

What's On



Some photos of Kuwait

IKFS, Monument Co promote Kuwait tourism

Indo-Kuwait Friendship Society, a non-profit socio cultural NRI association in Kuwait will now collaborate with Kuwait based "Monument Co." for promoting Kuwait Tourism.

Arranging trips to various tourism destinations such as Heritage areas in deserts, Failaka Islands, Free

entry to Kuwait Museum and other various attractive monuments in Kuwait.

This is the first time Monument Co. along with IKFS is initiating for the promotion of tourism especially for expatriate communities in Kuwait. H.E. Shaikh Hamad Fahad Al Sabah,

The Founding Chairman of Monument Company quoted while saying that "I am very much delighted to receive support from Dr. Ghalib Al-Mashoor, The President of Indo-Kuwait Friendship Society for promoting Kuwait Tourism and looking forward more cooperation in the

future from the expatriate communities".

The Monument Co., the country's best inbound tour operator totally dedicated to promote tourism into Kuwait. Monument runs tours around the various city sights. It will cater large and small tour groups, but can

also arranges similar tours for individuals. Excursions include half- and full-day city, coastline, and Gulf cruising tours. Monument Co. has already offered a luxury sightseeing bus with comfort table and free snack on board.

IKFS is inviting family, children,

and all interested parties to register their name as soon as possible. The first Luxury bus trip will start on 30th October, and have only limited seats. The tickets will be issued the "First come first serve base". For details contact Ms. Friel and Abu Mohammed 97337861/98833611

Destinations



This July 30, 2015 photo released by Marcia Dunn shows Nicolas Coledan, 9, in Orlando, Florida, before he and his mother embark on a cross-country train trip from Florida to California via Chicago. (AP)

Do you know the way to San Jose from Orlando – by train?

Coast-to-coast rail trip more than adventure

By Marcia Dunn

The train conductor gave a surprised start as he checked our tickets.

"What possessed you to do that?" he asked, staring at us.

It wasn't the first time my 9-year-old son and I had gotten double-takes on our coast-to-coast rail trip. But it was the most amusing, coming from an Amtrak employee no less, and a fitting conclusion as we approached our final destination in the San Francisco Bay area, after five days of train travel that began in Orlando, Florida. All told, we'd covered 4,124 miles (6,637 kms) of railroad track.

"Better you than me," the conductor said as he headed down the aisle.

Our eTicket told the basic story. We'd boarded Amtrak's Silver Meteor in Orlando in time for a late lunch; chugged up to Washington, DC; enjoyed several hours at a National Building Museum exhibit the next day, spending a long layover in a sea of plastic balls; hopped on the Capitol Limited to Chicago; strolled around the gloriously sunny but not so windy city a day later; then climbed onto the California Zephyr for the part of the journey my train-loving son anticipated most - back-to-back nights on the same train.

Stunning

I'd read about the Zephyr's stunning ride through the Rockies and Sierra Nevadas. Frankly, I was drawn to the retro, low-pressure side of the journey as well - nearly a week with nowhere to be, except on a train. So armed with nothing more for entertainment than a few books, sketch pads and chess set, we set off.

Packed with vacationers, the Zephyr pulled out of Chicago, crossed the prairies to Denver, pushed past the Rockies and the alien-looking geologic formations of Utah and Nevada, then rambled through the Sierra Nevadas and past Donner Pass.

Singapore boasts divergent cultural heritage

A roaring good time in Lion City

Among the ranks of Asia's powerhouse players, Singapore is often depicted as the squeaky clean poster girl for gleaming glass modernity, priggish protocol and no-fuss efficiency. But don't judge this slick city-state by its cover: it also boasts divergent cultural heritage, knockout cuisine, and a heart-stopping skyline at night.

Despite having recently hit the big 5-0, Singapore shows no signs of slowing. In fact, this once smalltown kitty cat has transformed over the years into a buzzing metropolis well worthy of its moniker, the Lion City. So forget the clichés, you're in for a roaring good time.

Although there are a few curiosity-piquing new stays in the pipeline (such as the Philippe Starck-struck South

Beach and bonkers Hotel Vagabond), for now nothing beats marina-side darling Fullerton Bay Hotel (fullertonbay-hotel.com).

Ensure you snag one of their elegant, teched-out pads with a balcony and waterfront outlook, which is particularly spectacular as the Singapore horizon sparkles to life. Book ahead for a sunset kickback on one of the coveted front-row daybeds.

To get a real taste of local history, skip along to the Peranakan Museum (peranakanmuseum.org.sg), a pastel-pretty manse offering a crash course in Baba/Nyonya life with intriguing artefacts, antiques and photos.

As you'll no doubt learn, Peranakan identity originates from the 16th century intermarriage of Chinese merchants

and women from the Malacca Straits. This cultural coupling spawned an aromatic, punchy cuisine — still unique to the region today — combining Chinese cooking methods with indigenous ingredients such as coconut milk, galangal, tamarind and lemon grass.

Blue Ginger (theblueginger.com) is a delectable initiation into exactly that. A 10-minute cab hop away and set across a funkily converted shop house, the tongue-tingling fare ranges from robust beef rendang and smoky squid curry to banana leaf-enveloped fish cakes. Service can be slow, but it's friendly.

While once there was a dearth of decent dens (and an abundance of expat and generic hotel lounges), the

scene is fast gaining global recognition, with a couple of establishments sneaking onto The World's 50 Best list this year.

Leading the new wave is 28 Hongkong Street (28hks.com), an unsigned, dim-lit lair of both classic and cutting-edge pours. Feeling fancy? Ask for The Office, a clandestine in-house cubby for only eight lucky patrons.

The plush and deeply seductive Manhattan (regenthotels.com), inside the Regent Hotel, is a more formal affair; or for the youth vibe, Potato Head Folk (pttheadfolk.com) is an artsy triumvirate of burger joint Three Buns, chinoiserie-dappled Studio 1939, and breezy Rooftop Garden, swilling the best in town. (RTS)

Seating is communal; no booth seats go empty. But that's the beauty of train travel: Imagine great meal conversation with travelers from around the world, eager to share not only a table but vacation and life stories.

The not-so-good news: It was the same menu, regardless of the route. So after five days of salmon, steak and cheeseburgers, I hungered for something else. This wasn't a problem for my son, however, who ordered macaroni-and-cheese at every opportunity.

As for hand luggage, we had a single small carry-on. Large suitcases could be stashed in a common area. Had I known that in advance, I wouldn't have checked our big bag.

As we celebrated our arrival in San Jose, I turned to my son. Would he do it again? You bet, he answered.

Now for the nitty-gritty: We had a two-person sleeping compartment the whole way, which made all the difference. The changing time zones - loudspeakers kept us abreast - made for a little confusion.

Yes, we used the communal on-board showers. (It wasn't nearly as icky or tricky as I'd imagined; the water was warm and the facility tidy.) Granted, my son washed only once and wore the same red Minions T-shirt four of our five days on the tracks. But we weren't too grungy as we arrived in San Jose.

Conversation

And we were hardly starving. Meals are included - breakfast, lunch and dinner - when you book a sleeping compartment, served by waiters in the dining car. The food - especially the French toast - is actually quite good.

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Latest

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Date: Oct 30 (Friday); Time: 6 pm; Venue: Indian Embassy Auditorium.

Tulu Parba Day: Tulu Koota has announced a merit cum means scholarship to be distributed on this year's Tulu Parba which will be held at the American International School Auditorium, Maidan Hawally on Oct 30, 2015.

Applications are accepted from minimum one year valid members' children studying either in Stage of Kuwait or in India, scoring high grades at Class 10 or 12 board examination held during academic year 2014-2015. Candidates obtaining high grades but not eligible for merit cum means scholarship shall be honored with merit certificate and medal.

Tulu Koota Kuwait firmly believes in the great value of education and is strongly committed to helping needy students to achieve their educational goals.

To submit copies of marks sheets and proof of income with the application, contact Tulu Koota Kuwait Welfare officer Chandras Shetty: 55941955. Also you can email the details to secretarytkk@gmail.com.

For further information please contact: Wilson D'Souza on 97875789.

Prof Shakher to deliver lecture:

Science International Forum is creating the platform for the Kuwait audience to hear Prof Dr Chandra Shakher, Instrument Design Development Center, IIT Delhi. His accolades includes Fellow of International society of optics and photonics, Fellow of Indian National Academy of Engineering, International Communion of Optics, Galileo award winner 2014, Institute Outstanding Faculty Award holder, NRDC Independence Day Award holder, and International Patent Holder.

Dr Chandra Shakher will grace the function as the guest of honor and will deliver lecture on 'Engineers Role in Tomorrow's India' along with an interaction session with the audience focusing on how to get into IITs.

The function is scheduled to be held on Oct 30, 2015, at 5pm, at Indian Community School, Kaithan. The winners and outstanding performers at the science writing contest, 'IGNITE', introduced by SIF Kuwait as a tribute to late Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, will be felicitated at the event. The theme for the current year contest was 'A Journey to mars'.

Oct 31

Writing for Children: Writing for Children is a programme for 8-12 year olds, incorporating many aspects of the successful "Writing to Read" programme. During each six week programme, the participants will write and illustrate a story for children. The Carnegie Corporation completed a study a few years ago which concluded that increasing how much children write "improves how well they read." In addition, the children will have to figure out the best way to create pictures that help tell their story.

Each meeting will run from 3:30-4:30 pm. At the end of the six week session, two copies of a compilation of all the completed stories will be made for the children's library. In addition, one copy of each completed story will be printed and bound for the child.

Writing for Children — Amricani Cultural Centre

Saturdays 3:30-4:30 pm
Oct 31, Nov 7, Nov 14, Nov 21, Nov 28, Dec 5.

CS 21 CAW Tots activities begin:

CAW Tots, Amricani Cultural Centre's programme for potty-trained children ages 3-5, has proven to be impressive or rather, the children participating have proven to be impressive. The CAW Tots idea is to take one subject and concentrate on it for six weeks, utilizing art, children's books, and discussions to reinforce key ideas. All these sessions are built around the Harvard University Graduate School of Education Artful Thinking Palette: observing and describing, comparing and connecting, questioning and investigating, finding complexity, exploring viewpoints, and reasoning. As a result, the kids, just 3-5, are not just glancing at art, but really looking at it, thinking about it, talking about it and then, being inspired by it. All sessions are held at the Amricani Cultural Centre from 9:30-11:00 am.

Session One:
Oct 31, Nov 7, Nov 14

What is art from the Islamic world?
Nov 21, Nov 28, Dec 5

IBAK Coaching Module 11: The Indian Badminton Association (IBAK) is proud to announce its Coaching Module 11, to be held from October 31st for a period of two months. IBAK has successfully conducted 10 coaching modules and

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