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5 Recently
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APR 2024

5
Healthy
Lunch
Ideas to
Pack for
Work

Airlines record
surging cargo
demand on a
global scale

Access Bank
Conquers More
Ground

WITH LATEST ACQUISITION

MMA2:
A THRIVING
HUB WITH
OVER 90
BUSINESSES

FREE

20 Hacks to
ensuring a
smooth flight
for first time
adventurers

TRIVIA INSIDE



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Editor's note

We draw inspiration from the Eid and Easter celebrations as symbols of hope and renewal. These moments remind us of the importance of compassion, kindness, and unity in the face of adversity.

The fasting period is the time for deep reflection, reassessment of priorities, and increased empathy towards those in need.

As a traveler, observing Ramadan or the Lenten season, there is a shared call across religious traditions to be agents of hope and catalysts for positive change. These observances encourage acts of charity, forgiveness, and solidarity, reminding us of the power of renewal and resilience.

As you journey through Murtalla Muhammed Airport, MMA2, let us use this time to strengthen our efforts in building an inclusive and compassionate society. By bridging divides, challenging

prejudices, and embracing our shared humanity, and create a brighter future for all.

On air or land, let us not overlook the transformative potential within each of us during this period. Together, let us harness the power of hope to inspire meaningful change and strive towards a world where compassion and respect are lived realities for everyone.

As we embark on this journey of spiritual renewal, may we find strength in our shared humanity and may the bonds of compassion guide us towards a future of peace, justice, and love.

We wish all our readers, well wishers and esteemed terminal users happy celebrations!!!

In solidarity and hope.

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MMA2: A thriving hub with over 90 businesses

The MMA2 terminal operated by Bi-Courtney Aviation Services Limited embodies modernity and stands as a testament to Nigeria's economic vitality.

Murtala Muhammed Airport 2 (MMA2), often hailed as the pride of Nigeria's aviation sector, has emerged not just as an international standard airport but as a vibrant aerotropolis center, home to a burgeoning community of more than 90 businesses.

Located in Ikeja, MMA2 has redefined the landscape of air travel in Nigeria, offering passengers and businesses alike a world-class aviation experience. From its facilities to its seamless operations, MMA2 has become a beacon of efficiency and excellence in Africa's aviation industry.

At the core of MMA2's success is its commitment to innovation and customer experience. Boasting a terminal designed to international standards, travelers are greeted with modern amenities,



streamlined check-in processes, and a plethora of retail and dining options. A testament to this, is the recent opening of Guinness bar within the terminal. However, what truly sets MMA2 apart is its role as a thriving aerotropolis center, a dynamic urban environment where aviation-related businesses thrive and interact with the broader economy.

With over 90 businesses operating within its premises, ranging from airlines and ground handling services to retail outlets

**“
AT THE CORE OF
MMA2'S SUCCESS IS
IT'S COMMITMENT
TO INNOVATION AND
CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE**



and corporate offices, MMA2 has become a bustling ecosystem of economic activity. MMA2 easily offers facilities for shopping, e-commerce, tourism, art experiences, training, activations, consultations, meetings, dining, and flying.

From multinational corporations to local entrepreneurs, businesses flock to MMA2 to capitalize on its strategic location, seamless connectivity, and robust infrastructure. As a result, the airport has become not just a gateway to the world but a catalyst for economic growth and development in the region.

In addition to its commercial success, MMA2 has also emerged as a symbol of Nigeria's aviation prowess on the global stage. With its impeccable safety record, adherence to international standards, and commitment to excellence, the airport has earned the trust and confidence of passengers and industry stakeholders alike.

Looking ahead, MMA2 continues to chart a course for growth and innovation, with plans to further expand its facilities and services to meet the evolving needs of travelers and businesses.

As Nigeria's economy continues to thrive and its aviation sector continues to soar, MMA2 stands poised to remain at the forefront of Nigeria's aviation renaissance.

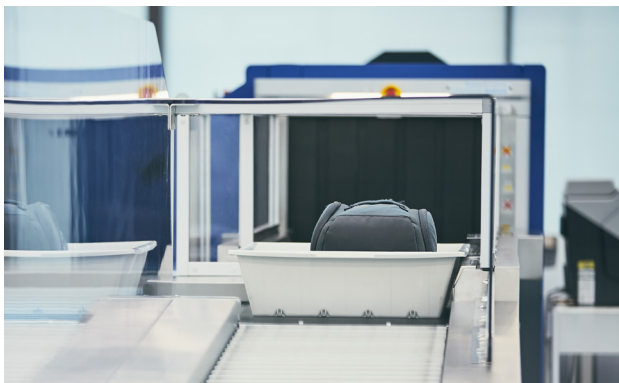
In conclusion, Murtala Muhammed Airport 2 stands not only as a testament to Nigeria's aviation ambitions but as a shining example of what can be achieved through vision, dedication, and a commitment to excellence. With its vibrant ecosystem of businesses and unwavering focus on customer satisfaction, MMA2 is not just an airport – it is a symbol of Nigeria's potential and a gateway to a brighter future.

Everything you need to know before going through airport security

If you are planning to travel by air, it's important to know what to expect when you go through airport security. This essay aims to provide you with some tips to help you prepare for the security screening and know what to avoid to hasten the process.

You will learn about what clothing and shoes to wear, how to pack liquids and gels, and how to handle larger containers of liquid medications and medical supplies. You'll also find out why you shouldn't count on TSA PreCheck. By following these tips, you can make your next airport security screening a breeze.

1 Wear clothing and shoes without metallic



embellishment: This will help you avoid setting off the metal detector. Be ready to remove your belt if it has a metal buckle. Tuck large metal jewelry pieces into your carry-on bag before you go through the security checkpoint. Put change and keys into a plastic bin when you arrive at the checkpoint. If you have body piercings, either remove them before you go through security or resign yourself to a pat-down screening.

2 Take your time removing and putting on shoes: You will have to take your shoes off at the security checkpoint and put them into a plastic bin for screening unless you are over age 75. Several thousand humans walk through the metal detectors each day, so you will probably want to protect yourself from germs by wearing socks.

3 Pack liquids and gels in a one-quart plastic bag: All liquid and gel items must be in 100 milliliter (3.4



ounces) or smaller containers. Every liquid and gel product you carry into the passenger compartment must meet this requirement and fit into a single, one-quart zip-closure clear plastic bag. If you must bring larger liquid or gel items, you will have to place them in your checked baggage unless they are medically necessary. Gel-like food items such as peanut butter, jello, and pumpkin pie will be confiscated, so it is best to leave them at home. Natural powders may need extra screening. Consider putting powders into your checked bag unless they are medically necessary.

4 **Keep larger containers of liquid medications, nutrition drinks and**



medical supplies separate from other liquids and gels: You can bring prescription liquid medications through security. You can also bring medically-necessary water, juice, and other “liquid nutrition” as well as frozen liquids or gels that you will use to cool medical items. Prosthetics and medical items are also permitted. The catch? Everything must be screened in some way. Tell the security screeners what medical and disability-related items you have with you and ask them to screen the items visually if X-rays will harm them. (Important: Never put prescription medications in checked baggage. Hand carry them or mail them ahead.).

Don’t count on TSA PreCheck: Not all airports have TSA PreCheck lanes open all the time, and not all areas of every airport have PreCheck lanes available. For example, C Pier at Baltimore / Washington Thurgood Marshall International Airport does not have a PreCheck lane, and PreCheck lanes at the other three piers are not always open. We hope these tips help you prepare for your next airport security screening. Safe travels!

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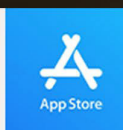
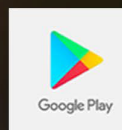
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Access Bank Conquers More Ground With Latest Acquisition

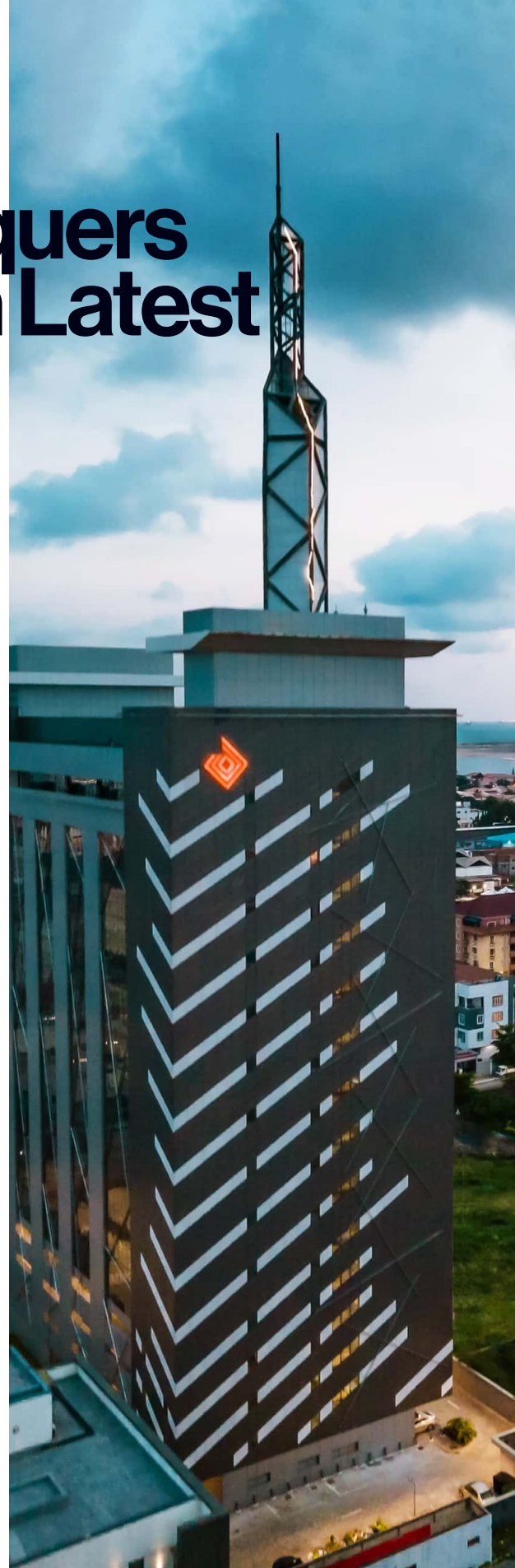
Access Bank Plc has marked a significant stride toward its aspiration of becoming Africa's foremost payment gateway by acquiring 100% ownership of the National Bank of Kenya (NBK) from KCB Group PLC. This milestone follows Access Bank's earlier acquisitions in Kenya, including a majority stake in Transnational Bank Kenya (now Access Bank Kenya Plc) four years ago and the complete buyout of Centum's shares in Sidian Bank two years later. Pending regulatory approvals, this latest acquisition strengthens Access Bank's foothold in Kenya, a vital trade corridor and financial centre in East Africa.

The move aligns with Access Bank's broader ambition to position itself as the continent's premier payments gateway, further bolstered by Kenya's designation as the headquarters of the Pan-African Payment and Settlement System (PAPSS). PAPSS aims to streamline direct, cross-border money transfers within Africa, eliminating the need for

currency conversion. By integrating NBK with Access Bank Kenya post-acquisition, the Nigerian lender aims to fortify its presence in the East African market and create a robust Kenyan franchise.

Roosevelt Ogbonna, Managing Director/Chief Executive of Access Bank Plc, underscored the strategic significance of the deal, emphasizing Kenya's pivotal role in East Africa's trade landscape, especially in light of the recent implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA).

The NBK acquisition marks the latest chapter in Access Bank's ambitious expansion strategy across Africa. With operations in at least 16 African countries, the bank's recent acquisitions include Zambia's Cavmont Bank in 2020, Mozambique's African Banking Corporation in 2021, and Standard Chartered Bank's subsidiaries across several African nations in 2023. Access Bank's trajectory continues with plans to acquire a majority stake in Uganda's Finance Trust Bank, announced in January 2024.





Binance Ceases NGN Operations

Following the rapid depreciation of the value of the Naira [NGN], the Federal Government cracked down on online crypto exchange platforms with Binance being the most prominent, with the aim of arresting the decline of the Naira and to avert what it believes to be manipulation of the foreign exchange market and illegal movement of funds. Supposedly related to these crackdowns were reports from various outlets that the government had detained at

least two senior executives of Binance following the ban on the website.

Following reports of the arrest of the executives, Binance themselves released a statement to users, advising them to withdraw their NGN off the platform or to trade NGN assets and convert them into crypto. The statement from Binance, published on the 5th of March, 2024, reads as follows:

"Users are encouraged to withdraw NGN, trade their NGN assets, or convert

NGN into crypto prior to the discontinuation of these NGN services. From 2024-03-08 08:00 (UTC), any remaining NGN balances in users' Binance accounts will be immediately converted to USDT based on the conversation rate below.

Binance will not support deposits of NGN after 2024-03-05 14:00 (UTC). Withdrawals of NGN will not be supported after 2024-03-08 06:00 (UTC). After 2024-03-08 08:00 (UTC), Binance will convert any remaining NGN

Users are encouraged to withdraw NGN, trade their NGN assets, or convert NGN into crypto prior to the discontinuation of these NGN services.



balances in users' Spot and Funding wallets into USDT on behalf of users at a ratio of 1 USDT = 1,515.13 NGN. Please note that the conversion rate is calculated based on the average closing price of the USDT/NGN trading pair on Binance Spot in the last seven days.

The conversion may take approximately up to 24 hours or longer. USDT tokens will be credited to users' Spot wallets thereafter, and users can confirm receipt of the tokens via the Convert History page. If users hold less than 0.00000001 USDT worth of NGN in their Spot and Funding wallets, they will each receive 0.00000001 USDT in their Spot wallets after the conversion."



Based on this statement, it appears as though it will still be possible for users to deal in other tokens on the platform, just not anything to do with the NGN—although, it remains a point of speculation that the FG could still opt to permanently ban all activity to do with the platform.

It should be noted that in recent months, Binance have been on the receiving end of sanctions and restrictions from other governments, most notably the

governments of the United States of America, Iran, Iraq, and North Korea largely due to domestic financial restrictions or requirements, and international sanctions. Despite this restriction of crypto services, as at the time of writing, the NGN/USD conversion rate is currently still reported at \$1 = N1,590.669 and it remains to be seen whether or not the coming months might see the Naira stabilize and justify the decision made by the Federal Government.



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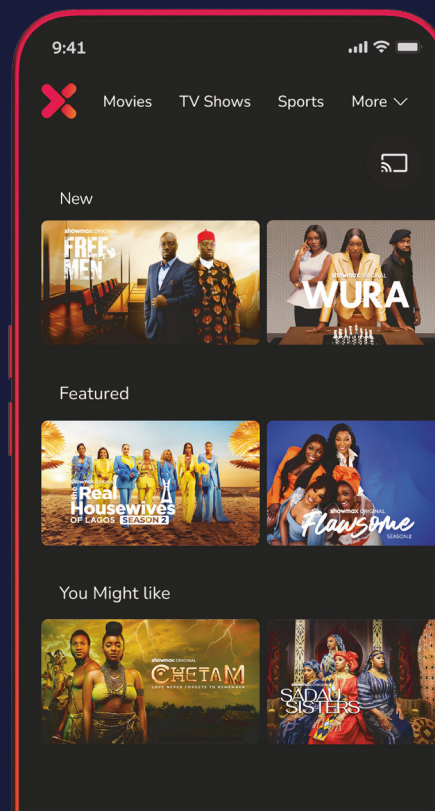


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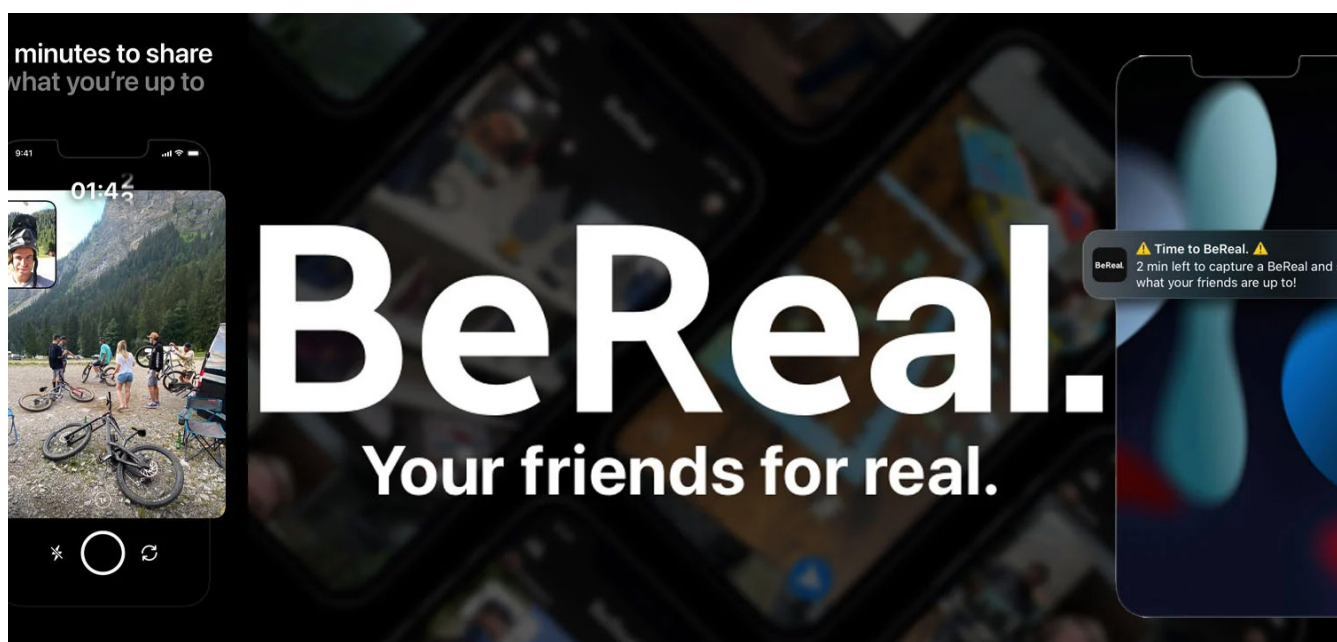
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BeReal: The Fast-Growing Social App Championing Authenticity

Enter BeReal, a photo-sharing app revolutionising the social media landscape, emphasising genuine, unfiltered moments. While it may not be on everyone's radar yet, its popularity is soaring, with a remarkable 315% increase in active monthly users this year, as reported by Apptopia. Launched in early 2020 by a French entrepreneur, BeReal has attracted a surge of users, with over 65% joining just this year. Unlike its counterparts, BeReal promotes authenticity by inviting users to share real-time glimpses into their lives, free from the façade of filters and edits. With no filters or editing tools, BeReal encourages users to embrace the raw and genuine aspects of their daily lives. Whether it's a messy hair day or a mundane view of a rainy parking lot, BeReal celebrates the beauty of imperfection. The app's concept is refreshingly straightforward. Once a day, users receive

a notification prompting them to "BeReal." Within two minutes, they must snap and post a photo of their current moment, no matter how ordinary. Adding to its allure, the notification arrives randomly, injecting an element of spontaneity into the user experience.

Upon clicking the daily notification, users are prompted to capture a snapshot of their surroundings within the app, along with a simultaneous rear-facing selfie. Both images are shared instantly, with users having the option to retake and post them at their convenience.

While BeReal permits users to post photos later in the day, it reveals the time elapsed since the original notification, emphasising spontaneity over planned content. This unique feature holds users accountable for their authenticity, fostering a community built on genuine connections rather than curated perfection.



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Global cross-border trade experienced a 1.0% increase in December compared to the previous month, although showing a marginal decline year-on-year.

Airlines record surging cargo demand on a global scale

Across the globe, positive momentum in air cargo demand has set an optimistic tone for the industry, reflecting resilience and adaptability to changing global dynamics.

In January 2024, African airlines witnessed a commendable surge in air cargo volumes, marking a 17.0% increase, a significant recovery from December's performance slump (-1.2%). The region's carriers particularly thrived on the Africa-Asia trade lane, contributing to the overall improvement.

The capacity in January also showed a robust growth of 19.4%, surpassing January 2023 levels.

This positive trend extended globally, as per data released by the International Air

Transport Association (IATA).

The report revealed a robust start to 2024 in the global air cargo markets. The total demand, measured in cargo tonne-kilometers (CTKs), surged by an impressive 18.4% compared to January 2023 (19.8% for international operations). This marked the highest annual growth in cargo tonne-kilometers since the summer season of 2021.

Capacity, measured in available cargo tonne-kilometres (ACTKs), showed a substantial increase of 14.6% compared to January 2023 (18.2% for international operations). This was largely attributed to the growth in belly capacity, with international belly capacity experiencing a remarkable 25.8% year-on-year increase.

role in driving air cargo demand above growth in both trade and production. However, he acknowledged the looming uncertainty regarding China's economic slowdown, which will be a focal point of discussion at the upcoming IATA World Cargo Symposium in Hong Kong.

The strong growth in air cargo demand outpaced trade and production, with notable factors in the operating environment:

Global cross-border trade experienced a 1.0% increase in December compared to the previous month, although showing a marginal decline year-on-year.

January's manufacturing output Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) indicated expansion for the first time in eight months, reaching 50.3. However, the new export orders PMI, while showing improvement at 48.8, remained below the critical 50 threshold, suggesting a continuing, albeit decelerating, decline in global exports.

Inflation in major economies eased, reaching 3.1% in the US and EU and 2.1% in Japan. China's negative inflation rate of -0.8%, the lowest since 2009, raised concerns about an economic slowdown.

Analyzing regional performances:

Asia-Pacific airlines recorded a remarkable 24.6% increase in air cargo volumes in January 2024. Carriers in the region benefited from substantial growth on three major trade lanes: Africa-Asia (+52.5%), Middle East-Asia (+29.5%), and Europe-Asia (+27.5%).

North American carriers showed a 9.3% increase in cargo volumes, with improved performance on the North America-Asia and North America-Europe trade lanes. Capacity increased by 3.8%.

European carriers demonstrated a robust



performance with a 16.4% increase in air cargo volumes, particularly benefiting from growth in the within Europe market and the Europe-Asia route. Capacity increased by 12.5%. Middle Eastern carriers exhibited the strongest performance, recording a 25.9% year-on-year increase in cargo volumes.

This was driven by growth in the Middle East-Asia and Middle East-Europe markets. Capacity increased by 17.1%.

Latin American carriers experienced a notable 13.4% increase in cargo volumes compared to January 2023, with a capacity increase of 6.6%.



20 hacks to ensuring a smooth flight for first-time adventurers

New to flying? Welcome! I can relate—I still remember my first flight vividly. I was a bit nervous, breathing through my mouth, and almost had a panic attack. Fortunately, it was a short 45-minute flight from Lagos to Abuja.

I've dealt with motion sickness most of my life, but we all have our unique experiences. I'm thrilled you're getting to enjoy the excitement of being in the air and witnessing beautiful clouds. Nice! Here are some tips for a smooth journey as you soar at 30,000 feet.

-Learn Airport Steps:

Many airlines offer online check-in. It's easy – check in and get your boarding pass on their website or app. This skips long check-in lines, but not all airlines have this. If you need help, check in at the airport or use the direct link on your e-ticket from Alternative Airlines.

-Arrive Early:

Give yourself time at the airport. Airports can be unpredictable with busy times. If you're checking in at the airport, arrive 2-4 hours before your flight.

-Know Your Bags:

Understand the types of bags – checked, carry-on, and personal items. Checked bags go in the plane's hold, carry-ons stay with you, and personal items are small like handbags. Sizes and weights differ, so check with your airline.

-Weigh Bags at Home:

Avoid extra fees by weighing your bags at home. Airlines charge if you exceed weight limits, sometimes more than the initial check-in cost.

-Make Bags Stand Out:

Add a ribbon or belt to your luggage. This makes it easy to spot on the carousel and saves time.

-Stay Informed:

Check your itinerary for accuracy. Note flight details,

especially for cities with multiple airports. Keep an eye on your flight status, as schedules may change a week before your trip.

-Bring Essential Documents:

Don't forget vital documents – passport, ID, and visas. Have your flight PNR number ready if checking in at the airport or ensure your boarding pass is printed or saved for online check-in.

-Get Travel Insurance:

Invest in travel insurance covering flight disruptions, medical issues, and lost baggage. Customize it as per your needs. Alternative Airlines offers comprehensive flight insurance.

-Dress Comfortably:

Wear comfy clothes for a pleasant flight. Consider changing for longer flights, especially if you have plans upon landing.

-Choose Your Seat:

Pick your seat beforehand for a preferred location. Aisle seats for restroom access or window seats for uninterrupted rest – your choice.

-Pack In-Flight Comfort:

Bring a travel pillow, sleep mask, blanket, and earplugs for added comfort during the flight.

-Bring Entertainment:

Ensure you have entertainment – a book, music play-

list, or downloaded shows. Some flights, especially medium-haul ones, might not offer in-flight entertainment.

-Consider Destination Climate:

Pack clothes suitable for your destination's climate. Layers are ideal as airplane cabins may differ from external conditions.

-Bring Your Own Food:

Pack snacks or meals if you're unsure about airline food. Some airlines have stopped serving food due to COVID, so having your provisions is crucial.

-Stay Hydrated:

Combat high altitude and low cabin humidity by staying hydrated. Be mindful of alcohol intake as it can lead to dehydration.

-Seek Advice for Anxiety:

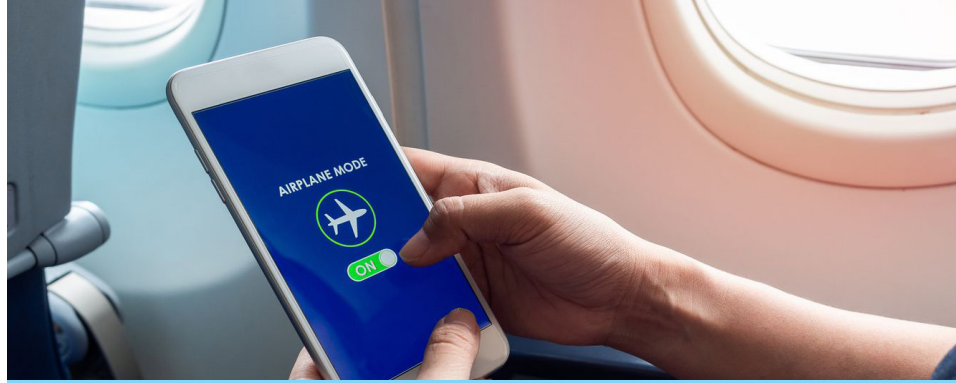
If you're nervous about flying, consult your doctor. They can offer guidance and prescribe medication if needed.

-Exchange Currency Early:

Avoid unfavorable exchange rates at airport currency exchange services. Exchange currency beforehand with reputable providers for better rates.

-Stay Calm During Security:

Follow cabin crew instructions and stay calm during pre-flight procedures. These routines aim to reassure passengers and are part of every flight. Enjoy your flight, and may it be the first of many smooth journeys!



Activating Airplane Mode on your smartphone is now more crucial than ever

Have you ever considered the consequences of forgetting to put your phone in airplane mode during a flight? While it's unlikely to cause a crash, adhering to flight regulations remains crucial for safety.

With the advent of 5G technology, setting your phone to flight mode becomes even more critical. At altitudes exceeding 30,000 feet, signals from ground antennas associated with 5G can potentially interfere with an aircraft's radio altimeters. During descent and landing, this interference might lead to pilots being unaware of their altitude.

The concern about 5G interference heightened when the FCC authorized service providers to install towers near US airports. Although aircraft with protected radio altimeters are not affected, the move sparked worries about potential flight disruptions.

Curiously, inflight Wi-Fi

remains operational despite these concerns. The reason lies in the fact that inflight Wi-Fi is facilitated by satellites, not ground antennas. Hence, you can still use services like Bluetooth and Wi-Fi in flight mode.

While many flights occur safely without passengers activating airplane mode, Android users may soon benefit from a 'Connect Flight Mode' feature. Google is reportedly working on this feature, automatically switching smartphones to airplane mode upon boarding.

Although the risk of causing a plane crash by not using airplane mode is minimal, it's always advisable to comply with flight regulations. These regulations are designed to prioritize the safety of both passengers and crew.

So, even if the worst-case scenario is unlikely, it's better not to take any chances when it comes to air travel.

Too busy?

5 Healthy Lunch Ideas to Pack for Work

Chicken Wraps



Upgrade your lunch routine with these tasty chicken wraps. They're simple to make and a refreshing change from your usual midday meal. Just a touch of oyster sauce adds a burst of flavor to each bite. Grab some lettuce leaves, cooked chicken, peas, and corn, and you're good to go!

Quick Salmon Burger



Weekend lunches just got healthier with these delicious salmon burgers. Packed with omega-3 fatty acids, they're a nutritious alternative to regular burgers. Squeeze some fresh lemon juice over the salmon patty, spread Dijon mustard on a whole-grain bun, and top with lettuce and tomato for a satisfying meal.

Old-School Lunch



Sometimes, you just crave a classic lunch like a turkey sandwich and fruit. It's quick, easy, and gives you the energy you need to power through the day. Pair it with a refreshing fruit smoothie made with frozen strawberries, banana, and milk for a deliciously healthy combo.

Shrimp and Edamame Stir-Fry



Need a speedy lunch option? Look no further than this shrimp and edamame stir-fry. Frozen shrimp, broccoli, and edamame come together in a flavorful dish that's ready in minutes. Drizzle with a soy sauce, sesame oil, and rice wine vinegar sauce, and serve with brown rice for a complete meal.

Tuna Pita Sandwich



For a satisfying lunch that's packed with protein, try this tuna pita sandwich. Light tuna, mixed with fat-free salad dressing and horseradish mustard, is stuffed into a whole-wheat pita pocket along with lettuce and tomato. It's a tasty twist on a classic sandwich that you can enjoy anytime.



Nigeria leads African wedding destinations in 2024

Africa is a land of spectacular beauty, boasting some of the most breathtaking natural wonders, cultures, and unique experiences, all of which offer unforgettable adventures for travelers. From towering waterfalls to vast deserts, ancient forests to vibrant cities, our continent is blessed with some of the world's most stunning destinations.

Couples worldwide are increasingly drawn to Africa's diverse landscapes and rich cultures for unforgettable wedding experiences as each country offers its own unique charm. According to a study by GoldTrust, Nigeria tops the list with 48,300 monthly searches, followed by Ghana and South Africa. This study highlights Africa's growing popularity for weddings, driven by its diverse offerings, from luxurious resorts to cultural ceremonies and breathtaking landscapes.

Nigeria's vibrant culture and dynamic cities make it a top choice for couples. Ghana, with 19,090 monthly searches, and South Africa, with 17,320, offer unique charms. Ghana boasts cultural heritage and coastal beauty, while South Africa offers diverse landscapes.

Mauritius, known for luxury resorts and exotic scenery, attracts 6,290 monthly searches, perfect for romantic beach weddings. Egypt and Morocco, with 3,430 and 3,080 monthly searches respectively, provide historical charm and scenic beauty.

The Seychelles, with 1,850 monthly searches, offers stunning beaches for intimate celebrations. Cameroon, Sierra Leone, and Sudan provide unique landscapes and cultural experiences for adventurous couples.





5 Recently released Netflix movies you can't miss in 2024"



W

Whether you're at work, at home, on air, or on the road, we

all crave that break to cut through the noise, alleviate stress, and momentarily escape the day's pressures. What better way to unwind than with a movie break? Imagine immersing yourself in truly captivating films that leave you spellbound, relaxed, and eagerly anticipating how the story unfolds! Look no further – these new Netflix releases are a cinematic treat. In no particular order, here are five outstanding movies from 2024 that have graced the streaming platform, offering a diverse and immersive cinematic experience. Get ready to add these captivating films to your must-watch list!

Damsel (2024)

Dive into a vibrant reimagining of fairy tales with "Damsel," Netflix's latest fantasy flick directed by Juan Carlos Fresnadillo. Millie Bobby Brown leads a stellar cast in this unconventional tale where courage, not a prince, is the key to overcoming darkness. The film weaves a captivating story of Princess Elodie's journey from a sacrificial pawn to a fierce survivor, set against a backdrop of mythical beasts and royal deceptions. "Damsel" promises an enchanting world filled with empowerment and un-

expected twists.

Spaceman (2024)

Adam Sandler takes a departure from his comedic roots in "Spaceman," an adaptation of Jaroslav Kalfař's novel. Directed by Johan Renck, the film follows Jakub, a Czech astronaut lost in the vastness of space, six months into a lonely voyage on the fringes of the solar system. This sci-fi drama explores themes of isolation, introspection, and the complexities of relationships. Sandler's poignant performance, coupled with Carey Mulligan's portrayal of Jakub's estranged wife, makes "Spaceman" a compelling exploration of love, loss, and redemption amidst the stars.

Code 8: Part II (2024)

Directed by Jeff Chan, "Code 8: Part II" is the creatively titled sequel to the 2019 sci-fi action flick. The Amell brothers, Robbie and Steve, return as Connor and Garrett in a world where superpowered individuals are entangled in a drug trade. The film explores the consequences of selling spinal fluid to create a potent drug, offering a fresh take on the superhero genre. With warm reception and engaging storytelling, this sequel promises an easy-to-watch yet thought-provoking experience.

Everything Everywhere All at Once (2024)

Directors Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert deliver a mind-bending multiverse experience in "Everything Everywhere All at Once." Michelle Yeoh leads an outstanding cast in this absurdist multi-genre masterpiece. The film follows Evelyn Wang, a Chinese-American immigrant, on a quest to connect with alternate reality versions of herself to save the multiverse. Packed with heart, stunning visuals, and exploration of profound themes, "EEAAO" is a cinematic masterpiece that has garnered universal acclaim.

Mea Culpa (2024)

Directed by Tyler Perry, "Mea Culpa" unfolds as a courtroom thriller featuring Kelly Rowland as Mea Harper, a criminal defense attorney. As she takes on the case of murder suspect Zyair Malloy, played by Trevante Rhodes, the film delves into mysterious and seductive layers. While facing unexpected challenges, Harper seeks the truth to prove her client's innocence. Despite mixed reviews, "Mea Culpa" offers a gripping narrative and a chance to witness Kelly Rowland in a new and compelling role.

Each film promises to deliver a unique and unforgettable journey. Happy watching!

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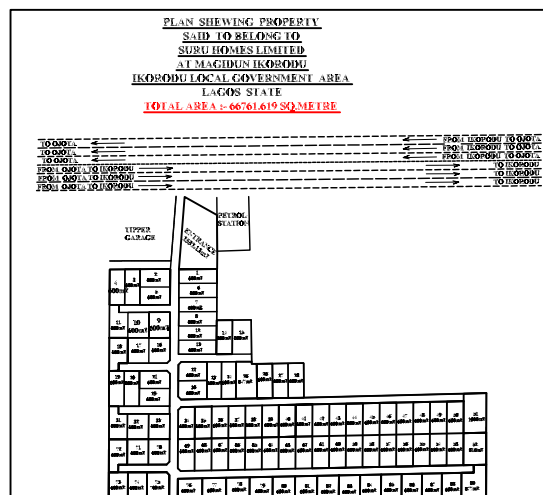
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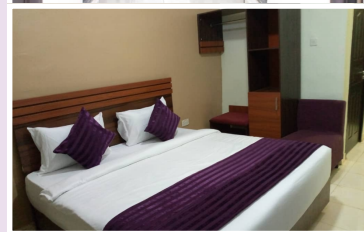
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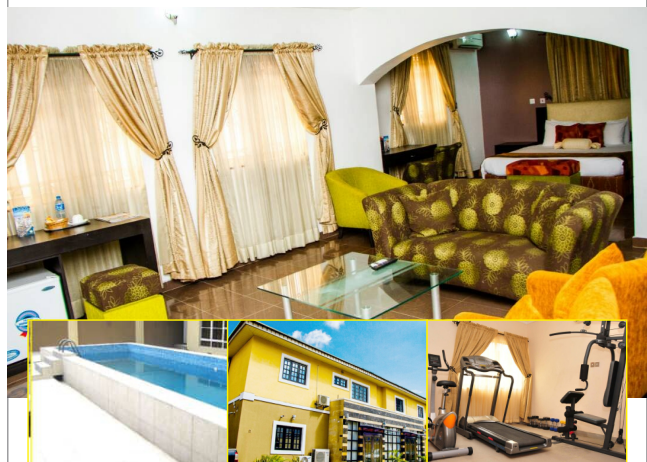
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GATE B2 27



Dune: Part Two—Long Live the Fighters!

Entertainment

The long-awaited sequel to Denis Villeneuve's 2021 sci-fi epic arrived in theaters globally on the 1st of March, 2024 much to the delight of fans of both the prequel and of the Frank Herbert novel that started it all. With Villeneuve once again at the helm and featuring an all-star ensemble including the likes of Timothee Chalamet, Zendaya, Austin Butler, Josh Brolin, Javier Bardem, Rebecca Ferguson and Stellan Skarsgaard, *Dune: Part Two* is exactly what the world expected would be. It's a goddamn artistic masterpiece.

While 2021's *Dune* was appraised by critics and audiences, there were those who believed the movie to be slow or very clearly acting as a setup for something else. In 2024's sequel however, Denis

Villeneuve holds nothing back and shows to the world exactly what was being set up. Picking up right where the first left off, *Dune: Part Two* continues the journey of Timothee Chalamet's Paul Atreides and Rebecca Ferguson's Lady Jessica on the desert planet of Arrakis, with their involvement with the planet's native Fremen putting the pieces in place for what is perhaps the grandest, epic battle to have come to theaters since *The Battle of Helm's Deep* from 2002's *Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*. Yep. It's THAT good. And this is no exaggeration either—as of the moment of writing, *Dune: Part Two* currently boasts a 9/10 on IMDB, a 94% critic score on Rotten Tomatoes [95% on the audience score] and a 4.6/5 on Letterboxd.

The numbers don't lie and if at all they do, the eyes certainly

don't. Awaiting you in *Dune: Part Two* is a visual, artistic masterpiece indicative of the handwork and oversight of an auteur such as Villeneuve. An argument can be made that every scene in this movie, if captured as a still, is of sufficient enough invocative beauty to be displayed at the Louvre. And this movie is more than just eye-candy—powerful performances from its star-studded cast ensure that the characters most integral to the story carry some great nuance to them. All in all, this is one that will demand several rewatches of you, and will live long in the memory.

So go on, head to the nearest cinema, grab your popcorn and get seated for what will undoubtedly be one of the most memorable theatrical experiences of your lifetime. Long live the fighters!

LONG LIVE THE FIGHTERS

Arsenal Continue Red Hot Form in Title Run-In

Twenty-seven games have now been played by the majority of teams in the English Premier League in the 23/24 campaign meaning there are only eleven gameweeks left until the end of campaign, and only a couple more months. And it looks like we're set for a thrilling, potentially heart-stopping close to the season with the top of the table currently rather tight, and with the title of league winner still very much up for grabs.

The teams at the forefront of this heated three-way title race are none other than the expected suspects—Liverpool lead with 63 points, Manchester City remain hot on their tail with 62 points and Arsenal follow closely behind with 61. Any slip-up from any of these teams in the following weeks could see those standings shuffled rather significantly.

While Arsenal came fairly close in their title ambitions last campaign, they were let down in the final weeks of the campaign by disappointing results against opposition they should have trumped. This time however, the opposite looks to be the case. Arsenal started out the campaign looking rather solid but not quite as effective as last time out but as the campaign has worn on, rather than display signs of exhaustion and fatigue, the players at Arsenal look to have been mysteriously energized and have shown off in stunning manner in recent weeks, absolutely trouncing their opposition.

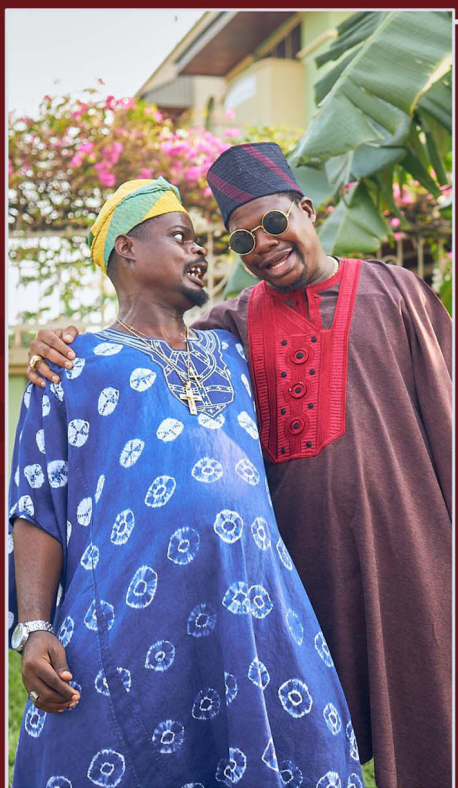
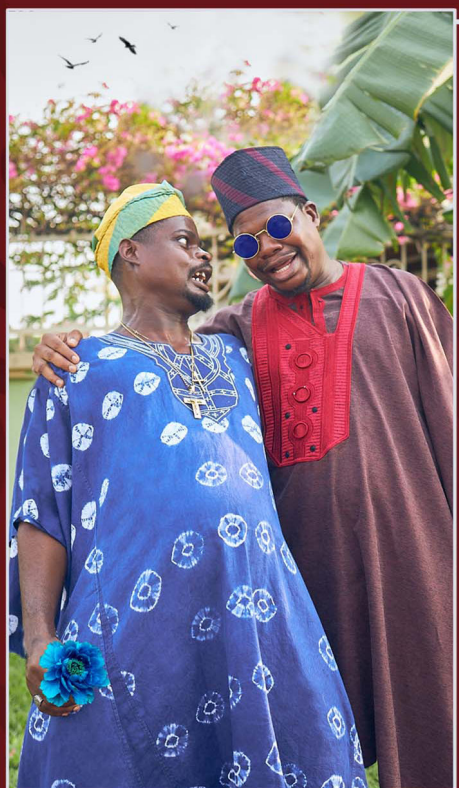
With Arsenal appearing imperious at the moment, is there a chance that they could right the wrongs of the previous campaign and finally secure for themselves a league title that has eluded them since their invincible title-winning campaign of 2003/04?

Looks like we're just going to have to wait and see. But as it stands, they certainly do look the most frightening of this season's title challengers and this just might be their chance to write themselves into a new chapter of the history books.



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FUN FACT ABOUT MR MACARONI

Besides being a content producer, Mr Macaroni is also an actor. He has starred in several Nollywood movies like Small Talk, Brotherhood, Ayinla, Jagun Jagun and Anikulapo.

To participate, follow @skyxplora on Instagram and send your answers via direct messaging. First ten winners will be announced on @skyxplora Instagram to redeem prizes.



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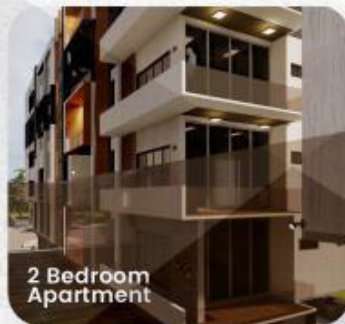
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