

UNWTO: 2020 worst year in tourism history with 1 billion fewer international arrivals; prospects of a rebound in 2021 seem to dim

Global tourism suffered its worst year on record in 2020, with international arrivals dropping by 74% according to the latest data from the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). Destinations worldwide welcomed 1 billion fewer international arrivals in 2020 than in the previous year, due to an unprecedented fall in demand and widespread travel restrictions.

This compares with the 4% decline recorded during the 2009 global economic crisis.

According to the latest UNWTO World Tourism Barometer, released at the end of January, the collapse in international travel represents an estimated loss of US\$1.3 trillion in export revenues - more than 11 times the loss recorded during the 2009 global economic crisis. The crisis has put between 100 and 120 million direct tourism jobs at risk, many of them in small and medium-sized enterprises.

Due to the evolving nature of the pandemic, many countries are now **reintroducing stricter travel restrictions**. These include mandatory testing, quarantines and in some cases a complete closure of borders, all impacting the resumption of international travel. At the same time, the gradual rollout of a COVID-19 vaccine is expected to help restore consumer confidence, contribute to the easing travel restrictions and slowly normalize travel during the year ahead.

Recovery outlook remains cautious

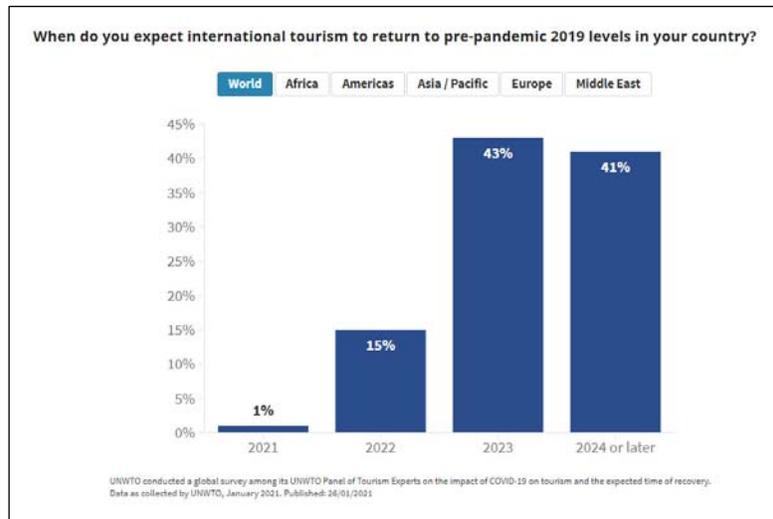
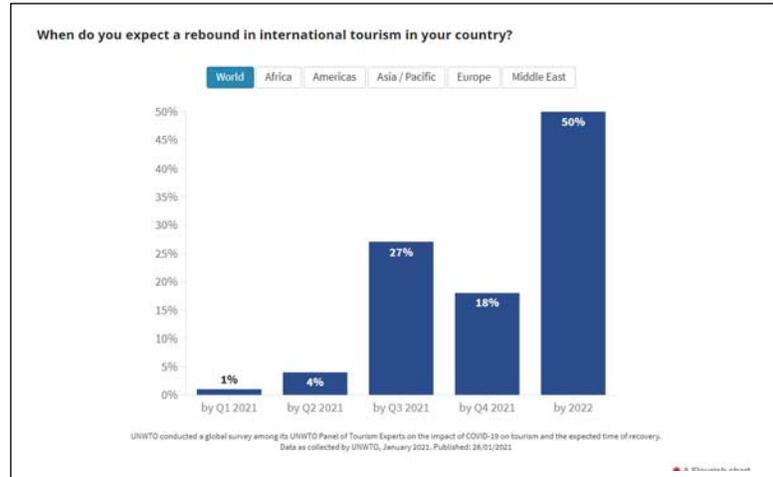
The latest UNWTO Panel of Experts survey shows a mixed outlook for 2021. Almost half of respondents (45%) envisaged better prospects for 2021 compared to last year, while 25% expect a similar performance and 30% foresee a worsening of results in 2021.

The overall **prospects of a rebound in 2021 seem to have worsened**. 50% of respondents now expect a rebound to occur only in 2022 as compared to 21% in October 2020. The remaining half of respondents still see a potential rebound in 2021, though below the expectations shown in the October 2020 survey (79% expected recovery in 2021).

As and when tourism does restart, the UNWTO Panel of Experts foresees growing demand for open-air and nature-based tourism activities, with domestic tourism and 'slow travel' experiences gaining increasing interest.

Looking further ahead, most experts do not see a return to pre-pandemic levels happening before 2023. In fact, 43% of respondents point to 2023, while 41% expect a return to 2019 levels will only happen in 2024 or later.

UNWTO's extended scenarios for 2021-2024 indicate that it could take **two-and-a-half to four years for international tourism to return to 2019 levels**.



All world regions affected

Asia and the Pacific (-84%) - the first region to suffer the impact of the pandemic and the one with the highest level of travel restrictions currently in place - recorded the largest decrease in arrivals in 2020 (300 million fewer). The Middle East and Africa both recorded a 75% decline.

Europe recorded a 70% decrease in arrivals, despite a small and short-lived revival in the summer of 2020. The region suffered the **largest drop in absolute terms**, with over 500 million fewer international tourists in 2020. The Americas saw a 69% decrease in international arrivals, following somewhat better results in the last quarter of the year.

A full overview of the latest global, regional and sub-regional data can be found at the [UNWTO World Tourism Barometer](#) and the [UNWTO Tourism Recovery Tracker](#)

See latest U.S. report on page 2.





CTO joins with UNWTO to use statistics to guide restart of tourism in the Caribbean

The Caribbean Tourism Organization joined with the United Nations World Tourism Organization in a program to address the key challenges its members face in making effective use of statistics to drive the restart of their tourism sectors.

The sessions enabled the Caribbean tourism community to have a better understanding of the fundamentals of tourism statistics.

The regional virtual workshop analyzed the importance of tourism data for supporting the sector in the present and helping tourism to restart in the Caribbean in a timely and sustainable manner. The event focused on the need for enhanced political engagement to developing relevant expertise.

The workshop brought together around 130 participants from 23 States, including the leaders of National Tourism Administrations, National Statistical Offices, Central Banks and Migration authorities.

The high-level status of participants ensures that they will in turn spread UNWTO's technical expertise within their own countries, empowering more tourism professionals with knowledge of how best to analyze and use data to guide decisions, says the CTO.

Welcoming UNWTO's technical assistance, Neil Walters, Acting Secretary General of the Caribbean Tourism Organization said: "We recognize the importance of data and statistics in the development of COVID-19 recovery programs and comprehensive sustainable tourism strategies. We thank the UNWTO for supporting our efforts at capacity building in tourism statistics analysis and reporting in the Caribbean."

He continued: "The workshop also emphasized the relevance of tourism statistics, both for informing the sector's response to the COVID-19 pandemic but also, looking ahead, for its role in guiding sustainable development across the Caribbean region. As with every other global region, the crisis has hit the Caribbean hard. According to the latest UNWTO data, Caribbean destinations experienced a 67% fall in international tourist arrivals in 2020 compared to the previous year.

"Given the reliance of many destinations on the sector, this has placed large numbers of livelihoods and businesses at risk and makes the timely restart of tourism vital," said Walters.

MIA receives \$39.5 million in COVID-19 relief from second CARES Act grant

Miami International Airport was awarded \$39.5 million in COVID-19 relief funding from the federal government, in the second round of airport grants from the Federal Aviation Administration.

The second grant follows \$207 million in funding that MIA received last April from the federal government's [Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security \(CARES\) Act Airport Grant Program](#). MIA has used the first grant to support its ongoing facilitation of essential travel and trade during the pandemic.

Since it received the CARES Act grant, MIA has grown from its lowest point of serving 4,000 daily passengers last April to an average of nearly 60,000 passengers per day within the last 30 days.

During the 17-day winter holiday peak season from December 21 to January 6, MIA served more than 1.1 million passengers. On January 3, MIA welcomed nearly 90,000 travelers, making it the busiest travel day the airport has seen since the pandemic began.

After the pandemic left only five passenger airlines operating at MIA last April, 29 others have either returned or launched new

service. These include low-cost carriers Southwest and JetBlue, which began first-time service at MIA within the last four months. Southwest began 12 daily flights in November and JetBlue launched 14 daily flights on February 10.

JetBlue and Southwest will become two of the busiest passenger airlines at MIA, along with American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, and United Airlines.

"This latest federal grant provides a tremendous amount of relief to MIA and our concessionaire partners, as we progressively build our passenger traffic back to pre-pandemic levels," said Lester Sola, MIA Director and CEO. "The CARES Act grant last year has helped us reach 50% of our passenger volume year over year, and this additional funding – along with the many air service launches we continue to receive - will keep us on an upward trajectory in 2021."

"This additional funding will help MIA continue to lead our local tourism industry and economy to a full recovery from the devastating effects of the pandemic," said Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava.

U.S. passenger traffic plunged to its lowest level since the mid-1980s

U.S. passenger airline traffic fell 60.1% in 2020 to the lowest number since 1984 as the COVID-19 pandemic devastated demand for air travel, reports the U.S. Transportation Department.

Total passenger traffic reached 368 million in 2020, down from 922.6 million in 2019. The previous yearly low was 351.6 million in 1984, according to the DOT's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS).

U.S. domestic air travel fell by 58.7%, while international travel fell 70.4% as many countries imposed significant travel restrictions.

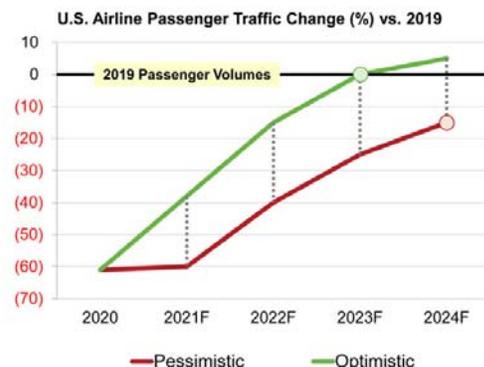
U.S. airlines say air travel demand remains down more than 60% through early February, reports Reuters.

Industry trade group Airlines for America said the nine largest U.S. airlines lost \$46 billion before taxes in 2020. A4A also estimates that passenger volumes are unlikely to return to pre-COVID-19 levels before 2023 or 2024.

We Are Unlikely to See a Return to 2019 Passenger Volumes Before 2023-2024

2021-2022 Clouded by Uncertainty re: State of Pandemic, Vaccination/Therapeutics, Economy

- The Bull Case**
- Better-than-expected vaccine efficacy
 - Accelerating rates of vaccination (worldwide)
 - Fewer travel restrictions
 - Better-than-expected economic outlook/stimulus
 - Business travel resurgence (healthy markets)
 - Personal travel resurgence (record savings)
 - Virtual interactions and dispersion of office workers ("self remotification") and facilities stimulate demand
- The Bear Case**
- Vaccines fail to address new strain(s) of COVID
 - Low rates of vaccine deployment or acceptance
 - Virus persists as people avoid masks and distance
 - Travel restrictions remain despite vaccines/testing
 - Economy falters
 - Business travel lags as companies conserve cash
 - Virtual meeting technologies displace future travel due to cost and/or climate considerations



Source: AAA and various airline equity analysts



WiTR reaches out to industry women with survey to determine future role

Industry networking group Women in Travel Retail (WiTR) is reaching out to members and non-members via a short survey to determine how it can better serve its community. WiTR is the industry's women's forum for those working exclusively in travel retail.

This survey consists of 10 questions and will be emailed to all existing WiTR database contacts. It can also be accessed via this link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZYFQP2C>

"It's a troubled world we are living in and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the duty free and travel retail industry has been seismic and will continue to be felt for some time. Many have been furloughed – or the equivalent – and others have sadly lost their jobs," says WiTR Chair Sarah Branquinho.

"Women in Travel Retail is reaching out to all women in order to shape WiTR for the future. We are seeking your help through completing a survey to help us to recalibrate to the new environment we find ourselves in, to deliver a real sense of community and to help foster a strong supportive group for those working in the duty free and travel retail industry," she explains.

Through the survey WiTR hopes to gain insights on what women working in the industry (at ALL levels) expect from the forum, to gauge views on events – physical and virtual – and to encourage fresh thinking and ideas into the organization.

"There is so much talent within our industry, from the experience and knowledge of women who have been working in the industry for decades to the high levels of technical and digital expertise that many younger women are bringing into the business," continues WiTR vice-chair Gerry Munday.

"Together the women of travel retail are an incredibly powerful force. Over the years, that force has raised huge amounts of money for various worthy causes, changing the lives of children and adults across the globe.

"But fund-raising is just one element of WiTR and, in these particularly difficult times, we want to be there for the women of travel retail in the best way we possibly can. We hope this survey will help us to achieve that by broadening the remit of WiTR. We do hope that as many of you as possible will take part."

WiTR is asking respondents to complete the survey by February 28, 2021.

MAG USA to open new Escape Lounge at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International

Chicago-based MAG USA has been awarded the contract to build and operate an Escape Lounge at Florida's Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) post security in Terminal 3. The contract is a joint venture with Gideon Toal Management and Superior Hospitality Group. MAG USA anticipates this lounge to open near the end of this year.

Escape Lounge FLL will be a common-use lounge that travelers from any airline or status can access upon paying a fee.

The lounge will offer hot and cold chef-curated food, premium alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, ample power outlets, high-speed Wi-Fi, and up-to-the-second flight information.

The 5,000-square-foot lounge will feature plush seating, airfield views and a Florida-inspired aesthetic.

Passengers in Terminal 4 will also be able to access Escape Lounge FLL via the connector walkway between both terminals. Terminal 3 serves JetBlue, as well as Singapore Airlines, Aer Lingus Airlines, American Airlines, British Airways, Hawaiian Airlines, TAP Air Portugal Airlines, Gulf Air Airlines, Emirates Airlines, Qatar Airways Airlines, El Al Airlines,

Ethiad Airlines and Turkish Airlines.

Strict cleaning and safety protocols will be in effect. Protocols include mask requirements, social distancing guides, ample sanitizing stations, digital only reading options and maître d' style food service which delivers food directly to each guest's seat to not only decrease movement around the lounge but to provide guests with a more personalized experience.

Access to Escape Lounge FLL is open to all travelers for \$40 if booked in advance at EscapeLounges.com or \$45 if paid at the door. Escape Lounges are part of the American Express Global Lounge Collection, giving American Express Platinum Card Members complimentary access, along with two guests, to all U.S. locations.

The FLL location will be the site of the second Escape Lounge in South Florida, after MAG USA recently opened one in Palm Beach International.



escape
Lounges

Zachary Sulkes lands senior position with Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH)



Zachary Sulkes, well known and respected from his many years in charge of Bacardi's cruise business, has joined Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) as Beverage Category Manager. Sulkes will have responsibility for all beverage and tobacco purchasing on Norwegian Cruise Line's fleet of 17 ships.

Sulkes has a long relationship with NCLH. He was Manager of Onboard Revenue for the cruise line between 2001-2006. When he moved to Bacardi in 2006 to head the drink company's cruise sector business, Norwegian was one of his key accounts over a 14-year period.

During this time, as International Key Account Manager Cruise, he led the global transformation of Bacardi's activities in the cruise sector, notably developing and executing strategic initiatives that led to sustained growth, increased profitability, and ultimately, a leading market share position.

Sulkes comments, "I'm thrilled to be joining Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings at this pivotal time as we prepare to return to service and again welcome guests back onboard. In the meantime, there's plenty to be done to position NCLH for future success; whether it be streamlining the purchasing process, working more closely with our partners on efficiencies, or planning the onboard beverage range to satisfy consumer preferences."

The Macallan launches The Macallan Anecdotes of Ages Collection, an art and whisky collaboration with Sir Peter Blake

In a special global virtual launch this week, The Macallan unveiled the Anecdotes of Ages Collection, an art and whisky collaboration with globally renowned British pop artist, Sir Peter Blake.

The collaboration, which is The Macallan's third with the iconic artist and is part of a relationship which has spanned more than three decades, celebrates The Macallan's rich legacy and Sir Peter Blake's remarkable contribution to the art world.

At the heart of the collection are 13 one-of-a-kind bottles of 1967 whisky, which have been matured for more than 50 years. The single malt Scotch was carefully selected to represent the year that Sir Peter Blake's signature collages transcended from art into popular culture.

Each bottle features original art

Each individual bottle features its own original Sir Peter Blake collage art on the label, detailing unique stories relating to The Macallan's history, community, and the natural landscape of The Macallan Estate.

Pop artist Sir Peter Blake is renowned for his highly distinctive collages featuring images from popular culture and is best known for his signature crowd work.

The long relationship between The Macallan and Sir Peter Blake has now spanned more than 30 years. In 1986 he collaborated with



The Macallan to create a bespoke label for The Macallan 1926 taking inspiration from the events of the era. In 2012 The Macallan and Sir Peter Blake collaborated again to create a unique, limited edition art piece in celebration of his 80th birthday and decades of collaborating with The Macallan.

Bottle auction to aid museum

As part of The Macallan's support for the arts, one of the 13 Anecdotes of Ages bottles is being auctioned to raise funds to benefit the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum. Support from The Macallan will advance efforts underway at the Guggenheim to increase free access and develop engagement with a variety of audiences, in alignment with the museum's diversity, equity, access, and inclusion initiatives. The sale is being conducted by Sotheby's in March 2021

Sir Peter Blake said: "I am deeply inspired by the incredible legacy of The Macallan, and its emphasis on family, tradition, and the natural world.

"Each collage in the Anecdotes of Ages Collection is inspired by The Macallan's history and heritage, one that respects time and craft, two essential components of my own creative process. I meticulously worked on each collage, pulling from The Macallan Estate's rich history to complete a collage that is a celebration of art and whisky."

The Macallan An Estate, A Community and A Distillery is more commercially priced at an RRSP of US\$1,000.

Sarah Burgess, Lead Whisky Maker at The Macallan, said: "This exceptional 1967 whisky was chosen for its classic yet distinctively colorful character, which is reminiscent of Sir Peter Blake's work of the same year. With notes of oak and fig leading to a burst of hazelnut and strawberry, this is a truly special single malt that finishes with complex flavors of chocolate and lightly spiced peach. It is in many ways, its own work of art."

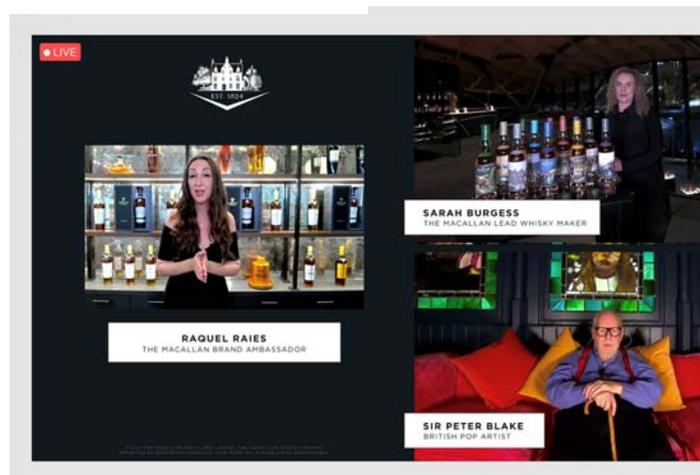
Each of the 13 original bottles are hand-blown with an oak stopper, and feature a label signed by Sir Peter Blake. Presented in a handcrafted European oak case incorporating thumbnail photography revealing Sir Peter Blake's journey with The Macallan, the expressions are also accompanied by a leather-bound book showcasing all 13 label artworks and corresponding stories, as well as a certificate of authenticity.

While the 13th original bottle will be retained in The Macallan archive, a highly limited edition whisky featuring a duplicate label and the same rare 1967 whisky, will be released as **The Anecdotes of Ages Collection: Down to Work Limited Edition**. Only 322 bottles will be available worldwide, from February. A limited quantity will be available in Global Travel Retail exclusively at The Macallan Boutiques from Q2 2021.

The Macallan will later release a further special single malt Scotch created to commemorate Sir Peter Blake's visit to The Macallan Estate. **An Estate, A Community and A Distillery** is displayed in a custom box inspired by Sir Peter Blake's art, alongside a certificate outlining the history and heritage on which the art was based, and Sir Peter Blake's artwork printed on a scroll. This edition will be available in domestic markets globally from February and in The Macallan Boutiques and selected airports globally from Q2 2021.

The RRSP of The Anecdotes of Ages Collection: Down to Work is US \$65,000 / £50,000 / €55,000.

The RRSP of An Estate, A Community and A Distillery is US \$1,000 / £750 / €840.





Summit of the Americas – A Virtual Experience Knowledge Hub Agenda*

DAY 1, 5 APRIL 2021

09:00am EST (GMT—5)

Welcome
IAADFS Chairman René Riedi
ASUTIL President Gustavo Fagundes

09:15am EST (GMT—5)

View from the top:
The CEO Chair
Corporación America Airports
CEO (and ACI World Chair)
Martín Eurnekian

10:30am EST (GMT—5)

Road to Recovery:
The Retailer Perspective
3Sixty Chief Operations Officer
Alex Anson
Motta Internacional Senior Vice
President Aurelio Barria
Dufry General Manager Sub-
Cluster South America Enrique
Urioste

12:00pm EST (GMT—5)

Driving a bright future for brands
in the channel
Hershey International Chief
Commercial Officer William
Pritchett
Essence Corp Vice President
Sales TR North & South
America Antoine Bona/ Vice
President Sales Caribbean
Guillaume Bona
Bacardi Global Travel Retail
Global Head of Marketing
Ignacio Vázquez

DAY 2, 6 APRIL 2021

09:00am EST (GMT—5)

View from the top: The CEO
Chair II
Dallas Fort Worth International
Airport CEO Sean Donohue

10:30am EST (GMT—5)

The Consumer Perspective of
the Travel Experience Today &
Tomorrow

The Points Guy Executive
Editorial Director Scott
Mayerowitz

12:00pm EST (GMT—5)

Blending digitalization and
humanization
Spark Business Services Group
Founder and CEO Heidi van
Roon
ARI-North America General
Manager Jackie McDonagh
Dufry Chief Operating Officer
South America Gustavo
Fagundes
Seryv CXO Jeff Livney

13:00pm EST (GMT—5)

Designing the future: Brand
power and identity in a new
world of travel retail
Designhouse Creative Director
Peter Dobie

14:00pm EST (GMT—5)

Looking Ahead: Travel
Prospects for the Americas
ForwardKeys VP Insights Olivier
Ponti

DAY 3, 7 APRIL 2021

09:00am EST (GMT—5)

View from the top: The CEO
Chair III
JFKIAT (New York T4)
President & CEO Roel Huinink

10:30am EST (GMT—5)

Rebuilding the Border Store
Business from North to South
Neutral by Luryx Duty Free
Shop CEO Marcelo Montico
Duty Free Americas CEO
Jerome Falic
IDL Vice President Justin Guay

12:00pm EST (GMT—5)

The Economic Outlook for Latin
America
Economist Carlos Melconian

13:00pm EST (GMT—5)

From Crisis to Opportunity,
Travel Essentials to Speciality
Retail
Marshall Retail Group Chief
Development Officer Roderick
McOwan
Stellar Partners CEO Padraig
Drennan
Hudson CEO Roger Fordyce
Paradies Lagardère President &
CEO Gregg Paradies

14:00pm EST (GMT—5)

DFNI AWARDS

DAY 4, 8 APRIL 2021

09:00am EST (GMT—5)

The Future for Airlines: A Big
Picture View
ALTA (Latin American &
Caribbean Air Transport
Association) Executive Director
& CEO José Ricardo Botelho

10:30am EST (GMT—5)

Shaping a New Future for the
Cruise & Maritime Sector
Starboard Cruise Services
President & CEO Lisa Bauer
Harding Deputy Managing
Director Mark Birnie
Heinemann Americas CEO
Nadine Heubel
SMT Duty Free Executive Vice
President Eddie Ferenczi

12:00pm EST (GMT—5)

TRB Sustainability Panel

13:00pm EST (GMT—5)

What does recovery look like in
the airport concessions
business?
A panel lead by the Airport
Restaurant & Retail Association

A discussion of the state of
health of airport concessions in
North America touching on
2020 financials, expected
recovery in 2021; themes
include capital,

debt, fees/MAGs, operations,
staff, investment and
competition. And what airports
and government can and should
do to support the industry.
Featuring leading travel
retailers/restaurateurs from
North America.

14:15pm EST (GMT—5)

View from the Top: The CEO
Chair IV
Vancouver Airport Authority
President & CEO Tamara
Vrooman

DAY 5, 9 APRIL 2021

09:00am EST (GMT—5)

Towards A New Business Model
Case study: PT&M Managing
Director Eric Trichot
International Shoppes Director
Matthew Greenbaum
Midway Partnership CEO (and
Vantage Airport Group Chief
Commercial Officer) Sammy
Patel

10:00am EST (GMT—5)

Rating the Airport Experience
J.D. Power Travel Practice Lead
Michael Taylor

11:00am EST (GMT—5)

Prioritising People and the
Planet
Walmart Senior Vice President
Sustainability Jane Ewing

12:00pm EST (GMT—5)

Motivation & Leadership
Laura Surraco/Roberto Canessa

"I had to survive"

12:30pm EST (GMT—5)

Closing remarks
IAADFS Chairman René Riedi
ASUTIL President Gustavo
Fagundes

*Times subject to change

Lancôme TR Americas and Dufry open Lancôme's biggest flagship in South America



Lancôme Travel Retail Americas and Dufry have partnered to open Lancôme's biggest flagship in South America.

The 43sqm store opened at the international departures area of Terminal 3 of São Paulo International Airport (GRU Airport) on January 31, 2021.

Lancôme's new flagship features numerous eye-catching screens and embraces the values of the brand – joy, happiness, and

generosity –while offering shoppers a personalized, unique, and immersive retail experience.

Fragrance and skincare best sellers, including La vie est belle and Advanced Génifique are given star-treatment on unique “iconization” tables, says the company.

Lancôme make-up pillars such as Hypnôse Mascara, Teint Idole Ultra and l'Absolue Rouge are displayed on tech-powered sharing tables.

Customers' behaviors have evolved since the beginning of the pandemic, says the company, and the new flagship offers in-store beauty-tech innovations that enables a more flexible, digitalized, and personalized alternative to the former testing experience.

The Virtual Try-On tool powered by AI algorithms, for example, allows customers to test Lancôme's full range of makeup products safely.

Traveling shoppers visiting the new store will also be offered a bespoke gifting experience through an engraving station for selected products as well as a wrapping station. Novelties and exclusive offers such as travel retail sets are also showcased throughout the store.

Lancôme says that the new store concept delivers “innovations, digital services, and in-store personalized ‘retailtainment.’”

'Lost decade of growth' as tariffs and COVID hit Scotch Whisky

Global exports of Scotch Whisky fell by more than £1.1bn during 2020, according to figures released by the Scotch Whisky Association (SWA). The export figures are the lowest they have been in a decade, as the combined impact of COVID-19 and the 25% tariff in the United States hit distillers hard.

In 2020, the export value of Scotch Whisky exports fell 23% by value to £3.8bn. The number of 70cl bottles exported fell by 13% to the equivalent of 1.14bn.

The value and volume of exports to most of Scotch Whisky's top 10 markets fell as countries went into lockdown to combat the spread of COVID-19 during 2020. The closure of hospitality and travel restrictions impacting airport retail globally saw export values fall in 70% of

Scotch Whisky's global markets compared to 2019. Exports to the EU 27, the industry's largest regional export market, fell by 15%.

U.S. tariffs decimate Single Malt exports

But it is the continued impact of tariffs on exports of Single Malt Scotch Whisky to the United States that has caused the most significant losses. The U.S. is Scotch Whisky's most valuable market, valued at over £1bn in 2019 when it accounted for a fifth of global exports. In 2020, exports of Scotch Whisky to the U.S. fell by 32% to £729m, a loss of £340m compared to 2019, and accounting for around one third of total global export losses.

Export losses to the U.S. are in large part a result of the 25% tariff on Single Malt that the industry is

forced to pay, because of a continuing dispute between the EU, UK and U.S. governments over subsidies granted to Airbus and Boeing.

“These figures are a grim reminder of the challenges faced by distillers over the past year, as exports stalled in the face of the coronavirus pandemic and U.S. tariffs. In effect, the industry lost 10 years of growth in 2020 and it's going to take some time to build back to a position of strength,” says Karen Betts, Chief Executive of the Scotch Whisky Association.

“In these challenging times, what's so disappointing is the damage being caused by US tariffs. The U.S. has been, for decades, our strongest and most valuable market, but Scotch Whisky is now losing considerable ground there.”

The U.S. Travel Association elects Carnival's Christine Duffy as new national chair

Christine Duffy, president of Carnival Cruise Line, has been elected as the new national chair of the U.S. Travel Association.

Duffy, who most recently served on the board as first vice chair, will lead an executive committee and board representing a diverse cross-section of travel business sectors.

Duffy, the first woman to serve as president of Carnival Cruise Line, joined the flagship brand of global cruise industry leader Carnival Corp., in 2015 after serving as president and CEO of Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA). As president of CCL Duffy oversees a company that sails a fleet of 24 ships, annually hosts nearly six million guests and employs more than 43,000 people from 110 nations.