

**World**

# Luxury Travel

Vol. 2 ■ Issue 12 ■ July, 2014

**Magazine**

## **Comfortably Connected**

*The five most Wi-Fi  
friendly cities of Europe*

**Five Best Luxury  
Concierge Services  
in the USA**

## **Hong Kong**

*The Oriental Pearl*

**August Festivals**

*around the Globe*



**W**e live in an age of connectivity. Everyone today is connected to their immediate and far away circle of friends, family and colleagues through the internet. The importance of availability of internet in the city one is traveling has increased manifold. We travelled across Europe and experienced the highs and lows of

internet connectivity in different cities. In our cover story this time, we are talking about the Five Most Wi-Fi Friendly Cities of Europe.

Comfort and convenience in travel make the entire experience memorable. There are many concierge service providers who go out of their way to do that for you. Previously we talked about the five best concierge service providers in the USA. Read about their counterparts in Europe in this issue of the e-zine.

Autumn is one of the best times to visit Asia. Take a look at our CityGuide to visit Hong Kong this time. You will discover why it is called the Pearl of the Orient.



Travel, however enriching, cripples our enthusiasm when we hear about sad incidences like that of the recent Malaysian Airline flight MH17. Words cannot describe how deeply disturbed we are! Our team at World Luxury Tourism conveys deep condolences to the family of the passengers aboard the fateful flight. Our prayers are with you.

Thank you!

Manashree Prakash  
Editor-in-Chief

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**World**  
**Luxury Travel**  
**Magazine**

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*around the Globe*

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Services to [info@worldluxurytourism.com](mailto:info@worldluxurytourism.com)

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a silver smartphone. The phone's screen is dark and reflects the ambient light. The background is blurred, showing a car with a glowing red taillight, suggesting a city street at night.

Europe has always been the ultimate travel destination owing to its multiple offerings of fascinating landscapes, idyllic getaways, adventure spots, age old history, palette of art and architecture and premium shopping locales. If these are not reason enough for the on-the-go, gadget frenzy generation to go for a

## **Comfortably Connected**

*The five most Wi-Fi  
friendly cities of Europe*



European sojourn, the ever mushrooming Wi-Fi friendly cities of the continent will certainly seal the deal.

Ripe with quintessential natural beauty yet connected and tech friendly as ever, the Wi-Fi cities of Europe ensure that travellers need not leave their own world while soaking up the luxuries and exotic delights in another. With the internet taking over every part of life, you are never too far from home to enjoy the pleasures or explore the mysteries of life. If staying connected is important for you, look through our list of the five most Wi-Fi friendly cities of Europe before you zero in on the destination of your choice:





## London, England

Going by the recent announcement, around £90 million is being spent on providing London commuters with free Wi-Fi on trains. The Wi-Fi speed will be at least ten times faster once the plan is implemented in three to four years. The proposed routes to experience the connectivity boom are Bedford, Brighton, Kent, Portsmouth, Manchester, Leeds and Sheffield. Transport Secretary Patrick McLoughlin commented, "We all know how frustrating it can be to have our phone calls and

internet use constantly disrupted by poor signal while travelling on trains. At the moment it happens too often. Passengers expect and deserve better. With these plans that is what they will get."







At present mobile operator O2's free Wi-Fi service across the most popular areas of Central London from High Street in Kensington to Parliament Square in Westminster benefits citizens. The network boasts of high speed and superb connectivity. The Cloud' City WiFi network has been providing unlimited access since 2006 and covers most of the Square Mile's outdoor areas. Moreover its "FastConnect" app enables better surfing for smartphone and tablet users. As a result of all these initiatives and various other trial plans including Nokia's distribution of Wi-Fi hotspots, London now enjoys seamless connectivity in most of its public areas.







## Paris, France

The level of Wi-Fi access in Paris, one of the most sought after premium holiday destinations of the world is pretty impressive. Almost every single public building, square and park has free Wi-Fi, both fast and reliable at least for most part of the day. Sure the signal weakens late at night, but when you are in the French romantic capital, you can do a lot more than browsing.

Paris has a free Wi-Fi (wee-fee) scheme that was devised in 2003. The mesh wireless

network is jointly provided by The Cloud and FON. There are several antennas around the metro stations to enable greater connectivity. Visitors can use more than 200 public hotspots for up to two hours at a time and as many times as they like. All you need to do is choose “Paris Wi-Fi” and you are good to go.



## Munich, Germany

Going by the records, 65 per cent of Germany's population uses broadband which is the largest percentage in Europe. Munich, the German technopolis is considered to be the country's high-tech centre. The year 2006 witnessed a revolution that transformed the way the city operates. It has been one of the most technologically advanced cities of Europe ever since.

From airport wireless connections that let you use your own ISP and in-flight broadband services for long-haul flights to the Wi-Fi finder app on Germany's national tourist board and its own wireless network called Youth Hotspot – the benefits are plenty. Not to forget the numerous free Wi-Fi spots which make browsing seamless in almost every part of Munich.

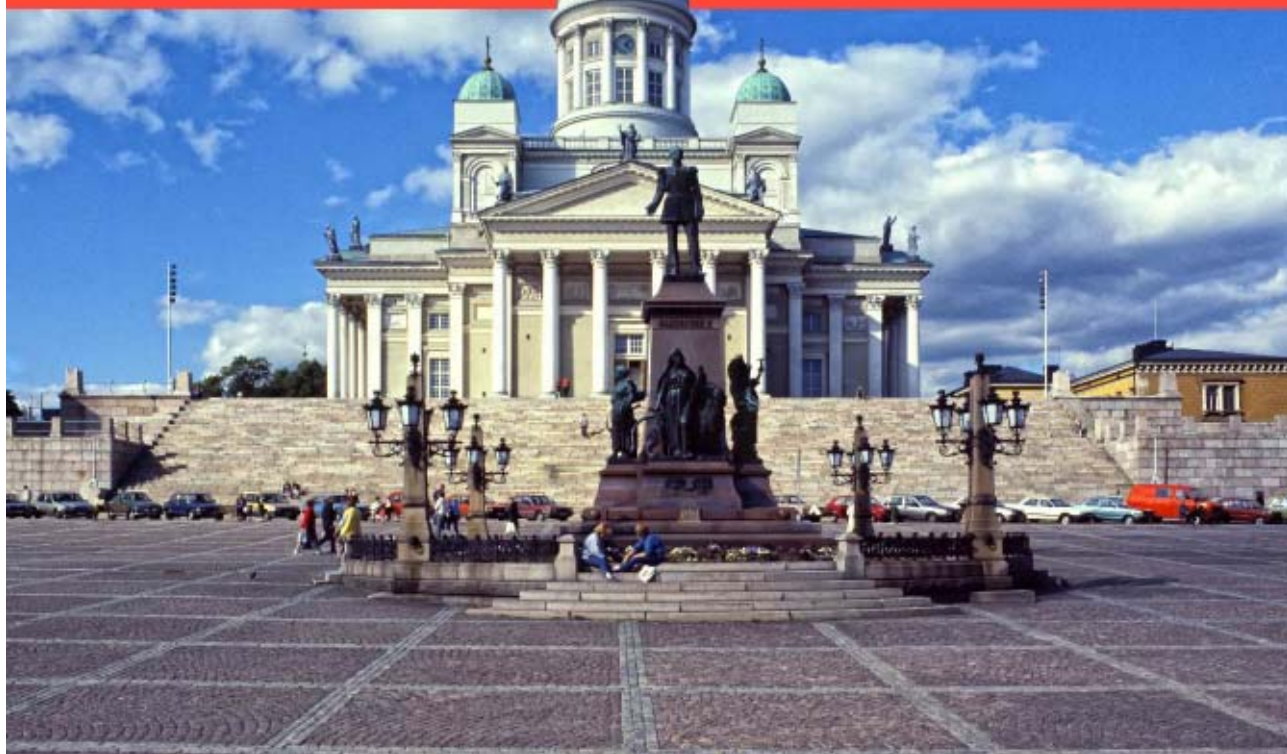




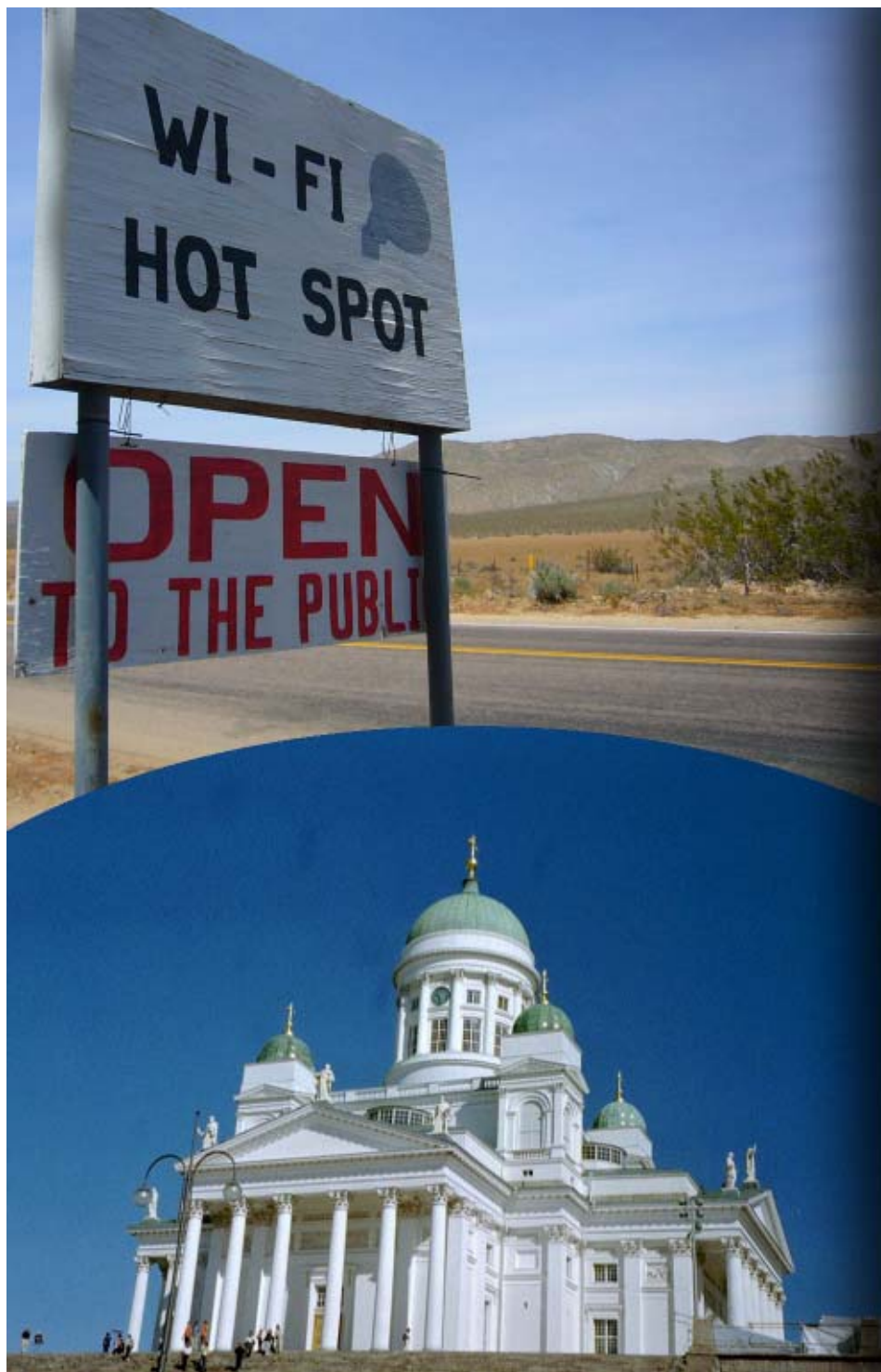
## Helsinki, Finland

Finland, the Headquarter of the cell phone brand that took the world by storm with its handsets, is the land of technological miracles. Peace loving, quiet and averse to small talk yet making a mark when it comes to new age innovations and advancement, the Finns thrive on internet. Free Wi-Fi access is more of a necessity than a luxury here. The city is well connected to say the least with plenty of Wi-Fi enabled locations everywhere.

Helsinki has more cell phones per capita than Japan or America. More than 70 per cent population of Finland is hooked







to the internet. The Helsinki University of Technology has not just encouraged but actively prepared its students for the high tech market. The town is believed to be the second fastest growing urban region of Europe. Unusually tranquil and refreshingly serene, it is the current hub of the latest know-how and significant breakthroughs. Password-free and easily accessible network of hotspots are available in public buildings, civic squares, buses and trams around the city. The focus is always on further expansion, thereby proving the fact that Helsinki's position as the most connected city of Europe is well deserved.

## Tallinn, Estonia

The Estonian capital enjoys the reputation of being one of the most technologically dynamic cities in the world. In fact when the nation became a part of the European Union in 2004, the government branded the country as E-stonia to show its commitment towards the fast paced, evolving technology.

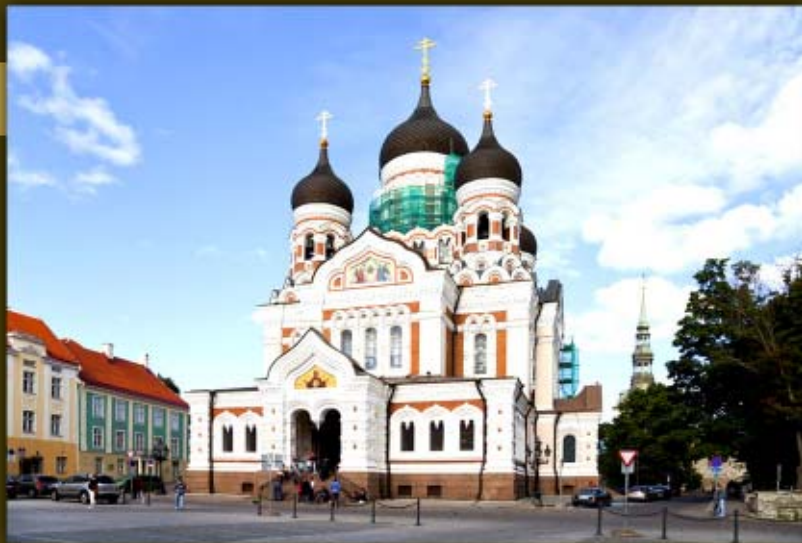
Skype has its development offices located here. Ninety per cent of the petrol stations here offer free, public Wi-Fi. Velijo Haamer





is the man behind this wireless development of the city. The cafes, bars, restaurants, public parks, attractions and buildings boast of a free, steady network much to the delight of citizens and tourists. What's more? The long haul bus service from Estonia to the neighbouring Latvia also offer free Wi-Fi network.

For a generation that is often accused of poor interpersonal skills and incapable of forming lasting bonds, the technological perspective



tells a different story altogether. Detached and closed in the personal sphere yet connected as ever wirelessly, that is the strange phenomenon of the internet crazy age. Events, celebrations and vacations are not merely lived and enjoyed but shared live and re-lived with the community at large. What better way to do the same than through a wireless network that follows you as the loyal puppy from a popular cellular network's advertisement a few years back? Raise a toast to the Wi-Fi expansion, the trend is here to stay!





# Sri Lanka Hospitality

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# Five Best Luxury Concierge Services in the USA





# CONCIERGE

Whoever said, “Time is Money”, knew what he was talking about. If you have ever used concierge services, you may be inclined to doubt the cliché that money cannot buy time, because concierge services do exactly that. They buy you time by freeing you of mundane tasks, by taking it on themselves while you devote time to the pursuits you enjoy. Be it house-hunting, getting a

coveted ticket, arranging flights, planning holidays, they take care of the nitty-gritty leaving you free to use the reclaimed time as you wish.

We have already talked about the Top Five Concierge Service Providers in Europe. Take a look at the five best luxury concierge service providers in the USA here:





# ONECONCIERGE

## One Concierge

The international leader of concierge and lifestyle management services, One Concierge, acts upon the 'never say no' spirit. Latest technology and expert staff equip the One Concierge network which is spread across 115 countries. They provide on the spot assistance, 24/7/365. Though thousands of requests are fulfilled daily, each is accorded flawless attention and customer service.

# AT YOUR SERVICE

## Services

The services include - Lifestyle Management, Personal/Corporate Concierge Programs, VIP Event Access, Private Travel Management, Speciality/High-Value Goods Procurement, Event Access and VIP Support.

From the unique to the mundane, One Concierge has tailor-made

solutions for the individual or family. Whether it is planning a holiday, booking a reservation or helping you plan the perfect proposal, it shall be executed seamlessly.

It does not matter if you are not a member, just submit a request. Given the company's access to over 50,000 events and 10,000 global service

# CONCIERGE

providers in 115 countries, be sure to get your request fulfilled.

A comprehensive array of international corporate clients has been served by One Concierge including banking, law, fashion and marketing sectors (to name a few). Meetings, incentive travel plans, corporate hospitality solutions, event design and management are also taken care of proficiently.

## **Membership Options:**

### **Annual:**

Travel: \$1000 – 1 user, Executive:

\$3000 – 2 users, Bespoke:  
\$8000 – 3 users, Lifestyle:  
\$18,000 – 4 users

### **USP**

A portfolio of over 150 concierge and lifestyle management services, 24/7/365 service, insider knowledge, best prices, 10,000 local and international partners, global coverage across 115 countries, access to over 50,000 events.





### All Star Concierge

This luxury lifestyle management service focuses its operations on the Metropolitan New York and Atlanta regions of USA. With a huge database of reputed suppliers and service providers, All Star Concierge takes care of clients' requests whether they are in the US or abroad. With its focus on personalised services, this concierge service strives to exceed expectation with its superlative service.

#### Services

Gift & Shopping: Hard to find items, unique gift delivery ideas etc.



**Personal Services:** House cleaning, realtor services, relocation help, decorating etc.

**Information Services:** Stock quotes, flight timings, sports scores etc.

**Entertainment Arrangements:** Theatre and restaurant reservations, customised private tours, fashion shows etc.

**Travel Coordination:** Hotel arrangements, passport and visa assistance etc.

**Party and Event Planning:** Wedding planning, event management, theme parties etc.

**Meetings and Business:** Site selection,

assistance, VIP arrangements etc.

**Corporate Clients:** All Star Concierge provides customised solutions for

a variety of industries including banking and financial, healthcare, travel and hospitality, real estate etc.

**VIP Events, ASC sports & adventure:** conference tickets to top-notch awards shows, musical performances and other popular events around the world including People's Choice Awards, Golden Globe Awards, Oscar parties, Billboard Awards, VIP tickets to NFL, NBA, Super Bowl etc., hang-gliding, scuba-diving, safaris etc.

## Membership Options

The Essential Membership (Corporate and Group): Unlimited use of concierge service desks, air travel assistance, business services etc.

The Preferred Membership (Individual): \$ 199-999 per month: Lifestyle relationship manager and a range of personalised services.

The Elite Membership: (by invitation only): Top luxury concierge service, unlimited requests 24/7/365.

## USP

Result oriented, high performance, confidential, no start-up or hidden fees, automatic monthly renewal, cancel anytime policy, efficient staff and vendor network.





## **Concierge Service International, Inc.**

Founded by Michael Morris and headquartered in New York, this global concierge company caters to both individual and corporation. A world-wide network of

# CONCIERGE

contacts, efficient staff and quick service make its commitment to excellence a reality.

### **Services**

An entire gamut of services ranging from travel reservations to finding exclusive gifts are provided by Concierge Service International.

### **Memberships**

The VIP: Ultimate luxury, personalised service, reservations for top restaurants, access to premier events, access to select VIP lounges etc.

The Executive Assistant: Ideal for business executives and individuals, business and leisure travel, relocation, best tickets to events.



The  
Residential (\$2500 base fee):  
Ideal for development or community, on-site/  
off-site concierge services.

The Corporate (\$2500 base fee): Offers various services  
to companies and their clients, hotel and travel  
reservations, interpreters and translation services etc.

The Key to the City (\$350-\$500): Vacation planning, hotel  
reservations, tickets, tours planning.

Party and Event Planning: Birthdays, corporate bashes,  
catering, venue and entertainment.

Wedding Services: Complete wedding planning.

## USP

Superlative service, strict confidentiality, global connections and resources to handle requests successfully

## Les Concierges

Les Concierges is one of the leading providers of global concierge services and solutions in the world. Les Concierges works on boosting the brand image of your company, employee and customer loyalty

by developing strategic and customised plans to suit your business needs. Assisted by a highly skilled staff, the state-of-the-art Global Concierge Technology system and the customizable My Concierge portal, Les Concierges provides some of the world's best lifestyle services.

## Services

Under the banner of your company's brand, Les Concierges offers your customers services which include global travel





planning and management, exclusive concierge - choice dining network and event planning.

Custom Services offered: Customised brand experience, marketing strategy and management, gifting programs for top customers.

### USP

Best branding for your business, superb service of lifestyle

needs, value added benefits to business, 24/7/365 high quality service, member of the Luxury Marketing Council.

### VIP Concierge

If you are dying to lay your hands on those coveted event tickets, your best bet would probably be to approach VIP Concierge. This California-based company has access to





the top-premier events across the world. Award shows, movie premieres, red carpet events or the most elite parties, all are covered. There is also a VIP Gift Center from which you can choose exclusive gifts for your family or boss or even a Hollywood Diva. VIP Concierge also ties you up with top luxurious accommodations, exotic car rentals, mansion rentals and yacht rentals for you to enjoy the best of everything when you travel.

### Services

- VIP tickets for famous TV shows including 'Anger Management', 'The X Factor', 'Real Time' LIVE with Bill Maher, and green room accesses.
- Tickets to top events including American Music Awards, Latin Grammy Awards, American Idol and Golden Globe Awards Parties.

VIP  
CONCIERGE

VIP  
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- Tickets to thrilling sports and adventures including Boston Red Sox, Grapefruit League, NASCAR, WWE, Los Angeles Kings VIP Ice Box Experience, Fighter Jet experience, Swim with the sharks.

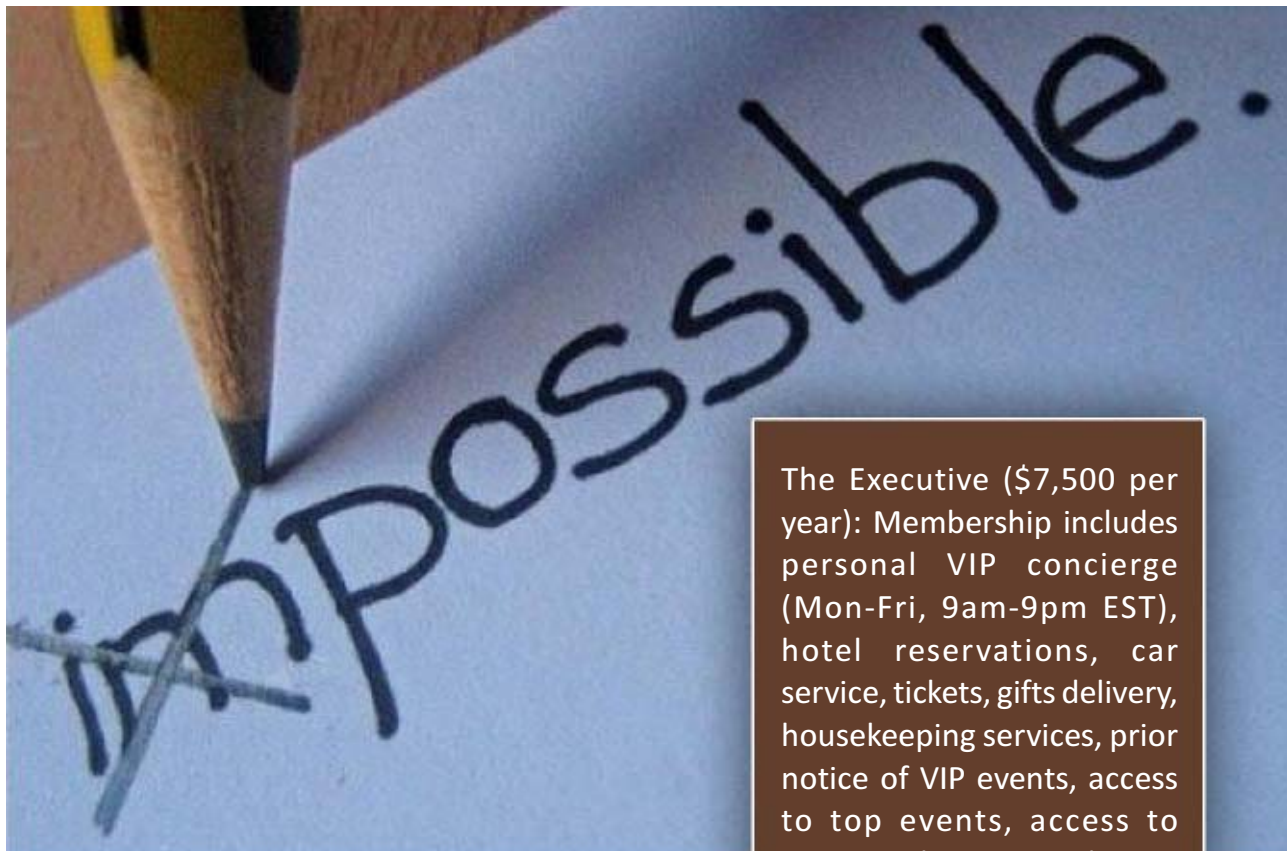
Access to great theatre events including Broadway, Off-Broadway, Las Vegas, Operas, Musicals

### Membership

The tri-level membership includes:

The Ultimate (\$18,500 per year): Membership includes round the clock global lifestyle management services, advance notice of VIP events, access to premium events, nightclubs, parties, access to password-protected VIP calendar, restaurant reservations, personal concierge, event planning for individual or corporate.





The Executive (\$7,500 per year): Membership includes personal VIP concierge (Mon-Fri, 9am-9pm EST), hotel reservations, car service, tickets, gifts delivery, housekeeping services, prior notice of VIP events, access to top events, access to password-protected VIP calendar, restaurant reservations.

The Inner Circle (\$2,850 per year): Membership includes priority notice of events with access to A-List events and parties, access to password-protected VIP calendar, up to 4 VIP Club/Restaurant reservations per month.

The word concierge originated from a French



word referring to the person who served his master and his noble guests and visitors. Since then the word has undergone several transformation, evolving to mean a security officer, caretaker, a bell boy and finally it has come to stand for a range of specialised services covering mundane as well as exotic tasks.

Concierge service companies are offering an amazing array of services. If you have the money to pay for having some of your mundane tasks taken off your shoulders, all you have to do is approach any of these concierge services.

## City Guide



# Hong Kong

## *The Oriental Pearl*



Hong Kong which means ‘fragrant harbour’ is one of the two Special Administrative Regions of the People’s Republic of China. It started out as a small fishing village on the south coast of China. Today it is one of the most densely populated regions of China, an economic powerhouse and an international financial centre.

### **Climate and Best Time to Visit**

Hong Kong has a humid subtropical climate with four distinct seasons – summer, winter, autumn and spring.

Summer is hot and humid accompanied by showers and thunderstorms including typhoons. Tourists usually visit during national holiday times in January, May, and October to be a part of the festivities.



## Places to See

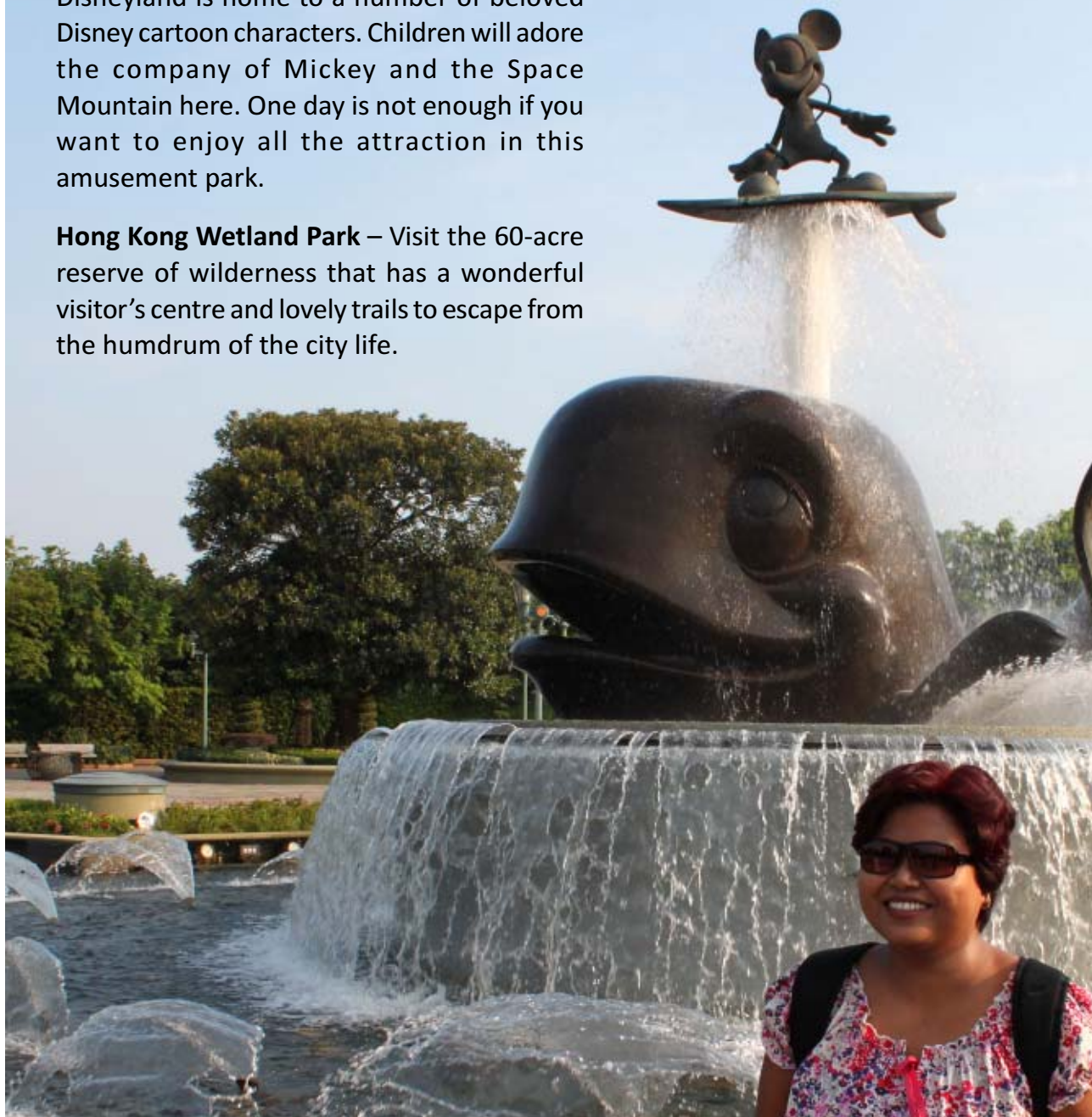
**Ocean Park** – The reputed theme park features plenty of stomach churning rides, fantastic marine shows like that of dolphins and sharks, a spectacular Jellyfish exhibition and much more. It is an ideal place to visit for a day trip especially if you have kids.

**Victoria Harbour** – No trip to Hong Kong will be complete unless you visit the Victoria Harbour. It is a natural landform harbour between Hong Kong Island and Kowloon. Visit the peak here taking the breath-taking almost vertical tram ride to enjoy the 360 degree view of the Hong Kong skyline.



**Hong Kong Disneyland** – Hong Kong Disneyland is home to a number of beloved Disney cartoon characters. Children will adore the company of Mickey and the Space Mountain here. One day is not enough if you want to enjoy all the attraction in this amusement park.

**Hong Kong Wetland Park** – Visit the 60-acre reserve of wilderness that has a wonderful visitor's centre and lovely trails to escape from the humdrum of the city life.





## Nightlife

Hong Kong's nightlife is diverse and scintillating. The Ritz-Carlton hotel's Ozone bar is touted to be highest in the world and offers stunning views. The exotic pubs, bars, discotheques, elite clubs and amazing fine dining venues are innumerable. Lan Kwai Fong is a paradise for party animals. Some of the events you can check out include



the Symphony of Lights, Rugby Sevens, Hong Kong Housewares Fair, Man Hong Kong International Literary Festival, Orchestra Performances, Hong Kong International Film Festival, Le French May, Dragon Boat Races, Fashion Week and WinterFest etc.

## Important Tourist Information

- Official Languages – Chinese, Cantonese and English
- Currency - Hong Kong Dollars

## Tips for Travellers:

- Carrying exact change is a must
- Bargain to your heart's content while shopping

- Try the exotic buffet with caution if you are not accustomed

## Things to do

**Shop till you drop** – The city is a dream come true for shopaholics. It is the best place for shoe shopping. You can get your shoes customised and shipped in the shortest possible time. The quaint, traditional markets like the Wanchai, quirky boutiques, night markets and numerous malls offer





everything from souvenirs, antiques, apparels to goldfish, accessories, gadgets, handicrafts and so on.

**Try the local flavours** – It is said that Hong Kong has more than 11,000 restaurants which means you can eat out thrice a day for 10 years and yet not be able to visit all of them. From theme restaurants, street food joints to floating restaurants and fine dining – the possibilities are infinite.

**Tour the islands** – There are close to 260 islands which are in fact one of Hong Kong's best kept secrets. Ferries will take you to most of them. The traditional fishing villages are also worth a visit.



**Spirituality and wellbeing** – Spirituality comes in all forms here. From meditation, ancient healing therapies, traditional arts to various relaxation techniques at some of its best spas – there is something for everyone.

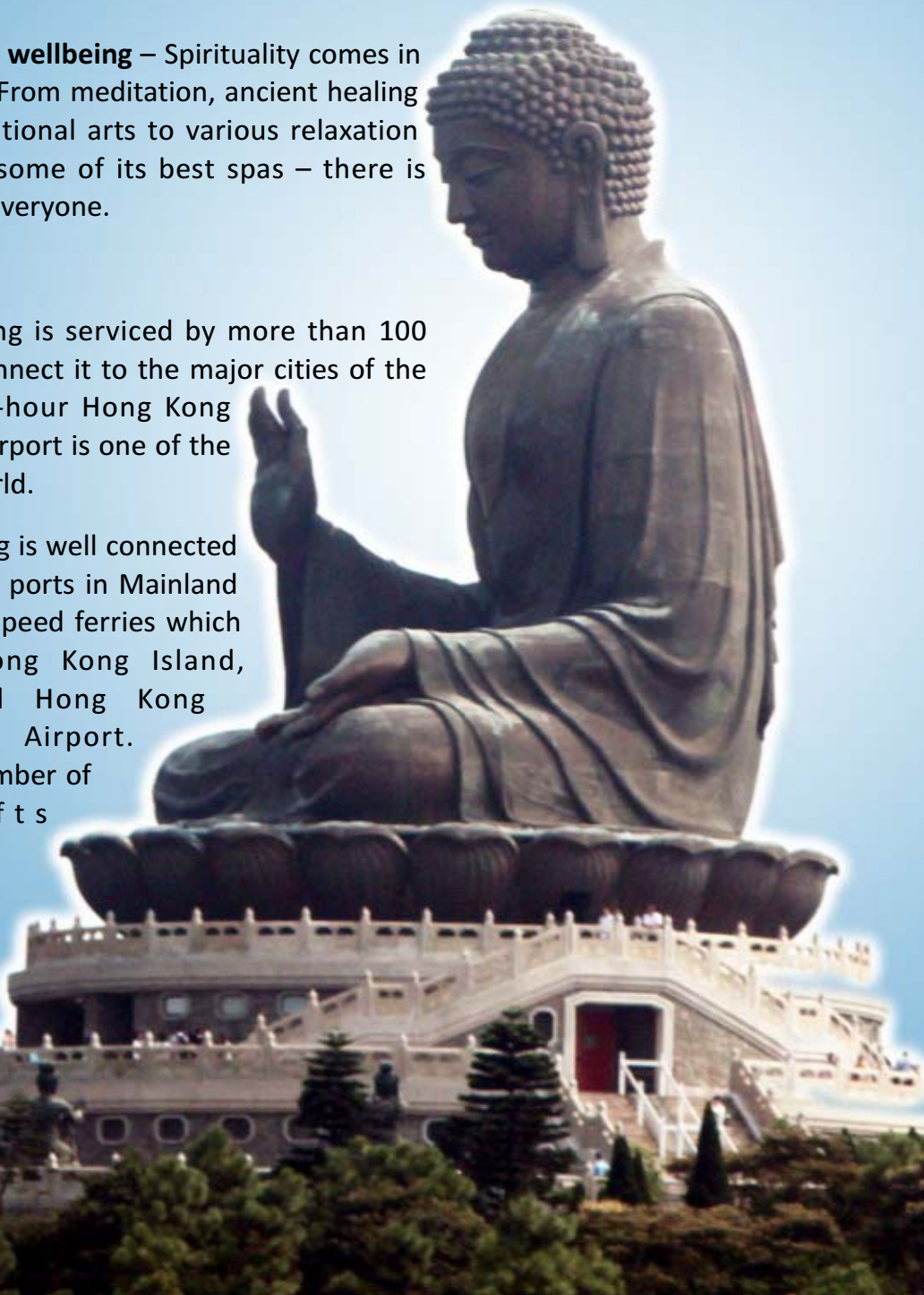
### Getting there

**Air** – Hong Kong is serviced by more than 100 airlines that connect it to the major cities of the globe. The 24-hour Hong Kong International Airport is one of the bests in the world.

**Sea** - Hong Kong is well connected to a number of ports in Mainland China by high-speed ferries which serve the Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and Hong Kong International Airport.

There are a number of  
h o v e r c r a f t s  
between China

– Xiamen,  
Guangzhou,  
Shanghai and  
Hong Kong.





**Rail** – Railway journeys can be luxurious or economic. The MTR provides regular intercity services between Hong Kong and Guangdong province, Beijing and Shanghai.

### **Getting around**

**Octopus Card** - The Octopus card is used on most forms of public transport in Hong Kong. It is a must have for all to save time and money.

**MTR** – The extensive The Mass Transit Railway or MTR network has seven underground lines and 53 stations. Around 2.3 million passengers use the MTR network every day. From ticket-vending machines to the turnstiles – everything is fast paced and automated.



**Boat** – Ferries are common and comparatively faster and cheaper than the rest. Take your pick from the economic ones to the exceptionally luxurious ferries. The Star ferry is extremely popular among all.

**Bus** – The bus system network is vast and buses are common



in the southern part of Hong Kong Island and the New Territories. Night buses are available every 15 minutes across a number of routes. The minibuses or 16-seater vans in red and green are usually availed for short distances.



**Other options** – The other modes of transport include trams, cars, taxis, bikes and cycles.

### Interesting Facts

- Hong Kong has the largest number of skyscrapers in the world
- It is one of the most densely populated areas in the world
- The Tsing Ma Bridge is the longest rail and road suspension bridge in the world





At present Hong Kong is world-class trading and business hub boasting of an expansive skyline, innumerable temples, glitzy malls, traditional markets, beaches, mountains and the tallest skyscrapers you will come across. It is an amazing amalgamation of the East and West, the ethnic and modern, the hi-tech and traditional and essentially of materialism and spirituality. If you want to explore the best of both worlds without compromising on your comfort, Hong Kong will humour you like no other.





A night scene of a hot air balloon festival. Numerous hot air balloons are illuminated from within, casting a warm glow. The balloons feature various patterns and logos, including "THE RUGGLERS IN", "Sna", "BT", and "EB". A crowd of people is gathered on the ground, and a white van is parked in the foreground. The overall atmosphere is festive and celebratory.

# Happenings

# August Festivals

*around the Globe*



## Kandy Perahera

**Place:** Kandy, Sri Lanka

**Dates:** August 1 – 11, 2014

The Kandy Perahera is an iconic symbol of Sri Lankan culture. It honours the sacred tooth relic of the Buddha and is held in the

holy Dalada Maligawa (Temple of the Tooth). Two processions, Esala and Dalada, make up this festival. The former was held to propitiate the rain gods and the latter for honouring the sacred tooth. Held over ten days, this vibrant festival is an explosion of colourful costumes, dance, music, fire eaters, gorgeous parades and magnificently





decorated elephants. The planting of a jackfruit tree starts the festival. The tooth relic is carried in a casket in a parade through the city. For a taste of Sri Lankan culture, you can do no better than experience this explosive festival.

*Trivia: The show-stealer is the parade of a hundred elephants magnificently decorated in silks and ornaments!*



## Bristol International Balloon Fiesta

**Place:** Bristol, UK

**Dates:** August 7 – 10, 2014

What began as a balloonists' meeting has evolved into Europe's largest Hot Air

Balloon event. Around 500,000 visitors come to watch over 100 hot air balloons floating in the sky over the 4-day event. It is a fun-filled event with a host of attractions like model aircraft flying displays, balloon tethering, displays by the EXIT parachute team and





inflation races. Catch the 'Breakfast and Balloons' where you can watch the breath-taking spectacle of mass ascents of balloons. Equally popular is the Nightglow where 30 teams light up their tethered balloons to the

accompaniment of music and fantastic fireworks.

***Trivia:** The Bandstand is a popular part of the event. It features amazing local music talent-blues, jazz, electric and a whole lot more!*



## Edinburgh Fringe

Place: Edinburgh, Scotland

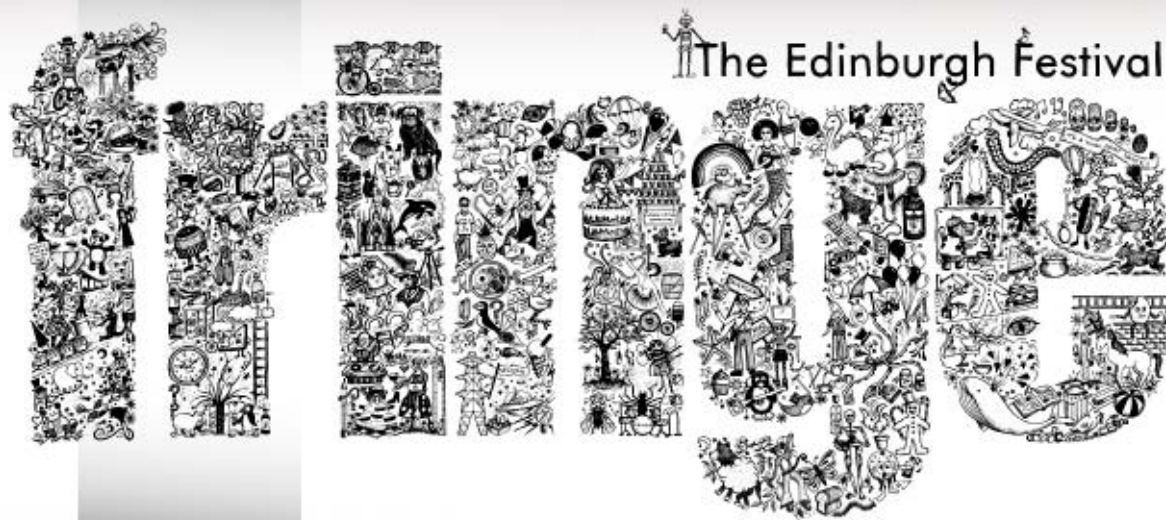
Dates: August 1 - 25, 2014

This is one of the largest arts festivals in the world. It is held every year in August and spans a period

of three weeks. Just about every art form is featured at this festival including music, dance, opera, theatre, comedy and exhibitions. The origins of the event date back to 1947 when eight theatre groups performed uninvited at the newly constituted Edinburgh







International Festival. Since then, just about anyone can perform at this festival. All they need is to find is a venue to display their talents. Ranging from amateurs to legendary names, there is a place for everyone at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

***Trivia:** The festival showcases over 40,000 performances, 3000 shows and attracts around 2 million visitors!*

## Burning Man

**Place:** Nevada, USA

**Dates:** August 25 – September 1, 2014

This amazing festival is a 'test of survival' event. The venue is a prehistoric, arid lake-bed and the festival took its name from the effigy that is traditionally burnt at the end of the festival. Participants set up themed camps in the festival area, bringing their own camping gear,







food and water. Creativity is the keyword here with fantastic camp designs, bizarre costumes and outlandish vehicles all featuring in the event. The highlight of the event is the spectacular vehicle-floats, a topless bike parade and great music. The scorching days and the freezing nights are a challenge and one needs to carry everything needed for survival.

**Trivia:** *The festival is a celebration of self-reliance, self-expression, communal effort and participation!*

## La Tomatina

**Place:** Valencia, Spain

**Place:** August 27, 2014

If you want to take part in a lively, tomato pelting fun, head to Valencia in Spain in August. The world's most amazing tomato battle is fought in the small town of Bunol here. About 140 tonnes of tomatoes are annually thrown here. People fling tomatoes at one another in a no-holds



barred tomato war. As you drown in the barrage of squishy tomato pulp, you slip effortlessly back to your childhood. The event is flagged off by the grasping of the coveted ham prize placed atop a high, greasy pole. For an hour, tomato mayhem reigns supreme and then the battle ends. Water cannons are fired and fire hoses spray solid jets of water to clean the people and the streets.

**Trivia:** *The jets of water are not particularly gentle, so you may want to wash off in the Bunol River!*

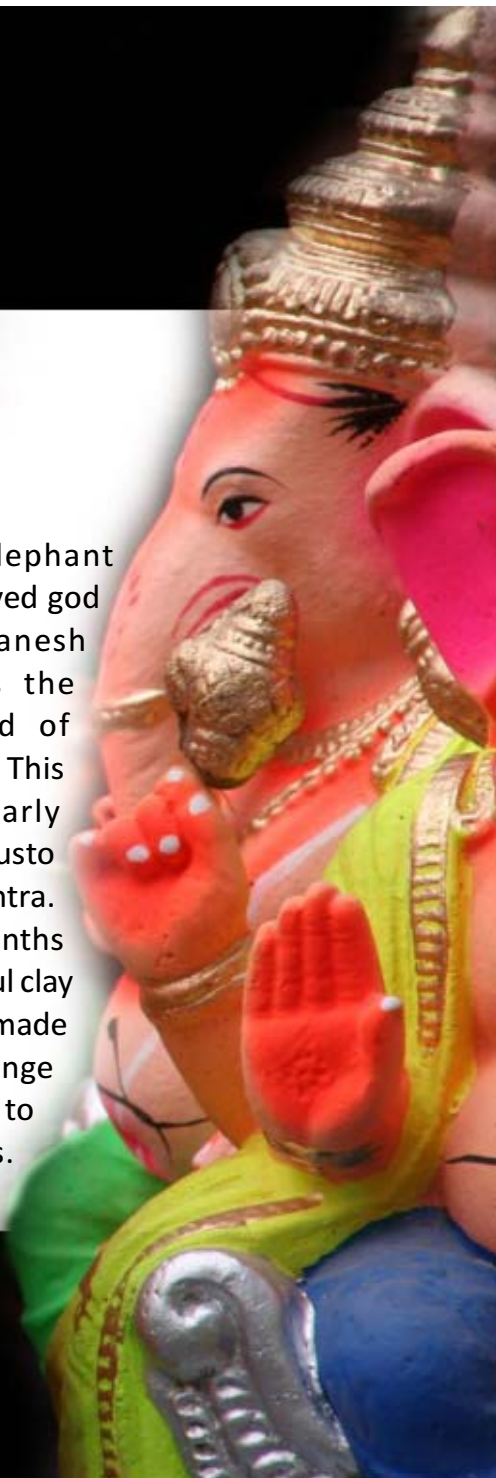


## Ganesh Chaturthi

**Place:** India

**Dates:** August 29, 2014

Lord Ganesha, the elephant headed deity, is a beloved god of the Hindus. Ganesh Chaturthi celebrates the birthday of this god of auspicious beginnings. This festival is particularly celebrated with great gusto in the state of Maharashtra. Preparations begin months in advance with beautiful clay idols of Ganesha being made by artisans. Statues range from tiny palm size ones to over 70 feet tall ones. People install the idol







in their homes for ten days and worship. The festivities end with the idols being taken out in grand processions all over the country. They are traditionally immersed in rivers and seas.

***Trivia:** Modak, a coconut filled sweet believed to be Lord Ganesha's favourite, is traditionally made during this festival!*





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