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# **Emirates ramps up US flights**

Emirates boosts flights to the US, promising to achieve 90% of its pre-Covid-19 capacity by December.

Emirates will restore US services to nearly 80% of pre-Covid levels by October and to more than 90% by December.

The airline has been building up connectivity in response to growing customer demand on the back of rising travel confidence and the easing of international travel protocols. There has also been a growing interest from US travellers to visit Dubai, a city that offers something for everyone and will be hosting a number of major events, including the World Expo this winter.

### October operations

Starting from October, Emirates will offer 78 weekly flights to 12 destinations in the US with an increase in weekly flights scheduled for Boston (BOS), Dallas (DFW), New York (JFK), San Francisco (SFO), Seattle (SEA) and Washington DC (IAD) as follows:

- Boston: Five weekly flights, increasing from four flights a week
- Dallas: Five weekly flights, increasing from four flights a week
- New York: 19 weekly flights, increasing from 18 flights a week (including flights connecting Milan and New York)
- San Francisco: Five weekly flights, increasing from four flights a week
- Seattle: Five weekly flights, increasing from four flights a week
- Washington DC:
   Five weekly flights, increasing from four flights a week

Emirates has already restored pre-Covid-19

daily flights to Chicago, Los Angeles and on the routes connecting Athens-Newark and Milan-New York.

Emirates' flagship A380 aircraft featuring the signature onboard lounge and shower spa will be flying to the US 24 times a week (12 flights to JFK, seven flights to LAX and five flights to IAD) from October.

By early December, Emirates will have restored more than 90% of its pre-Covid flights to the US with daily flights added to Boston, Dallas, Houston, San Francisco, Seattle and Washington DC in addition to double daily flights to New York.

Customers from the US will also have more opportunities to fly on the airline's iconic Airbus A380 aircraft from November with 35 weekly flights.

Emirates' flights between Milan and New York will also be upgraded to the A380 from 31 October, resulting in New York being served three times a day by the double-decker aircraft. In addition to Los Angeles, New York and Washington DC, the Airbus A380 will return daily to San Francisco from December 2021.

Dubai is open: Dubai has emerged as one of the most popular destinations around the world has remained open to international business and leisure visitors. This winter, Dubai will be hosting the World Expo, the first event of its kind to be ever hosted in the region. Emirates, the Premier Partner and Official Airline of Expo 2020 Dubai, has launched an exclusive offer for customers to experience the once in a lifetime event with a free Expo Day Pass for every flight ticket booked from 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022.

Visit: <u>www.emirates.</u> <u>com</u>

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# Royal Cliff reaches out to the community

Royal Cliff's impactful Feed the Community Programme provides more than 1,000 meals for the needy.

As part of the hotel group's corporate social responsibility programme, the Royal Cliff Hotels

also received the International Organisation of Standardisation 22000 (ISO 22000: 2018), the latest Food Safety Management certificate.

This month, Royal Cliff has donated food boxes to the Anti Human Trafficking and Child Abuse Situated on a 64-acre private parkland estate overlooking the Gulf of Thailand, the Royal Cliff Hotels Group operates four award-winning hotels providing guests from home and abroad with the ultimate experience. It has recently set another benchmark for social responsibility excellence by adding the Asia Responsible Enterprise Award (AREA) to its distinctive portfolio of awards and accolades. Book your stays directly







Group has launched a platform to help local communities and those in need.

The 'Feed the Community programme' allows guests and business partners to purchase meals for delivery to various charities, frontline health workers, and those in need in local communities.

Royal Cliff's Human Resources team makes frequent visits to local charities to see where help is most needed to direct donations quickly to people in need. All the food is prepared by Royal Cliff's chefs, who follow the highest safety and hygiene standards and safety measures to combat the outbreak.

Royal Cliff Hotels Group has

Center (ATCC), which looks after children who have been abused and rescued from human trafficking. Through the support of its generous guests, clients, and business partners, food boxes were also distributed weekly to hundreds of those in need who gathered at Bali Hai Pier and other Pattaya donation points organised by the city during these difficult times.

Royal Cliff is thankful for the donations from the corporate community, including the ManyCai Company and Benze Official Company, and the generous financial contributions of the hotel's guests who share the common goal of providing aid to people in need.

to secure the best price guaranteed along with optional value-added extras that will enhance the hotel experience by visiting www.royalcliff.com. Or contact reservations at (+66) 38 250 421 ext. 2732 or email: reservations@royalcliff.com.

For more information, visit www. royalcliff.com





# Thailand cuts quarantine to 7 days



Thailand reduces the quarantine period for international visitors who have been vaccinated starting 1 October 2021.

The quarantine for fully vaccinated international travellers arriving in Thailand will be reduced from 14 to seven days, starting today (1 October 2021), the Tourism Authority of Thailand confirmed on Thursday.

#### **Seven-day Quarantine**

For travellers who have been fully vaccinated with a vaccine approved by Thailand's Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) or the World Health Organisation (WHO) no less than 14 days before their travel date, they are required to present the vaccine certificate (either the original or a printed copy) at the point of entry into Thailand.

During the quarantine, they are required to undergo two RT-PCR

tests – first upon arrival on Day 0 or 1, and the second before finishing the quarantine period on Day 6 or 7.

#### 10-day quarantine

Travellers who have not been vaccinated or cannot show either a vaccine certificate, or they have only partially been vaccinated, who arrive in Thailand by airline quarantine for 10 days and undergo two RT-PCR tests – first upon arrival on Day 0 or 1, and the second on Day 8 or 9.

#### 14-day quarantine

Travellers who have not been vaccinated or cannot show either a vaccine certificate, or they have only partially been vaccinated, and who arrive in Thailand by land will quarantine for 14-days and undergo two RT-PCR tests – first upon arrival on Day 0 or 1, and the second on Day 12 or 13.

In order to be eligible to enter Thailand, vaccinated international travellers still need to have all of their advance arrangements in order for arrival and entry, including a Certificate of Entry issued on or after 1 October.

Travellers must have a valid visa or re-entry permit, a Certificate of Entry (COE) issued by the Royal Thai Embassy or Consulate, a Covid-19 health insurance policy, confirmation of Alternative State Quarantine (ASQ) hotel booking, and a medical certificate with a negative RT-PCR laboratory result issued no more than 72 hours before departure.

The new rule replies to vaccinated travellers arriving on sandbox schemes to destinations in southern Thailand and also hotel quarantine and alternative quarantine systems applicable at other destinations such as Bangkok.

\*Released by the Tourism Authority of Thailand.







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# China lifts Trip.com Group Q2 performance



Trip.com Group's total net revenue increased by 86% year over year and 43% quarter over quarter, driven by the strong recovery momentum of the Chinese domestic market.

Trip.com Group Limited, listed on Nasdaq and Hong Kong Exchange HKEX: 9961) announced its unaudited financial results for the second quarter and first half of 2021 at the weekend.

The global travel service provider of accommodation reservations, transportation ticketing, packaged tours and corporate travel management said the business showed resilient recovery in the China domestic marketing headlined the performance highlights.

Despite the signs of recovery evident in the second quarter and year-to-date performance, the company reported a Q2 net loss attributable to the group's shareholders of RMB647 million (USD100 million), compared to a net loss of RMB476 million in the same period in 2020 and net income attributable to Trip.com Group's shareholders of RMB1.8 billion in the previous quarter.

### Key performance highlights

Domestic hotel and air-ticket GMV increased by about 150% year over year. Compared with the same pre-COVID period in 2019, both

domestic hotel and air ticketing reservations achieved double-digit growth in the second quarter.

Staycation travel continues to serve as a major driver of domestic recovery, with local hotel reservations growing nearly 80% versus the pre-Covid-19 period in 2019.

Revenues from corporate travel management grew 141% year over year and 26% compared with the pre-COVID period in 2019.

"Overall, the Chinese domestic travel market has been encouraging, and we see great potential in international markets," said the group's executive chairman James Liang. "Going forward, we will continue to be adaptive and responsive to the changing market conditions and the evolving demands of post-pandemic travellers."

"Throughout the second quarter, we continued to focus on the domestic market in terms of the supply chain, content capabilities, service quality, and technology advancement, to lay a solid foundation for new growth drivers beyond the pandemic," said chief executive officer Jane Sun. "We also endeavour to maximize our social impacts while increasing the company's total value. We will keep improving as we strive towards our ideals."

### Second-quarter business update

The company's overall results for the second quarter of 2021 were negatively impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as subsequent outbreaks that were driven by new variants of Covid-19. However, benefiting from the general containment of the Covid-19 pandemic in China, the company's domestic business showed a strong recovery.

For the second quarter of 2021, Trip.com Group reported net revenue of RMB5.9 billion (USD912 million), representing an 86% increase from the same period in 2020, primarily due to the strong recovery of China's domestic market. Net revenue for the second quarter of 2021 increased by 43% from the previous quarter, primarily due to the easement of China's travel restrictions previously enhanced in January and February 2021.

Accommodation reservation revenue for the second quarter of 2021 was RMB2.5 billion (USD380 million), representing a 96% increase from the same period in 2020 and a 55% increase from the previous quarter, primarily due to the recovery of China's domestic market.

Transportation ticketing revenue for the second quarter of 2021 was RMB2.1 billion (USD320 million), representing an 80% increase from the same period in 2020 and a 37% increase from the previous quarter, primarily due to the recovery of China's domestic market.

Packaged-tour revenue for the second quarter of 2021 was RMB367 million (USD57 million), representing a 182% increase from the same period in 2020 and a 117% increase from the previous quarter, primarily due to the recovery of China's domestic market.

Corporate travel revenue for the second quarter of 2021 was RMB390 million (USD60 million), representing a 141% increase from the same period in 2020 and a 55% increase from the previous quarter, primarily due to the recovery of China's domestic market.



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