

Global travel tech start-up takes off in Hong Kong

Global travel tech start-up Hey Travelista announced today (June 8) that it has opened its Hong Kong office as the global headquarters to launch its new online travel platform for affluent travellers in Asia.

Hey Travelista offers its registered members exclusive high-end and unique hotel packages, with additional value-added inclusions, through its new travel platform. It works directly with top hotels and partners so that it can offer competitive rates and inclusions to its members, according to its co-founder Mr Tony Low.

He added that there is a niche in the travel industry for the increasingly wealthy, free and independent Asian travellers whose needs are not yet entirely met by traditional or online travel agents. The company eyes Hong Kong as its base to seize the huge opportunities.

He said, "Hong Kong has a huge tourism market. As Hong Kongers are among the most frequent travellers in the world, we definitely want to be part of this market. In addition, the city is next to the Mainland and its growing number of middle class travellers. It is a perfect place for a travel tech company to launch."

He added, "As an international city, Hong Kong attracts the best and brightest from all around the world. We want to leverage on its international status to develop our business here as well as promote our platform globally through the city."

Associate Director-General of Investment Promotion Dr Jimmy Chiang said, "Hong Kong's fast-paced lifestyle gives rise to a genuine demand for luxury travel. With its sophisticated high-tech infrastructure and tech-savvy professionals, the city is the ideal place for Hey Travelista to start its business in the region."

About Hey Travelista

Founded by three globally experienced senior executives within the travel, hospitality and digital tech space, Hey Travelista is an online travel platform which offers its registered members access to high-end and unique hotel or resort packages, with value-added inclusions. For more information, please visit www.heytravelista.com.

About Invest Hong Kong

Invest Hong Kong is the department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government tasked to attract foreign direct investment and support overseas and Mainland businesses to set up or expand in Hong

Kong. It provides free advice and customised services for overseas and Mainland companies enrolled as its clients. For more information, please visit www.investhk.gov.hk.

Red flags hoisted at Repulse Bay Beach and Silverstrand Beach

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (June 8) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Repulse Bay Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island and Silverstrand Beach in Sai Kung District. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at these beaches.

Classes of kindergartens and some special schools are suspended

Attention TV and radio duty announcers:

Please broadcast the following special announcement by the Education Bureau concerning schools, and repeat it at suitable intervals:

As the Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal no.3 is now in force, classes of kindergartens (including PM classes of kindergartens), schools for children with physical disability and schools for children with intellectual disability are suspended today.

Public consultation on

telecommunications licence fees reduction and introduction of new fee component launched

The Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB) and the Communications Authority (CA) today (June 8) jointly launched a public consultation to invite views from the industry and interested parties on the proposed reduction of licence fees for five types of licences issued under the Telecommunications Ordinance, and the proposed introduction of a new fee component under unified carrier licence (UCL).

For UCLs, services-based operator licences (Class 3) and public radiocommunications service licences (Paging), licence fee for each customer connection/mobile station is proposed to be reduced from \$7 to \$5. For mobile radio system mobile station licences and private mobile radio system licences, licence fee for each mobile station is proposed to be reduced from \$270 to \$220. Holders of these five licences will benefit from the fees reduction proposal.

A new fee component for provision of Wireless Internet of Things (WIoT) services under UCL is also proposed.

"The introduction of the new fee component, at a much reduced level at \$2 for each WIoT device, will align the WIoT device fee under UCL with that under the WIoT Licence, and will further facilitate the development of WIoT services in Hong Kong," a spokesman said.

"The licence fees review has been conducted in accordance with statutory requirements and the latest Government's financial guidelines for trading funds. The fee proposals are in line with the cost recovery principle," the spokesman added.

Subject to the views and comments received and the necessary legislative amendments, the proposed licence fees reduction and the proposed introduction of the new fee component for WIoT devices under UCLs will take effect from January 2019.

The consultation paper can be downloaded from the websites of the CEDB (www.cedb.gov.hk/ccib/eng/paper/pdf/2018_licence_fee_eng.pdf) or the CA (www.coms-auth.hk/filemanager/en/content_711/cp20180608_e.pdf). Views on the consultation paper should be sent by post to the Office of the Communications Authority, 29/F, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong, by fax to 2834 1797, or by e-mail to consult-licence-fee-reduction-2018@ofca.gov.hk on or before July 9, 2018.

2018 Annual Survey of Companies in Hong Kong with Parent Companies Located outside Hong Kong

The Census and Statistics Department is conducting the 2018 Annual Survey of Companies in Hong Kong with Parent Companies Located outside Hong Kong, on behalf of Invest Hong Kong. The survey aims to collect information useful to the Government in formulating strategies for cultivating a favourable environment for conducting business in Hong Kong and further developing support services for existing and prospective investors from outside Hong Kong. Such information will help Invest Hong Kong better understand the needs of foreign companies in Hong Kong and tailor its promotions, both locally and overseas, of Hong Kong as a leading destination for foreign direct investment.

The survey covers companies in various economic sectors in Hong Kong with their parent companies located outside Hong Kong. A questionnaire has been sent earlier to each of the relevant companies together with the notification letter. To assist these companies in providing the information as required, an electronic template of the questionnaire is available upon request.

Information being sought in the survey includes general information relating to these companies and opinions of the management of these companies about conducting business in Hong Kong.

The survey is conducted under Part IIIA of the Census and Statistics Ordinance (Chapter 316) and was notified in Government Notice No. 2816 in the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Gazette of April 27, 2018, as a voluntary statistical survey. The said Ordinance stipulates that all collected information which may enable identification of individual companies should be kept in strict confidence and not be released to any unauthorised parties. Such data will solely be used for compiling statistics which will not enable information relating to individual companies to be revealed.

The department would like to thank those companies which had participated in previous rounds of the survey, and appeals for the support of the management of all companies which have been selected in the current survey round for their co-operation by returning the completed questionnaires to the department on or before June 29, 2018.

Where applicable, staff of the department may phone or visit individual companies to offer assistance in completing the questionnaire. Whilst on duty, they will each carry an Enumerator Identity Card and a certificate for conducting the survey, which will be available for inspection.

Enquiries regarding the survey can be directed to the Business Expectation Statistics Section of the department (Tel: 3579 2311 or email: regional@censtatd.gov.hk).