

World Travel Market Provides £160 Million Boost to the London Economy



World Travel Market 2013, the leading global event for the travel industry is set to boost the London economy by more than £160 million. The event - which runs from Monday 4 to Thursday 7 November at ExCeL, London exhibition centre - attracts around 50,000 of the global travel and tourism industry's most senior executives, who come to London every year to profile the hottest

travel destinations.

Business deals worth more than £2 billion will be triggered by the event, while more than £160 million will be pumped into the economy through money spent on hotels, restaurants, flights and other discretionary spend by those visiting the capital.

To put this figure in context, The British Fashion Council's London Fashion Week - which took place 13 to 17 September 2013 - was estimated to generate only £100 million for the London economy.

World Travel Market will showcase more than 180 countries and regions through its more than 5,000 exhibitors. The deals agreed at WTM will be the product content in travel companies' brochures and on their websites, which will ultimately decide where holidaymakers visit in 2014 and beyond.

Reed Travel Exhibitions, Director, World Travel Market, Simon Press said: "World Travel Market plays a vital role for both the global travel and tourism industry facilitating more than £2 billion in industry deals. Furthermore, the event has a massive impact on the London economy with 50,000 senior executives staying in the capital and spending money on hotels and evening entertainment, totalling more than £160 million."

World Travel Market attracts many celebrities as destinations use their famous ambassadors to gain a competitive advantage. Celebs attending WTM 2013 include Bollywood superstar Anil Kapoor (Visit Tampa Bay). Kapoor also starred in Hollywood blockbusters Slumdog Millionaire and Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol.

Anil is joined by cricketing legends Viv Richards (Antigua) and Brian Lara (Trinidad and Tobago). Former Manchester United forward Dwight Yorke and Actor Rudolph Walker (Patrick Trueman in Eastenders) are also guests of Trinidad and Tobago. Fellow former Eastenders actress Nadia Swalha (character Annie Palmer) is attending with Jordan, while TV presenter John Craven - most famous for his time fronting BBC's Newsround - is also at WTM with Wendy Wu Tours/ China National Tourism Board. One of Britain's greatest Olympians decathlete Daley Thompson is also in attendance with Saint Lucia Tourist Board.

Furthermore, former Marks & Spencer CEO and Chairman Stuart Rose, London Deputy Mayor for Business and Enterprise Kit Malthouse and founder of no-frills airline Go Fly and Vice Chair of London 2012 Olympic Organising Committee Barbara Cassani will be speaking at WTM.

About World Travel Market

World Travel Market, the leading global event for the travel industry, is the must-attend four-day business-to-business exhibition for the worldwide travel and tourism industry.

Almost 48,000 senior travel industry professionals, government ministers and international press, embark on ExCeL - London every November to network, negotiate and discover the latest industry opinion and trends at WTM.

WTM, now in its 34th year, is the event where the travel industry conducts and concludes its deals.

WTM 2012 generated £1,860 million of travel industry contracts, revealed independent research by Fusion Communications.

WTM is owned by the world's leading events organiser Reed Exhibitions (RE), which organises a portfolio of other travel industry events including Arabian Travel Market and International Luxury Travel Market.

In 2012, RE held more than 460 events in 36 countries bringing together more than seven million people from around the world generating billions of dollars in business.

Reed Travel Exhibitions

Reed Travel Exhibitions (RTE) is the world's leading provider of exhibitions in the travel and tourism industry, with a wide-ranging portfolio of 20 international events in 13 countries throughout the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, Asia Pacific and Africa. Its market-leading, business-to-business events cover all elements of travel and tourism, including leisure travel, luxury travel, meetings, events, incentives and business travel, as well as golf, ski and spa travel.

RTE is part of Reed Exhibitions.

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