

Dear members,

Please find this weeks' update for your reference.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Phuket Hotels Association Member Annual General Meeting No. 1/2023**  
 25 January 2023 @ Marriott Courtyard Phuket Town, from 3 – 5pm  
 Register here:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdLcYJNZA67UMS8z5\\_8CyU7HAXVrEuomfrYHGe6osaMBzzNXw/viewform?usp=pp\\_url](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdLcYJNZA67UMS8z5_8CyU7HAXVrEuomfrYHGe6osaMBzzNXw/viewform?usp=pp_url)



**11-17 January 2023 Director Nomination**

(Deadline for nomination submission Tuesday, 17 January)

**ELECTION PROCESS**

**DIRECTORSHIP**

TERM: 2023-2024



Please click here to review the election process

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/995xm7fap14eunb/2023%20Election%20Process%20infographic%20final.png?dl=0>

To complete the Director Nomination: please click here: [Phuket Hotels Association - Director Nomination Form \(google.com\)](#)

## PRESS RELEASE

### 1. AIHM Scholarship Program 2023

The graphic features a background image of students in a classroom setting. At the top, logos for PHUKET HOTELS ASSOCIATION, AIHM (ASIAN INSTITUTE OF HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT), and Les Roches are displayed. The main text reads 'AIHM SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM 2023' and 'TUITION FOR THE BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN GLOBAL HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT'. Below this, it says 'SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATIONS TO info@phukethotelsassociation.com BEFORE 22 JAN 23'. Two QR codes are provided for 'APPLICATION FORM' and 'ADMISSION CRITERIA'. At the bottom, contact information for AIHM is listed: www.aihm.education, 076 609 258, and info@phukethotelsassociation.com.

- Application for Asian Institute of Hospitality Management (AIHM) scholarship is now extended to 22 January – please share with your network (open to anyone, Thai national only).
- Refer to the criteria and apply **before 22 January 2023** for a full degree in Bachelor of Business Administration in Global Hospitality Management.

AIHM website:

<https://www.aihm.education/#>

Admissions detail:

<https://www.aihm.education/admissions.html>

Admissions requirement:

<https://www.aihm.education/admissions/admission-information.html>

- Thank you, AIHM and MINOR GROUP, for your generosity in offering this scholarship to Phuket Hotels Association

**2. Presentation from THA "Update Current Market Situation and How to Prepare to Welcome Tourists from China" – 11 January 2023. Please click here**

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1qjbEwuAP403CozymwAGqvDRTiyA0EPxA>

**NEWS WEEKLY UPDATES**

**1. TAT aims to make the whole year high season for travel in Thailand**

The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) plans to make the whole year a high season for travel, to boost both domestic and inbound tourism. The strategy is to promote the identity of each region, to encourage domestic tourists throughout the year.

- **Domestic Tourism**

Southern Thailand, in addition to the beautiful beaches, food and cultural tourism, will be presented under the theme of 'Savoury South', which will offer visitors a taste of southern food and attractions.

- **Inbound tourism**

TAT said that medical and wellness tourism will be a trend this year, as Thailand is ready in every way, including the medical infrastructure, healthy food and attractions, which benefit both physical and mental health.

The five medical services most sought by tourists are check-ups, bone and joint treatments, treatments related to heart and vascular diseases, metabolic and dental treatment.

According to the Thai Medical and Wellness Tourism Association, foreign tourists who visit Thailand for medical purposes will spend 5-14 days here, which generates a lot of revenue for the country.

- **Virtual tourism**

This year, the Tourism Authority of Thailand also aims to develop virtual tourism, after a pilot project was launched last year.

For more information <https://www.thaipbsworld.com/tat-aims-to-make-the-whole-year-high-season-for-travel-in-thailand/>

**2. Chinese do not pose Covid threat: DDC. No surge expected as tourists flock back.**

The arrival of more Chinese tourists in Thailand is unlikely to trigger a spike in the number of new Covid-19 infections, says the Department of Disease Control (DDC).

Tourism businesses have been preparing themselves for an influx of tourists from China after the country lifted quarantine measures over the weekend. They and their staff have been fully vaccinated and have been practising the universal prevention measures, Dr Tares said. As for Covid-19 vaccination services for foreign tourists, the DDC has designated at least two centres in Bangkok and one each in Phuket, Chon Buri and Chiang Mai.

The estimated cost is 800 baht for a shot of the AstraZeneca vaccine and 1,000 baht for the Pfizer vaccine.

For more information

<https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2480522/chinese-dont-pose-covid-threat-ddc>

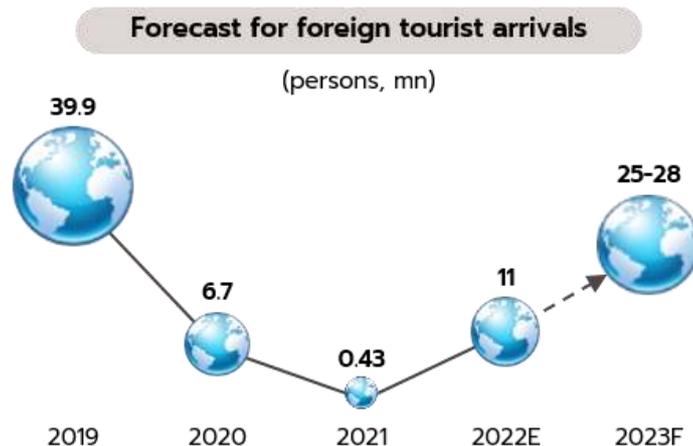
### 3. Top place searched by Chinese travellers

1	Thailand
2	Japan
3	United States
4	South Korea
5	Australia
6	Macao
7	Singapore
8	Hong Kong
9	Taiwan

*Flight searches from China between Dec 26 to Jan 5, 2023  
Source from Trip.com. Create with Datawrapper*

Data shows search interest for outbound flights from mainland China rose by 83% in the 11 days after the announcement, compared with the 14 days before it, according to data from Trip.com Group. During this period, search interest for Thailand and Singapore grew by 176% and 93%, respectively, according to the company.

### 4. Krungsri Research expects Thailand to see 25-28 million foreign arrivals this year



Note: 2023 Forecast by Krungsri Research  
Source: MOTs

Given the sudden reopening of China, Krungsri Research has raised their forecast for 2023 arrivals from 22.7m to 25-28m. Initially, the recovery in the Chinese market will be limited by the lack of flights and continued restrictions on outbound tours from China.

Thus, at first, arrivals from China will be limited to independent travelers and/or high-income earners. Overall recovery will become much clearer in 2023. For the year, the significant rebound in the tourism sector will be a key driver for the Thai economic growth which is expected to reach 3.6%.

For more information

<https://www.krungsri.com/en/research/macroeconomic/weekly/20230110>

## 5. Airline schedules from China to Phuket International Airport

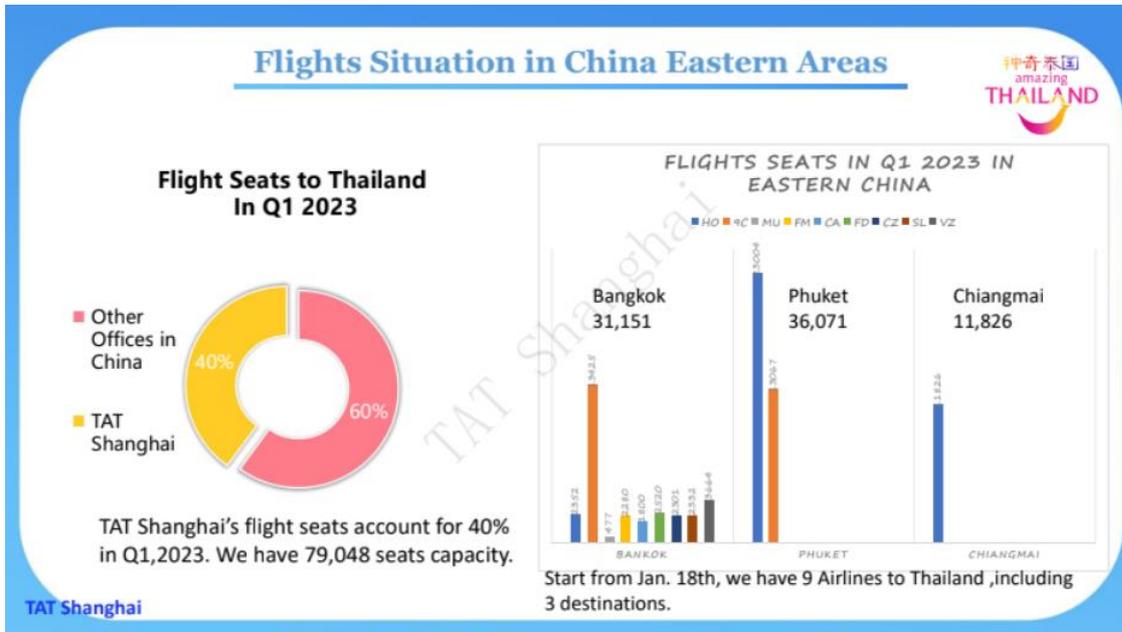
Airline schedules from China requesting to fly at Phuket International Airport

No.	Airline	flight opening date		Flight Schedule	Frequency	Status	flight license
1	Spring Airlines (9C)	18 Jan 23	A320	9C8667/8668 STA/STD: 5.55 Pm/6.55 Pm Route: Shanghai (PVG) - Phuket - Shanghai (PVG)	Daily	The airline has contacted AOTGA	✓
2	Juneyao Airlines (HO)	18 Jan 23	A320	HO1639/1640 STA/STD: 4.25 Pm/5.30 Pm Route: Nanjing (NKG) - Phuket - Nanjing (NKG)	Daily	The airline has contacted AOTGA	✓
			A320	HO1321/1322 STA/STD: 8.50 Pm/10 Pm Route: Shanghai (PVG) - Phuket - Shanghai (PVG)	Daily		✓
3	Air China (CA)	18 Jan 23	A330	In process of requesting SLOT	-	In the process of coordinating AOTGA	✗
4	Shanghai Airlines (FM)	18 Jan 23	B738	In process of requesting SLOT	-	In the process of coordinating AOTGA	✗
5	Sichuan Airlines (3U)	20 Jan 23	A321/A330	3U3931/3932 STA/STD: 5.10 Pm/16.20 Pm Route: Chengdu (CTU) - Phuket - Chengdu (CTU)	Daily	The airline has contacted AOTGA	✗
6	China Eastern Airlines (MU)	20 Jan 23	B737/A320/B777 A350/B787/A330	In process of requesting SLOT	-	In the process of coordinating AOTGA	✗
7	Hainan Airlines (HU)	24 Jan 23	B738	In process of requesting SLOT	-	In the process of coordinating AOTGA	✗
8	China Southern Airlines (CZ)	10 Feb 23	A350/B787/A32N	In process of requesting SLOT	-	In the process of coordinating AOTGA	✗

Updated 9 Jan 2023

On 18 January, three direct flights are due to arrive in Phuket from China, including two from Shanghai and one from Nanjing, they will bring combined 500 passengers a day.

Two more direct flights from China are pending permission to fly to the resort island province, another three are due to begin operating from 24 January, bringing it to eight the number of direct flights between China and Phuket.



To download the complete flight schedule at Phuket International Airport, please click [here](#) (Latest Updated Jan 3. Flight schedule is subject to change without notice)

International Flight

[https://drive.google.com/drive/mobile/folders/1YWEfjkB7ZBdPKZA73K\\_Q06w\\_g5z9aUUw?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/mobile/folders/1YWEfjkB7ZBdPKZA73K_Q06w_g5z9aUUw?usp=sharing)

Domestic Flight

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1G0dPDOerTB8JvVMzuvCPp5cPiv7Jk1WZ>

**4. Press Release by Department of Disease Control for foreign travelers entering to Thailand (Published 10 January 2022)**

**Public Health Measures for Foreign Travelers Entering Thailand**  
(10th January 2023)

กรมควบคุมโรค  
Department of Disease Control

1. Proof of vaccination is NO longer required.
2. Travelers from the listed countries requiring negative RT-PCR test results before departure from Thailand should have health insurance covering at least 10,000 USD for COVID-19 treatment that covers the duration of stay in Thailand plus 7 additional days.
  - Those with business arrangements, including flight crews and students, may have an official letter from the host or other form of insurance to cover such need.
  - The quarantine officer will randomly check the proof of insurance of travelers from the listed countries. If that traveler does not have proof of insurance, the traveler will have to purchase health insurance before immigration.
3. Holders of Thai passports and transit/transfer passengers are exempted from the health insurance checks.
4. The airlines must adhere to related regulation and comply with the guidance as appropriate such as asking passengers to wear mask at all times except during meals or emergency situations.
5. Any passenger having symptoms of COVID-19 on arrival shall be recommended to get a COVID-19 test at arrival.

If you have any questions, please contact the **DDC Hotline 1422** or visit <https://ddc.moph.go.th/index.php> for more information.

List of countries that require all travelers showing negative RT-PCR test results before departure from Thailand  
(10th January 2023)

1. China Mainland
2. India

**Health Insurance Instruction and Requirements**  
(for Non-Thai Travelers Entering into the Kingdom of Thailand)

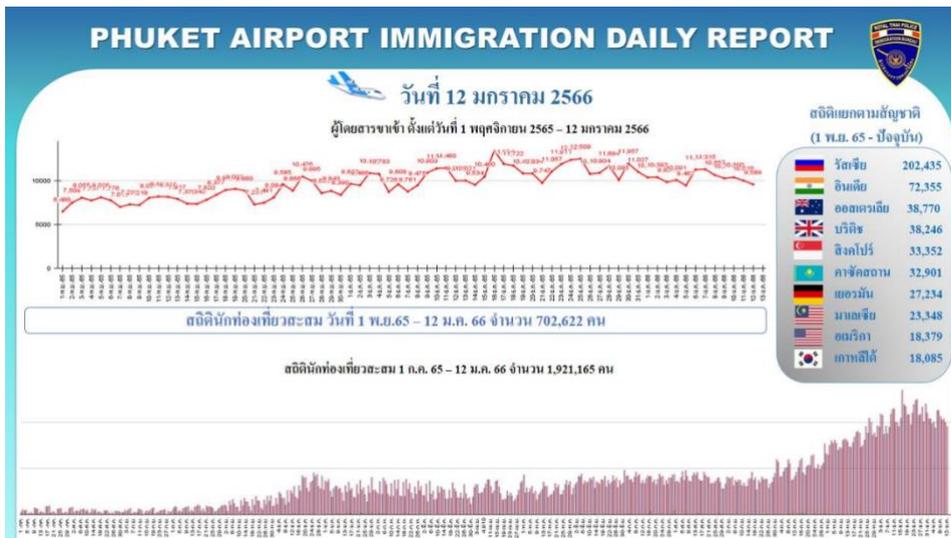
กรมควบคุมโรค

- 1 HEALTH INSURANCE INSTRUCTION**
  1. Apply to **PASSENGER** - all ages including **INFANT** - coming from country that requires (mandatory) pre-departure **COVID-19 Test with RT-PCR** to their countries.
  2. Health insurance coverage amount **USD 10,000** or equivalent with other currencies with coverage period until departure date from Thailand + 7 days
  3. Health insurance must cover COVID-19 medical treatment during stay in Thailand with indicate "**acute illness or sickness**". Accidental coverage alone is not accepted.
  4. **Other Proof of FUND** i.e. guarantee letter from organization, authority, Thai Social Security Fund card, etc. is also **ACCEPTABLE**.
- 2 EXEMPTIONS from HEALTH INSURANCE**
  1. **THAI NATIONALITY** (including Dual Citizenships if can present proof of Thai National i.e. Thai Passport, Thai Identification Card)
  2. **FLIGHT CREWS** both Thai base and oversea base with submitted guaranteed letter from airlines to Port Health.
  3. **Airside TRANSIT or TRANSFER** passenger
  4. Holder of **OFFICIAL** and **DIPLOMATIC** passports, **UNITED NATIONS LAISSE-PASSER** and **EXPAT** who has **WORK PERMIT**.

Please Note: Once those countries lift requirement of the RT-PCR before entry then the health insurance is automatically not required.

Division of International Disease Control Ports and Quarantine (DIPQ)

**PHUKET TOURIST UPDATE**



- Total number of tourist arrivals since 1 November – 12 January 2023 = 702,622 persons
- Russian, Indian, Australian, British, and Singaporean are the top 5 nationalities most arrival
- Accumulated number of Arrival from 1 July 2021 to 12 January 2023 total 1,921,165 persons

**MEETINGS**



**Tuesday, 10 January 2023**

Meeting with Phuket Governor, Khun Narong. We were updated of approved covid test centers in Phuket in which Governor will announce shortly for travellers of countries who requires it. We also touched on covid isolation process and how Phuket can be ready for these new travel requirements.

We're also pleased to hear that our request to start a Beach/Water Safety Council is in the process, he's delegated this to the Phuket Marine center yesterday to form a working group/committee. We at the association have strongly expressed interest to

support this initiative. This is an idea that came from our inaugural Drowning Prevention Week Training and Seminar last July in collaboration with Australian Consulate in Phuket.



**Wednesday, 11 January 2023**

Environment Working Group Meeting: Loads of exciting initiatives in projects in the pipeline. This year, we will continue with our Green Planet Farming project in collaboration with Phuket Farmer's Club, led by Jayne MacDougall, Green Certification, US Embassy projects, PHIST, Environmental Pledges and continued training and workshops in the area of Food Waste Reduction, Single Use Plastic Elimination and Energy Consumption Reduction.

We would also like to welcome Khun Anucharaporn Tongluan (Rinky), Group Director of Human Resources at Thavorn Hotels & Resorts, Phuket, to the Environment Group!



Members of Environment Working Group 2023

- **(Champion) Jayne MacDougall**, Senior Consultant CAP SEA, GIZ
- **Andy Kunz**, General Manager, COMO Point Yamu
- **Michael Massey**, General Manager, Absolute

- **Conor Brannum**, Sustainability Coordinator, HOMA Phuket
- **Jonathan Grier**, Owner, Villa Phukhao
- **Anucharaporn Tongluan (Rinky)**, Group Director of Human Resources at Thavorn Hotels & Resorts, Phuket



**Thursday, 12 January 2023**

First meeting of 2023 with the Phuket Hotels Association's Working Group Leaders. Thank you CJ, General Manager of Hyatt Regency Phuket for welcoming us.

Led by Bjorn Courage, President, Phuket Hotels Association, and Sumi Soorian, Executive Director, Phuket Hotels Association.

Working Group Leaders:

- Jayne MacDougall - Environment
- Ranjeet Viswanathan - Marketing
- Wolfgang Meusburger - Education
- (Absent) Prachoom Tantiprasertsuk - Government

Best regards,  
Phuket Hotels Association

**Information source:**

[PR Thai Government | Bangkok | Facebook](#)  
<https://www.facebook.com/nbtworld/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/phuketinfocenter>  
<https://www.tatnews.org>  
<https://www.thaipbsworld.com>  
<https://www.bangkokpost.com>  
<https://www.cnn.com>

**Disclaimer:** members should seek and consult their lawyers / accountants / advisors accordingly and not rely only on the provided information as the information given is only for educational purposes and information as received from third.