

AITTC Newsletter

Issue No - 2 March/ April 2013

We welcome you with our second issue of our bi-monthly newsletter.

The Australia India Travel and Tourism Council (AITTC) was officially launched in Australia on Wednesday 20th March at the Grace Hotel, Sydney. The evening function was attended by around sixty invited guests from across the industry and dignitaries included Hon Biren Nanda, Indian High Commissioner to Australia, Hon David Elliot MP, Member for Baulkham Hills representing NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell, Dr Geoff Lee MP, Member for Parramatta, Ms Madhu Dubey Regional Director India Tourism, Simonne Shepherd Acting Director Partnership Programs, Destination NSW, Joost Timmer Managing Director Insight Vacations, Sudhir Warrior Executive Chairman at Australian Cruise Group, Nihal Gupta, Managing Director Digital Electronics Group and Chairman of NSW Multicultural Business Advisory Panel, Dr G Harinath Former Chairman NSW Cricket Association and Chairman Parramasala and famous Bollywood film maker Madhur Bhandarkar



Figure 1: Chairman Sandip Hor



Figure 2: Dr Geoff Lee, MP Member for Parramatta



Figure 3: David Elliot MP Member for Baulkham Hills representing NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell



Figure 4: Guests listening to speeches



Figure 5: Some of the dignitaries

Making apologies for his inability to attend the event, Philip Pratley General Manager of the Grace Hotel and an AITTC member read a statement from the Australian Minister of Tourism Martin Ferguson.

“As India is one of the world’s fastest growing tourism markets, and the Australian government is committed to growing visitor numbers from India, organisations such as the AITTC, which aims to promote travel and tourism between Australia and India, will play an important role in increasing the number of visitors”.

Similar message was echoed by all the other speakers. While acknowledging the need of direct air link, the Indian High commissioner expressed his hopes that Air India will soon start direct flights between the two nations

AITTC Chairman Sandip Hor in his speech made it clear that the organisation belongs to its members and hence requested their valued input to formulate the strategic plan that will set the future directions of the organisation.

The event was sponsored by Sumo Group Australia which operates a numbers of businesses from health, real estate and wealth creation to exclusive lifestyle, all of which in combination aiming to make everyone’s life better



Figure 6: Event Sponsor Sumo Group Chairman, Suren Pather receiving a certificate of appreciation

On other key news , Sandip Hor while in New Delhi recently took the opportunity to have meetings with various parties including Australian High Commission on how to set up operations of AITTC in India, The matter was discussed at length with Sanjeet, one of AITTCs Delhi based founder member and it was agreed in principle that after registering a sizable number of membership ,a viable option would be then to form a subsidiary organisation in India.



Figure 7: Sandip Hor with SanJeet

Provided below is some industry news that may be of interest to you:

Tourists from India

There were 495,000 visitor arrivals in Australia during January 2013, out of which 11,400 were from India, an increase of 4.6 per cent relative to the same month previous year.

Sound and Light at the Red Fort in Delhi on You Tube

The Indian Tourism Minister K. Chiranjeevi recently directed that the audio tracks of all 23 sound and light shows funded by them be uploaded on the internet for free viewing throughout the world. As a result the entire sound and light show at Red Fort and at Purana Qila, Delhi is now available for free viewing on You Tube. By doing this India Tourism has become the first tourism agency in the world to upload its entire feature-length sound and light shows on the internet.

Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3mmCF9dCVRM>

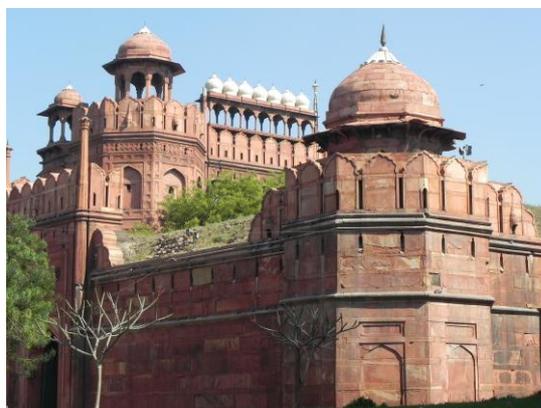


Figure 8: Red Fort in Delhi

Swissotel in Goa

Recently opened Swissotel Goa is located in the town of Calangute, a popular tourist spot in North Goa, 16 kms from the capital city Panaji and 40 kms from the airport. The hotel offers a charming blend of idyllic beaches and a base to explore North Goa, a former Portuguese colony famed for places of worship like the Basilica of Bom Jesus, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and world heritage architecture like the Fort Aguada. 135 guestrooms and suites are proportioned among nine three level buildings, set within a tropical garden featuring lily ponds and a courtyard pool area. An all-day dining restaurant, pool bar, deli, fitness centre, adult and kids' pools, kids' club and conference and banquet facilities cater to all tastes. "With the already-opened Swissôtel Kolkata and the three Swissôtels under development in Mumbai, Noida and Bangalore, our portfolio on the Indian Subcontinent is growing continuously," says Meinhard Huck, President of Swissôtel Hotels & Resorts.



Figure 9: Swissotel Goa

Emirates and Qantas alliance

The first of the Qantas-Emirates alliance took off on Sunday 31 March following the decision by the ACCC to grant authorisation for the two airlines to coordinate passenger and cargo transport operations and other related services until 31 March 2018.

Melbourne to Host Dreamtime 2013

Melbourne is to host Tourism Australia's largest trade marketing event in December, Dreamtime 2013, helping to further grow the \$12 billion plus business events sector.

Dreamtime 2013 will bring together 125 international business events decision makers (buyers) with the Australian business events industry to experience the destination's capabilities for doing business. It will give Australian business events industry a platform to do business with well qualified international buyers from key markets such as India.



Figure 10: Captivating Melbourne

Sydney Harbour Joins National Landscapes

The spellbinding waterways and bushland of Sydney Harbour today became Australia's 16th National Landscape, opening the way to a global marketing push inviting visitors to immerse themselves in the natural wonders of the harbour city.



Figure 11: Sydney Harbour

Contact

Sandip Hor – sandip.hor@aittc.net.au

Media Enquiries: Nicole Lenoir Jordan – nicole@fivestarpr.com.au

IT Enquiries: Ash Jagadale – ash@idatabits.com.au

News items has been sourced from various media releases.