

TTW Europe

Volume:7, Issue: December 2018

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*Secret Small Towns In Europe
You Must Visit This Winter*

19. Secret Small Towns in Europe to Explore This Winter

04. Meetings Point:

Dresden is a step ahead, a pioneer in German biotechnology, life sciences, mechanical and plant engineering, the city keeps attracting more companies each day.

19. Cover Story: Although Europe is gorgeous throughout the year but **winter has a special feel**. Many cities are their most charming in December and keeps enchanting holidaymakers.

12. Destination Diary: **Wales** is markedly different from its English neighbours and known for the rugged landscape. Throughout the year a plethora of music festivals and events are organised both indoors and outdoors.

26. Special Feature: One of the most beautiful valley not just in Slovenia but in the entire Europe, **Logar Valley** will take you back in time with its stunning views and majestic mountains.



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From the Editor's Desk

Dear Readers,

Europe has a unique sparkle, its epic history, scenic beauty and rapidly changing globalized zones is a key attraction for worldwide visitors. The country is blissful when the temperature goes down, most of the cities are crowd-free and inexpensive during this season and one can yearn for cosy experiences. Read our Cover Story on Must Visit Winter Destinations in Europe to get a glimpse of the snow –dusted cities, Christmas markets and the glittering frosts.

Destination diary invites you to discover Wales, Britain's most sociable city. It has exciting landscapes, untouched valleys, sleepy villages and wild coastlines. Be there to experience the incredible natural beauty and its refreshing musical events.

Europe's leading high-tech hub Dresden is highlighted in our chapter Meetings Point. The Saxon capital is dynamically placed for business offerings and is perfectly suited for comprehensive meetings and conference services.

Logar Valley is stunning in all seasons, the most beautiful Alpine glacial valley in Europe is rich in tradition and harmony. Go through our Special Feature to know more about the popular destination.

Travelling to Europe is more than adventure and just plain fun. It is inspiring, educative and immersive!

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Meetings Point



Dresden

Convergence of Convention and Culture

Dresden, the capital city of the Free State of Saxony in Germany, is characterised as attractive, likeable and distinct city.

Having a long history as the royal residence of the Electors and the Kings of Saxony, Dresden exudes cultural and artistic grandeur. Every nook and corner of the city narrates a tale — a leaf plucked from the annals of history.

The attractive city presents the play of duality where disparate elements twirl together — splendid past and promising future, cultural umbra and modern outlook. Dresden is an international centre of arts and culture as well as a high-tech hub comprising research centres and conference



venues. It is one of Europe's advanced high-tech locations, leading the way in electronics, IT, biotechnology, nanotechnology and photovoltaics. Visitors come to Dresden for both business and leisure.

It is one of the greenest cities of Europe, having 63 per cent as green areas and forests. The protected gardens, parkways, parks and old graveyards host 110 natural monuments in the city. Punctuated in this green spread are enchanting buildings, well-equipped meeting points and venues.



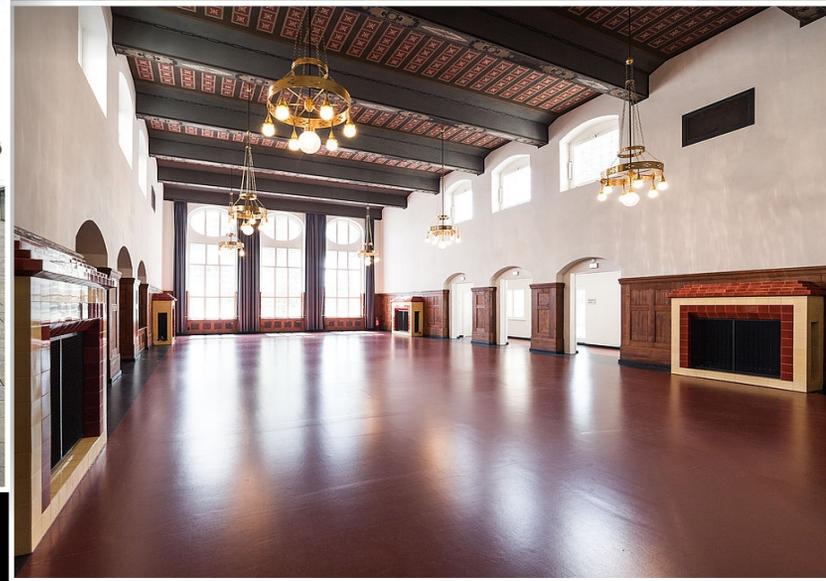
Convention Centres & Meetings Point

According to the International Congress and Convention Association (ICCA) 2017 statistics, Germany ranks as the top meeting destination in Europe. It ranks second in the world for international association meetings. Within Germany, Dresden ranks third having ascended from the earlier sixth rank.



The International Congress Centre Dresden (ICD)

The International Congress Centre Dresden (ICD) is considered to be one of Europe's most modern congress centres. It can accommodate over 6,000 conference participants. Perched on the Elbe embankment, the world-class structure with its curved lines silhouettes the flowing river in the landscape. A high cantilever roof represents Dresden's leap into the future.



Börse Dresden

The Börse Dresden is a fair and exhibition area in Dresden. The exhibition centre is operated by MESSE DRESDEN GmbH. The convention centre in addition to the exhibition space of Messe Dresden can host up to 10,000 Congress participants. The advanced conference venue Börse Dresden is built within the 100-year-old building complex.



Dresden Soaring High

Being well connected, Dresden is witnessing in arrivals and night stays across both categories - leisure and business.

The arrivals in Dresden reached 1,453,251, between January to August 2018 while the overnight stays were 2,962,981 as per the Dresden Marketing GmbH data. In August 2018, 23.4% of visitors had come from abroad.

In 2017, total visitors staying overnight for an average of 2 days was 2.2 million. The number of overnight stays recorded in 2017 was 4.4 million. As of 31st Dec. 2017, there were 100+ hotels with over 20,000 beds.

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Some other venues for meetings are Hotel Taschenbergpalais Kempinski Dresden, Hyperion Hotel Dresden am Schloss, The Westin Bellevue Dresden, NH Dresden Neustadt, Stiftung Deutsches Hygiene-Museum, Kurländer Palais and Albertinum. The international airport of Dresden lies just six miles from the city centre. Dresden is therefore well connected to destinations in Europe, North Africa and the Middle East.

Dresden's main station is integral to the network of high-speed Intercity-Express (ICE), Eurocity (EC) and Intercity (IC) trains. Comprehensive public transport network through bus and tram lines make travel within the city seamless.

Top Tourist Attractions

The city of Dresden showcases its cultural and historical contours at every corner through beautiful old buildings, museums, Opera House, churches and more. Here are the top four attractions in Dresden.

Grünes Gewölbe in Dresden

Founded by Augustus the Strong in 1723, the Grünes Gewölbe (Green Vault) in Dresden is home to the largest collection of treasures in Europe. It derives its name from the malachite green painted column bases and capitals of the initial rooms. It was restored after being damaged in World War II.

There are two exhibitions showcasing the treasures — the Historic Green Vault (Historisches Grünes Gewölbe) and the New Green Vault (Neues Grünes Gewölbe) which focuses on each individual object in neutral rooms.



Meißen Porcelain Town

Meissen is home to Meissen porcelain, the Albrechtsburg castle, the Gothic Meissen Cathedral and the Meissen Frauenkirche. The cradle of Saxony is famous for the manufacture of porcelain and attracts visitors from far and wide. Visitors can witness the processes that go into the production of a typical Meissen item. A walking tour of Meissen's historic old town generally culminates in a steep climb to the Albrechtsburg, Germany's oldest residential castle.

Zwinger Palace

Zwinger Palace is globally famous for its beautiful baroque architecture. In the present times, the Zwinger Palace comprises a museum complex that contains the Gemäldegalerie Alte Meister (Old Masters Picture Gallery), the Dresden Porcelain Collection (Dresdener Porzellansammlung) and the Royal Cabinet of Mathematical and Physical Instruments (Mathematisch-Physikalischer Salon).

Pillnitz Castle

Pillnitz Castle is the largest stately home in Europe built in 'Chinoise' style. Visitors pour from all over the world to admire the architecture and the park of this palace that features 2,000 trees and over 600 potted plants. The 230-year-old camellia blossoms from February to April.

Etch a wonderful experience on the porcelain of your memory as you walk through the Dresden paths and project a bright future in the high-tech convention centres.

Travel News



U.S. Department of Commerce: International visitors to U.S. expected to break record in 2023

After suspending visitor data earlier this year over a computer glitch and revising past data the U.S. Department of Commerce released international visitation to the United States for the next five years.

It was forecasted this week by the Commerce Department that more than 95 million international travellers will be visiting the United States in 2023. From the previous update in January the latest forecast remains more positive for 2018 and it is expected by the department that there will be more than 81 million international arrivals which will be a record as compared to the previous forecast of 78 million. Overseas arrivals will grow 5 percent year-over-year in 2018 if Canada and Mexico is excluded. India, Colombia, and China will be among the standout market by 2023 and is expected to grow by 46, 35, and 30 percent respectively, from 2017 to 2023. International tourism for economic growth was discussed by the U.S. Travel Association and CEOs of major U.S hotel companies like Marriott and Hilton met with President Donald Trump at the White House.

Cyprus sees the arrival of 3.67 million visitors up to October 2018

Buoyed by the arrivals of Russian, British and Israeli tourists, Cyprus sets a new record. Official data shows that it clocked 3.67 million visitors up to October 2018. It has already broken its 2017 record of 3.65 million visitors with two more months to go in 2018. Arrivals for the months January to October was 3.40 million in 2017 as per the Cyprus statistical service (Cystat). The largest market for Cyprus for the period January to October, 2018 is the U.K. (1,245,718), followed by Russia (752,267), and Israel (215,019). In 2017, 3.65 million tourists spent an unprecedented 2.6 billion Euros. In October alone, arrivals of tourists increased 6.6 per cent to 433,617 from 406,870 in October 2017. Poland and Ukraine are the emerging tourist markets for Cyprus. It is considered as safer than its competitors Egypt, Tunisia, and Turkey which are facing a situation of unrest. The tourism boom is helping the economy of Cyprus. It accounts for 15 per cent of the country's gross domestic product and is fueling a quick recovery of its financial status.

Shanghai launches world's first underground luxury hotel

Shanghai opens the world's first underground hotel. The luxury hotel has two floors above the ground and 16 below where two floors are underwater. The hotel is in the Sheshan Mountain Range on the fringes of Shanghai. There is a cascading glass waterfall and exposed rock. One can view the surrounding quarry and the underwater suites features in-room aquarium allowing the guests to watch shoals of fish swimming. There are other adventures available like rock climbing, kayaking, walking across the glass-floor skywalk. There is a Quarry Bar, night light show inside the hotel's location. Lin Wang, CMO of Greater China, IHG said that the InterContinental Shanghai Wonderland is an architectural masterpiece. The hotel was ready to welcome guests with the exceptional and personalised services taking them to a world of alluring luxury and natural wonder. British firm Atkins has built the property, it had also conceptualized the Burj Al Arab in Dubai and skyscraper Landmark 81 in Ho Chi Minh City.

Krabi bags Global Low-Carbon Ecological Scenic Spot Award

Krabi was awarded the 'Global Low-Carbon Ecological Scenic Spot' at an award ceremony held at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in Bangkok. The award ceremony was given at the Annual Session of Global Forum on Human Settlements (GFHS) and Sustainable Cities and

Human Settlements Awards (SCAHS) ceremony held on 30-31 October, 2018.

The two-day meeting was organized under the theme of "Advancing Urban Innovations to Achieve SDG 11 and New Urban Agenda". It was attended by more than 400 participants from 40 countries to conclude the observance of Urban October.

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities is a cornerstone of localising the 17 SDGs. The 2018 Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements Awards were presented to 36 winners in seven categories.



Brazil attracts its visitors by promoting nature tourism

Brazil's impressive ecosystem and natural parks will play a key role in increasing the visitor numbers in the coming years.

The Ministries of Environment and Tourism, the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMbio) and the Brazilian Institute of Tourism (Embratur) has signed an agreement that will focus on promotion of nature tourism that will be conserving protected areas.

The overall international promotion of ecotourism destinations will be checked by Embratur, it will also

studying good practices that can be applied in Brazil and other countries. There are 324 conservation areas in Brazil which covers 9% of the territory, 72 are national parks covering a total area of 26 million hectares. The partnership has already been established by four national parks- Iguassu Falls in Parana, the replanted forest of Tijuca and the mountains of Serra dos Orgaos in Rio de Janeiro and the Atlantic archipelago of Fernando de Noronha. In the year 2017 Brazil saw 6.6 million visitors in 2017 more than 2016 at the time when Olympics was held in Rio de Janeiro. In 2014 during the World Cup there were 6.4 million.



Wales



A hotbed of distinct culture!

Magical castles, stunning coastlines, fascinating traditions, Wales, the emerging European destination's distinct culture receives everyone with open arms.

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It is geologically diverse with natural escapades – undulating mountains, river valleys and extensive network of paths, wildlife sanctuaries and more.

The 'Land of the Song' is just a drive or rail journey away from London and has around 641 castles, 3 national parks, 750 miles of waterfront and 11 million sheep.



Welsh culture is incomplete without choral music; the country is known for male choirs, operas and hymn singing.

Groove in these music festivals



Green Man Festival is doted by leading media as Heaven. It is the most attended music festival in Wales. Experience a number of music stages and activities with the entire family along with weekend camping in the Beacons.



National Eisteddfod of Wales attracts more than 150,000 visitors annually. It is the perfect mix of pageantry and poetry, dance, theatre, choral singing and rock music.

Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod lures musicians and dancers from around the world. The popular classical artist Luciano Pavarotti performed internationally for the first time as a young adult.



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Gregynog Festival is UK's best classical music event. The oldest festival in Wales chooses venues across the country as per the annual theme.

More than 200 bands perform at **Focus Wales**, the annual showcase event for the Welsh music industry in Wrexham North Wales.

Festival of Voice was initially curated to celebrate the Wales' famous connection with song to relish the positive effects of singing. Voice in all forms is celebrated in the international arts festival.



Must-see attractions

Step back in time by visiting the iconic **Cardiff Castle** which has a history of more 2,000 years from Roman soldiers to Victorian nobles. Its traditional banquets are popular.

Popular among hikers and ramblers, **Snowdon** is the highest mountain in Wales for those seeking the ultimate retreat from monotony. Explore the sweeping landscapes of the nearby Snowdonia National Park.

Brecon Beacons is also famous among hikers due to its varying landscapes.

Head to **Bordant Garden** for a picturesque walk. The botanical masterpiece has Italian terraces and its garden blooms with plants, lawns, ponds and woodlands.

Located on the banks of the river Estuary is the **Pembroke Castle**, the birthplace of Henry VII. It has passageways, spectacular views and caverns.

Portmeirion is an Italian-inspired village with intricate architecture and floral features – in short, an ideal romantic destination.

Head to **Skomer Island** located off the Pembrokeshire coast during April and September for bird watching. The flower-carpeted island has hundreds of puffins wandering around along with other birds and wildlife. Many lakes and gardens have dragonflies and butterflies and most of the coasts are resplendent with starfish, crabs, rock pools, dolphins etc. End your day by the fire in the charming pubs with live music and good food.

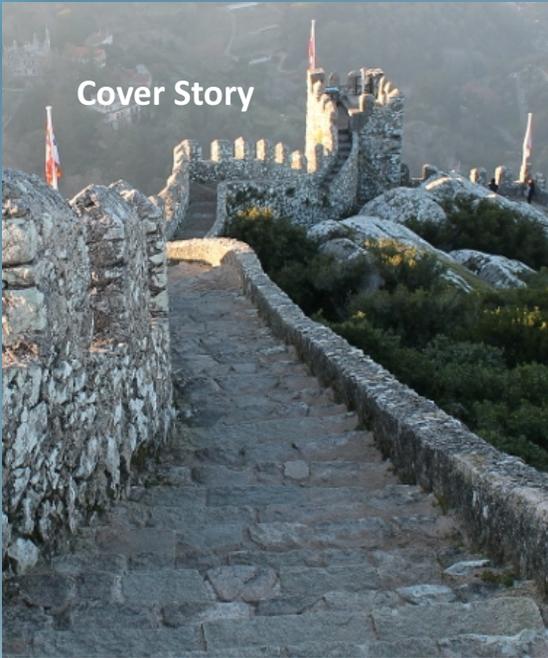
Visitors can indulge in ecotourism and adventure activities like hiking, ziplining, subterranean trampolines and white water rapids to add more zing to the trip.



Although a relatively small country, Wales will keep visitors abound through its rolling hills, atmospheric

scenery, pristine lakes, world-class beaches and nature reserves.

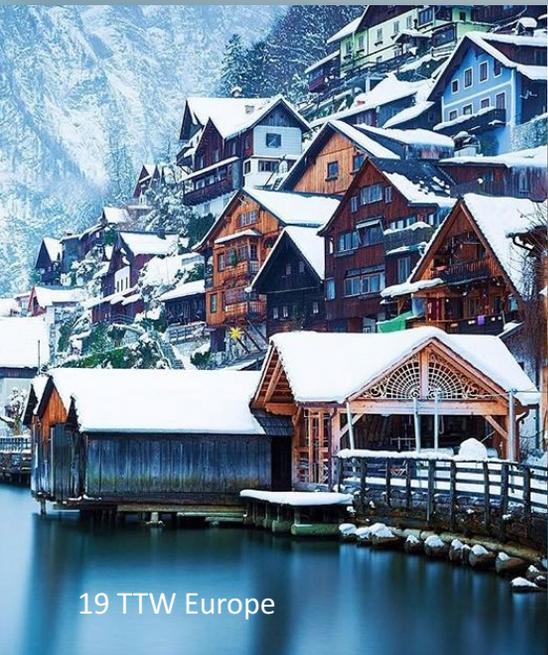
Cover Story



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Secret Small Towns in Europe to Explore This Winter

If you are thinking to visit some of the offbeat destinations in Europe, then visit the small towns and cities that are filled with old-world charm and incredible scenic beauty. So, end your search and read our picks. From the Norwegian fjords and the magnificent Alps to sun-splashed Greek islands and everything in between, these are some of the most beautiful small secret towns in Europe.





Cesky Krumlov, Czech Republic

Czech Republic's finest medieval site is Cesky Krumlov. It is a quaint, charming, fairy-tale town in southern Bohemia. Discover its history by exploring the small cobblestone roads, bridges and castles. It is a gorgeous place and is the mix of medieval Gothic Renaissance and baroque buildings nestled amongst the greenery and the glittering river that winds through them all. Looks like little Prague in many ways. You can find here plenty of cafeterias and bars. It is a magical place in winter once the crowds are gone and the castle is covered with thick snow.



Colmar, France

France's most enchanted city, Colmar is country's true hidden gem. Find here a unique blend of French and Germany architecture, culture and spirit. It is a preserved medieval village, with traditional half-timbered houses, an abundance of overflowing flower pots and uneven cobblestone streets. It is the capital of the Alsatian wines, offering visitors with an exciting glimpse of 1000 years of European history. The homogenous historical centre is noted as a "protected area" and has benefited from careful restoration and ongoing improvements.



Hallstatt, Austria

The lakeside town of Hallstatt is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and has even been dubbed as the prettiest lakeside village in Austria. Hallstatt is such an unbelievably stunning place that even the Chinese have created a copy of the ancient salt mine village. The market municipality was already inhabited in the 1st millennium before Christ: during this period, that is the Iron Age, the civilization flourished. The boats gulp peacefully across the lake from the train station to the village, situated precariously on a narrow stretch of land between mountain and shore.



Bruges, Belgium

Bruges is a tranquil city that will capture your heart. Its city centre is a UNESCO Heritage Site. Bruges has significant economic importance for its ports and colleges. Criss-crossed by canals, inside its ring of moats and ramparts, the cosy city and its riches seem a single work of art. Previously, Bruges was a seaport. It remains to be a waterborne city; its canals form a wide network that links to the North Sea.



Bled, Slovenia

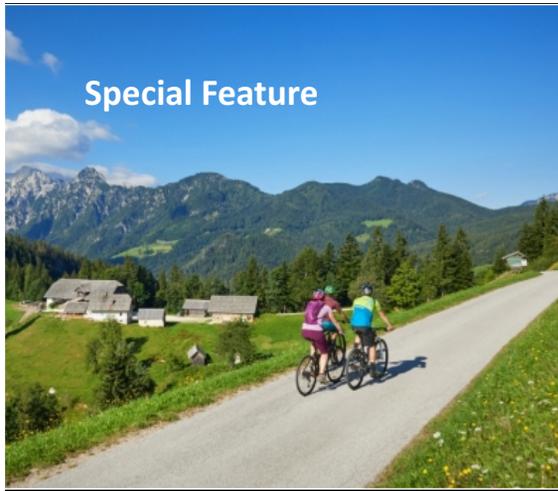
The greatest attraction of Bled is undeniably the Lake Bled. It is one of the world's most stunning lakes and a favourite for visitors to Slovenia. It draws thousands of honeymooners for its romantic setting. The backpackers can also come here for hiking, biking, water sports and canyoning possibilities.



Sintra, Portugal

Portugal's finest fairy-tale city is Sintra. Just a short half day trip from the capital city Lisbon, Sintra is one of the most mystical little towns. You can see the castles and places built by the Moors. Sintra feels like crossing over into another world. This town is in a green mountains cape of palaces, country estates, parks and a medieval castle. The Palace of Sintra, located in the centre of the town, it was a residence of the Portuguese royalty.

Special Feature



Spreading its vista across the wide sky, Logar Valley draws the visitors into the immenseness of Nature's perpetuity. Plucked as if from the frame of a painting, it reflects the innate silence that

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dwells in a person's heart. The Logar Valley is one of the most beautiful Alpine glacial valleys in Europe. Known as Logarska Dolina, it is a U-shaped glacial valley, studded in the Kamnik-Savinja Alps, in

the Municipality of Solčava, Slovenia. Created by a glacier during the Ice Age, Logar Valley is surrounded by steep mountain ranges — Krofička, Ojstrica, Planjava, Brana, Turska Gora, Rinke, Strelovec and more.



Logar valley is divided into three parts. The lower part is named Log, the middle part Plest or Plestje and the upper part Kot or Ogradec. While the Log and Plest are mostly the meadows, the Kot is a wooded area with scree slopes.

Logarska Dolina is derived from the Logar farm. The word 'Logar' is derived from word log meaning swampy meadow. The valley received protected status as a landscape park in 1987. It is spread over an area of 24.75 sq.km.



LOGAR VALLEY

Europe's most beautiful valley

Nature's Art Pieces

Ethnographic trail A walking path, an ethnographic trail that passes through the 7km long Logar Valley takes the visitors through the nook and corner of pristine nature. Some of the interesting features sprinkled on this path are the mighty boulders, huts of a woodcutter and a charcoal-burner, hunting blind and a giant juniper. The trail ends at Rinka Falls and it takes 2-3 hours to traverse this pathway.

Rinka Falls The splendid 90 m high arc of water, Rinka Falls is the highest single and unbroken waterfall in Slovenia and has been proclaimed a natural monument in 1987. The Savinja stream rises from several outlets under the Okrešelj Basin. It flows to the cliff-like edge of the glaciated Logarska Dolina Valley. It then pours over the Orlovo Gnezdo and into the natural amphitheatre at the valley's upper end. The Rinka waterfall is the most beautiful and most visited part of the trail. Past the waterfall, the trail leads to the Frischauf Hut on Okrešelj and into the high mountain range.



Spring of Črna

Savinja river springs from the second source called Spring of Črna. The stream that flows as the Rinka Waterfall disappears deep into the rocky ground. When the water flow reaches the impermeable Werfen strata further down the valley, the stream reappears as the Črna (meaning black). It gets the

black colour due to the dark sedimentary clays. This stream then flows to the lower end of the Logarska Dolina Valley where it meets the Jezera stream. At this point, it becomes the Savinja. This source has been proclaimed as a natural heritage. Jezera stream flows from the neighbouring Matkov Kot Valley.



Logar's Linden and Plesnik's Elm

Logar's Linden is an integral part of the lower part of the Logarska Dolina Valley. The 24 m high tree can be found 300 m from the Logar farmstead on the left side of the road. The trunk has a girth of 4.85 m. It has been protected as a natural heritage since 1987.

Another beauty tucked in the Logarska Dolina's panoramic landscape is the 25 m high Plesnik's elm. It grows on the Plesnik farm (at Plest) with a trunk circumference of 3.7 m.

These trees generate immense curiosity and have deep aesthetic value.





The glacier that covered the summit of Zabrložnica during the Ice Age formed a basin. The basin is enclosed by rock walls that can go up as high as 70 m. Over the years, a 40 m high cave was formed. It is the source of roaring Brložnica Falls as well. Brložnica stream emerges underground and at an altitude of 1122 m, the stream whorls into a 9 m waterfall. The Brložnica Falls consists of four waterfalls.

The Brložnica cave

Apart from the wonders of natural jewels, Logar valley presents a boutique of activities including skiing, sledging, ice climbing, hiking, cycling, paragliding and others for the daredevils.

The panoramic and pristine expanse of the Logar valley wraps and folds into natural art pieces – waterfalls, caves, steep mountain ranges, streams and fauna and flora. Considered as Europe's most beautiful valley, Logarska Dolina is a must inclusion in the travel bucket list.



Roads less travelled lead to beautiful destinations.

Way to the Logar Valley

Logar Valley can be reached by car from Ljubljana, Celje and Maribor (and Croatia and Italy) and Klagenfurt/Celovec (Austria). Some of the routes that lead to the Logar valley are Route 428 past Pavličovo sedlo and Route 225.

Solcava is the nearest village and has year-round bus services to the Logar Valley. Solčava, the municipality centre, is 4 km from Logarska Dolina. There are bus rides to and fro Celje - Logarska Dolina, and Celje – Solčava.

The nearest airports are in Klagenfurt and Maribor.

EUROPE

FESTIVALS

The people of Europe will be delighted with glory, fun, light and enjoyment, as winter is approaching. Visit Europe during these festivals, which mirror its culture that brings glee to every visitor. Discover the beauty of Christmas and New Year's fireworks in Europe and feel the urban adventure.

Amsterdam Light Festival

Date: 29 Nov 2018- 20 Jan 2019, Place: Amsterdam, Netherlands

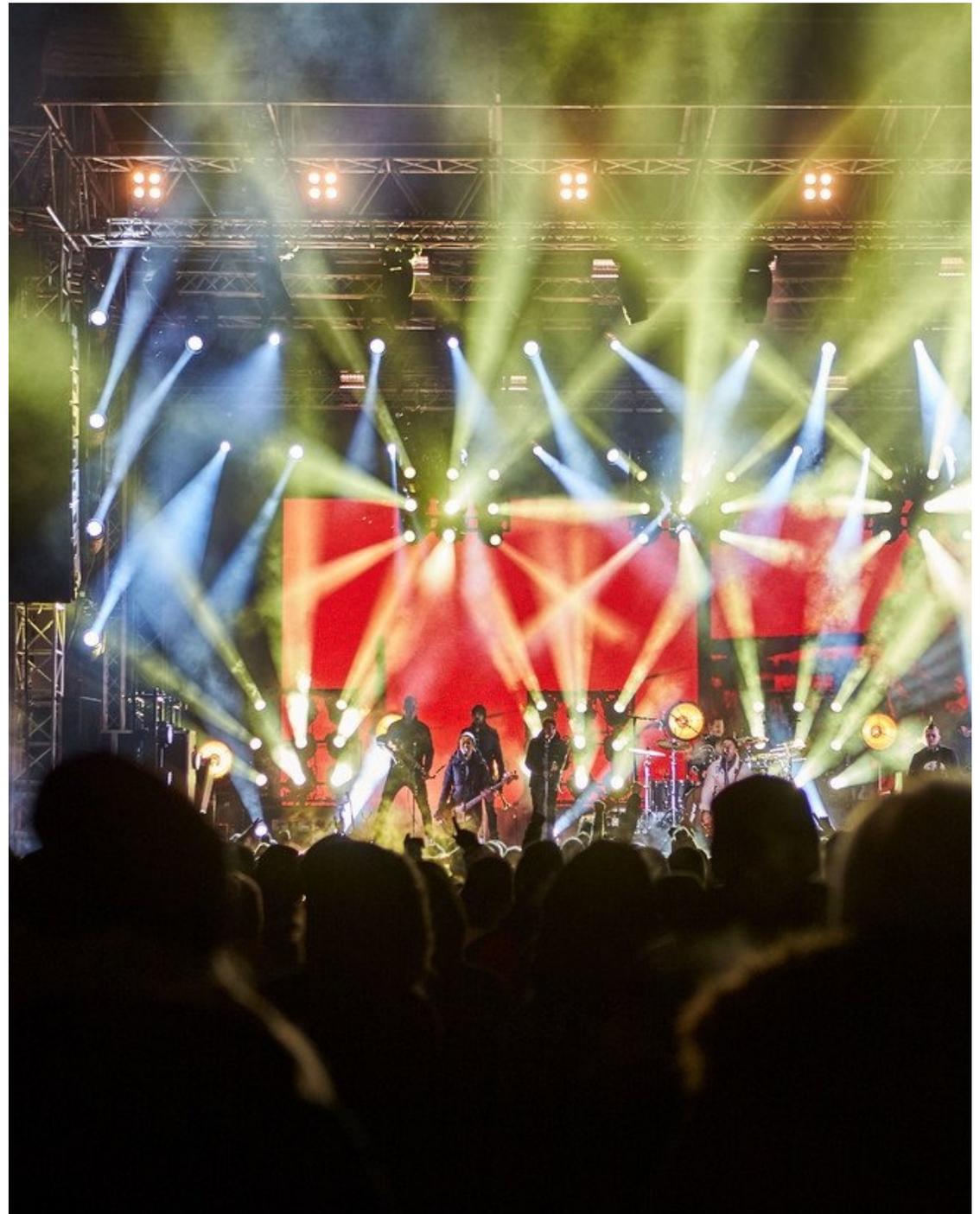
Amsterdam Light Festival marks the congregation of hundreds of designers, architects and artists from around the world, displaying their artworks which make the city bright and dazzling. Aspirants can also take inspiration from works of renowned artists also. This festival makes the city illuminating and transforming all of its familiar monuments in magical and surprising new ways.



BERGFESTival

Date: 7 Dec 2018 – 9 Dec 2018 Place: Saalbach, Austria

This rural fest will welcome with peace and calm ambience filled with snow, but the flavours of adventure will dominate if you participate. Over 200 kilometres of perfect sloping ground with ice perfect for skiing, the lip smacking foods from taverns and the white mountain are surely money's worth.



Edinburgh's Hogmanay

Date: 31 Dec 2018-1 Jan, 2019, Place: Edinburgh, Scotland

Enjoy your New Years Eve with 3 days long unlimited and lavish fun, food and drink, making the world's biggest version of music, bringing the fantastic Scottish cultural heritage to you, beneath the mind arresting edifice of historically popular Edinburgh Castle- an iconic tourist attraction that dominated the skyline of city Edinburgh.



London New Year's Eve Fireworks

Date: 31 Dec 2018 Place: London, United Kingdom

Hear the bongs of Big Ben and spot the UK's largest annual fireworks display at Victoria Embankment in Westminster welcoming the New Year, forming a very special night with the best foods offering by London's best restaurants and the dinner cruise on River Thames.



East Mediterranean International Tourism and Travel Exhibition (EMITT 2019)

23rd EMITT Exhibition is opening the doors on January 31st, 2019. EMITT is one of the largest tourism exhibitions in the world, will be held between January 31 and February 3. The exhibition is preparing to host more than 60,000 visitors from 90 countries.

The exhibition will be held with the support of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Istanbul Governorship, Metropolitan Municipality of İstanbul as well as the corporate sponsorship of Turkish Airlines and business partnership of the Turkish Hoteliers Federation supported by KOSGEB (Small and Medium Industry Development Organization) and Turkish Tourism Investors Association.

Ersoy, The Minister of Culture and Tourism said that it is a great success for EMITT to gain the title of the 4th largest tourism exhibition in the world through a rapid progress over the years. Besides this important success, in such an era in which EMITT is moving towards to become the leader country in the world tourism. Its aim is to take this success as a step further by ensuring that the organization is among the top 3 of

the world tourism exhibitions and its impact in the tourism market is maximized.

The organiser of international exhibitions in Turkey's industries fueling the economy, ITE Turkey East Mediterranean International Tourism and Travel Exhibition (EMITT) opens the doors at TUYAP Fair, Convention, and Congress Center between January 31 and February 3 in 2019.

The number of foreign visitors is expected to see a record-high in this year's exhibition which is considered as an exhibition that creates great value for its participants and prepares the ground for important collaborations.

This year, around 900 invited tour operators from more than 100 countries including Asia, Europe, Far East, and Latin America will participate in the "invited tour operator" program organized each year as part of the exhibition in cooperation with Travel Shop Turkey.

When: January 31 and February 3, 2018
Where: Istanbul, Turkey

The Minister of Culture and Tourism, Mehmet Nuri Ersoy said that as well as being held in Turkey, a country surrounded by natural beauties, a rich history, diversity of culture, and superior service quality in tourism industry that only a few countries in the world may have, the importance of EMITT also comes from bringing together the tourism professionals and industry representatives from all around the world. The exhibition plays a decisive role for our country's and the world tourism as it enables discussions on the recent developments of the tourism market, sectoral analyzes, and decision-making regarding the future steps in line with the global developments.

Mehmet Nuri Ersoy also said that he would also like to draw attention to another important aspect of this year's EMITT Exhibition. As is known, on the occasion of the 95th anniversary of our Republic, they officially opened the Istanbul Airport. This project, which is a source of pride for the rising Turkey, without doubt, is one of the most important investments to save the future of tourism with regard to the tourism activities in Istanbul and Turkey.

He also added that the new airport already become the largest "hub" of the Eastern Mediterranean, the Balkans, and the Caucasus regions with its capacity. Since the opening, they have witnessed the impact of the new airport when we look at the demands of

the industry. It is obvious that this impact will have positive effects on every platform, especially on EMITT Exhibition.

Hacer Aydın, Tourism & Travel & Fashion Group Director of ITE Turkey, said that the 23rd EMITT Tourism Exhibition have provided a substantial contribution to the Tourism industry, and she believed that they would be more successful than the previous year and also stated that: Last year, EMITT hosted 1,065 exhibitors and 54,364 visitors from 85 countries. This year, the organisers are preparing to host thousands of participants and more than 60,000 visitors from 90 countries.

EMITT substantially contributes to the economy, tourism, and country brand of Turkey. Last year, there was also a great demand for the exhibition we organize each year and this year, once again, the demand for participation from foreign countries is very high. This shows that we're doing the right thing. Hence, these results motivates the world to accelerate business performance in order to provide greater benefit to the country.

According to the data recently announced by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Russia, Germany, Iran, Georgia, and Bulgaria are the top 5 countries among tourist-sending countries of Turkey. The number of foreign tourists visiting Turkey increased by 24.9 percent in the first 7 months of 2018 and reached up to 21.64 million people.

FITUR, the International Tourism Trade Fair, will provide a global meeting point for tourism industry professionals, and will once again become the leading event for both inbound and outbound Latin American tourism, welcoming professionals from all across the world at Feria de Madrid from 23 to 27 January 2019. This year's event will offer new features and initiatives focused on increasing sectoral representation, internationalisation and FITUR's standing. Alongside this, the trade fair will maintain its commitment to the development of new technologies and sustainability as key aspects in the transformation of the industry.

All this goes hand-in-hand with the impressive growth shown by Spanish outbound tourism, which in 2017 saw a 12.4% increase in spending during trips abroad, amounting to a total of 19,600 million euros, according to the World Tourism Organization.

In this way, Spain is again climbing the rankings in the leading outbound tourism markets, where it now holds 13th position. One of the important new features for FITUR 2019 is the enlargement of the exhibition area to incorporate Hall 2 at Feria de Madrid. This will provide a centralised area for Middle Eastern tourist destinations, with the whole of Hall 4

set aside for Europe. The other areas will follow the usual layout.

At the same time, FITUR 2019 is adding a new section for film tourism, promoted by the Spain Film Commission (SFC), in response to the growing interest in visiting filming locations for popular movies and series. The fair will also continue to work on specialisation and the consolidation of its various specific areas, including FITUR Festivales, FITUR GAY (LGBT), FITUR SALUD, as well as the sections FITURTECHY and FITUR KNOW HOW.

Technology, like sustainability, will continue to put its stamp on the event as an essential lever for growth in the sector and for its progress toward the concept of intelligent tourism. In this vein, the FUNDACIÓN IFEMA LAB Foundation will continue with its work on the 'Feria Aumentada' (Enhanced Trade Fair) project, a ground-breaking initiative for FITUR.

Another of the focal points for this year's event will be the various seminars and activities offered during the trade fair, organised by international entities such as the World Tourism Organization

When: 23 to 27 January 2019

Where: Feria de Madrid, Madrid, Spain



(UNWTO), the Latin American Conference of Tourism Ministers and Entrepreneurs (CIMET) and INVESTOUR, who will this year be joined by theWorld Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC).

FITUR 2019 is gearing up for one of its most comprehensive events, with new concepts, trends

and strategies aimed at consolidating and improving the outcomes achieved at last year's event, which brought together 251,000 participants and played host to more than 6,800 business meetings.

World Travel Market



When: 5 – 7 November 2018

Where: ExCeL London, United Kingdom

WTM London 2018, was full of ideas and its co-located sister event Travel Forward experienced a massive 6% increase in visitors fuelled by an increase in senior travel and tourism industry professionals attending the event, according to unaudited figures.

Travel Forward is a new travel technology event co-located with WTM London 2018 and part of the WTM portfolio of events.

The inaugural Travel Forward conference, exhibition and buyer programme took place between 5 – 7 November 2018 at ExCeL London, showcasing next-generation technology for travel and hospitality.

WTM London 2018 saw visitor numbers – including exhibitor invitees, WTM Buyers' Club members and trade visitors - increase by 6% to 32,700.

Furthermore, members of the international media increased by 1% to 2,700. Overall participant numbers increased to 51,409 – making it one of the highest attended of the 39 WTM London's that took place since its launch in 1980.

The record number of visitors to WTM London – surpassing 2014's figure of 32,462 – was fuelled by a massive 39% increase in the key benchmark of exhibitor invitee visitors. Exhibitor invitees are among the most important and senior professionals

in the travel and tourism industry, invited by exhibitors on the invite-only first day of the event to conduct high-level meetings and conclude business deals. A total of 17,567 exhibitor invitees attended WTM London across the three days of the event (Monday 5 – Wednesday 7 November), compared to 12,662 at the 2017 edition.

In total, WTM London experienced almost 89,000 (88,742) visits across the three days. The first day of the event saw 27,240, day two experienced 38,035 visits and the final day of the event saw 23,467 people in attendance.



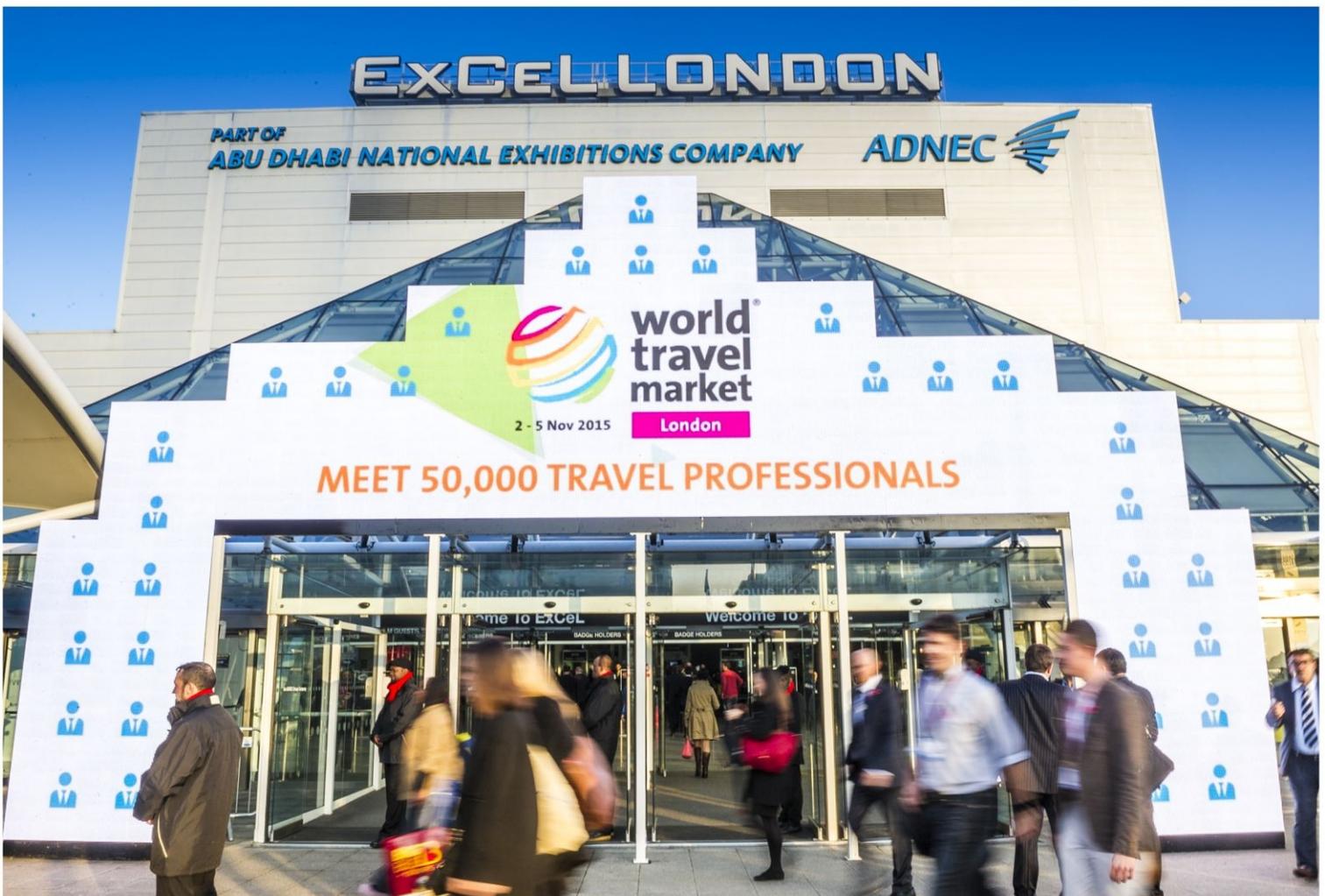
The event was also visited by 9,325 member of the prestigious WTM Buyers' Club alongside the exhibitor invitees these visitors will sign deals with exhibitors worth more than £3 billion.

Total participant numbers increased by 3% from 49,685 in 2017 to 51,409 in 2018.

WTM London 2018 was given a greater regional focus with the introduction of five regional Inspiration Zones – UK & I and International Hub, Europe, Asia, Americas and Middle East and Africa. These Inspiration Zones led to an increase in

content, ideas and inspiration for participants to take back to their business and implement to help fuel the growth of the travel and tourism industry.

This strategy saw a greater number of senior CEOs and tourism ministers taking part in the content programme – including easyJet's CEO Johan Lundgren and UK tourism minister Michael Ellis. While more research was added to the programme – including dedicated regional research sessions -- from respected research organisations including Euromonitor International, Mintel, ForwardKeys and Nielsen.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Indywood Film Carnival 2018

Hyderabad, India

www.indywood.co.in

1- 5 December



ILTM Cannes

Cannes, Cedex, France

www.iltm.com/cannes/

3-6 December



Avia DEV

Palacio de Congresos de Valencia, Spain

www.aviationdevelop.com/

3-5 December



Hotelier KSA & UAE Events

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

www.events.ide-global.com/hospitality/ksa/

3- 4 December



HOTELIER SUMMIT
KSA & UAE

5th Athens International Tourism Expo

Athens, Greece

<https://aite.gr/en/>

7- 9 December



Hotelier Summit Asia

Jakarta, Indonesia

www.events.ide-global.com/hospitality/asia/

5- 6 December



Uzakrota Travel Summit 2018

Uzakrota, Turkey

www.uzakrota.com

[/tag/uzakrota-travel-summit-2018//](#)

12 December

@Uzakrota

Brussels Travel Expo

Brussels, Belgium

www.btexpo.com/



10-11 December

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