Programme Information Highlights
March 2019

Happening this month...

Friday 1st to Monday 4th March
Rio Carnival, Brazil
Flamboyant carnivals will take place throughout Brazil, including Rio de Janeiro, Salvador and Recife.

Tuesday 5th March
New Orleans Mardi Gras, US
Hundreds of parades, floats and marching bands will converge on the Louisiana city for ‘Fat Tuesday’ – the day before Lent begins.

Thursday 7th March
Harvey Weinstein court hearing, New York, US
Weinstein faces charges of first-degree rape and third-degree rape in a case where the accuser is anonymous and first-degree criminal sex act over an alleged incident involving a woman named Lucia Evans. Weinstein has pleaded not guilty to all three charges.

Thursday 7th to Sunday 17th March
Geneva International Motor Show, Switzerland
Largest annual showcase for leading car manufacturers in Europe is also known as Salon International de l'Auto.

Friday 8th March
Five years since Flight MH370 disappeared
Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 went missing over the South China Sea with 239 passengers on board. It was en route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing. Little trace has been found of it.

Friday 8th to Sunday 17th March
South by Southwest (SXSW) Austin, Texas, US
International music, film and interactive media festival, showcasing new talent on a global stage.

Grace Subathirai Nathan, daughter of passenger Anne Daisy, shows a piece of debris believed to be from flight MH370 during a press conference in Putrajaya on November 30, 2018. (Photo by Mohd RASFAN / AFP)

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Tuesday 12th March
30 years since the birth of the World Wide Web
30th anniversary of Sir Tim Berners-Lee writing his original proposal for a decentralised network of computers that would become the World Wide Web.

Thursday 14th to Monday 18th March
St Patrick's Festival, Dublin, Ireland
Ireland's national saint is celebrated with music, fireworks, street theatre and dance. Includes the St Patrick’s Day Parade on the Saturday.

Wednesday 20th to Thursday 21st March
Holi festival, India
Symbolic commemoration of Hindu also known as the festival of colours. Bonfires are lit on street corners, symbolising burning of the wicked Holika. Then people celebrate by smearing each other with coloured powder.

Sunday 24th March
Thailand general election
Elections for a new parliament and prime minister are set to take place. Voting rights were suspended following a coup in May 2014 by General Prayut Chan-O-Cha, who subsequently became Prime Minister. Elections have been long-promised since.

Saturday 30th to Sunday 31st March
Pope Francis visits Morocco
Pope Francis will pay a two-day visit to Rabat and Casablanca.

Friday 29th March, 23:00 GMT
Deadline for UK to leave EU
As set out in Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty signed by EU member states in December 2007, a nation which notifies its intention to leave the bloc has two years to negotiate and complete withdrawal. The UK government invoked Article 50 on March 29, 2017.

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