

TPB MEMBER INFO UPDATE: COVID 19



DOT RESPONSE TEAMS ASSIST OVER 10,000 TRAVELERS

DEEPER REVENUE HIT FROM COVID-19

LIVES BEING DEVASTATED AND ONE MILLION JOBS A DAY BEING LOST DUE TO CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

AND MORE

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Department of Tourism -Philippines, 24 March 2020

Manila -At least 10,300 individuals, mostly foreign travelers affected by the enhanced community quarantine, have been assisted as of Tuesday, March 24, 2020 by the Department of Tourism (DOT), Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat disclosed.

From this number, 7,915 are tourists assisted through sweepster flights that transported stranded tourists from various destinations to the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) and Clark International Airport, in joint efforts with Philippine Airlines, Cebu Pacific, Air Asia and Air Swift. Chartered flights were also made available to move stranded tourists.

Five sweepster flights carried stranded tourists out of Siargao to Clark Airport last Saturday and Sunday.

At least four sweepster flights will fly out of Boracay Island over the weekend, with two more scheduled on Thursday March 26. Meanwhile, additional sweepster flights will fly out of Iloilo, Tacloban, and Cagayan de Oro tomorrow, March 25.

Three sweepster flights are set to leave from Davao and Puerto Princesa on March 26.

*To read full article:
http://www.tourism.gov.ph/news_features/DOTResponseTeams.aspx*

Deeper Revenue Hit from COVID-19

IATA, 24 March 2020

Geneva - The International Air Transport Association (IATA) updated its analysis of the revenue impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the global air transport industry. Owing to the severity of travel restrictions and the expected global recession, IATA now estimates that industry passenger revenues could plummet \$252 billion or 44% below 2019's figure. This is in a scenario in which severe travel restrictions last for up to three months, followed by a gradual economic recovery later this year.



"The airline industry faces its gravest crisis..."

"The airline industry faces its gravest crisis. Within a matter of a few weeks, our previous worst case scenario is looking better than our latest estimates. But without immediate government relief measures, there will not be an industry left standing. Airlines need \$200 billion in liquidity support simply to make it through. Some governments have already stepped forward, but many more need to follow suit," said IATA's Director General and CEO, Alexandre de Juniac.

Slower Recovery

The latest analysis envisions that under this scenario, severe restrictions on travel are lifted after 3 months. The recovery in travel demand later this year is weakened by the impact of global recession on jobs and confidence.

To read full article:
<https://www.iata.org/en/pressroom/pr/2020-03-24-01/>



Lives Being Devastated and One Million Jobs a Day Being Lost Due to Coronavirus Pandemic

World Travel & Tourism Council, 20 March 2020

London, UK- A staggering one million jobs are being lost every day in the Travel & Tourism sector due to the sweeping effect of the coronavirus pandemic, according to the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC).

According to the London-based international organisation, which represents the global Travel & Tourism private sector, the growing job losses are affecting every level of the industry and are gathering pace, as countries go into lockdown to tackle the virus.

WTTC says the vast closure of hotels, suspension of the majority of international and domestic airline flights, cessation of cruise lines and growing global travel bans are having a catastrophic 'domino effect' hitting huge numbers of suppliers worldwide.

Small and medium sized businesses at every level within Travel & Tourism, such as tour operators, travel agents and sole-traders, are especially vulnerable.

The organisation, which is already in talks with over 75 governments around the world, has called for countries to urgently do more to intervene to make clearer how businesses can access potentially life-saving loans, and tax breaks, to prevent them from imminent collapse.

To read full article:
<https://www.wttc.org/about/media-centre/press-releases/press-releases/2020/lives-being-devastated-and-one-million-jobs-a-day-being-lost-due-to-coronavirus-pandemic/>



Calling on Innovators and Entrepreneurs to Accelerate Tourism Recovery

UNWTO, 25 March 2020

With millions of jobs at risk as the pandemic hits tourism harder than any other sector, the United Nations specialized tourism agency has included innovation in its wider response to the pandemic. That response has seen UNWTO work closely alongside WHO to mitigate the impact and place tourism at the centre of future recovery efforts and liaise closely with governments and the private sector to boost collaboration and international solidarity.

Tourism is the sector that has been hit the hardest by COVID-19. Our response needs to be strong and united.

The “Healing Solutions” challenge is launched in collaboration with WHO, further advancing the united response of the wider United Nations system to COVID-19. This global call for entrepreneurs and innovators asks them to submit ideas that can help the tourism sector mitigate the impact of the pandemic and kickstart recovery efforts. In particular, the challenge is aimed at finding ideas that can make a difference right away: for destinations, for businesses and for public health efforts.

To read full article:
<https://www.unwto.org/calling-on-innovators-and-entrepreneurs-to-accelerate-tourism-recovery>

Your feedback matters.

For your comments and suggestions:
<https://forms.gle/gwz3JAs1yNS2bSHN9>

#TravelTomorrow



By staying home today, we can travel tomorrow

-Zurab Pololikashvili
Secretary-General, UNWTO



PAL Cancels Remaining International Flights, No Longer Sustainable

CNN Philippines, 24 March 2020

Philippines— Philippine Airlines has announced that it is temporarily suspending remaining flights from March 26 to April 14.

“After careful consideration, we concluded that PAL could no longer sustain even a limited number of international flights,” said PAL in a statement on Tuesday.

The carrier cited strict travel restrictions from different countries, “collapse in demand” as well as staffing issues due to the Luzon quarantine.

However, it said some scheduled flights to the country on March 26 and March 27 will proceed.

The last trip from Manila is flight PR 104. It will leave San Francisco on March 25 at 10:10 p.m..

To read full article:
<https://www.cnnphilippines.com/news/2020/3/24/pal-cancels-flights.html>