



**CORPORATE
TRAVEL
UPDATES**

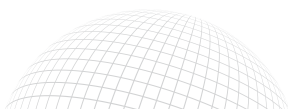
February 2025

**All the latest developments
in the Travel & Tourism Industry**



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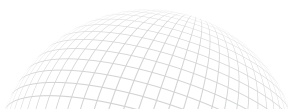
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Riya Group Wins the Best B2B Travel Company Award at OTM India 2025



With the motto "Har Travel Seva Mein Aage," we proudly hosted over 2,500 visitors during the eventful three days at OTM India 2025. The event was marked by insightful discussions and a comprehensive presentation of our offerings to travel partners. We concluded the event on a high note, successfully onboarding more than 550 new travel partners. We were honored with the Best B2B Travel Company award, marking a successful conclusion to our participation.



Air India & Kenya Airways sign codeshare partnership

As part of the codeshare agreement, Air India will place its 'AI' designator code on Kenya Airways' twice-daily flights between Nairobi and Mumbai, offering passengers onward connectivity to destinations including Bangkok, Colombo, Dhaka, Malé, Melbourne, and Singapore via Mumbai. Conversely, Kenya Airways will place its 'KQ' designator code on Air India's flights between Delhi and Nairobi, facilitating seamless travel for African passengers to the Indian capital and beyond.



Air India to resume Tel Aviv-Delhi flights from March 2

Several major international airlines, including Air India, have announced plans to resume flights to Israel, providing relief to travelers. With ceasefires holding in the north and south, connectivity is set to expand. Airlines such as Air France, Lufthansa, British Airways, and Ryanair will gradually restart operations to Tel Aviv, offering increased flight frequency in the coming months.



Akasa Air secures investment from Premji invest to expand global reach

Akasa Air has signed agreements with leading investors to raise capital for its expansion plans. The consortium includes Premji Invest, Claypond Capital, 360 ONE Asset, and additional support from the Jhunjhunwala family. These investments will drive Akasa's ambitions to become a top 30 global airline, enhance customer experience, and promote long-term growth in India's aviation sector. The deals are subject to regulatory approval.



India and China agree to resume air travel after nearly five years

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi told Indian Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri in Beijing that the two countries should work in the same direction, explore more substantive measures and commit to mutual understanding. Relations have improved over the past four months with several high-level meetings, including talks between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Russia in October.



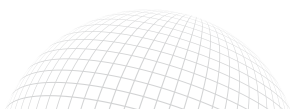
Lufthansa acquires 10% stake in Latvia's airBaltic to boost European presence

The stake will be issued in the form of convertible shares currently at a subscription price of 14 million euros (USD 14.56 million), but the stake size may be subject to change depending on the pricing of airBaltic's IPO, Lufthansa said. Lufthansa will also receive a seat in airBaltic's supervisory board, the German firm said.



Ryanair to add 7 new summer routes from London

Ryanair will introduce seven new routes from its London Stansted base as part of its 2025 summer schedule, the low-cost carrier announced on Wednesday (29 January). The Ireland-based carrier will launch flights to Bodrum, Clermont-Ferrand, Dalaman, Münster, Lübeck, Linz and Reggio Calabria this summer and will also add frequencies to existing London routes to Gdansk, Ibiza, Malaga, Milan, Rome, Turin and Valencia.



Mumbai airport T1 to be redeveloped, phase 1 starts in Nov 2025

The project will be executed in phases, starting with the demolition of the existing structure in November 2025. To ensure uninterrupted operations during the redevelopment, the capacity gap will be managed by CSMIA's Terminal 2 (T2) and the Navi Mumbai International Airport, which is set to commence operations in 2025.



London Heathrow unveils renovated VIP private terminal

London Heathrow has upgraded its private terminal for VIP travelers, which has been rebranded as The Windsor by Heathrow. The renovated terminal, formerly known as The Windsor Suite, is only available for first and business class passengers. It now features an upgraded atrium and lounges, alongside artworks from Banksy and Andy Warhol, which can be purchased by guests using a QR code.



E-visa enables 1.5x increase in Indian visitors travelling to Moscow

Moscow is strengthening its tourism ties with India, focusing on the MICE sector to boost business and leisure travel. The introduction of the e-visa system has driven a 1.5-fold increase in Indian visitors to Moscow in 2024. Moscow also showcased its offerings at the OTM International Tourism Exhibition in Mumbai, with a Moscow Business Mission and reception planned.



USA visa drop box eligibility changed from 48 months to 12 months

According to recent updates, the US visa dropbox time frame for visa renewal eligibility has reportedly changed, with the window for renewing an expired visa now being limited to 12 months from the expiry date, instead of the previous 48 months (four years) that was allowed during the pandemic period; meaning you can only use the dropbox option if your previous visa expired within the last year.



JW Marriott unveils Kaafu Atoll Island Resort in the Maldives

JW Marriott has unveiled its second resort in the Maldives, located in Kaafu Atoll. The luxurious retreat features 80 private pool villas, an innovative design blending local aesthetics with modern luxury, and a focus on sustainability. It offers world-class dining, wellness experiences, and family-oriented activities for guests.



Radisson Hotel Group Launches Park Inn & Suites in Bengaluru with Yelahanka debut

Radisson Hotel Group expands its presence in Bengaluru with the opening of Park Inn & Suites by Radisson Bengaluru Yelahanka. This marks the brand's debut in the city and its second operational hotel in India. The property, part of a master franchise partnership with Treebo Hospitality Ventures, aims to cater to midscale travelers and strengthen the group's footprint in key urban markets.





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