

MESSAGE FROM **THASL PRESIDENT**

Dear Associates,

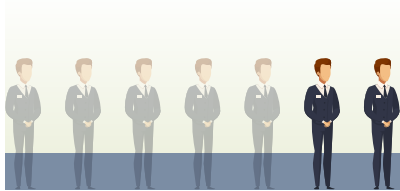
I am writing to you at one of the most difficult times our industry has ever faced in all its history. The pandemic has compelled most of our member hotels in the country to close and almost all of you are now at home. Since we are unable to communicate regularly as before, we at THASL thought it would be good to send a short newsletter to all of you with a factual update of the situation as of now.

Do read through the information given. We shall endeavor to send you such updates every two weeks. Hope you find this information useful.

Best regards to all and stay safe!

Sanath Ukwatte

THE CURRENT SITUATION IN **SRI LANKA TOURISM**



Most hotels are running minimal operations with a skeleton crew to overlook cleaning and maintenance.



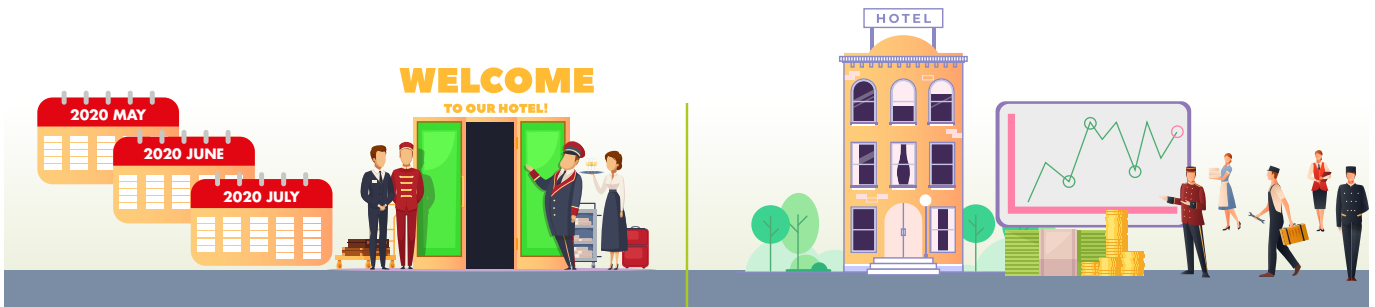
Sri Lankan hotels continue to offer our legendary hospitality to the almost 10,000 tourists unable to return to their countries. They are safe and grateful to the hotels' staff.

WATCH THIS GREAT VIDEO.



We cannot fix a firm date for revival, due to uncertainty about how the virus will spread.

Sri Lanka had zero foreign tourist arrivals in April 2020.



However, if the situation is brought under control, both locally and internationally, in the next three months, we could see a pick-up in tourism by December 2020.

While in lockdown, hotels are expected to focus on strict cost management, planning new product and service development, implementing health & safety measures in all departments and staff training (where applicable as travel restrictions are gradually relaxed).

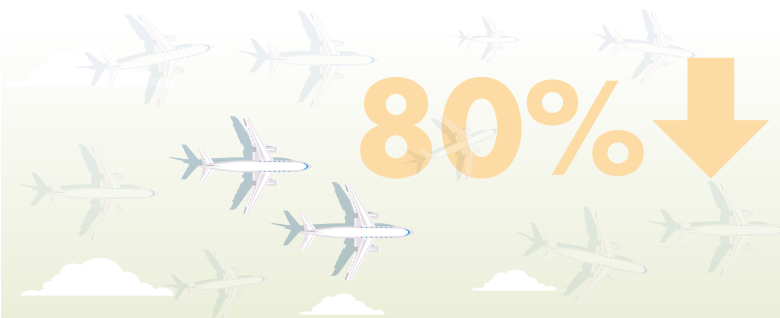
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WHAT'S HAPPENING **OUTSIDE SRI LANKA?**



Tourism in the South Asia region has declined over 56% by April 2020 (ForwardKeys).

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Globally, airlines have reduced about 80% of flights.

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Some countries are beginning to recover, and Etihad Airways and Emirates started limited flights from May.

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WHAT ARE **TOURISM AUTHORITIES DOING?**



THASL has requested Government assistance to pay the salaries of staff for a period of 6 months and is currently awaiting a response.

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The Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority and Tourism Promotion Bureau are preparing an aggressive global marketing campaign to promote Sri Lanka once the outbreak is contained. This is expected to drive tourist arrivals to our country.



Promotional videos are already being disseminated on appropriate channels.

[PROMOTIONAL VIDEOS](#)

IN THE COMING MONTHS

MOST HOTELS ARE PLANNING TO OFFER:

TRAINING



Training on health and safety procedures for implementation in all departments



Increased staff training on customer service



Opportunities for staff to pursue 'Recognition of Prior Learning' (RPL) Certifications

WHAT CAN YOU DO?



Adhere to Government regulations on curfews, social distancing and movement controls.



Avoid crowded places and maintain at least 1 meter distance between yourself and others in public.



Wash your hands thoroughly and frequently.



Make sure you and those around you follow good respiratory hygiene practices – e.g. covering your mouth and nose with your bent elbow or using a disposable tissue when you cough/sneeze.



Always wear a mask when you step out of your home.



Avoid touching your mouth, eyes and nose.



If you develop any flu-like symptoms, please seek medical attention. Call 1990 for ambulance facilities in case of an emergency.



Maintain a balanced diet and exercise regularly to stay healthy and safeguard those around you, while following guidelines issued by medical professionals.