

The Arabian Travel Market

>Dubai - Motaz Othman

Despite the large number of competitors, the Arabian Travel Market (ATM) still keeps its position as leader of Arab tourism exhibitions. This year it saw an increasing number of visitors.

The participants came from different continents. There were distinguished stands from the Chinese province Hang Zo, which participated for the first time, and Macao. Unfortunately the Arab stands were generally weak. It is also worth noting that Arab tourism ministers are keen on participating in many exhibitions in Europe and Asia, while their Asian counterparts are keen on their presence in Arab exhibitions. Several events took place, including the announcement of the opening of a Thai tourism office in Dubai, and press conferences for hotel chains to emphasize that investment in Dubai is profitable and that hotels achieve high occupancy rates. ITM was invited to meet with the Malaysian Minister of Tourism, who stressed close ties between the Arabs and Malaysian people. They call Arab tourists "brothers". The minister also highlighted medical tourism in Malaysian hospitals. At the stand of Al-Shuuda hotel of Mecca, ITM met Mr. Mousaid Al-Said, Director General of Al-Khozama Company, and Hamza Al-Attas, Director of the Durrat al-Riyadh Company, who manages Durrat al-Riyadh Resort with an area of 128 thousand square metres costing half a billion rials. A contract has been signed with the Saudi company, Al-Khozama, to run the resort. The planning of this exhibition was better than the previous year. Indeed, ATM will remain at the front line of Arab tourism, whether out or in bound. ■



The Press Conference by the Indian Tourism

المؤتمر الصحفي لسياحة الهند



Dr Surapong Ambhanwong with Motaz Othman

د. سيرابونج أمبهانونغ مع معتز عثمان