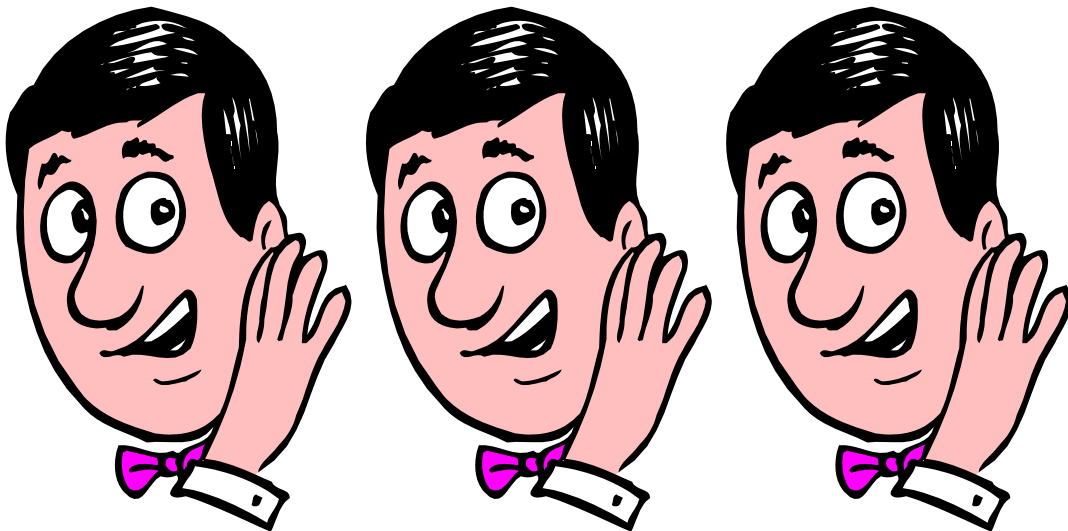


TRAVEL NEWS

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!!!

We are back again in the New Year with loads of information and fun in Travel Industry!!!!



Industry News:-

- **Thai Airways** has reduced their fuel surcharge effective 19th December '08 thus total price of ticket from Delhi to various Thai destinations becomes cheaper.
- **Double Daily** - In addition to the existing night flight, Thai Airways will start daily operation of its day flight w.e.f. 01st February '09.
- **Austrian Airlines** again operates with aircraft B777 on Delhi - Vienna route from 01st January '09.
- **Turkish Airlines** will introduce daily flights to Istanbul from Delhi and Mumbai starting 02nd February '09. They would be using Airbus 330 - 200 which has a capacity of 22 seats in business class and 228 seats in economy class.

- **Jet Airways** partners with **United Airlines** in frequent flyer program effective 15th November 2008. With this partnership, Jet Airways' Jet Privilege members may now earn and redeem JP Miles on the entire global network of United Airlines.
- **Srilankan Airlines** has temporarily suspended their operations to four Indian destinations from 15th January 09- Calicut, Cochin, Coimbatore and Hyderabad.
- **Japan Airlines** is planning to launch a demonstration flight which uses sustainable bio-fuel refined from the energy crop, Camelina. This flight is planned for 30 January 2009, out of Haneda Airport, Tokyo.
- **Singapore Airlines** is to begin a four-times-weekly service to Kuwait from 15 March 2009. Flying via Abu Dhabi, the service will operate on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, using Boeing 777-200 aircraft.
- **Korean Airlines** is now offering travelers web check-in from 4hours to 24hours prior scheduled departure time of the flight.

Visa Updates

- **Swiss** has become a part of Schengen Countries effective 12th December '08. Travelers holding a valid Schengen visa need not apply for Swiss visa separately however travelers holding valid Swiss visa obtained before 12th December cannot enter other Schengen counties with the same.
- The current regulation for nationals under the **Visa Waiver Program (VWP)** does not require a traveler to apply for a visa when traveling to the United States of America (USA) either for leisure or business, so long as the stay is for 90 days or less. With effect from 12th of January 2009, it is mandatory that all nationals under the VWP will have to apply for advance authorization, which is known as Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) prior to travel to the United States (USA).
- **Singapore High Commission** has revised their tourist / business visa fee to Inr 1020/- effective 31st December '08.

- Effective 01st January, 2009 the Photograph Size for **UAE Visa** should be 4.3 x 5.5 cms. The Photo should be Coloured, Clear, Front View only.
- **Spain Short Stay Visa** fee has been revised to Inr 3773 effective 01st January '09.

Travel Attraction & Offers

- **Virgin Atlantic** has introduced a round trip fare of Inr 24990/- plus taxes to London for travel between 06th January '09 to 31st March '09. The last date for the sale is 29th January '09.
- **Swiss Air** has introduced special New Year Fares to destinations in Europe starting at INR 15'500 in economy class and INR 85'000 in business class excluding taxes and USA starting at INR 25'995 in economy class excluding taxes. These fares are applicable for travel between 15th January to 15th April '09. The last date to purchase ticket is 15th February '09.

LIMITED SEATS ARE AVAILABLE ON PROMOTIONAL FARES.

Amazing Indian Destinations

In the New Year we would like to enlighten you with must see destinations of India beginning with

North India Golden Triangle

The golden triangle tour of India is probably the most captivating holiday that can be spent at India. Over the years the Golden Triangle (Delhi-Agra-Jaipur) has made a firm footing on the tourist map of the world. The three destinations of the golden triangle are well connected amongst themselves. The triangle is not huge with less than 250 kms from point to point. The traffic of the tourists in the golden triangle tourist circuit is regular. Thus the journey to the various destinations of the golden triangle is safe to travel. The golden glowing sands of Rajasthan offer an out of the world experience. Similarly the beauty of the Taj Mahal at Agra is unparalleled. The India Gate

till date stands high on the itinerary of the tourists to Delhi. Each city is at its best. The culture, cuisines, customs, costumes are all captivating in their own way.

The itinerary for a Golden Triangle can be tailor made as per the requirements and budget of the traveler.

Please feel free to contact us to plan a trip for you and your friends and family.

Your Travel Consultants at Amex Travel Desk:

Jatin Bagchi	ext 26171	travelagent1@searo.who.int
Sonal Kapoor	ext 26170	travelagent3@searo.who.int
Bharat Bhushan	ext 26169	travelagent4@searo.who.int
Jyoti Saxena	ext 26268	travelagent5@searo.who.int
Isha Bagai	ext 23254	travelagent2@searo.who.int

End of tour