

October - December 2025



# Caesars Xplore The Edge

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# The Expressions

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## The Nobel Prize winners of 2025

The 2025 Nobel Prize winners highlight the power of human ingenuity to solve the world's biggest challenges.

It's fitting that, in a year declared the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology, one of the prizes went to three physicists for their work in quantum mechanics, which has paved the way for quantum innovation to shape economies and industries.







Northwestern University's Joel Mokyr was recognized for identifying the prerequisites for sustained growth through technological progress, while Philippe Aghion of Collège de France and INSEAD, alongside Peter Howitt of Brown University, were honoured for their theory of sustained growth through creative destruction, where new and better products force out older ones.

The Nobel Peace Prize for 2025 was awarded to "a

The US writer and critic Susan Sontag called Literature laureate László Krasznahorkai the "master of the apocalypse" after reading the Hungarian author's second book, *The Melancholy of Resistance*.

Three scientists share the chemistry Nobel Prize for the development of metal-organic frameworks (MOFs).

Susumu Kitagawa, Richard Robson and Omar Yaghi have developed a new form of molecular architecture,

<p><b>Joel Mokyr</b> The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2025</p> 	<p><b>Philippe Aghion</b> The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2025</p> 	<p><b>Peter Howitt</b> The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2025</p> 	<p><b>Susumu Kitagawa</b> The Nobel Prize in Chemistry</p> 	<p><b>Richard Robson</b> The Nobel Prize in Chemistry</p> 	<p><b>Omar M. Yaghi</b> The Nobel Prize in Chemistry</p> 
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The potential economic value for the trio of quantum computing, quantum sensing, and quantum communication and security could reach between \$900 million and \$2 trillion by 2035, according to the World Economic Forum's *Embracing the Quantum Economy* report.






This is heartening when "geopolitical tensions are casting a long economic shadow", according to the World Economic Forum's Chief Economists' Outlook, and 82% anticipate geoeconomic fragmentation will intensify in the next 12 months.

<p><b>Maria Corina Machado</b> The Nobel Prize in Peace</p> 	<p><b>László Krasznahorkai</b> The Nobel Prize in Literature</p> 
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one that could help tackle global issues like water scarcity and the climate crisis.

This year's Physics laureates, John Clarke, Michel H. Devoret and John M. Martinis, conducted experiments with an electrical circuit in which they demonstrated both quantum mechanical tunnelling and quantized energy levels in a system big enough to be held in the hand.

Two US scientists, Mary Brunkow and Fred Ramsdell, along with Japanese scientist Shimon Sakaguchi, have been honoured for their discoveries

<p><b>John Clarke</b> The Nobel Prize in Physics</p> 	<p><b>Michel H. Devoret</b> The Nobel Prize in Physics</p> 	<p><b>John M. Martinis</b> The Nobel Prize in Physics</p> 	<p><b>Mary E. Brunkow</b> The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2025</p> 	<p><b>Fred Ramsdell</b> The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2025</p> 	<p><b>Shimon Sakaguchi</b> The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2025</p> 
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Here's what you need to know about Nobel Prize winners across all six categories for 2025, and how the work of these laureates impacts our world right now.

The Economics prize was awarded to three academics whose research has illuminated the crucial mechanisms behind sustained economic growth through innovation.

brave and committed champion of peace – to a woman who keeps the flame of democracy burning amid a growing darkness".

Maria Corina Machado was awarded the prize for her "tireless work promoting democratic rights for the people of Venezuela and for her struggle to achieve a just and peaceful transition from dictatorship to democracy".

related to the immune system. The laureates identified the immune system's "security guards", otherwise known as regulatory T cells, which prevent immune cells from attacking our bodies.

News Courtesy : <https://www.weforum.org>

## Kuwait, Oman reaffirm ties

HH the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and an accompanying delegation visited the Sultanate of Oman on Tuesday. HH the Amir was received on arrival by Sultan Haitham bin Tariq and senior officials. HH the Amir was accompanied by Defense Minister Sheikh Abdullah Ali Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, Director General of Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority Dr Sheikh Meshal Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Chief of HH the Amir's Office Rtd Lt Gen Jamal Theyab, Deputy Chairman and CEO of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation Sheikh Nawaf Saud Al-Nasser Al-Sabah and Managing Director of Kuwait Investment Authority Sheikh Saud Salem Abdulaziz Al-Sabah.

HH the Amir and Sultan Haitham held a meeting at Al-Baraka Palace in Muscat, during which the two leaders discussed the long-standing bilateral relations between Kuwait and Oman and ways to strengthen cooperation across various fields, particularly in the economic sector, aiming to enhance trade and investment coordination and integration to reinforce



mutual interests and achieve further progress and prosperity. Sultan Haitham then held a banquet at Al-Baraka Palace in honor of HH the Amir and his

accompanying delegation before they departed Oman.

New Courtesy: <https://kuwaittimes.com>

## Kuwait Civil Aviation: Third runway, new airport watchtower boost operational capacity

The opening of the third runway and the new airport watchtower on October 30 will help boost operational capacity, said an official at the Public Authority for Civil Aviation on Tuesday. Deputy Director General for Planning Affairs and Projects at the Public Authority for Civil Aviation Engineer Saad Al-Otaibi affirmed that the two projects were part of the authority's plans to reinforce Kuwait's status as a regional hub for aviation and logistic services.

He indicated that Kuwait International Airport infrastructure was entering a new phase of comprehensive development, boosting operational capacity, improving services for travelers, and increasing state income. The Civil Aviation's four-point comprehensive development strategy focuses on improving infrastructure to better serve travelers,



boosting the airport's operational capacity, increasing income via involving the private sector in

administrative projects, and training cadres and staff to handle operations according to international standards.

He revealed that current projects at Kuwait international airport included the third runway, which stretches for 4.58 kilometers, making it one of the world's longest runways. Al-Otaibi asserted that the opening of the runway would boost air safety and increase operational capacity, adding that the new watchtower project is equipped with the latest navigational technology, allowing air traffic control to direct over 600,000 landing and take-off operations annually, leading to a boost in state income and air safety.

New Courtesy: <https://kuwaittimes.com>

## Nod to conditional foreign ownership of property in Kuwait

An Amiri decree published in the official gazette Kuwait Al-Youm on Sunday has allowed listed companies in which non-Kuwaitis have shares to own property in the country, excluding private residences. Under a Kuwaiti law issued in 1979, such companies were barred from owning property in the country and

only Arab individuals can own a house or land through an Amiri decree.

Foreigners who inherit property from their Kuwaiti mothers must sell it within one year, according to the old legislation. Foreign embassies can own a maximum of 4,000 square meters to build their own premises based on mutual treatment. Most Gulf countries currently allow foreigners to own houses directly and some states even offer long-term residence permits to big buyers.

The new decree, however, made an amendment to the 1979 law, allowing listed shareholding companies, real estate funds and investment portfolios with non-Kuwaiti ownership to buy real estate. Such companies must be listed on bourses in Kuwait and one of their purposes is trading in property, the new decree states. Such companies are, however, not allowed to purchase land used for private housing. Nationals of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member states are treated like Kuwaitis in owning property in Kuwait, the decree states.

Meanwhile, Kuwait Anti-Corruption Authority (Nazaha) announced on Sunday that it has referred a senior government bureaucrat and an unspecified number of other persons to the public prosecution on suspicion of graft and filing incorrect financial statements about their wealth. Nazaha has recently referred dozens of leading government bureaucrats to the public prosecution over suspected violations regarding mandatory financial statements about their private wealth.

New Courtesy: <https://kuwaittimes.com>

## Kuwait highlights role of AI and digital transformation

Chairman of the Communication and Information Technology Regulatory Authority (CITRA), Dr Khaled Al-Zamel, affirmed on Sunday that Kuwait prioritizes adopting advanced national strategies to foster innovation and digital transformation, enhance digital infrastructure and improve government system efficiency in line with global developments. Al-Zamel made the remarks during the opening of the International Forum on Artificial Intelligence and Digitization and the Gulf Conference on Archiving, Documents and Archives Management, held under the patronage of Minister of State for Communications Affairs Omar Al-Omar.

The forum attracted participation from governmental and private entities, as well as several Gulf institutions. Dr Al-Zamel highlighted CITRA's efforts to develop policies and regulatory frameworks to enable modern technologies while regulating artificial intelligence to serve the public interest, preserve human values, and ensure cybersecurity. He noted that digital transformation and AI have become key tools for administrative and economic development worldwide, serving as a cornerstone for institutional performance, service quality, and informed decision-making.

"The forum provides a platform for Gulf and international dialogue, aiming to unify efforts, exchange expertise, and explore cooperation opportunities between government institutions, the private sector, and academic bodies," he said.

New Courtesy: <https://kuwaittimes.com>



## Kuwait, India hold seminar on auditing practices, oversight

The State Audit Bureau (SAB) and the Office of the Auditor General of India (OAGI) launched a joint seminar on Monday focusing on auditing practices in the higher education sector, as part of the third phase of an existing memorandum of understanding between the two institutions. In a press statement, the SAB said the four-day seminar comes within its efforts to strengthen its oversight role and exchange professional expertise with international counterparts. It noted that higher education is a vital sector that requires rigorous auditing to ensure the efficient use of public funds.

The SAB will present a working paper outlining its methodology for developing inspection plans, analyzing ministry budgets and collecting relevant data. The paper will also cover the organizational structure of the Ministry of Higher Education and its role in supervising internal and external scholarship programs, as well as the responsibilities of Kuwait's cultural offices abroad in monitoring scholarship students.

Several practical case studies related to audits in the higher education sector will also be showcased. Abdulrahman Al-Mutawa, senior auditor at the SAB's



Social and Service Affairs Control Department, said the paper will examine the ministry's adherence to the annual foreign scholarship plan and the alignment of specializations offered with labor market needs.

It will also address mechanisms for verifying the performance of Kuwait's cultural offices through expenditure reviews and system assessments both inside and outside the country. Al-Mutawa added that the paper will cover regulations governing diplomats

and local employees working in cultural offices, as well as contracts related to student and staff insurance. A field visit will be arranged for seminar participants to the Ministry of Higher Education to review the topics discussed and engage with ministry specialists, in addition to viewing key projects and initiatives carried out by the ministry.

New Courtesy: <https://kuwaittimes.com>

## Visit Kuwait is the only approved platform for event licensing in Kuwait

Minister of Information and Culture and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi announced Monday that Visit Kuwait will be the only approved platform for receiving applications from local and international companies seeking to organize tourism, cultural, artistic, entertainment, and other public events in the State of Kuwait.

Minister Al-Mutairi said the digital platform — officially launching on November 1 — will serve as Kuwait's unified portal for licensing and organizing events, streamlining processes and reinforcing transparency, efficiency, and speed in handling applications.

The initiative, he added, is part of the ministry's media strategy for digital transformation across vital sectors and aims to unify procedures related to event



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"The VisitKuwait platform is a strategic tool to drive cultural and tourism development and support the creative economy," Al-Mutairi said, emphasizing its role in enabling the private sector to contribute meaningfully to organizing high-quality events that enrich Kuwait's public life.

The minister also noted that VisitKuwait will be integrated with the Kuwait Visa platform, facilitating the management and organization of visitor and participant movement in and out of the country. This integration forms part of a comprehensive national plan aimed at positioning Kuwait as a premier regional destination for culture, tourism, and entertainment, in alignment with the Kuwait Vision 2035 development strategy.

New Courtesy: <https://www.arabtimesonline.com>

## GRAND HYPER QURAIN OFFICIALLY INAUGURATED



Grand Hyper has proudly opened its 45th Store in Qurain, located at Block 1, Street 10, Blq Q4 Building.

The grand opening ceremony was officially inaugurated by HE Shaikh Dawood Salman Al Sabah, and the first sale was conducted by Mr. Jassim Mohammed Khamees Al Sharrah - Chairman Grand

Hyper Kuwait in the presence of Dr. Anvar Ameen Chelat - Managing Director of Grand Hyper.

The event witnessed the esteemed presence of key dignitaries, Mr. Jamal Mohammed Falah Hamad Al Dousari, Saad Mohammed Al Hamada, Mr. Mohammed Al Mutairi, Mr. Ayyoob Kachery - Regional Director, Kuwait, Mr. Muhammed Suneer -

CEO, Mr. Thehseer Ali - DRO, Mr. Mohamed Aslam - COO along with other senior members of the Grand Hyper Kuwait team.

This new launch marks another milestone in Grand Hyper's expansion journey, reaffirming its commitment to deliver exceptional shopping experiences across Kuwait.

## Saudi Arabia tightens tourism workforce rules to boost citizen employment

Saudi Arabia has introduced sweeping new regulations to strengthen the localisation of its tourism workforce, requiring licensed tourism facilities to employ Saudi nationals in key positions, including front-desk roles.

Minister of Tourism Ahmed Al Khateeb has approved the new policies governing the registration of workers and the Saudization of roles across the Kingdom's licensed tourism establishments. Under the updated rules, every hospitality facility must ensure the presence of a Saudi receptionist during operating hours, a move the ministry said underscores "the deeply rooted values of Saudi hospitality."

All employment contracts, including contractual, seconded, and seasonal, must be formally registered through the Ajeer platform or other approved systems. Establishments with multiple licensed branches must link employees to the specific facility file associated



with each tourism licence.

The regulations strictly prohibit outsourcing or assigning Saudized roles to workers or entities outside the Kingdom. Such positions may only be subcontracted to firms licensed by the Ministry of Tourism or authorised by the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development to assign Saudi workers.

Developed in collaboration with relevant government bodies, the new framework aims to increase citizens' participation in the tourism sector and expand access to high-quality job opportunities, from leadership roles to positions for fresh graduates, in alignment with Saudi Vision 2030.

Tourism establishments must now register all employees in the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development's systems before they begin work. The Ministry of Tourism said it will closely monitor compliance and impose penalties on violators in coordination with partner agencies.

Officials described the move as a key step towards empowering national talent, enhancing employment opportunities, and improving service standards across the rapidly growing tourism sector.

New Courtesy: <https://gulfnews.com>

## From seafood feasts to spice routes: Oman's food trails tempt UAE travellers

Oman is fast becoming a favourite escape for UAE residents — not just for its wadis or mountain views, but for its authentic food experiences that celebrate Arabia's shared history through flavour.

New insights from Mabrian, the global travel intelligence firm, reveal that culinary and nature-based experiences are now driving Oman's tourism growth, overtaking traditional sightseeing. For travellers from the UAE, that means one thing — weekend trips that taste as good as they look.

### Musandam: Seafood capital of the north

Musandam, located just a few hours from the UAE, offers a blend of local cuisine and maritime heritage. Fishermen in the region supply daily catches that are served grilled or seasoned with regional spices at small eateries along the Corniche and Khasab waterfront.

For weekend travellers from Dubai or Ras Al Khaimah, the area provides a relaxed coastal getaway, combining outdoor activities such as kayaking through its fjords with evenings spent enjoying traditional seafood dishes.

### Dhofar: Where the spices meet the sea

During the Khareef season (June–September), Salalah in Dhofar turns into a green, mist-covered destination, attracting visitors with its cooler climate and tropical scenery. Local markets fill with bananas, papayas, frankincense, and regional spices, reflecting centuries of trade with East Africa and India.

Coastal restaurants in Salalah now feature an



expanding selection of fusion dishes, such as grilled lobster with coconut curry, cardamom-flavoured desserts, and seafood wrapped in banana leaves — blending traditional Omani flavours with modern culinary influences.

### Muscat: Tradition meets modern dining

In the capital, your day might start with sweet halwa in Mutrah Souq and end in a contemporary Omani fusion restaurant overlooking the Corniche.

Chefs in Muscat are updating traditional Omani dishes with modern techniques — incorporating ingredients like rosewater, dates, lime, and coffee into contemporary menus that blend local flavours with global presentation.

As travel bloggers put it, it's where Oman's old-world charm meets modern culinary creativity. And for UAE travellers, it's only an hour's flight away.

New Courtesy: <https://gulfnews.com>

## GCC tourism surges to \$247bn as intra-regional travel accelerates

Tourism across the Gulf Cooperation Council contributed \$247.1 billion to the region's economy in 2024, marking a nearly 32 percent increase compared with 2019, the latest official data showed.

According to preliminary data from the GCC Statistical Center, intra-GCC travel experienced a sharp rebound, rising 52 percent over the same period, with 19.3 million visitors traveling between member states.

Intra-regional tourism now accounts for 26.7 percent of total GCC tourism, highlighting growing cultural integration and regional mobility.

The findings appear in a report titled "GCC Tourism: Intra-Gulf Integration," released to coincide with World Tourism Day on Sept. 27. The report underscores tourism's expanding role as a driver of economic growth, employment, and cultural exchange, while supporting environmental sustainability initiatives across the Gulf.



Saudi Arabia continued to set the pace for regional tourism expansion. In 2024, the country welcomed a record 30 million international visitors, up 8 percent from 2023, generating SR284 billion (\$75.7 billion) in tourism spending, an 11 percent increase year on year. Total domestic and international tourists reached approximately 116 million, rising 6 percent over the previous year.

Saudi Arabia's rapid growth extends into 2025. According to the UN World Tourism Organization's World Tourism Barometer, the Kingdom posted the highest global increase in international tourist revenue during the first quarter of 2025, with arrivals up 102 percent compared with the same period in 2019.

GCC-Stat projects that tourism's contribution to the GCC's GDP could reach \$371.2 billion, or 13.3 percent of GDP, by 2034. Employment in the sector is also expected to expand, generating an estimated 1.3 million new jobs, with women representing an increasing share of the workforce.

The report highlights the sector's broader economic and social impact, including fostering regional integration, supporting indirect industries such as transportation and infrastructure, and advancing environmental stewardship through protected areas covering nearly 19 percent of the region's landmass.

New Courtesy: <https://www.arabnews.com>



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## Air India Express to reinstate UAE flights from Kerala's Thiruvananthapuram

UAE residents travelling to the southern Indian state of Kerala can now expect continued flight services to Thiruvananthapuram, following earlier uncertainty over Air India Express' winter schedule.

Reports had suggested that Air India was planning to reduce the number of low-cost flights operated by its subsidiary, Air India Express, between Kerala and Gulf destinations for the upcoming winter season (October 2025–March 2026). Indian Member of Parliament Shashi Tharoor announced that Air India Express will reinstate key Gulf routes from Thiruvananthapuram, offering relief to passengers affected by recent flight reductions.

In a post on X, Tharoor said the airline had confirmed that Dubai flights will restart from October 28 and Abu Dhabi services from December 3.

“Delighted to learn from @AirIndiaX that their flight operations are picking up from/to Thiruvananthapuram. As promised to me in my meeting with them, they will be reinstating Dubai flights from 28th October and Abu Dhabi services from 3rd December,” Tharoor wrote in his post.

He also said Air India will operate aircraft with a business-class configuration on the Thiruvananthapuram–Delhi route three times daily. “@AirIndia will also operate aircraft with business



class configuration on the TRV–DEL route three times daily. Happy to receive this information before Deepawali! Happy Deepawali to all air travellers in the state capital!”

### Airlines confirm to UAE agents

Travel agencies in the UAE have since been informed of the continued operations through the winter.

Sudheesh TP, general manager of Deira Travel and Tourist Agency, said: “Flights are currently operating under the summer schedule, and bookings on the Trivandrum–Dubai–Trivandrum route are open until October 27.”

“Earlier, services were expected to be discontinued from October 28, but Air India Express has since reinstated them. Their sales team has confirmed that we can now accept bookings for the winter season as well,” added Sudheesh. He added that in Abu Dhabi, there will be no flights between October 28 and December 2, but services will resume from December 3 onwards.

Air India has also announced that by 2026, the number of international flights from Kerala will increase to 231 and domestic flights to 245, offsetting the present shortfall.

Industry experts note that such flight rearrangements among private airlines are common. Since Air India Express was privatised in 2022, it is no longer expected to function entirely like a national carrier.

News Courtesy: <https://www.khaleejtimes.com>

## Flydubai to add meals, in-flight entertainment in economy class from November

Dubai-based airline flydubai on Wednesday announced that all economy class tickets will now include meals and in-flight entertainment starting in November 2025 to enhance passengers' travel experience.

“Redefining the Economy Class offering across all flights represents a significant evolution in our business model, offering customers a more elevated and convenient travel journey. Our focus remains on investing in enhancing our customer experience and delivering added value across every touchpoint through services, technologies and product development,” said Ghaith Al Ghaith, CEO of flydubai.

“Over the years, our agile business model has enabled us to adapt quickly to challenges and unlock new opportunities as we continue to evolve and grow. This announcement has come at the right time as we prepare to expand our network, continue to grow our fleet and welcome more passengers on board year after year. By including meals and in-flight entertainment in every ticket, we’re modifying the Economy Class fare structure and ensuring passengers get more value, while remaining competitive,” said Hamad Obaidalla, chief commercial officer at flydubai.

Obaidalla, however, didn’t disclose further how the modification in the airline’s airfare will impact the travellers. Launched as a budget carrier, the airline has enhanced its services over the years by introducing Business Class, opening a new Business Class Lounge at Terminal 2, and expanding its



entertainment and other services.

### F&B, entertainment offerings

The airline offers multi-language in-flight entertainment experience with more than 1,000 Hollywood, Bollywood, Arabic and international films, alongside TV shows from major studios including HBO Max, BBC Kids and Cartoon Network. Travellers can also explore interactive games, E-magazines, more than 700 music albums and podcast episodes or discover more about their destination through travel guides and real-time flight information.

In addition, passengers can have a variety of meals,

light snacks and refreshing beverages. It currently offers regional menus featuring local dishes from African, European, Indian, Middle Eastern, Russian and Southeast Asian cuisines. The Dubai carrier is expanding its network by receiving nine new aircraft this year, bringing its fleet to 95 Boeing 737s. Three more aircraft are expected to be delivered by the end of 2025 to cater to its more than 135 destinations.

As part of its retrofit programme across its Boeing 737-800 fleet, it has introduced lie-flat Business Class seats and new Economy Class seats. The airline will also be recruiting hundreds of new employees for the new aircraft it will receive in the coming years.

News Courtesy: <https://www.khaleejtimes.com>

## Emirates power bank ban: 5 reasons why airline prohibits use onboard

From October 1, 2025, Emirates has prohibited the use of power banks during flights. Passengers may still carry one power bank under 100 watt-hours (Wh), but the device cannot be used or charged inflight. The airline says the move is based on safety, following a surge in incidents across the aviation industry linked to lithium batteries. Here are the key reasons behind the decision. Rising number of battery incidents Emirates says its safety review revealed a steady increase in lithium battery-related incidents worldwide. Risk of ‘thermal runaway’ Power banks rely on lithium-ion or lithium-polymer cells, which can overheat if overcharged or damaged. This can trigger a self-accelerating process called thermal runaway, potentially leading to fire or



explosions. Lack of safeguards in cheaper devices Unlike smartphones and advanced electronics, many power banks do not include trickle-charging systems

to prevent overcharging. This makes them more vulnerable.

Rapid response Under the new rules, power banks must be stored in seat pockets or under seats, not in overhead bins. Emirates says this ensures crew can respond immediately if a device overheats. Global industry trend A Reuters report noted that in 2024, the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) documented an average of three incidents involving overheating lithium batteries on aircraft every two weeks worldwide, up sharply from fewer than one incident per week in 2018.

News Courtesy: <https://www.khaleejtimes.com>

## Ryanair Is Ditching Paper Boarding Passes

As confirmed last month, Ryanair is moving to a fully app-based boarding pass system in November that will almost completely cut physical boarding passes from its operations, barring a few exceptions. The airline promises the digital move will streamline the passenger experience and lead to quicker queues, as well as saving approximately 300 tonnes of paper each year.

This means that Ryanair passengers can no longer choose to print out their boarding passes, and must instead check-in online via the myRyanair app. The carrier says that almost 80% of its passengers do this already, but that still leaves a sizable portion who prefer to check in the traditional way.

Ryanair chief Michael O'Leary has played down concerns, stating that the airline will assist any passengers as needed. Most importantly, passengers need to make sure they check-in online before arriving at the airport to avoid any added charges. O'Leary told Wales Live,

"Almost 100 per cent of passengers have smartphones, and we want to move everybody onto the smartphone technology. Just make sure you check in online before you get to the airport, and then all will be fine."



There are several viable scenarios that could prevent a passenger from accessing their digital boarding pass. For example, if a phone is lost or runs out of battery and therefore cannot present a boarding code, or those who don't even own a smartphone having no method of carrying a boarding pass. Ryanair claims its staff will be able to assist passengers in such instances and issue a paper boarding pass for free, provided the passenger has already checked in online.

In cases with unreliable internet access, Ryanair says its boarding passes are automatically saved once check-in is complete, allowing them to be accessed offline. Passes can be found on the myRyanair app under the 'My Bookings' menu. The exceptions to Ryanair's new policy include any flights from Morocco or from Tirana, Albania, all of which require printed boarding passes.

New Courtesy: <https://simpleflying.com/>

## Riyadh Air commences operations

October 26, 2025, marked a milestone for Saudi Arabia's new national carrier: Riyadh Air completed its inaugural passenger service to London Heathrow on October 26, 2025.

The flight, designated RX401, departed Riyadh King Khalid International Airport at 3:26 a.m. local time and landed at London Heathrow six hours and 48 minutes later. The aircraft used was a Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner (HZ-RXX), nicknamed Jamila ("beautiful" in Arabic). This jet has been serving as Riyadh Air's technical spare and training aircraft since early 2025, leased from Oman Air while the airline awaits delivery of its own new fleet.

For this inaugural service, the passenger list was limited to Riyadh Air employees, staff from the Public Investment Fund (PIF) — the Saudi sovereign wealth fund backing the airline — and invited partners and guests. The airline has stated that this "insiders-only" approach will continue for the next few flights as it fine-tunes operations before opening to the general public.

The London route is the first step in Riyadh Air's



ambitious plan to connect Riyadh to more than 100 destinations by 2030, in line with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 strategy. Daily service to Heathrow will be followed by the launch of flights to Dubai (DXB) in the coming weeks.

This inaugural flight also comes after Riyadh Air secured its Air Operator Certificate (AOC) in April

2025, and it represents the airline's official entry into the global market. The carrier has major fleet orders in place — including 72 Boeing 787s, 60 Airbus A321neos, and up to 50 Airbus A350s — with the first brand-new aircraft expected to arrive before the end of 2025.

New Courtesy: <https://worldairlinenews.com>

## IndiGo converts MoU for 30 more Airbus A350 aircraft, will compete fully against Air India

IndiGo, India's largest airline, has finalized a commitment for 30 Airbus A350 aircraft, converting a Memorandum of Understanding signed in June into a firm order. This brings the airline's total A350 orders to 60 aircraft. The expanded order marks a strategic shift for IndiGo as it prepares to enter the long-haul international market, leveraging the A350's long range and efficiency to support its global ambitions.

IndiGo has made a decisive move into the long-haul market with its order for the Airbus A350. The airline has committed to 60 A350-900s, powered by Rolls-Royce Trent XWB-84 engines, with deliveries beginning in 2027 and continuing into the early 2030s. This marks a major shift for IndiGo, which has until now focused almost exclusively on short- and medium-haul operations with its large fleet of Airbus A320 family aircraft. The A350 order also includes purchase rights for an additional 40 aircraft, giving the airline flexibility to expand further if the strategy proves successful.



The A350-900's range of around 15,000 kilometers will allow IndiGo to launch non-stop flights from India to North America, Europe, and Australia. Likely destinations under consideration include New York, San Francisco, Toronto, London, Paris, Frankfurt, Sydney, and Melbourne. These routes would place IndiGo in direct competition with Air India, which currently dominates India-U.S. non-stops and is in the midst of its own widebody renewal program.

IndiGo has not yet revealed its final cabin layout, but industry reports suggest a two-class configuration with a lie-flat business class product and a high-density economy cabin. This would be a departure from IndiGo's traditional all-economy

model, but necessary to compete on long-haul routes where premium demand is strong. The airline is expected to leverage its low-cost DNA to keep fares competitive while still offering a product that appeals to business and leisure travelers alike.

The competitive landscape is shaping up as a battle between IndiGo's cost efficiency and scale versus Air India's premium positioning and alliance partnerships. Air India is betting on a full-service model with upgraded cabins, lounges, and Star Alliance connectivity, while IndiGo will rely on its massive domestic network to feed long-haul flights and its reputation for operational efficiency. By 2030, IndiGo aims to be a true global player, challenging not only Air India but also Gulf carriers like Emirates and Qatar Airways by offering direct, lower-cost alternatives from India to key intercontinental markets.

New Courtesy: <https://worldairlinenews.com>

## DRUKAIR AND THAI AIRWAYS INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED (THAI) SIGN INTERLINE AGREEMENT TO ENHANCE CONNECTIVITY

Drukair - Royal Bhutan Airlines and Thai Airways have signed an Interline Agreement to enhance travel convenience and strengthen network connectivity between the two national carriers. The signing ceremony took place in Paro, Bhutan represented by Mr. Tandi Wangchuk, CEO of Drukair, and Mr. Chai Eamsiri, CEO of Thai Airways, alongside Mr. Ujjwal Deep Dahal, CEO of Druk Holding and Investments, and members of the Drukair Board of Directors.

This collaboration marks an important milestone in expanding seamless travel options between Bhutan and destinations across Thai Airways' global network. Through this partnership, passengers will benefit from through check-in for both passengers and baggage to their final destination, convenient connections via Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi Airport, and competitive interline fares all on a single ticket. The agreement opens up convenient one-stop connections for passengers traveling between Bhutan and destinations across Northern Asia, Australia, and domestic points in Thailand, further promoting tourism and business travel between the two nations.

Together, Drukair and Thai Airways continue to expand opportunities for travelers by making journeys between Bhutan and the world more accessible, efficient, and enjoyable.



## CEBU PACIFIC SHINES AT THE 2025 ESG BUSINESS AWARDS

Cebu Pacific (PSE: CEB) earned two international recognitions at the 2025 ESG Business Awards in Malaysia for "Sustainable Transportation" and "Diversity & Inclusion", placing the airline among top Asian companies for environmental, social, and governance (ESG) excellence.

The ESG Business Awards is one of the region's premier platforms recognizing organizations that set benchmarks in corporate social responsibility, diversity and inclusion, and sustainable growth.

"As Cebu Pacific grows, we want affordable travel to also create a positive impact for people and communities," said Candice Iyog, CEB Chief Marketing and Customer Experience Officer. "Inclusivity and sustainability remain central to how we shape the future of travel."

CEB has long been a leader in workplace inclusivity. It was the first airline in Southeast Asia to receive Great Place to Work® certification in 2024 and among the first to hire openly transgender cabin crew. The airline also surpasses global benchmarks for women in leadership, runs internship programs for neurodiverse students, and extends health and travel benefits to same-sex and common-law partners.

"Our workforce—spanning 31 nationalities, 15 employee groups, and people of all genders, faiths, and abilities—enables Cebu Pacific to adapt, grow, and deliver for our customers. This recognition belongs to our teammates who support and uplift one another. At Cebu Pacific, we don't just move people; we move progress," said Felix Lopez, CEB Chief Human Resources Officer.

The carrier has also taken significant steps in sustainability by modernizing its fleet and adopting fuel-efficient practices. CEB ranked 18th among global carriers in the Cirium Flight Emissions Review 2024, posting one of the industry's lowest carbon intensities at 62.4 grams of CO<sub>2</sub> per available seat kilometer. With one of the youngest fleets in Asia, CEB saved nearly 50 million kilograms of fuel and avoided more than 150,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions last year.

CEB also remains the only low-cost carrier (LCC) in Southeast Asia to secure a sustainability-linked loan



(SLL), directly tying its financing terms to its emission-reduction goals.

"Sustainability is integral to Cebu Pacific's growth strategy," said Aileen Isidro, Vice President for CEB Corporate Strategy and Risk Officer. "By aligning affordable travel with responsible operations, we ensure that our expansion is both competitive and future-ready."

With a network spanning 36 domestic and 27 international destinations across Asia, Australia, and the Middle East, CEB continues to strengthen its role as a champion of inclusive and sustainable travel, while staying true to its mission of providing affordable and accessible flights for every Juan.

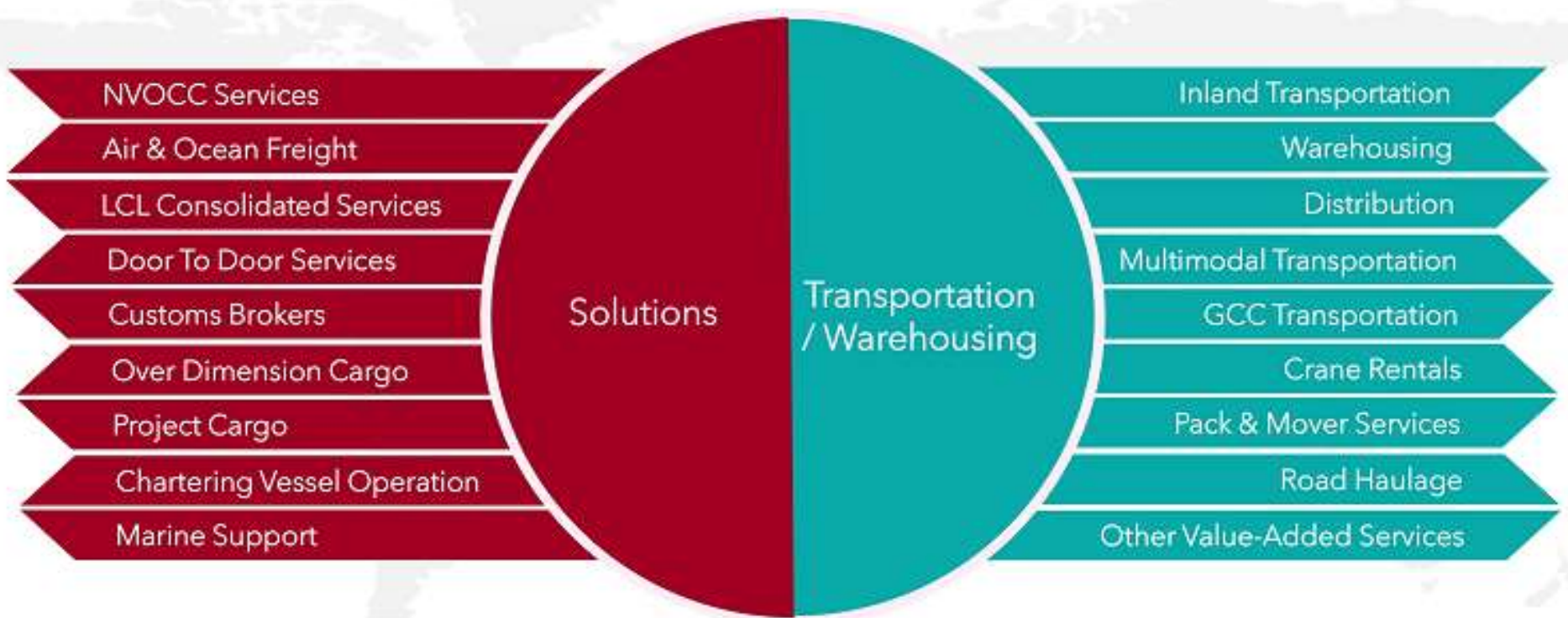


Company Profile



شركة قيصر العالمية للشحن الجوي ذ.م.م.  
Caesars Int'l Shipping & Logistics Co. W.L.L.

## OUR SERVICES



## CONTACT US

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## Thousands march in Serbia to mark deadly train station collapse a year ago

Thousands of Serbian youth are marching across the country before a mass rally in the northern town of Novi Sad, marking the first anniversary of a train station collapse that prompted the country's biggest antigovernment protest movement in decades.

The roof failure on November 1 last year killed 16 people, including four children, and led to ongoing calls to remove the right-wing populist President Aleksandar Vucic. Protesters have blamed deep-seated government corruption and demanded snap elections, which Vucic has ignored.

In the capital of Belgrade on Thursday, university students waved flags as they started the 90km (56-mile) march to Novi Sad, where they are expected to join tens of thousands of other protesters on Saturday.

Others have been marching for weeks, including from the southwestern town of Novi Pazar, more than 300km (185 miles) from Novi Sad, reported Al Jazeera's Milena Veselinovic.

"The main reason we decided to do the walk is the 16 victims, and the fact that even after one year, no one has been held responsible for their deaths," Emina Spahic, one of the Novi Pazar students, told Al Jazeera.

Enes Dzogovic, another student, said people in even



"the most remote places" had aided the students with "whatever we need" along the road.

"They're always there to help us," he said.

News Courtesy: <https://www.aljazeera.com>

## Netherlands centrist party wins big in election as far right loses support

The centre-left D66 has almost tripled its seats in parliament, while the far-right Freedom Party suffered a sharp decrease in its representation from its

Exit polls and early results had indicated a narrow victory for the progressive D66, with Wilders, 62, trailing in second place. But vote counting indicated a



record win in 2023.

The centre-left D66 party has made huge gains in the Netherlands' general election, with it likely taking the lead in government formation talks as the far-right Freedom Party (PVV) haemorrhaged support among voters.

With 90 percent of the votes counted early on Thursday, D66 and PVV were both projected to take 26 seats in the 150-seat lower house of parliament.

The results marked a sharp fall for PVV leader Geert Wilders, sometimes known as the "Dutch Trump", from a record showing in 2023, while D66 made the biggest gains and almost tripled its seats.

slightly stronger showing for Wilders.

Whatever the final result, Wilders is virtually certain not to be prime minister, as all mainstream parties have ruled out governing with him.

Wilders on Wednesday evening said he was disappointed that his party had lost seats and acknowledged that he would likely not be part of the next government. But he promised to fight on from the opposition.

"Of course, we would have liked to win more seats, and I regret the loss, but it's not as if we were wiped off the map," he said.

News Courtesy: <https://www.aljazeera.com>

## Putin meets top North Korean diplomat, says ties developing as planned

Russia's President Vladimir Putin has met North Korea's Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui in the latest high-level engagement between the two countries, which have strengthened ties during the Ukraine war.

Footage released by Russian state news agencies showed Putin greeting Choe in the Kremlin on Monday. Russia's top diplomat Sergey Lavrov also appeared at the meeting.

Putin said the countries' "relations and development prospects" are progressing "according to plan", and



extended regards to North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, according to Russia's Sputnik news agency. Choe, in turn, passed on "warm wishes" from Kim, having earlier praised the "spiritual closeness" of the two nations' relationship in talks with Lavrov.

Russia and North Korea, both under extensive Western sanctions, have significantly bolstered ties in recent years, including signing a 2024 defence pact committing each country to provide military support to the other in the event of "aggression".

Since then, North Korea has sent around 10,000 troops to join Russia's war against Ukraine, at least 600 of whom have died in combat, according to estimates from Seoul and Kyiv.

News Courtesy: <https://www.aljazeera.com>

## Democrats push fight against Trump in California redistricting effort

On a warm Saturday afternoon in the town of Goleta, Aubrie Lugo, a local volunteer, walked down a suburban sidewalk with a stack of flyers.

It was her first time knocking on doors for a political campaign, but she said she felt compelled to get involved in the fight to pass a statewide measure known as Proposition 50.

“It feels like a dire situation,” Lugo said, as she eyed houses festooned with Halloween decorations. “We’re trying to fight the rigging of our democracy.”

Proposition 50 is a measure on the November 4 ballot in California, but its success or failure will have implications for elections beyond 2025.

The measure gives California voters a choice: whether or not to adopt a congressional map designed to net the Democratic Party five additional seats in the United States House of Representatives.

Proponents say the move is necessary to counteract similar Republican efforts elsewhere in the country. Opponents argue that Proposition 50 would strip California Republicans of their voice in Congress.

Both sides have framed their campaigns as a fight to uphold democracy and ensure fair representation.

The outcome of Tuesday’s vote is likely to weigh heavily on the 2026 midterm elections, where control



of the House of Representatives is up for grabs.

President Trump’s Republican Party currently holds a slim majority in the chamber, and next year’s midterms are likely to serve as a referendum on his second term in the White House.

To help keep control of the House majority, Trump himself has successfully pushed for partisan maps to be drawn in Republican strongholds like Texas.

News Courtesy: <https://www.aljazeera.com>

## Trump says Xi assured him China won’t take action on Taiwan



United States President Donald Trump has said that his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping has assured him that Beijing will not attempt to unify Taiwan with mainland China while the Republican leader is in office.

Trump said on Sunday that the long-contentious issue of Taiwan “never even came up as a subject” when he met with Xi in South Korea on Thursday for their first face-to-face meeting in six years. The meeting largely focused on US-China trade tensions.

“He has openly said, and his people have openly said at meetings, ‘We would never do anything while

President Trump is president’, because they know the consequences,” Trump said in an interview with the CBS 60 Minutes programme that aired on Sunday.

Asked in the interview whether he would order US forces into action if China moved militarily on Taiwan, Trump demurred.

The US, under both Republican and Democratic administrations, has maintained a policy of “strategic ambiguity” on Taiwan – trying not to tip its hand on whether the US would come to the island’s aid in such a scenario.

“You’ll find out if it happens, and he understands the

answer to that,” said Trump, referring to Xi.

But Trump declined to spell out what he meant in the interview conducted on Friday at his Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida, adding: “I can’t give away my secrets. The other side knows.”

US officials have long been concerned about the possibility of China using military force against Taiwan, the self-governed island democracy Beijing claims as part of its territory.

The 1979 Taiwan Relations Act, which has governed US relations with the island, does not require the US to step in militarily if China invades but makes it US policy to ensure Taiwan has the resources to defend itself and prevent any unilateral change of status by Beijing.

Liu Pengyu, a spokesman for the Chinese Embassy in Washington, DC, did not respond directly to a query from The Associated Press news agency about whether Trump has received any assurances from Xi or Chinese officials about Taiwan. He insisted in a statement that China “will never allow any person or force to separate Taiwan from China in any way”.

“The Taiwan question is China’s internal affair, and it is the core of China’s core interests. How to resolve the Taiwan question is a matter for the Chinese people ourselves, and only the Chinese people can decide it,” the statement added.

The White House also did not provide further details about when Xi or Chinese officials conveyed to Trump that military action on Taiwan was off the table for the duration of the Republican’s presidency.

The 60 Minutes interview was Trump’s first appearance on the show since he settled a lawsuit this summer with CBS News over its interview with then-Vice-President Kamala Harris. Trump alleged that the interview had been deceptively edited to benefit the Democratic Party before the 2024 presidential election. Trump initially sought \$10bn in damages, later raising the claim to \$20bn.

News Courtesy: <https://www.aljazeera.com>

## Hurricane Melissa death toll rises to 28 in Jamaica

The number of people killed in Jamaica as a result of Hurricane Melissa has risen to 28, the Caribbean nation's prime minister has announced.

Andrew Holness confirmed nine other deaths on Saturday, adding that there were reports of possible fatalities still being verified - suggesting the figure may yet rise.

Emergency responders and aid agencies have struggled to reach certain parts of the island in the aftermath of the storm due to blocked roads, debris and flooding.

The category five hurricane - the strongest type - has caused dozens of deaths across the Caribbean, bringing powerful winds and landslides to Cuba and Haiti.

The full scale of the destruction Melissa wrought on Jamaica has only become clear in the past few days as the hurricane knocked out communication systems and power to much of the island after it made landfall on Tuesday.

Communities on the island's western portion, such as Black River and Montego Bay, have seen the worst of the destruction.

Images have emerged showing buildings razed to the ground, debris and belongings strewn on streets, and whole neighbourhoods still under floodwater.

The Red Cross says that 72% of people across Jamaica still do not have electricity and around 6,000 are in emergency shelters.

Jamaican officials confirmed to news agency AFP that multiple field hospitals were being established to treat people in the worst-affected areas in the west.

Aid reaching those in need was initially held up by the temporary closure of Jamaica's airports.



Now that it is arriving in the country, landslides, downed power lines and fallen trees have made certain roads impassable - complicating its distribution.

With so many in need of clean drinking water, food and medicine, there have been reports of desperate people entering supermarkets and pharmacies to gather what they can.

Melissa has become the most powerful storm on record to hit Jamaica, and one of the strongest seen in the Caribbean.

At its peak, the hurricane had sustained winds of 185mph (295 km/h). A category five hurricane - those capable of catastrophic damage - has winds in excess of 157mph.

At least 31 people have been killed in Haiti as a result

of Melissa, while at least two deaths have been reported in the Dominican Republic.

In Cuba, thousands of people have been evacuated as more than 60,000 homes have been damaged or destroyed.

The impact of climate change on the frequency of storms is still unclear, but increased sea surface temperatures warm the air above and make more energy available to drive hurricanes, cyclones and typhoons. As a result, they are likely to be more intense with more extreme rainfall.

Ahead of the start of this year's Atlantic hurricane season, the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predicted above-normal activity.

News Courtesy: <https://www.bbc.com>

## Kenyan landslide kills 21 after heavy rainfall



The Kenyan government has confirmed that 21 people have died following a landslide in the western part of the country after heavy rainfall.

Interior Minister Kipchumba Murkomen said the bodies had been transferred to a nearby airstrip after the landslide in Marakwet East late on Friday night.

He said on X that more than 30 people were still unaccounted for after being reported missing by their families while 25 people with serious injuries had been airlifted to receive further medical attention.

The Kenyan Red Cross, which is helping to coordinate rescue efforts, said that the most affected areas are still not accessible by road due to mudslides and flash flooding.

The Kenyan government paused the search and rescue operation on Saturday evening but said it would resume on Sunday.

"Preparation to supply more food and non-food relief items to the victims is underway," said Murkomen, adding: "Military and police choppers are on standby to transport the items."

Kenya is in its second rainy season when it usually experiences a few weeks of wet weather compared to a heavier, more prolonged period earlier in the year.

The government has urged people living near seasonal rivers as well as areas that experienced landslides on Friday to move to safer ground.

Meanwhile, flash flooding and landslides in Uganda,

near the border with Kenya, have killed a number of people since last Wednesday.

On Saturday, the Uganda Red Cross said another mudslide had occurred in Kapsomo village in the east of the country, destroying a house and killing four people inside.

The Red Cross said floods had severely affected most villages near riverbanks in the Bulambuli District.

It said continuous heavy rainfall had caused the River Astiri and the River Sipi "to overflow, resulting in widespread destruction of homes, crop fields, and community infrastructure".

News Courtesy: <https://www.bbc.com>

## Health Tips for Adults

Consuming healthy foods, beverages, and snacks, and getting regular physical activity may help you reach and maintain a healthy body weight. Making suitable lifestyle choices may also help men and women prevent some health problems.

Here's a quick overview of some ways to eat better and be more active.

Choose whole grains more often. Try whole-wheat breads and pastas, oatmeal, or brown rice.

Select a mix of colorful vegetables. Vegetables of different colors provide a variety of nutrients. Try collards, kale, spinach, squash, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes.

At restaurants, eat only half of your meal and take the rest home.

Walk in parks, around a track, or in your neighborhood with your family or friends.

Make getting physical activity a priority.

Try to do at least 150 minutes a week of moderate-intensity aerobic activity, like biking or brisk walking.

If your time is limited, work in small amounts of activity throughout your day.

Learn more ways to move more and eat better—for yourself and your family!

### Healthy Weight

If it is tough to manage your weight, you are certainly not alone in today's world. In fact, more than 39 percent of American adults have obesity.<sup>1</sup> Excess weight may lead to heart disease, type 2 diabetes, kidney disease, and other chronic health problems. Setting goals to improve your health may help you lower the chances of developing weight-related health problems.

#### How can you tell if you are at a healthy weight?

Your body mass index (BMI) can help you determine if you are at a healthy weight, overweight, or have obesity. BMI is a measure based on your weight in relation to your height. A BMI of 18.5 to 24.9 is in the healthy range. A person with a BMI of 25 to 29.9 is considered overweight. Someone with a BMI of 30 or greater is considered to have obesity.

Another important measure is your waist size. Women with a waist size of more than 35 inches, and men with a waist size of more than 40 inches, may be more likely to develop health problems. Men are more likely than women to carry extra weight around their abdomen, or belly. Extra fat, especially in the abdomen, may put people at risk for certain health problems, even if they are not overweight.

#### What are some health risks of being overweight or having obesity?

Extra weight may increase your risk for

- type 2 diabetes
- heart disease and stroke
- high blood cholesterol
- high blood pressure
- kidney disease
- fatty liver disease
- problems with pregnancy
- certain types of cancer

#### Why do some people become overweight?

Many factors, including consuming more calories than you need from food and beverages, lack of sleep, and low levels of physical activity, may play a part in gaining excess weight. Here are some factors that may influence weight and overall health.

The world around you. Your home, community, and



workplace all may affect how you make daily lifestyle choices. Food and beverages high in fat, added sugar, and calories are easy to find and sometimes hard to avoid. And they often cost less than healthier choices like fruits and vegetables. On top of that, smartphones and other devices may make it easy for you to be less active in your daily routine.

Families. Overweight and obesity tend to run in families, suggesting that genes may play a role in weight gain. Families also share food preferences and habits that may affect how much, when, and what we eat and drink.

Medicines. Some medicines, such as steroids and some drugs for depression and other chronic health problems, may lead to weight gain. Ask your health care professional or pharmacist about whether weight gain is a possible side effect of medicines you are taking and if there are other medicines that can help your health without gaining weight.

Emotions. Sometimes people snack, eat, or drink more when they feel bored, sad, angry, happy, or stressed—even when they are not hungry. Consider

whether it might be your emotions making you want to eat, and try doing something else to help you cope with negative feelings or celebrate your good mood. That can help you feel better and avoid weight gain.

Lack of sleep. In general, people who get too little sleep tend to weigh more than those who get enough sleep.<sup>2</sup> There are several possible explanations. Sleep-deprived people may be too tired to exercise. They may take in more calories simply because they are awake longer and have more opportunities to eat. Lack of sleep may also disrupt the balance of hormones that control appetite. Researchers have noticed changes in the brains of people who are sleep deprived. These changes may spark a desire for tasty foods.<sup>3</sup> Learn more about sleep deprivation and deficiency and strategies for getting enough sleep.

### Consuming Healthy Food and Beverages

Being aware of food portion size, the kinds of foods and beverages you consume, and how often you have them may be a step to help you make healthier food choices.

#### What kinds of foods and drinks should I consume?

Visit [MyPlate.gov](https://www.MyPlate.gov) External link to learn more about what kinds of food and drinks to consume and what kinds to limit so you can have a healthy eating plan.

Consume more nutrient-rich foods. Nutrients like vitamins, minerals and dietary fiber - nourish our bodies by giving them what they need to be healthy. Adults are encouraged to consume some of the following foods and beverages that are rich in nutrients.



PHOTO OF THIS EDITION

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## Caesars Travel Receives Top Selling Award from Akasa Air

## Caesars Showcase

Caesars Travel has been honored with the Top Selling Award by Akasa Air, recognizing the company's outstanding performance and significant contribution to the airline's sales achievements.

In a special ceremony, the CEO, Mr. P.N.J. Kumar of Caesars Travel Group received a memento from the Akasa Air team as a token of appreciation for the company's excellence and strong partnership.

This prestigious award reflects Caesars Travel dedication to providing exceptional travel services, customer satisfaction, and continuous support to its airline partners. The recognition also reinforces the company's position as one of the leading travel agencies in the region.

Speaking on the occasion, the CEO expressed gratitude to Akasa Air for the recognition and credited the success to the commitment and teamwork of Caesars Travel's employees.

"This award is a testament to our team's relentless



effort and our valued partnership with Akasa Air. We look forward to continuing this successful collaboration and delivering even greater value to our customers," the CEO said.

Caesars Travel Group continues to expand its network and strengthen its relationships with major airlines, maintaining its reputation for excellence in the travel and tourism industry.

## Caesars Travel Honored for Exceptional Revenue Performance with Emirates

Caesars Travel Group has been recognized for its outstanding performance by securing the second position in revenue achievement for Emirates. This remarkable accomplishment reflects the Group's continued excellence, strong customer focus, and strategic contribution to the airline's success in the region.

During a special recognition event, Mr. Kishore V, Director - Operations, Caesars Travel Group, received a memento of appreciation from Mr. Abdulla Al Olama, Vice President - Commercial Operations, Middle East & North Africa (Emirates), and Mr. Khalfan Al Salami, Manager for Kuwait and Iraq (Emirates).

The award underscores Caesars Travel Group's enduring partnership with Emirates and its unwavering commitment to delivering exceptional travel solutions and customer satisfaction. Over the years, Caesars has built a reputation for its professionalism, operational efficiency, and deep understanding of the travel market, enabling it to consistently achieve excellence in airline representation and sales performance.

Expressing his gratitude, Mr. Kishore V shared,

"This recognition from Emirates is a proud moment for all of us at Caesars Travel Group. It reflects the



hard work, dedication, and teamwork of our entire organization. We remain committed to supporting Emirates' growth and providing travelers with world-class service."

Caesars Travel Group's strong position in the travel industry but also reinforces its commitment to fostering successful partnerships with leading global airlines.

The recognition by Emirates not only highlights

## Caesars Cargo Recognized Among Top 5 Agents in Revenue Generation by Emirates Cargo

Caesars Cargo has been proudly recognized as one of the Top 5 Agents in Revenue Generation by Emirates Cargo, reaffirming our consistent performance and commitment to excellence in the air cargo industry.

This recognition highlights the strong partnership between Caesars Cargo and Emirates SkyCargo, built on mutual trust, professionalism, and a shared vision to deliver efficient and reliable logistics solutions to our valued clients.

Speaking on this achievement, Mr. P.N.J. Kumar, CEO of Caesars Travel Group, expressed his appreciation to the Caesars Cargo team for their dedication and to Emirates Cargo for their continued support. He emphasized that this milestone reflects the company's customer-centric approach, operational excellence, and focus on delivering value-added services.

Caesars Cargo continues to play a leading role in providing comprehensive air freight solutions, maintaining strong relationships with global airline partners, and contributing to the growth of the logistics sector in the region.



We thank Emirates Cargo for this recognition and look forward to achieving greater milestones together.

# Cruise Center wins Royal Caribbean - Royal Ambassador 2025 and MSC – Best Producer 2025

**Caesars Showcase**

Cruise Center a leading provider of cruise solutions for travel agencies and corporate partners, is proud to announce that it has been honored with the Royal Ambassador and Best Producer for the year 2025 by the Royal Caribbean Arabia and MSC Cruises. The prestigious award recognizes Cruise Center and our Partners' outstanding performance.

This win solidifies Cruise Center's position as an industry leader, reflecting its commitment to excellence in the B2B cruise sector.

Jyothi Jayakumar, Manager at Cruise Center, said, "We are deeply honored to receive these recognition from the Leading Cruise Companies. This award is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our entire team, as well as the trust and loyalty of our valued travel partners."

The company attributes its success to focus on quality and timely services. Moving forward, Cruise Center remains committed to pushing boundaries and setting new standards in the industry, with plans to provide training to new agents who have not ventured to Cruise business, creating in-house experts, good market awareness in the form of creative marketing materials.

Established in 2011, Cruise Center provides comprehensive cruise booking and management solutions exclusively for travel professionals and corporate clients. Our platform offers access to a diverse portfolio of cruise lines and itineraries, supported by dedicated tools and resources to help our partners succeed.

Royal Caribbean Arabia and MSC Cruises are the worlds' leading Cruise companies who recognizes excellence and innovation. Their mission is to set and



promote high standards of quality and achievement for individuals using their services worldwide and recognizes the best performance in terms of the not

only cabin sales but also high standard of services.

## 'Traffic': A mirror to society, staged with solemn power

Traffic is a short yet gripping solo play performed by acclaimed theatre actor Govind Santha, nick name of Mr. Sajeesh Kumar working as Global Coordinator at Caesars Travel Group. The poignant narrative unfolds through Vasu, a blind and naïve lottery vendor from Thrissur, Kerala. To Vasu, the world is simple, beautiful and uncorrupted. He believes no one would ever cheat him.

That belief is tested when a local politician offers him charity — the promise of an eye surgery in Cochin that could restore his vision. Vasu returns to his hometown days later, still blind, but with a long surgical scar across his abdomen. Even then, his faith remains untouched: to him, the world is still beautiful, and no one could have deceived him.

Through this single character, Santha exposes a larger truth: how the poor, the voiceless and the fragile are ensnared in the ruthless grip of mafia networks. 'Traffic' is not just a play; it is a mirror held up to society, reflecting the gullible lives that stumble into the traps of the corrupt.

Presented by Street Dogs, the play was staged at the Al-Zumerida Auditorium, Rumaithiya, during the World Malayali Council's Onam celebrations. Written, directed and enacted by Santha himself, the production drew warm appreciation from theatre lovers, who hailed his stirring portrayal of the blind lottery seller.

"This is the third stage for 'Traffic'. Street Dogs is the lone battle — the one-man fight," Santha remarked, reflecting on his group's mission. According to him, Street Dogs was not born for glory or fame, but as "a humble offering, a small contribution to theatre, cinema and literature."

'Traffic' first premiered on March 27, 2025, during



Future Eye Theatre Kuwait's World Theatre Day celebrations, and was staged again on April 11, 2025, at a Kalasadan Kuwait theatre workshop. Behind the scenes, Saurav Kumar, Varghese Kavoerazhikath, Rajesh Kartha, Arshad Ashraf, Rajeev Devanandam, Mohammed Salih, and Anoop N provided technical and production support.

With its haunting simplicity and unflinching social

commentary, 'Traffic' reminds us that sometimes the stage does more than entertain — it compels us to confront the truths we'd rather ignore.

News Courtesy: Mr. Sajeev K. Peter, KUWAIT TIMES

**Editorial**

**Core Trends Shaping the Travel Industry**



**Hyper-Personalization and Experiential Travel**

The "one-size-fits-all" vacation is being replaced by highly customized and authentic journeys.

**Customized Itineraries:** Advanced AI and data analytics allow companies to offer real-time, highly tailored recommendations for itineraries, accommodations, and activities based on individual preferences, past behaviors, and even mood.

**Experiential Focus:** Travelers increasingly seek immersive, transformative experiences that connect them with local culture, nature, or a personal passion (e.g., culinary tourism, book-inspired trips, or adventure sports).

**Identity-Driven Travel:** Trips are becoming a way to express personal identity, with trends emerging like "fantasy-inspired getaways" or using travel as a "relationship testing" compatibility challenge.

**The Rise of Sustainable and Responsible Tourism**

Environmental and social consciousness is moving from a niche market to a mainstream expectation.

**Eco-Conscious Choices:** Consumers are actively seeking eco-friendly accommodations, carbon offset programs, and responsible tour operators.

**Mitigating Overtourism:** AI and Big Data are being used to manage tourist flows, helping destinations predict crowds and disperse visitors to lesser-known, equally enriching areas, which protects fragile ecosystems and local communities.

**Community Engagement:** There is a growing focus on local, community-based experiences that ensure the economic benefits of tourism are distributed more equitably.

**Technological Revolution**

Emerging technologies, especially AI, are fundamentally changing how travel is planned, booked, and experienced.

**Artificial Intelligence (AI):** AI is central to personalization, predictive pricing, and resource optimization (e.g., fuel-efficient flight paths, smart energy systems in hotels). Generative AI tools are simplifying trip planning and acting as sophisticated virtual travel agents.

**Immersive Technologies (AR/VR):** Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) are used both for immersive pre-trip planning (virtual hotel and destination tours) and for enhancing the on-site experience (e.g., AR historical overlays).

**Smart & Contactless Travel:** The pandemic accelerated the adoption of contactless technologies, including biometric check-ins, mobile-first bookings, and smart hotel rooms managed by IoT (Internet of Things) for increased efficiency and hygiene.

**Economic Outlook and Long-Term Forecasts**

The global tourism sector is demonstrating strong resilience and recovery, with the long-term outlook being positive, though influenced by global challenges:

**Full Recovery and Growth:** International tourist arrivals and tourism's contribution to global GDP have largely recovered to pre-pandemic levels or are projected to do so very soon. The sector is forecasted to grow at a faster rate than the broader global economy in the coming decade.

**Economic Drivers:** High demand for leisure travel, a resurgence in domestic and regional travel, and a strong rebound in international receipts (visitor spending) are fueling the growth.

**Geopolitical and Economic Challenges:** The industry must navigate persistent challenges like inflation (which raises travel costs), geopolitical tensions, and the growing impact of extreme weather events due to climate change.

In summary, the future of travel will be defined by smarter, more personalized, and more responsible experiences, driven by technological innovation and a stronger commitment to environmental and social sustainability.

**The Rise of "Phygital" & Blended Experiences**

The line between the physical and digital worlds will blur completely.

**Augmented Reality (AR) Overlays:** Imagine pointing your phone at a ruin, and seeing it rebuilt in its former glory. Or using AR glasses for real-time navigation and information overlays in a museum.

**The Metaverse as a Travel Planner:** Travelers will take virtual "test-drives" of destinations, hotels, and experiences in the metaverse before booking. This will be a powerful tool for inspiration and confidence-building.

**Digital Concierges & AI Guides:** AI-powered assistants (like a more advanced version of ChatGPT) will provide real-time, contextual recommendations, translate menus instantly, and manage itinerary changes on the fly.

**The Sustainability Imperative**

This is no longer a niche concern but a central pillar of the industry's future.

**Carbon Transparency & Offsetting:** Booking platforms will automatically display the carbon footprint of flights and hotels, making it easier for travelers to make informed, eco-conscious choices. Offsetting will become more integrated and credible.

**Regenerative Travel:** Going beyond "do no harm," travelers will seek experiences that actively help the destination—like volunteering for conservation projects or staying at hotels that directly fund local communities.

**Slow Travel & Secondary Cities:** To avoid overtourism, people will travel slower, stay longer in one place, and explore lesser-known "second cities" and rural areas, distributing economic benefits more widely.

**Mantra**



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