

Spotlight on Mumbai

Greetings!

Welcome to the first issue of *Spotlight on Mumbai*! This year we want to give you all of the information that you need to plan your trip to Mumbai for the first Biennial Conference to be held in Region 11, March 30-April 2! **Don't forget, plan to arrive by March 29 and depart after April 2 since the conference begins at 9:00 am on March 30 and finishes at 5:00 pm on April 2.**

We figure that the early bird catches the worm and we want to make sure that you know what to do and when to do it. Deadlines for signing up for tours, the Early Bird Special and booking your hotel room will be earlier than usual. Also, you will want to book your flight as early as possible in order to get the best price on your airfare.

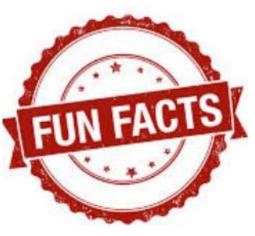
This first issue includes information about the tours being offered, how to make your hotel booking, as well as some helpful Travel Tips.



Monica

Monica Jubayli, AWC Lebanon FAWCO President president@fawco.org

Hindi is NOT the national language of India - rather India is a country of multiple regional and local languages. The Union of India has Hindi (devnagri script) and English as official languages and every state legislature has these two plus the regional language as the official language. India is second only to the USA when it comes to speaking English with around 125 million people speaking the language.



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Only 3% of Indians

pay income tax in a population of 1.2 bn. One explanation for this is that agriculture is exempt and two-thirds of Indians live in rural areas. A large chunk of the economy is informal, unorganized labor for which it is harder to collect taxes. Many argue that some of the country's financial problems would be solved in one fell swoop if this massive tax hole could be filled.

HOTEL INFORMATION

Dear Delegate,

To make a booking at the Trident Nariman Point as a FAWCO Biennial Conference Delegate, we have provided information to help you with the process. If you have any further questions, contact:

- Akshay Sapre Trident Nariman Pointakshay.sapre@oberoigroup.com
- Dorothy Wagle AWCM Conference Planning Chair <u>conferenceplanning@fawco.org</u>



Block Booking Dates: March 29, 30, 31, April 1 & 2* *The rates quoted are valid two days before and after the conference subject to availability, so booking sooner is recommended. Booking Instructions:

- 1. Please download and fill in the **booking form** and email to <u>GroupCo-ordinator.Mumbai@oberoihotels.com</u> or fax to +91 22 66326886.
- 2. In addition to required information, please note request for arrival and departure information. Although these are not required to make a booking, they will help both Trident and AWCM better prepare for your arrival and departure and can be sent after the booking is complete. Please do not wait for this information to make your booking. Early booking is important.
- 3. Visa information can be sent when available but is not mandatory.
- 4. In addition to a buffet breakfast being included in the quoted rate, as a delegate, you will also receive:
 - Free Wi-Fi throughout the hotel for up to 4 devices per room
 - 15% off food and beverage and spa treatments charged to your room
 - Free use of hotel gym, pool and business center
- 5. Rooms are for single or double occupancy only maximum 2 people per room. A child can be a third person if under 12 years of age only.
- 6. Half-day rates are available for early check in or late check out as noted and must be advised at time of reservation. Half-day rate applicable for check in between 7am and 2 pm and half day rate for check out between noon and 5 pm. If you need your room earlier or later than noted, you will need to book a full night's stay.

Please book early! March is one of the busiest months in Mumbai and especially for the Trident Nariman Point. Once the rooms blocked through FAWCO are gone or past the deadline of January 15, 2017 (whichever comes first), rooms will be booked at prevailing rates and availability.



Looking forward to welcoming you in Mumbai,

Dorothy

Dorothy Wagle AWC Mumbai Conference Planning Chair

TOUR INFORMATION

AWC Mumbai is pleased that Cox & Kings, the club's travel and tourism partner, and for the past five years a donor supporting the club's selected Mumbai charities, will be organizing all of the conference pre- and postconference tours and daily Mumbai Conference tours, activities and optional evening events.

A dedicated website with all the information, enabling you to book on line as well as request more information, will go live on September 1, 2016. In the meantime, please see a preview of what is being offered along with prices, where finalized. Please note that all tours and activities will have a minimum/maximum number that can be accommodated so be sure to book early. Also, make a note of the cancellation policies.

Pre-Conference Tour

Delegates and guests will start in Delhi for a five dav/five night tour in northern India of the magical cities of Delhi (Capital of India), Agra (Taj Mahal - one of the seven wonders of the world) and Jaipur (the Pink City). This specially designed tour for delegates FAWCO and guests by Cox & Kings will include sunset at the Taj Mahal, an elephant safari in Jaipur, a camp dinner and many more exotic "only in India" experiences! The tour will include English speaking quides: accommodation in



Trident Hotels, a 5 star luxury hotel chain in India; clean and air-conditioned luxury transportation; airfare to Mumbai. Please note all meals are included (except where stated).



Mumbai Tours and Activities

City Tours have been organized for mornings of both March 29 and April 3. There will also be additional tours offered on the afternoons of these days. For the conference days, special, smaller city tours are being organized for the guests of delegates, including a temple tour and a visit to the Mahatma Gandhi's house in Mumbai. Optional dinners have also being organized.

Post-Conference Experiences

Cox & Kings has put together a group of bespoke travel opportunities beginning the week of April 3 for both delegates and guests. These experiences are based on recommendations from AWCM members. They will be individualized and flexible! Prices will be "starting at" as there are many add-ons to take advantage of!



Airline Bookings

On the Cox and Kings dedicated website, there will be a tab for "Flights". This link will put you in touch with Cox and Kings' expert staff to help find the best route and fares for your travel to India. There are no special fares for the conference delegates; this is just a courtesy for those that prefer to book through an agent rather than directly with an airline or other service. Should you need further assistance, <u>Nimisha lengar</u> of Cox & Kings will gladly help you. Nimisha was hands on with the FAWCO Youth Cultural Volunteer Program in Mumbai 2015 and specializes in tours and travel arrangements.

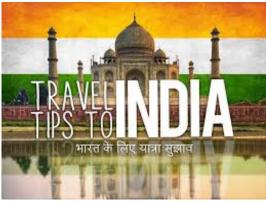
For more tour, activities and experiences information, please clickhere. As

mentioned, a dedicated website for FAWCO delegates will go live on September 1, 2016, providing more detailed information and booking ability.

- Tri City Golden Triangle, "the Butterfly Warrior Pre-Conference Tour" for registered delegates and their guests only
- Mumbai City day tours and activities for registered delegates and their guests only
- Post-conference experiences, tailor-made for your schedule and budget

Please read the cancellation policies carefully and note the booking deadlines for each tour and activity.

For any questions on any aspect of your anticipated visit to India, please contact **Dottie Wagle**, an AWCM member and a long time resident of Mumbai.



slideshare.net

- Most of the international flights in and out of India arrive and depart late at night or in the wee hours of the morning. Be sure to check that against any hotel bookings or other travel within India. If you arrive or depart at these hours, you may consider a half-day rate or book an extra night.
- The hotel will be offering a hospitality area and luggage storage for delegates who arrive early on March 29th or depart late on April 2nd. However, this won't be a place to shower or sleep and will best serve those who only need to quickly freshen up on arrival before going on a tour or to have a place to hang out for a few hours before departing for the airport. We will provide more information once we have all the arrival and departure information from the delegate bookings. Do be sure to provide the hotel with your flight details once available.
- Transport to/from the airport can be booked through the Trident Hotel. Rates are noted on the booking form. Most of their cars can hold 3-4 people plus luggage. Please advise number of people when booking airport transport through the hotel.
- If you prefer not to book a car through the hotel, Uber is available in Mumbai as well as taxis. There is also a pre-booked taxi service before you exit the arrival terminal. Local taxis/car services will be less expensive then the hotel car but it can also be a bit more of a hassle. Services like Uber and Ola have designated areas for pick up away from the main meeting point and a surcharge is levied for pick-ups from the airport. Hotel cars will have a driver waiting with sign just outside of the terminal.
- We will provide more information closer to arrival but do let us know if

any immediate questions.

- September 1: online registration opens
- October 30: for pre-conference tour and early bird special
- January 15, 2017: for FAWCO rate hotel booking
- February 15, 2017: for conference registration





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Link to online registration Hotel discounts Optional evenings Conversion rates and shopping Health issues



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