

# Business Traveller Poland

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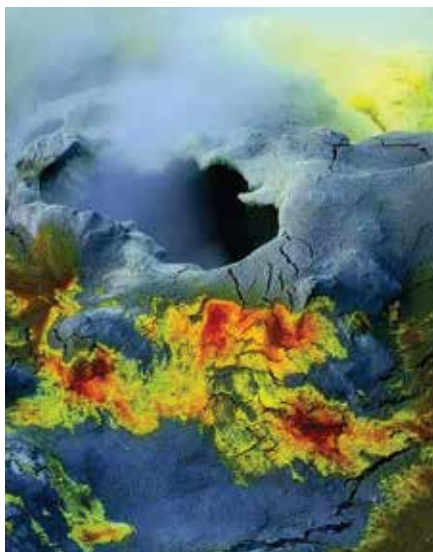
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VIEW COSMOPOLITAN WARSZAWA

## THE BEST PLACE TO LIVE

**I**n 2015 Toronto was named the world's best city to live in by the Economist Intelligence Unit. The Canadian metropolis provides its residents with a high standard of living, friendly geographic location, a wide range of cultural activities and excellent cuisine. This fascinating, cosmopolitan city, whose greatest treasure is the people coming here from all over the world, is also famous for its immense tolerance.

Interestingly, compared with 2005, when there were only 13 buildings taller than 150 metres, today there are more than 40. And incredible it may seem, currently there are more than 130 skyscrapers under construction. The population of Toronto (2.8 million for the city proper) is also on the rise – today, it is the fourth-biggest city in North America, after Mexico City (first), New York (second) and LA (third).

Every year the metropolis is visited by more than 14 million tourists who come here to see the picturesque Ontario Lake along with the vast forests and learn about the country's ice hockey traditions. But this is a city that rivals Chicago – and there is talk that in 50 to 70 years we will actually be larger than LA.

Read our cover article to find out more facts and trivia about this incredibly fascinating place - widely considered one of the most desirable cities to live in. Enjoy your reading and have a fantastic holiday!

*Marzena Mróz*  
**Marzena Mróz**



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## PAMUKKALE

Szukasz idealnego miejsca na relaks? Słynne tureckie źródła termalne w Pamukkale to właśnie takie miejsce. Na pierwszy rzut oka wygląda ono jak góra pokryta śniegiem. Gdy przypatrzysz się uważniej, zobaczysz prawdziwy cud natury. Białe kaskady małych tarasów wypełnione są gorącymi, bogatymi w minerały wodami. Zafunduj sobie wizytę w uzdrowiających źródłach.

**Odkryj Turcję, home of Pamukkale.**

**Bądź naszym gościem!**



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## Air lines

### Lufthansa

## NEW CONNECTIONS TO MADEIRA AND CAPE TOWN

From 5 November 2016, Madeira, also known as the 'flower island' or the 'island of eternal spring', can be reached nonstop from Frankfurt in just over 4 hours. Its mild climate all year round means that the island, which is part of Portugal, is perfect for hiking in the winter season.

Flights to the new Lufthansa destination in the Atlantic will be carried out by an Airbus A321, which has more than 200 seats in Business and Economy Class. LH1170 leaves the Lufthansa hub Frankfurt at 09:40 and reaches Funchal at 12:55. The return flight leaves Funchal in the early afternoon at 14:30 and lands at Frankfurt Airport at 19:40. Return flights to Funchal start from €259.

There is also good news for the fans of the South Africa. This winter Lufthansa will resume operations of the Frankfurt - Cape Town route in its flight schedule. From 2 December 2016, a Lufthansa aircraft will take off from Frankfurt and fly nonstop to the port city at the foot of Table Mountain every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. The connection extends the Lufthansa Group's hub-wide portfolio and optimally complements the formerly seasonal offer from Munich and Zurich with Edelweiss. Cape Town will be served by an Airbus A340-300, which boasts over 279 seats in Business Class, Premium Economy and Economy Class. LH576 leaves Lufthansa's Frankfurt hub at 22:10 and reaches Cape Town the following morning at 11:00. The return journey starts in Cape Town in the early evening at 18:30 and ends the following morning after about 12 hours at 05:30 at Frankfurt Airport. A return flight to Cape Town can be booked starting at €699.

## Holiday

### Beach

## TRENDY GADGET

What's the most fashionable gadget of this year's summer holidays? A round beach towel!

This season HUGme has opted for crisp, geometric, black and white designs, inspired by the world's most beautiful beaches.

Customers can choose from two options. Playa Paraiso is decorated with a Mexican geometric design, while Goa, which features similar colour scheme, attracts attention with its oriental print à la mandala.

The towels are made of soft terry cotton and finished with tassels; hugme.com.pl



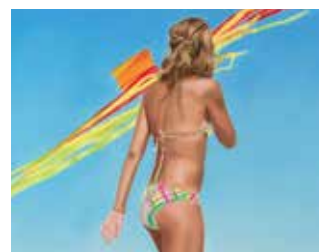
## Beauty

### Bobbi Brown

## COSMETICS FOR SUMMER

**Instant Confidence Stick is a new stick from Bobbi Brown, designed to smooth fine lines and wrinkles. It reduces the visibility of fine lines and imperfections with lightweight powders that diffuse light. Infused with a powerful peptide, the formula helps to reduce the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles as soon as you apply. A unique triple suspension complex creates an effective yet breathable**

**blurring layer that helps to smooth and perfect skin's texture. Suggested retail price: PLN 176. The collection is available from July in selected Douglas perfumeries, as well as in Bobbi Brown stores throughout Poland.**



## Warsaw

### Art

## EXHIBITION AT KOHANA GALLERY

There's a new spot on the cultural map of Warsaw! KOHANA Gallery is situated between the building at 18 Wiejska Street on the route between the Three Crosses Square and the Sejm of Poland. The atmosphere of the gallery is highlighted by the character of the neighbourhood, where the present is mixed with history. The programme of the gallery is rooted in the activities of the Kocharski Family Foundation, whose goals include archiving and studying the works of artists who represent the avant-garde trends of the Polish art after 1945.

In its vast collection the Foundation presents the works by prominent artists associated with the trend of geometric abstraction. These include Ignacy Bogdanowicz, Jan Chwałczyk, Wanda Gołkowska and Mieczysław Wiśniewski. The gallery also collaborates with the artists of the younger generation. Consequently, on its display you can find the contemplative paintings by Mieczysław and Tycjan Knut, abstract compositions of Szczepan Szuwar that are rooted in medieval and abstract paintings, as well as post-popart film stills painted by Paweł Skurski. On 18 July at 18:00 the venue will host an exhibition of works by Kasia Domańska, entitled "Pleasures".





Zaledwie 49 kroków od samolotu znajdziesz łóżko wygodniejsze niż w swoim domu, menu smaczniejsze niż w swojej kuchni, warunki do pracy lepsze niż w swoim biurze. Zorganizujesz konferencję bez stresu, skorzystasz z Internetu bez obciążenia rachunku, poćwiczysz w klubie fitness o każdej porze, nie utkniesz w korkach śpiesząc się na poranny lot. Sprawdź nas.

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## Sports

### Business Traveller

#### BT TO PARTNER GRAND PRIX REGATTA

Business Traveller Poland is a media partner of sailing Grand Prix series in Scandinavia 650 class. The regatta season is in full swing. However the most important events of this summer are yet to come.

June ended with Nord Cup regatta that traditionally took place in Górkki Zachodnie, Gdańsk. This year's defending champions were the crew of Johnny Black Sailing Team. In July the Skippi class embarks on a long journey to Warnemünde, Germany. The long trip will be rewarded with the opportunity to participate in one of the best organized regatta in this part of Europe. Then there's the largest sailing event in Poland, that is, Volvo Gdynia Sailing Days. Both these events will see the crew of Volvo Ocean Race trying to defend their titles from last year. You can follow the races in Scandinavia Skippi 650 class at [scandinavia650.org](http://scandinavia650.org)

## Travel

### Health

#### PROBIOTICS AND TEA

Healthy products that enhance digestion Travel Biotic, by a British company Viridian, is a unique type of "good" bacteria - *Saccharomyces boulardii* - which is considered to be one of the greatest successes in the history of probiotics. It's a perfect travel companion, enhancing digestive processes whether you are at work or on a business trip. It also offers a convenient form of use - simply take one capsule a day. The product doesn't have to be refrigerated.

Diet supplements by Viridian don't contain the commonly used bulking and anti-caking agents, such as magnesium stearate; biowitalni.pl Turmeric Gold by Pukka is tea made with protective herbs. Its main ingredient is turmeric, commonly dubbed "the world's healthiest spice". Combined with green tea, cardamom and lime, the blend guarantees unique taste experience. This tea was composed to celebrate a healthy life. Pukka is a company that creates its teas, using in-depth knowledge and selecting only the ecological ingredients, which is proved by numerous certificates. Pukka cares about people, the planet and its plants. Turmeric Gold tea received the main award in the "New Drink Product" category at Natural & Organic Products Europe fair. [kurkumadlzdrowia.pl](http://kurkumadlzdrowia.pl)



## Warsaw

### Cosmopolitan Twarda 4

#### NEW SEASON AT PATIO

The Patio of the apartment building Cosmopolitan Twarda 4 is a popular meeting place in the very centre of Warsaw. The large, lively space situated next to the Grzybowski Square with its "You&Me" sculpture by Eran Shakin unveiled last year, is a perfect starting or ending spot for summer tours of weekend events in Warsaw. Throughout the summer the Patio offers unique attractions. On Saturdays a DJ from Chilli Zet will be presenting the best live music. You can also listen to music served by this radio station on Thursdays and Fridays. Restaurants situated on the Patio: SAM, Ceviche Bar, Benihana, Wine Taste by Kamecki, as well as Bagels & Friends and Odette Tea Room – offer a new menu.



FOT.: MATERIAŁY PRASOWE



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# Club Med



## Air line

### Air Canada Rouge

## FROM WARSAW TO TORONTO

Line Air Canada Rouge has launched a direct air service on the route from Warsaw to Toronto. Air Canada Rouge is Air Canada's leisure airline and will operate three flights per week from the Polish capital to Air Canada's Toronto hub, Toronto Pearson International Airport, until 1 October 2016. The Warsaw-Toronto flight, AC1927, departs Warsaw three times per week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday) at 10:05 and arrives in Toronto at 13:55 local time the same day. The return flight, AC1926, departs Toronto three times per week (Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday) at 17:10 and arrives in Warsaw at 8:10 the next day (all times local).

The route will be operated by 282-seat wide-body Boeing 767-300ER aircraft. The aircraft interior features a two-cabin configuration with 24 Premium Rouge seats offering both additional legroom and enhanced service in the front cabin, and 258 Economy seats – including 35 Preferred seats with additional legroom – in the rear cabin.

Premium Rouge customers enjoy spacious seats with deeper recline and 6-7 more inches of legroom than the Economy cabin. Premium Rouge also features an enhanced meal service with carefully selected wines and beverages on fine dish and glassware as well as a hot towel and snack service. Premium Rouge customers receive priority check-in and boarding, can check two bags for free (three for eligible Altitude members) and receive a complimentary iPad to enjoy Air Canada Rouge's streaming in-flight entertainment system, Player.

## Tourism

### Belgium

## WITH BRUSSELS AIRLINES TO BRUSSELS

Keen to explore the heart of Europe? From lush greenery to stylish cities, there's a little something for everyone in Belgium. The cosmopolitan capital city, Brussels, offers a vibrant atmosphere with lively squares, beautiful boulevards, impressive monuments, spacious parks and cosy cafés. Be sure to visit charming Bruges with its medieval architecture, the buzzing and chic city of Antwerp, and Ghent – the city that insiders refer to as Belgium's best kept secret.

What's more, the main ingredients in the Belgian way of life are good food, good chefs and

a good time. Whether you want your pick of more than 1,000 varieties of beer or you want to try chocolates in unusual flavours, Belgium has them all. From the well-known staples like mussels, waffles and fries to the lesser known speculoos and cuberdons, a stay in Belgium will delight every palate. So indulge your inner foodie and go on a gourmet trip.

Don't forget to pick up a box of exquisite Belgian pralines. Brussels Airlines flies direct to Brussels 12 times weekly from Warsaw, and 4 times weekly from Krakow. Discover Belgium for yourself!



FOT.: MATERIALY PRASOWE, FOTOLIA



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# BUILD IT HIGH

With its rapidly rising skyline, growing economy and top liveability rankings, Toronto is on the up – not that it would shout about it, says **Jenny Southan**. In 2015 it was named the world's best city to live in by the Economist Intelligence Unit.



Even with headphones on, the roar of the rotor blades above me is deafening.

After taking off from the island airport of Billy Bishop, metres from the shore of Lake Ontario, our helicopter is drawing a gentle curve around the 553-metre-high CN Tower.

Built as a tourist attraction in 1976, it was the tallest free-standing structure in the world until Dubai's Burj Khalifa surpassed it in 2007. The concrete spire still has a certain modernist majesty; the high-rise blocks of Downtown clustering around it like an army.

### STEEL CRANES

Cranes are everywhere you look – Toronto has more of them than any other city in North America.

“There are more than 130 skyscrapers under construction here,” says Jason Kuchera, owner and operator of Tour Guys ([tourguys.ca](http://tourguys.ca)). “Everything in that blueish glass has been built in the past five years – we refer to it as Vancouver Style.”

Compared with 2005, when there were only 13 buildings taller than 150 metres, today there are more than 40. You might say that infrastructure development is propelling this Canadian city to new heights.

Toronto Pearson International now sees flag carrier Air Canada operating the Dreamliner to London, and is working on becoming one of the world's top ten airport hubs. (It has been the fastest-growing airport in North America for the past four years.)

Last year, it handled 38.6 million passengers but, by 2030, it intends to grow this to 64 million. In June, the new UP Express train ([upexpress.com](http://upexpress.com)) began shuttling travellers between the airport 23km away and Union station in Downtown, the journey taking 25 minutes.

Over at Billy Bishop, a long-awaited pedestrian tunnel also opened in the summer, linking the airport with the mainland (previously passengers had to wait for a ferry), allowing easy access for those travelling throughout Canada and the US to board flights with regional airline Porter ([flyporter.com](http://flyporter.com)), as well as Heli Tours ([helitours.ca](http://helitours.ca)).

Serving 24 destinations including New York, Chicago and Montréal, Porter had been hoping for an expansion of the airport and the delivery of 12 new Bombardier CS100 “whisper jets” for longer routes.

However, transport minister Marc Garneau announced on Twitter in November that these plans had been ditched.

Given how close the aircraft fly to the city – you can see them swooping in over the water – it's no surprise that the move would have been unpopular with many residents, despite the fact that Billy Bishop already handles 2.4 million people a year.

### QUIETLY CONFIDENT

Someone who has won the public vote is Justin Trudeau, Canada's new prime minister – the 43-year-old son of former prime minister Pierre Trudeau, he heads up the Liberal Party that came to office in the autumn.

Winning with a clear majority, he was applauded for his intentions to raise taxes on the richest 1 per cent, legalise marijuana, accept more refugees and boost spending on infrastructure, and for his gender-balanced and ethnically diverse cabinet of 15 men and 15 women.

Although the country is in recession and struggling with a weak dollar, in 2014 Toronto had the fastest-growing economy in Canada for the first time since 1999. Growth of 3.1 per cent was expected for 2015.

Its population (2.8 million for the city proper) is also on the rise – today, it is the fourth-biggest city in North America, after Mexico City (first), New York (second) and LA (third).

Kuchera says: “When Americans come here they think of Canada as this insignificant country with a lot of forest and wilderness, lumberjacks and hockey players, but this is a city that rivals Chicago – and there is talk that in 50 to 70 years we will actually be larger than LA.”

### THE CITY OF MULTIMILLIONAIRES

After New York, Toronto also has the highest number of super-rich in North America – that's 1,216 people with a net worth of US\$30 million or more.

“All these things we are really proud of but we don't talk about it much. It's not our style,” says Mark Crawford, director of international business development for Tourism Toronto ([seetorontonow.com](http://seetorontonow.com)).



There are more than 130 skyscrapers under construction here. Everything in that blueish glass has been built in the past five years – colloquially dubbed the Vancouver Style.



"We hosted the Pan Am Games in the summer. It was a great success and after that there was a lot of talk about whether we should bid for the 2024 Olympics. Ultimately we decided not to. I think the appetite for hosting these kinds of events is diminishing because of the cost."

It's perhaps such aversion to risk that helped the country to avoid the global downturn of 2008-09.

Crawford says: "Canada was largely unaffected by the economic crisis because our banks were very conservative. We didn't have those crazy mortgages – in fact, we used to get mad at our banks because we couldn't get loans."

Recognising its sagacity, the UK hired the Bank of Canada's Mark Carney as the governor of the Bank of England in 2013.

## THE 21ST CENTURY ARCHITECTURE

Following my tour guide out of the underground PATH network of shops and cafés that stretches almost 30km under the towers of Downtown, we emerge outside Union station and pause to look up at the Royal Bank of Canada on Bay Street. It's easy to spot its uncharacteristically bling exterior – every pane of glass has real gold baked into it.

On the same block is the Fairmont Royal York, the original railway hotel. "It was the tallest building in the British Empire when it was built in 1929 but it's hard to believe now as it's dwarfed by all these other towers," Kucherauw says.

Back beneath ground, the Union station subway has just completed the first stage of a major renovation project, revitalising the ticket halls and adding a new platform. A further subterranean PATH level will be added in 2017.

## MOVING ON UP

While Downtown is seeing most of the high-rise development, other neighbourhoods have also been undergoing transformation.

The pedestrianised Distillery District is probably the best example – restored in 2003, the Victorian red-brick warehouse complex now features trendy boutiques selling sake, gelato and artisan chocolate, as well as trendy bars and restaurants.

What's most interesting, though, is the 2014 arrival of 43a Parliament Street – a 22,000 sqm server farm designed by WZMH Architects to store big data generated by numerous (unnamed) companies.



Catering to demand, the past half-decade has seen a number of new hotel openings.





There is another one at 151 Front Street, although you'd never spot it.

"There is nothing to indicate what it is because if anything were to happen to this building, the entire internet in Canada would be broken in the worst possible way," Kuchera says.

Once an industrial wasteland, the nearby Waterfront alongside Queens Quay has also been given a facelift, with bike lanes added in 2015, to complement granite promenades, art galleries, trees and beaches. "During the summer there were thousands of cyclists going by each day – before, there were maybe 50 or 60," he says.

Passing through Downtown, I pop into the women's-only private club Verity (verity.ca) to meet its managing director, Mary Aitken. Now with 800 members, who pay as much as CA\$3,025 a year plus a CA\$10,700 joining fee, it opened in 2004 at a time when its Queen Street East location was run down.

Aitken says: "I chose this location because Queen Street West was going through a period of having raves and people in their teens were going crazy on the streets so it was a little threatening. But this is really changing – across the street that car park has been sold and will be a mixed-use building with underground parking."

West Queen West is also becoming gentrified. According to locals, the catalyst was the opening of the Drake (thedrakehotel.ca) just over a decade ago by influential Torontonians Jeff Stober.

Located at 1,150 Queen Street West, the hotel has drawn hipsters to the area with a lively events programme, rotating art exhibitions, basement parties and good food and drink served both in its ground-floor café and restaurant and upstairs at its Moroccan-inspired Sky Yard.

Bill Simpson, chief development officer of the Drake, says: "When we opened in 2004, it defied logic that someone would build a world-class boutique hotel in a neighbourhood like this. The dominant retail landscape was appliance stores, little mom and pop stores and a couple of Chinese restaurants. People settled here because it was so affordable."

Galleries, artists and creative companies soon moved in too. Simpson adds: "Now there are 17 condos across the street with 4,000 people living in them."

The hotel itself is modest, with only 19 rooms, but there are plans to expand.

Simpson says: "We own the three buildings next door – one is Drake General Store and two are our offices – and we are working on incorporating them to create 32 more rooms. We hope to start construction in the spring, with completion for late 2017."

The Drake Hotel Properties portfolio also incorporates Drake One Fifty restaurant in the Financial District, and the Drake Devonshire, a chic lakeside retreat 200km from the city, which opened just over a year ago.

## CITY FOR TOURISTS

In 2014, Toronto welcomed a record 14.3 million tourists. Catering to demand, the past half-decade has seen a number of new hotel openings.

The 102-room Thompson arrived in 2010 – New York's Studio Gaia designed the minimalist interiors, which include extensive meeting space, but it is best known for its rooftop pool scene. Facebook, Nike and the Toronto International Film Festival have all hosted functions here.

The Ritz-Carlton opened in 2011, with a pool facing the CN Tower, while the Trump International Hotel and Tower and the Shan-

gri-La launched in 2012, and Marriott's Delta Toronto at Southcore Financial Centre in 2014.

Four Seasons moved to its new address at 60 Yorkville Avenue three years ago. General manager Dimitrios Zarikos says: "This is the fifth iteration of the Four Seasons in Toronto [the Canadian brand opened its first hotel here in 1961], and for the first time, the founder of the company, Mr [Isadore] Sharp, calls it the flagship."

More hotels are on the horizon. Local food and nightlife mogul Charles Khabouth, of Ink Entertainment, owns the new-build Bisha Hotel and Residences, to open early in 2016. The glitzy 100-room property will be the first OE Collection property from Loews Hotels, and will be located in the Entertainment District.

The 406-room Hotel X is "coming soon" with a rooftop pool, two-storey cinema and ten squash courts, while mini-chain Ace will make its Canadian debut at 51 Camden Street, in the Fashion District, in 2018.

Another sign of the city's reinvention is its dynamic food scene. Celebrity chefs have been launching restaurants – the Four Seasons has Daniel Boulud, while Jamie Oliver is coming next year. In September 2015, local chef Susur Lee partnered with Torontonian rap star Drake (no association to the hotel) to open Fring's on King Street West.

Drake also designed the new black and gold uniform for the Toronto Raptors basketball team – I go to see them take on the Milwaukee Bucks at the Air Canada Centre. To the sound of homegrown star Justin Bieber's What Do You Mean, a troop of cheerleaders comes bouncing out, T-shirts are thrown into the crowd, and a dinosaur mascot dances.

As the Raptors shoot their last hoop to win 106 to 87, the crowd roars, and Toronto triumphs once again.





# RADISSON BLU LEOGRAND



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info.chisinau@radissonblu.com  
radissonblu.com/en/hotel-chisinau

## PRICES

from about €68 per night.

**T**he only 5-star hotel in Moldova, and the best one in Chisinau. Radisson Blu Leograd is the best accommodation for business trip or holiday visits to the capital city of this small, yet intriguing country.

## WHERE IS IT?

Located in the heart of Chisinau on Mitropolit Varlaam street, Radisson Blu Leograd is the best hotel in the capital of Moldova and the only 5-star hotel in the whole city. It's about 15 kilometres away from the Chisinau airport – you can get there quickly by bus or a taxi. All main attractions are within

a 15-minute walk, including the Cathedral and Stefan Cel Mare, Sky Tower Business Centre, the opera and numerous local wine cellars, where you can try the best Moldovan wines.

## ROOMS

Opened last year, the hotel has 143 rooms in five categories: Standard Rooms, Business Corner Rooms, Junior Suites, Executive Suites and one Presidential Suite. All the rooms are equipped with coffee and tea making facilities as well as quick wireless Internet access. Regardless of the room category, guests have unlimited access to the hotel spa area. The

smallest Standard Rooms are 25 sqm, Business Corner – 32 sqm, while suites offer 60-70 sqm of space and can accommodate three guests. The Presidential Suite is 175 sqm and has a separate dining area, a terrace and a hot tub.

## RESTAURANTS

The restaurants as well as the cuisine offered at Radisson Blu Leograd are simply top notch. The main Ambassador Restaurant serves a la carte dishes with a wide selection of Moldovan cuisine, as well as buffet breakfast. Breakfasts are especially impressive, as the choice includes fresh vege-



tables and fruit, excellent fresh bread from a local bakery, juices and even an Eggs Benedict station. You can also try here various local meats and cheese products.

If you are looking for a quiet place to have dinner, try Zaxi restaurant, open in the evenings. You can listen to live music there, try classic dishes from Asian cuisine and enjoy an impressive view of the city.

New York Restaurant & Bar, open 24/7, is a place where you can taste typical American and Mexican dishes in a casual atmosphere. The restaurant is considered one of the most chic spots for weekend gateways in Chisinau. All the restaurants offer a wide array of the best Moldovan wines.

#### ATTRACTIONS, SPA AND BUSINESS MEETINGS

Upon prior reservation, every guest has an access to the newly launched spa called the Aqua Zone. Inside you will find a charming little pool with blue water, relaxation rooms and a sauna. The massage zone offers a wide choice of treatments, including sports massages and beauty care. Guests have also access to the fitness centre, equipped with high-quality equipment.

Radisson Blu Leograd is also the best place in Chisinau to hold business meetings. The hotel offers six modern meeting rooms that can be combined into various configurations, while the Meetings & Events programme provides event organizers with a professional assistance of the hotel staff.

#### VERDICT

If you are planning a visit in Chisinau, then Radisson Blu Leograd is a perfect place to stay. The staff provides excellent service and speaks good English. The property is also well-located, which is typical for all Radisson Blu hotels. A true 5-star quality.

*Rafał Sobiech*



The restaurants as well as the cuisine offered at Radisson Blu Leograd are simply top notch.





# KAIRALI – THE AYURVEDIC HEALING VILLAGE



## CONTACT

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Corporate & Central  
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## PRICE

From €772 for a 7-day package

**K**erala, also called the Gods Own Country, is primarily known for coconut trees, popular spices, tea plantations, but also for the world's oldest clinics of Ayurveda - a system of ancient health care whose therapies and practices (which are manifold) have been integrated in general wellness applications. In 1979 Ayurveda was recognized by the WHO as the official medical discipline.

Kairali is a perfectly designed place for all those who wish to regenerate their body, treat numerous diseases, get rid of the excess weight or simply reflect on the most important aspects of their life.

The village was founded in 1989 by Gita and K.V Ramesh

whose determination and perfect management skills have helped in creating 35 Ayurvedic Kairali villages in nine countries on three continents. Kairali is also a brand of natural cosmetics and herbal medicines, manufactured by a separate company. The family wants to spread the Ayurvedic knowledge and create new centres in every country in Europe. In Poland the Kairali Ayurvedic Centre is located in Kinga Spa hotel in Czorsztyn.

## WHERE IS IT?

Karali resort is located on a 50-acre area and designed in accordance with the principle of Vaastu Shastra - a holistic concept of planning architectural solutions that are rooted

deeply in feng shui. This principle applies not only to the external architecture, but also to the interior design and planning of green areas. The village features more than 600 coconut trees, 20 mango trees, jackfruit trees known for the world's largest fruit, as well as numerous blooming shrubs, flowers and herbs. The villas are situated along the murmuring streams and waterfalls. In the evenings the area is illuminated with small lanterns, creating a uniquely romantic atmosphere. By the streams there are also charming small bridges, paths and stone passageways. There are also numerous herons and peacocks that proudly spread their colourful tails, adding to the charm of this place.



You can take a 12-kilometre ride by taxi from the resort to the town of Palakkad that lies at the foot of the Western Ghats and is called the Gate to Kerala. The whole area around Palakkad abounds in fertile soil, green valleys and hills, as well as countless waterfalls, green shrubs and coconut trees. The nearest airport in Coimbatore is 60 km away, while the international airport in Cochin is 120 km from the town. You can also reach Palakkad by train.

### VILLAS

All the 30 villas were designed to allude to zodiac signs. Each one features a unique colour scheme and has different equipment. Guests can book two Maharaja Suites, seven Royal Villas, fifteen Classic Villas and six Deluxe Villas. I stayed in a charming Classing villa, situated next to a brook. Each villa comes equipped with a TV, air conditioning, natural herbal cosmetics in the bathroom, as well as sea shells for positive marine vibrations. Add to this the oxidized red floor for the cooling effect.

### AYURVEDIC CLINIC

The clinic is situated in a large building surrounded by lush

gardens and designed in line with Vaastu principles. The facility features 11 treatment rooms where 4 physicians and 10 therapists take care of the patients and their health. Following the meeting with a physician who will conduct a prakriti analysis (to determine your body type), you will be prescribed appropriate therapies, receive special dietary recommendations along with herbal remedies. Each patient is then assigned a therapist responsible for the course of the therapy with procedures taking place twice a day.

The Ayurvedic clinic specializes in the treatment of obesity, cleansing the body of toxins or panchakarma, treatment of skin and rheumatic diseases, migraines, sleep disorders, depression and other neurological conditions. I decided to undergo the refreshing Abhyangam procedure performed by two therapists with hot oil, Elakhizi - packages of warm medicinal herbs and Udwarthanam - herbal powder that acts as a scrubbing agent and improves blood circulation. I also opted for a special treatment recommended for frequent sinusitis sufferers and called Nasyam.

The full therapy included also morning yoga classes as well as

evening meditations. For the best results of the therapies, you need to book a stay in the resort for a minimum of seven days, while with weight loss treatments this must be at least 21 days. The resort also offers a range of additional activities, such as lectures on the basics of Ayurveda, culinary presentations and afternoon strolls.

### RESTAURANT

According to the recommendations of the physicians, the individual diet should complement the therapy for the body. All the low-calorie meals consist of fruit or vegetable juice, seasonal raw vegetable salads, soups and steamed vegetables, are fresh and tasty. The meals are served with warm herbal water. Those who don't have to keep a restrictive diet are served excellent low-calorie desserts. Throughout the stay it's forbidden to drink coffee and alcohol as well as smoke in the resort.

### VERDICT

Professional Ayurvedic clinic set in a heavenly environment. Highly effective healing therapies. Guaranteed health improvement. A wide choice of vegetarian dishes.

*Katarzyna Siekierzyńska*

## AWARDS

- Green Leaf Certification – awarded by the Department of Tourism, Government of Kerala
- Spa Asia Crystal Award 2005
- PATWA 2007 awarded at ITB in Berlin
- Our Favourites awarded by „Elle Decoration” 2011-2012
- Top 5 Health Resorts in India awarded by „India Today 2012” magazine
- Health & Wellness Award 2012 at ITB in Berlin
- Ranked Top 10 in Asia and Top 50 in the World by „National Geographic Traveller”



Kairali is a perfectly designed place for all those who wish to regenerate their body, treat numerous diseases, get rid of the excess weight or simply reflect on the most important aspects of their life.

## HOTEL W TAIPEI



## CONTACT

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**W** Hotel is a combination of ultra modern technology, club atmosphere and modern glamour. The place is aimed at demanding business clients as well as travellers looking for a stylish spot, located at the intersection of the most famous cultural and shopping districts in Taipei.

Taipei W Hotel is one of the most luxurious hotels in the Taiwan capital – there are 405 guestrooms overlooking the city panorama and the well-known Taipei 101 – until recently the highest building in the world. If you want a direct view of Taipei 101, go to Woobar. Designed by a German artist Hans Schul, the bar was arranged to look like a club with soft plush sofas, sculptures made from stainless steel and an atmospheric fireplace. The bar serves light dishes, including the famous DIY Burger you can prepare yourself choosing from 6 million ingredients: 8 types of meat, 20 toppings, 8 cheese types, 7 buns, 14 sauces, 9 side dishes, 6 enhancements and 7 beverages. The bar offers a wide selection of drinks served in unique scenery.

## HIGHLIGHTS

One of the W Hotel assets is its amazing location – close to the underground station and a shopping centre full of shops, restaurants, cafes or ice-cream stalls. The hotel is situated in the close proximity to various cultural and entertainment attractions in Taipei.

On one of the highest floors there is a terrace with a huge outside pool with heated water. In winter, the pool transforms itself into an ice rink. Hotel guests have also access to a perfectly-equipped software and world recognition.

## INTERIORS

In the luxurious interiors you can listen to music mixed by famous DJs, the walls are adorned with LCD images, while guest rooms are equipped with computer-controlled technology and an integrated Bose surround system. Next to the table there is a white noise machine to help you get to sleep. The luxurious bathrooms come with a shower, as well as electronically-controlled toilets and an integrated bidet. Huge floor-to-ceiling windows offer wonderful views

of Taiwan, which become even more mesmerizing at night. Excellent acoustic isolation will help you get some good sound sleep.

## RESTAURANTS

W Hotel offers top quality cuisine. On 31st floor there is Yen restaurant, where guests can try modern Chinese and world cuisine. The menu includes both traditional, flavourful and savoury dishes of Asian descent, as well as custom-made pizzas and a huge selection of salads, seafood and grilled dishes. Meals can be also enjoyed al fresco on a specially designed terrace. Guests who are concerned with privacy issues can have access to five private rooms.

## VERDICT

W Hotel is a perfect property for both business travellers, as well as visitors looking for a great interior and exterior design. The excellent staff of the hotel can help you plan your whole day in the capital of Taipei, while the convenient futuristic equipment makes it easier to relax after an eventful day.

**Anna Drozdowska**



## Hotel

## TAIWAN

# FLEUR DE CHINE, SUN MOON LAKE HOTEL

**F**leur de Chine is a modern property, situated just above the Sun Moon Lake - the emerald lake, which is broadly considered one of the biggest attractions of Taiwan. The minimalistic décor of the interiors, geometric forms, as well as the natural materials, such as wood, glass, copper and steel, create a unique atmosphere of tranquility and relaxation in the style of Zen.

## ATTRACTIONS

Obviously, the biggest attraction of the area is Sun Moon lake with a scenic road and one of the world's top bicycle routes running along its shore. Trekking aficionado will find here a lot of fantastic hiking trails running through the surrounding hills. Fleur de Chine is the first hotel located by Sun Moon to use the natural thermal springs. The water is alkaline, has the temperature of 45-55 degrees Celsius, is odourless and transparent. The 3,300 sqm hotel spa includes an aquapark with an

olympic swimming pool, hot springs and treatment rooms. Fleur de Chine operates as a typical resort, offering all-day recreational programmes. It's a perfect place for a longer stay.

## INTERIORS

Each of the 211 comfortably furnished rooms and suites comes with floor-to-ceiling windows, a balcony, as well as a private onsen - a marble bath with thermal water. It's worth booking a room that overlooks the lake to be able to enjoy the sights that resemble the scenes from a Chinese painting. The landscape can change literally in a minute. Just after sunset hills become covered with picturesque mists that resemble white clouds.

## RESTAURANTS

Fleur de Chine is known for its fantastic cuisine. The property has several restaurants, you can book a stay with breakfast and buffet-style dinners. I recommend this option, because at dinners you have an opportu-

nity to try exquisite traditional dishes of Chinese, Cantonese, Taiwanese, Japanese and European cuisine. The restaurant also features several live cooking stations that serve local specialities and seafood.

The hotel offers a traditional afternoon tea and it's worth to take advantage of this opportunity if only to see the tea making ceremony.

The top of the hotel features the Sky Longue - a bar with a 270-degree panoramic view of the city and a wall of mirrors that reflect the stunning scenery. Sky Lounge is a perfect venue for any kind of celebration; you can also hire here a private cabana.

## VERDICT

Fleur de Chine offers a remarkable location and stunning views of one of the most beautiful lakes in Taiwan. The simple, modern interiors decorated in Zen style, as well as the indoor thermal pools, guarantee full relaxation.

*Anna Drozdowska*

## CONTACT

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# J PLUS HOTEL BY YOO



## CONTACT

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**I**t's Hong Kong's first boutique art hotel that was entirely designed by Philip Starck in chic glamour style, making it a unique blend of luxury and comfort. The property is situated in the heart of the bustling Causeway Bay with its numerous shops and restaurants, but in a quiet street. J Plus by Yoo has been recognized as the best boutique hotel in Asia by Conde Nast Traveller. Year by year, users of TripAdvisor website recognize this property as one of the trendier in Hong Kong and China.

## INTERIORS

The hotel offers 32 studio rooms and 24 individually designed spacious suites equipped with a kitchenette with a microwave. All are decorated with a refined taste and attention to detail. Each room is different and fea-

tures a dominant colour accent: pink, orange, yellow or blue, while the ceiling is adorned with a unique graffiti. On check-in guests receive a smartphone with free Internet connection that you can also use to call free of charge locally, to the USA and the UK.

## ATTRACTIONS

A 10-minute stroll from the hotel takes you to the famous luxury Times Square shopping centre with an metro station. To reach the centre of the city and the waterfront, simply take an old double-decker tram. The area is also known for several specialised shopping centres, such as Wan Chai Computer Centre that offers a wide range of electronics equipment - from mobile phone cases to awfully expensive Hi-Fi players or even drones.

## FOOD

J Plus by Yoo offers delicious breakfasts and in the evening (18:00-20:00) the hotel serves complimentary wine. Also throughout the day you can treat yourself to free coffee, tea, soft drinks and fresh fruit. Near the hotel there are dozens of good restaurants serving dishes from various price ranges - from typical street food to exclusive restaurants that require reservation in advance.

## VERDICT

J Plus Hotel by Yoo is a great boutique hotel, providing guests with the opportunity to enjoy the city's biggest attractions and after an intense day offering a perfect relaxation in pleasant interiors with a glass of good wine.

**Anna Drozdowska**



FOT.: MATERIAŁY PRASOWE



# HOTEL QUOTE

**A** part of the Small Luxury Hotels chain, Hotel Quote is situated near the famous Taipei Arena - a sports complex with a huge hall, which hosts numerous concerts and sporting events. The exterior of the building, designed by the famous architect Ray Chen, features muted, dark colours, which adds to its overall elegance. Similar colour tones are used in the interiors, combining the elements of exotic wood, stone and glass. The excellent staff of the hotel that do their best to guarantee guests a perfect stay, deserve a separate praise.

## INTERIORS

The décor of all the 64 rooms of the hotel is dominated by dark colours and highest quality materials. The modern interior design is beautifully comple-

mented by fully integrated AV equipment including the audio player by Bose. Throughout the stay guests receive portable massage devices for full relaxation after a day full of attractions. They can also use a free minibar and the H.Q Lounge business centre, which in addition to office equipment offers free drinks, coffee, tea, fruit and snacks.

## ATTRACTIONS

Hotel Quote is ideally located (right next to the metro station), so it's the matter of just a few minutes to reach the centre of the city. Also close to the hotel is a large shopping centre where you will find numerous shops by global brands. In the basement of the centre there is a food court with several restaurants offering delicious local cuisine, as well as international dishes. You can also try there

the famous black sesame seeds ice-cream, as well as bubble tea.

## RESTAURANTS

The hotel has an excellent culinary offer - the 333 Restaurant and Bar is a lavish venue with the ceiling that reflects the pool around the bar, while the walls feature gold stucco in a modern style. The composition of metallic gold panels and mirrors combined with vintage-style furniture makes a big impression. The restaurant offers Asian and international dishes. The bar, on the other hand, has an extensive wine and cocktail list.

## VERDICT

Quote is an elegant hotel, perfectly connected to the city centre. Great décor, comfortable rooms and excellent service. It's worth staying there when visiting the capital of Taiwan.

*Anna Drozdowska*

## CONTACT

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+886 2 2175 5588  
[www.hotel-quote.com](http://www.hotel-quote.com)



The exterior of the building features muted, dark colours, which adds to its overall elegance. Similar colour tones are used in the interiors, combining the elements of exotic wood, stone and glass.







# NEVER GET LOST AGAIN

GPS has transformed the way we navigate our world, but new apps based on geocoding and real-time data mean we will be able to find any place, any time. **Jenny Southan** reports.





# W

hen was the last time you got lost? Throughout my years of travel, I have spent hours struggling to find my way out of Shinjuku station in Tokyo, been unintentionally driven into the desert by a non-English speaking taxi driver in Marrakech, pounded endless dark roads in Beijing in search of my hotel, and almost been robbed by street kids in Paris when wandering into the wrong arrondissement.

Research from O2 Travel has suggested UK tourists spend an average of 22 million hours lost abroad each year. And it's not just holidaymakers – even well organised, smartphone-wielding business travellers have this problem. You might not have an internet connection to check your whereabouts; your driver can't read the address you have given him; you can't decipher the street signs – if they exist at all; you're trying not to draw attention to yourself by looking at a map; or the route you have been given is wrong. It's stressful, time consuming and can leave you vulnerable.

It can also equate to inefficiency and a loss of earnings on a grand scale. Think about delivery companies such as UPS, which supply their drivers with trucks without doors to save them a few extra seconds. When a drop-off location is hard to find, fewer parcels can be signed for in a day.

In 2013, UPS started using computer platform Orion to show optimal routings for the average 120 daily deliveries each of its drivers has to perform on a possible 55,000

US routes. The algorithm, running at 1,000 pages long, is expected to save the company US\$300-US\$400 million a year when fully up and running in 2017. A saving of one mile a day per driver would mean UPS would be US\$50 million a year better off.

## STREETS WITH NO NAME

For consumers, satnavs and navigation apps from Google Maps, Sygic and Waze do a similar job to Orion, helping drivers get around cities and providing real-time alerts for traffic jams and accidents.

The eyes in the sky have delivered us aerial footage of every inch of our planet – Google Earth allows us to fly through 3D-rendered metropolises, between canyons and over oceans, while Google Street View has seamlessly stitched together stills of cities in more than 65 countries. The internet giant's Cardboard project also lets you experience 360-degree panoramas in 3D.

However, what's been missing from all this is a hyper-specific address system. The UK may be one of the best-addressed countries in the world but more than six million deliveries a year have a problem reaching their addressee. The situation is far worse for the four billion people across the globe who don't have a legitimate physical address at all – creating problems when it comes to opening a bank account, registering for benefits, getting online, voting or setting up a business.

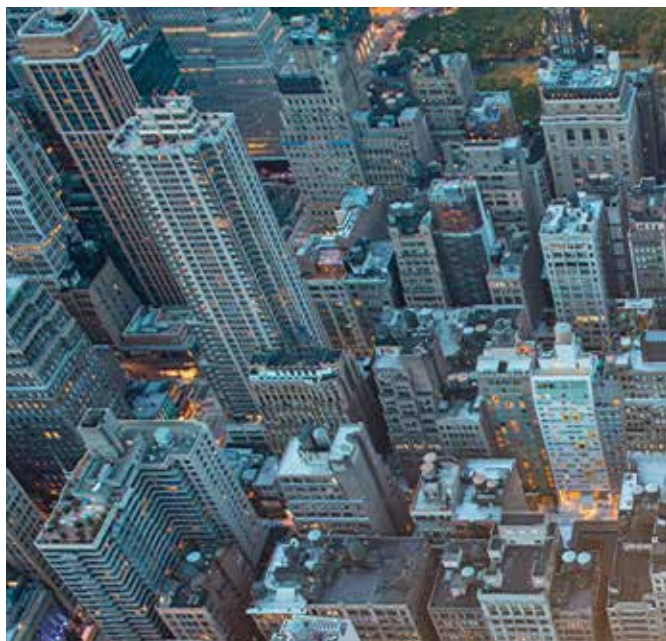
These aren't just Syrian refugees, Mongolian nomads and Brazilian slum dwellers

– the address system in Tokyo, for example, is opaque and imprecise. Most streets in Japan have no names so you have to rely on the building number.

In the UAE, cities are developing so fast that even locals don't know where things are. To combat the problem, Dubai began introducing "geo-addresses" of ten-digit GPS coordinates for every building in the emirate, and earlier this year a new geographic address system started to be implemented. Hussain Al Banna, director of traffic at the Roads and Transport Authority, was reported on [gulfnews.com](http://gulfnews.com) as saying: "People should know which district they live in and where they are going, and now it will be easier as the names of districts are written on the signboards of street names." It seems so obvious.

Much of the rural United States has no address system at all, as described in a 2013 article on West Virginia in *The Atlantic*. In McDowell County, "residents picked up their mail at the post office and had Amazon packages delivered to city hall or the bank. Directions were proffered in paragraphs; landmarks [such as] 'the stone church', 'the old sewing factory'... functioned as de facto street signs." If you needed to call an ambulance or the fire brigade, people had to stay on the phone and tell the operator if they could hear the sirens getting louder, the writer reported.

It was only three years ago that things started to change, at least in this state. Telecom company Verizon agreed to invest







Thanks to satellites we have access to aerial photographs of almost every square meter of our planet.

US\$15 million in “one of the most ambitious mapping projects in recent decades”, working with the local population to create hundreds of thousands of formal addresses. Already home to the small town of Cucumber, West Virginia is now home to Beer Can Alley and Cougar Lane.

### THREE LITTLE WORDS

As frequent flyers, we're pretty adaptable, being armed with the necessary experience, technology and on-the-ground assistance to navigate the world's most daunting cities. However, as we all know, even if we have a driver or are in a familiar destination, the process of navigation isn't always as simple as it should be.

I recently tried to order an Uber in Miami, but its seemingly logical grid system wouldn't allow me to get to Little Havana because I couldn't type in the intersection I wanted. On top of this, my driver spoke no English and didn't know the area. With roads miles long, you need an exact address (for example, 3,501 SW 8th) to get anywhere. After driving fruitlessly for 20 minutes, I finally made him stop the car. Sometimes travel can make us feel stupid.

One UK start-up, however, is on its way to changing the world. Launched in 2013, What3Words has designed an algorithm that has divided the planet into 57 trillion 3 sqm sections, and then assigned each plot a unique three-word address. For instance, if you want to visit the Blue Lagoon in Iceland (see page 64) then instead of inputting its

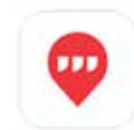
long GPS code (N63° 52' 51.646" W22° 26' 27.985") into your satnav, you could simply select “richer,jades.apologies” on the app's map to receive driving directions.

Giles Rhys Jones, chief marketing officer of What3Words, says: “The geospatial industry is worth more than US\$150 billion, and has trillions of dollars worth of industry associated with it. However, there is no simple way to talk about location consistently and globally – there are 135 countries in the world that don't have a good street addressing system. All you have instead is latitude and longitude. It's incredibly accurate but it's 18 digits long, so it's impossible to remember and prone to error when telling others.”

You can use these three-word geocodes to isolate an equipment drop at a convention centre; locate a hard-to-find restaurant or Airbnb apartment in Bangkok; find an unaddressed office in Abu Dhabi or a community centre in a South African township; book a drone delivery to a construction site in Paris; or alert authorities to houses in Nepal hit by an earthquake. (People on the ground can share virtual pin drops for buildings that have collapsed.)

Rhys Jones says: “We worked out that with a list of 40,000 words in the English language, 40,000 times 40,000 times 40,000 is 64 trillion, so that gives you enough to do every single square. We've taken out homophones, very long words, hyphenated words and rude words, and distributed shorter words in places that are going to be more commonly used, such as in central London.”

## FIVE NAVIGATION APPS



### WHAT3WORDS

The missing link in pinpoint way-finding was supplied by What3Words in 2013 – the tech company has used an algorithm to divide the world into 57 trillion 3 sqm sections, each with a unique three-word address attached to it. You can also convert GPS coordinates and it works offline. Available in ten languages so far. [what3words.com](http://what3words.com)



### NAVMII

Uses crowdsourced information to provide drivers with live traffic updates and hazard reporting. Navmii World will be available this summer as a 12GB download for cross-border road trips (you can also download region by region). Real-time parking information will be coming soon. Can be used offline. [navmii.com](http://navmii.com)



### CITYMAPPER

View every alternative for getting from A to B in more than 30 cities. Type in your departure and arrival point and it will present the time, cost and calories burnt for walking, taking a taxi, the bus, train or subway. It even tells you which carriage to be in for the quickest interchange on the London Underground. [citymapper.com](http://citymapper.com)



### WAZE

Bought by Google in 2013, this GPS-based app for drivers claims to be the world's largest community-based traffic and navigation app, providing alerts on road closures, accidents and where to get the cheapest fuel. It launched a workplace car-pooling service in San Francisco last month. [waze.com](http://waze.com)



### FATMAP

Essential for skiers, this innovative app renders mountains in ultra-high resolution 3D for an exact understanding of the terrain. Analyse piste maps, locate your resort, get first aid or seek out the sunniest slope. You can also track new runs and glean information on gradient, aspect and altitude. [fatmap.com](http://fatmap.com)

## EXPANDING HORIZONS

Already available in ten languages, with more on the way, What3Words has so far partnered with more than 50 organisations, including the UN and Hg2 travel guides, to transform everything from e-commerce and aid deliveries to helicopter landing points.

Rhys Jones says: “In Brazilian favelas, millions of people are putting stickers on their houses with their three-word address so Carteiro Amigo can deliver post, and in Tanzania we are being used by the Red Cross to flag up water points contaminated by cholera.” He adds: “Our intention is to be a globally recognised way to talk about location: word.word.word.”

Travel organisations that have so far employed What3Words include the Independent Map Company (IDMC), which is a platform for unknown or hidden shops, bars and restaurants (visit supporter.spare.hood for Prohibition-era cocktails in Liverpool), and transit app Tripgo, which provides step-by-step routings to pin-drop locations for cyclists, pedestrians and people using public transport.

Another is driving navigation app Navmii. Used by more than 24 million people, its maps for 190 countries can be used offline and are being built into in-car systems. Grocery deliveries from Ocado are also powered by Navmii.

Zoe Laycock, its chief marketing officer, says: “We don’t have the resources of Google, of being able to hire vehicles with cameras on the roofs; we wanted to build mapping and local information through crowdsourcing. GPS ‘trace data’ [showing routes that

have been driven] is one of the ways we do this, but we also encourage people to get involved through the Open Street Map initiative [openstreetmap.org] – London is a good example of a place where maps are very accurate but in terms of traffic management, speed limits and one-way systems, that can change, and we need users to report these things in real time.”

Navmii is also working on “last mile” navigation. Laycock says: “What you can’t do yet is pinpoint a multistorey car park that has spaces available. Over the coming months we will be working directly with NCP, for example, to provide that data so you know how many spaces there are free on each floor.” Soon you won’t have any excuse for being late for a meeting.

## A SHORT HISTORY OF NAVIGATION

In the Age of Discovery of the 15th to 18th centuries, explorers employed latitude for north-south measurements, taking the equator (0°) as its base point. With the angle measured from the centre of the Earth, +90° took you to the North Pole, and -90° the South Pole. Longitude, for east-west, was more complicated – as centuries of seafarers will attest. The 0° reference point has been set at the Greenwich Meridian in London, with longitude measured as up to 180° east or -180° west of this point.

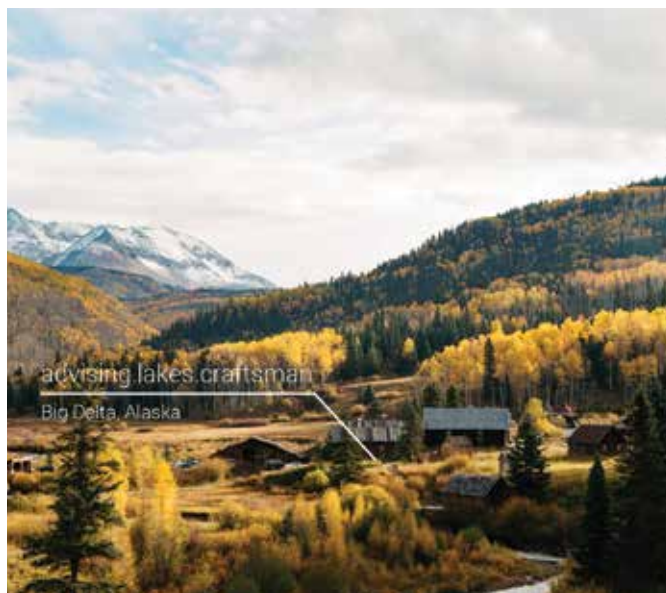
As the Earth moves 360° a day, or 15° an hour, there is a direct relationship between longitude and time. If you are three hours ahead of UTC (Coordinated Universal Time,

formerly GMT), for example in Mogadishu, you will have a longitude of 45° east. For this reason, having a reliable clock was essential.

GPS coordinates rely on latitude and longitude. The Empire State Building has a latitude of north 40° 44′ 54.388”, while the longitude is west 73° 59′ 8.39”. Global Satellite Positioning, however, wasn’t developed until the 1970s, when the US Department of Defence took inspiration from the way radio signals were being transmitted by Russian satellite Sputnik. When Korean Air flight 007 was shot down after accidentally entering Soviet airspace in 1983, the US government extended the technology to civilian airlines, but it wasn’t until 2000 that it became available to everyone.

GPS continues to be owned by the US government. So far, just over 70 satellites have been put in Space although not all are in service – the minimum number required for a “full constellation” is 24. While a few early attempts at producing in-car GPS and handheld receivers had entered the market in the nineties, it wasn’t until the early noughties that the technology became accurate enough to be really useful.

The first successful personal navigation device (PND) was released by TomTom in 2004, with Garmin and Magellan quickly getting in on the act. By 2008, more than 18 million units had been sold in the US, but sales went into decline with the emergence of built-in GPS on smartphones. Google Maps Navigation with turn-by-turn directions entered the scene in 2009, with Apple Maps following in 2012.



There are 135 countries in the world that don’t have a good street addressing system.  
All you have instead is latitude and longitude.





## Smart apartament w sercu miasta

Warszawa. Plac Piłsudskiego. Miejsce wyjątkowe, o długiej historii i wielu nazwach, które idealnie odzwierciedlały burzliwe dzieje naszego kraju: Saski, Sachsenplatz, Adolf Hitler Platz, Zwycięstwa, Marszałka Józefa Piłsudskiego. Wraz z biurowcem Metropolitą zaprojektowanym przez słynnego brytyjskiego architekta Normana Fostera, Plac Piłsudskiego stał się jedną z najciekawszych lokalizacji dla miłośników zaawansowanej technologii. Wszystko za sprawą pierwszego monobrandowego salonu Fendi Casa w Polsce, w którym eksperci Intelidom Group zrealizowali wizję inteligentnego mieszkania dopasowanego do różnych stylów, jakie obecnie preferują architekci wnętrz.

**Kwintesencja luksusu**, ponadczasowego designu, funkcjonalności i smart rozwiązań dyskretnie wkomponowanych w eleganckie wnętrza – niemożliwe do pogodzenia? Bynajmniej! Na 300 m kw zmieszczono luksusowe inteligentne mieszkanie. We wnętrzu wypełnionym ekskluzywnymi meblami i dodatkami tak luksusowych marek jak Fendi Casa i Bentley Home starannie wkomponowano innowacyjne systemy wielostrefowego nagłośnienia, oświetlenia oraz kompleksowego sterowania. Stanowią idealne dopełnienie koncepcji ponadczasowego wzornictwa wnętrz, co wbrew pozorom było nie lada wyzwaniem.

Dobrym przykładem jest zlokalizowanie telewizora, czyli jednego z największych elementów, który niełatwo wkomponować projektantom wnętrz. Duży model ukryto za szkłem w obudowie kominka. Pełni rolę nie tylko ekranu symulującego efekt płomieni, ale również służy do oglądania filmów czy programów telewizyjnych.

Telewizja jednak wypełnia nasz wolny czas jedynie częściowo. O wiele bardziej istotne staje się wykorzystanie tych smart rozwiązań, które mogą nam ułatwić funkcjonowanie w nowoczesnym apartamencie. W ścianach dyskretnie umieszczono wielofunkcyjne przyciski Basalte oraz NotaBene (z kryształami Svarowskiego), stanowiące kluczowe części systemu automatyki domu KNX. Indywidualnie dopasowane wzornictwo służy do kontroli scen świetlnych, dostosowanych do nastroju poszczególnych użytkowników. Z myślą o nich integratorzy Intelidom Group dodali również panel dotykowy Busch-Jaeger – prawdziwy Rolls-Royce wśród systemów sterowania wyposażeniem domu. Poprzez ekran dotykowy domownicy mogą kontrolować całe zautomatyzowane mieszkanie. Na tym jednak nie koniec: do dyspozycji są również aplikacje dla urządzeń z systemem Android oraz sprzętu Apple: iPad oraz iPhone. A dla najbardziej wymagających słuchaczy unikalny system audio najwyższej światowej klasy: wspinałe kolumny podłogowe Sonus Faber Olympics II oraz oszałamiające dzieło współczesnej inżynierii – wzmacniacz Wadia Intuition. Wszystko po to, by we wnętrzu skrojonym na miarę czuć się jak najlepiej. Po prostu – u siebie.



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# SATELLITE REDEFINES STANDARDS



**A**nother chapter in the history of Munich Airport has begun. With the launch of the new satellite terminal – Germany's first midfield terminal – Europe's only five-star airport is again setting new standards for excellent service, passenger comfort and sustainability.

The satellite terminal is also a continuation of the successful joint venture between Munich Airport and

Lufthansa. As in Terminal 2, the partners have joined forces to design, build and finance the new passenger handling facility on a 60:40 basis. The Munich architectural firm Koch + Part-

ner was selected for the design and general planning.

## LUFTHANSA INCREASES QUALITY

Munich Airport's CEO Michael Kerkloh sees the satellite as a key element in the successful ongoing development of the airport.

"With the satellite, we will not only maintain our justly renowned standards of service and overall airport experience: We will actually take them to a higher level. That starts with the comfortably appointed waiting areas, and extends to the attractive marketplaces with the charming restaurants and the

27 pier-served aircraft stands which, in most cases, will eliminate the need to move passengers by bus."

The CEO of Lufthansa, Carsten Spohr, also commented on the quality improvements through the increased capacity:

"The expansion of Terminal 2 with the new satellite building will make the Lufthansa Group airlines operating in Munich a better and more attractive option for passengers from all over the world. With twice as many pier-served stands for boarding and deplaning, five new lounges with more than 4,000 square meters of floor space and state-of-the-art gates, passengers



at our five-star hub will enjoy even more comfort and higher standards of quality. Our investment in premium-quality facilities is a visible commitment to the continuation of our success story in Munich."

### THE AIRPORT OF THE 21ST CENTURY

The new facility will give Munich Airport 27 new gate positions where passengers can board aircraft directly without bus transportation. With the new satellite facility, the capacity of Terminal 2, which is used by Lufthansa and its Star Alliance partners, will be increased by 11 million to 36 million passengers per year. As one of the world's most advanced passenger facilities, the satellite terminal will offer passengers pleasant surroundings with a wide range of shopping and dining options in attractive and spacious areas flooded with natural light. Passengers will also have five new Lufthansa lounges to choose from.

The satellite has no direct landside transportation links, so check-in takes place in Terminal 2. Passengers then undergo passport screening and hand baggage checks before boarding the airport's own underground transport system that takes them to the satellite terminal in barely a minute. Here they experience the same high standards of quality they have come to expect in Termi-

nal 2. Of course they have free access to the airport-wide Wi-Fi network, and can plug their devices into USB and power outlets in the waiting areas.

### BUSINESS LOUNGES, SHOPS, ZONES

Waiting for the plane in the satellite terminal is an entirely new dining and shopping experience, with 15 retail areas, seven restaurants and cafes and three duty free zones in a spacious, 7,000 square meter setting. The architecture, the shopping options and the wide variety of foods and drinks available reflect the Bavarian lifestyle and Munich's unique character.

The satellite also features plenty of services to meet the needs and desires of the modern traveller, including quiet areas with reclining chairs, play areas for children, changing tables in the men's and women's washrooms, and four showers. All services are situated at the centre of the new building for quick and convenient access by customers. From here the five new Lufthansa lounges are just steps away. With an area of 4,000 square meters, this nearly doubles the total area of the Terminal 2 lounge facilities. The new concept features a roof terrace, panoramic windows and a bar overlooking the airport apron. Forming the heart of the new passenger facility is the central marketplace, which is flooded with natural light. Mar-

ket stands, each with a theme, are an authentic tribute to the Viktualienmarkt, Munich's renowned open-air market.

### ECO-FRIENDLY AIRPORT

The satellite also sets new standards for environmentally friendly operations and energy efficiency. Advanced building materials and innovative heating, cooling and lighting technologies reduce energy consumption to a minimum. A 40 percent reduction in CO2 emissions in the new facility is compared with the airport's existing terminal buildings is achieved partly through special "climate-optimized facades": These 4.5 meter wide zones separate the air conditioned interior of the satellite from the outdoor space, acting as a climate buffer while providing usable space with escalators for passengers to change levels. The facade is made of a newly developed type of glass with a special coating that allows sunlight to enter while keeping out the heat.

The satellite terminal was built within budget and on schedule: the cornerstone was laid on April 23, 2012, and the topping-out ceremony took place on September 12, 2013. Construction of the building itself was completed in the fall of 2015. This was followed by the operational testing phase, with extensive trials involving more than 3,000 participants playing the role of passengers.

Waiting for the plane in the satellite terminal is an entirely new dining and shopping experience. The architecture, the shopping options and the wide variety of foods and drinks available reflect the Bavarian lifestyle and Munich's unique character.



# IN HARMONY WITH PEOPLE AND PLACES



Mercure Wrocław Centrum

**A**round the world Mercure hotels are known for combining high quality of service with local history, alluding through their design and menu to the traditions of cities where they are situated. However, there are two aspects that guest can experience in any Mercure hotel worldwide. These are the high quality of service and the comfort of stay.

## SIGNATURE FEATURES

The passion for what's local or what you need to know about

the place Mercure is definitely one of the most recognizable brands, rooted in local communities. The key differentiator of the brand is its strategy based on the so-called "glocality". On the one hand, the guests have a chance to learn about the local culture, and on the other hand, they are guaranteed the global quality and proven solutions used around the world.

Designers of Mercure hotels always try to promote the local colour of a city or region through the design of the properties. This idea has been intro-

duced into many Mercure hotels across Poland and is visible through numerous elements of the hotel décor. The interior designers drew their inspiration from the symbolic elements of the places where the hotels are situated.

As a result, each of the properties offers its guests the opportunity to feel the unique atmosphere of a given region. The inspiration for the design of Mercure Wrocław Centrum were the impressive renovated town houses and almost 300 dwarfs scattered around the



city. The famous mechanical fighting goats from Poznań's town hall are also a part of the décor of Poznań Mercure hotel. Bydgoszcz attracts music lovers - the hotel lobby of Mercure Bydgoszcz Sepia is filled with instruments - an allusion to the Opera Nova, which is an important point on the map of classical music aficionados, as well as the connoisseurs of sophisticated architecture. Mercure Gdańsk Posejdon situated by the Polish Baltic offers warm colour schemes in the rooms, ideally suited to amber lovers. Gdynia, on the other hand, is a perfect destination for enthusiasts of naval ships that can be admired both at Kościuszko Square and in Mercure Gdynia Centrum. If you think that every trip should involve learning about the local cultural heritage, then you should definitely visit Częstochowa, which is a perfect starting point for exploration of the Polish Jurassic Highland with its medieval castles. Those can also be seen in the lobby of the local Mercure property.

#### GLOBAL STANDARDS

Mercure hotels - reliable and environmentally friendly solutions. The Mercure brand raises clear associations: a high quality of service, sophisticated design that reflects the nature, traditions and the cultural heritage of the place, as well as the location close to city centres. This approach helps guests of Mercure hotels to choose what they want to see in a given region. The staff of the hotels are also keen on showing the guests the aspects of the local culture. The presence of regional products in the cuisines of each hotel restaurant enables guests to learn more about the local customs, as well as the flavours.

Mercure hotels in Poland are known for their unique friendliness and enthusiasm of the hoteliers providing world-class services. They skilfully combine modernity with the historical



Mercure Gdynia Centrum

Mercure brand raises clear associations: a high quality of service, sophisticated design that reflects the nature, traditions and the cultural heritage of the place.



Mercure Gdańsk Posejdon

character of the place. Preserving the standard of the brand, at the same time they are unique. Mercure is an unique experi-

ence, guaranteed by a strong brand. All this makes the hotels a perfect choice for both business and leisure travellers.

# THE NEW FACE OF SHERATON KRAKOW



**S**heraton is the largest and most global brand owned by Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide Inc. Its status of a global icon is proved by the fact that Sheraton is recognized by 92 of business travellers – the highest result among hotel brands in the world. Sheraton operates nearly 500 hotels in 75 countries worldwide. Last year Sheraton announce a new strategy - a

comprehensive plan designed to put the brand firmly back into the global spotlight.

## AIM - DEVELOPMENT

On of the elements of the new plan is Sheraton Grand - a group of the most prestigious properties of the brand, which are distinguished by an attractive location, exceptional design, as well as excellent service. At present there are 25 such prop-

erties worldwide, and interestingly, one of them is located in Poland, in Krakow.

Sheraton Grand Krakow has 232 rooms and suites, some of which are currently being thoroughly renovated. All premium rooms have been recently refurbished and now feature an elegant and residential design, suitable for both business and leisure travellers. An undeniable advantage of the hotel is its



prime location with a unique view of the Wawel Castle and the Vistula river. The renovation of the hotel will be finished by the beginning of 2017 and the guests will be able to fully enjoy the interiors designed by a well-known London architect Alex Kravetz. The rooms now boast elegant look thanks to the use of high quality materials, as well as custom-made furniture. Various fabrics and decorative elements have been combined in such a way to create multi-layered and sophisticated design forms in all elements of the décor. Local accents are expressed with selected patterns and designs, as well as works of art made to order by a Krakow artist. The key element of the whole project is lighting that adds a specific atmosphere to the rooms, making them bright or slightly more romantic, depending on the time of the day. Sheraton Grand Krakow also offers renovated meeting rooms that are ideally suited for various conferences and galas, as well as four restaurants and bars, including the famous Observation Deck & Lounge Bar.

#### CLEAR VISION

Sheraton Grand is just one of many initiatives undertaken currently as a part of the Sheraton 2020 strategy - a comprehensive, 10-point plan designed to put the brand firmly back into the global spotlight. A very important element of this 5-year plan is a new \$100 million Sheraton-focused marketing campaign, an introduction of the new Paired programme comprised of artisanal small plates and eclectic bar snacks served alongside suggested premium wines and local craft beers in hotel lobbies, as well as continuous innovation in building amazing experiences for guests of Sheraton hotels. All those initiatives are aimed at repositioning of Sheraton. The ultimate goals is to increase revenue and expand hotel portfolio by 150 properties by 2020.



An undeniable advantage of the hotel is its prime location with a unique view of the Wawel Castle and the Vistula river.



# LUXURY NEED QUALITY



When you finally choose a destination for a short break or a holiday, you should select a place that will fully meet your expectations and offer comfortable conditions for relaxation. It's not a coincidence that the slogan of SPA Dr Irena Eris Hotels is: "Luxury Close to Nature".

The term "luxury" has evolved in recent years, gaining a new meaning. It has become synonymous with the things of the highest quality. Those things may signal social status and be available for a small group of customers, but some of them are also considered useful in everyday life.

According to a recent KMPG report on the market of luxury goods in Poland, the number of wealthy individual who like to possess luxury goods is on an increase, which translates into the growing demand for luxury goods. The report also concludes that nearly 90 percent of those surveyed claimed that quality is the most impor-

tant factor for choosing a given product.

There are more than 200 luxury brands in the world, 70 percent of which are present in Poland. These include two domestic brands considered exclusive and popular worldwide. One of them is the most recognizable beauty brand in Poland - Dr Irena Eris - known for its top-shelf cosmetics, as well as the most luxurious SPA Dr Irena Eris Hotels. In recognition of Dr Irena Eris brand, the French club that brings together the world's most luxury brands, such as Louis Vuitton, Boucheron, Chanel, Cartier, Dior, Hermès and Veuve Clicquot, as well as prestigious cultural institutions including the Louvre,

Paris Opera and the Comédie-Française, accepted the Polish brand as one of its members.

However, in recent years luxury has taken another meaning. More and more people who can afford to possess premium brands, associate luxury with free time and relaxation. Too many duties, ignoring your own health issues and needs, are some of the most common reasons why we decide to give up a regular rest.

That's why, when finally choosing a destination for a short break or a holiday, you should select a place that will fully meet your expectations and offer comfortable conditions for relaxation. It's not a coincidence that the slogan of SPA Dr Irena Eris Hotels is: "Luxury Close to





Nature". Situated in unique places, surrounded by lush greenery and offering tranquil settings, the hotels are considered model spa facilities, not only in Poland, but also in Europe. The signature concept of the holistic relaxation combined with professional wellness and spa offer, as well as top quality service, meet the expectations of even the most discerning guests who value comfort.

Guests of SPA Dr Irena Eris Hotels are offered the evening turndown service, which includes turning down the bed, a 'good night' chocolate on the pil-

low and placing slippers by the bed. In the morning, when the guests enjoy their breakfast, the hotel staff make the bed, clean the room, stock the minibar and the toiletries. If you arrive at the hotel in the late evening, you can always enjoy the room service available around the clock. Families travelling with young children are offered a number of amenities, such as e.g. a cot, a baby robe, a child seat in the restaurant, a special menu, as well as the option to hire a baby-sitter for hours.

Attention to detail, the use of the best hospitality practices,

friendliness and openness of the staff - all these elements make up a unique atmosphere of the place where you spend your free time with real pleasure. Once you experience the remarkable atmosphere of SPA Dr Irena Eris Hotels and feel their magic, you will want to return it regularly.

"The property, the spa facilities and treatments, as well as the restaurant and the staff - all of this was top notch! It was our second visit at SPA Dr Irena Eris and we will return here again." Agata K., Wrocław, TripAdvisor.com  
[DrlrenaErisSpa.com](http://DrlrenaErisSpa.com)

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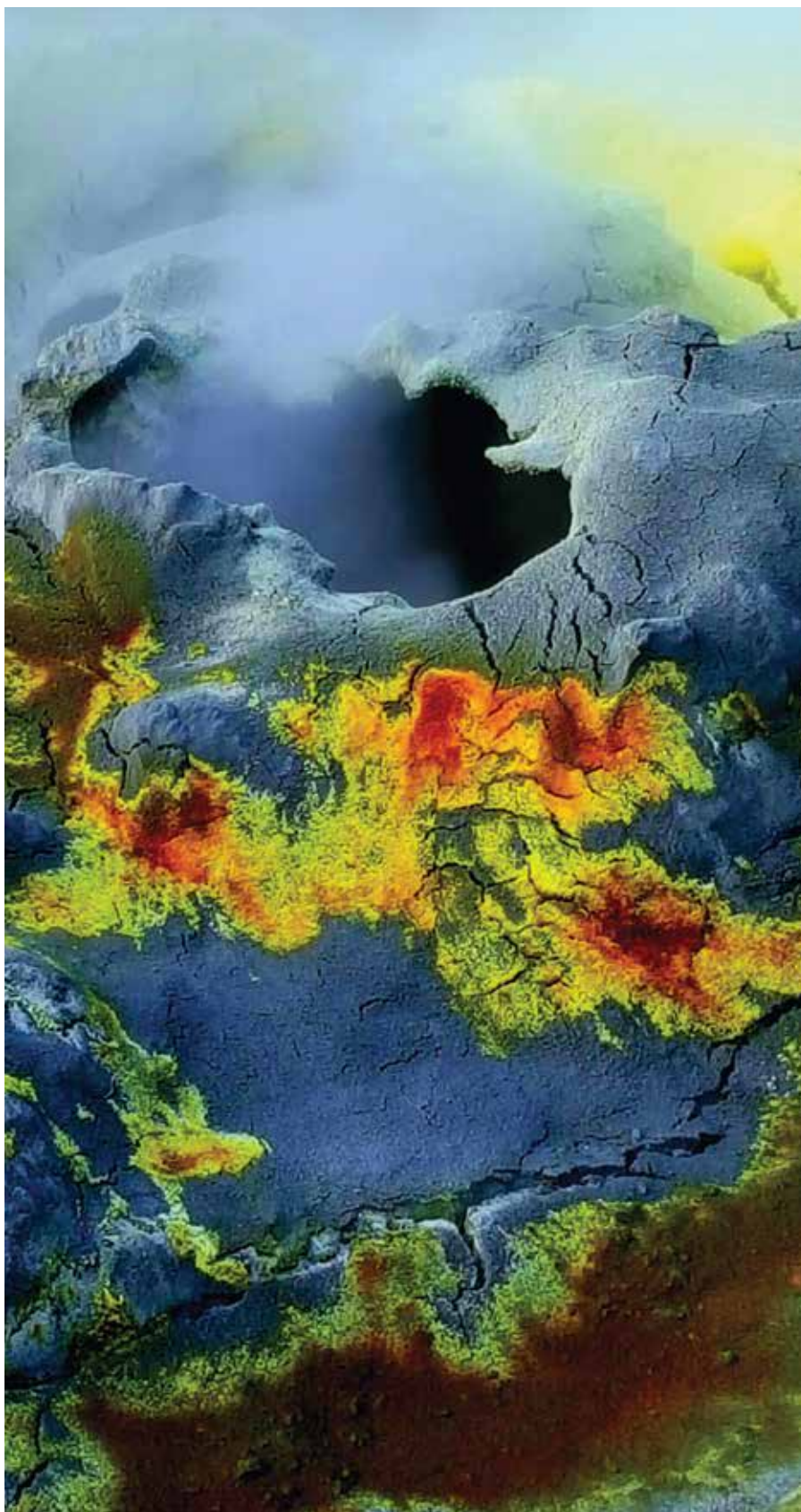
# TREASURES OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC

It's such a remote place on the map that only few Europeans treat it as a potential holiday spot. Some dream of going there, but eventually never pursue those dreams. Most people simply don't care about it. Well, all of them simply don't know what they are missing.









Geysers shooting water high into the sky, boiling lakes and vast craters dominate the local landscape.

New Zealand consists of two islands: the North one and the South one. The biggest attraction of the latter are the spectacular Southern Alps. The New Zealander Sir Edmund Hillary once said that in size they resemble their European namesake, but in character and structure they can be compared more to the Himalayas. But the Southern Island isn't only about mountaineering. You can find here numerous examples of wild marine fauna, admire soaring giant albatrosses, flocks of friendly fur seals, observe the habits of hilarious penguins, swim with dolphins, and experience exciting encounters with 20-metre long whales. You can't miss a visit to the picturesque Queenstown, widely considered a mecca for adrenaline junkies and the world capital of extreme sports. In the place where bungee jumping was invented you can experience any possible invention designed to raise your adrenaline level far beyond any norms. The Souther Island, on the other hand, is the world's largest amusement park, stretched between the Atlantic and the snowy peaks of the sky-high mountains.

### HELL ON EARTH

Nowhere else on Earth is it so close to its centre than on the Northern Island. It's not an accident, though, because it's here where the New Zealander Sir Peter Jackson found the perfect location for the Tolkien's Mordor. Geysers shooting water high into the sky, boiling lakes and vast craters dominate the local landscape. The city of Rotorua and its surroundings are literally on fire with bursting sulphur fumes and bubbling muddy swamps. An example may be the White Island - an active stratovolcano whose crater is accessible for daredevils who can admire here a memorable and unique spectacle with the centre of our planet as the main star.

### IN SPA AMONG THE STARS

New Zealand offers an incredibly vast network of hiking trails. You can penetrate the country's wild nature at almost any time, and without access to the Internet, electricity, as well as shops and restaurants, give yourself a perfect rest from duties, deadlines and the everyday stress. You simply walk for the whole day in a pre-determined direction, carrying a backpack with only the most crucial supplies. The piercing night silence is interrupted occasionally by the characteristic sounds of kiwi - the flightless furry birds that are the symbol of the land.



Simple life, physical activity and the joy of a simple meal - work much better than any treatment in a luxurious spa.

### THE SECRET OF SOUTHERN SEAS

When you finally feel exhausted with the intense experiencing of New Zealand, this means that it's time to top off your journey. After a three-hour flight from Auckland you reach Rarotonga - the main island of the archipelago of the Cook Islands. You will find here luxury intimate hotels, discreet service, as well as excellent exotic cuisine. In the morning you can listen to the sough of coconut palms, and the cloudless sky serves as a perfect backdrop for the mountains covered with tropical forest. The white sand crunches under your feet while you are walking along the beach that connects the land with the shallow blue lagoon. A 30-minute flight by a small turboprop plane takes you to Aitutaki - an island with one of the world's most beautiful lagoons.

### PRACTICAL INFO

How to get around New Zealand? Preferably by a bus or a rental car. One of the best coach companies offering a good network of routes is Manabus whose owner also owns Polski Bus in Poland. [manabus.com](http://manabus.com)

- Who can help me tour the country and experience adrenaline rush? A company that specializes in organizing trips, scenic flights and cruises e.g. of Milford Sound, is Real Journeys. [realjourneys.co.nz](http://realjourneys.co.nz)

- Who do I go to if I want to watch seals, dolphins and whales in Kaikour? Whalewatch is a company you can trust here. [whalewatch.co.nz](http://whalewatch.co.nz)

- How do I reach the active volcano of the White Island? The trips are organized by White Island Tours. [whiteisland.co.nz](http://whiteisland.co.nz)

- What's the best place to watch the geothermal phenomena in the area of Rotorua? Wai'o'Tapu with its boiling lake called Champain Pool. [waiotapu.co.nz](http://waiotapu.co.nz)

Te Puia with one of the world's largest geysers called Pohut. [tepuia.com/new-zealand/](http://tepuia.com/new-zealand/)

- Where should I stay in the Cook Islands?

Aitutaki Lagoon Resort & Spa

[aitutakilagoonresort.com](http://aitutakilagoonresort.com)

Sea Change Villas

[sea-change-rarotonga.com](http://sea-change-rarotonga.com)

Ikurangi Eco Retreat

[ikurangi.com](http://ikurangi.com)

**Konrad Wilk**

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In the morning you can listen to the sough of coconut palms, and the cloudless sky serves as a perfect backdrop for the mountains covered with tropical forest.





The South Beach, Singapore

# THE BIG 40

**Valerian Ho** rounds up 40 new properties to check out in Asia.

## 1. MOVENPICK SUKHUMVIT 15 BANGKOK

**Opened:** May 2015

A great location on the popular Sukhumvit Road is coupled with 297 high-tech rooms and a host of modern amenities in this stylish hotel. Dark-wood fittings and furnishings contrast with clean white walls and bedding, while huge TVs and walk-in rain-showers are also provided. The hotel's free 24-hour tuk-tuk shuttle is a useful service, while the 20-metre rooftop pool is a peaceful place to relax away from the noise of the city below. Lelawadee restaurant offers Thai and European dishes. [movenpick.com](http://movenpick.com)

## 2. THE REVERIE SAIGON HO CHI MINH CITY

**Opened:** September 2015 The Reverie's Italian-style décor creates classical splendour, blended with Asian opulence. Floor-to-ceiling windows in all 286 rooms and suites re-

veal views of the skyline and Saigon River. Rooms are furnished by some of Italy's finest design houses, including Colombostile and Provasi. It's located in the CBD.

[thereveriesaiagon.com](http://thereveriesaiagon.com)

## 3. AVANI RIVERSIDE BANGKOK

**Opened:** April 2016

The first new-build property for Minor Hotel Group's fast-expanding four-star brand, the 248-room Avani is located next to the Anantara Riverside (also part of the group). Rooms and suites offer river views, while the four food and drink venues include rooftop bar Attitude. The property has large meeting and conferencing facilities, with 4,500 sqm of space including a ballroom capable of hosting 800 people for a banquet. [avanihotels.com](http://avanihotels.com)

## 4. NOVOTEL BANGKOK SUKHUMVIT 20

**Opened:** May 2016

The 244-room hotel will have a rooftop bar on the 26th floor, and a pool and bar on level nine. [novotel.com](http://novotel.com)

## 5. ST REGIS KUALA LUMPUR

**Opened:** May 2016

Starwood's new luxury property is located in the Sentral Precinct. It has 208 rooms and almost 3,000 sqm of function space. [starwoodhotels.com/stregis](http://starwoodhotels.com/stregis)

## 6. OASIA SUITES KUALA LUMPUR

**Opened:** April 2016

The brand's first foray outside Singapore, this 247-room hotel is next to Bukit Nanas, Kuala Lumpur's only surviving primary rainforest and nature reserve. [stayfareast.com](http://stayfareast.com)

## 7. THE SOUTH BEACH SINGAPORE

**Opened:** September 2015





Hilton Tokyo Odaiba



Avani Riverside Bangkok



Hotel Proverbs Taipei

This hotel is part of the South Beach mega mixed-use development which also comprises offices, residences, retail space and a private club. A roster of leading lights in the design world have collaborated on this project, including architecture by Foster and Partners and global design firm Aedas, interiors by Philippe Starck and installations by artists Lee Lee Nam and Soh Ee Shaun. The hotel features 654 rooms and suites, an all-day restaurant, three bars, two sky gardens and two infinity pools. There is also a ballroom in one of the original early 20th-century buildings. [thesouthbeach.com.sg](http://thesouthbeach.com.sg)

## 8. HOTEL VAGABOND SINGAPORE

**Opened:** October 2015

Lovers of small artistic establishments should visit Hotel Vagabond, a boutique art hotel that is the first in Asia to feature interiors by celebrated French designer Jacques Garcia. A Small Luxury Hotels of the World member, it has an elegant art deco façade and bright-red shutters, while all artworks were sourced and commissioned by owner Satinder Garcha. The solid-brass rhino re-

ception desk took craftsmen from 15 villages in Rajasthan eight months to create. Other exotic features include striking gold banyan trees in the foyer, handcrafted sculptures by French artisans, and photographs by the owner in the 42 rooms. [slh.com](http://slh.com)

## 9. FAIRMONT JAKARTA

**Opened:** January 2015

The 380-room Fairmont has one of the largest hotel lobbies in the city, with three separate entrances. It also features 3,500 sqm of meeting space, including a 1,200-sqm ballroom. The 22nd-floor K22 bar offers panoramic views, and there are Indonesian, Chinese and Japanese restaurants. Located in the Senayan district, the hotel is close to the Jakarta Convention Centre and the Indonesian Stock Exchange, and linked to the Plaza Senayan shopping and office complex. [fairmont.com](http://fairmont.com)

## 10. SOFTEL SINGAPORE CITY CENTRE

**Opening:** late 2016

This 223-room property is part of the Tanjong Pagar Centre, which will include the city-state's tallest building, at 290 metres,

and an "urban park" with a capacity of 2,000 delegates. [sofitel.com](http://sofitel.com)

## 11. CONRAD MANILA

**Opening:** September 2016

Overlooking Manila Bay, the Conrad will have 347 rooms and suites, a spa and an infinity pool. [conradhotels3.hilton.com](http://conradhotels3.hilton.com)

## 12. SHANGRI-LA AT THE FORT, MANILA

**Opened:** March 2016 The 576-room hotel is housed in a mixed-use complex that includes Kerry Sports Manila, offering more than 8,000 sqm of fitness facilities across two floors. [shangri-la.com](http://shangri-la.com)

## 13. HOTEL PROVERBS TAIPEI

**Opened:** September 2015

Hotel Proverbs Taipei was designed by renowned Taiwanese architect Ray Chen, whose high-profile projects also include the cabin interior of China Airlines' B777-300ER and Hotel Quote Taipei. Chen has used copper, rich wood and leather elements, as well as exquisite textiles, to great effect in the public areas. Each of the 42 rooms blends classic European style with contemporary

design; the effect is cosy and luxurious. Starting from 33 sqm, rooms offer free wifi, movies and Nespresso machines. The property is located in the city's Eastern district. [hotel-proverbs.com](http://hotel-proverbs.com)

#### 14. TAIPEI MARRIOTT

**Opened:** November 2015

The city's largest integrated destination complex, the Taipei Marriott consists of 320 guestrooms, a convention centre, a high-end shopping mall and luxury apartments. It also boasts a heated rooftop pool. [marriott.com](http://marriott.com)

#### 15. FOUR SEASONS SEOUL

**Opened:** October 2015

This Four Seasons property is set in the central business district and has 317 luxurious rooms and suites. Its seven restaurants and bars include Shanghai-inspired Yu Yuan, with a Peking duck oven, Italian restaurant Boccacino, and Charles H, a "Prohibition-era New York speakeasy with a twist of Korean energy and style". The three-storey spa and fitness complex has a Korean sauna, and an indoor driving range. [fourseasons.com](http://fourseasons.com)

#### 16. COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT SHIN-OSAKA STATION

**Opened:** November 2015

This 332-room hotel is in a superb location, only a minute's walk from the Shin-Osaka bullet train station. [courtyard.marriott.com](http://courtyard.marriott.com)

#### 16. FOUR SEASONS KYOTO

**Opening:** late 2016

The outdoor spaces at this 124-room, 57-residence property will include an 800-year-old Japanese water garden, a glass bridge and a traditional matcha tea house. [fourseasons.com](http://fourseasons.com)

#### 18. HILTON TOKYO ODAIBA

**Opened:** October 2015

This property is located in Odaiba, a popular waterfront district built on an artificial island facing central Tokyo. Its 453 guestrooms include 17 suites with private balconies, most offering views of Tokyo Bay and Rainbow Bridge. The Royal Garden Room features a jet bath, grand piano, bar and private garden. There's also a ballroom and spa. [hilton.com](http://hilton.com)

#### 19. THE PRINCE GALLERY TOKYO KIOICHO, A LUXURY COLLECTION HOTEL

**Opening:** July 2016

The 35th-floor bar of this 250-room property will offer panoramic views from double-height, floor-to-ceiling windows. [luxurycollection.com](http://luxurycollection.com)

#### 20. NUO HOTEL BEIJING

**Opened:** June 2015

The first hotel from a Chinese state-run group aiming to go global, the interiors of this 438-room luxury property are inspired by the golden age of the Ming dynasty, with works by established and emerging artists used throughout to glorious effect. The hotel has seven food and drink venues, including Chinese cuisine at Jia, and Japanese at

Nuo'ki, as well as a spa, pool and gym. [nuohotel.com](http://nuohotel.com)

#### 21. WANDA REIGN ON THE BUND, SHANGHAI

Opening: June 2016 Wanda Reign is Chinese group Wanda Hotels and Resorts' premium brand. Facing the Bund, the 193-room property will feature a top-floor French restaurant and club led by two-starred Michelin chef Marc Meneau offering panoramic views of Pudong and the Huangpu River. The property is a member of Preferred Hotels and Resorts' Legend Collection. [wandahotels.com](http://wandahotels.com)

#### 22. SOFITEL KUNMING

**Opened:** December 2015

Located in the central business district of Kunming in China, the Sofitel's interiors are inspired by both Yunnan province's local cultures and French haute design. In the lobby, red glass-fronted balconies and crystal-encrusted drapes evoke European theatres. Also featured is a multimedia water wall projection. Panoramic views of the city or Dianchi Lake can be enjoyed from each of the hotel's 397 rooms, three restaurants, and the Parisian-style bar on the 50th floor. [sofitel.com](http://sofitel.com)

#### 23. INTERCONTINENTAL BEIJING SANLITUN

**Opening:** summer 2016

The food and drink offering at the 303-room property will include Chinese, Japanese and tapas restaurants, plus a bar specialising in



Nuo Hotel Beijing



The Reverie Saigon, Ho Chi Minh City



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whisky and beer. The Sanlitun district itself is full of dining and drinking venues. [ihg.com](http://ihg.com)

## 24. MELIA SHANGHAI HONGQIAO

Positioned to welcome meetings and event delegates, this 190-room hotel is close to the huge new 1.5 million sqm National Convention and Exhibition Centre. [melia.com](http://melia.com)

## 25. PARK HYATT GUANGZHOU

**Opened:** December 2015

Located in Zhujiang New Town, next to the Pearl River, this 208-room hotel has a 25-metre pool and spa. The 70th-floor bar – the highest in the city – offers classic cocktails, vintage wines and champagnes along with live entertainment. [park.hyatt.com](http://park.hyatt.com)

## 26. GRAND HYATT CHENGDU

**Opened:** February 2016

Inspired by the great French mansions of the past, situated on the tenth to 39th floors of the Chicony Square building, the Grand Hyatt Chengdu features a floral theme throughout, most notably in its several tranquil gardens, which reflect the four seasons through carefully selected plants with colours depicting spring, summer, autumn and winter. An open garden, Putao, on the



Wanda Reign on the Bund, Shanghai

15th floor is a lovely place to relax, while the Maze Garden on the terrace is a romantic location surrounded by tall, verdant plants. [grand.hyatt.com](http://grand.hyatt.com)

## 27. DOUBLETREE BY HILTON GUANGZHOU SCIENCE CITY

**Opened:** August 2015

The extensive event space at the 301-room Doubletree includes a 1,000 sqm grand ballroom and a 2,500 sqm rooftop garden. [doubletree3.hilton.com](http://doubletree3.hilton.com)

## 28. WANDA REIGN CHENGDU

**Opened:** December 2015

Designed with a "New Chinese Art Deco" theme, this 240-room hotel in the Jinjiang district combines local Shu themes – from Chinese hibiscus to Sichuan-style trellis patterns, tassels and lanterns – with classic art deco motifs. [wandahotels.com](http://wandahotels.com)

## 29. THE GRAND MANSION, A LUXURY COLLECTION HOTEL, NANJING

**Opened:** July 2015

An impressive collection of fine art, china-ware and handcrafted textiles is on display throughout this 158-room property, which also features one of China's largest hotel libraries. [starwoodhotels.com/luxury](http://starwoodhotels.com/luxury)

## 30. REGAL FINANCIAL CENTRE HOTEL, FOSHAN

**Opened:** October 2015

Regal's latest Chinese opening has 230 rooms and great sport facilities, including a golf simulator, table tennis, pool table and chess room. The metro station below the hotel offers access to downtown Foshan in ten minutes and Guangzhou in 25 minutes. [regalhotel.com](http://regalhotel.com)

## 31. HILTON SHENZHEN FUTIAN

**Opened:** October 2015



Sofitel Kunming



This centrally located 320-room hotel has 17 function spaces totalling 2,400 sqm, including a 600-sqm ballroom. [hilton.com](http://hilton.com)

### 32. KEMPINSKI HOTEL FUZHOU

**Opened:** this month

The 1,500 sqm ballroom and 700 sqm outdoor garden can host up to 1,200 guests, at this 327-room hotel. [kempinski.com](http://kempinski.com)

### 33. HOTEL PRAVO, HONG KONG

**Opened:** June 2015

A small, stylish property set in the middle of Tsim Sha Tsui, Pravo's 92 rooms range from compact to deluxe suites, each featuring one of five design themes, from "rock-and-roll black" to "mysterious purple" and "classy gold". Some rooms deliver city views from private balconies. Every room comes with a Handy 3G smartphone, which guests can take out around town and use to make free local and international calls to ten countries. The property also has a gym and rooftop patio, which can be hired out for private parties. [citadines.com](http://citadines.com)

### 34. RITZ-CARLTON MACAU

**Opened:** May 2015

This luxury all-suite hotel is part of the Galaxy Macau development, an integrated resort offering premium shopping, fine

dining, a 3D cinema complex, casino, spa, swimming pools and meeting spaces. The property's 239 suites are located on the top floors of the resort. The design incorporates Azulejo tiles, a form of Iberian ceramic synonymous with the décor found in Macau's heritage buildings. Hotel facilities include two restaurants and two bars, an outdoor pool, an ESPA health club, as well as a 750 sqm ballroom and meeting spaces. [ritzcarlton.com](http://ritzcarlton.com)

### 35. DOUBLETREE BY HILTON XIAMEN WUYUAN BAY

**Opened:** August 2015

Situated in the Chinese city's new CBD, this 270-room hotel has 1,400 sqm of function space. [doubletree3.hilton.com](http://doubletree3.hilton.com)

### 36. MADERA HOLLYWOOD, HONG KONG

**Opened:** March 2016

This all-suite, 38-room boutique property in the city's SoHo district has Hollywood-themed rooms. [maderagroup.com](http://maderagroup.com)

### 37. NOVOTEL NEW DELHI AEROCITY

**Opened:** November 2015

Well-located for Indira Gandhi International airport, the 250-room Novotel has a health club and outdoor pool. [novotel.com](http://novotel.com)

### 38. ST REGIS MUMBAI

**Opened:** November 2015

The country's tallest hotel tower, at 39 storeys, this 395-room property offers superb views over the city and Arabian Sea.

[starwoodhotels.com/stregis](http://starwoodhotels.com/stregis)

### 39. SHANGRI-LA BENGALURU

**Opened:** September 2015

Situated between the CBD and residential suburbs, this luxury property offers 397 rooms, including 30 suites swathed in shades of gold, plum and green. Its meeting and function spaces are spread over two levels, and the 739 sqm grand ballroom is one of the largest in the city. A hotel representative meets guests at the airport to help ensure a smooth arrival. There are also eight dining options and a rooftop bar. [shangri-la.com](http://shangri-la.com)

### 40. ZONE BY THE PARK CHENNAI

**Opened:** November 2015

Zone by the Park is Indian group the Park Hotels' mid-market brand. Located in the Chennai ORR (outer ring road) area, the 40-room hotel has an open-plan lobby with a restaurant, free wifi and work pods. Rooms have flatscreen TVs and desks, and there's a rooftop pool. [zonebythepark.com](http://zonebythepark.com)



Grand Hyatt Chengdu



Hotel Pravo, Hong Kong



Shangri-La Bengaluru



# THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - THE PLACE LIKE NO OTHER

From January till April 2016, the Dominican Republic has recorded a record number of visits. According to data of the local Central Bank, the country was visited by a total of 2 268 481 tourists, which is a 7 % more than in the same period last year. In case of Polish tourists, the statistics have increased by 44 %.

**T**he Dominican Republic is one of the most popular holiday destination among Poles all-year round. We note a significantly increasing interest of organized, as well as individual travels thanks to attractive costs of all-inclusive packages and last-minute air tickets. The popularity of the destination

is supported by newly introduced air routes from Europe. There are charter flights from Warsaw and Katowice to Punta Cana and in winter season will be launched charter flights to Puerto Plata as well," says Leila Boasier Budecker, Director of the National Tourism Board of the Dominican Republic for Central and Eastern Europe.

## WELCOMING AND PICTURESQUE PLACE

Known for warm and hospitable people, Dominican Republic is a destination like no other, featuring astounding nature, intriguing history and rich culture. Surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean on the north and the Caribbean Sea on the south, this lush tropical





island boasts nearly 400 km of the world's top beaches, magnificent resorts and hotels, and a variety of sports, recreation and entertainment options.

There are 19 national parks, a 3km high mountain range Cordillera Central, where is to be found Pico Duarte or waterfall Aguas Blancas, both considered to be the highest in the Caribbean. In Barahona on the southwestern coast is to be found Lago Enriquillo - the largest salt lake, lowest place of the Caribbean, and home of flamingos and American crocodiles.

### IN THE LAND OF RUM, CIGARS AND CHOCOLATE

Discovered in 1492 by Christopher Columbus, the country overflows with fascinating history and exciting cultural experiences like music, art and festivals, plus uniquely Dominican specialties such as cigars, rum, chocolate, coffee, amber and larimar. Art lovers should not miss visit the city of Santo Domingo with many historical monuments, museums and galleries. Its

Colonial Zone became a UNESCO World Heritage Site list in 1990.

### GOLFING AND HONEYMOONS

With over 30 world class golf courses, the Dominican Republic is also a top-class golf destination. In 2015, the country received first prize in the category "Best golf destination in Latin America and Caribbean" from the International Association of Golf Tour Operators (IAGTO).

With so many beautiful natural settings like romantic waterfalls, breathtaking coasts and idyllic accommodations, Dominican Republic is a top destination for weddings, honeymoons and romance. Many world class-resorts and hotels also cater to MICE groups for an excellent, friendly service and dynamic meeting venues.



## What you need to know

### WHAT'S NEW?

A new seaside destination of Tropicalia - Miches on the north-eastern coast of the island will soon be among popular beach areas of the Dominican Republic including Punta Cana-Bávaro, La Romana-Bayahibe, Boca Chica-Juan Dolio, Puerto Plata-Cabarete and Samaná. The Dominican President Danilo Medina has inaugurated a new highway between the city of Miches and Sabana de la Mar, and the luxury hotel chain Four Seasons has started construction of the first hotel in this region.

Tropicalia-Miches hides beautiful virgin beaches (e.g. La Vacama, Esmeralda and Arriba Miches) and natural lagoons (Redonda and Limón). There is a wide range of sport activities in the Cordillera Oriental or sightseeing trips to the National Park Los Haitises. The Samaná Bay is also an exceptional area due to the presence of numerous endemic species of plants and animals. In the winter season, humpback whales arrive to reproduce and give birth to their cubs.

[GoDominicanRepublic.pl](http://GoDominicanRepublic.pl)

# PERFECT FIGURE WITH THE SPEED OF LIGHT



It's now possible to remove fat on your abdomen with the power of the light! It may sound as a futuristic dream, but you can now enjoy the benefits of the latest technology, which uses a laser beam of unprecedented length to get rid of even 25 percent fat tissue in just 25 minutes. We are talking to **Kalina Ben Sira**, the president of La Perla Clinic, about the latest standards in contouring the body.

## Your clinic is now equipped with a new revolutionary device. What is so innovative about it?

We are continuously following the trends. SculpSure is loved by stars all over the world, so it seemed natural that we had to buy it, as well. I had been on a hunt for this device for more than a year since it became available in the US. It has been FDA-approved for non-invasive lipolysis of the flanks and abdomen, following seven years of thorough research. In other words: it truly works!

## Was it enough for you to decide to bring it to Poland? To be true, all such devices are advertised as highly effective.

I was convinced to purchase SculpSure following a conversation with an English doctor who at that time had been working with the device for four months. She was very enthusiastic about it, telling me about the treatment and possible techniques it can be combined with other devices. I'm talking here about draining devices and those that thicken the skin, because such combination produces remarkably good slimming effects. I saw the abdomens of numerous patients before and after the procedure, I even tested it on myself and I must admit that I haven't seen such spectacular effects for a long time.

## Are Poles eager to undergo this procedure?

La Perla Clinic in Łowiecka street in Warsaw received the device at the end of April this year, where it had a small welcome committee. Since that time we have performed more than 40 treatments. Interestingly, half of our patients are men!

## Why is SculpSure so unique?

It's so unique because it's the first device to utilize a diode laser. It is equipped with four flat applicators, each 24 sq cm. They can be used in systems to cover the area of 96 sq cm. Doctors indicate how beneficial this solution is. With such a structure you can control precisely the course and the area of the procedure, which is extremely important for obtaining good effects.

## What makes the device so effective in slimming the body?

During the procedure the device emits energy which heats fat cells located up to 3 centimetres under the skin to the temperature of 42-47 degrees Celsius, causing their irreversible disintegration without disturbing adjacent tissue. The damaged cells are then excreted by the body within three months, so the real visible effects are seen after several weeks. During that time the body also produces more collagen, which helps thicken the skin.



## Does it mean that you can achieve the same result as with hours spent at the gym and months of a restrictive diet?

Not exactly. The healthy lifestyle along with physical activity are always the most important. I have been jogging everyday for several years. Despite this, I also had in my body some persistent fat that I couldn't get rid of. It often happens that even after an impressive weight loss the locally accumulated fat is still there. SculpSure is able to remove this type of fat, whether it's on your stomach, flanks or thighs. In case of larger fat deposits the procedure works equally well, as it can be repeated to improve the overall effect.

## How does the procedure work?

It takes only 25 minutes, it's non-invasive and completely painless. Most patients feel tingling and warmth, but in my case before I felt any heat, my nerve endings were already feeling the cooling wave. The procedure is completely safe, doesn't require aftercare and you can return to your daily activities right after it's completed. What's more, the activity is even advisable to reinforce the effects which can also be achieved with draining rituals, such as Icoon, LPG Endermologie or CosmoSoft.

## It all sounds so simple and amazing!

Because this is what SculpSure is. It's more than 100 kilograms of advanced electronics and extraordinary technology. It uses the science of light to shape your body and guarantees 25 percent less fat in just 25 minutes.





# Udany sposób budowania prestiżu

Konferencja to nie tylko spotkanie grupy ludzi. To budowanie wspólnej więzi, wymiana doświadczeń, zdobywanie wiedzy oraz kształtowanie relacji biznesowych. Hotel mający świadomość znaczenia tego wydarzenia to pierwszy, bardzo ważny warunek zorganizowania udanej konferencji.

## Konferencja stanowi celebrację ważnego wydarzenia

w życiu firmy lub branży. Podczas organizacji tego wydarzenia chcemy mieć pewność, że zajmą się nami profesjonaliści. Inwestujemy bowiem nie tylko pieniądze, lecz także czas i zaangażowanie – inwestujemy w wizerunek naszej firmy.

**Dla kogo konferencja nad morzem?** Konferencja nad morzem to idealne miejsce dla klientów ceniących oryginalność oraz chcących przekazać uczestnikom konferencji więcej niżeli zwykłe spotkanie. Lokalizacja w północnej części Polski umożliwia połączenie pracy z relaksem nad morzem. Bliskość morza i plaży oraz wszechobecna przestrzeń relak-

suje i inspiruje, pobudzając w ludziach nowe pokłady energii. Odległość przestaje mieć znaczenie, natomiast szansa zapamiętania konferencji wzrasta wielokrotnie.

Wydaje się, iż indywidualne podejście to w dzisiejszych czasach normalna zasada funkcjonowania podczas organizacji konferencji i eventów. Tymczasem wiele hoteli nadal posiada szablonową ofertę. Jeden z kluczowych elementów stanowi płynna komunikacja pomiędzy zespołem hotelowym a organizatorami, zarówno przed jak i w trakcie trwania konferencji. Elastyczne podejście hotelu oraz szybka reakcja na pojawiające się nowe okoliczności czy potrzeby organizatorów mają decydujące znaczenie dla sukcesu przedsięwzięcia.

## Komentarz

Krzysztof Staniszewski - Kierownik Działu Konferencji  
[k.staniszewski@aquariusspa.pl](mailto:k.staniszewski@aquariusspa.pl), [www.AquariusSPA.pl](http://www.AquariusSPA.pl)



Gdyby dążyć do wskazania jednego kluczowego czynnika gwarantującego sukces organizacyjny konferencji, wskazałbym indywidualne potraktowanie organizatora pamiętając, że w hotelu nie ma klienta, a jest Gość. Standard pięcigwiazdkowego hotelu zobowiązuje do zapewnienia największego komfortu, a niezapomnianą atmosferę tworzą ludzie wykonujący swoją pracę z pasją. W związku z powyższym zachęcam wszystkich organizatorów konferencji do indywi-

dualnego kontaktu z osobą, której mają powierzyć organizację konferencji oraz osobiste odwiedzenie miejsca. Nie należy wybierać hotelu wyłącznie na podstawie strony internetowej i otrzymanej, wstępnej oferty. To właśnie atmosfera panująca w hotelu oraz sposób komunikacji przekonają nas czy jest to odpowiednie miejsce do stworzenia prestiżowej konferencji.

## Dlaczego konferencja nad morzem to dobry wybór?

Hotel AQUARIUS SPA\*\*\*\*\* w Kołobrzegu stanowi doskonały przykład połączenia profesjonalizmu organizacyjnego z tworzeniem niezapomnianych wspomnień. Dzięki przestrzeni wystawienniczej, komfortowym salom z nowoczesnym wyposażeniem oraz możliwością ich dzielenia, ograniczeniem staje się jedynie wyobraźnia. Na długo w pamięci Gości pozostanie konferencja, podczas której jej uczestnicy skakali z bungee tuż przed hotelem.



# PERFECT TRAVEL COMPANION





The car is an inseparable companion for most of our trips.  
We want it to be comfortable, safe and modern,  
regardless of whether it's a limousine used primarily  
in business trips, or a family estate,  
which needs to fit a lot of luggage.



The new Audi A4 is a vehicle that meets all these conditions. The engineers from the design studios in Ingolstadt and Neckarsulm made sure that the new model combines the latest technology with innovative design and functionality.

No doubt, the new Audi A4 and A4 Avant (estate) are captivating models. The bold, horizontal lines at the front and rear highlight the width of the car. The smooth design gives the impression of sporty elegance, which is so typical of the make. The optional LED or Matrix LED headlights feature sleek turn signals with dynamised display to provide maximum illumination of the road and maintain a constant high beam without dazzling other road users.

#### AUTOMATIC TAILGATE

In the basic configuration the boot of the new A4 Avant offers the capacity of 505 litres, which increases dramatically to impressive 1510 litres after folding the rear seats. The motorized sliding compartment cover, as well as the electrically opening tailgate are available already as a standard-fit. In addition you can opt for sensors that control the automatic opening and closing of the

tailgate. When equipped with this feature, the car recognizes the swinging movement of the leg near the boot and opens the lid.

#### VIRTUAL COCKPIT

The new Audi A4 is packed with numerous smart technical solutions. The most innovative of them is, undoubtedly, the Audi Virtual Cockpit. This digital dashboard equipped with a 12.3-inch LCD screen, displays the most useful information in a form of HD images. Changing the required settings, you can observe there e.g. the navigation screen or other indicators that resemble the classic analogue gauges.

The infotainment system can be operated with the MMI terminal situated on the central console. The most advanced version (MMI Navigation plus with MMI touch and a large 8.3-inch screen) is equipped with a special touchpad located on the front surface of the knob. You can use it for zooming in or out images, as well as enter characters. The whole logic behind MMI, along with the smart text search, resembles the way you operate a smartphone. The natural voice control system processes the commands given with colloquial language, for example: "I want to call John Smith".

#### SEVEN ENGINES

The new Audi A4 and A4 Avant are available with seven various engine options: three petrol TFSI motors and three TDI ones. Their power has also increased. Now, the weakest motor produces 90 kW (120 hp), while the most powerful one enjoys 185 kW (252 hp) of power. Importantly, the increase in power goes together with lower fuel consumption, up to 21 percent. All the power units are economical, efficient and offers sporty performance, as well as smooth running.

#### DRIVER ASSISTS

With a number of remarkable driving assists, the new Audi A4 and A4 Avant set the standard in their class. The efficiency assistant helps the driver save fuel, the Audi active lane assist helps you keep the right lane of the road, while the adaptive cruise control with the built-in radar and Stop & Go function relieves the driver when the traffic is slow. Other novelties for the improved security include the parking assist, the rear cross traffic assist, the exit warning, the avoidance assist and the turning assist along with passenger protection systems Audi Pre-Sense. The offer also includes a camera-based traffic-sign recognition assist.

**Andrzej Strzelecki**





# FM LOGISTIC - THE ROAD TO EXCELLENCE



**E**xpansion in Germany, India and the Balkans, as well as the development of transportation, including the general cargo - these are the main foundations of the new global strategy by FM Logistic Group. The operator has announced further investment in innovative solutions to optimize the supply chains. The main priority in Poland continues to be the development of general cargo services and e-commerce projects, as well as a dynamic growth of transport services.

FM Logistic is a company with a 50-year success story, which through gradual and consistent development turned a small family business into an international enterprise. Today, the company is the leading contract logistics operator on the Polish market, as well as the country's third largest logistics business in terms of turnover. The commitment of the company is highly appreciated by its customers who are especially fond of the quality, timeliness and professional approach represented by its staff. FM Logistic offers 9 logistics platforms as well as 17 transshipment hubs.

The company operates in line with the adopted strategy entitled "Ambition 2022". How is FM Logistic Group able to maintain the competitive edge?

## TERRITORIAL EXPANSION

Implementing its strategy, FM Logistic Group has begun competing for the Ger-

man, Balkan and Indian markets. In 2016 the group took over the Indian company Spear Logistics. For 2017 FM Logistic plans to launch new platforms in the vicinity of Katowice, Łódź and Poznań, which altogether will provide an additional 30,000 sqm of storage area (expandable to 100,000 sqm).

In Poland the operator focuses on the development of transport services, which is predicted to translate into a 50 percent of the turnover in each of the countries where the group operates. The expansion of the fleet constitutes around 20 percent of the yearly investment budget.

Piotr Sukiennik, the Managing Director of FM Logistic in Poland, emphasizes that the idea of multi-customer platforms and the comprehensive offer along with maintaining a constant high quality, prove to be a right choice for the company.

## INVESTING IN INNOVATIONS

As part of the adopted strategy, the operator has announced further investment in innovative solutions to optimize the supply chains. The main priority in Poland continues to be the development of general cargo services and e-commerce projects, as well as a dynamic growth of transport services. This must trigger investment in infrastructure and new technologies.

"Extensive infrastructure and know-how are an enormous advantages for our business partners. It's obvious that good logis-

tics, especially nowadays, allows you to outpace your competition and reach out to your customers in a more effective way," says Piotr Sukiennik.

One of the key projects in this area is Citylogin - fully ecological electric vehicles that are already used for deliveries in selected European cities such as Rome, Madrid, Milan or Prague. Next year this service will also be offered on the Polish market.

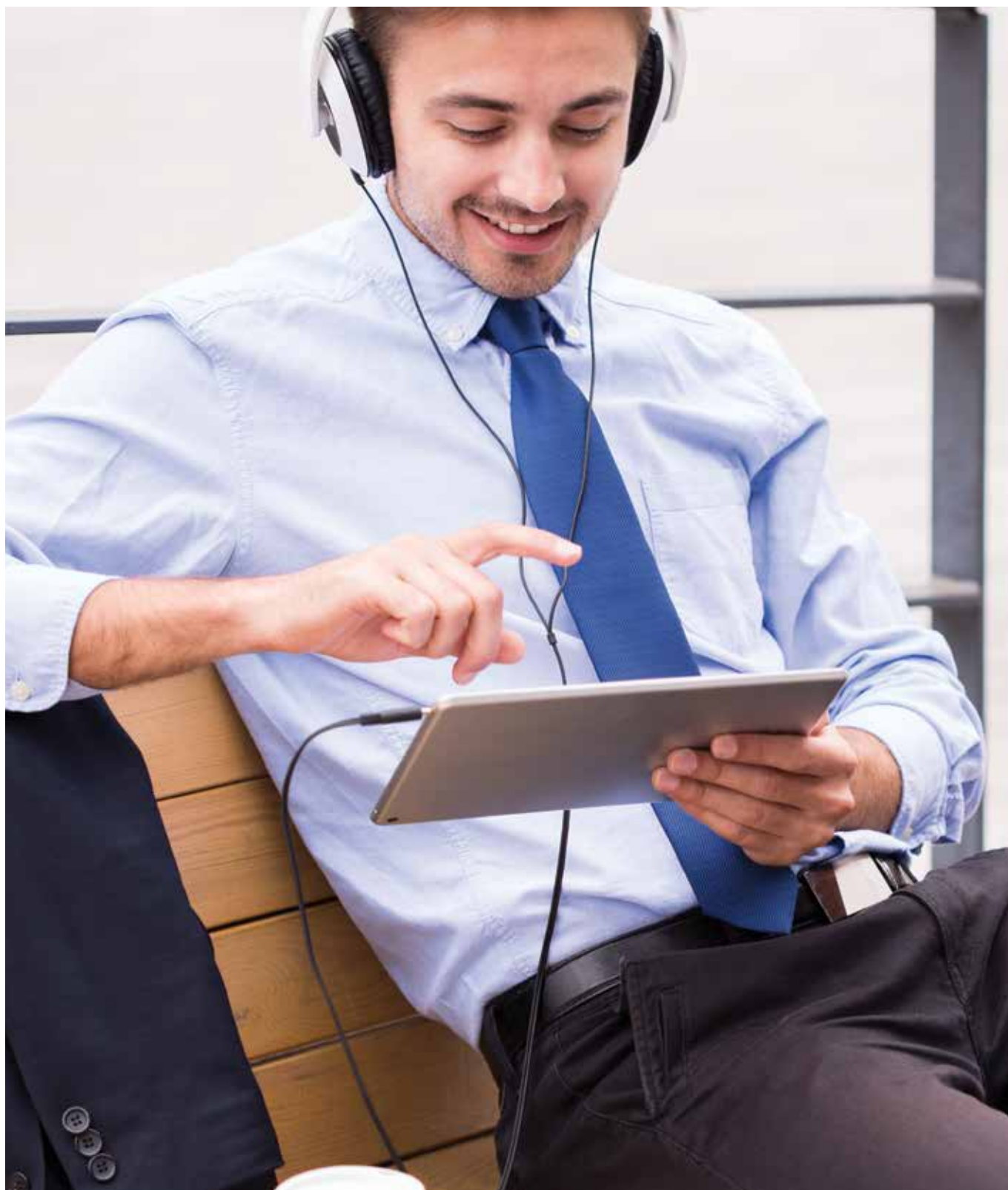
## LOGISTICALLY RELIABLE

The modern technological facilities, investment and development, as well as own know-how, these are the key elements that determine success. The most important factor is to learn and understand the customer needs without which no logistics chain would be complete.

FM Logistic is a partner for its customers, at the same time serving as an advisor and expert recommending the best solutions. Well organised logistics allows you to outpace your competitions and meeting the needs of customers.

Maintaining the existing contracts, increasing the storage area along with its filling, investment in infrastructure, as well as obtaining new contracts for transporting goods - these are the three pillars of the strategy of FM Logistic for the next three years. The company hopes that this will allow it to achieve its primary goal, that is the €2 bln turnover by 2022.

More info at [www.fmlogistic.com](http://www.fmlogistic.com)



# EASY LISTENING

**Steve Dinneen** reveals the best headphones to take on the road.





## Elegant minimalism

### SENNHEISER URBANITE

**Price:** £120 [en-uk.sennheiser.com](http://en-uk.sennheiser.com)

If it's all about that bass, you can't go wrong with Sennheiser's ultra-stylish Urbanite range, which produces a wonderfully deep, natural sound. The headphones are beautifully made, with minimalist lines, a range of bands (denim is my favourite) and comfortable padding. Foldable, they have stainless steel hinges and come with a pouch. If you're on a trip to Europe this month, head to a branch of Freitag to pick up a limited-edition pair incorporating recycled truck tarpaulin (€190; available in-store only).

**PROS** Great bass

**CONS** Moderate noise leakage



## Apple-inspired

### KEF M500

**Price:** £250 [kefstore.co.uk](http://kefstore.co.uk)

British company KEF is known for its high-quality audio equipment, and these beautiful on-ear headphones are no exception; crafted from lightweight aluminium, they have more than a hint of Apple about them. Features include a "smart hinge", which allows you to rest them flat on a table or fold up to store in their accompanying case, breathable ear-pads that are comfortable enough to wear on a long-haul flight, and a choice of two detachable cables, one of which is equipped with a mic for making phone calls. They have a nice, clear sound with big bass.

**PROS** Very luxurious finish

**CONS** Not the snugest fit



## Perfect in the air

### AKG N60 NC

**Price:** £230 [uk.akg.com](http://uk.akg.com)

Made with flights in mind, don the on-ear N60 NCs and enter a world blissfully free of the sound of engines. The noise-cancelling technology is first rate, giving you clear, crisp audio and, when the battery runs out, you can use them in passive mode – a must-have feature for extended use. They come with a dual headphone jack adapter so you can plug them into those annoying ports that plane seats still have. They're crafted from aluminium, memory foam and leather, and are lightweight, folding into a tiny pouch.

**PROS** Brilliant noise cancelling

**CONS** No volume control on the wire



## Quality costs

### AUDEZE LCD-4

**Price:** £3,299 [audeze.com](http://audeze.com)

The US manufacturer of these ultra-fine headphones says they are the most advanced in the world, throwing around phrases like "the most powerful magnetic flux density in existence". What does that mean? Who knows – but the sound is incredible, as you'd expect from a set in this price range. They also look great, with polished wood, leather and a grill that will up your cool factor. The LCD 4 is for audiophiles, and they're frankly wasted on your iPhone, but if money is no object put them on your shopping list.

**PROS** Look amazing, incredible sound

**CONS** Ludicrously expensive



## For everyone

### AUDIO TECHNICA ATH-MSR7

**Price:** £170 [audio-technica.com](http://audio-technica.com)

These over-ear cans from Audio Technica are all things to all people: nicely constructed, classy and reasonably priced. They're high-resolution, giving clean, detailed audio that will do justice to a quality home stereo, but are comfortable and portable enough to listen to on the go. Made from leather with a gunmetal finish, design flourishes include red flashes behind the cans, but nothing garish. The detachable cable features a microphone for calls, volume and playback controls.

**PROS** Great all-rounder

**CONS** Others in price range have the edge in audio quality



## For movies fans

### SONY MDR-HW700DS

**Price:** £399 [sony.co.uk](http://sony.co.uk)

If you plan on watching movies as you whizz across the globe at 600mph, then my top recommendation is Sony's excellent wireless audio offering. Featuring 9.1 channels of virtual surround sound, these will make you forget you're sitting on a plane, and the directional audio is great for playing games. Chunky and well made, the soft headband won't make your head ache and, being wireless (with a 12-hour battery life), you won't have to unplug to let someone clamber past you to get to the loo.

**PROS** Great for movies and games

**CONS** Not the most attractive headphones



## Wireless gem

### B&W P5 WIRELESS

**Price:** £330 [bowers-wilkins.co.uk](http://bowers-wilkins.co.uk)

Bowers and Wilkins is one of those brands that gets everything right. While most wireless headphones experience a commensurate drop-off in quality, you'd be hard pressed to notice the difference with these. Everything is perfectly crafted, from the luxurious soft leather build to crystal-clear sound, which captures both the highest wail and the deepest rumble. The battery lasts for an impressive 17 hours, and you can plug in a cable (included) to carry on listening.

**PROS** Best quality wireless headphones

**CONS** No Bluetooth auto-reconnect



## Elegant and affordable

### DENON AH-MM400

**Price:** £246 [denon.co.uk](http://denon.co.uk)

These Denon over-ear headphones are the anti-Beats, a million miles from the garish colours and styling of Dr Dre's former company. That's not to say they're shy and retiring – the sleek walnut finish is just as show-offy in its own way. These headphones say, "I'm listening to Bach", even if your playlist really features Justin Bieber. They may look like the archetypal "house headphone", but they're great for everyday use, with a balance of comfort and quality. If you're looking for an all-round over-ear set, it's hard to see past these.

**PROS** Lovely finish

**CONS** Plastic rim detracts from design



## Comfortable

### RHA T10i

**Price:** £150 [rha-audio.com/uk](http://rha-audio.com/uk)

These stainless steel headphones from RHA feature mouldable over-ear hooks, giving a super-snug fit. They have a real air of quality, as well as conveniently colour-coded bands for distinguishing left from right. The audio quality is high for in-ear plugs, with good detail and nice solid bass. They also allow you to change the sound style by using screw-in tuning filters.

**PROS** Exceptional build quality

**CONS** Heavy for in-ear buds



## Sporty type

### JAYBIRD BLUEBUDS X BBT1MB

**Price:** £100 [jaybirdsport.com](http://jaybirdsport.com)

If you're a gym fanatic, you probably already know about Jaybird, the wireless headphone manufacturer that makes workout-friendly products. The Bluebuds X Bluetooth earphones are lightweight, comfortable and come with a range of ear-plug options. They're rain-resistant and sweat-proof, and the Bluetooth works up to ten metres from your phone.

**PROS** Sweat and rain resistant

**CONS** The USB charging port is delicate



## Hush, hush!

### BOSE QUIETCOMFORT 20

**Price:** £230 [bose.co.uk](http://bose.co.uk)

If you need a pair of noise-cancelling headphones for running, as well as sitting on an aircraft, these should be at the top of your list. They give great sound, come with a range of moulded ear plugs and are understated. The noise cancellation works for up to 16 hours from a two-hour charge and, when it runs out, you can use them like regular headphones.

**PROS** Extremely comfortable

**CONS** Battery unit on cable is annoying



## Perfectly fitted

### SHURE SE846

**Price:** £799 [shure.co.uk](http://shure.co.uk)

These in-ear headphones produce incredibly detailed sound that really requires high-definition audio files to do them justice. They will block out background noise, although not as much as a pair of noise-cancelling headphones. A nice touch is the ability to fine-tune your music by choosing from three different filters (small rubber tubes that come with the product).

**PROS** Customisable sound options

**CONS** Need high-quality audio files to justify the expense



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# NEW QUALITY OF HOME ENTERTAINMENT



One of the recent advancements is High Dynamic Range (HDR), which allows production studios, content distributors, and TV manufacturers to offer brighter and more colourful video.

**W**e love TV. And as technology has evolved, the collective industry has come up with ways to present better picture quality to make the final viewing experience more lifelike. Some of the improvements came through upgraded industry standards. For example, the entertainment industry has gradually increased screen resolution to make clearer images; from Standard Definition (SD) to High Definition (HD) and now Ultra High Definition (UHD). Another recent advancement is High Dynamic Range (HDR), which allows production studios, content distributors, and TV manufacturers to offer brighter and more colourful video.

In 2015, Samsung started to apply quantum dot technology to its flagship SUHD TVs. Now with more and more industry partners gearing towards HDR, the marriage between Quantum Dot technology and HDR offers viewers a whole new era of home entertainment.

## HDR1000: EVEN 1000 NITS

Although there are many devices that can show HDR content, not all HDRs are equal. Colours are seen through the light and in the case of HDR, where there is a much wider range of luminance and a richer palette of colours, it's crucial for a TV to handle the brighter side of the spectrum. HDR1000 means the device is capable of showing at least 1000 nits\* at peak brightness. This intensity of luminance is considered an industry-top level. Dealing with higher brightness levels poses challenges as it normally means the display device consumes more energy. Higher brightness levels can also cause the device to generate more heat and without proper measures, excessive heat could pose a threat on the product's lifespan.

## THE POWERFUL QUANTUM DOTS

With SUHD TVs that feature Quantum dot technology, however, Samsung has an answer that allows TV sets to hit those brightness levels of up to 1000 nits without the pain points.

This is in part thanks to the photo-active property of quantum dots, which makes them very energy-efficient. Samsung was actually able to improve the overall energy efficiency of its 2016 SUHD TVs while enabling the set to hit 1000 nits.

## BILLION COLOURS

Quantum dots also emit a very pure colour, which helps quantum dot displays show much more accurate colours. And by using these accurate reds, greens, and blues, it is able to display broader range of colours. On the other hand, light from conventional fluorescents tend to get mixed with adjacent colours, dropping the range of colours conventional TVs can show. In fact, Samsung's 2016 SUHD TVs with Quantum Dot technology are able to show up to one billion colours – 64 times more colour than the average TV. This broad range of colours, along with the level of brightness quantum dot allows SUHD TVs to show, allows Samsung to offer richer pictures – closer to the real world than ever.

\* Nit is a standard unit of luminance.

For more info about SUHD go to: [samsung.com/global/tv/quantum-dot-display](http://samsung.com/global/tv/quantum-dot-display)





## one number

to rozwiązanie zunifikowanej komunikacji, które pozwala na dostęp do usług z dowolnego miejsca na świecie.

**Poczuj swobodę i komfort komunikacji, gdy Twój numer jest zawsze tam gdzie jesteś TY!**

# 4 HOURS IN... MALTA

La Valletta, the southernmost European capital, has its unique charm and mystery. Mdina seems to be a model of a perfect baroque city. Suffice to say, that several scenes of “Troy” featuring Brad Pitt were shot on the nearby Paradise Bay beach. But these aren’t all the reasons why you should visit Malta.



The capital of Malta is often referred to as “the one giant open-air museum”.

**M**alta is one of the smallest countries in the world, but it offers a plethora of attractions. It's visited by archaeology and history enthusiasts, art and architecture lovers, fans of Mediterranean cuisine, good wine, as well as water sports aficionados. The country is also Europe's warmest country, with the average temperature of 32 degrees Celsius in summer, and 13 degrees Celsius in winter.

## THE GRAND MASTER'S PALACE

The capital of Malta is often referred to as “the one giant open-air museum”. This city of colourful balconies (resembling Lima in this aspect) has an extraordinary history and is packed with monuments and mysterious spots.

One of the most fascinating buildings in Valletta is the Grand Master's Palace. Completed in 1574, it quickly became the symbol of the Order of Malta's power and wealth, and was its headquarters for many years. Its interiors are decorated with paintings and friezes depicting the history of the Knights of Malta, and portraits of the great masters. Currently, it's the seat of the Maltese Parliament and President. You can visit a few rooms only at fixed hours, provided no parliamentary sessions are held at that moment. Then there is the armoury adjacent to the palace, which best captures the spirit of the place and gives you an idea on what the streets of this knight city looked like in the past.

## ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

This unforgettable temple that can't be compared with any other in the world, was erected within just four years. From the outside it may not look extremely impressive, but the interiors will appeal to both tourists and art enthusiasts alike. It's commonly known that the Knights of Malta appreciated beauty, and the generosity of their patronage is best seen in the interiors of the St John's Cathedral, considered one of the greatest examples of religious Baroque art. Inside, you will find numerous graves of





Malta is visited by archaeology and history enthusiasts, art and architecture lovers, fans of Mediterranean cuisine, good wine, as well as water sports aficionados.

noble families of the 16th and 17th centuries with ornamented tombstones and the story of their lives written on them. While you walk around the cathedral, remember to look down from time to time. Painting aficionados come to Valletta to see one of the most famous works by Caravaggio – the “Beheading of Saint John the Baptist”, currently located in the temple’s aisle, along with a collection of other paintings by the master. After leaving the cathedral, you

can sit down for a cup of coffee or a glass of wine in one of the nearby cafes, and then go on a tour around the city, where influences of many different cultures blend together. Alternatively, you can visit the National Archaeological Museum, home to an extensive collection of items that will help you understand the island better.

#### DINGLI CLIFFS AND BLUE GROTTO

Situated south of Malta, the Dingli cliffs grow out of the sea to the height of nearly 200 metres, creating one of the most spectacular and picturesque views around here. You can get there by bus from Valletta and spend there the whole day. Heading down the road along the Dingli cliffs, scattered in the south of the island, towards the Blue Grotto, you will reach St Mary Magdalene chapel. At the back there is a bench, where you can sit to enjoy the sight of the sky and the rocks. If you stroll along the coastline towards east,

you will get to the spectacular Blue Grotto, considered one of the biggest attractions on the island. You will see there a small beach and a bathing area in a bay. The main attraction of the region is a 20-minute cruise to see the local caves and coves filled with blue and azure waters.

#### MDINA

When planning a trip to Malta, you mustn’t forget about Mdina. The former capital is home to merely 400 citizens and is often referred to as “the silent city”. Located at the highest point of the island, Mdina is surrounded by 25-metre tall defensive sand-coloured walls and is an example of a perfect baroque city. Everything about it is authentic, noble and bears the patina of passing time. Entering the cathedral and the museum, and wandering around the city streets to soak up the unique atmosphere is a definite must.

#### When? How? Where?

You can visit Malta all year round. In the summer it’s scorching hot, in autumn – pleasantly warm, while winters are mild. Wizz Air offers two direct flights a week from Warsaw (Wednesdays and Sundays) and two flights a week from Gdańsk (Tuesdays and Saturdays); wizzair.com



# ASK PETER

## Letters

**Piotr Kalita** is related with air transport market for almost 20 years. He is specializing in corporate and diplomatic travel segment. Have a question? - ask Piotr. Mail your question to: [redakcja@businessstraveller.pl](mailto:redakcja@businessstraveller.pl)

### What is ESTA?

*I'm organizing a trip to Boston for a conference in September this year. I have arranged all the visas for Polish employees, but a German employee asked me about the ESTA visa and new restrictions. In my department there are also two French people.*

**Krystyna**

Dear Krystyna

Let's start with a clarification that ESTA is not a type of visa, but a traveller authorization and registration system (ESTA stands for System for Travel Authorization) used for citizens of non-visa waiver countries travelling to the US. Polish citizens still need the American visa. Most EU countries participate in the Visa Waiver Program (VWP). Those travellers don't need the visa. However, it's necessary to register in the ESTA system. Note that the registration doesn't mean that you will be given a permit to enter the United States. The final decision is taken at the border by an officer of the Immigration Office. You can complete the form online, it's not difficult or time-consuming. Remember to register at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled date of arrival. Otherwise, the data may not be processed automatically. After registration is complete, you get a reference number. The ESTA document is valid for two years.

Recently new restrictions have been introduced. The most important one concerns the type of passport. All the travellers need a biometric passport, otherwise the registration is rejected. A further restriction is associated with obtaining a visa in Syria, Iran, Iraq or Sudan. If you visited one of these countries after 1 March 2011, you won't be able to use ESTA. You need to contact the American Consulate and place a regular visa application. French and German workers can naturally take a simplified registration form, provided they have biometric passports and haven't visited any of the countries I mentioned earlier.

### Overbooking

*My boss had a problem during a trip to Munich. I couldn't check him in online, I kept getting a message that the check-in wasn't possible. I tried three times with the same effect. At the airport, it turned out not everybody could get on board, as there were too many passengers. My boss took the next flight. Why did it even happen? What's more, our agent can't guarantee that it won't happen again.*

**Janina**

Dear Janina

Your boss experienced a classic overbooking situation. It regularly happens that airlines allow to book more seats, so that the total number exceeds the plane capacity, which is known as overbooking. Usually there are some passengers missing (no-show) for every flight – and the reasons can be different: delay of the previous flight, last-minute change of the business plan, a lengthy business meeting, health issues, etc. In such a situation some of the seats are vacant and can't be sold one more time. The airlines carefully monitor the number of reservations and no-show passengers. Based on previous data and thanks to the use of revenue management systems, a decision allowing overbooking can be made.

Sometimes, however, it happens that all the travellers who booked their tickets turn up. Then we indeed have a problem, as not all of them can be given the boarding pass with a specific seat number. Some people need to take another flight.

The passengers are protected by the EU regulations, which require compensation payments and a secured seat on the next available plane.

No agent can guarantee that a similar situation won't happen at some point. On the contrary, overbooking may be popular on well-known business and tourist routes, especially during holidays.

The safest option is to ask the agent to assign you a seat with a number when making a reservation. Check-in must be made in advance. It's usually possible 24 hours ahead of the time of departure.





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Więcej informacji: [www.siemens-home.pl](http://www.siemens-home.pl)

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