

Cordelia Cruises plans to add 3 cruise ships by 2025 with investment of over USD 1bn

Cordelia Cruises is planning to pump in excess of USD 1 billion by 2025 for acquiring at least three cruise ships as it aims to target the domestic market in India. The company's bullish outlook is in line with the government's projection of a 10-fold growth for this industry over the next decade. "India will do extremely well in the cruise sector. I am confident that in the next 5-7 years India will be one of the top five cruise destinations of the world, similar to China five years ago. We have aggressive expansion plans. We want to add at least three cruise vessels by 2025 that could cost over USD 1 billion," said Jurgen Bailom, CEO, Waterways Leisure Tourism.



South Korea reopens for Indian travellers

As leisure travel is re-opening across the globe, South Korea is all set to welcome outbound travellers from India. Indian travellers can now apply for a short term (C-3) visa which allows foreigners to stay up to 90 days for marketing research, travel, visiting



relatives, meetings or similar reasons. The visa can be applied physically at the VFS Global centers.

The VFS Global South Korea VACs in New Delhi and Kolkata are now accepting applications for all visa categories, including express visa applications. Applicants would need to take prior appointment to submit the application in New Delhi, however, for Kolkata applicant can walk in without appointment to submit the application. Online appointment link would be available soon on website.

Genting Dream arrives at Marina Bay Cruise Centre Singapore ahead of first sailing on June 15

The Genting Dream, flagship vessel of Resorts World Cruises, arrived at the Marina Bay Cruise Centre Singapore (MBCCS) early this week, in preparations for its first commercial sailing on June 15, 22.

"These are truly exciting times. We are thrilled to witness the start of Genting

Dream as the flagship of Resorts World Cruises, a new luxury and dynamic lifestyle cruise brand, affiliated with



over five decades of global experience in both hospitality and cruising. We eagerly look forward to welcoming vacationers aboard Genting Dream to experience a "Resort Cruising on High Seas" from Singapore, which is full of excitement, lifestyle choices and memorable experiences", said Michael Goh, President of Resorts World Cruises.

South Africa's Gauteng Province to tap Indian market for sports & film tourism



Gauteng is the wealthiest province in South Africa and is considered the financial hub of Africa. The destination is now trying to attract the Indian market through sports and film tourism. Elaborating on the idea at Africa's Travel Indaba 2022, Sthembiso Dlamini, CEO, Gauteng Tourism Authority said, "We want to promote sports tourism activities in Gauteng as a part of our tourism marketing and development strategy by leveraging our quality sports infrastructure, and skilled personnel. Since India also shares the same passion for sports we see an opportunity in that space."

South Africa which is known as Bollywood's favourite destination for film shoots has of late become a popular choice production houses. Dlamini said that Gauteng also plans to attract Bollywood film-makers. "We are positioning ourselves as a film destination. We are partnering with the Gauteng Film Commission, for positioning our destination as a preferred film shooting destination." She added that the destination has a huge partnership with Netflix.

Monkeypox: Health Ministry issues advisory for international passengers

The Union Health Ministry has advised international passengers to refrain from eating or preparing meat from wild game (bushmeat) or using products such as creams, lotions and powders derived from wild animals in Africa, besides avoiding close contacts with sick people, including those with skin lesions or genital lesions.

The "Guidelines on Management of Monkeypox Disease" issued to the states and Union territories include an annexure — advisory for international passengers — which recommends that these passengers should avoid contact with dead or live wild animals such as small mammals, including rodents (rats, squirrels) and non-human primates (monkeys, apes).



Gulf airlines to operate shuttle flights for Football World Cup

Qatar Airways has said that fellow Gulf Arab airlines would operate more than 180 daily shuttle flights to Qatar during this year's soccer World Cup, allowing fans to fly in from nearby cities and easing accommodation pressure in Doha. Akbar Al-Baker, CEO, Qatar Airways, said that flydubai, Oman Air, Kuwait Airways and Saudia Airlines would run shuttle flights and that the UAE's Etihad and Air Arabia may also join the plan.

"Like anywhere else there has always been a shortage of accommodation, so we are not unique. The biggest challenge for us is because everything is happening in one place," Baker said. He described November's World Cup, the first to be held in the Middle East, as a "big cake" that will bring "huge economic benefit" that Doha aims to share with its Gulf neighbours.

