



IWTTF announces expansion plans with its first event in continental Europe

-Inaugural IWTTF Europe to take place in Utrecht in September-

23 March 2026, London: The International Women in Travel and Tourism Forum ([IWTTF](#)) – the travel industry’s foremost conference dedicated to diversity, equity and inclusion from award-winning social enterprise [Women in Travel CIC](#) – is announcing exciting expansion plans for 2026 and beyond.

Following the success of the inaugural IWTTF Gulf in November 2024, Women in Travel CIC has been invited to return to Dubai to deliver an afternoon programme as part of Arabian Travel Market (now rescheduled for August 2026 in light of recent developments in the region). Curated and moderated by Women in Travel’s MD and Founder Alessandra LoTufo Alonso, sessions will include *Female empowerment and leadership; Women leading the MENA travel transformation; What solo female travellers really want, and why we should listen to them*, and *Driving growth through accessible travel*.

Further to that, IWTTF is announcing a new event – IWTTF Europe, its first in mainland Europe – which will take place on 16 and 17 September in Utrecht thanks to the support of Gold sponsors BCD Travel and Interail, founding partner Intrepid Travel and more industry leading names including DiamondAir International. The event will comprise a forum day of discussion and collaboration, with speakers, panel talks and group mentoring sessions, as well as the return of the IWTTF Awards which celebrate best practice, innovation and impact in the inclusion space.

Additionally, there are plans to launch an inaugural IWTTF Americas in partnership with Founding Sponsor Intrepid Travel, with dates to be confirmed.

IWTTF aims to provide a platform to spark meaningful dialogue, foster allyship, and catalyse collaboration to create a more inclusive travel industry. Each IWTTF event brings together a vibrant community of travel and tourism professionals to champion inclusion, equity, and diversity and the brand has become renowned for its progressive and dynamic content, candid discussions, inspiring stories, and transformative shared experiences.

IWTTF London, the flagship event in the IWTTF calendar, will take a pause in 2026, returning bigger and better than ever in 2027 in celebration of Women in Travel CIC's 10 year anniversary. In the meantime, Women in Travel CIC's community will be invited to come together in a slightly different format on 21 May 2026 at Intrepid Travel's London headquarters, with an event focusing more specifically on social impact and allyship.

Alessandra LoTufo Alonso commented: "The IWTTF brand goes from strength to strength and we are excited to have new incarnations of our events in Dubai, Utrecht and London this year, though of course we are keeping a close eye on current events in the Middle East.

"We are laying the foundations for an even bolder and brighter 2027 when we will be marking the 10th anniversary of our work empowering women from underserved communities and campaigning for a fairer and more inclusive travel industry. IWTTF continues to be a place for us to come together with the rest of the industry and inspire each other towards a more equitable future, and where we can celebrate what we have achieved transforming the lives of women at a time of need."

-Ends-

Notes to editors

Images from previous IWTTF events are available [here](#).

[Women in Travel CIC](#) is a UK based award winning social enterprise that connects underserved, diverse female talent to employment and enterprising opportunities in the travel, tourism and hospitality industry. It partners with employers and organisations to provide talent services, education and events that foster a more diverse and inclusive industry.

For media information, please contact: caroline@carolinecalvert.co.uk / + 44 7715 996278