

Trade E-Magazine

Europe & America Edition





Message from the President Of the Europe and Americas BU

Dear Partners.

This issue is themed by the launch of **This Land is Calling**, an inspiring branding campaign about the true essence of Arabia; about the tale of a land where history and modernity meet, the rich cultural and land experiences, the thrilling events surfacing on the horizon, and the mega widely-ranged offerings. I am immensely proud to share This Land is Calling with you, and to see it trending and liked by the mass around the world.



Explore further this issue to learn about the colorful and dynamic experiences that make Arabia what it is; from Riyadh Season, the mesmerizing activation of VisitSaudi at Rinascente, the Americas Elevation, all the way to DACH and Eastern Europe accomplishments and everything in between. Each story illustrates our unshakable dedication to exhibiting the finest of our country and our persistent pursuit of excellence.

Join us as we proceed to grow together with you, transform and collaborate, and welcome the world to experience Saudi's true magic.

Sincerely Yours, Hazim AlHazmi





Visit Saudi Launches This Land is Calling Campaign Globally





This Land is Calling



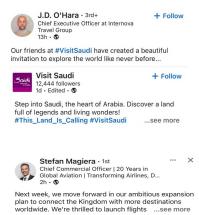
Watch Video

VisitSaudi Proudly launches **This Land is Calling,** the 3rd edition of the International Branding Campaign globally and within the Europe & Americas. Since the first edition, the campaign continues to grow in richness along with the growth and expansion of Saudi in destination experiences, thrilling events, and the amazing offerings that allow visitors to enjoy discovering the true essence of Arabia. Not only that, the campign also grows in elegance with the mesmerizing key visuals, the new lens and perspective to Saudi, and the breathtaking launch video leading the campaign. Only upon few hours from releasing the campaign video, it was trending around the world; liked by millions, and re-shared by Government Officials, Business & Tourism Executives, as well as Athletes & Celebrities.



Tourism & Business Professionals





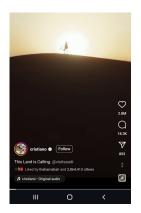
Government Ministers







Athletes





This Land is Calling's

Top 5 Attractions

The Red Sea



This land is calling

Sawii

Welcome
To Arabia

Maraya, AlUla



is calling

Saudi

Welcome
to Arabia

This land

Diriya, Riyadh



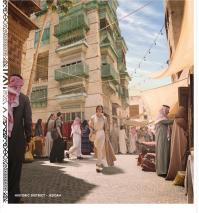


Hegra, AlUla





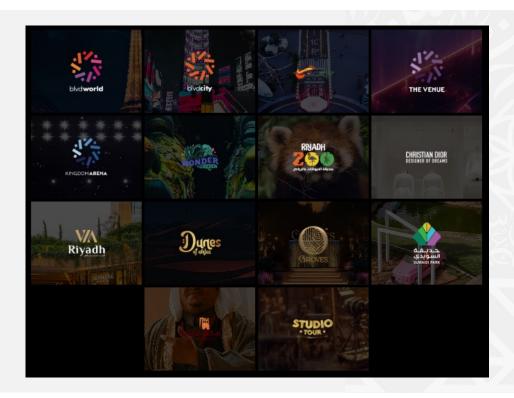
Al Balad, Jeddah













Riyadh Season 2024 Zones Unveiled

Saudi Arabia's General
Entertainment (GEA) revealed the
details of the fifth edition of
Riyadh Season 2024, set to begin
on October 12. The new season will
feature 14 entertainment zones
(Blvd City, Blvd World, Blvd
Runway, The Venue, Kingdom
Arena, Riyadh Zoo, Cristian Dior
Designer of Dreams, the Groves,
Sweidi Park, Wonder Garden, Via
Riyadh, Dunes of Arabia, Studios
Tour, Souq AL Awaleen), 11 global
championships

(Tyson Fury vs Oleksandr Usyk, 6 Kings Slam), and 10 exhibitions, festivals, and tens of exclusive experiences and events (Joy Awards, Warner Bros Adventure, Hans Zimmer Live). It is set to take place over an area exceeding 7.2 million square meters, GEA Chairman Turki Al Al-Sheikh said in a statement carried by the Saudi Press Agency (SPA). A total of 4,200 contracts with 2,100 companies, 95 percent of which are local, the chairman noted.

Explore Riyadh Season 2024 Booklet





MDL Beast's Soundstorm

The returning annual music festival is bringing some of the biggest names in the industry to headline the latest edition. From the real Slim Shady himself EMINEM to rock legends Muse and 30 Seconds to Mars, these international acts are set to turn up the volume at the loudest weekend in Riyadh. The weekend will have the quickfire bars of Marshall Mathers as he raps his chest out with generational hits, as well as guitar solos from Muse and 30 Seconds to Mars.

EMINEM, the Grammy-winning rapper was announced as the first headliner for MDLBEAST Soundstorm 2024 on Thursday July 18, 2024 via MDLBEAST's official Instagram account while the rest were announced on Saturday July 20, 2024.

To check ticket packages.

Click here







3-day Azimuth Music Festival. Al Ula

AlUla Moments is returning this September, and kicking things off in style will be a three-day music festival in the dreamy AlUla desert. Back for the first time since March 2020, Azimuth music festival will run from Thursday September 22 to Saturday September 24, presenting a celebration of East and West through music, art and experience.

No less than 21 artists and DJs will perform in the AlUla desert, with a breathtaking desert canyon backdrop playing host to the epic weekend-long event, including Ben Bohmer, RDJ, The Blaze, and many other deep house and electronic music artists.



6 King Slam

Saudi is preparing to smash it with a brand-new tennis exhibition in the capital. The 6 Kings Slam is coming to Riyadh Season and just like the name, will feature six legends from the sport on October 15. What's more, The exhibition will have six of the biggest names in Tennis including Rafael Nadal,

24-time Grand Slam winner Novak Djokovic and 2-time Grand Slam winner Carlos Alcaraz. Italian tennis player Jannik Sinner, Russian player Daniil Medvedev and Australian Holger Rune will also be joining the event.





Take our 3-5 Minutes Partners Survey









Products & Packages





CLICK HERE TO ACCESS &



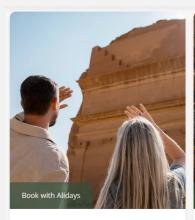












E Highlights

Saudi Arabia the Kingdom of Wonders

8 Nights • Available year-round • Accommodation, transfers, meals

Jeddah, Medina, Khaybar, AlUla, Tabuk

From SAR 6,730 per person



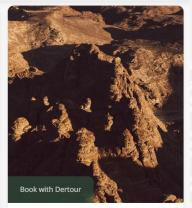
∃ Highlights

Highlights of Riyadh, AlUla & Jeddah

6 Nights • Available year-round • Accommodation, transfers, visits, tour guides Experience Saudi Arabia on this

From SAR 6,098 per person

compact group tour



≡ Highlights

AlUla - Junction of the Old Incense

3 Nights • Available year-round • Accommodation, transfers, visits, tour guides Discover all of AlUla's history and geography

From SAR 3,756 per person



Delta, Riyadh Air Sign Strategic Agreement to Expand Connectivity

Delta Air Lines, the world's leading premium airline, and Riyadh Air, Saudi Arabia's innovative new full-service global carrier, have signed a Strategic Cooperation Memorandum of Understanding with the goal of introducing a broad range of benefits for customers traveling between North America, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and destinations beyond.

The agreement, signed at a ceremony at Delta's World Headquarters in Atlanta, serves as the foundation for a strategic partnership that will enable both airlines to strengthen connectivity, expand their networks and drive future growth.

The partnership will open new destinations in Saudi Arabia and beyond for Delta customers, including future nonstop service on Delta between the U.S. and King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh. It will provide leisure travelers with a new region of the world to explore while creating new opportunities for business travelers to Rivadh, a G20 capital city, plus destinations beyond. And it will offer Delta's leading North American network for Riyadh Air customers, offering convenient access to hundreds of destinations in the U.S. and beyond with Delta's famous reliability and elevated service.

Click here

To read more.







Jeddah Historic District Marks Decade Since UNESCO World Heritage Site Designation

The Jeddah Historic District program, under the supervision of the Ministry of Culture, celebrates this year the tenth anniversary of its listing as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported Monday.

The program continues its efforts to revive the district, preserve its cultural and urban heritage, and transform it into a global heritage destination in line with the Kingdom's Vision 2030, SPA said.

According to the program, the Jeddah Historic District spans 2.5 square kilometers and is known for its unique architectural features, urban layout, and rich cultural heritage.

Positioned on the Red Sea coast, it has been a significant port for pilgrims travelling to Makkah since the seventh century. It has also functioned as a crucial hub for global trade between Asia and Africa, fostering cultural and economic exchange. The program noted that the district includes more than 650 heritage buildings, five historical main markets, several historical mosques, and one historical school.

To read more, Click here





Saudi Arabia Submitted Official Bid to Host FIFA World Cup 2034

Saudi Arabia submitted its official bid to FIFA to host the FIFA World Cup 2034 at a ceremony hosted by the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) in Paris, France. The bid book was submitted by an official delegation led by Prince Abdulaziz bin Turki bin Faisal Minister of Sport and President of the Saudi Olympic and Paralympic Committee, and Saudi Arabian Football Federation (SAFF) President, Yasser Al-Misehal, and two young talents from the regional training centers affiliated with SAFF.

The Saudi bid to host the World Cup 2034 is a significant milestone, made possible thanks to the empowerment by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, and the unwavering support provided by Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Crown Prince and Prime Minister. The bid reflects the Kingdom's continuous efforts to achieve the sports objectives of Vision 2030 and the ambitions and aspirations of the Saudi people.

Click here to read more and see

Prince Abdulaziz Al Saud's views on the matter.





Al-Madinah's Historic Islamic Landmarks Open to Visitors!

The historic Islamic landmarks of Saudi Arabia's city of Madinah are now open to visitors. The locations, castles and fortresses that Muslims had long read about in the history books can now be visited and admired up-close. Authorities have sought to preserve these locations in the hopes of attracting visitors. Over a hundred historic Islamic landmarks have been preserved and renovated in the Madinah and Makkah regions to consolidate their religious and cultural standing and offer a unique tourist experience to visitors. Expert on modern history Dr. Abdulrahman al-Wagisi said: "Every corner and every aspect of Madinah is history and tells a story."

It covers the history that predates Islam, post-Hijra and aspects of the Prophet Mohammed life, he added.

The city still boasts undiscovered historic sites despite the great efforts carried out by Saudi authorities to unearth them, he remarks. The regions of Saudi Arabia are still rife with heritage treasures, he stressed. In Madinah, he highlighted the Atban bin Malik Mosque where the Prophet Mohammed once prayed. New discoveries were recently made at the mosque, demonstrating the city's rich history, al-Waqisi said.







Visit Saudi's Collaboration with ITA Airway & Rinascente Concluded to 38% Growth in Visits



From the vibrant heart of Rome to the iconic Piazza Duomo in Milan, Saudi Arabia's beauty and culture came alive in Italy's premier lifestyle outlets, thanks to an unforgettable collaboration between Saudi Tourism Authority, ITA Airways, and Rinascente.

This immersive activation, running from June 11th to July 5th in Rome and July 16th to 29th in Milan, brought remarkable results with key achievement of 39% growth in visitors from Italy to Saudi Arabia in June/July 2024 vs. 2023.



Watch Video



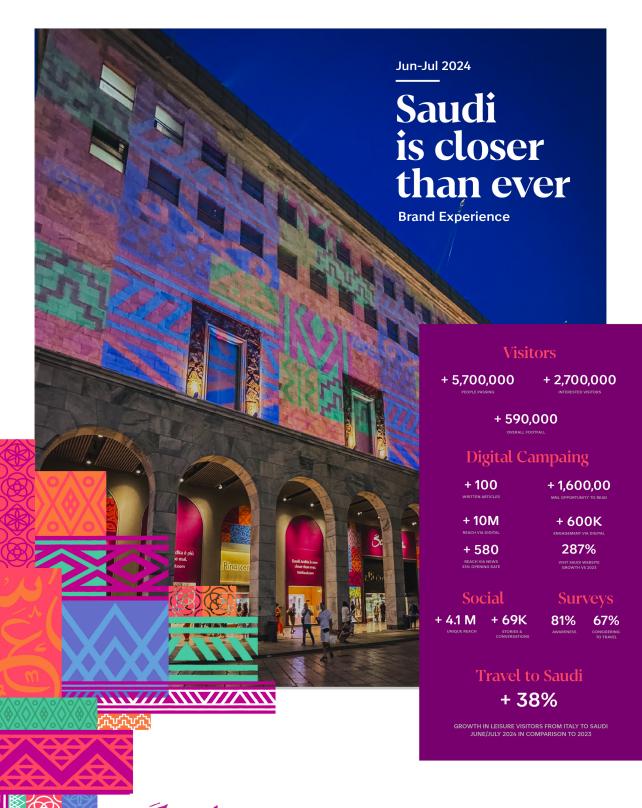


















The Americas Elevation

The Americas source market team in STA has been embarking on a transformative mission in the Americas. The team had led a series of events since year-beginning, including Fam Trips, Roadshows & Sales missions to generate leads & visitations, convert Umrah to Umrah+, Introduce leisure packages, Develop strong relationships with key players, and Matchmake DMC's with the relevant players.



Khaled Alhaddad, Director of Americas, joined STA in 2023 and brings with a wealth of experience across Government and Private Portfolio management, FMCG Sales and Strategic Partnerships/Channels, Global eCommerce large-scale expansions across markets.

Since his joining, Khaled has been an integral part in transforming the business in the Americas and STA HQ. Quoting Khaled: "As we enter H2 2024, our focus is closing the year strong in preparation for the aspirational plans we have for both 2025/2026 combined."

Fortunately, two new tourism savvy gentlemen joined his team to operate at the post and expand the business from within



Meet the Americas Team



Gregg Truman has become a STAr as Country Manager for the US, Canada, and Mexico.



Yannick Jullienne has become STAr as Trade Partnership Director for Canada, based in Montreal.



1. Brazilian Fam Trip (Feb 2024)

First stop, the team conducted a Luxury segment Fam Trip with the top 12 selling Agents and Advisors with Teresa Perez Brazil. They spent 7 days across Riyadh, Jeddah and Alula where they visited key products and excursions tailored to their market and clientele.





2. Abercrombie & Kent Fam Trip (May 2024)

The team Conducted a Luxury segment Fam Trip with the top 10 advisors and white labels of Abercrombie and Kent where Saudi packages will be featured on their top selling products catalogues.

3. Virtuoso Symposium – Dubai (May 2024)

The Americas team attended the Virtuoso Symposium, an event established in the 1990s, where decision-makers from the fields of luxury and adventure travel, as well as travel agents and senior managers who are members of Virtuoso association's network of partners, all come together to be involved in a program of working sessions, networking, and debates about the trends, challenges and opportunities for the industry. In addition, The host destination and its luxury amenities take center stage throughout the entire event leading to members getting a first-hand experience of the host country as well as the region.











4. North America Sales Mission – New York & Montreal (June 2024)

Conducted commercial joint business planning working sessions with 15 COOP and LOI partners from USA & Canada contributing +40K incremental PAX from North America until O1 2025: Aiming to de-seasonalize Umrah and converting to Umrah+, introducing leisure packages, and capturing momentum in preparation for 2025/2026 bookings. We were accompanied by DMC leaders of 88 Destinations and UTA Saudi Arabia, and supported by Saudia Airlines to ensure that the full trade funnel is addressed and enabled for traceable conversion.



Central Europe June Series Introduction

The Central European team in STA has been embarking on a amplifying mission in their corresponding markets (Germany, Austria, Switzerland) and numbered of Eastern European markets in Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary and other neighboring countries.

The team had led a series of events in June, including Roadshows and Sales missions to generate leads and visitations, convert Umrah to Umrah+, Introduce leisure packages, Develop strong relationships with key players, and tactically matchmaking relevant various stakeholders





1. STR Roadshow DACH (2-7 June)

Starting off, the team participated in STR's Roadshow in **Berlin, Cologne, Zurich, Munich, and Vienna**. STR is a DMC representation office aim to help tour operators put together the best tailor-made itineraries for groups and FIT.

The roadshow featured 226 participants, from tour operators, MICE agencies and travel agencies, of which STA provided updates on the latest tourism news and product developments in cooperation with a Saudi DMC named Discover Saudi, part of the Seera Group. The roadshow highlighted new initiatives and attractions, promoting Saudi as a top travel destination and strengthening ties with German partners.





2. STA & Emirates Workshop Event (4 June)

In parallel, other members of the team met with 22 selected Czech Tour Operators and with Emirates Airlines. The main objective is to connect partners, increase awareness of Saudi offerings, benefit from the mutual contacts and leads, and promote a convenient EK direct connection from Prague to 4 Saudi destinations via Dubai. As a result, an additional 14 connections with flydubai via Dubai were established to the current direct routes.



STR Roadshow (10-13 June 2024)

The roadshow continued more towards the East in **Budapest**, **Bratislava**, **Prague**, **and Warsaw** with +130 attendees from tour operators, MICE agencies and travel agencies. The team networked with regional potential partners, increased awareness of the destination among the HU/SK/CZ/PL travel trade, finally ending the roadshow with 94 new leads.





STA & LOT Business Workshop (11 June 2024)

With the newly launched route from Warsaw to Riyadh, The team met with LOT Polish Airlines In Bristol Hotel, Warsaw, to discuss next steps to the new achievement on the best approaches to stimulate the traffic to Saudi Arabia not only due to the new connectivity but also for the high trust in the LOT brand be it in B2B or B2C. The team aimed to leverage on the market's enthusiasm and interest in the new connection, in which 7 news leads and 3 new products were created.



5. Warsaw Summer Gala Dinner (9 July)

The team organized summer Gala Dinner at the Belverde Restaurant, Warsaw, to create engagement among key decision makers in the Polish incentive segment and encourage promoting Saudi as attractive incentive destination with 30 of biggest incentive houses in Poland. The event

Triggered "Saudi Incentive Academy", a project dedicated for the incentive segment to address needs and boost traffic to Saudi. The overall impression of the event was quite positive with 91% of attendees deemed it relevant, useful, and productive generating new products and acquiring 30 new leads.







TRADESHOWS:

28 Sep

LTM Russia

9 Oct

TTG Rimini Italy



WTM London







Upcoming New Flight Routes to KSA



Berlin – Jeddah:



Operated by EuroWings starting on October 1, 2024 (3 weekly flights)



Warsaw - Riyadh:



Operated by LOT Polish
Operating Now
(3 weekly flights)



Paris - Jeddah:



Operated by Transavia October (4 times per week)



Samarkand - Jeddah:



Air Samarkand

Operating Now
(2 weekly flights)



Berlin - Jeddah:



Operated by Flynas starting on September 1, 2024 (3 weekly flights)



Cologne - Jeddah:



Operated by Eurowings starting October 1, 2024 (3 weekly flights)



Lyon - Jeddah:



Operated by Transavia October (4 times per week)



New & Upcoming Hotels

Ritz Carlton Reserve Red Sea Project



Book Now



Rixos Hotel & Resort Jeddah



Coming in January

Bay La Sun Hotel & Resort KAEC, Jeddah



Book Now



Views Hotel & Resort KAEC, Jeddah



Book Now







Articles of Interest

designboom®

Explore the Designs of 15 Stadiums for KSA's FIFA World Cup 2034

saudi arabia's mega ambitious plan for fifa world cup 2034

Read more

Women's Fitness

Into the Deep

Saudi Freediver Salma Shaker has gotten closer to seabed than any other woman in the GCC

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الننرقا الأوسط

Jeddah Historic District's 'TeamLab Borderless' Museum

Attracts Over 52,000 Visitors

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VOGUE

15 Saudi Women to Follow for Style and Creative Inspiration

From actors and models to makeup artists, singers, and more

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Saudi Arabia commits US\$25 million to UNESCO for the protection of heritage

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Skift

Why Saudi Tourism's Future Depends on Strong Private Sector Partnerships

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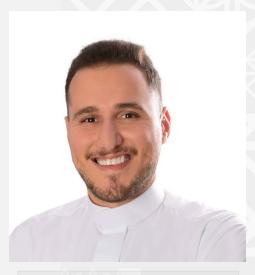
Meet the STArs of Europe & Americas

Title: Trade Marketing Manager

Source Russia & CIS Market/s:

Meet Karim Tasbahji, a vibrant charismatic Trade Marketing Manager who brings valuable 7+ years of experience from FMCG Companies (e.g. PepsiCo) and Expo 2020. With over a year now at STA, Karim is growing strong with unlocking Russia & CIS markets, as well as leading initiatives that serve the entire Europe & Americas including the Trade E-magazine you are reading at this moment. Elevate your business with Karim's hunger excellence and eagerness to enhance knowledge about Saudi with his library of tools, guides, tips, and magazines.

· Karim Tasbahji



Connect With Karim's LinkedIn

Viktoriya Bikulova



Connect With
Viktoriya's LinkedIn

Title: Trade Accounts Sr. Director

Source Russia & CIS

Market/s:

Proactive and meticulous Sales specialist with over 10 years of experience in tourism industry in mainly hotel chains such as Anantara & Four Season Hotels & Resorts, Viktoriya joined STA in December 2022, adding energy, experience, and agility to the table. Currently, she is a rock star touring Russia & CIS leading the band to sales missions & roadshows to physically unlock opportunities, meet partners and build strong relationships with key players. Upgrade your business with Viktoriya's charm and intellect to reach to desirable outcomes and reach for the sky

Meet the Saudi Partners

ALULA

Al Ula

Take a journey through time in the world's largest living museum.

AlUla stands with two other great oases in northwest Arabia — Khaybar and Tayma - to create a place of profound history that is continuously evolving. Its strategic position has, throughout Millenia, made it a crucial hub for trade, and its distinct geographical features, such as the famed oasis and imposing sandstone mountains, combined with its favorable climate, allowed numerous civilizations to thrive. Those who visit now embark on an authentic journey,

travelling back in time, surrounded by wonders and a sense of discovery. Layer upon layer of human history and a wealth of natural wonders are waiting to be explored, from dramatic rock formations and sand-swept dunes to archaeological ruins that trace the lives of the ancient cultures who built cities here. From the ancient tombs of Dadan, and the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Hegra, to the modern-day mirrored marvels within its valley, AlUla's natural and man-made landscapes are the most alluring in the world, all waiting to be discovered.









TETRAPYLON

Tetrapylon

Tetrapylon is a family-owned inbound tour operator with origins that go back to the early 1960s. Since then we have expanded throughout the Middle East and are proud to have offices in Saudi Arabia, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Jordan, Lebanon and Georgia. We provide all of the services of a traditional destination management company (DMC) with the added benefit of delivering full

pre-sales support to our partners including: detailed product advice, itinerary planning, and the provision of white-labelled written copy that can be sent to your clients.

Simply put, our mission is deliver excellence whilst streamlining the sales process for you. Our directors and staff live and work in their specialist destination, so their knowledge is deep, continually evolving and personal.







• Useful Tools

Saudi Expert

Saudi Content Library

Visit Saudi

