



WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY IN SINGAPORE FOR FILIPINO HOTEL AND CASINO WORKERS

For jobseekers considering overseas jobs in the tourism industry, the employment prospects are promising in Singapore due to the rosy outlook for the tourism industry in the next ten years. The development of the two integrated resorts, which will create 35,000 jobs, and the occasional hosting of mega events like the recent 117th international Olympic Committee Session will play a major role in the development of the industry. The two resort projects are expected to be operational by 2009.

The Singapore Tourism Board (STB) projects tripled tourism receipts amounting to \$30 billion and create 100,000 new jobs in the tourism industry by 2015. Apart from attracting leisure and business travelers, efforts will also be stepped up to entice foreign students to study in the city-state and foreign patients to seek medical services in Singapore.

To prepare for the expected increase in visitor arrivals, more investments are poured in hotel, retail, food and beverage, meetings, incentive tours, conventions, exhibitions and attractions development. *Within the next three years, there will be five new hotel developments, which are expected to generate 1,000 more jobs.*

From a recruitment perspective, the outlook for the tourism industry is indeed positive not only for local workers, but also for foreign workers. Singapore will need foreign workers with the experience and skills to augment its existing local talent pool. Given these developments, Filipino workers, particularly those in the hotel and gaming industry and entertainment, stand a good chance of securing employment once recruitment commences. These sectors will require professionals skilled in managing exhibitions and conferences and in attracting events.