MESSAGE FROM

UFTAA PRESIDENT

Our Connect must GROW.

“We know what we are, but know not what we may be.” said William Shakespeare.

To optimize our potential and to emerge pro-active to newer situations gets people to grow beyond the ordinary. How well can we truly grow and be of value to the world and its happenings, determines someone special residing in us.

The growing world of Travel & Tourism demands from us, who drive this Industry, more than before. The increased number of travellers and projections defining larger numbers suggest associations across the world to initiate new plans and play new roles.

The NewGen ISS initiative from IATA makes the scenario very different for travel agencies and their managements.

UFTAA had pioneered the IATA-UFTAA program that became a global norm. In this changing scenario, UFTAA continues to work closely with associations in our endeavor to help industry stake holders successfully encounter the new residing in us.

Travel & Tourism, which continues as our focus and priority, will find an active place in UFTAA’s agenda. Visibility and establishment of a stronger purpose is certainly our sustainability call.

UFTAA invites our members and all stakeholders to strengthen our resolve by joining this initiative to help our members grow beyond and attain new levels and newer benchmarks.

We look forward a pioneering role from every one of you

Sincerely yours,
Sunil Kumar R

NEWS
IN BRIEF

NATAS Holidays 2018 attracts record-breaking crowd

The 53rd NATAS Holidays 2018 concluded on a successful note on Sunday 19 August 2018 with a record-breaking crowd of 113,103 visitors, an increase of 39.57% versus previous year. With a combined participation of 91 exhibitors comprising travel agents, attractions, airlines, cruises, hotels, National Tourism Organisations and travel-related companies taking up 720 booths over 6,480 sqm, the fair was a one stop location for travellers to conveniently obtain all of their travel needs under one roof.

PAPGJC Meeting

The 32nd PAPGJC Meeting will be held at Madrid on 13th & 14th Sep, 2018.

Members desirous of any issue / matter being taken up on their behalf may write urgently with complete details to Chairman Aviation & IATA Matters – Mr Yossi Fatael at y.fatael@me.com

UFTAA Board Meeting

UFTAA Board of Directors will meet for the 3rd Meeting of Year 2018 at New Delhi on 16th & 17th Sep, 2018 and deliberate over various issues of importance to help take UFTAA to next level.

Members, who wish to recommend any subject for discussion / deliberation at the Board Meeting, may write to ceo@uftaa.org

TRAVEL AGENT’S HANDBOOK - 2018

The 2018 editions of the Travel Agent’s Handbook (TAH), are now available for download in English, French and Spanish. Please go to the link hereunder http://www.iata.org/services/accreditation-travel/travel-tourism/Pages/tah.aspx.

In view of the major transition of Governing Resolution for IATA accredited agencies to new Resolution 812 (NewGen ISS), extensive knowledge for Associations to hand-hold their members, will be of great importance. TAH, in that regard, will be very useful.
Package Travel Directive
VVR Initiates- Introduction & Training

With the introduction of ‘Package Travel Directive’, VVR-team organised several sessions throughout the country to explain the basics of the consumer directive and reached out to more than 400 members who participated and rated the sessions ‘very good to excellent’.

As the guidelines from the Federal Government arrived only three weeks before the implementation of this legislation in Belgium, the VVR-team went through unlimited trouble to analyse, interpret them and set up extra sessions to prepare members for the new legislation. These extra full-day sessions, to explain this complex legislation, were again followed by more than 200 members and extra sessions are put again on the agenda in September to cover all members.

The Package Travel Directive is a translation form the Consumer Legislation towards the travel industry where the EU tried to create a level playing field between the more traditional travel agencies and all other players who are today organising and selling holidays. Unfortunately at this level they failed. OTA’s, booking sites like Booking.com and Airlines offering all kinds of arrangements, are still escaping the dance.

The recent bankruptcy of Air Berlin and Monarch Airlines amongst others show that initiatives on this level are still needed. Lobbying to ensure that the airlines are also protected against insolvency, is still needed. Note that the agencies also have to cover for the first three overnights in case of calamities at their own expense. Also here VVR is working with insurers on the necessary initiatives to offer its members all relevant support.

Koen van den Bosch
CEO – VVR
Vereniging Vlaamse Reisbureaus vzw

Know Your Fellow Member
Association of Israel – IITOA

The Israel Incoming Tour Operators Association (IITOA) is a representative body in the field of incoming tourism in Israel. The Association was founded in 1960 with the aim of working towards the development of Israel’s incoming tourism industry and has a membership of approximately 100 companies and non-profit organizations.

The Association’s members contribute enormously to Israel and its economy, creating jobs, adding to the country’s gross national product, and improving Israel’s image.

The Incoming Tour Operators Association operates on many levels: representing its members to governmental and public authorities, removing operational obstacles, advancing an open skies agreement with the European Union, increasing aviation capacity, increasing hotel capacity in Israel, ranking hotels, organizing professional seminars and conferences.

For more information go to israeltravel.co.il/en

Read more … Jerusalem City Pass www.itraveljerusalem.com/jlm-city-pass

Contact
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