





Foresight is much more than thinking ahead.

It is a powerful approach to exploring possible futures.

# It opens up new horizons of imagination and knowledge.

It guides collective action and decision-making by weaving long-term perspectives into the present.

# A compass for navigating uncertain territory





















































Be agile

Surf the waves

Dare to disrupt

Be smart





An instruction manual for navigating the unexpected

# Aims of the mission:

- Exploring the future contexts of Travel Retail
- identifying evolutions
- exploring possible responses



# What's ahead for Tax Free and Travel Retail

a forward-looking study for a world in transition



#### Our method





**Desk research** 







40 interviews with industry stakeholders: (The Trinity, sociologists, key players in the business...)



3 foresight design workshops with 20 travel retail stakeholders.



They enthusiastically participated in the entire project, enriching our exploration at every stage.





# WHAT'S AHEAD?

Key Learnings





# Seamless Technology

There will be no step backward



**First "Ratchet Effect":** technology is a permanent escalation



# A Passenger Centric Ecosystem

There will be no step backward



**Second "Ratchet Effect":** the challenge is how to convince passengers to arrive earlier by choice.



# Emotional and Sensorial Experience

There will be no step backward



**Third "Ratchet Effect":** key passenger mantra "what's in it for me?"



# Narrative Retail

**Emerging trend:** passengers will need to be given something to remember.





# I Say One Thing ... But Do Something Else

**Behaviour Alert:** ... you can't always take the passenger's word for it.





# WHAT'S AHEAD?

Routes to the future





# NEW POSSIBLE ROUTES....

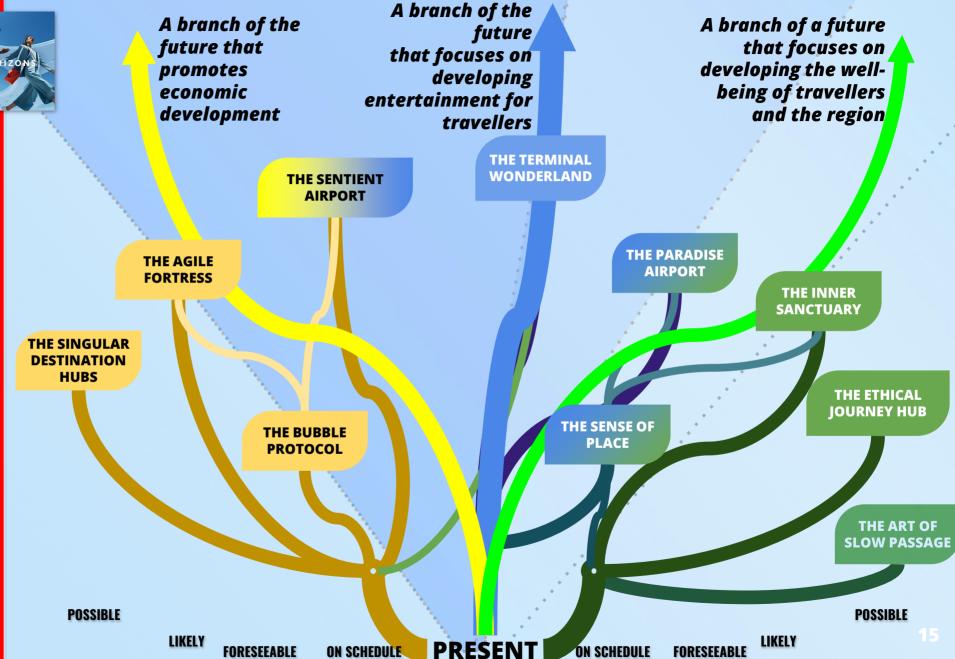


... not all can be winners
... none to be totally dismissed
... all need to be scrutinized

Practical takeaways from early signs



Three Routes to the Future of Travel Retail





# 3 main horizons, 3 main routes, 3 main narratives...





#### FORESEEING MULTIPLE FUTURE HORIZONS, EACH ONE RELEVANT TO, AND SHAPED BY THE LOCAL CONTEXT

Three Routes to the Future of Travel Retail

Airport TRAVEL RETAIL as

A TEMPLE OF CONSUMPTION

Airport TRAVEL RETAIL as

A TRANSIT PLAYGROUND

Airport TRAVEL
RETAIL as

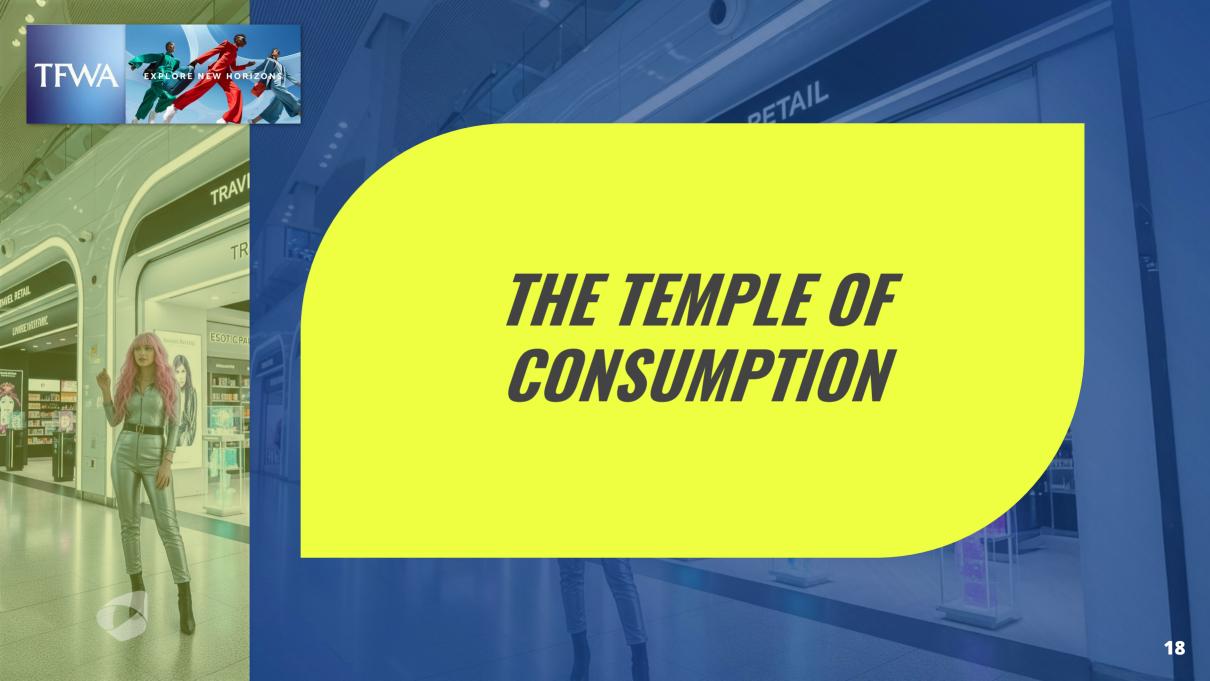
A GARDEN OF SLOW TRAVEL

PRODUCT is king

PASSENGER is the hero

COMMON GOODS take the wheel







#### THE TEMPLE OF CONSUMPTION

#### **Inspiration**



- Immersive zones
- Waiting as a cultural and social scene
- Regeneration as a luxury product
- Exclusive airportonly products



#### **Application**



- Where each corner is a temple
- Where retail meets culture in a hybrid creation
- Where ecology becomes a ritual of responsibility
- Where rarity becomes a sacred expression of uniqueness



### THE TEMPLE OF CONSUMPTION

#### **Inspiration**



- Hyper-personalized consumption
- Sensory indulgence
- Event programming
- Total transactional fluidity





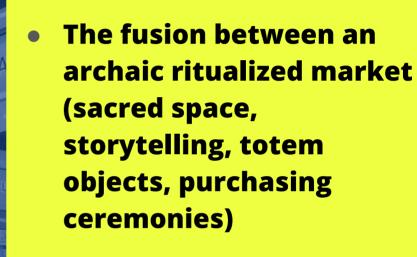
- Where Al guides us to food, shopping, relaxation and entertainment experiences.
- Where wellness shapes immersive sanctuaries
- Where waiting becomes a stage of curated events
- Where a smile unlocks seamless payment



# THE TEMPLE OF CONSUMPTION

Main **Inspiration** 

**PRODUCT** is king



**Fluid hyper-modernity** (empathetic AI, biometric payments, event programming).







## THE TRANSIT PLAYGROUND

#### **Inspiration**



Amusement park

Micro-stays

- Soft mobility
- Experiential gastronomy





- Where airports turn into playgrounds of pop and entertainment culture.
- Where transit time becomes an informal hospitality place of its own.
- Where soft mobility turns transit into fun pathways.
- Where gastronomy becomes a journey of experiences.



## THE TRANSIT PLAYGROUND

#### **Inspiration**



- Augmented experience
- Hospitality and care
- Build cross-sector partnerships
- A place people visit





- Where digital avatars turn the airport moment into oriented brand narratives.
- Where staff become hosts of care and experience.
- Where technology erases constraints and creates experience as a key factor.
- Where airports thrive through experiences beyond flying.



## THE TRANSIT PLAYGROUND

Main Inspiration

PASSENGER is the hero



- The passenger at the center of an ecosystem blending commerce, fun and pleasure.
- A living ecosystem:
   modular spaces,
   interactive digital
   content and personalised
   offers are redefining the
   revenue chain.





# THE GARDEN OF SLOW TRAVEL

#### **Inspiration**



- Care and regeneration
- Experiential culture

Conscious food

The PioneerEcological Airport

#### **Application**



- Where wellness is inspired by brands and living culture.
- Where living and local cultures transform every journey.
- Where F&B is fed by partnerships with nearby suppliers.
- Where the airport becomes a partner of ecological alliances.



# THE GARDEN OF SLOW TRAVEL

#### **Inspiration**



- To respond to travelers' growing desire for authenticity, mindfulness, and responsibility.
- Trinity cooperates with airlines, cultural operators, territorial institutions, and local actors.

#### **Application**



- Where immersive experiences create meaningful moments.
- Where logistics becomes sustainable.
- Where products are available through short and circular supply chains.
- Where shared value reduces carbon footprint, enhances emotional satisfaction, positive social impact.



# THE GARDEN OF SLOW TRAVEL



# COMMON GOODS take the wheel



Travel retail as a space of meaningful consumption, shared experiences, and regenerative practices.

 Waiting time is deliberately staged to meet environmental concerns.





### MAIN VALUES

#### THE TEMPLE OF **CONSUMPTION**

- A shrine to consumerism, with an upmarket touch and a premium experience
  - **Premium** gratification
  - "Here and nowhere else"



"The treasure island"

#### **THE TRANSIT PLAYGROUND**

- **Transforming every** minute spent on site into a fun and pleasurable experience
  - Joy and surprises
  - The wow effect

• The ultimate *immersive experience* 

#### THE GARDEN OF **SLOW TRAVEL**



- The airport itself becomes a living park, a place where nature and technology intertwine.
- Reenchantment & good conscience
- A sense of responsibility
- Travelling as an ethical act



# FORESEEING THREE MAIN, MUTUALLY INCLUSIVE BRANCHES ON THE HORIZON

# THE TEMPLE OF CONSUMPTION

"Brands must cultivate creativity with a sense of distinction and pride, while reimagining the past."

# THE TRANSIT PLAYGROUND

"Brands must embody empathy, infused with wit and exuberance, to create an idealized present."

#### HUMANCENTRIC RETAILTAINMENT

# THE GARDEN OF SLOW TRAVEL

"Brands must act collectively, guided by ethics and concern, as they navigate a hesitant future."

TECHNO-OPTIMISM AND ABUNDANCE

FRUGAL PROSPERITY



# WHAT'S AHEAD?

Recommendations





#### LEVERS FOR ACTION TO BUILD THE TRAVEL RETAIL OF TOMORROW

#### **Brands:**

# **Brands + Operators:**



Ethics is the new luxury.

 Subscribe to experience: the airport as-aservice.

Measure emotion, not just transactions.





#### LEVERS FOR ACTION TO BUILD THE TRAVEL RETAIL OF TOMORROW

# **Trinity:**

- Every passenger an ambassador.
- Travel through an oasis of emotions, the airport reinvented as an experience hub.
- Open data, endless interoperability.
- Cooperate to disrupt: co-creation as the engine of Travel Retail.





#### LEVERS FOR ACTION TO BUILD THE TRAVEL RETAIL OF TOMORROW

# Operators+ Airports:

## Airports:

 From airport to total media: capture attention and unleash value.

• The Pioneer Ecological Airport





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