

Dear friends and colleagues,

Below please find the today's daily updates:

- **The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) has launched a mini site dedicated to the “[Amazing Thailand Safety and Health Administration: SHA](#)”** project, and part of the efforts to mitigate the impacts of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) crisis and accelerate recovery in the travel and tourism sector.
- **Thailand extends temporary ban on all international flights to Thailand until 30 June 2020** <https://www.tatnews.org/2020/05/thailand-extends-temporary-ban-on-all-international-flights-to-thailand-until-30-june-2020/> see the English notice here <https://www.caat.or.th/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/CAAT-News-8-Extension-of-temporary-ban-on-all-international-flights-until-30-June-2020.pdf>
- The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) has initiated its first-ever official online tourism marketplace “**Thailand Tourism Virtual Market**” (TTVM) as a new tool to expand tourism markets and connect Thai sellers and buyers around the world to get closer via an online travel trade networking platform – <https://virtualmart.tourismthailand.org/>. The project will be launched for its first B2B networking today (15 May, 2020).
- The Royal Thai Government has launched an online platform “[Thai Chana](#)” to retain the country's effectiveness in the COVID-19 control measures, following the approval of [the second phase for easing restrictions from 17 May](#).
- **Daily Briefing by Thai government**, from the Center for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) at Government House
HIGHLIGHTS:
 - New cases = 3 , deaths = 0, total cases = 3,031 total deaths = 56, and total cured = 2,857
 - The government has established platform “Thai Chana” for the general public and businesses to facilitate safety for both customers and establishments during the spread of COVID-19.Watch the full briefing at: <https://www.facebook.com/thailandprd/videos/3643857362308028/>

- The Royal Thai Government has removed the People's Republic of China (including Hong Kong and Macau SAR) and South Korea from the list of territories outside the Kingdom of Thailand defined as Disease Infected Zones of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak. The announcement was made officially in the Royal Thai Gazette on 15 May, 2020, citing that the situation of the outbreak has improved in the two countries.
However, this does not mean that visitors of the two countries will be able to visit Thailand anytime soon. Under the current Emergency Decree, the closure of entry/access points (land, sea and air) to Thailand remains in place until 31 May, 2020. <https://www.tatnews.org/2020/05/tat-update-thailand-removes-china-and-south-korea-from-list-of-covid-19-disease-infected-zones/>
- **The Amazing Thailand SHA** certification is to prepare Thai tourism operators to be ready for the return of tourism post COVID-19 and developing confidence in Thailand as a destination among international and domestic tourists. The mini site can be accessed at www.tourismthailand.org/thailandsha. At the moment there is only Thai general information available. Access the information and the Registration Manual at the following link <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zno...>
- The Thai Chana online platform is to facilitate disease-control tracking of customers and help prevent a second wave of COVID-19. Those who come in close contact with infected people at shops in the same hour will be called in for testing. Shop owners are to register online and to provide details including contact information, opening hours and visitor limits, as well as complete a questionnaire about the COVID-19 control measures. Once approved, they will receive a QR code to be placed in front of their premises for customers to check-in and checkout from the shop. Customers then use their mobile phone to scan the code to check whether their targeted shop and restaurant can handle more customers under the social/physical distancing rules. Customers can also use the app to report to the government if the shops they visited followed the COVID-19 control measures. The English version of the Thai Chana platform will be available shortly. <https://www.tatnews.org/2020/05/thailand-launches-thai-chana-online-platform-to-retain-effectiveness-in-covid-19-control-measures/>

- The TTVM has been initiated to be an innovative solution B2B online marketing platform for Thai tourism operators (sellers) to register and create their online business profiles as well as any other essential information. Its features are being enhanced to include business negotiation functions; such as, demand matching, proposal submission system and chat box. <https://www.tatnews.org/2020/05/tat-presents-thailand-tourism-virtual-market-ttvm-as-its-first-ever-online-b2b-networking-platform/>

Useful Tips & Articles

- Example of Hospitality and restaurant business reopening guidance, see information at:
 - <https://wedc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/COVID-19-Lodging-2.pdf>
 - https://wedc.org/wpcontent/uploads/2020/05/COVID-19-Restaurants-and-Food-Service-Guidelines_1.pdf
- Example of Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools, and Homes. This guidance is intended for all Americans, whether you own a business, run a school, or want to ensure the cleanliness and safety of your home. Reopening America requires all of us to move forward together by practicing social distancing and other [daily habits](#) to reduce our risk of exposure to the virus that causes COVID-19. Reopening the country also strongly relies on public health strategies, including increased testing of people for the virus, social distancing, isolation, and keeping track of how someone infected might have infected other people. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/reopen-guidance.html>
- Here are some of the guidelines for each area of business, [to access the full report, click here](#)
- Businesses that reopen successfully as economic restrictions ease, or expand successfully, will lay the groundwork ahead of time, reopen carefully, and monitor changes as they evolve. Even if a company has been open, expansion opportunities may increase as the quarantines wind down. This article lays out the general path for reopening the economy, the best strategies to get ready to reopen, challenges that businesses will face as they re-open, and how procedures will need to be adjusted as the economy progresses—or possibly regresses. Read the full article in the following link: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/billconerly/2020/05/01/business-guide-to-reopening-thrive-in-the-economic-recovery/#7566d96424cd>

- KPMG's guide and assessment tool to identify the extent of resilience within your business. access the full report at: <https://assets.kpmg/content/dam/kpmg/th/pdf/2020/05/th-covid19-enterprise-resilience-framework-booklet.pdf>
- Interesting articles by McKinsey & Company relevant to COVID-19. access the articles at the following links:
 - [Leader's guide: Communicating with teams, stakeholders, and communities during COVID-19](#)
 - [COVID-19: Implications for business](#)
 - [From thinking about the next normal to making it work: What to stop, start, and accelerate.](#)
 - [Some restaurants are tacking COVID-19 surcharges onto customer bills.](#) As restaurants begin to reopen across the country, a new trend of COVID-19-related consumer bill surcharges is popping up. From charges for healthcare coverage to fees for climate change, surcharges have become a growing trend in restaurants. While they usually serve to call attention to growing labor costs, the latest batch of surcharges is being implemented by some restaurants across the country to mitigate rising costs related to coronavirus challenges, including supply chain shortages and rent struggles.

Best regards,
Anthony and Phuket Hotels Association Team

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 parties.