

AITO welcomes new six new members

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The Association of Independent Tour Operators (AITO, www.aito.com) expands its membership with Tour Operator, Run by Singers, taking AITO membership numbers to 122, and five new Business Partners and Tourist Offices as AITO Affiliates.

Run by Singers*: This specialist tour operator has been arranging choral singing weeks and weekends since 2003. From singing sacred music in the Basilica of St Francis in Assisi to Midnight Mozart in Vienna, Run by Singers offers 'hands on' music holidays in great European destinations where serious choral singers can enjoy spending time with those that share their passion.

Nick Couchman, MD of Run by Singers, says: "Run by Singers is an organisation is run by singers, for singers. We are all active musicians and escort every holiday ourselves, joining in rehearsals and concert performances. We are delighted to be joining the AITO family of independent tour operators and look forward to raising our game further as we work alongside the best in the industry."

Uzbekistan Airways: An airline offering traditional Uzbek hospitality on board its modern fleet. Since introducing London as its first international destination, over 25 years ago, it has grown to operate to 25 countries and reach more than 40 cities, with passengers having grown by 30% in the past year.

Dominican Republic Tourist Board: Passionate about giving visitors the best holiday experience, the Dominican Republic offers something for everyone, from luxury, eco-adventure, arts & culture and more. The destination offers year-round sports, great night life, plus resorts, national parks and golf courses.

The Dominican Republic Tourism Board says: "We are extremely happy to become a part of the AITO family which represents over 120 of Britain's best tour operators. This will give the Dominican Republic access to tour operators which specialise in destinations such as ours and are passionate about giving visitors the best holiday experience."

South African Tourism: The tourism marketing arm of the South African government promotes the country domestically and internationally and is committed to contributing to the government's objectives of economic growth, sustainable job creation, and redistribution and transformation of the industry, including working towards helping disadvantaged South Africans and establishing how their lives can benefit from tourism.

Hungarian Tourism Agency: As the governmental organisation responsible for the development of tourism in Hungary, the Hungarian Tourism Agency's mission is both to ensure the competitiveness of Hungary as a tourism destination and to promote the country to international, domestic and business travellers.

Acuity Group: Managing consultancy. Since joining AITO, Acuity Group, A cyber security and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), has begun to develop a low cost, practical

implementation programme specifically geared to helping small specialist organisations meet GDPR data privacy obligations. It is currently trialling their method with AITO, with a view to recommending an approach that can be offered to the membership.

Stephen Hall, Cyber Security and GDPR Consultant, says: “Whilst Acuity Group is a specialist company primarily supporting major multi-national corporations, we recognise the pressures on small companies with limited resources and aim to help other small entrepreneurial companies within the travel industry.”

Ends

***Does not sell through travel agents**

For more information on AITO’s 122 specialist travel companies and their unrivalled collection of holiday ideas that cover every corner of the world, visit the website at www.aito.com.

All AITO members are fully bonded, comply with AITO’s Quality Charter and aim to offer the best customer service.

For more information on AITO or AITO Specialist Travel Agents, or for high-res photos, please contact Sue Ockwell or Jackie Franklin on 020 8891 4440 or email s.ockwell@travelpr.co.uk or j.franklin@travelpr.co.uk.