

VOL 44 ● ISSUE 15 ● 28 June - 4 July 2021

NEWS FOR ASIA'S TRAVEL PLANNERS

NEWS UPDATES at www.ttrweekly.com

















SQ opens bookings for Manchester flight

Singapore Airlines opens bookings for its three weekly flights to Manchester that resume 16 July.

Singapore Airlines resumes three weekly nonstop flights to Manchester in northern England effective 16 July using an A350-900 aircraft.

The airline's website is open for bookings with the lowest oneway Economy Lite fare starting at SGD654. The service will operate every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.

The airline suspended 98% of its international flights during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic last year.

It announced it was returning to Manchester on 8 June as the airline celebrated its 50th anniversary of flying to the UK.

Manchester Airport's managing director, Karen Smart, said at the time: "We are pleased to hear Singapore Airlines will be resuming its direct service from Manchester next month. Singapore Airlines is one of our longestserving airlines, and we know its routes have been extremely popular with passengers from across the North over the years, both in terms of leisure and business travel. We look forward to working with our colleagues at Singapore Airlines to make this returning service a success, especially given the destination's inclusion on the UK Government's green list. Together, we hope to be able to relaunch the popular Houston service as soon as possible once travel to and from the United States is opened up."

The airline extended the Singapore-Manchester route to Houston, Texas, in 2016 with five weekly flights but no immediate plans to resume the trans-Atlantic sector.

Singapore is a green light country on the UK

Covid-19 list meaning citizens and residents can visit with minimum restrictions and entry rules.

Before you depart for the UK

- Take a Covid-19 test.
- Book and pay for a day two Covid-19 test – to be taken after arrival in England.
- Complete a passenger locator form

On arrival in the

- You must take a Covid-19 test on or before day two after you arrive.
- Children aged four and under do not need to take this test. You do not need to quarantine unless the test result is positive.
- You must quarantine if you that you travelled to England with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19.

SQ destinations July to September

From 16 July 2021, Singapore Airlines will reinstate services to Manchester and Rome. It continues to operate flights to the following regions and countries:

Southeast Asia

 Brunei; Cambodia; Indonesia*; Malaysia; Myanmar; the Philippines; Thailand; Vietnam.

North Asia

 China; Hong Kong SAR, China; Japan; South Korea; Taiwan, China

West Asia and Africa.

 Bangladesh; the Maldives; Nepal; South Africa; Sri Lanka; the United Arab Emirates.

South West Pacific

- Australia; New Zealand. **Europe**
- Denmark; France;
 Germany; Italy; the
 Netherlands; Russia;
 Spain; Switzerland;
 Turkey; the UK.

Follow us on:







TTR Weekly is a controlled circulation newspaper for the travel industry specialising in Thailand and the Mekong region. Published every Wednesday, alternatively in English, the publication is distributed free to travel agents. Available on subscription outside this qualifying category. Published by Ross Publishing Ltd.

Managing editor: Don Ross: donr@ttrweekly.com

EDITORIAL: news@rossttr.com Editor: Don Ross

MARKETING: sales@ttrweekly.com Content editor: Danai Stephen Ross Publishing director: Lars Magnusson PRODUCTION:
Creative director: Danai Stephen Ross
Graphics: Suradej Chatsomsiri,
Kamolapat Sriveriwan



YOU HAVEN'T SEEN IT ALL UNTIL YOU SEE SARAWAK

A UNESCO World Heritage Site. A World Craft City. PATA Gold awarded Sarawak Cultural Village. And so much more to see, to taste, to experience, to captivate. Discover the many ways you can do more in Sarawak, Borneo.



Centara sells safe place to work

Centara Extends "Work From Hotel" Long Stay Offer in City and beach destinations.

Centara Hotels & Resorts, Thailand's leading hotel operator, extends its "Work from Hotel at Centara"



fingertips

The long-stay special, applicable for stays of at least a week, starts from THB 4,550 for a 7-night stay and THB 15,000 for a one-month stay, inclusive of daily breakfast for two guests in select hotels and resorts.

At a time when offices are encouraging remote working, and educational institutions are continuing to conduct their teaching online, Centara offers the chance for guests to do just that from a full-service hotel or a beachfront resort while enjoying the clean sea air.

Guests enjoy a selection of spacious rooms, suites, pools villas, and beachfront pool villas at participating Centara properties, all equipped with convenient in-room facilities, including high-speed Wifi access.

access.

"Work from Hotel at Centara" is



RATES FROM
THB 4,550 FOR 7 NIGHTS

(THB 650 / NIGHT)

offer due to sustained demand from guests looking for a safe place to work remotely and for families looking for a change of scenery while engaged in online learning.

Guests can switch up their workspace or study space to a choice of hotels and resorts across Thailand and enjoy full service and a choice of culinary options at their available at select hotels and resorts in urban and resort destinations, including in Bangkok, Udon Thani, Chiang Mai and Krabi, as well as in seaside towns within driving distance to the capital, including Hua Hin, Cha-Am, Pattaya, Sriracha and Rayong.

Participating resorts include Centara Grand Mirage Beach Resort

Pattaya, where guests can enjoy rates from THB 11,500 net for a 7-night stay in a Deluxe Ocean Facing, or THB 28,000 net for the luxury of even greater personal space in a Family Residence Suite. Nearby in Sriracha, a Family Residence at Centara Sonrisa Residences & Suites Sriracha starts at THB 12,600 net for a 7-night beachfront stay in a spacious suite complete with a children's area with bunk beds and balcony, while further east, the beachfront Centara Q Resort Rayong starts at just THB 9.500 for a one-week stay.

Up to two children stay free when sharing existing bedding with parents. It makes the offer also suitable for families looking for a change of scenery and to enjoy the fresh sea breeze whilst following government practices to remain safe and well.

Implemented across all
Centara properties is the "Centara
Compete Care" hygiene and
safety programme, developed in
adherence to guidelines set by the
World Health Organisation (WHO),
the World Travel and Tourism
Council (WTTC) and Thailand's
health authorities.

The stringent programme was designed in close collaboration with Ecolab, a global leader in water and hygiene technologies, and Swiss firm SGS, the world's leading inspection, verification, testing and certification company.

The "Work from Hotel at Centara" offer can be booked from now until 31 August 2021 for stays by 20 December 2021.

For more information and reservations, visit https://www.centarahotelsresorts.com/featured-packages/work-from-hotel/







BRING BACK THE LOVE

Join us as we celebrate the reopening of our hotels in Phuket and Krabi, where your clients can **enjoy up to 100% of the room rate as daily hotel credits**, redeemable immediately on arrival.

At Centara Grand Resort Phuket, your guests can use the hotel credit for a room upgrade, ease into their holiday with a relaxing spa treatment, or indulge in a culinary experience before heading to the resort water park.

Nestled within its own secluded bay, Centara Grand Beach Resort & Villas Krabi invites travellers to check in and chill out with a choice of four restaurants and rejuvenating spa rituals at SPA Cenvaree.

Rates from THB 3,315 per night

















China hits its vaccination target

China's vaccination programme hits half-year goal dispensing 1.23 billion doses and on target to jab 70% of the population by year-end.

China puts the vaccine rollout elsewhere in Asia in perspective as it confirms this week dose delivery hit the half-year target on Wednesday. China's Hunan, East China's Anhui and South China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region also confirmed that they had finished ahead of the Wednesday target date.

According to the National Health Commission, China administered about 1.23 billion doses of Covid-19 vaccines as of Tuesday. That was nearly half of the 3 billion doses travellers could return to Thailand as early as this October. That is wishful thinking on their part. There are no hints or clues that would suggest an early reopening of China's outbound travel market as the country tourism industry can prosper on dominant domestic travel demand.

China's vaccination success is based on the government's strong organising and operating capacity and the growing public willingness to get vaccinated, given recent outbreaks. Once China has reached the 70% vaccination target, so-called herd immunity should kick in, and that would probably signal the gradual return of outbound travel first to Asian destinations.

But the Global Times report said: "Given the large population in China and the threat of the Delta variant, China's top epidemiologist Zhong Nanshan estimated that it would require at least 80% of Chinese people – about 1.12 billion – to be vaccinated to reach herd immunity.

China's National Health
Commission on 25 June said that
more than 630 million people in
China had taken at least one shot,
meaning the vaccination coverage
has reached over 40% of the 1.4
billion population.

Statista says: "Scientists initially estimated that 60 to 70% of a population would have to acquire resistance to Covid-19 in order for herd immunity to take effect, a threshold that has been revised upwards since the start of the year with 80 to 85% quoted in some cases. As the Delta variant of Covid-19 generates fresh concern, the race towards full vaccination has become increasingly urgent, and Israel has led the way, according to Our World in Data." (Statista)

The Race Towards Full Vaccination Share of the population fully vaccinated against Covid-19 as of June 26, 2021 (selected countries)* 59.6% 56.9% 52.6% 47.5% Ayr.5% 45.5% 34.5% 29.1% 27.5%

* Fully vaccinated = all doses prescribed by the vaccination protocol. Data only available for countries reporting dose breakdown. Source: Our World in Data

Germany





United States





() Italy

Global Times, an official English language media channel, reported the country had reached its goal of vaccinating about 40% of the population.

Some provinces managed to reach the target early. Northeast China's Heilongjiang Province passed the mark on Monday, recording 3.2 million doses administered to about 1.7 million people. Other provinces like Central

Global Times claimed China achieved a breakneck vaccination speed, which will now make it possible for China to achieve its 2021 goal of vaccinating 70% of its population by December. If it reaches its target by year-end, it is likely China will reopen outbound travel, possibly in phases in early 2022. Thai tourism officials are optimistically claiming Chinese

France

statista 🗷



Be Enchanted!

Kinabatangan River is the second longest river in Malaysia. The area is known for its remarkable wildlife.

f SABAH, Malaysian Borneo 🏼 O sabahtourism 😈 sabahtourism

▶ Sabah Tourism 🤏 美丽沙巴 💣 美丽沙巴







Emirates prepares for a busy summer

Emirates gears up for the busy summer holiday travel period. Passengers strongly urged to arrive early at Dubai International Airport.

Emirates is expecting more than 450,000 passengers to travel from, to and through Terminal 3 at Dubai International Airport over the course of the next two weekends on over 1,600 flights.

The busiest days for the airline will be the next two weekends, 2 to 3 July and 9 to 10 July, although high passenger traffic is expected to start today and will run through to 12 July.

In addition, close to
100,000 passengers will
be arriving in Dubai on
Emirates flights to start their
summer holidays during that same
period.

All Emirates and DXB touchpoints are fully prepared to manage the increase in passenger traffic, with measures and protocols in place designed to enhance safety as customers move through Terminal 3.

This includes robust and consistent cleaning protocols for high traffic areas such as seats and handrails; modern cleaning technologies for surfaces in Emirates' dedicated lounges keeping them germ-free for longer; social distancing measures through floor markings, signage and airport employees safely managing the flow of passengers; hand sanitising stations as well as Plexiglas partitions at Emirates check-in desks and in Emirates Lounges, amongst numerous other measures.

Customers are strongly urged to

arrive at the airport at least three hours before their flight departure to avoid delays. Passengers are encouraged to build in extra time for their journey with expected heavy road traffic coming into Terminal 3.

Customers are also reminded to review the latest travel



requirements to their booked destination, including whether forms, vaccination certificates or negative PCR tests are required on the Emirates Travel Hub, which has the latest information for every country on the airline's route network.

Customers can physically checkin and drop off their luggage at any Emirates counter 24 hours before departure.* All passengers physically checking in at the airport are requested to check-in no later than 3 hours prior to departure. Customers who present themselves less than 60 minutes prior to their scheduled flight departure will not be accepted for travel. They can also check-in online 48 hours to 90 minutes before flight departure. Those who opt to check-in online are reminded to visit the Emirates check-in counters or contactless kiosks to complete the required travel documentation checks and

formalities.

Customers are also advised to make sure they get to their boarding gate on time. Gates open 90 minutes before departure, boarding starts 45 minutes before each flight, and gates close 20 minutes before departure.

Emirates customers can look forward to an easier and hassle-free airport experience with contactless check-in, its biometric path and enhanced digital verification of Covid-19 medical information. The airline has sharpened its focus on technologies and services that optimise passenger processing to minimise queues for a fast-

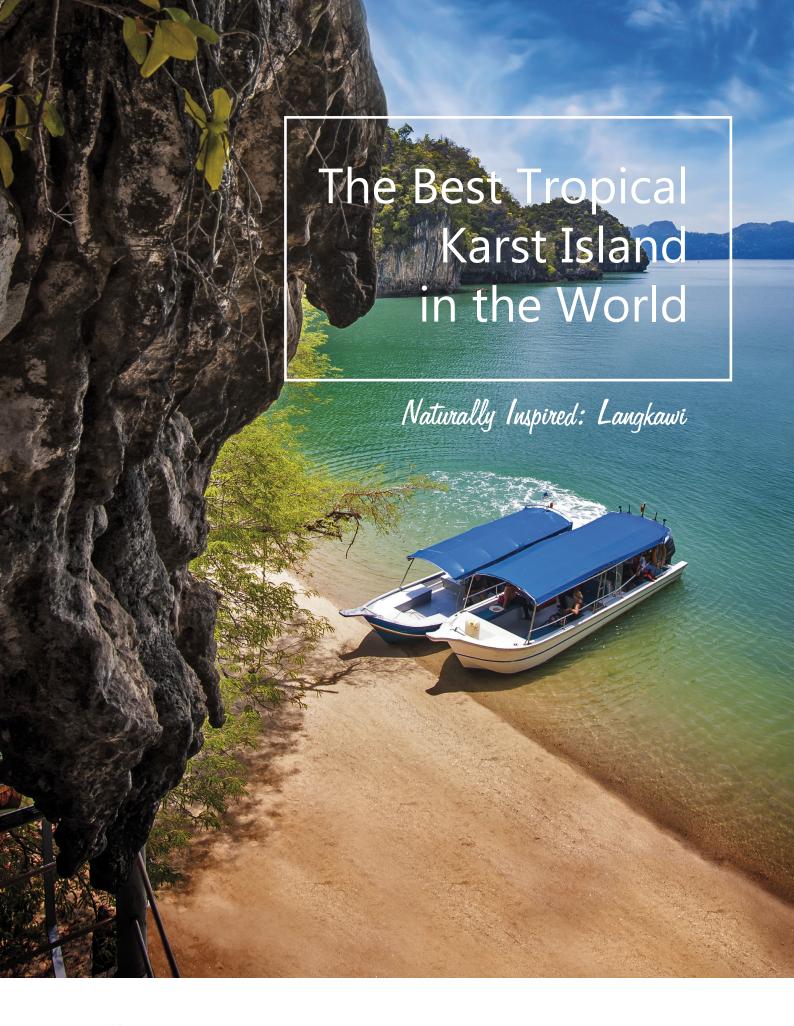
tracked experience that prioritises safety and efficiency.

Significantly reducing wait times, Emirates' contactless kiosks are completely controlled by personal mobile devices without the need to touch the screens, providing another way passengers can enjoy a safe and efficient pre-boarding experience. Along with check-in, customers can choose seats on board, drop off their bags, and even pay for ancillary products like extra baggage.

Customers can also use Emirates' biometric path for a contactless journey via 18 check-in desks and seven biometric boarding gates, with virtually no document checks and less queuing.

Emirates is also leading the way in providing more ways for its customers to fulfil their predeparture health requirements through digital verification.

*Except for flights to the USA.













This feeling is waiting for you.

#feel now
"A deep breath to reach
another level of happiness."

The best time of the year that lifts up all your senses with amazing feelings from food, savory fruits, lush scenery and amazing things you can't find in any other season.

amazing
HAILANE