General Information Note

THE 17TH UNWTO ASIA/PACIFIC EXECUTIVE TRAINING PROGRAMME ON TOURISM POLICY AND STRATEGY

Human Resource Development in Tourism
-Navigating Post-Covid Challenges

13 - 16 November 2023 / Da Nang, Viet Nam
1. INTRODUCTION

The UNWTO and the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism of Viet Nam invite you to the 17th UNWTO Asia Pacific Executive Training Programme (ETP) on Tourism Policy and Strategy on 13–16 November 2023. This information note provides details on administrative and logistical arrangements, along with other relevant information pertaining to your participation in the ETP.

Overview

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<th>Title</th>
<th>17th UNWTO Asia/Pacific Executive Training Programme on Tourism Policy and Strategy</th>
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<tr>
<td>Theme</td>
<td>Human Resource Development in Tourism</td>
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<td>Date</td>
<td>13-16 November 2023</td>
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| Venue | - Duy Tan University  
      - Novotel Danang Premier Han River Hotel, Da Nang, Viet Nam                   |
| Host  | Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Viet Nam                               |
| Organizer | World Tourism Organization                                                          |
| Participants | UNWTO Member States in the Asia and the Pacific Region |
| Official Language | English                                                                                 |

* Interpretation in English will be available during the Opening Ceremony & Regional Forum

2. HOST: DA NANG CITY, VIET NAM

As part of Viet Nam Central Coast, Da Nang has been emerging as one of top tourist destinations in the region. The beauty of nature and the historical and cultural value have created the diversity and uniqueness of Da Nang.

Da Nang Beach, My Khe Beach & An Thuong Tourist Town:
Stretching over 60km from the base of Hai Van pass to Quang Nam, the coastline of Da Nang boasts numerous stunning and safe sandy beaches. Among
them, My Khe Beach has been voted by Forbes as one of the six most beautiful beaches in the world. With its pristine blue sea and white sand, My Khe Beach has become increasingly popular among tourists, especially when combined with An Thuong tourist street to create a vibrant tourist destination that blends various cultural identities and offers a plethora of activities and services.

**Ba Na Hills:** Bana Hills, known as the "gem of Danang," is a unique mountain resort that offers the extraordinary experience of four seasons in a single day. At the heart of the resort lies the famous Golden Bridge, which has quickly become a new hotspot for tourists, receiving numerous impressive accolades such as being named one of the Top 5 Special Awards at The Guide Awards 2018 and recognized as one of the Top 100 Best Destinations in the World 2018.

**Son Tra Peninsula:** Located just 7km away from the city center, Son Tra Peninsula is a verdant oasis and an integral part of the Da Nang coast. Its lush forests and abundant wildlife make it an ideal destination for trekking tours, photography expeditions, and observing the Red-shanked Douc langur, a primate species listed on the world's red list. Additionally, Son Tra Peninsula is home to the Linh Ung Pagoda, the largest temple in Da Nang, which boasts the tallest statue of the Goddess of Mercy in Viet Nam, making it a prominent landmark in the region.
**Ngu Hanh Son - Marble Mountains:** The Marble Mountains, a cluster of limestone mountains located along the coast of Da Nang, bear the geological imprint of millions of years of evolution. Named after the five fundamental elements in Oriental philosophy, the mountains are not only famous for their marvelous natural caves but also for reflecting Vietnamese culture and beliefs through their many folklores and ancient temples.

**Cham Museum:** The over 100-year-old Museum of Cham Sculpture preserves the largest collection in Southeast Asia of ancient Champa culture, including over 2000 artifacts and stone sculptures, of which 04 are recognized as national treasures.

**Night life:** As night falls, Da Nang sparkles with the Light River project, illuminating the Han River where cruises travel up and down. Visitors can experience night tourism with a variety of artistic performances including street Tuong opera, street music, and Ao dai shows, leaving a memorable impression on tourists.

With its beautiful nature, diverse festivals and events, wonderful cuisine, and friendly, hospitable people, Da Nang is a must-visit destination when traveling to Viet Nam.

3. **VENUE**

3.1. **Duy Tan University**

Duy Tan University (DTU), the only institution in Viet Nam that boasts UNWTO’s TedQual certified programmes, is located in the heart of sunny Da Nang – the most livable place in Viet Nam. Duy Tan University is the first and the largest private, multidisciplinary and diversified institution in Central Viet Nam, with over 30,000 students. Over twenty-nine years of development and devotion have built a
foundation to steadily enhance DTU’s reputation of combining knowledge and cooperation, resulting in an increasing number of new opportunities for its students. The early ambitions of its founders combined with dedication and hard work of all now guarantee a bright future for DTU.

Address: 03 Quang Trung Street, Hai Chau District, Da Nang City, Viet Nam

Telephone: +84 (0)236 3653 561

Website: https://www.duytan.edu.vn/

3.2. Novotel Danang Premier Han River Hotel (5-star hotel)

Uniquely located in downtown Da Nang, on the beautifully designed West Bank of the Han River, the Novotel Danang Premier Han River has taken its place as a leading hotel venue for both business and leisure travelers. It is Da Nang’s first upscale internationally managed hotel with serviced apartments, with the highest and hippest panoramic bar in the city alongside world-class facilities and restaurants. The hotel accommodates various facilities that can satisfy your tastes and give you comfort and relaxation. This hotel will be also provided to participants as the accommodation during the training programme.

Address: 36 Bach Dang Street, Hai Chau District, Da Nang City, Viet Nam

Telephone: +84 (0)236 3929 999

Website: https://www.novotel-danang-premier.com/vi/
4. REGISTRATION

Participants are cordially requested to complete the attached Registration Form and submit it to the UNWTO Secretariat no later than **13 Oct 2023**. Since all the preparations will be made based on the information from the form, you are kindly requested to provide the most accurate information.

An on-site registration desk will be open from 3 to 6 p.m. on 12 November 2023 at Novotel. Further information will be provided.

5. FLIGHT, ACCOMMODATION & TRANSPORTATION

An economy class round trip flight ticket will be provided to each participant by UNWTO. Participants are requested to supply their preferred flight arrangement on the registration form.

UNWTO will cover the single room cost for one participant from each member state. Local transportation will be provided by the host country for the registered participants from and to the airport – hotel –airport and official functions and tours only.

Upon receiving your registration, the host country will contact you and arrange your flights, accommodation and local transportation accordingly.

Should you have any inquiries regarding transportation and accommodation, contact **unwto.etp@duytan.edu.vn**

6. FOOD

Da Nang's cuisine enhances the beauty of the local culture and offers tourists a complete sensory experience. It ranges from unique and fresh local specialties to a diverse range of international dishes, including French, Italian, Indian, Japanese, and Korean cuisine.
Make sure to try the "Mi Quàng" noodles, "Bánh Xèo" savory pancakes, "Bánh tráng cuốn" or Spring roll, and "Bún Chả cá" fishcake noodle soup, which are all must-try dishes. Da Nang's seafood is also famous for its freshness and can be found served everywhere, from street vendors to high-end restaurants.

7. ENTRY AND VISA REQUIREMENT

All delegates must be holders of valid passports or relevant travel documents. It is no longer necessary to present any document related to COVID-19 upon arrival.

Citizens of member states in Asia and the Pacific from the following countries are allowed to enter Viet Nam without a visa.

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<th>Passport type</th>
<th>Countries</th>
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<tr>
<td>All types</td>
<td>Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand</td>
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<tr>
<td>Official/Service and Diplomatic passport</td>
<td>Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, India, Iran, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka</td>
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(For details of other countries outside Asia-Pacific region, please see [here](#))

Citizens from the other countries/territories must obtain an e-visa before boarding the flight, valid for a maximum of 90 days ([application link; how to apply e-visa](#)). The e-visa fee is US$25 for single-entry, and participants must pay in advance online.

Duy Tan University will reimburse the e-visa fee when you arrive at the on-site registration desk. A hard copy of the e-visa, invoices, and payment/transfer confirmation documents, which you will receive via email from the Vietnam Immigration Department, are required for the reimbursement process.

Please keep in mind that the assessment can take more than 3 working days depending on the situation. Therefore, please apply e-visa in person with sufficient time.

To facilitate e-visa application, the host country is willing to issue an official invitation letter addressed to participants, as per request via email (contact details at section 10).
8. TECHNICAL TOUR PROGRAMME

On 16 November, a technical tour to signature attractions in Da Nang and nearby areas will be organised for all participants. Details and full programme will be provided in due course.

9. USEFUL INFORMATION

9.1. Exchange rate and credit cards

The monetary unit of Viet Nam is Viet Nam Dong (VND). Viet Nam currency consists of 1,000, 2,000, 5,000, 10,000, 20,000, 50,000, 100,000, 200,000 and 500,000 VND notes. The exchange rate (as of 5 September 2023) is US $1 ~ VND 23,900.

Internationally recognized credit cards including VISA, AMEX, Master Card and JCB are widely accepted at hotels, restaurants and stores. A Value-Added Tax (VAT) is levied on most goods and services at a standard rate of 8% and is included in the retail price.

9.2. Climate and clothing

November is the end of wet season in Da Nang, the weather is cool and could have some rainy days. The temperature is around 28-30°C during daytime and 20-22°C at night. Participants are advised to bring suitable wear.

Formal attire is required at official meetings, while casual clothing is suggested for the technical tour.

9.3. Time zone

Viet Nam is 7 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT+7).

9.4. Electricity

The standard voltage in Viet Nam is 220 V and the frequency is 50 Hz. Power plug type A (2 vertical pins), Power plug type C and type F (2 round pins) fit most electrical outlets. Adaptors and converters may be needed if you are traveling from countries that use 110V or other types of plugs.
9.5. Official language

The official language of Viet Nam is Vietnamese. English is widely spoken at tourist attractions and properties.

10. CONTACT INFORMATION

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<th>UNWTO SECRETARIAT</th>
<th>HOST COUNTRY</th>
<th>Duy Tan University</th>
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