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CITIES FOR HOLIDAYS

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HOLIDAYS IN THE CITY CAN BE FUN!

Those who don't like lying lazily on a beach chair, don't feel like hiking along crowded mountain trails, try to avoid noisy lakes full of speeding motorboats, will probably be glad to go on holidays in the city. Cities can be truly beautiful, interesting, inspiring and... full of mysteries. They can impress and surprise, which can't really be said about the predictable atmosphere of most beaches. If you decide to visit Barcelona or Seville in July or August, I can guarantee you won't be bored for even a second. The Norwegian Bergen, which is considered the capital of the land of fjords, offers lots of sights, but also delicious food, including herring, shrimp and fresh crab. Eivissa, one of the most intriguing places in the Balearics, isn't just about monuments, but also the best clubs and discos in the world, which allow you to relax and forget about everyday life. Those who haven't been to Riga, should definitely make up for this negligence. This city, considered one of the most beautiful in Europe, will amaze even the most discerning travellers.

Just like the unknown, beautifully located Bonifacio, which is considered the most photogenic city of Corsica.

Those cities, which we write about in this month's issue, are just the beginning. I wish you a wonderful holiday, hoping that you will eventually find a city that will both enchant and inspire you. Enjoy your reading.

Marzena Mróz

Marzena Mróz
Editor-in-Chief



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SAS

Łódź- Copenhagen

NEW SAS ROUTE IN WINTER FLIGHT SCHEDULE

With the beginning of the winter schedule, SAS Scandinavian Airlines will launch a new route from Łódź to Copenhagen. With SAS now operating at Łódź Airport, the city has received the first and only direct regular connection to a major international hub, which may be crucial fact, especially for foreign investors who increasingly express their interest in the region. Cruises on the new route will start on the October 29, 2012 year and will be carried out six times a week: on all days except Saturdays, according to the schedule:

- departure from Copenhagen at 12.20 am, arrival in Łódź at 1.35 pm,
- departure from Łódź, at 2.15 pm, arriving in Copenhagen at 3.30 pm.

The flights will be operated by CRJ200 aircraft which can seat up to 50 passengers. Ticket prices start at PLN 435 (one way, all taxes and fees included).

The aircraft departing Łódź will land at Copenhagen Kastrup airport, which is the main hub of SAS airline and one of the most favourite ports among passengers. Kastrup has won many prestigious awards, mostly thanks to its passenger-friendly characteristics and cosy atmosphere.



Air France KLM

Stay online

INTERNET ON BOARD

Air France and KLM have announced the launch of a joint Internet connection programme on board their aircraft. Passengers traveling on long-haul flights will soon have access to global network resources and will be able to communicate via email. Air France and KLM are planning



to launch the testing programme on selected intercontinental routes since February 2013. This will be possible thanks to cooperation with Panasonic Avionics. The service will allow customers to stay connected with the on-line environment through text messages or e-mails. The Internet access will enable broadcast of television and radio programmes, thus considerably enriching the present offer. On a website specially designed for online access, a wide range of services will be offered for free, such as the latest news, various TV channels, relevant information on the airline company and the destination chosen, as well as a unique online magazine offer. The Internet access will be available for a flat fee for passengers with laptops, tablets and smartphones with Wi-Fi. It will also be possible to send e-mails and text messages from your mobile phone while you travel.



Hotel

Zakopane

LITWOR IS LIKE THE MOUNTAINS...

... or at least it guarantees similarly incredible experience. This five-star hotel has for years enjoyed a reputation of the most elegant place in the Tatra Mountains.

The hotel offers its guests accommodation in beautifully decorated rooms, exquisite and varied cuisine in Koneser restaurant, as well as ultimate relaxation in the recreation area of the hotel.

Hotel

Best Western Plus

ALEKSANDRÓW PALACE

Best Western - the world's largest hotel family is in top form. This year the hotel group will gain a new member - Alexandrów Palace in Samotwór near Wrocław. This will be the first such hotel in Poland, operating under the brand Best Western Plus offering higher standards of stay. The unique offer will certainly be appreciated by both individual travellers wishing to relax in luxury and business customers. The hotel will start operating under the new brand in the autumn this year.

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Lufthansa
Airbus A380

LUFTHANSA INAUGURATES „BERLIN” AIRBUS A380

The ninth Airbus A380 in the fleet of Lufthansa has been named "Berlin". The formal ceremony at Berlin's Tegel airport was attended by the mayor of Berlin - Klaus Wowereit, and Lufthansa's CEO Christoph Franz. The symbolic christening of the flagship aircraft of Lufthansa emphasises the importance of the German capital for the development of the leading European airline. Since June, Tegel airport has been a base for 15 Airbus aircraft. Lufthansa Group together with its partners flies from Berlin to 50 cities in Europe and the Mediterranean. For the German carrier the ceremony was continuation of the tradition, which began more than half a century ago. In 1960, Boeing 707-430 aircraft was christened

"Berlin" by the then-mayor of the city, Willy Brandt. Since then, the flagship aircraft of Lufthansa, have always flown bearing the name of the German capital on the fuselage. The new A380 has also been decorated with the city's coat of arms depicting a bear. Similarly to other A380 aircraft, "Berlin" will operate on long-distance flights to the USA and the Far East. Ticket prices for flights from Berlin start at €49 (including taxes and fees, baggage fee, and meals served on board). Passengers can also earn miles in Lufthansa's Miles & More programme. You can book your ticket at lufthansa.com, via hotline on 0801 312 312 and 22 33 81 300, as well as via a travel agency.

Airline
Finnair

CEL – DALEKI WSCHÓD

Finnair, one of the most dynamic European air carriers, is changing its strategy. The airline intends to focus on the most profitable routes between Europe and the Far East, mainly to China. Last year, Finnair recorded a turnover of €2.3 billion, carrying 8 million passengers. It plans to offer 13 connections to the Far East this year with several dozen others in further years. The Finnish carrier wants majority of passengers flying from Europe to the Far East to select the port in Helsinki as their transfer hub. In 2012, Finnair flies to thirteen cities in the Far East, including Tokyo, Nagoya, Osaka, Seoul, Shanghai, Hong - Kong, Singapore, and - most recently the Chinese agglomeration of Chongqing.



Hotel
Novotel Warszawa Airport

NEW INTERIOR



The hotel in Warsaw is one of four Polish Novotel hotels, which in recent months, underwent a thorough renovation. The investment was especially to meet the expectations of guests to EURO 2012 championship. Following the renovation works which were completed in early May, the lobby and the reception area, as well as the bar, the restaurant and some rooms received new decor. The hotel's public spaces are designed in modern style with warm shades of fuchsia and orange. - "The decor of the public spaces is based primarily on geometric shapes, simplicity and functionality. The colours impose good mood and give you energy," says Agnieszka Kowalska, an architect from the design office Tremend, which prepared the renovation project.



Radisson Blu
Rezidor Hotel Group
Dynamic development

NEW RADISSON BLU HOTEL
IN KIEV

The Rezidor Hotel Group, one of the fastest growing hotel companies worldwide and a member of the Carlson Rezidor Hotel Group, announces the Radisson Blu Hotel, Kyiv Podil in Ukraine. The property featuring 163 guest rooms is scheduled to open in Q4 2012. "We are delighted to strengthen our presence in the growing market of Kiev. Seven years ago, we opened our first Radisson Blu hotel here which was the first internationally branded hotel in Kiev and Ukraine. Today, we are pleased to complement our offer with this beautiful property", said Kurt Ritter, President & CEO of Rezidor. The new Radisson Blu Hotel, Kyiv Podil will be located in Podil, the heart of old Kiev, close to the Dnieper River. It will comprise 163 rooms with Radisson Blu signature services such as free high speed internet access, a restaurant, bar and lounge, ample meeting space and a generous wellness centre as well as underground parking bays. The hotel is surrounded by historical buildings and monuments dating back to the 18th century. The area is a favorite tourist destination for those who enjoy strolls along the pleasant pedestrian roads flanked by cafés and boutiques. The square in front of the hotel is an active part of the Kiev cultural community and often used for outdoor public festivities like music concerts and fairs.

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Fashion
Autumn-Winter 2012/2013

SIMPLE CREATIVE PRODUCTS



Guests invited to the show by Simple Creative Products were amazed to see a venue which had been known only to few of them, as they show of the company's autumn collection took place in the interiors of Warsaw Electric Locomotive Depot. "Showing the collection inspired by Dior's New Look in elegant surroundings would be too obvious and we wanted to surprise our guests. "We didn't want to interfere with the nature of the place as we planned to show it as it is on a daily basis. That's why we decided to treat the cars and elevators standing in the depot as a part of the scenery," explained Lidia Kalita – the designer who presented a lot of designs inspired by the 1950s but made of modern fabrics and in futuristic colours. Some of them included coats with large buttons, flared skirts and A-line mini dresses.

The show's final featured appearance of the brand's face, a top model Monika Jac Jagaciak, known for the world's Chanel campaigns. The guests included numerous celebrities, such as Małgorzata Kożuchowska, Małgorzata Socha, Edyta Herbuś, Aleksandra Kwaśniewska, Anna Czaratorska, and the top model Magdalena Frąckowiak, who was the face of Simple CP label last year.



PLL LOT
LOT on holiday
FLY TO BEIRUT

LOT Polish Airlines has resumed direct flights from Warsaw to Beirut, the capital of Lebanon. The connection will be seasonal, which means that the operations will be performed until 16 September 2012, that is until the end of holiday high season.

The route will be served by Embraer aircraft three times a week. Departures from Warsaw (flight LO 145) are scheduled every Saturday, Monday and Wednesday at 10.30 pm. They will arrive in Beirut the following day at 3.00 am. Return flights will depart Beirut (flight LO 146) on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday at 4.00 am. Scheduled arrival date is 6.35 am.

The resumed connection to Beirut has already been quite popular among passengers. Current occupancy rate is 80%. It's worth noting that the first regular connection between Warsaw and Beirut was launched by LO as early as in 1939. The Polish carrier resumed the connection with a stopover in Burgas, and then in Larnaca, in 1980s. In 2010, Beirut was one of nine new connections launched by LOT and now it's a seasonal one.

Charter Flights
Airbus A320
NEW POLISH CARRIER

A new Polish charter airline named Bingo Airways started its operation by launching a new connection on board its first Airbus A320 aircraft. By the end of 2012, the carrier's fleet will increase by three aircraft. Bingo Airways flies to countries of the Mediterranean (Egypt, Turkey, Greece, Spain and Tunisia), departing from Warsaw Chopin Airport and Katowice Pyrzowice.

The new A320 aircraft equipped with IAE V2500 engines have a single class configuration, and take 180 passengers on board.

Promotion
Miles&More

FLY WITH T-MOBILE

T-Mobile has prepared a special promotion for entrepreneurs. If they sign up or extend their current contract with the operator, the can receive up to extra 40,000 miles in the Miles & More programme. The miles can be redeemed, for example, for free flights across Europe. More details at www.t-mobile.pl



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WHAT'S ON

The Most Anticipated Events in July&August

NUREMBERG EARLY DÜRER

Germanisches National
Museum until 2 September

„Early Albrecht Dürer” is the biggest exhibition of works by the artist for over 40 years and the first one devoted to his early work compared to the art of this period. Germanisches Nationalmuseum displays over 200 exhibits. Apart from the works of the master, there are also paintings by his contemporaries, including Hans Pleydenwurf, Michael Wolgemut and Martin Schongauer. The exhibition comprises works of the artist until 1505, including self-portraits and portraits, nature studies, drawings, engravings and woodcuts. der-fruehe-duerer.gnm.de



WARSAW „ART EVERYWHERE THE ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS IN WARSAW 1904-1944 „

Zachęta, until 26 August

This remarkable exhibition shows how art and life intermingled during the times of the Second Polish Republic. It's worth paying special attention to presentation of projects and works which are still present in the city, such as the Airmen's Monument. The exhibition also includes advertisements of that era (posters, flyers, signs and decorations sites) as well as book graphics. One of the most eye-catching items in the exhibition is the reconstructed atrium of the Polish Pavilion at the 1925 exhibition in Paris. Visitors to the exhibition can also see selected fragments of the interior decor aboard Polish Transatlantic cruise ships. For more info go to www.zacheta.art.pl



VIENNA DELICIOUS MOZART CONCERTS

Summer 2012, Viennese restaurants and concert halls

The renowned Vienna Mozart Orchestra plays in equally famous Viennese concert halls of the National Opera, the Musikverein, or the Hofburg. The orchestra's summer concert programme features a remarkable treat. First, the organizers invite you to an exquisite dinner at one of the best Viennese restaurants, and then a page dressed in a Mozart costume escorts them to a carriage which takes them to a concert hall. In the interval guests have the opportunity to enjoy a glass of sparkling wine and to talk to the members of the ensemble. Ticket prices vary from €90 to €250. For more info go to www.viennaconcerts.com



MUNICH SUMMER OPERA FESTIVAL

23 June -31 July

Munich opera festival, which takes place each summer, is rich in tradition. It's known in Germany and abroad as the Münchner Opernfestspiele with performances of soloists supported by Bayerische Staatsoper (Bavarian State Opera), Bayerisches Staatsorchester (Bavarian State Orchestra) and Bayerisches Staatsballett (Bavarian Ballet). The first festival was held in 1875.

There will be two Opera for All performances during the Munich Opera Festival! On two days, the Bavarian State Opera invites you to enjoy an opera and a concert evening in an easy-going, laid-back atmosphere on the Max-Joseph-Platz and on the Marstallplatz. Admission to both events is free! For more info go to www.bayerische.staatsoper.de



SPĘDŹ NIEZAPOMNIANE LATO NA WYSPIE UZNAM.

Bezpośrednio przy pięknej plażowej promenadzie w Heringsdorfie, nasz luksusowy kompleks hotelowy czeka na Ciebie. Hotel położony jest w słicznym parku, składa się z dwóch budynków o charakterze rezydencji, dwóch historycznych willi oraz klubu dla dzieci. Każdy ze 187 pokoi o powierzchni co najmniej 36 m2 jak również przestrzenne apartamenty zapewnią doskonały wypoczynek.

Nasze restauracje serwują zarówno dania wykwintne jak i dania kuchni regionalnej, mamy całą gamę pyszności na każde podniebienie. A wszystkim, którzy szukają ciszy i relaksu, nasze Baltic Sea Grand Spa o powierzchni 2,000 m2 zapewni przyjemną atmosferę. Baseny zewnętrzny i wewnętrzny, przestronna sauna jak również siłownia szybko pozwolą Ci oderwać się od codzienności.

Z bezpośrednimi połączeniami Eurolotu z Warszawy i Krakowa do Heringsdorfu będziesz mógł oddać się niczym niezmaconemu luksusowi w okamgnieniu.

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IDEAL CITIES FOR HOLIDAYS

Cities are becoming an increasingly popular holiday option. You will never be bored in Barcelona, in a bad mood in Riga or have a family quarrel in Seville. **Marzena Mróz** recommends six cities worth exploring this summer





1. BARCELONA

Gaudi, shopping and beaches

One of the most fascinating and inspiring cities in the world. The capital of Catalonia with the famous Rambla - 2-kilometre promenade from Plaça de Catalunya to the monument of Columbus in the port, a city of Gaudi, Miro and Carreras, the fashion and design centre with Gothic Old Town. An ideal place for holidays for those who appreciate good food, sophisticated Hotels, shopping and hot Spanish temperament.

Sights and attractions. The port and La Rambla promenade, where there are dozens of cafes, restaurants and bars serving the famous Spanish starters - tapas; the buildings by Gaudi: Sagrada Familia, Park Güell, Casa Vicens, Casa Batlló, the Gothic Quarter, especially the cathedral from 13th century, Barceloneta - a port district, where you can eat the best seafood, FC football stadium, shops by Avinguda Diagonal and Passeig de Gràcia.

Hotels

Hotel Arts - exceptional!


www.hotelartsbarcelona.com

Hotel Majestic - stylish; www.hotelmajestic.es

Restaurants

7 Portes - legendary! www.7portes.com

El Botafumeiro - famous for its seafood; www.botafumeiro.es

 **Getting there** There's a direct LOT flight from Warsaw.

2. BONIFACIO

The most photogenic city in Corsica.

Bonifacio port, inhabited by only 2,500 people in low season, is surrounded by 60-metre high rocks. The Old Town is situated so close to the spectacular cliffs, that it seems any sea storm could make this beautiful neighbourhood disappear.

Sights and attractions. Upper City with its elegant restaurants and boutiques, Sutta Rocca beach from which you can see rock landforms; a citadel and a vantage point, from which you can admire the spectacular view of La Maniche. You should also visit King Aragon's Steps - there are 187 steps, which, as the legend has it, were curved in rock overnight in 1420.

Hotels


La Caravelle - rooms with the best view; www.hotelrestaurant-lacaravelle-bonifacio.com;

Le Roy D'Aragon - in the heart of the city; www.royaragon.com

Restaurants

Restaurant Du Centre Nautique - elegant, overseeing the port; www.centre-nautique.com

Stella D'Oro - delicacies from land as well as from the sea; www.bonifacio.com

 **Getting there** Take a flight from Warsaw to Nice, and then a ferry or plane to Figari in the south of the island.

3. EIVISSA

The capital of Ibiza, which never sleeps.

If you want the best views, it's best to travel by ship from Barcelona. The sight of the old Dalt Vila town, which stretches from the ship can't be compared to anything else, not only in the Balearic Islands. This city of white houses made of stone and surrounded with oleander bushes, founded by the Phoenicians in the half of the 7th century BC, with a spectacular Santa Maria d'Eivissa Cathedral, during the night changes into an ideal place for dancing and fun.

Sights and attractions.


The old town with its steep and narrow streets, Plaça d'Espanya, with the city hall, a flower and fruit fair Es Mercat Vell, Vara de Rey passage with the best shop in the whole island, beaches: de Talamanca, de ses Figueres, and Sant Rafael, known for its clubs: "Amnesia" and "Privilege".

Hotels

El Palacio - in the very centre of Dalt Vila; www.elpalacio.com; El Corsario - overseeing the bay and the city: www.elcorsario.com

Restaurants

El Cigarral - excellent Mediterranean cuisine; www.elcigarral.com; La Oliva - traditional cuisine of Ibiza, in the centre of the Old Town; www.laolivaibiza.com

 **Getting there** By plane (in summer season there's a direct flight from Warsaw) to Barcelona, and then by ferry.

4. RIGA

It's a green city for lovers.

The capital of Latvia is a very green and picturesque city, located by the River Daugava. Of all its 22 parks, we recommend the one with The Lovers Bridge, where lovers hang padlock on the trees and throw the keys into the river. Apparently, it guarantees your love will last forever.

Sights and attractions. Charming streets with merchant houses typical for northern cities, like Weigh House, House of the Blackheads, as well as a complex of colourful tenement houses called "Three brother"; The old town with St. Peter's church from 1209, Riga



Bonifacio port, inhabited by only 2,500 people in low season, is surrounded by 60-metre high rocks. The Old Town is situated so close to the spectacular cliffs, that it seems any sea storm could make this beautiful neighbourhood disappear.



It's worth taking a ride by Fløibanen funicular railway to one of the seven nearby peaks. They say that if you haven't been there to look at the panorama of the city, you haven't seen Bergen.

Castle from the 14th century, Art Nouveau tenement houses - the most beautiful are on Alberta street, Elizabethes street and Urlandes street.

Hotels

Grand Palace - the best in the city, www.grandpalaceriga.com;
Old City Boutique Hotel – a modern one, in the Old Town, www.oldcityhotel.lv

Restaurants

Put Vejini – Latvian cuisine, www.putvejini.lv;
Nostalgija – European cuisine, www.nostalgija.lv

✈ **Getting there** By car or by plane with Air Baltic from Warsaw or Gdańsk.

5. BERGEN

With a view over fjords.

The whole life of this charming Norwegian city is concentrated around its port and the Hanseatic district of Bryggen, listed as the UNESCO World Heritage site. When visiting a fish fair on the waterside, you can try seafood straight from the fisherman's boat. Bergen is worth seeing especially because of its unique atmosphere. The city is inhabited by 230,000 people, and every day there are interesting events, concerts and festivals. It could be called the cultural centre of Norway.

Sights and attractions. Old merchant houses and warehouses, today housing souvenir

shops, art galleries, restaurants and bars; a park next to Bergenhus Fortress in the north of Bryggen, Troidhaugen museum, where you can learn about the most famous dweller of Bergen - the Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg. At the waterside of Vågen Bay, there is a fish fair of Torget, where you can try fresh herrings, crabs and shrimps, as well as taste the meat of reindeer. In order to see the city from a different perspective, you can take a ride by a funicular rail to Fløyen hill and admire the beautiful views of the neighbourhood.

Hotels

Thon Hotel Bristol – perfectly located; www.thonHotels.com;
Scandic Bergen City – modern and comfortable; www.scandicHotels.com

Restaurants

Wesselstuen – sophisticated; www.wesselstuen.no; Dickens – the best seafood in the heart of the city; www.dickensbergen.no

✈ **Getting there** There's a direct flight with low-budget Air Norwegian from Warsaw, or from Cracow - with a stopover in Oslo.

6. SEVILLE

The city of Carmen and Don Juan

The chorus of a Spanish song goes: "Who haven't seen Seville, has never looked with amazement". It's an ideal place for holiday at every season, in the heat of summer, as well

as during the heavy rain. This is the city of Byron's characters: Don Juan and Carmen Bizeta, as well as the Barber from the opera by Rossini. This is where Magellan started his around-the-world voyage. Today, the city is famous for its nightlife.

Sights and attractions A monumental cathedral with the Giralda, Alkazar - a royal palace, which origins date back to the times of caliphate, and visited by Columbus and Magellan; Barrio de Santa Cruz - a former Jewish district, today full of fashionable shops and restaurants; Plaza de España, where you can sense the atmosphere of the old Seville; Calle Sierpes - a fashionable meeting place stretching from La Campana to Plaza de San Francisco, Plaza Alfalfa - where you can dance all night long - not only flamenco.

Hotels

Casa de Carmona – an aristocratic mansion from 16th century; www.casacarmona.com
Parador Alcazar del Rey Don Pedro – a majestic building with a view over the city; www.parador.es

Restaurants

Corral del Agua – a patio in a 18th century building; www.corraldelagua.es
Egana-Oriza – located near a tobacco factory, where - as the legend has it - Carmen from the opera worked, dishes inspired by Basque cuisine; www.restauranteoriza.com

✈ **Getting there** By plane with a stopover in one of the European cities.



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OLT EXPRESS A320 ECONOMY CLASS



FIRST IMPRESSIONS
I arrived at the airport an hour before the scheduled departure. I could see the airline's check-in desks from a distance, as they are very clearly marked. The check-in procedure went swiftly and the personnel had a very friendly attitude towards passengers. To give an example of this, despite the fact that my boarding pass was already printed, the personnel exchanged it on my request, as I didn't feel like sitting at the back of the plane.

CONTACT
www.oltexpress.pl

FACT FILE
PLANE TYPE Airbus A320
SEATS 180
MAXIMUM SPEED: 871 kmph
SERVICE CEILING: 11,890 m
WINGSPAN: 34.09 m
MAXIMUM WEIGHT: 77,000 kg
PRICE Warsaw-Gdańsk PLN198

board and flight attendants served water on request.

THE SEAT
I had an isle seat in the second row, which was basically in the very front of the plane. I was satisfied with the choice because I was first to receive the meal, juice and coffee. There was no business class on that flight. The seats, which are typical of Airbus, were comfortable, which wasn't that important anyway on such a short flight, but the sense of comfort on board contributed to my good mood.

THE FLIGHT
Although the flight took only 45 minutes and we were offered delicious snacks. The stewardesses served vegetable wraps together with hot and cold beverages. Admittedly, the cabin

crew was very efficient, helpful and attentive. It wasn't easy to serve 180 passengers in just half an hour. Since the weather was fine, the captain managed to make up for the initial delay and we touched the tarmac in Gdańsk at 3.20 pm. We went down the steps onto the apron and then to the terminal where we collected our luggage.

VERDICT
The flight with OLT Express, which is a new player on the market, was pure pleasure. The comfortable flight, professional service, and a competitive price of the ticket, are great incentives to choose the offer of the carrier. At Gdańsk airport you can also hire a Mini one provided by OLT Express at unbelievable PLN 60 per day!

Zuzanna Bass

POSTAW NA PŁYTĘ

MARKA SIEMENS NIEUSTANNIE DOSKONALI TECHNOLOGIĘ PŁYT INDUKCYJNYCH, CO POZWOLIŁO OPRACOWAĆ ICH NOWĄ GENERACJĘ. NAZWALIŚMY JĄ „FREEINDUCTION”

INDUKCJA BEZ GRANIC BEZPIECZEŃSTWO PRZED WSZYSTKIM

Brak podziału na pola grzewcze – to rewolucyjne rozwiązanie sprawia, że wystarczy umieścić naczynie na powierzchni, a płyta rozpozna jego położenie i nagrzeje je błyskawicznie. Bez względu na wymiary garnka, brytfanny lub patelni, możemy dowolnie przestawiać i przesuwac naczynie po całej powierzchni płyty. Nie trzeba zmieniać ustawień, płyta freeInduction zapamięta je sama. Czy można wyobrazić sobie większy komfort użytkowania?

Walory płyty Siemens EH801KU11E z technologią freeInduction uzupełnia przydatna funkcja powerBoost. Dodatkowo przyspiesza czas grzania o 50%. Płyty indukcyjne Siemens mają ponadto funkcję elektronicznego wykrywania obecności naczyń i wyłączają się samoczynnie, jeżeli nie stanie na nich garnek czy patelnia.



POWIERZCHNIA

1400 cm² daje mnóstwo możliwości, pozwala dowolnie rozmieścić do 4 garnków i patelni. Moc grzewczą nastawia się dla każdego naczynia osobno, ustawieniami sterujemy jak pojedynczą strefą gotowania. Ciepło powstaje miejscowo, rozgrzewa się jedynie dno naczynia, bez żadnych strat energii. Technologia freeInduction stanowi kolejne potwierdzenie, że dla przodującej w branży AGD marki Siemens, energooszczędność pozostaje priorytetem.

Oferta Siemens obejmuje pełną gamę sprzętu gospodarstwa domowego: od chłodziarek, piekarników, płyt grzewczych i okapów poprzez zmywarki, pralki i odkurzacze, aż po drobny sprzęt AGD. Każde z tych urządzeń łączy inteligentną technologię z nowatorskim wzornictwem, a niezawodność z komfortem eksploatacji. Poprzez rozwój kolejnych generacji energooszczędnych urządzeń przyjaznych środowisku oraz stosowaniu zrównoważonych technik produkcji, marka Siemens przoduje również w dziedzinie ekologii.



ENTER AIR BOEING 737-400



BACKGROUND

ENTERair is the biggest Polish charter carrier. It was established in late 2009 and offers new destinations and competitive prices to tour operators. In 2012, the fleet of ENTER air fleet comprises eight B737-400 (168 seats) and three B737-800 (189 seats).

The offer called ENTER air includes flights from almost airports in Poland to Croatia, Greece, Italy, Turkey, Spain, Bulgaria, Tunisia, Cyprus, Portugal, Egypt, Morocco, Sicily, and also to Thailand, Kenya, United Arab Emirates and Sri Lanka. ENTER-air collaborates with leading tour operators in Poland such as Tui, Rainbow, EXIM and Sky Club.

The carrier also offers a new form of ticket sales in charter-mix formula. Individual tourists can buy tickets without booking hotel accommodation with a tour operator. Prices start at PLN for a single ticket. In winter, the airline offers tickets to exotic destinations at competitive prices.

CHECK-IN

The plane I took to Hurghada on 24 May at 10.50 am was chartered by TUI POLAND, however, a few seats in the aircraft were

still available, so I decided to go for the charter-mix offer.

I checked myself in about 90 minutes before the departure time. Despite a long queue of passengers including families with children, the whole procedure took only several minutes and after a while I was already in the duty-free zone.

During my return trip on 31 May, the procedure was also efficient, though slightly delayed due to the fact that some travel agents had to complete their passenger lists.

BOARDING

Half an hour before the scheduled take-off, airside transfer buses carried us to the plane. The sleek and clean Boeing 737-400 with words "Thank you, Victor" painted on the fuselage raised many warm comments. As I learned later from the crew, the plane was painted in honour of a pilot, who earlier that month had his last flight before he retired.

THE SEAT

My seat was 16d in the first row, which meant that I had extra legroom. The seat next to it was vacant. It turned out that after

lowering the seat I was able to spend the 4 hours of the flight quite comfortably. However other passengers complained about too little space, which was especially true for seats in 2-3 configuration.

THE FLIGHT

Take-offs both from Warsaw and on our way back from Hurghada took place according to the schedule. The captain informed us on our scheduled route, the weather and the time of flight, but the sound quality left much to be desired.

ENTERair doesn't serve any on board meals, but the store offers carbonated and non-carbonated soft drinks, juices, spirits, beer, coffee and tea, as well as sandwiches and sweets. The offer is quite varied, but the prices (especially for sandwiches) quite high.

VERDICT

Good quality of on board service. Congratulations to ENTERair on receiving the prestigious "Awionetka 2011" award for the best charter airline, dynamic growth and increasing competition on the market, as well as a superb offer of charter-mix tickets!

Katarzyna Siekierzyńska



Firma Barbara Hofmann produkuje najlepszej jakości pędzle i akcesoria kosmetyczne do makijażu. Istnieje na europejskim rynku już od ponad 25 lat, a jej produkty dostępne są w ponad 40 krajach. W Polsce są znane już od ponad 10 lat.

Makijaż na medal

Produkty te dostępne są nie tylko pod brandem BARBARA HOFMANN. Firma produkuje również akcesoria na zamówienie światowych marek kosmetycznych, które następnie są sprzedawane pod ich własną nazwą. – Nasz cel to nie tylko tworzenie produktów najwyższej jakości, ale także kreowanie konceptów dla perfumerii, wymyślanie nowych trendów i doskonały serwis, jaki zapewniamy naszym klientom – twierdzi Tomasz Skorzewski, export sales manager.

NASZE BESTSELLERY

Ręczniczek do twarzy Służy do dokładnego mycia i demakijażu twarzy. Specjalny materiał podobny do struktury naszej skóry usuwa brud i zanieczyszczenia. Dzięki temu skóra jest nie tylko czysta i gładka, ale również swobodnie „oddycha”. Ręczniczek można prać w pralce, a dzięki specjalnej strukturze na jego powierzchni nie gromadzą się bakterie. Odpowiedni do każdego rodzaju skóry i preparatu do mycia twarzy.

Perfumetki Bardzo praktyczne perfumetki, które zmieszczą się w każdej damskiej torebce. W różnych kolorach i kształtach objętość – 5 ml.

Seria BAMBOO Ta ekologiczna kolekcja została wykonana z drewna bambusowego, które posiada certyfikat pól uprawnych. Zaciski zostały zaprojektowane z pochodzącego z recyklingu aluminium. Syntetyczne włosie o nazwie TORAY jest stabilne, a jednocześnie bardzo delikatne. Kolekcja ta jest polecana szczególnie dla osób z alergią na naturalne włosie. Składa się na nią 11 różnych pędzli, służących do nakładania pudru, różu, cieni, pomadki

i podkładu. Cała seria jest dostępna w sieciach perfumerii Douglas.

Barbara Hofmann SELECTION

Przekonuje do siebie poprzez perfekcyjny dobór materiałów najwyższej jakości i tradycyjną technologię produkcji. Tylko najwyższej jakości włosie kozie z precyzyjnie i jednocześnie naturalnie wyrośniętą końcówką umożliwia profesjonalne nakładanie pudru i różu, co pozwala na wykonanie makijażu idealnego. Kwadratowy uchwyt wykonany ze szlachetnego drewna brzoskwiniowego i wysokojakościowe chromowane zaciski powodują, że Barbara Hofmann Selection jest ulubioną marką wielu kobiet. Posiadanie gadżetów z tej serii stało się po prostu modne, m.in. dzięki ich wyrafinowanemu designowi.

Barbara Hofmann EVOLUTION

Ten ręcznie wykonany pędzel jest nie tylko jednym z najlepiej sprzedających się produktów firmy, ale także niepowtarzalnym kawałkiem historii Ziemi. Rączka pędzla została wykonana ze szlachetnego, skamieniałego drewna drzew liściastych, rosnących niegdyś na Sumatrze. Choć trudno to sobie wyobrazić, drewno używane do produkcji tego produktu ma blisko 100 milionów lat! Ponadto rączka składa się z dwóch segmentów kwarcowych, pochodzących z Brazylii, których wiek szacuje się na kilka tysięcy lat. Segmenty połączone są obręczkami ze srebra o próbie 925. Każda rączka tego wyjątkowego pędzla jest unikatem, a do stworzenia jego główki wykorzystano najwyższej jakości włosie naturalne. Pędzle te zostały wyprodukowane w limitowanej edycji, w ilości zaledwie 500 sztuk.

Hotel IBIZA, SAN MIGUEL

HOTEL HACIENDA NA XAMENA



CONTACT
www.hotelhacienda-ibiza.com
07815 San Miguel, Ibiza
Balearic Islands, Spain
tel: +34 971 334 500

Situated on a steep cliff, away from civilization and in the heart of a landscaped park, this sophisticated Spanish-style hacienda is the first five-star hotel in Ibiza. Panoramic windows and spacious terraces from which you can admire spectacular sunrises and sunsets, sophisticated décor and one of the best spas on the island, are just some of numerous reasons why you should choose this place for a short vacation.

WHERE IS IT?
The hotel is situated in the north-eastern part of Ibiza, just 37 km from the airport located in the capital of the island, and the nearest town - the picturesque San Miguel is only 7 minutes away by car. Na Xamena was

built on a 180-metre cliff, surrounded by pine trees, oleanders, roses, and various herbs.

HISTORY
The hotel was designed in 1969 by Daniel Lipszyc - a Belgian architect, who was impressed by the beauty of this place. The idea situate the hacienda slightly out of the way, among the rocks and the nature was quite brave as for those times. The island enjoyed popularity especially among the hippies, but it didn't have good roads, electricity or even a phone line. However, the project received a green light and soon the hotel became a favourite place for many tourists. In 1988 Na Xamena acquired the status of a five-star hotel and for many years it was the only

facility of this standard in Ibiza. In 2001 the hotel underwent another stage of renovation, and since then apart from luxurious rooms and suites it has also been offering boat tours, refined cuisine, thalassotherapy treatment and cooking classes.

ROOMS
The hotel offers 70 rooms and suites. Most of them overlook the turquoise bay. Standard rooms are spacious and equipped with a king-size bed, several mirrors, and comfortable armchairs. The bathroom features shower stalls, and a large double bath is located on a small dais next to the panoramic window so that you can soak up the views of the starry sky and the sunrise. Rooms of high-

er category have an additional steam room, while guests staying in the suites - apart from extra space, bath with jacuzzi and hammam - also have a private terrace and a small swimming pool for their exclusive use.

RESTAURANTS
Breakfast is served at “La Cascadas” restaurant which is situated right next to the pool. From 1.00 pm to 6.00 pm “Eden” restaurant offers exquisite, light lunches based on recipes of the Mediterranean cuisine, and from 8.00 pm to 1.00 am, you can eat there dinner under the stars. Located on the terrace of a small restaurant called “Chill Out” serves snacks during the day, Asian-inspired cuisine mainly from the island of Bali.

LEISURE
In Na Xamena it's you who decides how fast the time flies. Those who want to slow down the pace a bit, can participate in yoga and gymnastics in the water. The more active guests can play tennis, ride bikes, swim in one of the three pools (all fees are included in the price). The hotel also has two boats: “Sun-seeker” and “Zodiac”, which can take you to the sea. There is also an excellent spa, offering dozens of treatments to improve your look and feel, as well as an outdoor thalassotherapy centre. You don't have to worry about lack of privacy, though, because

the centre is situated in a secluded area of the hotel. It consists of several small pools with different water temperature and various therapeutic properties. A thalassotherapy session takes about 40 minutes. In the meantime, you can admire the stunning views, especially from the last pool, located just above the cliff. The hotel also has 6 conference rooms, an Andalusian style patio, and an amphitheatre.

VERDICT
It's an ideal spot to get engaged, have a wedding or just a luxury vacation away from the hustle and bustle. The impressive location of the hotel, as well as tasteful décor, will certainly be appreciated by those who prefer a holiday in a five star hotel. Prices range from €191 to €1860 for a room (suite) per night, depending on the standard and the season.

Zuzanna Bass



STEIGENBERGER AL DAU BEACH HOTEL



CONTACT

Steigenberger AL Dau Beach
Hurghada, Egypt
Tel. (+20) (0) 65 3465 400
Fax (+20) (0) 65 3456 410
www.steigenbergeraldaubeach.com

WHAT'S IT LIKE

The hotel doesn't look too impressive from the outside. Only after you enter the lobby and reception area it changes! You can see a big space and a shining marble parquet floor, surround-

ed with 4 floors of balconies and a glass ceiling above your head. In the middle of the lobby, there is a sculpture of a wooden boat, after which the hotel got its name - AL DAU. The interior was designed by Christian La

Prette, who, fascinated with history, created a unique style of the hotel using a fusion of Arabic, Hindu and African styles.

WHERE IS IT?

The hotel is located on the western shore of the Red Sea, 5 kilometres from the city centre, 6 kilometres from the airport, 450 kilometres from Cairo, and 290 - from Luxor.

It has a private 400-metre beach, swimming pools of 5000m³ of total volume, including a heated winter pool and a „river-pool” with an artificially-generated current. What's more there are fantastic 9-holed golf courses, a diving club, ILIOS water sports centre and a children's club.

ROOMS

The hotel offers 372 rooms, each of 50 sq m, including 16 suites, 4 Junior Suites, 2 Executive and one Spa Suite, 7 Deluxe Suites, a presidential suite and 2 four-roomed villas with a swimming pool. 93% of all the rooms overlook the sea.

Standard rooms are decorated in warm colours, and furnished with African-Nubian furniture. The suits are decorated in pale colours with dark-brown furniture.

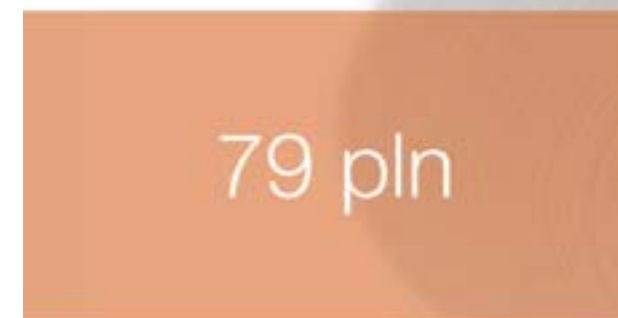
All rooms come with air conditioning, comfortable desks and armchairs, free Internet access, plasma TVs with satellite TV, a safe and a mini bar. The hotel is adjusted to handicapped guests, who can expect adequately-equipped rooms.

SPA

The complex is of 1000 sq m and offers body and face treatments. The offer includes all types of

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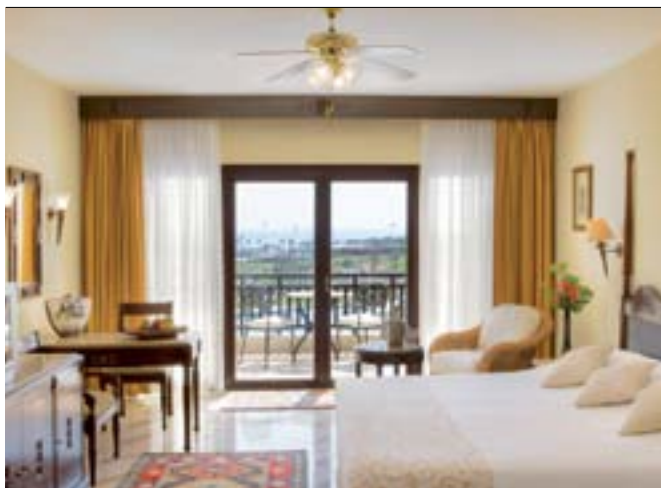


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+48 22 523 66 64, www.kprb.pl/amber

the ingredients of culinary perfection

Hotel



Hotel guests and business conferences members have access to golf lessons, diving courses, trips to the desert as well as treatments in the hotel spa.

massage, thalassotherapy and hammam. I decided to try a relaxing warm oil massage. To my surprise, the masseur was a young Thai girl, who proved to be very experienced and skilled. After the treatment, you can relax on beautiful couches, read and drink tea or juice. No wonder Stegenberger hotel spa was granted „World Luxury Spa Awards” for the best spa in 2011...

BUSINESS FACILITIES

The hotel is well prepared to organize all kinds of conferences, events and business meetings. The largest of the 7 multi-functional rooms can accommodate up to 650 people, and the total space of the rooms is 1120 sq

m. The rooms have access to natural light and come with air-conditioning, wireless Internet connection, audio-visual equipment and projection screens.

BARS AND RESTAURANTS

There are 5 restaurants in the hotel. The biggest one, „Tamarind” serves breakfast and dinner, and changes its menu daily (Italian, French, Arabic, Mexican, etc.) „Alexanders”, located by the sea, offers seafood, meat dishes and wonderful desserts. „Tanga” - a Lebanese restaurant located on the beach, „Bwala” bar next to the pools, „Karibu” lobby bar and „Ukumbi” are also worth recommending. Before the dishes are prepared each day, its components are discussed in order to cater for

the needs and tastes of the guests from various countries. As a result, the hotel offer is top quality and can satisfy the most demanding preferences. The German chef greets the guests and talks about their culinary experiences.

VERDICT

One of the most beautiful hotels in Egypt, with the biggest swimming pool complex in Hurgada. A winner of various international awards. Perfectly designed for both family vacation as well as a business meeting. Chief advantages: location far from the noise, friendly and professional service and excellent European and Arabic cuisine.

Katarzyna Siekierzyńska



HURGHADA, EGYPT



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www.siemens-home.pl

Najnowsze trendy w zabudowie kuchni proponują czyste formy wkomponowane w pełną powietrza przestrzeń. Sprzęt Siemens doskonale spełnia te wymagania. Podobnie jak piekarniki i płyty grzewcze, również nowe okapy wyróżniają się ekskluzywnym designem o wyjątkowo eleganckiej, oszczędnej linii. Piękna obudowa ze szlachetnych materia-

łów kryje innowacyjne rozwiązania i zaawansowaną automatykę, dzięki której urządzenia działają prawie samodzielnie, nie wymagając Twojego zaangażowania. Kontrolowane przez elektroniczne systemy, pracują wydajnie, skutecznie i cicho, zapewniając idealnie świeżą atmosferę w kuchni. Więcej informacji: www.siemens-home.pl

TISSOT SEA TOUCH



CONTACT

For more information
call hotline:
022 256 8147
or go to www.tissot.ch

BACKGROUND

Tissot, founded in 1853, is a member of "Swatch Group" - the world's biggest manufacturer and distributor of watches. The company's headquarters are in the town of Le Locle, Switzerland (for over 155 years) and branches in 150 countries. The brand's philosophy is "accessibility for everyone."

Tissot Sea-Touch is a diving watch that combines sporty style with a touch of elegance. This makes it an ideal watch for any occasion.

The watch shows two time zones, calculates the speed and depth while scuba diving, has an integrated digital chronograph, a perpetual calendar and a special logbook recording the history of diving. It's also simple to use, and all functions are activated by touch. I was lucky

enough to test its functions while diving in the Red Sea.

Features

- Quartz mechanism, equipped with low battery indicator.
- Touch sapphire glass with anti-reflective coating, scratch-resistant.
- The case and the bracelet made of stainless steel, orange or black rubber strap
- LOGBOOK of 200 dives, stopwatch, compass, alarm, dive mode, two time zones, back-light.
- Water resistant to 200 m.

FUNCTIONALITY

I liked the fact that when the depth of diving goes beyond 140 centimetres, the watch automatically enters the diving mode. From that moment, the minute hand shows the depth of

immersion on a special scale on the bezel. When the diver goes to the surface, the dive mode is automatically switched off.

DESIGN

The watch attracts attention with its solid finish and original colours. The buttons have black and orange rubber finish, the strap is orange, and the black dial has white and black markers. At first it seemed to me to be too bulky, but I quickly got used to its dimensions.

VERDICT

It's an ideal watch for a novice diver. For experienced divers, who would like to use the Sea-Touch at a depth below 30 meters, the company has prepared special info on additional protection.

Katarzyna Siekierzyńska

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SAMSONITE CUBELITE

Samsonite Cubelite
model spinner 82
height 82 cm
capacity 122 litres
weight 4kg



It's hard to believe, but the history of Samsonite Company and its suitcases is more than 100 years old. It all started in 1910 in Denver, Colorado, when Jessie Shwayder founded Shwayder Trunk Manufacturing Company. He must have been a natural traveller, as he instinctively discovered the essence of travelling in his times.

It was more than just moving from one place to another - it was about the atmosphere of exclusiveness and belonging to the world of travellers. Jesse quickly realized that his suitcases should meet only two criteria - they need to be highly elegant and indestructible. This strategy hasn't changed a bit since then.

WHY SAMSONITE

A hard suitcase is not an invention of our times, really. Shwayder brothers produced one already in 1910, and one of the first models was called "Samson" - as a tribute to the hero from the Bible. The idea was so good, and the suitcase seemed to meet the expectations evoked by its name, as 30 years later, the company changed its name to Samsonite. Since that time, Samsonite has often surprised its clients, who thought nothing more can be discovered in the "suitcase industry". It was Samsonite who introduced the first suitcase with a braking system, the first trolley case with compartments to orga-

nize your things, and the first four-wheeled suitcase, which made it incredibly manoeuvrable. And finally the year 2008 - the launch of Cosmolite product line and the lightest suitcase in history - produced from special material called Curv.

A LEGEND

Could they come up with anything more innovative? Of course. If you don't believe - try Cubelite suitcases. The manufacturer claims that this collection combines the best ideas of the 100-years-old history of the company. And - what also important - the product is produced in Europe only.

The secret to durability of Cubelite suitcases is Curv technology which makes it very strong and light at the same time. Curv consists of layers of material obtained from polypropylene, which are later thermally processed until they form the shape of a suitcase lid. Lids obtained in this process are very light, strong and shock-resistant even with low temperatures. No wonder the manufacturer gives a 10-years warranty for such a product.

CAPACITY

I decided to pack my things for a two-week stay by the sea. It was quite a challenge, as I have a thing for shoes, and I've never managed to go for holiday with only one piece of luggage. The pile of things to take was only getting bigger, which was quite disturbing.

I started packing. The zipper opened smoothly - with no difficulty. Each part of the suitcase

is locked with an elastic membrane. At the bottom, there is a long compartment with a zipper. I managed to put all my underwear and swim costumes there. The huge pile of clothes, when pressed with elastic membranes, magically disappeared. On the top, I put my bathing towel, and I fastened the net membrane. Inside the lid, there was enough place for all that was left, including the shoes.

PRACTICALITY

A packed suitcase proved to have one more compartment - between the halves there was enough place for a few magazines of thinner books. I also put a small netbook inside the membrane pocket. I locked the suitcase, and it turned out its weight didn't affect mobility. The wheels operated lightly and quietly, as if the suitcase was empty. Comfortable handles place on a shorter and longer side make it possible to carry it in two positions. The only drawback is the retractable handle - it blocks only in two positions, which are comfortable for those who are either tall or of medium-height. For a shorter person it might not be too comfortable.

VERDICT

The suitcase is light and very pretty. Mine was dark blue and the embossed design resembled an exotic shell. With all the advantages, the price of PLN 1,649 PLN for the Spinner 82 model offering the capacity of 122 litres, seems quite reasonable.

Joanna Krzyżkowska

The embossed design not only improves the strength of the suitcase, but also resembles exotic shells.

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PURE SKY CLUB AT SKYLIGHT BUILDING



CONTACT
Pure Sky Club
ul. Złota 59
00-120 Warsaw
Skylight building, floor 22
www.pureskyclub.com

BACKGROUND
PureSky is an elite club, which was established 1.5 years ago, and now comprises about 1,000 members representing various professions. The club is located on the 22nd floor of Skylight tower building, in the very centre of Warsaw. It's close to Golden Terraces complex, the Central Rail Station, Intercontinental hotel and the Palace of Culture. A person who becomes a member of the club (not everyone is given the privilege), receives a club card and loads it with any desired amount of money. This non-transferable card entitles the holder to discounts on services offered by the club. You can use well-equipped conference rooms, dine at the club's restaurant, read a newspaper in

the lounge, or take advantage of concierge service which e.g. provides assistance with booking conference rooms, or plane, cinema and theatre tickets. Most popular activities include relaxation sessions in massage chairs located in specially designed relaxation rooms, as well as the sauna and massages in the club spa. The cost of the card includes continental breakfasts, happy hours, and exclusive invitations to various events. These are just some of numerous options and the club is working on expanding the offer.

DAILY SCHEDULE
You can spend almost a whole day in the club, as it's open 6.30 am - 11.00 pm. From 6.30 am to 11.00 am, the club offers buffet

breakfast for members and their guests (included in the price of the club card). The menu comprises muesli, sliced fruit, yoghurt, assorted cheese, cold meat, cookies and coffee and tea. More demanding members may order hot meals. The salad bar is open from 11.00 am to 3.00 pm. You can choose among 2-3 types of vegetables salads, as well as tomatoes, cucumbers, corn, anchovies, and capers. You can also order a meal from the menu, which is updated every 3 months. The chef Paweł Michałowski recommends Warsaw's best grilled Argentine steaks with vegetables, fries and spinach mousse (prices start at PLN 119), a saddle of rabbit stuffed with smoked prunes, au Crepinette with a sauce of

mustard on celery mousse (PLN 63), or roast saddle of Irish lamb in herb crust (PLN 81). During the "Happy Hours" (5.00-7.00 pm) the club invites you to taste wines and various cold snacks.

RESTAURANT AND BAR
The restaurant can seat up to 90 guests. This highest spot in Warsaw bustles with life from early morning hours. Over coffee or lunch you can often do more work than in your office and, thanks to the informal atmosphere of the place, take right business decisions. The restaurant serves dishes "à la carte", but also offers daily lunch specials. At one end of the dining room there is a modern bar, designed by Marta Sroka and Agata Kopyc-Obrzanowska. It's an ideal place for events and shows, as well as social gatherings combined with tasting delicious drinks.

ATTRACTIONS
On Mondays and Tuesdays the club holds film screenings. The cinema features 18 seats and you can watch here pre-ordered films with your friends or other members of the club. On Thursdays and Fridays, the club offers live music, and the manager Paul Cowen is available to the guests, answering their questions and doing his best to make PureSky club members feel at home. There is a wide selection of press in the lounge, including:



The Daily Telegraph, Financial Times, Le Figaro, The Times, USA Today, The Guardian and many Polish titles. Currently, Club members can also benefit from a 15% discount on beauty services at "la Perla" clinic, a 40% discount on 2012 collections of Burberry fashion house, and for golf games at First Golf Warsaw Club in Rajszewo.

SPA
There is also a spa, sauna and a hairdresser salon. The spa is an ideal place to relax and refresh between meetings or to prepare for your presentation.

VERDICT
Not surprisingly, the club has met the needs of people whose life is full with various business meetings. They can organize here a conference in an intimate atmosphere, use the Internet, read daily European press, and work in very comfortable conditions.

Katarzyna Siekierzyńska



PureSky is an elite club, which was established 1.5 years ago, and now comprises about 1,000 members representing various professions.



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BOOKS AND MUSIC

Marcin Firgurski recommends books and CDs

Wine and Modigliani

Marek Bieńczyk, a writer and translator, a prominent expert on the drink of gods, as wine is sometimes referred to, wrote a book of unique summer atmosphere. The author writes about everything he is an expert on, from the Winnetou legend, through the best tennis players, a Moricanda portrait by Modigliani, melancholy, Brazil, to Słowacki's kayaking expeditions. Bieńczyk emphasized that these various texts have a common theme - which is either transparent or somewhat hidden - „the idyll, or longing for it, as if all the words coming from me, or others, were heading for a common bright circle of light, where they could last for a moment in happiness and silence, like candies in a pocket”. The subtitle itself says a lot about the book: „You can have your profile outside WWW”.

Marek Bieńczyk „*The Book of Faces*”, Wydawnictwo Świat Książki

Talks about life and literature

It's not a collection of letters exchanging views on the latest trends in literature and crazy life in Paris or Berkeley written by friends. It's a controversial, heated and passionate discussion between two men. One of them is Czesław Miłosz - an aware observer of a difficult reality of 1950-1987, a writer and a poet, previously unknown in Poland, who, surprisingly to the majority of Polish people, received a Nobel Prize in Literature in 1980. The other person is a prominent intellectual, literary critic and translator, Konstanty Jeleński, called „Kot” by his friends. Miłosz and Jeleński write to each other often, honestly describing the surrounding reality, whether delightful or painful.

Czesław Miłosz i Konstanty Jeleński „*Korespondencja*”, Zeszyty Literackie

Giewont anecdotes

Rafał Malczewski, a son of one of the best Polish painters, Jacek Malczewski, is not only a painter himself, but also a poet, radio play author, reporter, skier, mountaineer, columnist, script-writer and set designer, and the author of this unique book. To is a full and uncensored version of memoirs about Zakopane during the time of the Interbellum. Malczewski mentions the emergence of „the capital of the Tatra Mountains”, and peculiar local citizens like Sabała, priest Stolarczyk, Klimek Bachleda and various artists. He tells anecdotes about Witkacy, Karol Szymanowski, Stefan Żeromski, Jan Kasprowicz and Kornel Makuszyński. You will also find here other stories from the early years of Zakopane, like that of an illiterate postman, who knew all the summer visitors by sight and his sixth sense always told him where a given letter should be delivered.

Rafał Malczewski „*Pępek świata. Wspomnienia z Zakopanego*”, Wydawnictwo LTW

Violetta, Lucia, Hanna

A world-recognized opera singer giving concerts on the biggest stages around Europe and America has recorded an album, where you will find such songs as „Una voce poco fa” from the Barber of Seville by Rossini, „Regnava nel silenzio” from Lucia di Lammermoor, Hanna's aria from „The Haunted manor”, aria by Musetta from „la Boheme” by Puccini, as well as Violetta's from „la Traviata” by Verdi. Perfect voice, a unique CD.

Aleksandra Kurzak „*Gioia!*”

Bajor a la francaise

The CD promotes the latest recital of Michał Bajor, which you can listen and see in various cities both in and outside Poland. Songs in excellent translation by Wojciech Młynarski, are well-known pieces once sang by Edith Piaf, Charles Aznavour, Yves Montand or Georges Brassens - here, presented in new arrangement. You should definitely hear Michał Bajor interpreting such classics as „Tłum”, „Życie na różowo”, „Cyganeria”, „Czekanie me to ty”, „Nic oprócz miłości”, „Kobieta i mężczyzna”, „Jest fantastycznie”.

Michał Bajor „*Od Piaf do Garou*”



* (wkrótce otwarcie)

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NAJWIĘKSZE MOŻLIWOŚCI

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TOP GLOBAL RAIL LINKS

Tired of flying? Let the train take the strain.
Zuzanna Bass suggests ten trips linking major cities.



Statistics show that traveling by train is becoming more and more popular. That's why we have decided to create a list of the best rail connections for business travellers. We hope that it will become an inspiration for exciting train journeys.

The trips include those for which the train will be an essential business tool, some that are scenic rides for those with time on their hands, and some for which the train is a viable alternative to the plane. We also write here about rail links which can be a good alternative to plane journeys. One-way fares are displayed as these enable travellers to "open-jaw" their itineraries. An undeniable advantage of using the train in mainland Europe is that if the route is unserved by a budget carrier, you will find tickets are much cheaper than one-way air fares. Check the rail fares for Zurich-Milan (see overleaf) and compare them with Swiss's cheapest one-way tariff on this route, which costs a hefty SFr 703 (£483). Or consider that Austrian charges from €429 for Vienna-Budapest, which is many times more than the Railjet fare. Note that all fares quoted are subject to change.

1. LONDON ST. PANCRAS – PARIS NORD

This has to be the most interesting and prestigious rail link between two major capital cities. Running at up to 300km/ph, Eurostar's two-hour 15-minute transit beats the plane hands down if you have city-centre appointments. There are as many as 18 trains a day at busy times and by taking Eurostar from the UK, you avoid APD.

Meals are served free to Standard Premier and Business Premier passengers. Standard class fares typically range between £39 and £141, Standard Premier between £107 to £200, and Business Premier tickets are £276. Those who would like to go by train on their holiday, will certainly be interested to know that the Eurostar train from London St. Pancras also serves seasonal connections - in winter to Bourg-Saint-Maurice and in summer to Avignon. Visit eurostar.com

2. BRUSSELS MIDI TO PARIS NORD

Known as the „red train“ Thalys (photo on the next page) links Paris with Brussels, Amsterdam and Cologne. There's not much in the way of scenery so consider this Thalys route as an efficient business

tool. Its TGV-style trains sprint the 265km between these two capitals in 82 minutes. Remarkably, this is only about 20 minutes longer than airline gate-to-gate timings.

First-class carriages are located in the middle, with second class at the beginning and the end of the train. They are separated by dining cars where you can buy light snacks as well as hot and cold drinks. All carriages are of open type, with first and second class seating configured 1-2 and 2-2 respectively. Both classes feature shelves which can accommodate hand luggage. At both ends of each carriage there are special shelves for main luggage, but their capacity is not always sufficient.

Snacks and meals are served free in first class, named Comfort One. There's also a broad selection of newspapers and free WiFi access. Passengers who are members of The Card programme can use TheCard lounge in Brussels and the Great Travellers lounge at Paris Nord station. The popularity and quality of this service is shown through numbers; Thalys has already transported over 70 million passengers from Brussels to Paris. Standard fares are quite moderate and they typically range between €29 and €99, first class from €59 to €141. Visit thalys.com

When going by Shinkansen from Tokyo to Osaka ensure you sit on the right-hand side of the train. You get the best views of Mount Fuji from around Shin-Fuji station some 40 minutes after leaving Tokyo.



3. NEW YORK PENN TO WASHINGTON UNION

Amtrak's Acela "high-speed" service makes a pleasant change from flying the busy north-east corridor. These TGV-derived trains take two hours 47 minutes but note that they hit their 241km/ph top speed on only 56km of track. For the remaining 273 kilometres, they run on conventional rails, hence the low average speed. Free catering is served to passengers in first class. Fares typically range between US\$145 and US\$218. Add a flat US\$109 for first class. Book in advance, because the connection is very popular. Visit amtrack.com

4. MOSCOW TO ST PETERSBURG

Sapsan (Peregrine Falcon) is Russia's version of high-speed rail. In Soviet days, many travellers took the night train between Russia's two leading cities owing to lengthy journey times. But the Sapsan train, introduced in 2009, has made day-

time travel a doddle. Russia's high-speed train resembles Germany's ICE, which is unsurprising seeing as it was built in Germany by Siemens. There are eight services a day covering this popular 650km route in three hours 55 minutes, running at speeds of up to 250km/ph. Note that the flight on the same route including transfer to and from the airport takes over 5 hours.

The train has a dining car where you can buy hot meals, but in the first class they are served for free. To save time and temper, it's best to buy tickets before you arrive in Russia. Fares are from £94 for standard, and from £146 for first class. Visit europeanrail.com; tel +44 (0)20 7619 1083

5. TOKYO CENTRAL TO OSAKA

No trip to Japan is complete without sampling the famous Shinkansen or "bullet train" (pictured below). Japan was the first country which introduced high-speed rail – the first designs were created as early as in 1940s.

The fastest "Nozomi" Shinkansen services cover the 552km between Tokyo Central and Shin-Osaka, passing over 3,000 bridges and 66 tunnels. The entire trip takes 2 hours and 36 minutes. What is remarkable is that these Nozomi trains operate every ten minutes, so passengers have commuter-style frequency over this most important of business routes. After leaving Tokyo, ensure you sit on the right-hand side of the train. You get the best views of Mount Fuji from around Shin-Fuji station some 40 minutes after leaving Tokyo.

Tickets cost ¥18,690 (£145) for Green car (first class), or ¥14,050 (£108) for Ordinary (standard) class. Note that seating is four-across (2-2) in Green and five-across (2-3) in Ordinary coaches. Buy tickets locally. Visit hyperdia.com

6. BEIJING SOUTH TO SHANGHAI HONGQIAO

The world's newest, and one of its longest, high-speed lines opened in July last year. It



Travelling by TGV Lyria on routes between France and Switzerland you can relax in a comfortable seat and enjoy the scenic landscapes as you go.



has more than halved the rail journey time between China's two most important cities. The fastest "G" trains operate several times an hour, covering the 1,318km in about five hours 30 minutes at around 300km/ph.

Approximate prices are: VIP/Deluxe (spacious reclining seats configured three-across, 1-2) 1,750 yuan (£174), first class (disposed four-across, 2-2) 935 yuan (£93), standard class (five-across, 2-3) 555 yuan (£55).

It's not a particularly scenic route unless you like admiring flyovers. The train clears 244 of them, including the world's longest 164-kilometer viaduct between Danyang and Kunshan.

Book through your hotel concierge. New rules require your passport to be presented before you can buy a ticket. visit cnvol.com

7. FRANKFURT HAUPTBAHNHOF TO MUNICH HAUPTBAHNHOF

Here's a typical business route with a touch of scenery thrown in. Hourly trains cover the more than 500km in three hours 15 minutes. Germany's ICE rivals France's TGV for the title of best high-speed train

in Europe. Free catering is served to passengers in first class. Hot Spot signs on the carriages mean that you can use the wireless internet along the whole train. The seats are equipped with tables and power points. Fares typically range between €49 and €95 in standard, and €79 to €154 in first class. visit bahn.com

8. VIENNA MEIDLING TO BUDAPEST KELETI

Railjet is Central Europe's high-speed service, but rather than splashing out on fancy rolling stock, the rail companies invested instead in less costly conventional trains. That means you pay less for your ticket. Railjet operates every two hours at up to 200km/ph. Journey time is two hours 40 minutes, and all meals are at extra cost. Standard class typically ranges from €23 to €36; first from €36 to €57. visit oebb.at

9. ZURICH HAUPTBAHNHOF TO MILAN CENTRALE

This spectacular trans-Alpine route connects German-speaking Switzerland

with the Italian-speaking part via the 15 Gotthard Tunnel. The sudden contrast in scenery between Northern and Southern Europe when you cross the Alps overland is not something you can enjoy on a plane. Eurocity trains operate every two hours and cover the trip in three hours 41 minutes. Standard class typically costs from SFr 36 (£24) to SFr 82 (£56); first is SFr 128 (£87). visit rail.ch

10. PARIS LYON TO GENEVA CORNAVIN

TGV-Lyria's high-speed international service is a cut above SCNF's regular domestic TGVs. It links Paris with Geneva every hour with a journey time of three hours five minutes. Free catering is served to passengers in first class. Admittedly, there's no Alpine scenery to admire but TGV-Lyria offers both a civilised and fast way to travel between these two important cities. Standard class typically costs from €25 to €89; first class between €67 and €159. TGV Lyria trains also run from Paris-Lyonto Bern and Lausanne. visit tg-lyria.com

SIPPING TEA ON THE GREAT WALL

At the end of May LOT Polish Airlines introduced a direct flight to Beijing. Convenient departure and arrival times, low ticket prices as well as relatively short time of travel (9 hours and 15 minutes) are more than enough to pack your bags and finally go on a trip to explore the capital of China.



Now you can drink green tea in a real Chinese tea-house, see a Giant Panda, take a trip to the Great Wall, experience unforgettable moments in the beautiful Chinese Lama Temple, or visit the legendary Forbidden City! All you need is just a long weekend to fulfil this dream. Ticket prices offered by LOT start at PLN 1,800.

TO CHINA THREE TIMES A WEEK

Following a four year LOT Polish Airlines have resumed flights to Beijing. Flights to Beijing will operate three times a week – on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays at 4.10 pm (arrival in China at 6.35 am local time) and flights from Beijing to Warsaw will operate on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 8.45 am (arrival in Warsaw at 12.40 pm local time). Next year LOT is planning to increase the number of weekly flight to five.

Until November this year, flights on this route will be operated by Boeing 767-300 aircraft. After that LOT will receive the most modern passenger aircraft Boeing 787 Dreamliner which will successively replace the currently operated Boeing 767's. Poland's First Lady, Anna Komorowska, and members of Trade Mission headed by Deputy Prime Minister, Waldemar Pawlak, were among the VIP's on board, as well as 40 businesspeople, who participated in the Polish-Chinese economic forum. Opening the new Beijing destination was possible thanks to

favourable takeoff and landing slots at the Beijing airport, negotiated by LOT. Last year, the Polish carrier also got approval from the Russian authorities to fly over Siberia, thus enabling it to use the shortest air corridor. Among other things, It will significantly affect fuel consumption and duration of the flights to Beijing.

YESTERDAY AND TODAY

When planning to spend a few days in Beijing, it's good to be well-prepared. First of all, you need to book tickets for the flight – this can be easily done at LOT's ticket counters or online at lot.pl Also booking a room in one of numerous Beijing hotels can be done over the Internet. It doesn't matter which district of the city you choose for your stay, because Beijing is such a big metropolis (with over 24 million inhabitants), that the distances between various places of interest will always be large.

Luckily, the Chinese capital can boast its efficient underground railway system which features 10 well-marked lines, cabs are cheap, people are friendly and now it's much easier to communicate with them in English.

What are the absolute "must see" spots in Beijing? Do not miss the Forbidden City - a distinctive structure featuring gold



with a 18-metre statue of the Future Buddha - Maitreya made from one piece of sandalwood and transported to this place from Tibet for more than three years.

Tea, Pandas and the Great Wall China is known for its art of brewing tea, which you can learn by visiting one of the thousands of Beijing teahouses. Also, don't miss a visit to the Beijing ZOO which is home to several pandas fed by the keepers with branches of a special variety of bamboo. Be aware, however, that the pen for these cute animals is usually besieged by hundreds if not thousands of children and their parents.

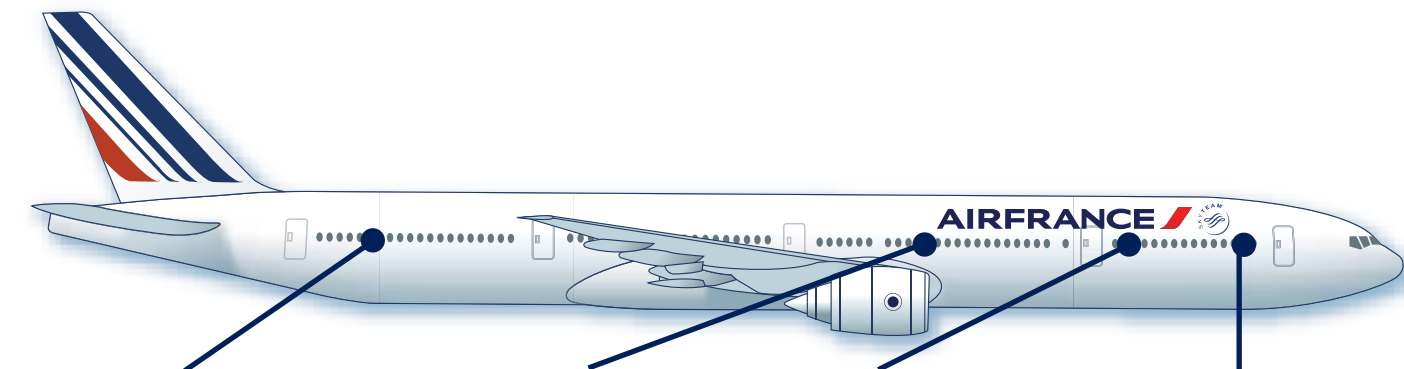
Just 70 kilometers from Beijing, there's a well-preserved section of the Great Wall of China, which runs for over 6,000 kilometres. The wall used to stretched from the Jiayuguan Pass in the Gobi desert to Shanghai Guan on the west coast of Bohai Gulf. Over the centuries, the wall served as fortification and now is the symbol of China. There are a few sections of the wall which are close to Beijing. The best preserved and most spectacular one is at Badaling, Simatai and Juyongguan. Visiting the place is simply a must.

Marzena Mróz

Now you can drink green tea in a real Chinese tea-house, see a Giant Panda, take a trip to the Great Wall... A long weekend is just enough to fulfil this dream.



Produkt na rejsach dalekiego



Voyageur – klasa ekonomiczna

Klasa ekonomiczna premium

Klasa Biznes

La Première – klasa pierwsza



Fotel:

- odstęp między rzędami – 82 cm;
- szerokość fotela – 45/47 cm;
- odchylenie oparcia – do 118 stopni;
- regulowany zagłówek i podnózek.

Serwis pokładowy:

- szeroki wybór zimnych i gorących napojów, łącznie z alkoholami i francuskim szampanem;
- główny posiłek – dwa dania na ciepło do wyboru;
- drugi posiłek w formie śniadania lub przekąski – w zależności od pory dnia i długości rejsu;
- pasażerowie otrzymują drukowane „menu”, z którego wybierają swoje dania i napoje;
- przekąski i napoje podczas całego lotu w bufecie samoobsługowym.

Dodatkowo:

- akcesoria podróżne dla pasażerów;
- od 25% do 100% mil Flying Blue;
- 100-180 punktów w Bluebiz (= 100-180 PLN, dot. przelotu w obie strony);
- limit bagażowy: 1 szt. do 23 kg;
- bagaż podręczny: do 12 kg;
- bogata oferta rozrywkowa – między innymi aktualne filmy kinowe, programy TV, muzyka, gry, kursy językowe Berlitz oraz wiele innych opcji. W większości typów samolotów pasażerowie mają do dyspozycji indywidualne monitory i system audio-video wbudowany w każdym fotelu. Dzięki funkcji „on demand” sami decydują co chcą oglądać.

Fotel:

- sztywna obudowa fotela zapewniająca prywatność i większy komfort pasażerów;
- odstęp między rzędami – 97 cm;
- szerokość fotela – 48 cm;
- odchylenie oparcia – do 123 stopni;
- szerokie (10 cm), skórzane podłokietniki;
- regulowany zagłówek i podnózek;
- duży, wygodny stolik;
- słuchawki z funkcją redukcji hałasu;
- gniazdko do podłączenia laptopa.

Serwis pokładowy:

- podobny jak w klasie ekonomicznej;
- aktualnie (na razie na wybranych rejsach) oferta jest wzbogacana dodatkowo o przystawkę, deser i słodczyce.

Dodatkowo:

- antyalergiczna duża poduszka i wełniany koc;
- kosmetyczka z akcesoriami podróżnymi jak w klasie biznes;
- 125% mil Flying Blue;
- 400 punktów w Bluebiz (= 400 PLN, dot. przelotu w obie strony);
- limit bagażowy: 2 szt. każda do 23 kg;
- bagaż podręczny: do 18 kg.

Alizé – klasa ekonomiczna premium

oferowana na Karaiby i wyspy Oceanu Indyjskiego (np. Guadelupa, Martynika, Dominikana, Reunion).

Fotel:

- odstęp między rzędami – 92 cm;
- szerokość fotela – 45/47 cm;
- odchylenie oparcia – do 123 stopni;
- regulowany zagłówek i podnózek;
- gniazdko do podłączenia laptopa.

Serwis pokładowy:

- welcome drink oraz catering identyczny jak w klasie biznes.

Dodatkowo:

- kosmetyczka z akcesoriami podróżnymi jak w klasie biznes;
- 125% mil Flying Blue;
- 400 punktów w Bluebiz (= 400 PLN, dot. przelotu w obie strony);
- limit bagażowy: 2 szt. każda do 23 kg.

Fotel:

- szerokość fotela – 54/61 cm;
- długość fotela 188/200 cm po całkowitym rozłożeniu do 171/178 stopni;
- funkcja masażu kręgosłupa wbudowana w fotel, regulowany zagłówek i podnózek;
- sztywna obudowa fotela zapewniająca prywatność i większy komfort pasażerów;
- słuchawki z funkcją redukcji hałasu;
- gniazdko do podłączenia laptopa.

Serwis pokładowy:

- 4-daniowy posiłek serwowany jak w restauracji „à la française” – przystawka, wybór 3-4 dań głównych, sery, deser, wina wyselekcjonowane przez Oliviera Poussier, sommeliera roku 2000;
- drugi posiłek w formie ekskluzywnego, dużego śniadania lub lekkiego posiłku – w zależności od pory dnia i długości rejsu;
- dodatkowo przekąski, napoje i alkohole podczas trwania lotu dostępne w bufecie samoobsługowym.

Dodatkowo:

- opcja posiłków w formie „ekspresowej”;
- kosmetyczka z akcesoriami podróżnymi;
- 125-175% mil Flying Blue;
- 800-1000 punktów w Bluebiz (= 800-1000 PLN, dot. przelotu w obie strony);
- salони biznesowe na lotniskach;
- limit bagażowy: 2 szt. każda do 32 kg;
- bagaż podręczny: do 18 kg;
- pasażerowie mają prawo do członkostwa w VIP Sky Club, które oznacza bezpłatną limuzynę na lotnisko, nocleg w Sofitel w Warszawie, złotą kartę Flying Blue i inne korzyści.

Fotel:

- szerokość – 61 cm, naturalna skóra;
- rozkładany do płaskiego łóżka o długości 200 cm, z prawdziwym wygodnym materacem, koldrą, poduszką antyalergiczną, wełnianym nakryciem i piżamą;
- w ustawieniu dziennym – łóżko przekształca się w wygodny fotel, stolik oraz dodatkową otomanę;
- system do masażu wbudowany w fotel;
- słuchawki z funkcją redukcji hałasu;
- gniazdko do podłączenia laptopa.

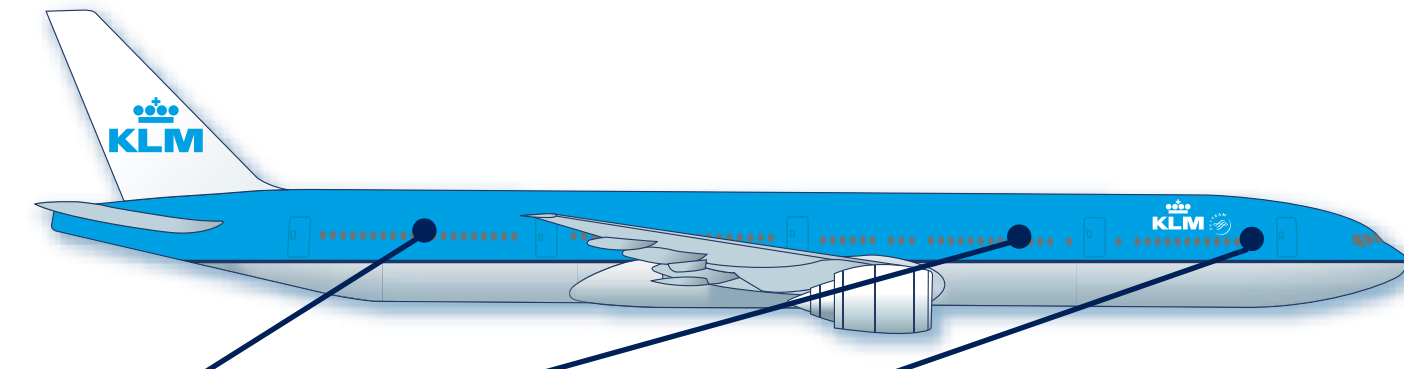
Serwis pokładowy:

- wysokiej klasy szampan i najlepsze roczniki win starannie dobrane przez Oliviera Poussier – sommeliera roku 2000;
- posiłki serwowane à la carte na życzenie pasażerów, wyborna francuska kuchnia;
- ekskluzywna zastawa i nakrycia stołowe.

Dodatkowo:

- piżama oraz zestawy akcesoriów podróżnych i kosmetyków w wersji damskiej i męskiej;
- transfer limuzyną oraz odrębny ekskluzywny salon La Première na lotnisku CDG w Paryżu;
- bezpłatne zabiegi w salonie SPA na paryskim lotnisku;
- 300% mil Flying Blue;
- 1400 punktów w Bluebiz (= 1400 PLN, dot. przelotu w obie strony);
- limit bagażowy: 3 szt. każda do 32 kg;
- bagaż podręczny: do 18 kg;
- Pasażerowie mają prawo do członkostwa w VIP Sky Club, które oznacza bezpłatną limuzynę na lotnisko, nocleg w Sofitel w Warszawie, złotą kartę Flying Blue i inne korzyści.

zasięgu Air France KLM



Klasa ekonomiczna

Economy Comfort

World Business Class – klasa biznes



Fotel:

- odstęp między rzędami – 79/83 cm;
- szerokość fotela – 45/46 cm;
- odchylenie oparcia o 9 cm;
- regulowane zagłówki.

Serwis pokładowy:

- dwa dania – główne do wyboru;
- szeroki wybór zimnych i gorących napojów, łącznie z alkoholem;
- drugi posiłek w formie zupy, śniadania lub przekąski – w zależności od pory dnia i długości rejsu;
- dodatkowo przekąski w bufecie samoobsługowym;
- 25-100% mil Flying Blue;
- 100-180 punktów w Bluebiz (= 100-180 PLN, dot. przelotu w obie strony);
- limit bagażowy: 1 szt. do 23 kg;
- bagaż podręczny: do 12 kg;
- bogata oferta rozrywkowa – między innymi aktualne filmy kinowe, programy TV, muzyka, gry itp. We wszystkich typach samolotów pasażerowie mają do dyspozycji indywidualne monitory i system audio-video wbudowany w każdym fotelu. Dzięki funkcji „on demand” sami decydują co chcą oglądać.

Economy Comfort to miejsca o podwyższonym komforcie w ramach kabiny ekonomicznej.

Fotel:

- odstęp między rzędami – 87 cm;
- szerokość fotela – 45 cm;
- odchylenie oparcia o 17 cm;
- regulowane zagłówki.

Serwis pokładowy:

- identyczny z klasą ekonomiczną.

Dodatkowo:

- miejsce wymaga wcześniejszej rezerwacji wg kolejności zgłoszeń poprzez Manage My Booking lub podczas odprawy online na www.klm.pl;
- bezpłatnie dla pasażerów posiadających bilety w klasach Y/B/M oraz dla posiadaczy kart Flying Blue Platinum. Flying Blue Gold: 50% zniżki, Flying Blue Silver: 25% zniżki;
- limit bagażowy: 1 szt. do 23 kg;
- w zależności od długości trwania lotu odcinek one-way kosztuje od 60EUR do 150EUR.

Fotel:

- długość fotela po rozłożeniu – 190 cm;
- szerokość fotela – 50/54 cm;
- funkcja masażu kręgosłupa wbudowana w fotel, regulowany podnózek;
- rozkładane oparcie do pozycji 170 stopni oraz separujące ścianki przy fotelach w samolotach typu: B747, B777-200, A330 oraz MD-11;
- fotele rozkładane do pozycji prawie płaskiego łóżka (178 stopni) ze sztywną obudową fotela w samolotach typu B777-300;
- słuchawki z funkcją redukcji hałasu;
- gniazdko do podłączenia laptopa.

Serwis pokładowy:

- pełny posiłek składający się z przystawki, dania głównego (z 3 opcji do wyboru) oraz deseru;
- wysokiej klasy wina, dobierane specjalnie przez profesjonalnych sommelierów;
- przekąski i drinki na życzenie;
- śniadanie w formie à la carte.

Dodatkowo:

- prezent do kolekcji – w postaci miniaturowej holenderskiej kamienicy wykonanej ze słynnej porcelany z Delft, w środku oryginalny gin. Cała kolekcja liczy ponad 90 miniaturowych;
- akcesoria podróżne i kosmetyczne;
- 125-175% mil Flying Blue;
- 800-1000 punktów w Bluebiz (= 800-1000 PLN, dot. przelotu w obie strony);
- limit bagażowy: 2 szt. każda do 32 kg;
- bagaż podręczny: do 18 kg;
- pasażerowie mają prawo do członkostwa w VIP Sky Club, które oznacza bezpłatną limuzynę na lotnisko, nocleg w Sofitel w Warszawie, złotą kartę Flying Blue i inne korzyści.

Przed podróżą polecamy wizytę na www.airfrance.pl i www.klm.pl, gdzie można znaleźć wiele innych przydatnych informacji o samym locie. Można tam sprawdzić między innymi układ siedzeń i klas w poszczególnych typach samolotów na danej trasie, listę filmów jakie będą wyświetlane na rejsie, a nawet jak będzie wyglądał posiłek.

POLAND IS A PERFECT COUNTRY FOR FLYING



Joanna Krzyczkowska talks to the CEO of OLT Express, Jarosław Frankowski.

Do you need to be an aviation enthusiast in order to manage an airline?

Probably yes, but this passion doesn't always guarantee you a fair grasp of the situation, so I'd say that first of all you must be passionate about the aviation business.

Does aviation business differ a lot from other industries?

First of all, it's different as far as the scale of risk is concerned, which is several times greater than the risk in other industries. It comes from the specific nature of aviation, including such factors as fuel consumption or the value of invested resources. However, I think this is the main reason for the passion with which people do this business.

Does it mean that this business is suitable only for risk-takers?

I would say so. Note, however, that all businesspeople I know in this industry are willing to take risks only in the area of business activities. None of them is ready to take a risk which would threaten human life. I know that in this area they are remarkably cautious. This is also a specific feature of people who go to this industry. That's good, because the sense of managerial responsibility seems to be of utmost importance here.

How does one become a CEO of an airline?

You start in the same way as in any other industry, that is

by learning (from the lowest ranks), the characteristics of the business. You need to understand its individual elements, how they are related, and what you can improve. Then you need to learn as much as possible about the market in which you are going to operate.

And how does one become a part of aviation industry?

There are two types of people working in this industry: those who graduated special aviation management programmes, or those who are there by sheer coincidence. In 2004 while I was working for mBank, I was asked to join the Central Wings project which was being implemented at that time by LOT Polish Airlines. So in my case it was sheer luck.

Does OLT have any special business approach?

Our approach doesn't differ from the strategies of other airlines which have been operating



in Poland for the last 10 years. Since Poland joined the EU as well as the Open Sky Treaty, which allows free flow of passengers throughout Europe, all carriers should have developed the network of domestic routes – and this is exactly what we do. This market has real, yet unexploited potential. Last year, domestic flights within Germany carried almost 22 million passengers as opposed to mere 1 million in Poland.

Perhaps there's no appropriate ground for such services in Poland?

On the contrary. We are a country of 40 million citizens and very favourable geographical conditions, with major cities located both in its centre and on the outlying regions. These are ideal conditions for the development of domestic flights. Few countries in Europe can match Poland in this area, because they are either too small or too centralized.

Don't you think that it will be quite difficult to do away with the stereotype that air connections are very expensive?

We hope that we have already shattered this stereotype. Our goal is not to earn by selling few extremely pricey tickets, but to sell a large number of them at reasonable prices. Such countries as Germany, France or Spain have already succeeded in this. There's no reason why we shouldn't. These were the intentions of the investor and of the business plan presented by the



professionals hired to implement the project. That's why, we assume that we will soon become a leading carrier in the domestic market.

What's the biggest asset of OLT Express?

First of all, we provide a very good product at a very affordable price. We don't deceive our customers saying that they can go anywhere for mere 1 zloty, but we also don't charge extra for luggage, reservation, or online check-in. Over half of the seats are sold at an attractive price of PLN 99, but more expensive tickets also sell well. Another important element of our ap-

proach is investing in modern and economical fleet, mainly Airbus aircraft. And thirdly, Poland is our most important market in which - I'm ashamed to say this - we started to dominate after just two months of operation.

Does this dominance translate into financial results?

Definitely. Sales results surpassed our expectations in terms of number of passengers, but also as regards our revenue. An aircraft brings profit only when it's fully booked. In the first month we carried 60,000 passengers, in the second one over 128,000 and this

number has settled at around this number. Starting autumn, we are planning to replace aircraft on some routes, restore some flights and we expect the number to rise again to 150,000-170,000 passengers monthly.

Was the decision to launch so many connections well thought out?

Yes, because in the case of aviation industry supply generates demand to a large extent. Of course, it doesn't always happen, but there is no other way to find it out. We need only 6-8 weeks to get a very reliable data and decide about the further fate of a connection.

Flights aren't the only services on your offer. Are the other ones sheer marketing?

No, we are just trying to make lives of our passengers easier and we respond to the needs expressed by them. That's why we've decided to launch our own car rental stations. As of now, we are also testing a shuttle bus connection which is correlated with our flight schedule. Should it turn out that the line is well received by passengers, we will try to introduce this solution also in other cities.

Thank you for the interview.
Thank you.

We don't deceive our customers telling them that they can buy a ticket for 1 zloty. Our prices are affordable and we don't charge any additional fees.



In the first month of its operation OLT Express carried about 60,000 passengers, in the second one twice as many.

BEST WINES AT THE SHERATON

Hotels of the brand have introduced a new wine tasting programme.



When several years ago Sheraton announced refreshing its image, but also renovating old hotels and launching new ones, even the brand's competition was very impressed with that move. The management of the brand had a remarkably clear vision and strategy to restore the splendour of the iconic brand of the hotel industry.

Sheraton set itself a goal to reintroduce conversation to the world of travel, and every now and then it introduced initiatives aimed at preventing guests from feeling lonely at Sheraton hotels. One of the results of this strategy was the creation of Link@Sheraton. These are special corners where guests can watch TV together, use the computer, send a videocard and talk to each other. Another step involved developing the Club floor a comfortable Club Lounge, where evening cocktails parties are organized.

Despite the success, confirmed by the latest study (satisfaction rate among guests and conference organizers is the highest in the brand's history), the company has not rested on its laurels and has just launched a new initiative named Sheraton Social Hour. This recently launched programme enables hotel guests to taste the world's premium wines by the glass in relaxed atmosphere of the hotel lobby.

The project is a collaboration between leading experts from the wine industry and the brand's global food and beverage team, who for several months carefully checked and selected the world's best wines to finally include them in a specially composed menu.



We wanted to be able to offer our guests wine tasting events and provide due weight to this experience. Our goal is to become a place where guests can taste fine wines, no matter where they go.

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT, THEN?

For starters, it's worth noting that 240 hotels of Sheraton brand are involved in the programme. Three times a week, Sheraton hotel lobbies will host evening wine tasting events.

What is unique in this programme is that now in order to savour the taste of premium wines you won't have to order a whole bottle, as you will be able to buy it by the glass instead. Susanne Barfoed, Vice President Brand Management, Sheraton Hotels & Resorts, praised the new initiative: „We wanted to be able to offer our guests wine tasting events and provide due weight to this experience. I am very proud to announce the introduction of Sheraton Social Hour at our hotels. Our goal is to become a place where guests can taste fine wines, no matter where they go.”

SOCIAL HOUR IN NUMBERS

The pilot edition of the programme was held at 19 Sheraton

hotels around the world and was a huge success. According to Sheraton's own research results



66% of guests would be more inclined to purchase wine while traveling if there was a premium wine program offered. After experiencing a Sheraton Social Hour pilot programme, 95% of guests said they are 'very likely' or 'likely' to return to another Social Hour and would recommend the programme to others.

SHERATON - HOTELS FOR ENTHUSIASTS OF LIFE

The transformation of Sheraton brand into a global meeting place is an undeniable fact and you can say without hesitation that regardless of geographical location of the hotels or the age and the lifestyle of hotel guests, Sheraton hotels have become meeting oases for people who like to enjoy life and to be in the core of events. All the initiatives introduced by the brand facilitate interaction and stimulate conversations and making new contacts, which in turn, make the stay an even more enjoyable experience.

HOTEL BUSINESS IN THE 21ST CENTURY THE STRATEGY OF ACCOR GROUP

Maciej Szczepański talks to **Yann Caillère**, Accor President and Chief Operating Officer.

The first question is about Accor and its strategy. What are your plans for the next five years? What measures are you planning to take?

We need to operate in different areas. First of all, we are changing the ownership structure to „asset light” strategy. This means that 80% of Accor hotels would be those that are not our property (40% of the hotels would be managed under a franchise agreement and 40% under the management agreement), and the remaining 20% would be our subsidiaries.

Secondly, we want to significantly accelerate the pace of our development in areas such as Asia and Pacific, North America and the Middle East. Today Accor is a leading hotel group in Europe and we want to balance our growth in Europe by rapidly expanding our chain in other parts of the world.

Thirdly, we intend to work on a balance between budget, mid-range, and luxury hotels. Currently we are focusing heavily on the budget sector, as 50% of our hotels belong to this segment. We also want to extend our offer of luxury facilities.

The fourth direction of development is reorganization of our brands. For example, before the introduction of a dominant brand „ibis megabrand,” we had three different ones: „ibis”, „All Seasons” and „Etap Hotel”. However, rather than develop three different brands in one segment of hotels, we have decided to base further development on the strength, reputation and brand awareness of ibis. That is why, we



have changed the name of Etap brand into ibis budget and all seasons into ibis Styles. This is not only a matter of changing the name, but it also means refreshing the entire concept of the brand. We are replacing beds in guest rooms and refresh

public areas in our hotels, to offer our customers a new and attractive product.

Are you planning to introduce any new brands, such as Pullman, to Polish market?

We would very much like to do so and we are considering such a move. There is enough room in Poland for Pullman brand, which competes on the market with such hotels as Hilton or Sheraton. I am sure that Pullman would have many customers in Warsaw. I am not that certain about other Polish cities, but Warsaw would be a sure bet. We need to find a right moment for its introduction, but according to our assessment Pullman brand could develop well in Poland.

Which markets are currently the most promising ones?

Looking at different markets in terms of their development and prosperity, I see the strongest growth potential in Asia and in the countries of the Pacific and South America. These two markets are currently growing very rapidly, so we are trying to expand our chain in these regions. We are currently the biggest hotel chain in South America and in Brazil. We are also focusing on expanding our chain of hotels in Peru, Argentina and

Chile. The second market is the Asia-Pacific, where we are already a leading hotel operator. For example, in Australia and Indonesia, we have a total of 150 hotels. We are also present in Vietnam, Thailand, as well as in China, in every segment of the market - from budget hotels to luxury ones.

Talking about China, there are over 170 cities with the number of inhabitants exceeding one million. If, therefore, we consider the potential of the Chinese market in comparison to Europe, where in France we have 1,450 hotels - you can't even imagine the number of hotels we could have in China, because the number is infinite. We are the largest operator of hotels in France, Germany, and the Benelux countries. Obviously we have competition, but we are a leading operator in Europe and we want to maintain our position on this continent.

What are the needs of a customer in the 21st century? How do you attract new hotel guests?

The biggest change we have noticed in the last 30 years, is the change awareness of our customers. Today, hotel guests are very knowledgeable. We live in a global village, with an almost unlimited access to the tools of effective communication.

For example, if you are planning a trip to Mexico, you can always check online the standard and recommendations for each hotel. This has put pressure on all hoteliers, as they want to ensure that they provide an appropriate level of services and products. We used to say that one satisfied customer will recommend us to three other people, and a dissatisfied one will complain to seven others. Today, one customer can pass a negative comment about a hotel to a million people around the world. This is a huge change. Today you can't hide any imperfections. That is why we are trying to improve our brands to make sure that we meet the expectations of our customers.

Thank you for the interview.
Thank you.

Rather than develop three different brands in one segment of hotels, we have decided to base further development on the strength, reputation and brand awareness of ibis. That is why, we have changed the name of Etap brand into ibis budget and all seasons into ibis Styles.



ibis i ibis budget Warszawa Reduta.



Yann Caillère, Laurent Picheral, Bruno Coudry

BETWEEN THE DESERT AND THE OCEAN

It's a piece of land which still unspoilt
by human activity. You will be delighted
with the vast diversity of treasures of the wildlife.
Open spaces and fascinating landscapes provide
a truly unique sense of freedom. **Piotr Grzybowski** takes
you on a tour to Namibia.



The area of this former German colony is twice as big as Poland, but it has only 2.2 million inhabitants. It's situated at the Tropic of Capricorn, and its climate is dependant on the cold Benguela Current. Despite African exotism, you will feel here like in a European country. It's best to visit Namibia with an experienced tour operator. "Sense of Africa" agency, which cooperates with Taleni Africa hotel, is a leader on Namibian tourist market and guarantees a high level of service. Its main motto is "It's more than just a journey". The best way to get here it to go with Air Namibia airline, which offers the most convenient connection. The price includes a flight from Poland to Frankfurt, and then a 10-hour flight to the Dark Continent on board Airbus A340-300. The flight takes place at night, so when you get off the plane, you will be fresh and ready to face the African adventure.

You will need a week or two to see what's the best in Namibia. However, everything depends on how much you want to see. If you have only one week, you will at least be able to see the essence of this African country.

ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

Etosha is the biggest national park in Namibia, and one of the oldest in the whole Africa. It was founded by Germans in 1907 and it combines 22,270 sq km of land around the Etosha pan. It's home to hundreds of endemic species of animals. The pan itself is a nesting site for thousands of pairs of flamingos, which migrate here each year. It's also one of the most accessible parks. Some roads are paved, so even buses can go here. You can visit the park on your own, but leaving your vehicle is prohibited. Just before the sun rises, visitors go onto a photo safari. That's when nature awakes. Mornings can be quite chilly, so all terrain car in which you do the sightseeing, features a set of blankets. Then the temperature increases rapidly, so sunscreen is a must here. The best time to see big animals is the dry season. Then you just need to go to a nearby water hole and wait for animals to come to quench their thirst. During rainy season you need to look for them and drive around the jungle, but you can also see more birds.

You will most likely come across zebras, springboks, as well as oryx antelopes, the gnu, impalas, kudus and giraffes. If you're lucky, you can see one of the Big Five species. They are: lions, leopards, elephants, black rhinoceros and Cape buffalos. The latter ones are not to be found in Etosha, but instead you can come across cheetah. As for accommodation, Taleni Etosha Village is definitely worth recommendation. It combines two crucial elements of travelling: comfort and wildness of the surrounding nature. Guests sleep here in comfortable tents situated on high poles, and located in the wild forest. You will feel the atmosphere of wild Africa while sleeping in a safe place. The windows are equipped with mosquito nets and the bathroom is located on a platform adjacent to the tent. You take a shower outside to stay as close to the nature as possible. The tents are connected to the reception are by dozens of winding paths. Next to the reception there is a bar, where you can order delicious Namibian beer - Windhuk Lager, and try some dried meat called biltong. On hot days, you can chill in the resort's swimming pool, while the restaurants serves local delicacies prepared in a truly African style.

SWAKOPMUND

For a bit of contrast, when leaving the wild jungle, it's nice to go by the ocean. Just above the Tropic of Capricorn, where the Atlantic Ocean meets the desert, there is the city of Swakopmund. The temperature is here lower and the air more refreshing, mainly thanks to cold Benguela Current. The city has preserved the spirit of the first discoverers and colonizers. It's an ideal example of German colonial architecture. Some houses are just skeleton constructions built from wooden beams. The material for construction was brought from Europe. Additionally, German street names like Bismarck Strasse create a unique climate of the place, making it a European oasis surrounded by the desert. It's worth staying at Swakopmund Boutique Hotel, which boasts one of the best locations. There is a beach and the Atlantic Ocean from one side, and the city centre from the other. In the morning you can have a refreshing swim in cool waters of the Atlantic Ocean, and later set off for a trip around the city.

If you're interested in ethnography, you should take a trip to the district of Swakopmund – Mondesa, where you can learn about Namibian tribes of Herrero and Damara. The local guide will take you on a tour during which you will get to know the culture, fashion and the language of the local tribes, as well as try their specialties. Swakopmund features some of the best restaurants located by the ocean. In Jetty restaurant, located at the end of the pier, you can try delicious Namibian oysters, considered the best in the whole world. Best dinner dishes, in turn, are served at The Tug restaurant, where you will get a plate of steaming seafood together with a glass of white South African wine, which will be a real treat for your palate. Sunsets are remarkably picturesque here with the sun going down right in the middle of the ocean.

WALVIS BAY

Swakopmund is a stone's throw from Walvis Bay. The two cities couldn't be more different. This is because Walvis Bay was never under German influence. The port was founded by the Dutch, and later it became a British oasis. The city owns its name to the surrounding waters, which are rich in plankton and attract whales. The natural cape creating the bay is an ideal protection for ships and an asylum for all sorts of water life. A cruise around the bay is an attraction especially worth recommending. Right after casting off, numerous pelicans come attracted by the smell of fish brought by the tourists. The birds are quick enough to catch the fish tossed from the speeding motor boat. The waters, which are cold and abundant in fish, are also ideal for seals, so no wonder there are hundreds of them here. One of them was even specially trained. All of a sudden it jumps aboard, poses to photos and doesn't mind being stroked. You can also encounter timid flamingos and dolphins jumping out of the water. There is a lunch break during the cruise. You must taste the delicious oysters served with well-selected sparkling wine.

SOSSUSVLEI

It's time to return to the wild Namibia. This time - to the middle of the Namib Desert. It is about 80 million years old, which makes it the oldest desert on Earth. The landscape

The best time to see the big animals is the dry season. Then you just need to go to a nearby water hole and wait for the animals to come to quench their thirst.



FOT.: PIOTR GRZYBOWSKI, FOT. NA POPRZEDNIEJ STRONIE: PIOTR GRZYBOWSKI



To get to Sossusvlei valley and see the dunes at dawn, you have to set off early in the morning. It's the best time for taking photos.

looks like in the times of the first colonizers. The red dunes belong to the highest in the world. It's one of the places which gets the least rainfall on Earth. Sossusvlei is a valley among the dunes, where the river ends its course. It is literally swallowed up by the desert. When you go from the coasts to Sossusvlei, the landscape changes at least four times. Contrary to what you may believe, the desert isn't barren. During the rainy season it suddenly comes to life as grass and flowers appear. As for accommodation, Sossusvlei Lodge is a good choice. It's a luxury resort, situated in picturesque surroundings. Guests stay here in rooms which are a cross between a bungalow and a tent. The view is marvellous. Lying in a comfortable bed, you can see the vastness of grass-covered desert and scarce but majestic trees. Add to this wild animals walking around in close proximity. Sossusvlei Lodge serves excellent cuisine including their specialty: grilled African game steaks. We can try and taste the meat of springbok, gnu, eland antelope, oryx antelope or zebra and ostrich. The meat of the biggest antelopes called eland tastes definitely the best, that of oryx is also worth recommending. On the other hand, meat of gnu and zebra isn't too tasty. In Namibian cuisine meat plays the dominant role, while potatoes and salad are only a moderate side dish to a huge steak. The resort organizes trips in open safari cars called "Uri" manufactured in Namibia. To get to Sossusvlei valley and see the dunes at dawn, you have to set off early in the morning. It's the best time for taking photos. You can walk or even run down from the dunes, which is quite an attraction. There are even fans of skiing or boarding down the sandy slopes. After getting to Sossusvlei valley, a delicious breakfast is served. As for the sunset, it's the best to watch them near the resort, among the picturesque hills. It looks like a film set from "The Lion King" movie. You can see there cave pictures made by Bushmen - the original inhabitants of this part of the world. The estimated age of the pictures is 200-2000 years. The impression of silence you get here when it's getting dark is unforgettable. The sun heading towards the horizon makes the whole landscape magic and sparkling with warm colours. It makes you think about the cradle of humanity. The personnel makes sure the guests not only feast their eyes, but also satiate their hunger, and so a table with beverages and snacks is set. It's worth seeing the place from the air. The local Desert Air airline organizes trips in small Cessna planes, seating up to 6 people.

FOT: PIOTR GRZYBOWSKI



Important Info

Air Namibia, in cooperation with LOT, offers daily flights from Warsaw and other Polish regional airports, such as Kraków, Gdańsk, Wrocław, Poznań to Windhuk. Exemplary air link is as follows: Kraków–Frankfurt–Windhuk KRK 15:50 FRA 17:30 FRA 20:10 WDH 05:10–1 Windhuk–Frankfurt–Warszawa WDH 20:05 FRA 07:00+1 FRA 09:15 WAW 11:00 Air Namibia: airnamibia.pl@aviareps.com Namibian Tourism Board: www.namibiatourism.com.na Touroperator: www.senseofafrica-namibia.com Accomodation: www.taleni-africa.com www.suninternational.com

If you suffer from motion sickness, you'd better confess it to the pilot, because otherwise, he will make sudden manoeuvres like plummeting, climbing or chasing the animals which flee in panic. You can see the mysterious circles on the surface of the desert. Scientists aren't sure about their origin.

WINDHOEK

When visiting Namibia, you can't miss its capital city. It's worth taking an organized tour around the city, during which you will get familiar with its complicated history. For dinner, you should definitely go to the biggest and most interesting restaurant in the city: Joe's Beerhouse. The original interior makes you think of a little town. There are wooden constructions and lots of props. All this in the centre of a fenced square, where the restaurant is. As for starters, I recommend oryx carpaccio. For a main course, you could have a Namibian beef stake, considered the best on the European market, or wild game shashlik including crocodile

meat. The most popular drink in the restaurant, as well as in the whole of Namibia, is Jagermeister. You can spend the night in Kalahari Sands Hotel&Casino, located in the very heart of Windhuk and being an integral part of the local shopping centre. You should check the stock of the local shops, and if you still have money to spend, you can try your luck in a casino.

N/A'AN KU SE

It's best to spend the last night near the airport. N/a'an ku se is a resort as well as a wild animal care centre. The idea behind the project is to protect endangered species, especially cheetah. Guests can take part in feeding predators, such as lions, caracals or African wild dogs, get into a pen with baboons or hug one of the three tamed cheetah. The animals are kept in their natural habitat in large pens surrounded with barbed wire.

You'll spend the night sleeping comfortably in houses combining modern style with African ornaments, or un a suite, often rented by Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie. The couple spends a lot of time in Namibia and is involved in the project.

In the restaurant, built with a circular ground plan with huge wooden dome, you can have the best oryx tenderloin in the whole of Namibia.

Namibia is politically stable and - as for African standards - fairly safe. Going there needs no prior vaccinations, the risk of getting malaria bug is only slightly bigger in the northern part of the country.

The tourist season lasts from May to October, as it's the winter time in this area. The temperatures aren't extremely high, quite pleasant during the day, but the nights are cold, so you need to take warmer clothes with you as well. Naturally, you can also visit Namibia during the rainy season, but you need to be prepared for high temperatures and rain showers.



PAS-DE-CALAIS CLOSER THAN THE NORTH

Being only an hour’s drive away from Paris, and two – from London and Brussels make the French region of Pas-de-Calais very attractive for tourists. The northern landscape full of dunes, forests, rock cliffs and most importantly, spectacular beaches, has had its enthusiasts for many years. **Marzena Mróz** takes you to Pas-de-Calais.

The region and department of Nord-Pas de Calais is separated from the English coast only by the English Channel. For centuries it constituted a challenge for the sailors, but nowadays it is crossed by 30 million of tourists each year. No wonder, the region has entered into close cooperation with the county

of Kent, situated the closest to the Continent. The Great Tourist Region of Transmanche, which aim is to realize the Accueillir le monde (welcome the world) project. During the next few weeks the area will be occupied by sportspeople and tourists from all over the world, who came here for the Olympics in London. Apart from sport

events, visitors can enjoy beautiful beaches, the clear sea and redecorated hotels, spas and guesthouses.

THE OPAL COAST

The area constituted of 120 kilometres of beaches with fine sand, thousands of hectares of dunes, 25 kilometres of breath-

taking cliffs – with Cap Gris-Nez and Cap Blanc-Nez considered the most beautiful – and Boulogne-sur-Mer – the biggest fishing port in Europe.

From the chalk cliffs of Calais to the bay of Authie – the Opal Coast delights with charming seaside towns, fishing villages, Belle Epoque buildings and hotels offering thalassotherapy. It is also a great place for sailors, surfers, windsurfers and kite-surfers.

The areas situated further away from the sea you can play golf on world top quality courses, do horse-riding down the picturesque forests and valleys or kayak down the beautiful River Somme.

The Lace Centre in Calais is also worth visiting (www.cite-dentelle.fr). You will find here everything connected with the history of lacemaking in the region. There are also

various lace masterpieces from 16th century as well as modern designs by Dior or Chanel. Another great attraction is Nausicaa Aquarium in Boulogne-sur-Mer, where there are 35,000 underwater fauna species: from jellyfish to sharks (www.nausicaa.fr).

GREEN PLATEAUS OF SAINT-OMER

The beautiful landscapes of this area resembles... Poland The area stretches from Pays de la Lys Romane to the rivers in the peaceful region of Seven Valleys and Ternois. Numerous natural products like vegetables, jams, cheese and juniper liquors come from this green French area. The inhabitants of Saint-Omer are very passionate about plant-glowing. Numerous gardens, both public and private, are open for tourists (www.paresetjardins-npdc.com).

Greeters

FOR THE TOURISTS

An interesting solution to promote the region is an initiative by the local people to talk about a favourable place or a town to the tourists for free. You can choose the speaker at www.greeters62.com.

Partners

POLISH ROOTS

It's hard to believe, but one in eight inhabitants of Nord Pas-de-Calais is of Polish origin. Most of them live in the area of Lens, famous for coal output. There are over 180 Polish-French associations and 40 twin cities' committees. Among others, Harnes is a partner of Chrzanów, Rouvroy is a twin city of Libiąż, and Aubry of Czeladź.

FOT: MATERIAŁ PRASOWE



Nord-Pas de Calais delights not only with the landscape, charming cities and towns. It is also abundant in tourist attractions, including those aimed at water sport enthusiasts.

When visiting the area, you get the impression the time stopped here decades ago. Up to this days you can see here little built from white stone, outbuildings made from clay, water mills, mansions and countryside palaces. You will find comfortable accommodation both in a charming inn, an eco-friendly farm, as well as in a luxurious hotel.

WITH HISTORY IN THE BACKGROUND

The flatland of Artois will interest not only history lovers, but the fact that it was owned by the Romans, the Franks, the Flanders community, Burgundy dukes, the Spanish Habsburgs, only to eventually become a part of the Kingdom of France in 1659, which makes it even more fascinating. This part of the area can be called an open-air museum – with its Gallo-Roman archaeological excavations, medieval bell towers, Vauban fortification, baroque palaces, Neo-classical castles and abbeys.

When in the neighbourhood, you should see Arras, with its historical tenement houses surrounding the two most important squares in the city. A unique place definitely worth recommending is Noeux-les-Mines in Loisinord. In winter, another attraction is a heap, which changes into a skiing and snowboarding slope. In summer, you can do water-skiing and sailing on the nearby lake (www.noeuxlesminesetenvirons-tourisme.fr).

BIG EXHIBITIONS

On the area of Pas-de-Calais department, there are a few very important events taking part this year. The Fine Art Museum in Arras houses an exhibition of the greatest royal and imperial carriers, including the one, in which Napoleon I was taken to his wedding ceremony (www.roulezcarrosses.fr), which you will be able to see between 17th March and 10th November 2013. In Boulogne-sur-Mer you can see an Pompidou Museum exhibition until 15th September 2012. The exposition entitled "Colour" presents a few dozens of works by the greatest French painters such as Braque, Matisse, Picasso or Calder (www.tourisme-boulognesurmer.com). And a real cultural treat in the area will take place at the end of the year. On 4 December, a branch of The Musée du Louvre, the biggest museum in the world, will be opened in Lens.



AGENCJA
MIENIA WOJSKOWEGO

MRZEŻYNO



Powierzchnia gruntu: 0,1488 ha
Przeznaczenie: rekreacyjno - wypoczynkowe
Przetarg: 07.08.2012 r
Cena wywoławcza: 1 650 000 PLN

TORUŃ, ul. Strzałowa 17-19



Powierzchnie gruntu: 5,5742 ha
Przeznaczenie: mieszkaniowe
Przetarg: 26.07.2012 r
Cena wywoławcza: 4 800 000 PLN

GDAŃSK, ul. Słowackiego 3



Powierzchnia gruntu: 0,2994 ha
Przeznaczenie: usługowo - handlowe
Przetarg: 07.08.2012 r
Cena wywoławcza: 4 500 000 PLN

SZKLARSKA PORĘBA, ul. Oficerska 4 WDW Wysoki Kamień



Powierzchnia gruntu: 5,1718 ha
Przeznaczenie: rekreacyjno - wypoczynkowe
Cena wywoławcza: 7 850 000 PLN

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AIRPORT MADE IN CHINA

Huge spaces, futuristic architecture and shops offering the best tea in the world, are among the things which distinguish Beijing international airport from other Asian ports. Marzena Mróz takes you to the tour of the second largest airport in Asia.

The airport is owned by Beijing Capital International Airport Company Limited and is controlled by the state. It's located 32 kilometres northeast of the city centre, in Chaoyang District and can handle up to 75 million passengers per year!

THE ASIAN GIANT

The airport was opened in 1958, and after it was expanded in 1999, it became the busiest airport in Asia - both in terms of passenger and total traffic. The airport in Beijing also ranks high in terms of freight traffic with the 14th position in the world. Beijing Capital International Airport is the

hub of the Air China airline which is the main Chinese air carrier, offering connections to 120 destinations. Hainan and China Southern Airlines also use this port as the main hub. It has three modern terminals which feature numerous shops, restaurants and places where passengers can relax after a long flight from Europe or America.

THE TERMINAL OF THE 21ST CENTURY

The most spectacular place at the airport in Beijing is Terminal 3. This modern and spacious terminal was built to meet the needs of the increasing traffic, especially with view of the Olympic Games held in the Chi-

nese capital in 2008. The building, designed by Norman Foster, is the world's first structure covering over 1 million square metres. It's so big that if you wanted to obtain a similar surface, you would need to connect all the buildings of London's Heathrow airport (including the new Terminal 5) and yet add 17% more!

The building features a main passenger terminal (3C), two satellite piers (Terminals 3D and 3E), five floors above and two below the ground. Letters A and B were not used to avoid confusion with Terminals 1 and 2. Terminal 3C is used for domestic flights, 3E handles international flights, while 3D (also called the "Olympics Hall") which handled



mostly charter flights during the Olympic Games, today is also used for international flights.

THE DRAGON AND THE TORTOISE

The huge departure hall is shaped like a dragon which is regarded in China as a symbol of power. In front of it there is a smaller structure resembling a giant tortoise - which is regarded in Asia as a symbol of longevity. Also the total length of the structure (3.25 kilometres), makes a stunning

impression on travellers. The terminal is not only humongous, but also impressive in terms of its shape and the area around it. The delicate shapes of the construction are ideally synchronised with the transport layout. To get to the departure hall you need to take a train, which runs among the bushes of colourful roses.

Terminal 3 also has a car park which can accommodate up to 7,000 cars, and a futuristic railway station with a glass dome. The budget of the investment exceeded 3.5 billion dollars.

THE HIGHWAY TO THE AIRPORT

Beijing Airport is operated by Airport Express - an underground railway line which runs from Terminal 3 to Terminal 2, and then to the city centre with stops in Sanyuanqiao and Dongzhimen. The line was opened on 19 July 2008, during the Olympic Games. It takes 16-20 minutes to reach the city centre from the airport. The airport has six different bus routes to various places across Beijing, such as Xidan, Fangzhuang, the railway station, or Zhongguancun and Nanyuan. You can also take a bus from there going to Tianjin and Qinhuangdao.

Important Info

Beijing Capital International Airport
Beijing Shoudu Guoji Jichang,
155 Dongsi Xi Dajie, Beijing 100621
IATA: PEK, ICAO: ZBAA
<http://en.bcia.com.cn>

Major carriers

Air China, Oneworld, Star Alliance.

Shopping Passengers departing from Beijing can shop in one of numerous designer stores such as Silan Silk, Chanel, Salvatore Ferragamo and Mont Blanc. Prices of duty-free cosmetics are considered to be one of the lowest in Asia.

Connections to the airport Airport Expressway is a toll road, which runs from north-east of the Third Ring Road in Sanyuanqiao directly to Terminals 1 and 2. It was built in the 1990s and serves as the main link road to the city. Airport Expressway 2, opened in 2008, runs eastward from Yaojiayuan Lu to East Fifth Ring Road and then north to Terminal 3.



LET'S MEET... AT THE SOURCE OF LIFE

Kerala is like a woman. Although is one of the smallest states of India, it is, like the hole country, rich in diversity, multivariate, full of contrasts, an ineffable and inscrutable. Therein beats the source of life.



Although it is one of the most densely populated Indian states, it is also a perfect destination if you need peace, quiet, relaxation and unique atmosphere, thanks to which you can contact your inner self. For hundreds of years people in this area practised matriarchy, and the woman still has a very privileged position in society - she is respected, and often holds high post in local authorities and business.

Kerala state is also the most expensive region in the country, the key producer and exporter of many exotic fruit, roots, herbs and spices. Long-lasting contacts with Europe resulted in popularity of Catholicism in this area. In 16th century Kerala was a destination for Jewish people, who founded a large diaspora here, as they were persecuted in Europe. Trade exchange, foreign investment, expatriation processes, fantastic climate, highly developed tourism and extraordinary openness of the local people has created a melting pot of different cultures in bigger cities along the coast of the state.

FROM THE SEA TO GHAT.

But there's more to Kerala than beautiful and world-famous beaches, clear blue sky, turquoise sea and green coconut palms. There are also the famous Kerala backwaters. hundreds of rivers, canals and lakes on which you can travel by boats with luxurious cabins overseeing the beauty of nature.

Right behind the backwaters, further towards the land, there is a beautiful mountain range called the Western Ghats. The special microclimate of the place, clear and fresh air and an impressive number of sunny days are perfect conditions for the famous tea plantations, which cover the nearby hills. There are also plantations of black pepper, coffee, vanilla or cardamom.

The area of the Western Ghats is home to a countless number of exotic animals: elephants, tigers, alligators, lots of monkey species and colourful birds.

THE SOURCE OF YOUTH POTION

In Kerali there is a source of knowledge of life (or 'Ayurveda' in Sanscrit) that has been spurting for five thousands of years. It is a philosophy, art, system of beliefs and practices in line with the deepest human physical, psychological, intellectual and spiritual needs. Since then it has been evolving along with our development and spreading around the world. The popularity of living according to the teachings of Ayurveda is increasing especially among the more and more conscious people in the Western world. Especially for them Ayurveda resorts were founded in Kerali. Beautifully-located, prepared to cater for the needs of demanding western clients. They offer a wide range of natural therapies, health recovery treatments, guaranteeing peace of mind or vitality, as well as rejuvenating and slimming therapies and medical treatments aimed to cure serious conditions, which conventional medicine can do nothing about.

It is said that Ayurveda helps to restore harmony in our organisms. Ayurveda has created the first complex holistic medicine, which perceives a person as a complex whole. Ayurveda doctors claim that by restoring harmony, we let our organism gain natural health. The ageing processes in organisms are reversible and aren't strictly connected to our age. The body gets older proportionally to the amount of toxins that accumulates in it and our bad habits. neutralization, getting rid of toxins and changing your way of living and eating habits have a substantial effect on reversing the ageing process.

A NECKLACE FROM REAL PEARLS

Old Veda books say that Kerala is a country, which god have left for himself, while he offered the rest of the world to people. The legend has it, that the same god collected the most beautiful pieces of Kerala land to make a necklace. One day, the necklace got broken and fell into the sea. God was looking for it, and then he realized the pearls changed into an archipelago of fabulous islands. Speechless with delight, he decided to leave them for people, so that they could discover the divinity in themselves.

Agatti is one of the thirty pearls of the archipelago. Only 10 out of all of them are inhabited. The rest remains deserted, fabulous with wild animals and nature in its prime. The sand here is even whiter than flour. The greenness of forests has more shades than any known colour scale. The azure of the lagoon, makes the sky appear gloomy and dull in contrast. Everything



You can make your dreams come true. That's what we live for. It's not enough to believe and wait, to make it happen. You need to constantly to follow the path that will lead you there.



seems to be relative and indefinite.

Equipped with diving gear, you can go under water. One of the most beautiful, rich and complex coral reefs in the world will delight you with its colourfulness. The sight leaves you speechless, and you can only admire the diversity of the underwater world. You can take a deep breaths and enjoy the surrounding silence.

After a sumptuous dinner prepared by the chefs of the only resort in the whole island, you can return to the beach. It's getting dark. The water in the lagoon stands still like a glass pane, and the sky is shining with the stars. Now it's time for a swim. Take a look at the stars I see something

glittering around me too. It's fluorescent plankton scintillating to imitate the sky. There is no vacuum in this world. It seems to be so abundant. Looking into the night sky, I involuntarily move my lips. Although both my feet stand steadily on the bottom of the lagoon, I rub the salt water into my face and neck. Feeling thankfulness and love, my soul no longer dreams about living. It experiences the essence of life by living in a dream.

Konrad Willk

The author is an explorer, writer and a personality coach. Recently, he has published a new book entitled „Naga Asu“



LAND OF ICE CREAM

According to the legends, ice cream has been around for 6 thousand years. During that time it has been a treat, a symbol of status and an instrument of political fight. An Italian duchess served ice-cream in the colour of the Italian flag to an Austrian ambassador and explained that cream, strawberries and pistachio are best ice cream flavours.

As with other inventions, it is the Chinese, who are believed to prepared ice cream for the first time. Apparently they ate snow with juice or fruit concentrate and honey as early as 4 thousand years ago. It seems that ice cream is one of the products that just had to be invented. But we shouldn't feel interior to the Chinese whatsoever. Apparently Isack offered a very "nutritious drink" made from snow and goat milk to Abraham. It is also known that in the year 62, drinks made from chopped fruit, honey and snow were served at feasts at Nero's.

WITH ICE CREAM THROUGH HISTORY

According to the official version the ice cream recipe was brought to Italy from China by Marco Polo. The Sicilians claim that they had "borrowed" ice cream recipe from Arab people 200 years before that. Whatever the truth, the first ice cream resembled sorbets, because they consisted of snow or crushed ice and various flavoured ingredients. In Greece the ice cream was called "The Snow of Olympus", and the main flavoured additive was wine. The Romans used to use rose water and violet flowers fried in honey, and they were the first to introduce more "substantial" additives like dates, figs and crushed almonds. Catherine de' Medici was a huge fan of ice cream and she brought his treat to Paris, where it immediately gained popularity among the aristocracy, as it was previously unknown, special and incredibly expensive. The only way to obtain ice in the middle of the summer, was transporting it from faraway mountain tops. With time, people learned that it is possible to get ice blocks out of rivers in winter and then store it in well-isolated cellars and ice houses until the following year. Thanks to

this, ice cream was more common, but still unavailable for the broad masses.

A FISHERMAN'S INVENTION

The situation seemed a perfect opportunity for an ice cream maker from Palermo in 17th century. Francesco Procopio de Coltelli came from a family of fishermen. His grandfather produced ice cream during the months unfavourable for fishing, in order to improve the family budget. Procopio inherited the primitive sorbet manufacturing company, improved the method of production and decided it was time to conquer the world. For obvious reasons, he chose Paris - it was the cultural and political centre of Europe, and the local ice cream stronghold came into being thanks to Catherine de' Medici. And so, Francesco set off to Paris. Contrary to what he claimed, he wasn't an aristocrat, and he didn't have access to the court. He



did the only thing he could in this situation - he founded an ice cream shop called Procope and was the first person in the world to produce ice cream on a larger scale. The place was located on the same street as Comédie Française, and as a result, it became a natural meeting place for artists, and more respected representative of the political and cultural world. The place was frequented by Voltaire, Balzac, Hugo, Robespierre, Danton and Napoleon Bonaparte - to name just a few of those who has gone down in history.

FROM MILK TO NITROGEN

As ice cream became more and more popular, the process of production was also changing, as manufacturers were looking for new flavours. At the beginning, in 1664, one of the ice cream makers from Naples brought about a revolutionary invention - he used milk as the basis of this ice cream recipe. Little less than 30 years later, it was discovered that if you boil milk with various additives, it thickens and becomes more smooth after freezing. The French went even further and begun boiling milk with egg yolk - which made the final substance even smoother. Another revolutionary discovery was that of Rene Antoine Reaumur, a 17th-century French physicist and naturalist, who discovered that stirring the ice cream while freezing it, helps to get rid of the small pieces of ice. Since that time, nothing has changed in the ice cream industry. Naturally, the production technology is still evolving, but the key elements remain unchanged. In our times, only one important discovery was made - ice cream get frozen really quickly in liquid nitrogen. Some ingredients like alcohol lose its aroma with slow freezing, while the nitrogen method preserves its original flavour.

Joanna Kadej-Krzyszowska

All about ice cream

1. There are three main types of ice cream: milky (made from milk, yolk, sugar and flavoured additives) - another variety are cream or yoghurt ice cream; sorbets (from water, sugar, juice or fruit mousse) - which have refreshing flavour and are low in calories; and parfait (from whipped cream, yolk blended with sugar, and flavoured additives)..

2. The big five - experts claim that good ice cream should contain no more than 5 ingredients. These are: milk, cream, sugar, eggs and flavoured additives (counted as one).. In the USA, as a result of organic food fashion, one of the companies started to produce ice cream called Just Five.

3. How to buy? First of all - read the labels. A long list of ingredients is not an advantages, so is the presence of "strange" products like: palm tree fat, guar gum, etc. Good ice cream should not contain preservatives - neither natural nor artificial. Another thing - the looks. The box can't be covered with frost. You should also be suspicious if the colours are very bright - it means the ice cream has been dyed. And finally - the taste. Sophisticated flavours are achieved by means of artificial aromas. If you don't believe - try mixing watermelon - all you will get is sweet water - you could never made ice cream from that.



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TWO NEBBIOLO SCHOOLS

It's funny how the sound of a wine name affects our impression of its character and expression. And although the impression is often correct, as for Barolo you can be almost close, or really far from the truth. Because despite the trends and styles in worldwide winemaking, it is difficult to find the muscularity and concentration you would expect when hearing the name, but there is lots of finesse and intelligence.



The expression of Nebbiolo variety, used for production of Piedmont Barolo - famous for its grandeur - is very different from what you'd expect knowing the wine was labelled the best one in the whole of Italy. It is very reserved. It doesn't like too much concentration, and it lacks thickness and satiation of Tuscany wines. Nevertheless its grandeur is unquestionable. Woven from such delicate and powerful matter, that it cannot be copied. It is meaningful that nobody even tries anymore.

Nebbiolo gives wine of little fruit aroma, a rather worrying information to get about any other wine but this one. Here, it is different, because even though cranberry or cherry aromas don't play the dominant role, the wine is still lively and with character. The aroma is dominated with liquorice, rosehip and tar. In more simple wines, you can sense cranberry flavour, but it is well-hidden and not very distinctive. But the acidity and very raw tannic are just fabulous. It may sound revolting, but these are the two factors behind the power of Barolo.

? Based on fine lard, which doesn't resemble anything from the local butcher's. I can't think of any other wine that could go so well with it. This is an example of a perfect match of local flavours. Despite the international career, Barolo will never be as good as in this fabulous, hilly landscape, where each strip of land is covered with vineyards and medieval castles.

MASTERY AND A PINCH OF INTUITION

Nebbiolo likes to take things slow. It matures slowly, which means the harvesting takes place no sooner than in November. But in cold Piedmont it may mean you will have to harvest in driving rain - an absolute catastrophe for the quality of wine. That's why growing this variety requires not only mastery, but also intuition. And despite late harvesting, Nebbiolo always reached full maturity. It was very acid and "green", but this curse turned out fine for the quality of Barolo or Barbaresco wines, as the winemakers used to keep in in huge barrels even for a couple of years, in order to get rid of the wine's crude character. With time, the acidity soothed and the tannins got softer and milder.

Unlike other wines, for which maturing in barrels improves the taste, here it was an absolute necessity, as the wine was undrinkable. So it is really amazing, that right after the maturing time, Barolo delighted with balance that no other wine could compete with.

MODERNA VERSUS TRADITION

However, not everyone is happy with such a style of Barolo, as it was considered too hermetic to appeal to a larger audience. That's why one of the winemakers, great and independent Elio Altare, decided to introduce a harvesting technique used in the French Burgundy - also struggling with the same kind of problems with its Pinot Noir. The method of growing, appropriate trimming and "green harvest", which is removing the first fruit, enabled quicker and fuller maturity. That's why the grapes were fully ripe in the mid October, and you could obtain more juiciness, softness and hedonistic concentration from the grapes, when compared to the old model of growing. Since then Piedmont have been divided into two halves. The modern one is developing, and dominant thanks to the greater ease and accessibility to wine enthusiasts from outside the Old Continent. The latter one - more traditional - sticks to the old school. The winemakers continue growing grapes using the old method without paying attention to what others think. They know, that sooner or later the world will grow tired of the new trend and begin to miss the old techniques.

Michał Poddany & Robert Mielżyński

Nebbiolo gives wine of little fruit aroma, a rather worrying information to get about any other wine but this one. Here, it is different, because even though cranberry or cherry aromas don't play the dominant role, the wine is still lively and with character.

The secret

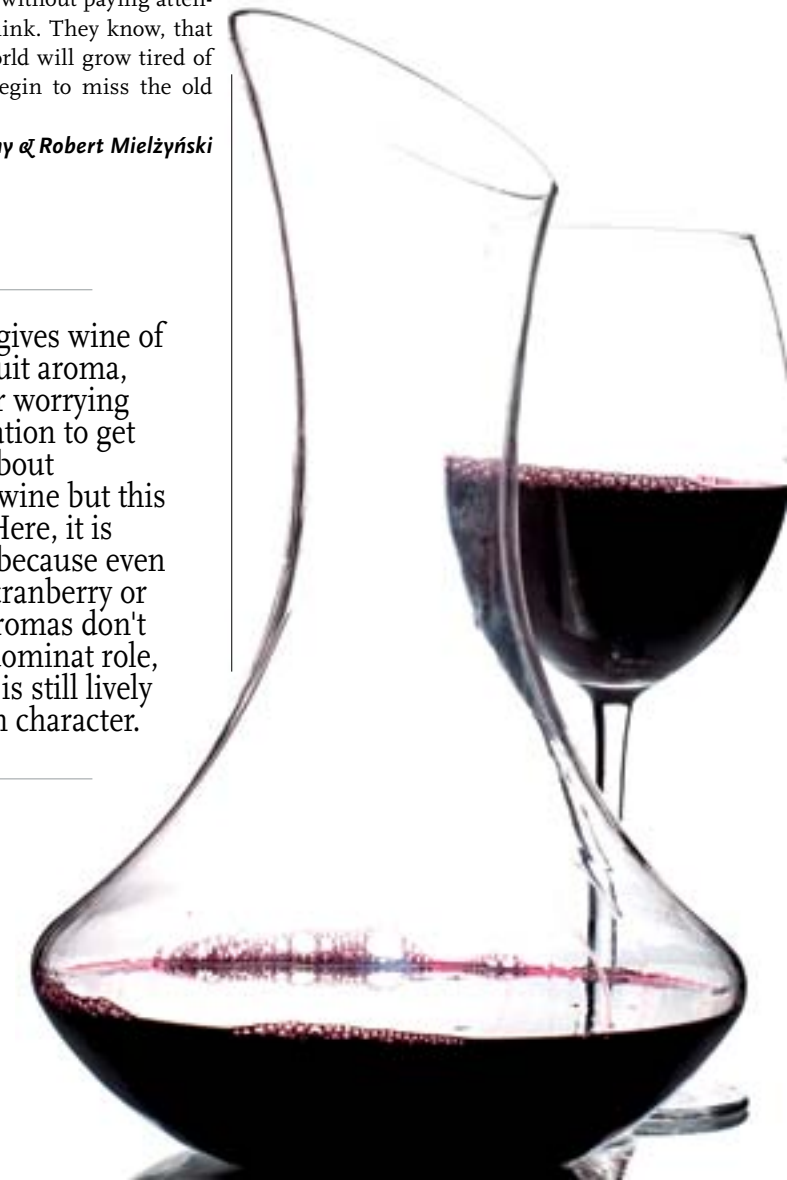
OF IMMORTALITY

Wine immortality is a myth. Every wine has its prime, and then it dies. Quite unlike the people. But there are some factors, which will make a wine last for even a decade.

Acidity - the basic longevity criterion for dry wines. Because, contrary to what you may think, it is not the very concentrated wines that live the longest. That's why it is not wines from Spanish, Bordeaux or Australia, but those from Piedmont, Burgundy and Germany will be around for longer.

Alcohol - wines strengthened with distillate (like Spanish Sherry) can last much longer than ordinary ones, because high alcohol content inhibits most of the harmful processes in wines.

Sugar - the best wine preservative. The more a wine has it, the longer it lives. And while the best vintage of the best wine can last no more than 30-40 years, the sweet wines can be easily stored even for a hundred years.



VOLKSWAGEN FOREVER

The new version of the Volkswagen CC is positioned between the Passat and the Phaeton. However, the design makes it aspire to models from higher end of the market.

The same applies to the extended standard equipment, including bi-xenon headlights, LED tail lights and the system recognizing the driver's fatigue.

Volkswagen CC has also received optional driver assistance systems and the ride quality was substantially improved.

ACOUSTICS – EVEN BETTER SOUNDPROOFING

Volkswagen achieved noise reductions of several dB by implementing numerous individual measures in the body design area and in the windscreen glass structure. Acoustics have been optimised by adding sound-absorbing materials in the front, side and rear areas. Engineers have further improved soundproofing by adding highly effective underbody trim, wheel-well shells made of a material for noise damping and improved gearbox mounts. Additional insulating materials are also used in the dashboard. The windscreen is also equipped with an additional acoustic film layer.

THE CLIMATE COMFORT WINDOW

The climate comfort window has an IR coating to reflect the infrared component of sunlight. The window consists of a total of six layers and is about 4 mm thick. The highlight is that the silver layers of the IR coating reflect infrared light, thereby reducing heat build-up in the interior. The silver layer is electrically conductive as well, so it also acts as a windscreen heating element, making the usual heating wires unnecessary.



New technologies make travelling more convenient. Apart from major innovations, car manufacturers also introduce a range of minor ones which also contribute to the overall progress in the industry.

This system detects waning driver concentration and warns the driver with an acoustic signal lasting five seconds; a visual message also appears in the instrument cluster recommending that the driver take a break from driving. If the driver does not take a break within the next 15 minutes, the warning is repeated once. Right at the beginning of each car trip, the system analyses the driver's characteristic steering behaviour. The fatigue detection system then continually evaluates signals such as steering angle, use of the pedals and transverse acceleration. If monitored parameters indicate a deviation from the steering behaviour recorded at the beginning of the trip, then visual and acoustic warnings are produced.

SIDE ASSIST PLUS WITH LANE ASSIST

Also making a significant contribution to improved safety is the optional combination of Side Assist Plus (lane-changing assistant) and Lane Assist (lane-keeping assistant). Side Assist makes the driver aware of vehicles located in the blind spot next to the Passat Alltrack or vehicles approaching from the rear by flashing LEDs in the door mirrors. Meanwhile, Lane Assist accesses signals from a camera; as soon as it becomes evident that the driver is leaving the driving lane or is driving over the lane markings without setting the direction indicator, Lane Assist countersteers.

TRAFFIC SIGN DETECTION

When the system detects speed limit signs and no-passing zones via camera, up to three of these signs are shown on the instrument cluster display in front of the driver as well as in the navigation system display. The screen output shows all additional signage text (e.g. '10 pm - 6 am' or 'When wet'), and it is presented in a logical order. The immediately relevant traffic sign (e.g. '130' km/h) is always shown in the first position, while signs that are only conditionally valid (e.g. '80' km/h 'when wet') are shown in a secondary position. If the rain sensor of the VW CC detects that it has started to rain, the now relevant traffic sign with the added text 'when wet' is shifted to first position. The system also acquires no-passing signs and municipality entrance and exit signs, and it calls the driver's attention to country-specific maximum allowable speeds in cities.

DYNAMIC LIGHT ASSIST PLUS LED DAYTIME RUNNING LIGHTS

This optional system makes manual headlight switching between dipped and main beam a thing of the past. At speeds over 65 km/h, the main beam is automatically activated, and it remains permanently active. In conjunction with the camera integrated behind the windscreen, the main beam light modules of the bi-xenon headlights are individually dipped only in those areas in which the system has analysed potential glare to other vehicles. A masking aperture between the reflector with the xenon filament and the lens makes this function possible. In conjunction with intelligent, lateral swivelling of the entire module (via the cornering light function) and independent control of the left and right headlights, this additional aperture geometry is able to mask the light source. This prevents light glare to oncoming traffic or vehicles driving ahead.

EASY OPEN

Also new in the Volkswagen CC: the sensor-controlled Easy Open system for opening the bootlid by a foot movement behind the vehicle (in conjunction with Keyless Access). The human-machine interface here is a proximity sensor in the bumper area, which recognises a kick-like leg motion. The boot only opens for someone carrying the proper remote key for the CC.

Wiktor Łucki

TANIE LOTY Z WARSZAWY-MODLIN

JUŻ OD 16 LIPCA 2012



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HOLIDAY APPLICATIONS

Do you wonder how to get around a city using public transport, where to look for a taxi, the cheapest flight, or how to rent a cheap room? If you have an iPad or an iPhone – you don't have to worry.



Find your way around a city

JAK DOJADĘ



The app is available in free (lite) and paid version (€2.99 in appstore). "Jak dojadę" (how to get there) features a map with tram and bus timetables and has the most innovative public transport journey planner. It features timetables for 10 major Polish cities. The lite version allows you to search up to three connections per month, while the paid version has no limits whatsoever. The search engine shows results, depending on whether we want to reach our destinations quickly (e.g. with transfers), or slower, but more conveniently (without transfers).

Under a good roof

AIRBNB



The main advantage of "Airbnb" is its social in nature - the application connects those who have their own flats or houses with those who want to find cheap and proven accommodation for a short stay. The offers are grouped in categories. Do you need someone to put you up in London, New York or Berlin? Or maybe you want to rent a yurt in Mongolia? Each offer is shown on a detailed map (which makes searching much easier). The application includes photos of the houses, and enables you to contact the owner.



A nice ride

ZŁAP TAXI



A free app for the iPhone, iPad and iPod. "Złap taxi" (catch a cab) is aimed at busy businesspeople, travellers in a new city, and those who don't like cheating cab drivers. The app searches for taxi companies in most major cities, basing on GPS location. You don't need to know their names or numbers - everything is just there. With "złap taxi" you can either call for a cab or order it online. In addition, the application calculates an approximate fee, and tells you which companies accept credit cards!

Fly high

SKYSCANNER



Looking for a convenient air connection? Do you want to do it by yourself, without help of a travel agents? Skyscanner is an application which makes the whole process so simple. Just click the date of departure and return to get accurate information on connections offered by over 1,000 airlines. Skyscanner shows, a complete route of your journey, and allows you to book tickets online. Details can be sent by email. The app also connect with Facebook, or Tweeter.



PASJA TO WYJĄTKOWOŚĆ, A NIE PRZECIĘTNOŚĆ.

Wsiądź za kierownicę Zwycięzcy. Nowe BMW serii 3 powstało z pasji do radości z jazdy, innowacji i designu, w przeciwieństwie do swoich konkurentów. Mocne i oszczędne silniki TwinPower Turbo oraz pełno kolorowy wyświetlacz Head-up to tylko jedne z wielu przykładów przewagi technologicznej nowego BMW serii 3. W zależności od Twojego charakteru dobrać jedną z 3 linii stylistycznych: Sport, Luxury lub Modern u Dealera BMW Auto Fus już od 11 lutego. Już dziś zarejestruj się na jazdę próbną na www.bmw.pl/seria3

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Zeskanuj kod QR i dowiedz się więcej
o nowym BMW serii 3.



4 HOURS IN... BEVERLY HILLS

Jenny Southan spies super-fast cars, spooky mansions and serious money in the exclusive Californian district.



GREYSTONE MANSION

The audaciously wealthy city of Beverly Hills is home to countless actors, directors and celebrities, many of whom reside in lavish abodes set back from the road. You can join the gaggles of snap-happy tourists if you like, and take a “star tour” in one of the ubiquitous jeeps and buses that cruise around, but a better option is to drive (or take a cab) to Greystone Mansion, the former residence of Ned Doheny, the son of an infamous oil tycoon.

Built in 1928 on five hectares of hillside, the Tudor-style house was the most expensive in California at the time. These days, the building and the park around it belong to the City of Beverly Hills, and in recent years it has been used as a location for many movies – from *X Men: First Class* and *The Social Network* to *Spider-Man 3* and *There Will Be Blood*, which was inspired by the life of Ned’s father, Edward.

Greystone has a dark history, though. Within months of Ned moving in with his family, he and his male secretary were found shot dead in one of the rooms in a mysterious murder-suicide. The mansion will reopen in February after a US\$2 million revamp, and for the first time will be available to hire for corporate events, but if you are in town before then, you can still walk around the gardens and chat to the rangers, who will speak of how it is haunted. Entry is free. Open 10am-5pm/6pm. 905 Loma Vista Drive; greystonemansion.org

BEVERLY HILLS HOTEL

A short drive back down the sweeping Loma Vista Drive will bring you to one of LA’s most iconic hotels, the Beverly Hills, which you may recognise from the cover of the Eagles’ *Hotel California* album. The “Pink Palace”, as it is known, was unveiled in 1912 and has hosted many glamorous guests in its rooms and bungalows, which sit beside winding pathways shaded by palm trees. Eccentric film producer and aviator Howard Hughes lived here on and off for 30 years, requesting that staff leave him roast beef



Rodeo Drive or Beverly Hills Hotel are a ‘must see’ attractions here, similarly to Buckingham Palace in London.

sandwiches in the trees so he would not have to see anyone.

If you haven’t got time to enjoy a meal in the Polo Lounge, where the Rat Pack used to hang out, slip down to the poolside Cabana Café (open 9am-6pm). It is the perfect place to enjoy a quick sirloin burger (US\$24) or So-Cal omelette (US\$18) washed down with a Beverly Hills Iced Tea (US\$17) when the sun is shining. The poolside setting has hosted many photo shoots, and everyone from Katherine Hepburn to the Beatles has swum here. 9,641 Sunset Boulevard; tel +1 310 276 2251; beverlyhillshotel.com, dorchestercollection.com.

THE PALEY CENTRE FOR MEDIA

Your next stop is a few minutes by car down North Beverly Drive. The Paley Centre was designed by Richard Meier, who also built LA’s Getty Centre in Brentwood, and features his trademark “rationalist” style with plenty of white, clean lines and natural light. As well as changing exhibitions of movie props, costumes and cinema posters, it has a free publicly accessible archive of almost every TV show ever made, along with radio broadcasts from 1919 and adverts from 1949 (check the online database if you are interested in specifics).

When I visited, the Debbie Reynolds Collection was on show, a personal hoard of Hollywood treasures that included dresses worn by Marilyn Monroe. From the new year, there will be items on display from the Warner Bros studios, as well as the sets of

Friends and Seinfeld. The permanent exhibition of original Hirschfeld caricatures from *The New York Times* is also worth a look – examine each one carefully and see if you can spot his daughter’s name, Nina, hidden among the pen strokes. Entry is free and guided tours are available on request. Open 12pm-5pm Wed-Sun, closed Mon-Tues. 465 North Beverly Drive; paleycenter.org

THE CHEESE STORE

A few doors down from the Paley Centre is the Cheese Store of Beverly Hills. You may not be able to take any home with you, but pop in anyway to try a few samples. Established in 1967, the shop stocks about 550

types of fromage – the most expensive being with truffle (US\$50 for 500g) – and caters to the major hotels in the area. It also specialises in Californian cheeses, production of which has been flourishing in recent years, along with mustard, more than 25 types of extra virgin olive oil, vinegar, preserves, honey, Iberico ham, Russian caviar, foie gras, and rough hewn slates for presenting your own smorgasbord of deli snacks.

Have a chat with the bespectacled Norbert, the owner, and try a nugget of salty Parmesan or a slice of creamy Abbaye de Belloc, while keeping an eye out for the odd celeb wandering in to get their groceries. Open Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 12pm-5pm; 419 North Beverly Drive; cheesestorebh.com. If you don’t like cheese, Carroll and Co (carrollandco.com) at 425 North Canon Drive is the ultimate gentleman’s outfitters, and the ideal place to pick up clothing for any Dapper Dan.

RODEO DRIVE

Complete the rest of your tour on foot and at leisure. An amble down Rodeo Drive (one road over from North Beverly Drive) is a must for every fashionista, as it’s lined with glossy boutiques from Ralph Lauren to Chanel. Even if you are not in the mood to shop, it’s a prime spot for soaking up just how much money is floating around here. Pause by one of the perfectly groomed palm trees and you will just as likely notice Botoxed glam-mas walking mini poodles as million-dollar cars.

The world’s most expensive

For the ultimate in engine eye-candy, head for the House of Bijan (bijan.com) at number 420, where you will doubtless spot one of the owner’s Bugatti Veyron super sports cars. Capable of reaching speeds of 408km/ph, it’s the fastest street-legal car in the world and costs no less than US\$2.4 million. Although the Iranian designer died in April, his custom made model remains parked outside as a memorial to him. If you want to shop in Bijan’s menswear store, which is appropriately dubbed “the most expensive in the world”, you will have to make an appointment. And make sure your bank balance will be able to handle it. Visit rodeodrive-bh.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@businesstraveller.pl

Is it worth paying extra?

My friend was flying from Philadelphia to Europe. On the airport when checking-in, she was offered a better seat for 66 dollars extra. When she got onto plane, she didn't see any difference between her seat and the others. A passenger sitting next to her in the middle seat didn't pay extra. She felt disappointed that she had paid more for the same kind of seat.

Magda

Dear Magda,

Your friend shouldn't feel disappointed or deceived. More and more airlines introduce the so called Ancillary Services, i.e. extra services, which are also extra charged. One of them is promoting preferable seats on a plane. Initially, it may seem that all seats are identical. In fact, all seats in the economy class look the same. But the reality is, there are better and worse places to seat. The better ones include those at the front of an airplane, where you don't feel the turbulences so much, and there is less noise. Nobody likes to seat close to the lavatories or kitchen, where there is always something going on. On long-haul flights, the middle seats are also not very popular, especially among claustrophobic passengers. Most people chose the seat next to the aisle, which give a better freedom to move around. Experienced passengers ask for seats next to the emergency exit in the first row, because these seats come with a bigger leg room.

Airlines have collected a number of seats fulfilling these requirements. Usually these are reserved for people with special needs: children travelling without supervision of an adult, wheel-chaired passengers or elderly people with health issues. It turned out, however, that these might be promoted for an extra charge, due to a big demand. The extra seat charge is between 45 - 80 dollars, and depends on the route. These services are more and more popular in American and Asian airlines.

Because of the procedural reasons, the seats next to the emergency exit cannot be given to passengers under 15, those who cannot speak English or unable to assist other passengers. Not even for an extra charge.

Baggage allowance on US routes

Dear Peter, In August I'm flying to Boston with Lufthansa airlines. I got myself a Miles&More card to be able to collect points. In the travel agency I was told, I was allowed to take only 1 piece of luggage of 23 kg max. Is it true? Thank you for your reply.

Adam

Dear Adam,

Your travel agency gave you correct information. Lufthansa airlines use the so called piece system baggage allowance when flying to the USA in economy class. That means, that you are allowed to take 1 piece of check-in luggage for free, of the maximum weight of 23 kg. The dimensions of your baggage (length, width and depth) shouldn't exceed 158 centimetres. If your baggage exceeds the 23 kg allowance, you will be charge extra. With piece baggage allowance system, you are charge not for every extra kg, but for an extra piece of luggage.

What's more, you are allowed to hand luggage (1 piece in economy class) of no more than 8kg, and size of 55cm x 40cm x 23 cm maximum. A foldable suit bag could be slightly bigger than that. Hand luggage has to fit in the overhead locker, or under the set in front of you. The only exception is the seats next to the emergency exit - you can't place your luggage there.

In is different with business and first class - here you can take 2 and 3 pieces of luggage respectively, each should weigh no more than 32 kilometres. The above allowances are also available for Miles&More programme members, who reached the status of Frequent Traveller, Senator, HON Circle, or Gold Member. When travelling in economy class they can check-in two pieces of luggage of 23 kg for free. That's why I encourage you to fly often and collect Miles&More programme points. Additional privileges include access to business class lounge, separate check-in counter and highest waiting list priority.

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