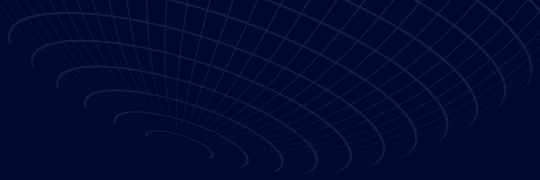


Corporate travel updates August 2026

All the latest developments
In the travel & tourism industry



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A Partnership Strengthened. A New Chapter Begins.

Riya Business Travel has represented the ATG Worldwide Network in India since 2017. Our partnership now extends to the Philippines and Thailand, where we will implement ATG's global Corporate and Marine Travel programmes.

Built on trust, shared values and a common pursuit of excellence, this expanded partnership strengthens our regional capabilities and commitment to consistent service excellence.



Akasa Air adds Jaipur to network with daily flights to Mumbai and Bengalur

Akasa Air will launch daily non-stop services from Jaipur to Mumbai and Bengaluru from October 11, 2026, making Jaipur its 29th domestic destination and second in Rajasthan. The expansion strengthens the airline's domestic network, enhances connectivity between key business and tourism centres, and supports travel demand across the state.



IndiGo launches new flight services from Vijayawada to Varanasi and Kolkata

In a noteworthy development, Union Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu inaugurated new IndiGo flight services connecting Vijayawada with Varanasi and Kolkata. These thrice-weekly flights have garnered an enthusiastic reception from passengers, reflecting the demand for better connectivity. Additionally, local MP Vallabhaneni Balashowry has advocated for direct international flights to Dubai and routes to Kochi, while the Ministry of Civil Aviation is considering new flights to Pune, Ahmedabad, and Cochin soon.



Star Air resumes Solhapur–Mumbai flights from August 1

Star Air resumes scheduled commercial flights between Solapur and Mumbai from August 1, 2026, restoring air connectivity to the southern Maharashtra city after a hiatus. The regional airline will operate four weekly services, aiming to improve connectivity for business, leisure and pilgrimage travelers while supporting regional economic development.



Air India Enhances India–Canada Connectivity

Air India has introduced its new Boeing 787-9 on the Delhi–Toronto route from August 1, restoring daily non-stop services, eliminating the Vienna fuel stop and reducing journey time by nearly three hours. Premium Economy is also being introduced. From October 25, Air India will launch three-times-weekly seasonal Mumbai–Toronto non-stop services.



Air India plots Sept flight comeback, to add frequencies to New York, Tokyo, Milan

Starting on September 1, Air India is set to restore a significant number of its curtailed flights, enhancing service on several international routes. This comes as a response to previous cuts prompted by soaring fuel prices. Passengers affected were offered alternatives or refunds. The airline remains attentive to the evolving operational landscape, ensuring continued traveler support.



SriLankan Airlines strengthens Maldives connectivity with new interline agreement

SriLankan Airlines currently operates three daily flights to Malé and two weekly services to Gan, providing strong connectivity between the Maldives and its wider international network. Through its global operations and codeshare partnerships, the airline connects passengers to around 130 destinations across 63 countries, reinforcing Colombo's position as a regional transit hub.



Akasa Air launches loyalty program 'Elevate' on its fourth anniversary

Akasa Air has launched Akasa Elevate, its first loyalty programme, coinciding with the airline's fourth anniversary. The programme enables members to earn Elevate Points on eligible flights and ancillary purchases, access tier-based benefits, and enjoy faster progression through membership levels. The launch comes as the airline marks carrying nearly 30 million passengers since operations began in 2022.



Delhi gets first nonstop Taiwan connection as EVA Air launches new route

The Delhi launch further strengthens EVA Air's position in the India market at a time when airlines are expanding services to meet rising outbound demand and growing economic ties between India and East Asia. A member of Star Alliance, EVA Air operates a fleet of more than 80 Airbus and Boeing aircraft serving around 60 destinations across Asia, Europe, Oceania and North America.



Delhi Airport expands domestic network to 90 destinations with direct Daman flights

GMR AERO-led Delhi International Airport has expanded its domestic network to 90 destinations with the launch of direct flights to Daman operated by Alliance Air. The airport is now the only one in India with direct connectivity to 32 of the country's 36 States and Union Territories, further strengthening its position as the nation's largest domestic aviation hub.



Abu Dhabi offers complimentary UAE entry visas for Indian tourists

Abu Dhabi has launched a travel trade initiative offering complimentary UAE entry visas to eligible Indian passport holders booking a minimum three-night stay in the emirate. Running from August 1 to October 31, 2026, the pilot programme will support up to 20,000 visas and is aimed at making travel to Abu Dhabi more accessible through participating travel partners and online travel agencies.



Courtyard by Marriott opens first hotel in Ghaziabad, expands Delhi NCR presence

Courtyard by Marriott has opened its first hotel in Ghaziabad, marking the brand's debut in the city and expanding Marriott International's presence across Delhi NCR. Located in Rajnagar Extension, the 106-key hotel features two dining venues, more than 8,000 square feet of event space, an outdoor pool, fitness centre, spa and flexible accommodation designed for business, leisure and social travellers.





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