

THE WEEKLY WATCH

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TAT envisages 35mn trips from foreign tourists in 2024

The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) has announced its 2024 strategic direction that will continue to elevate the tourism supply and sustainable standards, as well as leverage Thai soft powers to promote and develop high-value and sustainable tourism in Thailand. According to Thapanee Kiatphaibool, Governor, TAT, said, "With the



Thapanee Kiatphaiboo

carefully planned 2024 strategic direction, TAT has set an overall revenue target in the best-case scenario of THB 3 trillion. This constitutes THB 1.92 trillion from international tourism, and THB 1.08 trillion from domestic tourism. TAT expects to welcome 35 million foreign tourists, and inspire 200 million domestic trips in 2024."



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India emerges as Australia's fastest market to reach pre-Covid levels of inbound

India has emerged as the fastest market to recover to pre-Covid levels with 375,000 visitors to Australia for the year ended May 2023, recording a recovery of 102%.

Andrew Hogg, Executive GM, Eastern Markets and Aviation, Tourism Australia, said, "India has been Australia's fastest growing source market and continues to be one of Australia's most valuable ad promising tourism markets now and into the future. Australia Marketplace India is our prime platform bringing together some of Australia's leading industry experts and tourism delegates to showcase Australia's world-class appeal to India's trade stakeholders; to drive future growth in visitation and tourist spend from India."



Rail Europe adds Eurail Greek Islands Pass to its portfolio

Rail Europe has introduced the Eurail Greek Islands Pass, to its B2B inventory and available via its B2B website and API.



"With the launch of the opportunity for our

B2B partners' to enhance their customers' travel experiences. The Eurail Greek Islands Pass serves as a gateway to a myriad of experiences across Greece's captivating islands, from the alluring glamour of Mykonos to the inspiring landscapes of Santorini, and the pristine serenity of Crete, three top destinations in Europe. We are thrilled to foster further collaboration with our partners as we jointly promote this unique pass and showcase the captivating islands it encompasses," says Björn Bender, CEO & President, Rail Europe.

'Market size for tourist virtual reality headsets to reach USD 994mn by 2033'

The market size for tourist virtual reality headsets was valued at USD 610.0 million in 2023, and



it is anticipated to grow at 5.0% annually to reach USD 994.4 million by 2033, as per a Tourist Virtual Reality Headsets Market Soars as Travellers Seek Enhanced Immersive Travel Experiences; Future Market Insights Report.

Maharashtra may take back 5 airports from Reliance Airport Development: Fadnavis

Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has said that the Maharashtra government is likely to take back the Latur, Osmanabad, Nanded, Yavatmal, and Baramati airports leased to the financially distressed Anil Ambani Group. "Around 2009, some airports were given to Reliance for development for 30 years. However, due to the lack of progress in developing these airports, the

state government is considering taking them back from the company. Works in Nanded and Latur airports have come to a complete halt," Fadnavis told the State Assembly.







