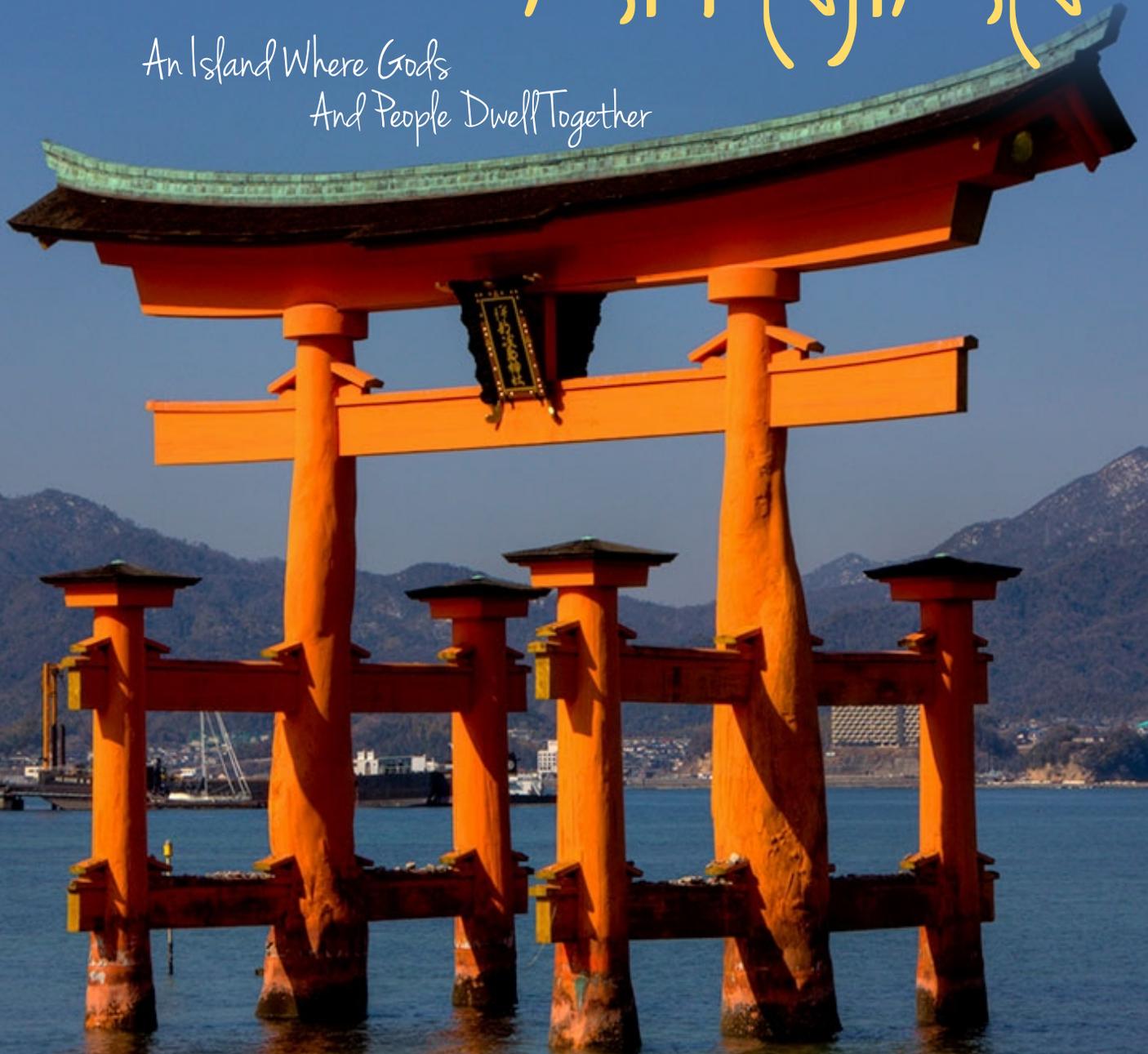


# TTW Asia

Volume:7, Issue: December 2018

## MIYAJIMA

*An Island Where Gods  
And People Dwell Together*



**Dear Readers,**

**A**s the curtains are about to fall on the year 2018, travel activities heighten – to steal a leisure moment for oneself and family or to forge new business synergies.

We have looked East for the meeting of the bright minds. Shenzhen, one of the world's high-tech development cities offer advance convention centres for meetings and conventions. When it comes to leisure, Asia too has its own treasure of snow carpeted destinations offering breathtaking views and multitude of activities.

However, December is not about snow wrapped landscape. Several reports have shown that there is an increase in the number of travellers moving to warmer pastures in winter. We have turned the focus on few warm destinations in this edition.

Our Special Feature Covers Dubai Miracle Garden – Worlds' largest natural flower garden. Miyajima Island presenting one of Japan's best views can be penned in your destination diary.

Keep yourself abreast about the events marked on the December calendar. I and my team wish our dear readers a very happy season's greetings. Remember, every end is a new beginning.

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

## *Editorial Desk*

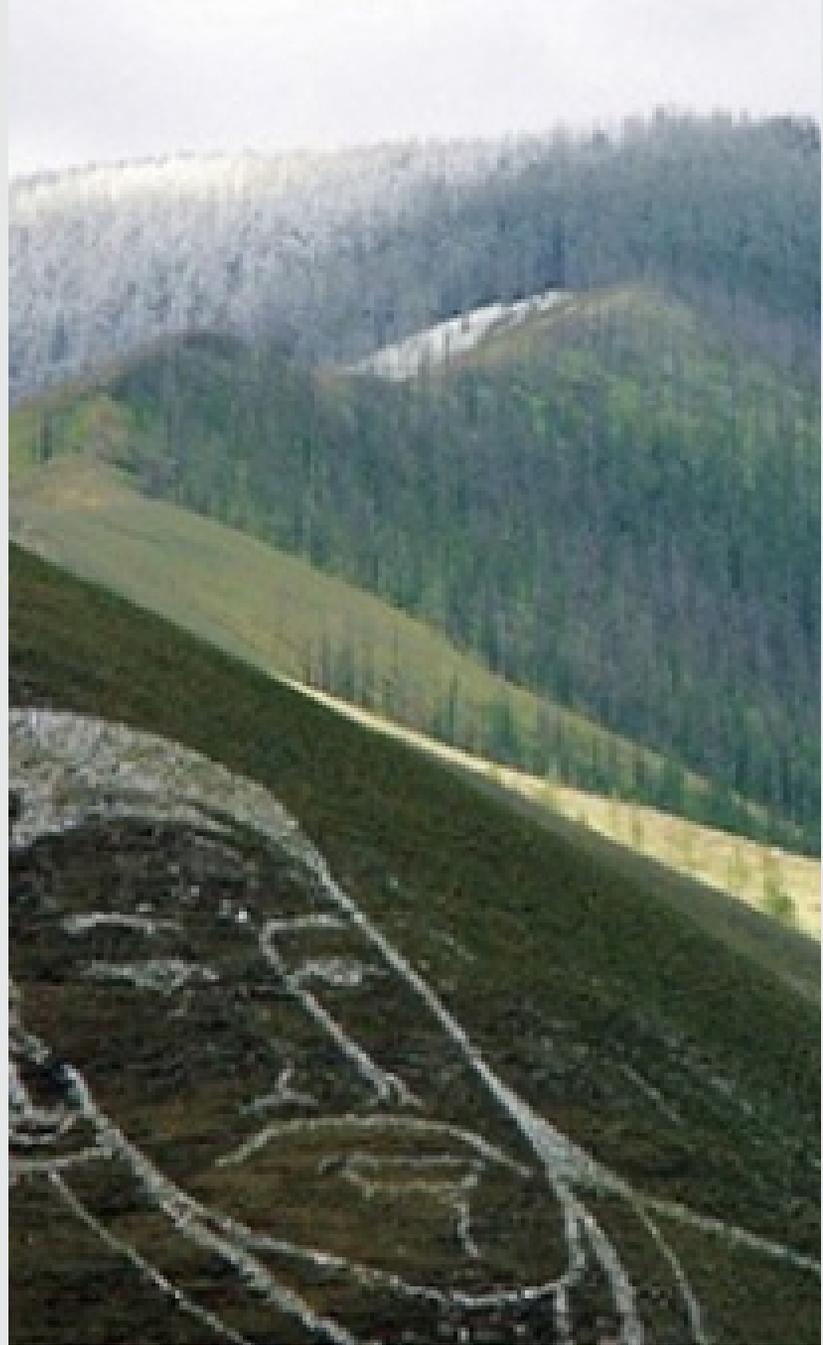


## Meetings Point- 05



**05- Meetings Point:** Chinese cities have huge potential to emerge as MICE destination as the country's economic growth is ascending and most of the cities are on the move. **Shenzhen** is one of the most livable cities and one of the world's 25 top high tech cities.

## Cover Story- 12



**12- Cover Story:** Asia is not just about spectacular islands, crystal clear waters and beach parties. It is home to some of the world's most marvellous **winter destinations**.

## Special Feature- 16



**16- Special Feature:** With the onset of November, Dubai is gradually saying adios to its scorching summers and welcoming pleasant winters, worth experiencing! Situated in Al Barsha South, Dubai, UAE, the exquisite Dubai Miracle Garden is one of those favorite spots in this expensive desert city.

## Miyajima Island - 23



**23- Destination Diary:** Miyajima Island is considered one of Japan's three best views. Hayashi Gahō, 15th-century scholar, mentioned of the 'Three Views of Japan' in 1643 and Miyajima Island is one of them.

**Travel News: 09**

**Asia Festivals:24**

**Show Highlight:33**

**Show Review:37**

**Calendar of Events: 39**

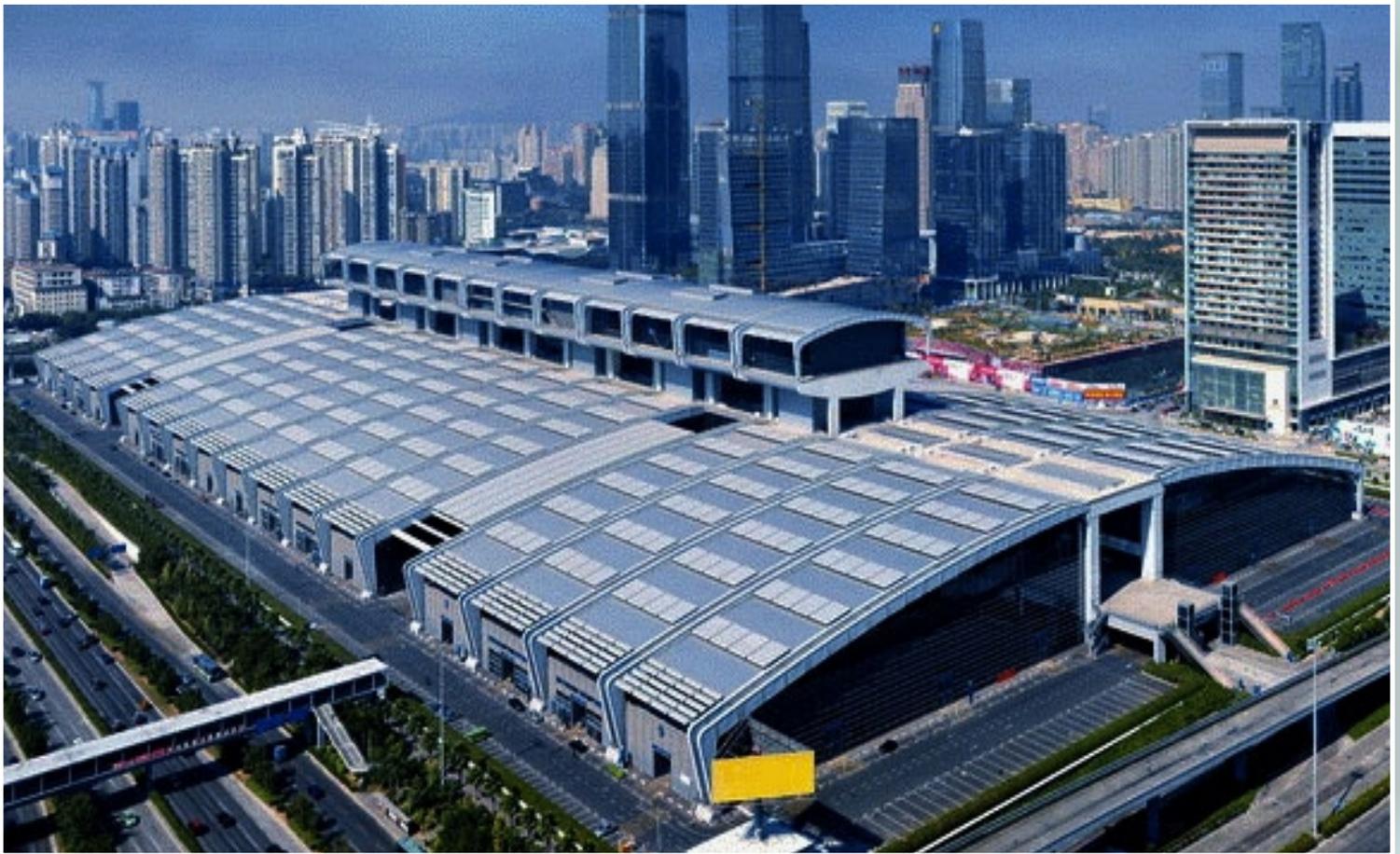
# SHENZHEN

## REDEFINING CHINA'S MICE INDUSTRY

Chinese cities have huge potential to emerge as MICE destination, the country's economic growth is ascending and most of the cities are on the move.

Shenzhen is one of the most livable cities and world's 25 top high tech cities.

Located adjacent to Hong Kong and mainland China border, Shenzhen is a shiny example of huge economic possibilities. It is China's largest economic manufacturing hub, with a population of more than 8 million residents.



## Meeting Hotspots

### **Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center**

Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Center provides flexible space to the exhibition industry. The CHTF, the ICIF (Shenzhen International Cultural Industries Fair) and many brands are expanding their influences by exhibiting here.

### **Dengba Hostel Convention Centre**

Dengba Hostel Shenzhen is located in the CBD center of Futian District and is close to Fumin station. It is surrounded by Union Square, Huanggang Business Center and Futian Checkpoint.

### **Ming Wah International Convention Centre**

Opened in 1992 and renovated in 2010, Ming Wah International Convention Centre is located within the easy reach of Sea World (Haishang Shijie) and Nanshan Park (Nanshan Gongyuan). The guests can enjoy flexible meeting spaces for any event. The recreational facilities include billiards, squash, bowling and ping pong. The guests looking to stay fit can utilise the gym and indoor swimming pool while those simply wanting to relax can make use of the sauna and massage facilities. This Shenzhen hotel provides free Wi-Fi in public areas and rooms and free parking on site.

**City on the Move :** It is a place where young Chinese millennials assemble. Shenzhen is a hub of booming technology companies (including those involved with artificial intelligence, and robotics). Although Shenzhen is not the capital of the province in which it is situated (Guangdong), it overshadows the capital city of Guangzhou in many aspects.

**Experience Shenzhen :** It is a city where you can find freedom. This forward-looking metropolis has thriving arts, nightlife and music scenes, multicultural dining, and loads of shopping avenues. Discover here the fascinating 'urban villages', dazzling skyscrapers and high flying corporations.

**OCT East :** OCT East was built by the Overseas

Chinese Town Group. It's China's first National Eco-Tourism Demonstration Zone. Following a theme of the harmonious co-existence of humans and nature, the site is composed of two ecological theme parks, two mountain golf courses, three scenic towns, four resort hotels, a selection of performing arts' attractions and a Buddhist theme park.

**China Folk Culture Village:** China Folk Culture Village is a theme park showcasing the most famous sights of the country, distributed as per their location within the country. The entire park looks like a huge map of China and also brings together the customs of the country's 56 ethnic groups through free traditional performances.



**Window to the World:** Window to the World takes a similar approach as the China Folk Culture Village. There are more than 130 representations, including historical sites, natural sceneries, world wonders, folk dwellings and sculptures. There are also folk songs and dances, large-scale performances and high-tech participatory entertainment projects.

**Lianhua Mountain Park :** Lianhua Mountain Park is Shenzhen's main and most central park. Set at the northern end of the Futian central access, it is 150 hectares of urban bush-land. The gardens are

extremely beautiful and meticulously cared for.

### **Shenzhen Garden and Flower Exposition Center:**

Shenzhen Garden and Flower Exposition Center is an enormous garden with an area of 660,000 sq.m. It contains gardens in different styles, not only from China but from all over the world.

Shenzhen has large number of multinational companies with operations in the city. The city also has excellent infrastructure with great transport links via its airports, ferries, rail and road connections.



Many well-known global companies like Huawei, Foxconn and Lenovo consider Shenzhen as their mainland headquarters. Shenzhen evolved from the marshy land of Pearl River Delta to the abode of high-tech graduates and became an epicenter of manufacturing. As a result, business travel dominates the city and the MICE industry is on wheels.



## **U.S. Department of Commerce: International visitors to U.S. expected to break record in 2023**

After suspending visitor data earlier this year over a computer glitch and revising past data the U.S. Department of Commerce released international visitation to the United States for the next five years.

It was forecasted this week by the Commerce Department that more than 95 million international travellers will be visiting the United States in 2023. From the previous update in January the latest forecast remains more positive for 2018 and it is expected by the department that there will be more than 81 million international arrivals which will be a record as compared to the previous forecast of 78 million. Overseas arrivals will grow 5 percent year-over-year in 2018 if Canada and Mexico is excluded. India, Colombia, and China will be among the standout market by 2023 and is expected to grow by 46, 35, and 30 percent respectively, from 2017 to 2023. International tourism for economic growth was discussed by the U.S. Travel Association and CEOs of major U.S hotel companies like Marriott and Hilton met with President Donald Trump at the White House.

## **Cyprus sees the arrival of 3.67 million visitors up to October 2018**

Buoyed by the arrivals of Russian, British and Israeli tourists, Cyprus sets a new record. Official data shows that it clocked 3.67 million visitors up to October 2018. It has already broken its 2017 record of 3.65 million visitors with two more months to go in 2018. Arrivals for the months January to October was 3.40 million in 2017 as per the Cyprus statistical service (Cystat). The largest market for Cyprus for the period January to October, 2018 is the U.K. (1,245,718), followed by Russia (752,267), and Israel (215,019). In 2017, 3.65 million tourists spent an unprecedented 2.6 billion Euros. In October alone, arrivals of tourists increased 6.6 per cent to 433,617 from 406,870 in October 2017. Poland and Ukraine are the emerging tourist markets for Cyprus. It is considered as safer than its competitors Egypt, Tunisia, and Turkey which are facing a situation of unrest. The tourism boom is helping the economy of Cyprus. It accounts for 15 per cent of the country's gross domestic product and is fueling a quick recovery of its financial status.

## Shanghai launches world's first underground luxury hotel

Shanghai opens the world's first underground hotel. The luxury hotel has two floors above the ground and 16 below where two floors are underwater. The hotel is in the Sheshan Mountain Range on the fringes of Shanghai. There is a cascading glass waterfall and exposed rock. One can view the surrounding quarry and the underwater suites features in-room aquarium allowing the guests to watch shoals of fish swimming. There are other adventures available like rock climbing, kayaking, walking across the glass-floor skywalk. There is a Quarry Bar, night light show inside the hotel's location. Lin Wang, CMO of Greater China, IHG said that the InterContinental Shanghai Wonderland is an architectural masterpiece. The hotel was ready to welcome guests with the exceptional and personalised services taking them to a world of alluring luxury and natural wonder. British firm Atkins has built the property, it had also conceptualized the Burj Al Arab in Dubai and skyscraper Landmark 81 in Ho Chi Minh City.

## Krabi bags Global Low-Carbon Ecological Scenic Spot Award

Krabi was awarded the 'Global Low-Carbon Ecological Scenic Spot' at an award ceremony held at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in Bangkok. The award ceremony was given at the Annual Session of Global Forum on Human Settlements (GFHS) and Sustainable Cities and

Human Settlements Awards (SCAHS) ceremony held on 30-31 October, 2018.

The two-day meeting was organized under the theme of "Advancing Urban Innovations to Achieve SDG 11 and New Urban Agenda". It was attended by more than 400 participants from 40 countries to conclude the observance of Urban October.

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities is a cornerstone of localising the 17 SDGs. The 2018 Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements Awards were presented to 36 winners in seven categories.



## Brazil attracts its visitors by promoting nature tourism

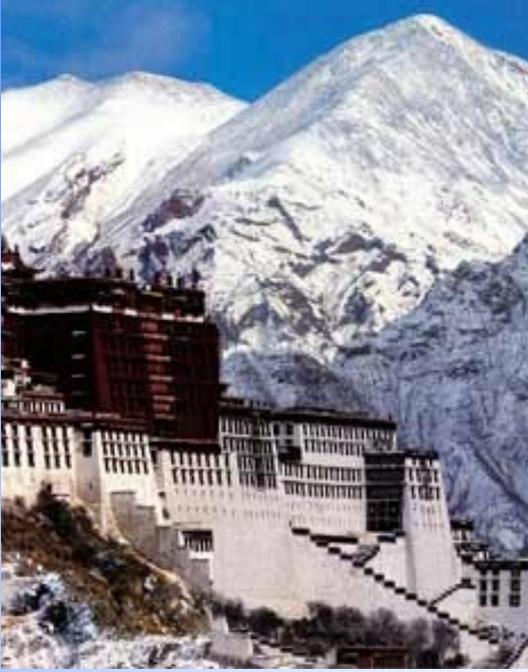
Brazil's impressive ecosystem and natural parks will play a key role in increasing the visitor numbers in the coming years.

The Ministries of Environment and Tourism, the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMbio) and the Brazilian Institute of Tourism (Embratur) has signed an agreement that will focus on promotion of nature tourism that will be conserving protected areas.

The overall international promotion of ecotourism destinations will be checked by Embratur, it will also

studying good practices that can be applied in Brazil and other countries. There are 324 conservation areas in Brazil which covers 9% of the territory , 72 are national parks covering a total area of 26 million hectares. The partnership has already been established by four national parks- Iguassu Falls in Parana, the replanted forest of Tijuca and the mountains of Serra dos Orgaos in Rio de Janeiro and the Atlantic archipelago of Fernando de Noronha. In the year 2017 Brazil saw 6.6 million visitors in 2017 more than 2016 at the time when Olympics was held in Rio de Janeiro. In 2014 during the World Cup there were 6.4 million.





Cover Story

## Top 6 Fabulous wintry vacations in Asia!



**A**sia is not just about spectacular islands, crystal clear waters and beach parties; in fact some of the world's most marvellous winter destinations are nestled in Asia that are ideal for a snowy getaway! End your year on a high note by visiting some of Asia's best destinations. Asia is more than a winter paradise to feel the winter chill. Let's have a look at the places which you can cherish and make the most out of this winter in Asia.

## Lhasa, Tibet

Tibet is mistaken as an extremely cold place to visit during winter, but the truth is Lhasa cannot be missed during winter. Lhasa is special for its economical hotel stays and less crowds. Here the normal temperature during winter is 10°C which rises pretty quickly with the sun during daytime. The monasteries will make you a lot calmer from within, without you even realising the change. Enjoy their local festivals like Monlam, the great prayer festivals with extremely polite people, with whom you will fall in love with instantly. You must visit the Potala Palace at the mountain top. Their butter oil lantern festival is also interesting.



## The Himalayas, India

The Himalayan Mountain Range has a lot to offer in winter. From widely spread forest to icy peaks of mountains which may run a shiver down your spine, it is an epitome of beauty. The alpine gazing lands and the frozen lakes will leave you stunned. Leh Ladakh is a cold desert, attracting thousands of adventure buffs across the hills. Jammu and Kashmir is known as Heaven on Earth for reasons well known. Kasol in Himachal Pradesh can be an extreme delight to every traveller. The Himalayas is a place where you can find solitude and can be at peace with yourself.



## Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

If you like extremely cold places, Ulaanbaatar is your place. Temperature here falls from 20°C to -20°C in a single day. The snow-covered roads and houses are sights to be cherished. If you are an adventure loving person, you can enjoy skiing and snowboarding in the Bogd Khan Mountain. It is the place which gets the highest snowfall in entire Mongolia.

## Taiwan

The infamous city of Taipei of Taiwan that crumbled on the map of Asia is a delight to both eyes and soul. A mixture of plains and rocky mountains, Taiwan offers a delightful winter. Temperature here drops down to 8°C and folks take up woolen mittens. The rocky mountains act as a paradise for hikers with snow-caped summits. New Year and Christmas are the major festivals for the people of Taiwan. The famous sky lantern festival is also celebrated. Amidst the foggy mornings and colder evenings of Taipei, slurping down beef noodles and tofu soup is amazing. It presents cuisines from China and Japan too.

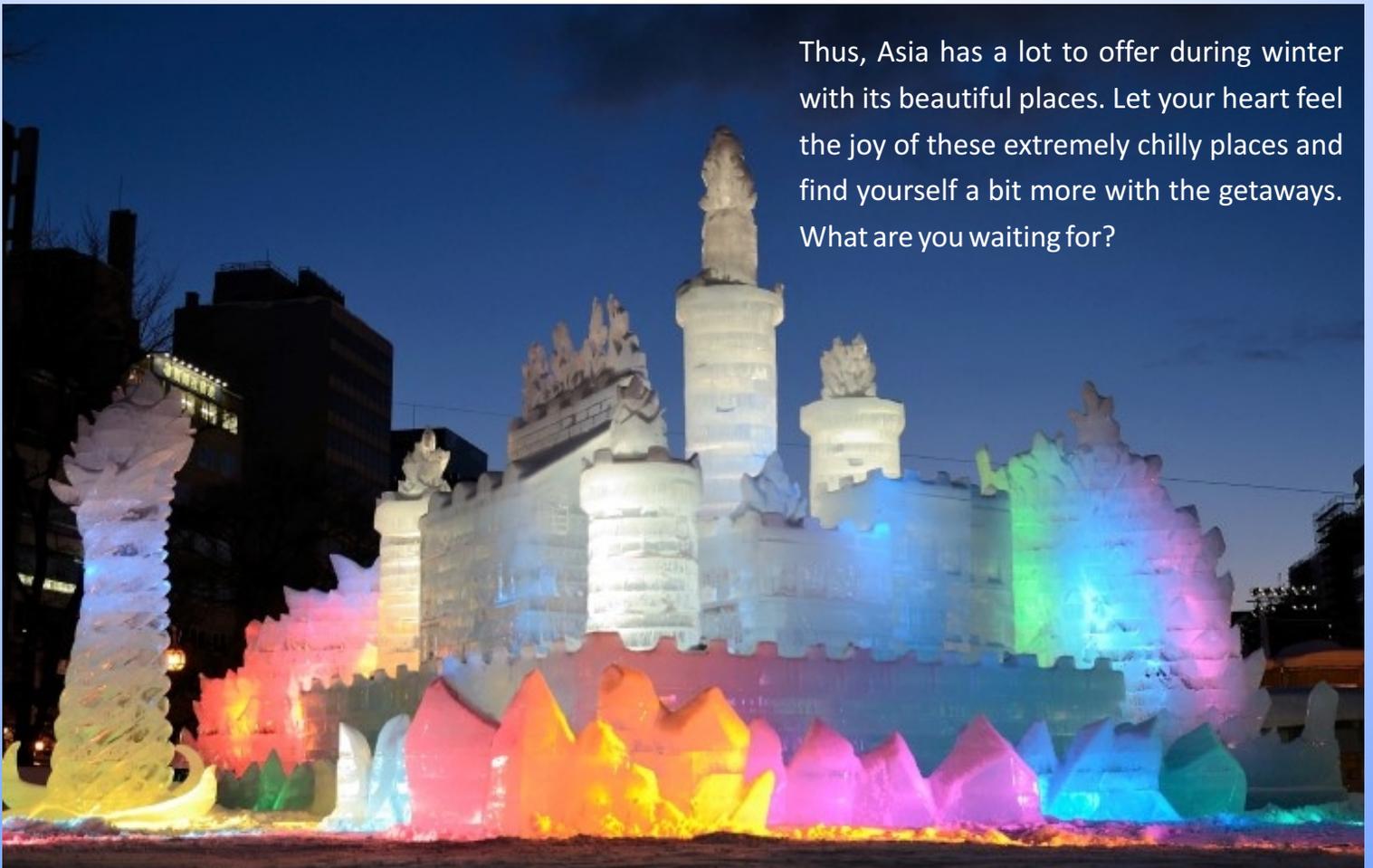
## Sapporo, Japan

A little island city along the coastline in Japan, Sapporo is an ideal winter spot if you want to be around snow. Temperature here in winter goes down to  $-28^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Snowfall in Sapporo is an everyday phenomenon allowing tourists to witness the beauty of this city. The most popular festival hosted by Sapporo is the snow festival where thousands accumulate to witness the gorgeousness. Another major reason why more and more tourists prefer visiting this place is because skiing in Sapporo is considered a major recreation. To sum it up, this Japanese coastal city has more to offer than the usual technology.

## Almaty, Kazakhstan

This place looks like a bride well decorated with snow during winter. This country in central Asia is not a usual place to think as a winter destination, but it is a hidden gem. This place has loads of winter sport activities. From skiing to ropeway rides, you can enjoy them all. The Tian Shan Mountain range is a great place to fulfill all your icy-adventures. Snowboarding, sledging, even snowball fights with your loved ones will refresh your mind to a different level.

Thus, Asia has a lot to offer during winter with its beautiful places. Let your heart feel the joy of these extremely chilly places and find yourself a bit more with the getaways. What are you waiting for?





## The Dubai Miracle Garden

With the onset of November, Dubai is gradually saying adios to its scorching summers and welcoming pleasant winters, worth experiencing! Situated in Al Barsha South, Dubai, UAE, the exquisite Dubai Miracle Garden is one of those favorite spots in this expensive desert city, reopened this season as the mercury level of the business hub of Middle East is slowly going down.

*A refreshing oasis  
created out of a desert!*

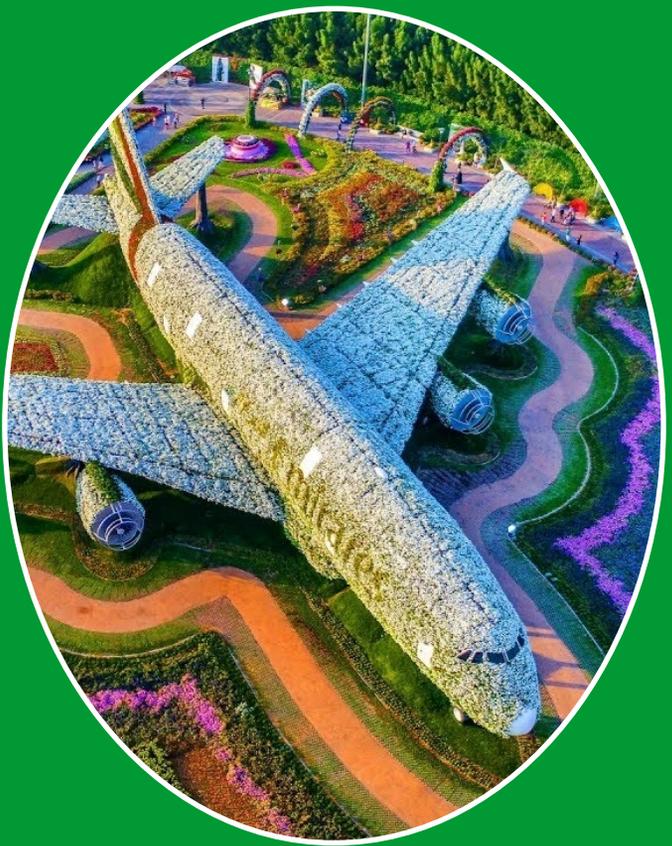
Introduced in 2013 on Valentine's Day, the Dubai Miracle Garden is spread across 72,000 square meters of land, making it the largest natural flower garden in the world.



## Is it open now?

One of the key attractions of Dubai, the Miracle Garden has reopened on November 1st, 2018 for its 7th season until May 5th, 2019. This largest natural flower installation in the world usually remains open for six months every year.

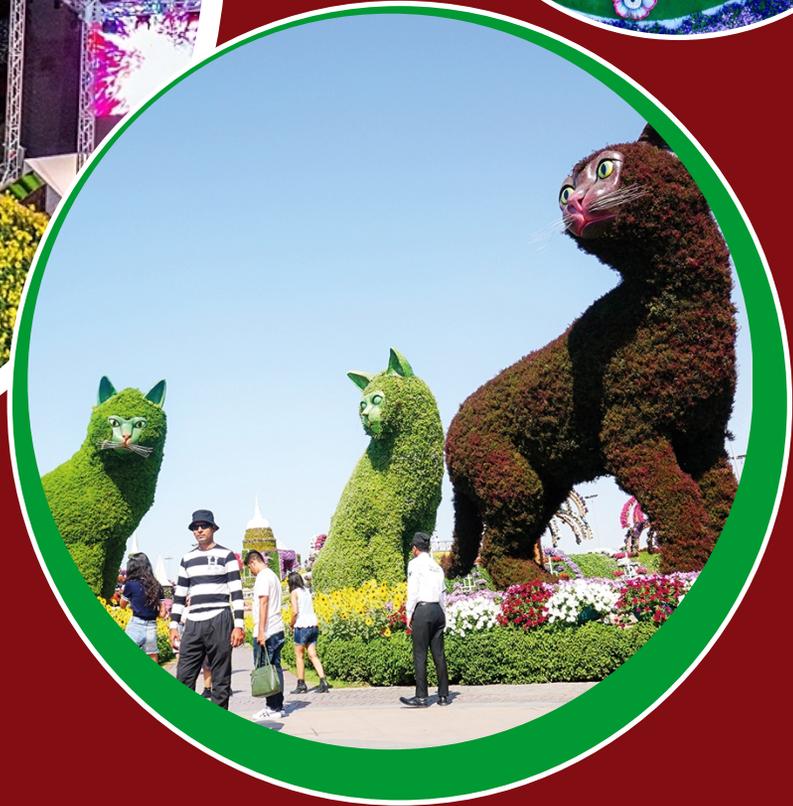
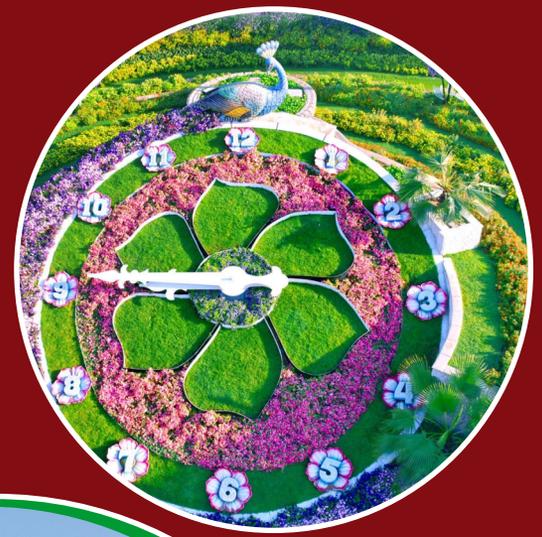
Dubai Miracle Garden remains open from 9am to 9pm from Sunday to Thursday, and 9am to 11pm on Friday and Saturday respectively.



## What are the non-operational months?

The Miracle Garden remains closed from late-May to September.





## What's new to see?

The garden authorities have added many new attractions for their guests with the major theme being 'Sunflower Lovers'. Some of the latest additions are - Disney Avenue, Floral Castle, Floating Beds, along with huge floral animals like cat, elephant spouting water, turtle and its private garden, new dining styles with illuminated nightscape in Caribbean and Asian hammocks and cabanas for the visitors and many more.

The 18 meters tall Mickey Mouse, the tallest topiary structure in the world makes a comeback with other iconic characters like Minnie, Daisy Duck, Pluto, Goofy and others. Now children's play zone has trampoline with two expansive lakes with 7 meter high fountain. With 250 million flowers and 50 million plants, the garden boasts of many 3D shaped animal and cartoon characters which would be a spectacle to behold.



## Maintenance

To maintain this gigantic garden with flowers and plants, reusing treated wastewater through drip irrigation is the method implied behind its maintenance, with an average amount of 757, 082 litres of water every day.

## How much would be the entrance fee?

The entrance fee for adults -50 AED  
Children above 2 years of age – 40 AED  
However, disabled and kids below 2 years can enter the park free.

## Looking Back...

Under an agreement between Dubailand and the Dubai Properties Group Destination, the first concept of this mega project was formed. Under a contract with Akar Landscaping and Agriculture Company, the project development was initiated and was headed by Abdel Naser Rahhal, Jordanian businessman. The enormous project cost over AED 3 billion.



## How to reach?

Dubai Metro can be an accessible option in terms of public transport to reach the Miracle Garden. Drop at MOE station in red line. After that avail bus route 105 to DMC or one can take Bus F30 through Arabian Ranches and drop at Saheel Fate 2 bus stop and walk five minutes to enter the garden quite easily.

From Mall of the Emirates metro station to the Miracle Garden, new bus route 105 has been introduced with buses plying every fifteen minutes on Sunday to Thursday from 2 pm to 8 pm and Friday and Saturday from 12 pm to 10 pm. Bus fare is 5 AED.



## How long it takes to explore the Miracle Garden?

To cover the entire garden, one can expect at least an hour's time. However, if one wants to eat, enjoy the events, activities and entertainments and take loads of pictures and shop Disney merchandise and souvenirs, four or five hours will not be enough.



## Dubai Butterfly Garden

**World's largest covered garden opened by the Miracle Garden in 2015!**

Spread across 4500 sq meters with a butterfly museum, nine custom built domes along with a butterfly flower park, the Butterfly Garden of Dubai is the largest indoor butterfly garden of the world and UAE. Open on all days from 9am to 6pm, the entrance fee is Dhs 50 per person. It is free of charge for the disabled and children below 2 years of age.





## Other attractions in and around

Aventura Nature Adventure Park, Al Khawaneej Pond Park, Bollywood Parks Dubai, Global Village, Motiongate Dubai, Jumeirah Mosque, Dubai Creek and Deira and IMG Worlds of Adventure and Riverland Dubai and many more nearby attractions are there to Dubai Miracle Garden.

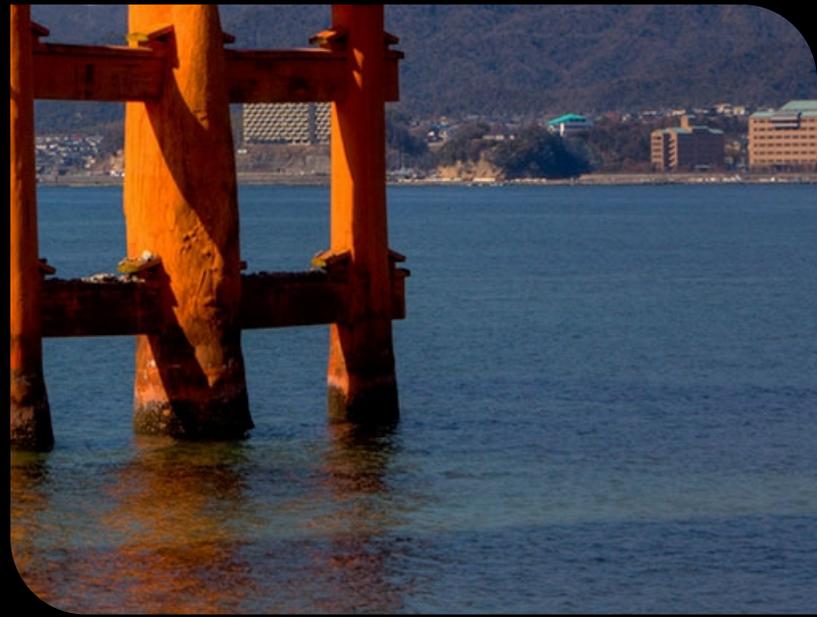
So, if you have plans to visit the most colorful and best smelling garden in Dubai, waste no time. Pack your bag and set off to unravel this renewable idea, as this amazing garden discovers new designs, sculptures, quirky layouts and attractions every season while renovating others.

# MIYAJIMA

An Island Where Gods  
And People Dwell Together



Destination Diary



**R**eferred to as the 'Island of Gods', Miyajima Island is settled on the stunning Seto Inland Sea.

Miyajima Island is considered one of Japan's three best views. Hayashi Gahō, the 15th-century scholar, mentioned of the 'Three Views of Japan' in 1643 and Miyajima Island is one of them. The other two best views are Matsushima and Amanohashidate.



In Japanese, Miyajima means 'Shrine Island'. It is officially known as Itsukushima. It is just an hour away from the city of Hiroshima.

About 28.7 million tourists visited Japan in 2017, with record spending of U.S. dollars 39 billion as per the Euromonitor International data. About 37 million inbound arrivals are expected in Japan in 2020 as per the report.

Miyajima Island is a strong contributor to Japan's booming tourism. With the scenic spread of nature, series of shrines, temples and historical monuments, **Miyajima is like a drop of divinity blossoming in Japan.** The 20 square miles stretch of the Miyajima Island is blanketed by forest covers which are frequented by deer. who caper around fearlessly.

Though the island is generally associated with the famous floating Torii and Itsukushima Shrine, there are various other unique tourist attractions in Itsukushima to visit.

# ITSUKUSHIMA SHRINE

Itsukushima gets its name from the sacred Itsukushima Shrine. The Itsukushima Shrine is a UNESCO World Heritage Site featuring multiple buildings, a prayer hall and the main hall. These are connected by boardwalks making it easy for the visitors to cruise through.

Like all Shinto shrines, it has a torii gate. Its huge vermillion gate has a distinctive feature. It draws visitors from all over the world, both during high and low tide.

During the high tide, the sea covers the exposed seabed mud and the shrine boardwalk. The shrine and the Torii gate appears as if floating on the water. During the low tide, visitors can walk up to the Torii gate and admire it closely.





## SENJOKAKU & GOJUNOTO

Just beside the Itsukushima Shrine, lies the 1000 mats' pavilion or Senjokaku. The hall dates back to 1587 and its name characterises its spaciousness. Toyotomi Hideyoshi, a prominent warrior of the Sengoku period, got Senjokaku built as a Buddhist library where Senbu-kyo sutras can be chanted for the fallen soldiers. However, it was not completed when Hideyoshi died in 1598.

Visitors come to admire its bare striking ceilings and front entrance, about 857 mats spread across the wooden pillars and the numerous votive picture tablets that hang on the inside walls of the hall. The huge beams and the massive roof look exquisite in their starkness. Adjacent to it stands tall a colourful five-storied pagoda or Gojunoto which was originally built in 1407. The railing posts of the first story come alive with the decorations resembling leek flowers. The rest of the floors are wrapped in decorations that resemble lotus flowers. The 27.6 m high pagoda's roof is covered with layers of Japanese cypress bark shingles.

The unfinished and unpainted Senjokaku juxtaposes in the picturesque contrast, against the brightly coloured pagoda and the natural panorama – autumn maple foliage or the spring cherry blossoms.

# MOUNT MISSEN

Forming the backdrop to Itsukushima Shrine, the 1,755 feet high Mt. Misen provides a panoramic view of the Seto Inland Sea. It can be reached either through the ropeway or the three hiking trails — the Momijidani Course, the Daisho-in Course and the Omoto Course. It is dotted with several temples and halls silhouetted against myriad hued trees.



Miyajima Island lays out various walking paths and trails through forests, temples, Mount Misen, sakuras and fir trees.

Attractions in Miyajima by night time revolve round Light. The sunset at Mikasano Hama beach, the illumination of Itsukushima Shrine, Gojunoto, and the cruises, tear through the darkness of the night at Miyajima. Miyajima dazzles with an array of lanterns and lights throughout the night.

While cherry blossoms draw thousands of visitors from across the globe to Japan in spring, autumn drapes Miyajima in maple foliage. The slice of sea



life and history of Miyajima can be captured from the aquarium and the Miyajima Museum of History and Folklore respectively.

Miyajima is accessible from Hiroshima in less than an hour by train and ferry or by direct boats.

Hiroshima city is well connected to the domestic destinations in Japan by air, rail, road, and ferry.



# ASIA FESTIVALS

**T**he festivals of Asia show the regional cultural insights of different countries, having a diverse way of life. Explore these festivals and feel the vibrancy of music, culture and magnificence of religion.

# HORNBILL FESTIVAL



# INDIA

December 1 -10, 2018

**H**ornbill Festival is Nagaland's one of the most prominent festival celebrated by local tribes. This carnival focuses on celebrating the local life, heritage, food, art works and others.

# OSHIROI MATSURI



Fukuoka, Japan  
December 2, 2018

**P**aint your face white with newly harvested rice powder and taste Japanese cuisine and culture if you visit Japan in December. Oshiroi Matsuri marks 400 years old ritual deciding the destiny of rice cultivation of future years with the worship of Oyamazumi Shrine locally known as "Yama no Kami" or Deity of the Mountains.

# WONDERFRUIT



Pattaya, Thailand

December 13-16, 2018

**A**ll three days will be filled with fun, vibes, party, music show, exuberant puppet shows and lavish Thai dinner- Wonderfruit Festival is a remarkable journey of contemporary rock music and popular art shows.

# CHRISTMAS



All over Asian countries  
December 25, 2018

**C**hristmas throughout Asia is celebrated with church bell, regional gastronomic delights, sumptuous laser light technology, electronic music, operatic ballet and fireworks that make the Asian cities a dazzling sight.

## *East Mediterranean International Tourism and Travel Exhibition (EMITT 2019)*

23rd EMITT Exhibition is opening the doors in January 31th, 2019. EMITT is one of the largest tourism exhibitions in the world, will be held between January 31 and February 3. The exhibition is preparing to host more than 60,000 visitors from 90 countries.

The exhibition will be held with the support of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Istanbul Governorship, Metropolitan Municipality of Istanbul as well as the corporate sponsorship of Turkish Airlines and business partnership of the Turkish Hoteliers Federation supported by KOSGEB (Small and Medium Industry Development Organization) and Turkish Tourism Investors Association.

Ersoy, The Minister of Culture and Tourism said that it is a great success for EMITT to gain the title of the 4th largest tourism exhibition in the world through a rapid progress over the years. Besides this important success, in such an era in which EMITT is moving towards to become the leader country in the world tourism. Its aim is to take this success as a step further by ensuring that the organization is among the top 3 of

the world tourism exhibitions and its impact in the tourism market is maximized.

The organiser of international exhibitions in Turkey's industries fueling the economy, ITE Turkey East Mediterranean International Tourism and Travel Exhibition (EMITT) opens the doors at TUYAP Fair, Convention, and Congress Center between January 31 and February 3 in 2019.

The number of foreign visitors is expected to see a record-high in this year's exhibition which is considered as an exhibition that creates great value for its participants and prepares the ground for important collaborations.

This year, around 900 invited tour operators from more than 100 countries including Asia, Europe, Far East, and Latin America will participate in the 'invited tour operator' program organized each year as part of the exhibition in cooperation with Travel Shop Turkey.

*When: January 31 and February 3, 2018*

*Where: Istanbul, Turkey*

The Minister of Culture and Tourism, Mehmet Nuri Ersoy said that as well as being held in Turkey, a country surrounded by natural beauties, a rich history, diversity of culture, and superior service quality in tourism industry that only a few countries in the world may have, the importance of EMITT also comes from bringing together the tourism professionals and industry representatives from all around the world. The exhibition plays a decisive role for our country's and the world tourism as it enables discussions on the recent developments of the tourism market, sectoral analyzes, and decision-making regarding the future steps in line with the global developments.

Mehmet Nuri Ersoy also said that he would also like to draw attention to another important aspect of this year's EMITT Exhibition. As is known, on the occasion of the 95th anniversary of our Republic, they officially opened the Istanbul Airport. This project, which is a source of pride for therising Turkey, without doubt, is one of the most important investments to save the future of tourism with regard to the tourism activities in İstanbul and Turkey.

He also added that the new airport already become the largest 'hub' of the Eastern Mediterranean, the Balkans, and the Caucasus regions with its capacity. Since the opening, they have witnessed the impact of the new airport when we look at the demands of

the industry. It is obvious that this impact will have positive effects on every platform, especially on EMITT Exhibition.

Hacer Aydın, Tourism & Travel & Fashion Group Director of ITE Turkey, said that the 23rd EMITT Tourism Exhibition have provided a substantial contribution to the Tourism industry, and she believed that they would be more successful than the previous year and also stated that: Last year, EMITT hosted 1,065 exhibitors and 54,364 visitors from 85 countries. This year, the organisers are preparing to host thousands of participants and more than 60,000 visitors from 90 countries.

EMITT substantially contributes to the economy, tourism, and country brand of Turkey. Last year, there was also a great demand for the exhibition we organize each year and this year, once again, the demand for participation from foreign countries is very high. This shows that we're doing the right thing. Hence, these results motivates the world to accelerate business performance in order to provide greater benefit to the country.

According to the data recently announced by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Russia, Germany, Iran, Georgia, and Bulgaria are the top 5 countries among tourist-sending countries of Turkey. The number of foreign tourists visiting Turkey increased by 24.9 percent in the first 7 months of 2018 and reached up to 21.64 million people.



Feria Internacional de Turismo  
International Tourism Trade Fair

## ***FITUR 2019***

FITUR, the International Tourism Trade Fair, will provide a global meeting point for tourism industry professionals, and will once again become the leading event for both inbound and outbound Latin American tourism, welcoming professionals from all across the world at Feria de Madrid from 23 to 27 January 2019. This year's event will offer new features and initiatives focused on increasing sectoral representation, internationalisation and FITUR's standing. Alongside this, the trade fair will maintain its commitment to the development of new technologies and sustainability as key aspects in the transformation of the industry.

All this goes hand-in-hand with the impressive growth shown by Spanish outbound tourism, which in 2017 saw a 12.4% increase in spending during trips abroad, amounting to a total of 19,600 million euros, according to the World Tourism Organization.

In this way, Spain is again climbing the rankings in the leading outbound tourism markets, where it now holds 13th position. One of the important new features for FITUR 2019 is the enlargement of the exhibition area to incorporate Hall 2 at Feria de Madrid. This will provide a centralised area for Middle Eastern tourist destinations, with the whole of Hall 4

set aside for Europe. The other areas will follow the usual layout.

At the same time, FITUR 2019 is adding a new section for film tourism, promoted by the Spain Film Commission (SFC), in response to the growing interest in visiting filming locations for popular movies and series. The fair will also continue to work on specialisation and the consolidation of its various specific areas, including FITUR Festivales, FITUR GAY (LGBT), FITUR SALUD, as well as the sections FITURTECHY and FITUR KNOW HOW.

Technology, like sustainability, will continue to put its stamp on the event as an essential lever for growth in the sector and for its progress toward the concept of intelligent tourism. In this vein, the FUNDACIÓN IFEMA LAB Foundation will continue with its work on the 'Feria Aumentada' (Enhanced Trade Fair) project, a ground-breaking initiative for FITUR.

Another of the focal points for this year's event will be the various seminars and activities offered during the trade fair, organised by international entities such as the World Tourism Organization

***When: 23 to 27 January 2019***

***Where: Feria de Madrid, Madrid, Spain***



(UNWTO), the Latin American Conference of Tourism Ministers and Entrepreneurs (CIMET) and INVESTOUR, who will this year be joined by theWorld Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC).

FITUR 2019 is gearing up for one of its most comprehensive events, with new concepts, trends

and strategies aimed at consolidating and improving the outcomes achieved at last year's event, which brought together 251,000 participants and played host to more than 6,800 business meetings.

# World Travel Market



**When: 5 – 7 November 2018**

**Where: ExCeL London, United Kingdom**

WTM London 2018, was full of ideas and its co-located sister event Travel Forward experienced a massive 6% increase in visitors fuelled by an increase in senior travel and tourism industry professionals attending the event, according to unaudited figures.

Travel Forward is a new travel technology event co-located with WTM London 2018 and part of the WTM portfolio of events.

The inaugural Travel Forward conference, exhibition and buyer programme took place between 5 – 7 November 2018 at ExCeL London, showcasing next-generation technology for travel and hospitality.

WTM London 2018 saw visitor numbers – including exhibitor invitees, WTM Buyers' Club members and trade visitors - increase by 6% to 32,700.

Furthermore, members of the international media increased by 1% to 2,700. Overall participant numbers increased to 51,409 – making it one of the highest attended of the 39 WTM London's that took place since its launch in 1980.

The record number of visitors to WTM London – surpassing 2014's figure of 32,462 – was fuelled by a massive 39% increase in the key benchmark of exhibitor invitee visitors. Exhibitor invitees are among the most important and senior professionals

in the travel and tourism industry, invited by exhibitors on the invite-only first day of the event to conduct high-level meetings and conclude business deals. A total of 17,567 exhibitor invitees attended WTM London across the three days of the event (Monday 5 – Wednesday 7 November), compared to 12,662 at the 2017 edition.

In total, WTM London experienced almost 89,000 (88,742) visits across the three days. The first day of the event saw 27,240, day two experienced 38,035 visits and the final day of the event saw 23,467 people in attendance.



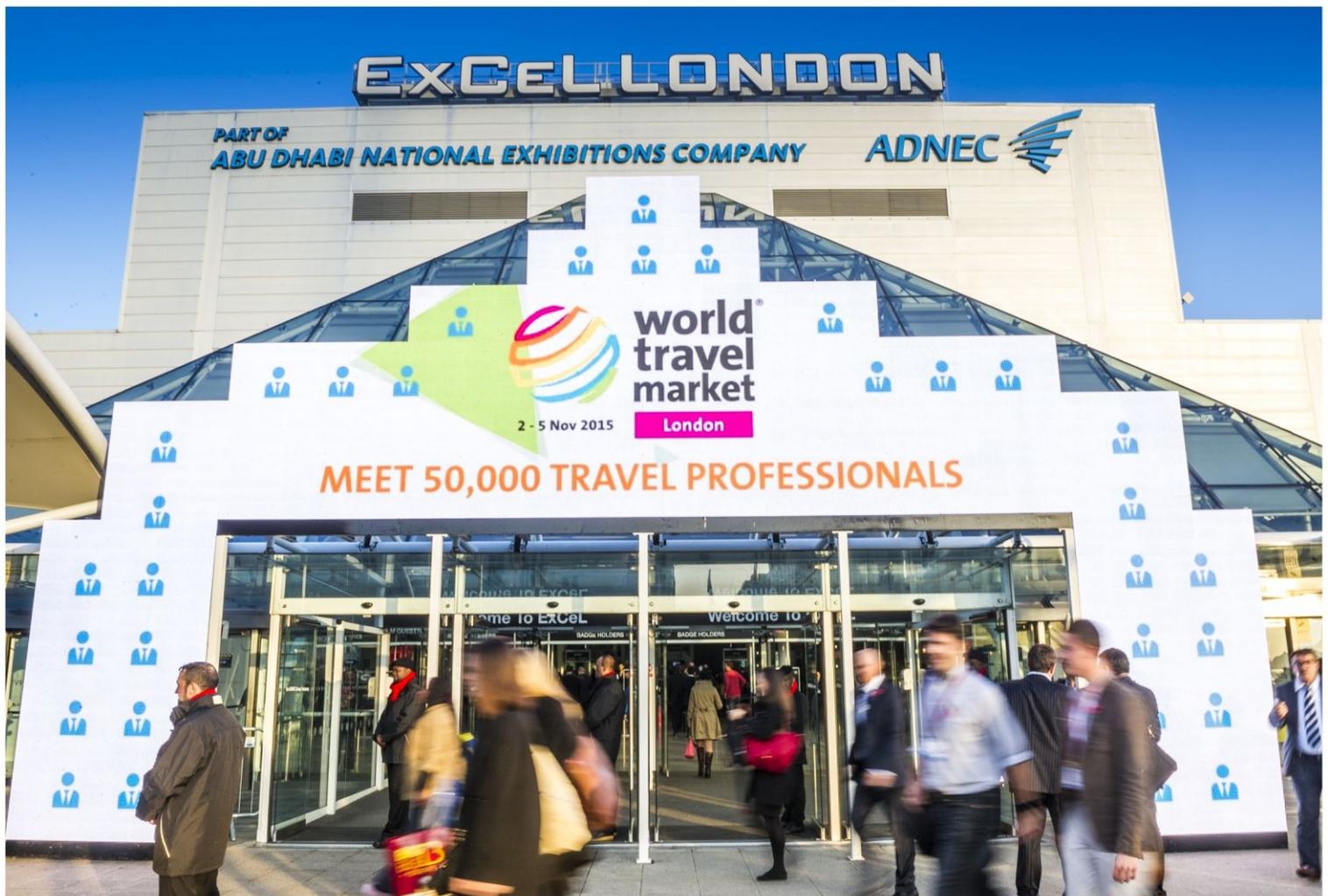
The event was also visited by 9,325 member of the prestigious WTM Buyers' Club alongside the exhibitor invitees these visitors will sign deals with exhibitors worth more than £3 billion.

Total participant numbers increased by 3% from 49,685 in 2017 to 51,409 in 2018.

WTM London 2018 was given a greater regional focus with the introduction of five regional Inspiration Zones – UK & I and International Hub, Europe, Asia, Americas and Middle East and Africa. These Inspiration Zones led to an increase in

content, ideas and inspiration for participants to take back to their business and implement to help fuel the growth of the travel and tourism industry.

This strategy saw a greater number of senior CEOs and tourism ministers taking part in the content programme – including easyJet's CEO Johan Lundgren and UK tourism minister Michael Ellis. While more research was added to the programme – including dedicated regional research sessions -- from respected research organisations including Euromonitor International, Mintel, ForwardKeys and Nielsen.



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Indywood Film Carnival 2018

Hyderabad, India

[www.indywood.co.in](http://www.indywood.co.in)

### 1- 5 December



## ILTM Cannes

Cannes, Cedex, France

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

### 3-6 December



## Avia DEV

Palacio de Congresos de Valencia, Spain

<https://www.aviationdevelop.com/>

### 3-5 December



## Hotelier KSA & UAE Events

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

[www.events.ide-global.com/hospitality/ksa/](http://www.events.ide-global.com/hospitality/ksa/)

### 3- 4 December



HOTELIER SUMMIT  
KSA & UAE

## 5th Athens International Tourism Expo

Athens, Greece  
<https://aite.gr/en/>



# 7- 9 December

## Hotelier Summit Asia

Jakarta, Indonesia  
[www.events.ide-global.com/hospitality/asia/](http://www.events.ide-global.com/hospitality/asia/)

# 5- 6 December



## Brussels Travel Expo

Brussels, Belgium  
[www.btexpo.com/](http://www.btexpo.com/)



# 10-11 December

## Uzakrota Travel Summit 2018

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

# 12 December

@Uzakrota

# Travel AND Tour™

www.travelandtourworld.com

WORLD



Promote

Your Brand  
With Us...



Travel  
And  
Tour  
WORLD



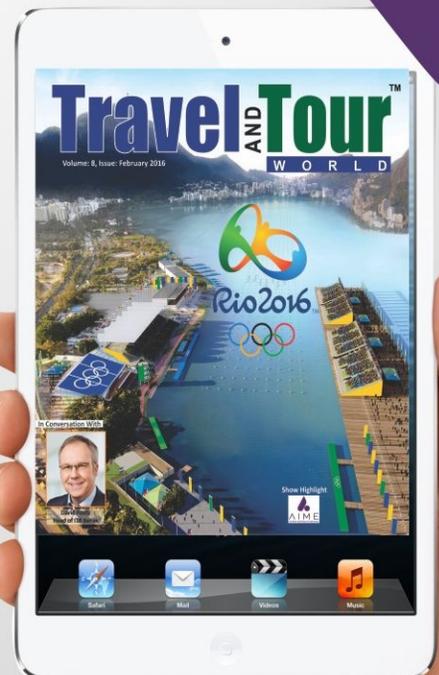
Magazine  
catering to  
global  
travel  
industry



Subscribe  
to our  
daily  
travel  
newsletter



FREE



pr@travelandtourworld.com

# Travel AND Tour™

W O R L D

*Merry  
Christmas*

[pr@travelandtourworld.com](mailto:pr@travelandtourworld.com)