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# BIG HITTER

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**Editorial** 4

**On Top**

- Hotel, restaurant, and airline news 6
- Giftmania 30

**Cover Story** 12

- Big hitter

**Tried&Tested** 18

- Anantara Kihavah 18
- Coco Bodu Hithi 22
- Aries Hotel&SPA 26
- Belvedere restaurant 28

**Report** 32

- Join the club

**Air Travel** 40

- 260 destinations in the winter schedule 40
- Adjust Your Flight to Your Needs 42

**Hotels** 44

- Sofitel – life is magnifique 44
- Experience Asia with InAzia restaurant 46

**Interview** 48

- Orbis - a New Chapter in the History

**Destinations** 50

- Red city retreat 50
- Taste: Porto 58
- 4 hours in... London 64

**A Business Person on Holiday** 56

- Specialite de la maison

**Moto&Techno** 60

- Featherweight champiونس

**Ask Peter** 66

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# CHICAGO FOR THE NEW YEAR

The Windy City, the Hog Butcher of the World, the City That Works. These are just some of the nicknames for Chicago – the city of Al Capone, the cradle of American blues, a favourite destination of Frank Sinatra, a mecca for modern architecture and Polish diaspora. Chicago is featured on the cover of our winter holiday issue for good reason. It continues to develop dynamically, which is best evidenced by the fact that it is called the Second Silicon Valley. Just like years ago, today it again has become a new opportunity for companies, especially those from the technology sector. It is also the place where new, sophisticated hotels are built, along with the finest restaurants and housing for the wealthiest residents.

The mayor of Chicago wants it to be the most business-friendly city in the country. In the past few years the Windy City has benefited from 26,000 new jobs and the arrival of 100 large companies, 25 of which have their headquarters here. Chicago authorities have also developed an investment strategy to create Fulton Market Innovation District whose aim is to balance the area's historic role as a centre for food production and distribution, along with its more recent evolution as a home to innovative industries, culture, nightlife and housing. One of the most exciting projects is 1K Fulton, a 50,000 sqm converted warehouse that will soon be home to bike-part manufacturer SRAM Corporation, and to Google in 2016. On behalf of the entire editorial staff and the publisher, I would like to wish you a wonderful and passionate New Year 2015, with plans at least as ambitious as those of the Windy City.



Marzena Mróz

Marzena Mróz  
Editor-in-Chief

SIMPLY CLEVER

ŠKODA



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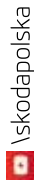
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## Airlines

### Lufthansa

#### BYDGOSZCZ - FRANKFURT MARCH 2015

Four flights a week to and from Frankfurt - Bydgoszcz is the ninth Polish airport where Lufthansa operates. This convenient connection lets you travel to almost 160 cities worldwide with only one change!

Lufthansa is strengthening its position in the market, announcing Bydgoszcz – Frankfurt route. The first flight will take place on 29 March 2015. The modern Embraer 90 aircraft with 100 seats configured in Business and Economy classes will take off from Bydgoszcz airport four times a week: on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. Flight number LH1382 will leave Lufthansa's hub at 10.55 am to reach Bydgoszcz at 12.25 pm. The return flight LH1383 will take passengers from Bydgoszcz at 1.15 pm to land in Frankfurt at 2.45 pm.

"We are very pleased to be able to announce our ninth route from Poland, especially because Lufthansa is the first international carrier operating from Bydgoszcz. We believe in the business potential of Polish regions and we have been investing in them for years. Now the well-connected global network of Lufthansa is accessible from all over the country," said Bart Buyse, General Manager for Poland at Lufthansa. "With the convenient flight schedule between Bydgoszcz and Frankfurt, Lufthansa has become a great choice for regional business and leisure travellers, as well as foreigners visiting beautiful Kujawsko-Pomorskie region and its residents who wish to benefit from Lufthansa's worldwide connections," he added.

## Hotel

### New menu

#### MANOR HOUSE SPA

The autumn menu of the restaurant at the Manor House SPA features three delicious dishes made with goose gizzard. Jewish confit of goose gizzard is a unique treat, which owes its unique flavour to the fat of goose and fresh vegetables. Noble soup of goose gizzard with oyster mushroom, flavoured with marjoram and nutmeg, is a true delicacy. It's based on chicken bouillon and gently thickened with flour and its distinctive taste is highlighted by various spices. The third suggestion is Polish pierogis with stewed goose gizzard, cabbage and mushrooms, served with



**browned onions – the combination of these ingredients results in a truly aromatic dish. The browned onion enriches and deepens the flavour of the served dish. The feast is complemented by the natural, unclarified apple juice, also in combination with other fruit. It's delivered to the restaurants from a local orchard.**

**On a cold day you should try hot apple punch made with apple juice with cinnamon, cloves, a slice of orange and lemon juice. manorhouse.pl**



## Tourism

### Switzerland

#### START TO THE SEASON

Wonderful nature, fantastic culture – it's not an accident that Switzerland was a birthplace of winter tourism 150 years ago. This special, anniversary season will see a number of interesting events taking place in Swiss ski resorts. From December 2014 until March 2015 Seletta Gallery in St Moritz will hold an exhibition of posters depicting the tradition of winter sports in this town. Also to celebrate the anniversary a new, spectacular suspension bridge named Peak Walk was opened on Glacier 3000. It's the world's first bridge to link two mountain tops, and Espace is probably the most spectacular mountain restaurant in the region. We have good news for ski and yoga enthusiasts. The world's first venue to practice yoga in the snow is located on Paradiso route on Corviglia mountain. How can you not love Switzerland? mojaszwajcaria.pl



FOT.: MATERIAŁY PRA-SOWE



## Nowy Audi Leasing z bezpłatnym pakietem przebiegów serwisowych



### Audi A3 Limousine

dostępne już od

<b>1030*</b>	optata wstępna	okres leasingowania	limit kilometrów
<b>1030*</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>3 lata</b>	<b>30 tys.</b>
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Dla ludzi biznesu, którzy cenią perfekcyjne rozwiązania, przygotowaliśmy Nowy Audi Leasing z atrakcyjną, niską ratą i bezpłatnym pakietem przebiegów serwisowych\*\*. Audi A3 Limousine dostępne jest już od 1030 zł\* netto miesięcznie. Wystarczy, że wpłacisz tylko 10% ceny samochodu. Po trzech latach możesz zmienić swoje Audi na nowe. Zapraszamy do salonów, w których profesjonalnie przeszkoleni doradcy chętnie odpowiedzą na Państwa pytania oraz pomogą sfinalizować wszelkie formalności związane z ofertą Nowy Audi Leasing.

Więcej na [www.audibusiness.pl](http://www.audibusiness.pl)

\* Miesięczna rata netto w ofercie Nowego Audi Leasingu dla Audi A3 Limousine 1.4 TFSI 125 KM w cenie 102 670 zł brutto.

\*\* Bezpłatny pakiet przebiegów serwisowych w ramach oferty Pakiet serwisowy Audi, który obejmuje prace przeglądowe zgodnie z planem serwisowym, w tym: wymianę płynu hamulcowego, filtrów kabinowego/paliwa/powietrza, świec zapłonowych, wymianę oleju, uzupełnienie płynu do spryskiwaczy.

Pakiet serwisowy Audi obejmuje okres 3 lat i maksymalnie 90 000 km przebiegu. Warunki Pakietu serwisowego Audi określa umowa. Szczegóły u dealerów Audi.

W zależności od wariantu i wersji dla Audi A3 Limousine zużycie paliwa w cyklu mieszanym: od 3,3 do 6,5 l/100 km, emisja CO<sub>2</sub>: od 88 do 149 g/km.

Informacje dotyczące odzysku i recyklingu pojazdów wycofanych z eksploatacji znajdują się na stronie [www.audi.pl](http://www.audi.pl).

Oferta ważna do 31.12.2014.



## Turkey

### Erzurum

#### SKI DESTINATION

Erzurum region is the place for skiers seeking new challenges. Its advantages are slopes for beginners and advanced skiers, high quality hotels with private lifts, as well as après ski attractions, which means that the place is a perfect choice for families with children. Additional advantages of the Turkish destination are attractive prices of ski-passes and the opportunity to taste the local cuisine. In 2010, the resort finished construction of the ultra-modern ski jumping complex called Kiremittepe Ski Jump. In 2011, the town hosted the 25th Winter Universiade, and in 2012 held the 45th FIS Nordic Junior World Ski Championships. Approximately 5 km east of Erzurum is one of the most famous Turkish ski resorts - Palandöken. It offers 27 slopes of varying difficulty, including two FIS slalom pistes – Ejder and Kapikaya. The difference in level between the upper and lower lift station is 1,000 m. The slopes are serviced by 14 lifts.

## Airlines

### Air France KLM

#### NEW CONNECTIONS TO CANADA

In 2015, Air France KLM will expand their flight network in North America with two new routes to Edmonton and Vancouver. The cooperation with the regional carrier Westjet, will allow the Group to provide further 38 destinations within Canada. In this way, Air France KLM will be offer the greatest number of flights from Europe to Western Canada. Edmonton is the capital of the Canadian province of Alberta and the fifth largest city in Canada (after Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver and Calgary). From 5 May 2015, KLM will fly to Edmonton three times a week. Beginning 29 March 2015, the famous city of Vancouver where the mountains meet the ocean, will be served five times a week with flights taking off from Paris CDG airport. More info at [airfranceklm.com](http://airfranceklm.com)



## Airlines

### airberlin

#### WIFI ON BOARD

The airberlin group has equipped the first two aircraft in its fleet with the new 'airberlin connect' Wi-Fi service. The two Airbus A320, registered D-ABNJ and OE-LEL, now boast a Wi-Fi system from Panasonic Avionics Corporation, so passengers can access the internet with their own smartphone, tablet or laptop during the flight. In addition, passengers on short and medium-haul flights will enjoy an entertainment offering with TV series, movies and music available for streaming to their own device with the new Wi-Fi service. Passengers will be able to choose their own personal entertainment from more than 180 hours of media. The first two aircraft equipped with airberlin connect will service the new Stuttgart-Abu Dhabi and Vienna-Abu Dhabi routes. The first flight from Stuttgart to Abu Dhabi took off on 1st December 2014. On long-haul routes, passengers will continue to enjoy the RAVE in-seat entertainment system.



## Airlines

### Lufthansa

#### WE CAN FLY TO TAMPA

For the very first time in its history, Lufthansa will offer service to the Tampa Bay area, the gateway to the West Coast of Florida. The new nonstop service from Frankfurt will begin on September 25, 2015. The airline will be operating five weekly flights in summer and four weekly in win-



ter on the Airbus A340-300 on the route between Frankfurt and Tampa. The Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater area, a rapidly growing metropolitan region with nearly three million residents, sits on the Gulf of Mexico and boasts some of America's best beaches.

Flight LH 482 will leave Lufthansa's Frankfurt hub and arrive in Tampa in the afternoon (local time) after a flight of nearly eleven hours. The return from Florida is a night flight, which will depart in the early evening and touch down at Frankfurt Airport in the morning of the following day. A340-300 seats a total of 298 passengers in Business, Premium Economy and Economy Class offering the comforts and quality that Lufthansa is known for. The newest cabin layout will be available in all traveling classes. The return trip to Tampa can be booked from 739 euros.



## Africa

### Bon voyage

#### SAFARI NJEMA!

It's barely a surprise that this time of year it's cold outside and the sky is covered tightly with clouds. But wouldn't it be great if you could spend this winter in a unique place full of sunshine, wild animals, interesting people, and paradise-like beaches? We invite you to an exclusive safari in the style of the first explorers of Africa. Travellers are greeted here with loud "Safari njema!", which means 'have a nice trip' in Swahili. The signature Tanzania Northern Highlands travel programme is, in fact, a happy journey, packed with close encounters with untamed African nature, and enriched with comfortable accommodation and meetings with ethnic groups living far away from civilization. The culmination of the exploration of Tanzania is relaxation on the snow-white beaches of the sunny Zanzibar. If a trip to Africa still seems like an unreal dream to you, Africa Line travel agency will help you make it come true. More details at: [africaline.pl](http://africaline.pl)

## A Christmas gift

### LOT Travel

#### FOR SKIERS AND BEACHGOERS

The mobile sales office has been launched in Warsaw's Mokotów Gallery, where LOT Travel consultants help you prepare an individual offer for an attractive stay anywhere in the world. The range of offered services is very wide: from booking air tickets or private transfers to a hotel, to reserving hotel rooms, or tickets to tourist attractions. The most popular choices for December are ski trips, as well as travel packages to exotic warm destinations. Ski aficionado will be happy to hear that LOT Travel has prepared for them individual trips to Chamonix, Via Lattea or Les Diableretes. For those who long for the sun and warm sea, LOT Travel offers trips to Sri Lanka, Cuba, Venezuela, or Zanzibar. A novelty in the offer of the office are gift vouchers, which can be used to buy trips as well as tickets and merchandise from [airkiosk.lot.com](http://airkiosk.lot.com). LOT Travel has prepared a whole "bag" of Christmas inspirations. More at [lottravel.com](http://lottravel.com).

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## Airlines

### Alitalia

## MAGNIFICA - NEW MENU

Starting in November, when traveling in Magnifica, Alitalia's business class, guests will enjoy new menus created and inspired by the distinction of Italy's culinary heritage. For the next three months, Magnifica Class guests will enjoy sweet and savoury delicacies including: savarin hen with sweet and sour pickles and pesto mayonnaise; taleggio DOP rice "timaballo" with spinach and potatoes; or beef medallions in a white wine sauce garnished with potato rosettes. All this complemented by a wide selection of pastries and seasonal fruit, and, top it all off, Italian espresso. In 2013, Alitalia received, for four consecutive years, the award for Best Airline Cuisine in Global Traveler 2013 GT Readers Tested Survey, and on our intercontinental flights, our guests are treated to linens designed by Italian luxury brand Frette and amenity kits with personal care items designed by Salvatore Ferragamo. New Airbus A330 and Boeing B777 aircraft have been reconfigured in the three classes of service: Magnifica, business class on intercontinental routes, Classica Plus, our Premium Economy, and Classica, the new economy. In addition to award-winning cuisine and wine, Magnifica class guests are pampered with all-aisle seats, upholstered in leather, that convert to true flatbeds, reclining a full 180 degrees and large 15.4 inch LCD screens providing on-demand audio & video.

## Hotel

### Radisson Blu Hotel Wrocław

## RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS

Responsible Business is a cornerstone of the corporate culture of Carlson Rezidor Hotel Group. Hotels of the chain care about the health and safety of both guests and employees, respect the social and ethical issues in the communities in which they operate, and seek to minimize the negative impact on the environment. The three pillars of this programme are: „Think planet, think people, think together”. As part of the Responsible Business programme, Radisson Blu in Wrocław has presented



an ecological sculpture made in collaboration with the artist of the Academy of Fine Arts in Wrocław.

The figure was made from plastic. Its creation required the use of hundreds of plastic bottles. The aim of the campaign was to promote the idea of taking care of the Earth the natural environment, as well as the preservation of natural harmony between the environment and business. Radisson Blu Hotel Wrocław offers 162 guest rooms, as well as a 450 sq m conference centre. Piotr Lisiewski, the head chef of Aquarelle restaurant offers hotel guests a great variety of dining experiences with dishes of Polish and international cuisine. More details at: [radissonblu.pl/hotel-wroclaw](http://radissonblu.pl/hotel-wroclaw)



## Airlines

### Finnair

## CULINARY DELIGHTS BY FINNAIR

Finnair is launching cooperation with the leading Finnish restaurants Nokka, G.W. Sundmans, Savoy and Fishmarket. Their chefs, Matti Jämsén from G.W. Sundmans, Ari Ruoho from Nokka and Kari Aihinen from Savoy, have designed Signature Menus that will be available in Business class on long-haul flights from Helsinki from the end of January 2015.

As part of the cooperation, Finnair will also offer special menus next year to celebrate the arrival of the new Airbus A350 aircraft as well as Christmas.

“We have received very positive feedback from customers regarding our previous cooperation with top Finnish chefs, and we want to continue to offer delightful culinary experiences to our customers while also highlighting Finnish world-class expertise on our long-haul flights,” says Maarit Keränen, Head of Service Concept at Finnair. All of the restaurants participating in this cooperation are part of Royal Restaurants, including the best restaurants in Finland. Each of the Signature Menus reflects the unique and recognisable style of the chefs behind them.



FOT.: MATERIAŁY PRA-SOWE

Turcja

# HOME OF PALANDÖKEN

## PALANDÖKEN

Usytuowana na wysokości 2000-3176 metrów majestatyczna Góra Palandöken to 28 kilometrów świetnie przygotowanych tras, możliwość nieprzerwanego zjazdu przez 12 kilometrów, głęboki na 3 metry śnieg oraz sezon narciarski trwający 150 dni. Czy lubisz miło spędzać czas po nartach? Odwiedź pobliskie miasto Erzurum, pospaceruj historycznymi uliczkami, poznaj dzieła architektury seldżuckiej i spróbuj tutejszych potraw. Chwile przyjemności są bliżej niż myślisz. **Odkryj Turcję, home of Palandöken. Bądź naszym gościem!**



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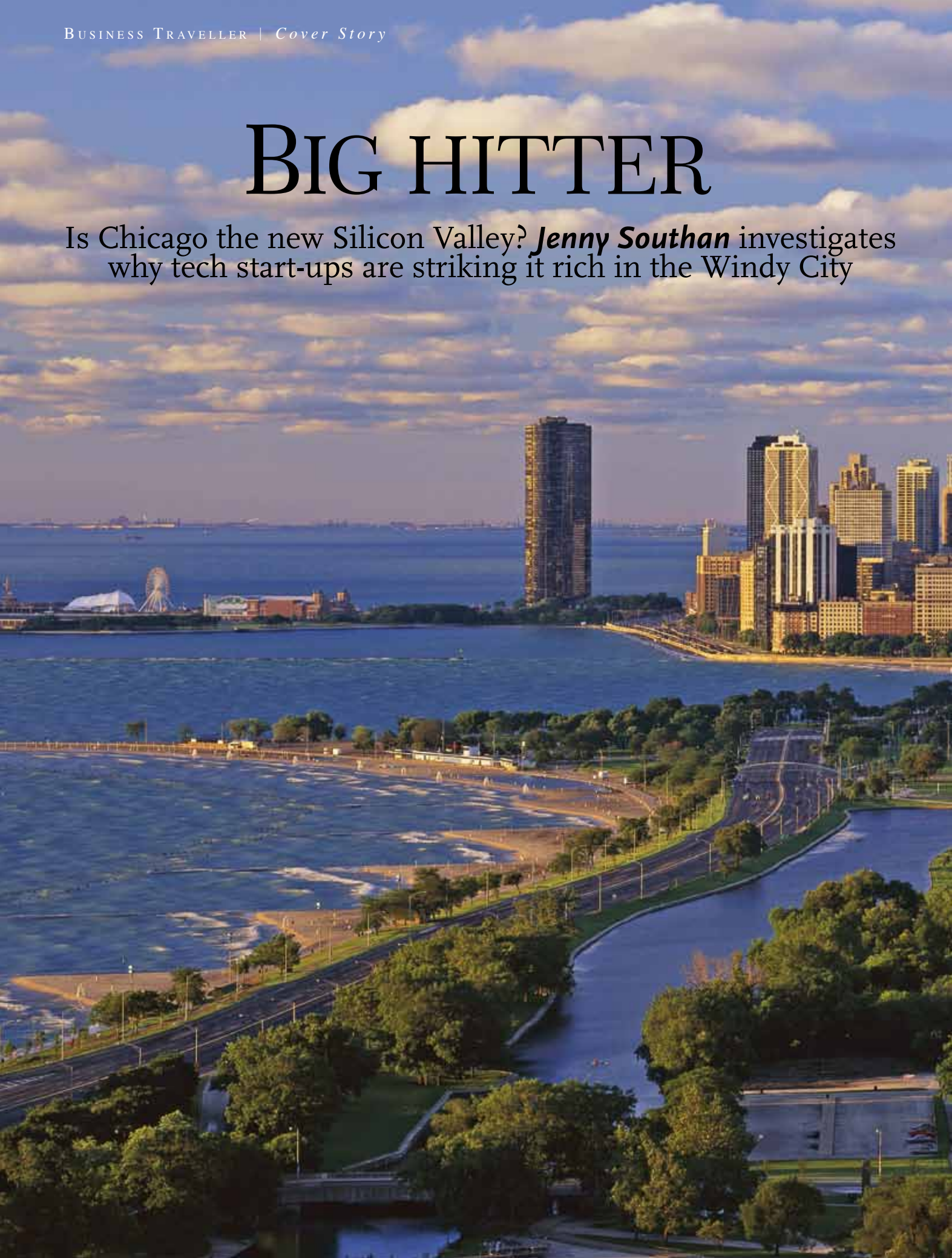
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# BIG HITTER

Is Chicago the new Silicon Valley? **Jenny Southan** investigates why tech start-ups are striking it rich in the Windy City





**S**alt peanuts! Crackerjacks! Cold Buds, anybody? shout the vendors as they walk up and down the steps between the stalls.

Overhead, an organist breaks into a cheery rendition of The Doors' Light My Fire, while the aroma of hotdogs and mustard drifts past in the breeze. "Nice hair, Kershaw!" yells a spectator from behind me, in a dig at the opposing team's star pitcher, Clayton Kershaw of the LA Dodgers.

There is no more quintessential American experience than a live baseball game, and seeing the Cubs play at Chicago's Wrigley Field is something special – not because the home team is particularly good (they are renowned for losing, in fact) but as the stadium is so iconic.

This year marks its 100th anniversary, and it is one of the only ones in the country that still has a hand-turned scoreboard. Beyond the outer perimeter, the owners of apartment blocks facing the field have installed bleachers on their rooftops, and they're packed with onlookers.

## OPEN TO INNOVATION

The reason I am graced with the privilege is thanks to a certain JB Pritzker, who I was interviewing earlier in the day. He's friends with Cubs chairman Tom Ricketts and insists on giving me a ticket.

Needless to say, Pritzker is a big hitter, although in business rather than in baseball terms. I meet him at his office, which is on the 40th floor of the Deloitte building in the West Loop and has original paintings by Damien Hirst in the reception area.

A venture capitalist, entrepreneur and philanthropist worth US\$3.3 billion, he set up private investment firm the Pritzker Group with his brother Anthony in 1996. The pair come from good stock, too – his father built the Hyatt Hotel group from the ground up, and the Forbes 400 list of US billionaires features more Pritzkers than any other family.

Also in the meeting is Michael Higgins, chief executive of Entertainment Cruises, which was bought by the Pritzker Group in 2012. He says: "The Pritzker name is syn-

onymous with Chicago – you'll notice it at Millennium Park [where the Frank Gehry-designed Pritzker Pavilion concert hall is located], and at many of the hospitals and universities. His name is everywhere."

Entertainment Cruises is the largest dining-cum-sightseeing company in the country, Higgins tells me, with 32 vessels serving nine cities. In Chicago, trips depart from Navy Pier, with about half a million people (mostly corporates) enjoying the skyline from the water each year.

The Pritzker Group's investments spread far and wide, from medical device manufacturer Clinical Innovations to rental company PECO Palet, but it's digital tech that has really captured JB's interest.

With more than 120 tech investments to his name so far, including Facebook, Sitter City, SMS Assist and Signal, he's personally responsible for enabling much of the start-up success taking place in Chicago. "In the past two years we had tech job growth just behind Silicon Valley," he says. "That is a lot of progress in a short space of time."



Fortune 500 companies headquartered in the Windy City include Aon, Boeing, Exelon Corporation and United, while McDonalds is just outside in Oak Brook.



Funnily enough, JB was born in Silicon Valley, and he says 20 years ago people wouldn't have believed anyone could build a venture capital firm in Chicago because it wasn't considered a centre of technological innovation. "In the past five years there has been an acceleration in the amount of talent, company creation and capital that has come in – Chicago has been transformed into a terrific environment for entrepreneurs," he says. "There are a dozen examples in just the past couple of years of multibillion-dollar tech companies coming out of the city. We have Groupon, GrubHub – a food delivery service now worth US\$3.5 billion – Orbitz and online brokerage OptionsXpress, which was recently acquired by Charles Schwab for US\$1 billion."

### AS IN AN INCUBATOR

Before heading to the baseball game, I visit 1871, a tech incubator that popped up two and a half years ago in the Merchandise Mart, one of the world's biggest commercial complexes, encompassing two city blocks and 25 floors. Motorola Mobility opened its new global HQ here in April, taking over the top four levels. In August, it was announced that San Francisco-based review site Yelp would move in in January, hiring 300 new employees over the coming year. Dedicated to helping the brightest entrepreneurs launch their start-ups, that 1871 exists at all is down to a US\$1 million investment from Pritzker and his calls for support from the business community.

"We have 500-600 members, 105 desks, 26 conference rooms and a 300-person auditorium for 'hackathons' and networking events. It's a huge non-profit ecosystem with 1,000 people a day walking in and out, 24/7," says 1871's programming co-ordinator, Jasmine Slivka

In May last year, it was reported that 800 jobs were created by the 225 start-ups working out of 1871 in the first year – this autumn sees the unveiling of a US\$2.5 million expansion, increasing its size by 50 per cent.

Howard Tullman, chief executive of 1871 – which is named after the year the Great Chicago Fire happened, and was inspired by the rapid rebuilding that took place after – has been reported as saying he hopes to boost the number of start-ups and venture capital firms to 400 by the end of the year. Times have changed since the 1970s, when the area was the equivalent of LA's Skid Row, full of prostitutes and homeless people. Now, real-estate prices are rocketing, with office rents jumping more than 25 per cent in the past two years.

### THE DEVELOPING ZONE

About a mile away, across the river, is the West Loop's up-and-coming Fulton Market district. More commonly known as the Meatpacking district, Fulton Market was put on the map – literally – in the run-up to the opening of the Soho House Chicago members' club and hotel, which launched this summer in a renovated 1900s industrial belting factory.

Jeff Shapack, president of real-estate company Shapack Partners, describes Soho House as the "catalyst" for change, with top restaurants such as Green Street Smoked Meats, Girl and Goat, Au Cheval and the Aviary (with its Office speakeasy underneath) all gracing the area with their presence.

The City of Chicago, meanwhile, has drawn up an investment strategy to create the Fulton Market Innovation District, the boundaries of which are Ogden Avenue, Hubbard, Halsted and Randolph streets. The website, [cityofchicago.org](http://cityofchicago.org), reads: "The plan is intended to balance the area's historic role as a centre for food production and distribution, along with its more recent evolution as a home to innovative industries, culture, nightlife and housing." One of the most exciting projects is 1K Fulton, a 50,000 sqm converted warehouse that will soon be home to bike-part manufacturer SRAM Corporation, and to Google in 2016 (its offices are currently in River North).

Co-working space provider We Work has a base in Fulton Market, while taxi app Uber has also taken a lease in the district. In addition, there are rumours that an Ace hotel will be arriving, while Nobu Hospitality is planning a 12-storey hotel and restaurant for 2016.

### A FRIENDLY CITY

Last October, the mayor put JB Pritzker in charge of Chicago Next, a new branch of World Business Chicago, an organisation dedicated to furthering "new venture for-



This year, Chicago is expecting to welcome 49.5 million visitors. By 2020, the goal is 55 million, and a number of hotels are in development to cater for the extra numbers.

mation and accelerating the growth and/or expansion of established businesses". Fortune 500 companies headquartered in the Windy City include Aon, Boeing, Exelon Corporation and United, while McDonalds is just outside in Oak Brook.

Jeff Malehorn, World Business Chicago's president and chief executive, says: "Mayor Emanuel is focused on making Chicago the most business-friendly city in the nation – since he took office, he has announced more than 26,000 new jobs at 100 companies, including 25 headquarters." He adds: "Chicago has become an innovation hub, with 300 corporate R&D facilities, more than US\$3 billion invested in start-ups over the past five years, and 1,700 patents issued to inventors last year alone." Back at Wrigley Field, a ball comes flying into the crowd not far from me. A scrum of people leap to their feet to catch the speeding bullet as the Dodgers' AJ Ellis sprints for a home run.

Predictably, the Cubs suffer a 14-5 defeat, but at least I know that when it comes to business, Chicago is a winner.

### SOHO HOUSE HITS CHICAGO

The Chicago outpost debuted in the Fulton Market district in June and, with 40 hotel rooms and more than 11,000 sqm of space across six floors, is the largest so far. Unlike other clubs, certain areas are open to all – these include Pizza East, Chicken Shop,

Cowshed spa, Neville barbers and the buzzy Allis lobby lounge.

Guestrooms can also be booked by non-members. Available in Tiny and Small (23 sqm-32 sqm), Medium (46 sqm) and Medium Plus (56 sqm), they have double-height ceilings, exposed concrete walls, reclaimed timber floors and gorgeous vintage furnishings.

They also come with everything from a full bar with 375ml bottles of spirits, shakers and decanters, to a Marshall amp for plugging in devices, a Nespresso machine, straightening irons, full-size bottles of Cowshed products and free wifi.

Hotel residents can use the superb 1,400 sqm gym, which features cutting-edge Technogym machines and a boxing ring with old-school skipping ropes and punch bags, and an 18-metre rooftop pool. Other facilities include a 30-seat cinema, the Belt room for 100-person receptions, and the Club floor with a huge open-plan bar and two restaurants.

Note that no suits and ties are allowed, and photography and phones are banned. Expect excellent service.

Soho House Chicago, 113-125 North Green Street; tel +1 312 521 8000; sohohousechicago.com

### HOTEL SCENE HOTS UP

This year, Chicago is expecting to welcome 49.5 million visitors – by 2020, the goal is 55 million, and a number of hotels are in

development to cater for the extra numbers. Don Welsh, chief executive of Choose Chicago, says: "We are probably one of the fastest-growing hotel markets in the world right now. In 2011 we had 33,000 available rooms, and now we have about 38,000 daily. If everything in the pipeline opens by 2020, we will have 43,000 to 44,000 rooms."

In 2011, the Radisson Blu Aqua became the first from the brand to open in the US – you will easily spot the rippling façade of the 82-storey Aqua building.

Last year saw the arrival of the five-star, 316-room Langham, the 247-room Thompson and the 272-room Aloft Chicago City Centre, while the 2,020-room Hyatt Regency completed a US\$168 million revamp.

In February this year, the 221-room Godfrey was unveiled in a quirky Cubist-inspired block designed by architect David Jennerjahn. Not long after, the 215-room Kinzie took over the former Hotel Amalfi, while the spring welcomed Hotel Indigo Chicago Millennium Park with 156 rooms in the converted Atlantic Bank Building.

Bookings for the first-ever hotel (at 203 North Wabash, just north of Millennium Park) start on January 15. It will have a "social club" (a hybrid lobby bar, study and restaurant), an American diner, a rooftop bar, a gym and spa, and will offer free wifi and minibars stocked at street prices.

A 54-storey, 1,200-room Marriott Marquis will open on McCormick Place in the South Loop in 2017.



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# ANANTARA KIHAVAH



## CONTACT

Anantara Kihavah  
Maldives, Baa Atoll  
[www.anantara.com](http://www.anantara.com)

**A**nantara Kihavah Villas is located in Baa atoll, 125 km north of Malé reached by a 35-minute scenic seaplane journey taking you to the doorstep of Hanifaru Bay, a UNESCO marine biosphere reserve. Set on Kihavah Huravalhi, one of the most pristine Maldivian islands, the resort is 30-minute seaplane flight from Male International Airport, an unforgettable experience in itself as the plane flies over a string of glowing coral islands amidst turquoise waters. 79 spacious private pool villas, ranging from 260 to 2,730 square meters, are either poised over the water with sweeping ocean

views or nestled along a pristine stretch of private beach. Guests can snorkel some of the world's most treasured reefs within a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve, explore uninhabited islands encircled by abundant reefs home to turtles, eels and beautiful coral formations, or cruise in solitude into a tapestry of unimaginable colours to a glorious Maldivian sunset.

## BEACH POOL VILLA

I stayed in a Beach Pool Villa, which consists of a bedroom with a large wooden bed and terrace with private swimming pool. The most impressive is the bathroom. It is twice the size of the bedroom and features a

huge round bath, which you enter via a special platform while the floor of the bathroom sinks in water. In other villas the tub is the focal point of the living room and in houses built on the water the bath with glass bottom is recessed into the floor. In this you can take a bath and watch fish floating around the house. The 258 square metre Beach Pool Villas are nestled directly on the sand and are complemented with Thai silks, rich earthy colours and elegant wooded accents. Their huge beds are dressed in Egyptian cotton with a pillow selected from the resort's luxurious "bedding by design" menu. From Bose sound system and

wine chiller, to iPod docking and espresso machine, these Maldives Pool Villas offer every luxury you can think of.

### RESTAURANTS

At Anantara Kihavah Villas guests are treated to a host of dining options across various world cuisines. The resort's four restaurants are named Sea, Fire, Salt, and Sky. In Sea, you can experience the world's first underwater wine cellar and one of only a few underwater restaurants. Prepare to be amazed as a brilliant array of sea life swim, dart and dance before your eyes. The international gourmet menu accompanied with a choice of wines spanning nine decades is truly world class and paired by Anantara Kihava's resident Wine Guru.

Fire restaurant features the Teppanyaki lounge with a dome ceiling reaching for the sky. The chef invites the guests to flip an egg and catch it mid-air - a sure fire hit with the children. Salt, on the other hand is a perfect place to try Asian inspired red snapper or tender lamb cooked to perfection on a Himalayan salt block, offering unique depth and complexity of flavours. The resident Salt Sommelier pairs dishes with the perfect seasoning, opening your eyes to the fascinating and surprisingly nuanced world of salt. Sky is a place to go for light bites, tropical concoctions, cool beers and wines in the afternoon. As the evening unfolds, you can relax at the mellow rooftop bar with a selection of shisha flavours, cocktails and liqueurs, including Kihavah Island Tea, blending Indian Ocean white rum and Arak with lychee, peach and squeezed lemon lightened with a dash of Earl Grey Tea. Breakfast is served in Plates restaurant which features a glass roof. The choice is huge - from light yoghurts and fresh fruits to Champagne, soft cheese and eggs made just the way you like them. You can return here for



It is a unique place, set on Kihavah Huravalhi, one of the most pristine Maldivian islands. 79 spacious private pool villas are either poised over the water with sweeping ocean views or nestled along a pristine stretch of private beach.



Hotel

MALEDIWIY



Sea is the world's first underwater wine cellar and one of only a few underwater restaurants. Prepare to be amazed as a brilliant array of sea life swim, dart and dance before your eyes.

a candlelit dinner, savouring a tantalizing buffet selection of Maldivian seafood and bold flavours. Manzaru is a pool bar and restaurant located just off one of the longest swimming pools in the Maldives. Attentive Sunshine Butlers serve here an array of exotic juices, Mediterranean salads and fresh pastas, as well as fruit skewers and cold towels. In the evening, it is time for the best Italian cuisine. As the day slowly drifts away with the setting sun, indulge in the ultimate romantic dining journey. For a personal experience of guests, a

specially devised menu is prepared by a personal chef and served at a table for two, whether on an isolated sandbank in the Indian Ocean or the deck of a private yacht.

**OVER WATER ANANTARA SPA**

Stroll across the jetty to 6 over-water treatment suites at Anantara Spa and reward yourself with the lavish attention of professional therapists. Treatments offered here draw from the wisdom of the earth, using the healing properties of natural ingredients to enrich, detoxify, polish and restore. Undoubt-

edly, the spa is a place where you can truly depart from the world and experience a relaxing transformation.

**VERDICT**

The strongest point of the resort is its spectacular underwater restaurant, as well as the huge floating bathrooms. You should also visit the remarkable Anantara Spa, try wine from the wide range offered by the resort, as well as scuba dive on the reef. Tranquil private villas. It is a truly good place for a holiday at the end of the world.

*Rafał Sobiech*



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# COCO BODU HITHI



This 5-star hotel, located on the North Male, is one of the most visited places in the Maldives.

**P**aradise beaches, cinema over the ocean, and dozens of villas, offering peace and privacy. The 5-star Coco Bodu Hithi hotel in the Maldives draws inspiration from good local traditions.

## LOCATION

The hotel is situated on the North Male Atoll, close to the international airport of the capital of the Maldives. It's one of the most visited regions in this area. The Atoll extends across the central part of the country, and being here it's worth spending a day or two in the capital city of Male, to see the Grand Friday Mosque, the Presidential Palace, the National Museum, as well as the largest fish market in the Maldives. A transfer to Coco Bodu Hithi from Male Airport shouldn't take more than 40 minutes. Several hectares of beach and atoll are home to almost a hundred intimate villas with private swimming pools.

## VILLAS

The hotel complex features 100 villas. Guests can choose from four types of accommodation: Island Villa, Water Villa, Escape Water Villa, and Escape Water Residence.

The smallest one - the Island Villa - is a perfect place for couples. They will find here a spacious area that comprises a living room with a sofa and coffee table, as well as a bedroom with double bed and a large bath. The living area features an LCD TV and a private bar.

Each house of this type has a terrace which descends to the sandy beach along the ocean, while at the back you can relax in a private garden with a small pool and an outdoor shower.

Water Villas are placed on stilts just above the turquoise water. The living room area is here separated from a large bathroom with two bathtubs. The glass-fronted bedroom overlooks the ocean. Water Villas are equipped with a large LCD TV, a DVD player, and a minibar. They also have private plunge pools.

More impressive are Escape Water Villas. They are larger than Water Villas and situated partly on the beach and partly on stilts, providing direct access to the ocean. They are also distinguished by a large private pool. All rooms are separated from each other-the spacious bathroom has a double bath with Jacuzzi, a changing room and shower, while the living room features a large sofa, an armchair, Hi-Fi equipment, an LCD TV, a DVD player, as well as a bar area with a fully equipped kitchen.

Escape Water Residences are located slightly off the beaten track. These are the largest of stilt houses built at the resort. The rooms are tall with glass walls, allowing the place to be filled with lots of natural light. The residence is designed in the genuine Maldivian style, with a lot of local wood and brown tones. The spacious living room with a bar and a TV provides evening entertainment. In addition to a large bathroom with double bath you will find here also changing rooms. The biggest attraction is the area around the terrace with an outdoor swimming pool, a wide canopy bed, and a place to eat delicious dinner. From there you can dive straight into the ocean.

#### FOOD

Coco Bodu Hithi complex features seven bars and restaurants that serve regional dishes as well as BBQ and Japanese cuisine. Air restaurant, located near the pool area, specializes in fusion cuisine, Aqua, situated close to the ocean offers



The biggest attraction is the area around the terrace with an outdoor swimming pool, a wide canopy bed, and a place to eat delicious dinner.



local dishes of Asian cuisine, including fresh seafood. The Breeze, on the other hand, has tables set directly on the beach, where grilled seafood is served. Stars is the place to go for typical European Mediterranean cuisine, while Tsuki boasts excellent sushi and other Japanese dishes. Latitude is a cocktail bar located near the hotel's swimming pool, and close to the ocean. There's also some-

thing special for wine lovers – once a week Wine Loft prepares unique delicious dinners with a selection of the best wines from both the New and Old World. Of course, guests can order the dishes of their choice and enjoy them in the comfort of their villas.

#### SPA AND SPORT

Coco Spa offers an extensive range of treatments based on

#### CONTACT

Coco Bodu Hithi  
North Malé Atoll  
Maldives  
tel.: + 960 664 11 22  
reservations@cocollection.com.mv  
www.cocoboduhithi.com

#### PRICE

one week with breakfast  
for two people - from PLN 18,000

Hotel

MALDIVES

Indonesian, Thai and Indian practices. These include various types of massages and face firming treatments inspired by Thermae philosophy. At the request of guests, therapists can prepare for them a comprehensive rejuvenation and

relaxation programme. Most treatments can be performed at your villa.

Maldives is a paradise for diving and snorkelling aficionado. The resort has its own Ocean Bodu Hithi diving school with PADI certificate, where you can

take a course for beginners or improve your skills. The programme includes diving trips into the depths of the ocean as well as a night dive. There are quite a lot of attractions for sailors, including catamaran and motorboat cruises, windsurfing and water-skiing. The hotel also has a tennis court, pavilions for tai chi exercises, a gym and a fitness centre.

For those who would like to try their hand at fishing, the hotel offers a fishing trip on traditional, hand-made wooden boats with sails called dhoni. It's also worth visiting Male, which is the world's smallest state capital as well as a sea port. The most beautiful monument of the city is the largest mosque in the Maldives - the Grand Friday Mosque. The hotel organizes day trips called Rediscover Maldives, during which guests meet native residents of the island who tell them what the life was like before the tourist boom.

There's even a special offer for young couples – the hotel encourages them to organize their wedding here. On the day of the ceremony the bride spends almost the entire day at the spa undergoing a variety of treatments, while taking vows takes place to the sound of traditional bodu beru drums, while the bride passes through a row of beautiful palm branches to join the groom.

**VERDICT**

It's a great 5-star hotel located on a beautiful atoll near Male Airport. The highlights include excellent and varied cuisine, as well as unusual attractions, such as beach front cinema. Plus there's free Wi-Fi throughout the entire area. It's a good place for a one week stay for couples without children, as its location guarantees intimacy and peaceful relaxation.

*Rafal Sobiech*



Coco Spa offers an extensive range of treatments based on Indonesian, Thai and Indian practices.





# Dr Irena Eris

HOTELE SPA



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

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# ARIES HOTEL&SPA



## CONTACT

Aries Hotel & SPA  
ul. M. Zaruskiego 5  
Zakopane  
tel.: (+48) 185 444 444  
[www.hotelaries.pl](http://www.hotelaries.pl)

## PRICE

From PLN 330 (about €80)  
for a double room  
with breakfast per night.

**Z**akopane can boast a new spot to be remembered by all the enthusiasts of both winter and summer mountain activities. This place is different than any other. Modern and sophisticated design combines here with tradition and history. It's a hotel for families, but also a great place for a business meeting or a large conference. Its offer includes a thermal pool, the biggest hot tub under the foot of Giewont, a wellness zone with DR Irena Eris Beauty Partner treatment rooms, a perfectly-equipped conference centre, the Halka restaurant and the Sculpture Park.

## WHERE IS IT?

The hotel is located in the very heart of Zakopane, near Krupówki. With thorough and careful renovation, the site of the legendary Tourist House, which for years was associated with the art and pleasant relaxation in the capital of the Tatras – has been transformed into a place that features quality standards of Alpine hotels. Following the restoration, the Aries Hotel boasts incomparable local architecture, reverberating history and contemporary elements.

## ROOMS AND SUITES

These are stylish and comfortable. They combine comfort

with sophisticated design and elements of regional style. The windows overlook the stunning panorama of the Tatras, which changes with the seasons of the year. Almost every room is different. You can choose Premier Double (19-30 sqm) with air conditioning, satellite TV, Internet connection, a minibar and a safe. Both Renaissance Double (28 sqm) and Executive Double (26-45 sqm) are beautiful and spacious. Aries Suite (29-65 sqm) and the Chalet Suite (29-65 sqm) are the ideal choice for families and business travellers. Each comes with a lounge and a cosy bedroom. The most beautiful room in the hotel is



the 53-square metre Tatra Suite, consisting of a lounge with a fire place, a bedroom and a bathroom. It's worth mentioning that beds in all the rooms come with mattresses by Hypnos, the same ones the English Queen Elizabeth II uses.

#### HALKA RESTAURANT

Local flavours, fresh ingredients, talented chefs – this is what characterizes the hotel restaurant. Its menu combines all the best of Polish cuisine and local tradition - with a modern, Italian touch. Original dishes, based on seasonal products are simply delicious and there is something to satisfy every palate. The décor is characterized by stylish details, including carved floral patterns called “parzenice”. What is especially notable is a new gastronomic concept called Lava & Burger.

Created and prepared by the hotel's chefs, the burgers are all prepared on a lava drill, and literally melt in your mouth.

#### SPA & SPORT CONCIERGE

Nine professionally equipped Dr Irena Eris Beauty Partner treatment rooms offer a selection of beauty treatments for face and body. Kuznierewicz Sport Concierge Academy will help in organizing almost every seasonal attraction – from first skiing lessons on the local slopes through mountain trekking with a guide to a dog sledding rides.

#### SCULPTURE PARK

The Sculpture Park at Aries Hotel & Spa is unique space, which alludes to the past of this place, which for decades was associated with art. To design it, the hotel collaborated with a prominent artist Monika Osiecka, who is a

frequent attendee of European art symposia, and whose bronze and/or marble sculptures made in a large, garden scale, adorn the patio and the interior of the hotel. The concept relates to the international tradition of sculpture parks that can be seen at Gianadda Foundation in Martigny, Switzerland or at the Maeght Foundation in Saint Paul de Vence in Provence, France. The works by Monika Osiecka can be simply admired, but also purchased.

#### VERDICT

It's a unique wellness hotel located at the very heart of Zakopane with a view over the Tatra Mountains. It stands out thanks to the alpine style and standards, Polish hospitality and excellent cuisine. It's hospitality industry at its best.

*Agata Janicka*

This place is different than any other. Modern and sophisticated design combines with tradition and history. It's a hotel for families, but also a great place for a business meeting or a large conference. Its offer includes a thermal pool, the biggest hot tub under the foot of Giewont, and a wellness zone.



# BELVEDERE RESTAURANT



## AWARDS

- In 2014 Belvedere for the seventh time was among the restaurants recommended by the renowned Michelin Guide: "Main Cities of Europe. Hotels and Restaurants 2014".
- 2014 - the title for the Best Polish Restaurant and the Best Chef in "Poland's 100 Best Restaurants" competition.

**B**elvedere restaurant situated in the Royal Baths in Warsaw is one of the most beautiful and the most interesting points on the culinary map of Poland. It combines a unique design, excellent cuisine and an extraordinary historical background. It's worth giving it a try to see the new interior design, as well as enjoy its excellent menu.

## INTERIOR

Belvedere, which is located in the Royal Baths, in the 150 plus-year-old building of the New Orangery, has undergone a complete revamp this year. King Stanisław August Poniatowski employed only the best artists to improve the looks of the Royal Baths. Similarly, the new interior design of the restaurant was created by an outstanding opera set designer Boris Kudlička in collaboration with WWAA design office. Among the crowns of exotic trees, including a 120-year-old (the oldest in Poland) palm tree, there are six mezzanines with intimate balconies that resemble theatre boxes. The combination of grid structure made of weath-

ering steel with live greenery created a perfect effect. The bar is set against the background of moss-covered walls, in the very heart of the restaurant. White Corian, with which the bar is made of, combined with ginger-coloured corten steel and green tones, creates an interesting sculpting composition. The foyer space is filled with huge mirror panes and exotic wood. In this way, thanks to the multiplication of light reflections and the bark of various trees, the interior has received an unusual character. The dialogue of architecture, nature and design, as proposed by Boris Kudlička, is a new approach to the interior design and its reception.

## MENU

Dishes in Belvedere are prepared under the watchful eye of chef Adam Komar who creates here a signature contemporary Polish cuisine. Mr Komar uses local produce available seasonally. He personally selects the ingredients, which he obtains from regular suppliers from different regions of Poland. To prepare his dishes he often uses known, though somewhat for-

gotten products such as kale, swedes and scorzonera. They are delicious and very healthy. There are also perfect side dishes to pheasant, sturgeon or calf thymus, which are served here. The chef's favourite dish is beef tenderloin, which he serves with dried porcini mushrooms. I was particularly captivated with the tasting menu, which consists of seven dishes made with catfish, goose, mushrooms, a trio of soups, sturgeon, pheasant and halva. Composed on the plates, they resemble works of art.

## VERDICT

It's worth going to Belvedere for a formal dinner. It's also a great place for business meetings, as you can be sure that the interior, the menu and impeccable service, will make an impression both on your Polish and foreign contractors. The list of notable guests is endless and includes, among others, Barack Obama. Queen Sophia of Spain, Hillary Clinton, Jacques Chirac, Mick Jagger, Claudia Schiffer, Richard Chamberlain, and Chris de Burgh. It's an exceptional place to celebrate special moments in your life.

*Agata Janicka*

## CONTACT

Belvedere Restaurant  
Royal Baths (Łazienki Królewskie)  
ul. Agrykoli 1  
Warsaw  
[www.belvedere.com.pl](http://www.belvedere.com.pl)  
tel.: +48 22 558 67 01



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# GIFTMANIA

There's no nicer feeling than the one when you give presents to your beloved ones, and when is a better occasion to do so if not at Christmas? Look through our suggestions – elegant cosmetics, briefcases, accessories, jewellery, watches and sweets – both for her and for him.

**Certina.** A limited edition of DS-2 chronograph, measuring time to the nearest hundredth of a second, equipped with a precise ETA Precidrive mechanism. Price: PLN 3,040 (about €730); [certina.com](http://certina.com)

**Shiseido.** Ultimune Power Infusing Concentrate. A concentrate restoring and sustaining natural immunological ability of the skin. It prevents lower immune system function caused by external factors. Price: 50 ml – PLN 462 (about €111); [shiseido.pl](http://shiseido.pl)

**Wittchen.** Briefcase from durable polycarbonate by Wittchen from their Tech Line collection. Comes with four wheels for easy manoeuvrability, three-stage telescopic handle with lock, two flexible rubber handles and a combination lock. Price: PLN 519, 589 and 639 (about €124, 142 and 154); [wittchen.pl](http://wittchen.pl)

**Cholewiński.** The combination of modern design with the traditionally precise execution. For the last 30 years, the brand has been listed among the leading producers of leather accessories from the premium segment. A manufactory near Warsaw produces exceptionally beautiful goods in a family atmosphere. Price: PLN 640 and 195 (about €154 and 47); [cholewinski.pl](http://cholewinski.pl)

**Visconti.** Made of natural black resin with sterling silver cobwebs, the Visconti Istos Aracnis model alludes to the Art Nouveau trends. The nib is made of 23-karat palladium. The edition was limited to 888 copies. Price: PLN 6,490 (about €1560); [visconti.it](http://visconti.it)





**Muza Publishing.** The book “Misja Sert” (English title: “Misja: The Life of Misja Sert”) by Arthur Gold and Robert Fizdale. A biography of one of the most influential women of the first half of the 20th century. She was glorified by the great poets, writers, painters and composers. Price: PLN 49 (about €12); [muza.pl](http://muza.pl)

**Dr Irena Eris.** A beauty gift. A voucher to be used at DR Irena Eris Cosmetic Institute. It entitles its holder to an individually selected exclusive cosmetic service, and a purchase of Dr Irena Eris cosmetics. The value is chosen when purchasing; [drirenaeris.com](http://drirenaeris.com)



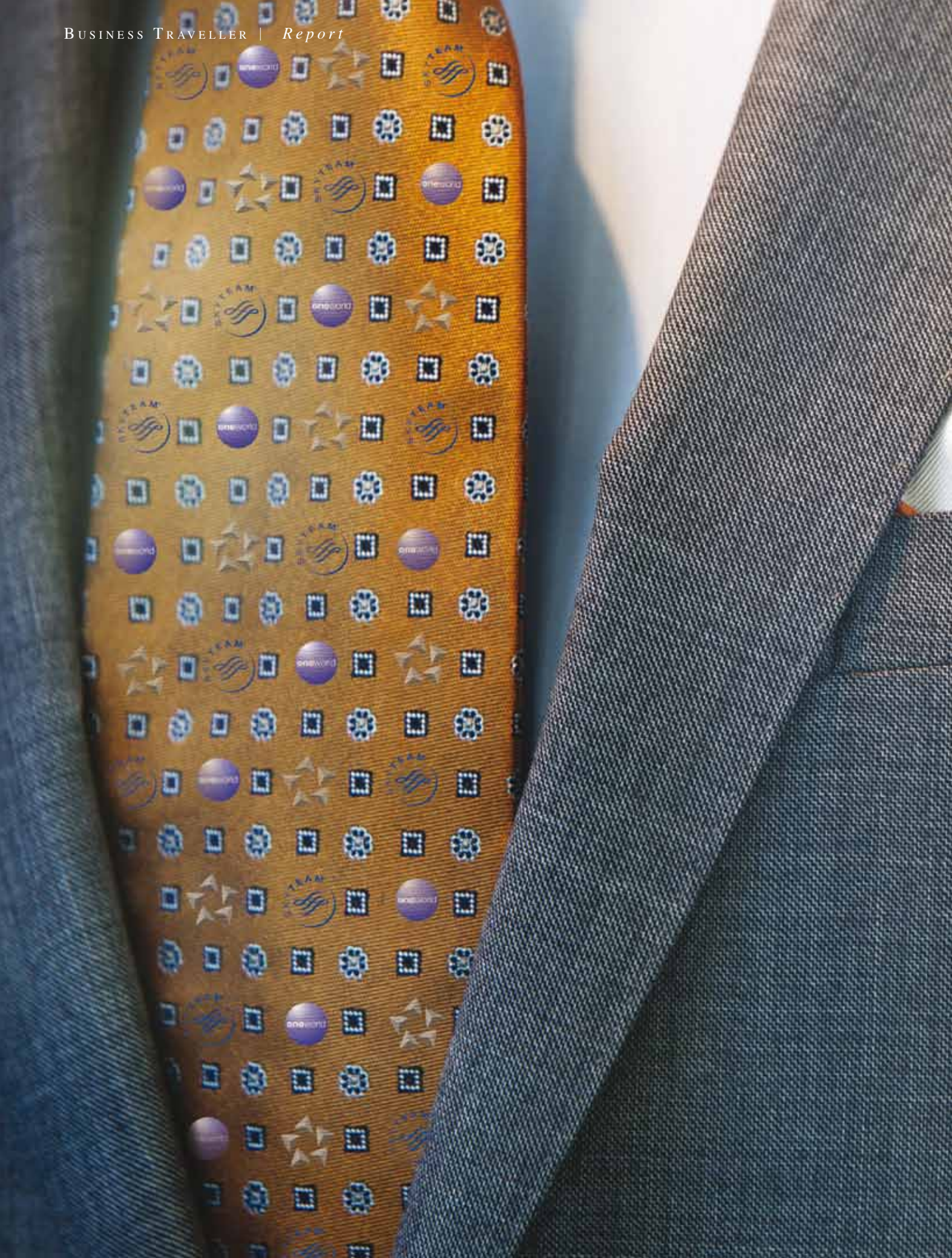
**Lewanowicz.** Unusual jewellery from a collection inspired by the Mayan Indian village.

Ayala Hip earrings. Price: PLN 730 (about €175), Ayala Hip necklace Price: PLN 1,200 (about €288); [lewanowicz.com](http://lewanowicz.com)

**Sephora.** Cosmetics for face and body, which need no introduction. Available at Sephora perfumeries; [sephora.pl](http://sephora.pl)

**Wedel.** Mulled wine-flavoured milk chocolate. An ideal composition inspired by the flavour of the all-adored liquor with aromatic spices. Wedel's novelty. Price: PLN 9 (about €2); [wedel.pl](http://wedel.pl)









# JOIN THE CLUB

With more and more airlines becoming alliance members, the benefits of playing the loyalty game are becoming better by the day. **Dominic Lalk** provides a guide

**F**inding the right frequent flyer programme is not always an easy feat. The decision will often largely depend on which airline, or alliance, dominates your nearest airport and which destinations you fly to most often – although, for business travellers, specially negotiated corporate discounts can sometimes limit one’s options. Given the choice, loyalty to one or two carriers eventually pays off in the form of building up your tier status, through which you can benefit from premium services on your chosen airline and, perhaps more important, across its extended alliance network. Long gone are the days when your hard-earned miles only took you from A to B, and only on the airline with which you accrued your miles. As a member of, say, British Airways’ Executive Club, you can connect to the extensive US network of American Airlines, explore Central and South America with Iberia, LAN or TAM, travel throughout Asia with Cathay Pacific, JAL, Malaysia Airlines or Sri Lankan, link on to the fast-growing network of Qatar Airways out of Doha, or hit the Kangaroo route with Qantas – all fellow

**ONEWORLD MEMBERS.**

Determining what an alliance can do for you, given your travel patterns, is crucial in making a choice. The experience at the airport, your ability to upgrade or build your airline



**oneworld**

**TIER BENEFITS**

- Access to business class check-in
- Access to preferred or pre-reserved seating
- Priority on waitlists and when on standby
- Access to business class lounges
- Priority boarding
- Fast-track security
- Extra baggage allowance
- First class check-in
- Access to first class lounges

elite status, the ease with which you can earn or burn miles, and the price you pay for your tickets are all important considerations when finding the airline and alliance partner that works best for you. To help you in your decision-making, here is the lowdown on Oneworld, Skyteam and Star Alliance.

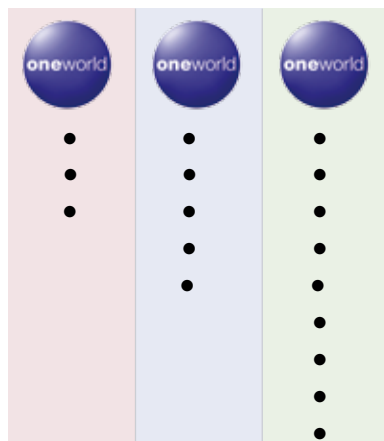
**ONEWORLD**

Launched in 1999 by founding members American Airlines, British Airways, Cathay Pacific and Qantas, Oneworld remains the smallest of the alliances in terms of the number of airlines.

As of September 2014, Oneworld has 16 members that operate some 14,000 daily flights to more than 1,000 destinations.

Oneworld is the only alliance that offers three status tiers. Whereas the lowest – Ruby – offers little alliance-wide recognition other than waitlist priority and business class check-in, Sapphire and Emerald grant access to more than 600 business and first class lounges worldwide. As Oneworld’s big airlines are based in iconic cities such as London, Hong Kong, New York, Sydney and Tokyo, you can enjoy some of the world’s finest lounges while you travel, such as Cathay Pacific’s facilities at Hong Kong International and British Airways’ Galleries at Heathrow Terminal 5. To reach Sapphire status, BA’s Executive Club requires you to accrue 600 tier points (roughly equivalent to two return London-Hong Kong business class flights), upon which you will receive 100 per cent extra award miles on every British Airways, American Airlines, Iberia or JAL flight.

Qatar Airways’ Privilege Club requires you to accrue 300 Qpoints (roughly the equivalent of two business class long-haul return flights) and in return you receive 75 per cent extra award miles every time you use Qatar Airways.



ONEWORLD	RUBY QUALIFICATION
air berlin (AB)	25,000 miles OR 24 segments
American Airlines (AA)	25,000 miles OR 30 segments
British Airways (BA)	300 Tier points AND 2 BA flights OR 25 segments
Cathay Pacific (CX)	30,000 miles OR 20 segments
Finnair (AY)	40,000 points OR 24 segments
Iberia (IB)	1,100 Elite points OR 25 segments
Japan Airlines (JL)	30,000 pts (incl 15,000 pts on JL) OR 30 segments + 10,000 pts
UN (LA)	40,000km AND 4 LA or JJ flights OR 30 segments
TAM (JJ)	15,000 points OR 15 segments
Malaysia Airlines (MH)	25,000 miles OR 30 segments
Qantas (QF)	300 Status Credits
Qatar Airways (QR)	150 Qpoints (minimum 20% or 4 flights on QR)
Royal Jordanian (RJ)	15,000 miles OR 14 segments (minimum 4 on RJ)
S7 Airlines (S7)	20,000 miles OR 20 segments
Sri Lankan Airlines (UL)	20,000 miles OR 20 segments (minimum 1 on UL)
US Airways (US)	25,000 miles OR 30 segments

BENEFITS	SAPPHIRE		EMERALD	
	QUALIFICATION	BENEFITS	QUALIFICATION	BENEFITS
Priority seat reservation; fast-track security; lounge access at Austrian/German airports; 20% extra award and status miles; 2 bags up to 32kg; My Route (100% extra miles)	50,000 miles OR 60 segments	40% extra award miles; seat next to you blocked if available	100,000 miles	2 upgrade coupons; free silver card for partner for a year
Upgrade 24 hours before if booked on full-fare economy ticket; 25% extra award miles on AA and select partners; preferred seat selection; fast-track security	50,000 miles OR 60 segments	Upgrade 72hrs prior if booked on full-fare economy ticket; 100% extra award miles on AA and select partners; minimum upgrade to Main Cabin Extra	100,000 miles OR 100 segments	8 system-wide upgrades at time of booking; unlimited upgrades 100 hours prior; 100% extra award miles on AA and select partners; food and drink in economy
25% extra Avios on BA and select partners; priority check-in; 7 days advance seat selection	600 Tier points AND 4 BA flights OR 50 segments	100% extra Avios on BA and select partners; free seat selection from time of booking; 1 piece extra luggage	1,500 Tier points AND 4 BA flights	100% extra Avios on BA and select partners; access to Heathrow spa; extra award flight availability in economy; upgrade vouchers at 2,500, 3,500 and 5,000 Tier points
Priority luggage handling; 10kg extra luggage; preferred seat selection from time of booking; CX lounge access	60,000 miles OR 40 segments	15kg extra luggage	120,000 miles OR 80 segments	First class baggage handling; CX lounge access with 2 guests irrespective of airline
10% extra award points; fast-track security; AY lounge access; 1 piece extra luggage	90,000 pts OR 54 segments	15% extra award miles; AY seat selection; 4 intra-European one-way upgrade coupons	150,000 points OR 92 segments	Option to convert the 4 intra-European one-way upgrades to 1 international one-way upgrade; 25% extra award points
25% extra Avios; 1 piece extra luggage	2,250 Elite pts OR 50 segments	100% extra Avios	6,250 Elite points	2 upgrades on IB flexible economy tickets; free parking and limousine service at select airports; 100% extra Avios
55% extra award miles; priority check-in; 10kg extra luggage	50,000 pts (incl 25,000 on JL) OR 50 segments + 15,000 pts	105% extra award miles; 20kg extra luggage	100,000 pts (50,000 on JL) OR 120 segments + 35,000 pts	130% extra award miles; special award seat availability
2 upgrade coupons; 25% extra award miles; priority luggage	80,000km (50% on LA or JJ) OR 60 segments	100% extra award miles; 6 upgrade coupons; 1 piece extra luggage	150,000km (50% on LA or JJ) OR 100 segments	Unlimited upgrade coupons for status holder and 6 for companions
25% extra award miles; 10kg extra luggage	50,000 points OR 50 segments	75% extra award miles; preferential redemption rates	100,000 points OR 100 segments	100% extra award miles; upgrade if available
5kg extra luggage; 25% extra award mile	50,000 miles OR 50 segments	50% extra luggage	100,000 miles OR 130 segments	30% extra award miles; 100% extra luggage; concierge services
Advance seat selection; 12kg extra luggage; 50% extra award miles	700 Status Credits	16kg extra luggage; 75% extra award miles	1,400 Status Credits	20kg extra luggage; 100% extra award miles
25% extra award miles; 10kg extra luggage; 2 lounge coupons	300 Qpoints (minimum 20% or 4 flights on QR)	75% extra award miles; 40 Q credits gift; 15kg extra luggage; 5% off online award redemptions	600 Qpoints (minimum 20% OR 4 flights on QR)	100% extra award miles; 60 Q credits gift; extra reward seat availability
15% extra award miles on RJ; 10kg extra luggage	35,000 miles OR 28 segments (minimum 8 on RJ)	35% extra award miles on RJ; 23kg extra luggage	55,000 miles OR 42 sectors (minimum 12 on RJ)	32kg extra luggage; 50% extra award miles on RJ
25% extra award miles; 5kg extra luggage	50,000 miles OR 50 segments	15kg extra luggage; 50% extra award miles	75,000 miles OR 75 segments	25kg extra luggage; 75% extra award miles
5kg extra luggage	40,000 miles OR 40 segments (minimum 50% on UL)	12kg extra luggage; 15% extra award miles	60,000 miles OR 60 segments (50% on UL)	20kg extra luggage; 25% extra award miles
Upgrade if available; 1 piece of checked luggage; 25% extra award miles	50,000 miles OR 60 segments	50% extra award miles; 2 pieces of checked luggage; upgrade to premium economy	100,00 miles OR 120 segments	100% extra award miles; 2 pieces of checked luggage; upgrades if available



SKYTEAM	ELITE QUALIFICATION	BENEFITS
Aeroflot (SU)	25,000 miles OR 25 segments	25% extra award miles; priority seat selection
Aerolineas Argentinas (AR)	25,000 miles OR 30 segments; OR 15,000 miles AND 15 segments	25% extra award miles; AR lounge access; upgrade to Club Economy if available
Aeromexico (XA)	50,000km	25% extra award km; upgrade to business class + 1 companion at check-in, if available
Air Europa (UX) Air France (AF) Kenya Airways (KQ) KLM (KL) Tarom (RO)	25,000 miles (30,000 miles in France and Monaco) OR 15 segments	Paid lounge access; 50% extra award miles and 1 piece extra luggage on any Skyteam flight; greater award ticket availability when travelling in business class
Alitalia (AZ)	20,000 miles OR 30 segments	Paid lounge access; 25% extra award miles on any Skyteam flight; 1 piece extra luggage on any Skyteam flight; 2 upgrade coupons
China Airlines (CI)	30,000 miles OR 10 first/business class CI segments OR 24 segments	CI lounge access; priority luggage on CI
China Eastern (MU)	100,000 points OR 50 Elite Times	MU lounge access; 15% extra award miles on any Skyteam flight
China Southern Airlines (CZ)	40,000km OR 20 segments	CZ lounge access; 15% extra award miles on any Skyteam flight
Czech Airlines (OK)	25,000 miles OR 15 segments AND 2 OK segments	Lounge access; upgrade to business from certain booking classes subject to availability
Delta Air Lines (DL)	25,000 miles AND 2,500 \$ points; OR 30 segments AND 2,500 \$ points	25% extra award miles; unlimited upgrades 24 hours prior if available for discounted fares; unlimited companion upgrades; priority check-in luggage
Garuda Indonesia (GA)	30,000 miles OR 30 segments	15kg extra luggage; 25% extra award miles; GA domestic lounge access + 1 companion
Korean Air (KE)	30,000 KE miles AND 20,000 miles OR 40 KE segments	1 piece extra luggage on KE except when travelling to or from the Americas; 4 KE lounge access coupons; priority luggage handling on KE
Middle East Airlines (ME)	20,000 miles OR 15 segments	Priority luggage handling on ME; ME lounge access in Beirut
Saudia (SV)	25,000 miles OR 20 international SV segments	25% extra award miles; 1 piece extra luggage on any Skyteam flight; SV lounge access + 3 fam- ily guests
Vietnam Airlines (VN)	30,000 miles OR 30 segments	30% extra award miles on VN; upgrade to deluxe economy if available
Xiamen Air (MF)	60,000 points OR 35 segments	20kg extra luggage on MF; upgrade to business class if purchased Y fare ticket; MF lounge access; 15% extra award miles on MF

## SKYTEAM

Founded in 2000 by Aeromexico, Air France, Delta Air Lines and Korean Air, Skyteam is the second-largest alliance. As of September 2014, its 20 member airlines together serve 1,052 destinations with more than 16,323 daily flights. Skyteam's forte stems primarily from the size and strength of its founding members' networks. Add to that the largest number of Chinese carriers in any network – China Airlines, China Eastern, China Southern and Xiamen Air – and you have an alliance that, while not necessarily renowned for its premium image, certainly

boasts a wide array of choices, particularly in East Asia, Europe and North America. Skyteam has only two elite tiers – Skyteam Elite and Skyteam Elite Plus. Unlike Star Alliance's Silver tier, however, Skyteam's Elite status already grants passengers substantial standardised benefits such as an extra 10kg luggage allowance on every flight and priority check-in services. Elite Plus tier members are offered access to most of the alliance's 564 lounges, as well as priority luggage handling and 20kg extra luggage allowance. To reach the coveted Elite Plus status, Delta Air Lines' Skymiles scheme requires you to

accrue a minimum of 50,000 miles with any Skyteam member. In return, you get 100 per cent extra award miles on any Skyteam flight and almost unlimited complimentary upgrade options when you travel on Delta. Air France-KLM's Flying Blue scheme, meanwhile, awards you Elite Plus status when you accrue a minimum 40,000 miles on any Skyteam carrier (60,000 in France and Monaco). Thereafter, you will receive 75 per cent extra award miles whenever you travel on Skyteam. Note that Flying Blue is the frequent flyer programme also shared by Air Europa, Kenya Airways and Tarom.

ELITE PLUS QUALIFICATION	BENEFITS
50,000 miles OR 50 segments	50% extra award miles; upgrade to Space+ economy
50,000 miles OR 60 segments; OR 30,000 miles AND 30 segments	100% extra miles on all AR and/or Austral flights
80,000km	50% extra award km; upgrade to business class + 1 companion 72 hours before flight, if available
40,000 miles (60,000 miles in France and Monaco) OR 30 segments	75% extra award miles on any Skyteam flight
50,000 miles OR 60 segments	50% extra award miles on any Skyteam flight; 4 upgrade coupons
70,000 miles OR 30 first/business class CI segments	Spouse upgrade; welcome gift
180,000 pts OR 100 Elite Times	30% extra award miles on any Skyteam flight
80,000 km OR 40 segments	30% extra award miles on any Skyteam flight
50,000 miles OR 30 segments AND 2 OK segments	Lounge access; priority baggage unloading; waitlist priority
50,000 miles AND 5,000 \$ points; OR 60 segments and 5,000 \$ points	100% extra award miles; unlimited upgrades 72 hours prior if available for discounted fares
65,000 miles OR 65 segments	20kg extra luggage, free cancellation and refund fee
500,000 miles	First class counter check-in
40,000 miles OR 30 segments	50% extra award miles on any Skyteam flight
50,000 miles OR 40 international SV segments	50% extra award miles on any Skyteam flight; SV first class lounge access + 3 family guests
50,000 miles OR 50 segments	50% extra award miles on VN; access to business lounge
100,000 points OR 60 segments	30% extra award miles; 30kg extra luggage on MF

## Skyteam Elite

### BENEFITS

- Priority reservation waitlist (when fares permit)
- Preferred seating
- Priority check-in counters
- Priority boarding or at leisure
- 10kg/one extra piece of luggage

## Skyteam Elite Plus

### BENEFITS

- Guaranteed full-fare Y-class reservation on sold-out long-haul flights, at least 24 hours prior to departure
- Access to airport lounges worldwide, whatever the class of travel, for members in possession of a boarding pass; may be accompanied by a guest
- Priority baggage handling on arrival, whatever the class of travel
- 20kg/one extra piece of luggage



STAR ALLIANCE	SILVER QUALIFICATION	BENEFITS	GOLD QUALIFICATION
Adria Airways (JP) Austrian Airlines (OS) Brussels Airlines (SN) Croatia Airlines (OU) LOT Polish Airlines (LO) Lufthansa (LH) Swiss (LX)	35,000 miles	No time limit on mileage validity; 25% more award and status miles; 20kg extra luggage; lounge access if travel on JP, OS, SN, OU, LO, LH, LX	100,000 miles
Aegean Airlines (A3)	4,000 miles	Free 48-hour car rental rates in Greece, Cyprus and Bulgaria	20,000 miles
Air Canada (AC)	25,000 miles OR 25 segments	Priority seat selection; 2 pcs of checked luggage; business class check-in for AC segments; 4 coupons for AC lounges; 25% extra award and status miles	50,000 miles OR 50 segments
Air China (CA)	40,000km OR 25 segments	25% extra award miles; access to CA international lounges; 20kg extra luggage	80,000km OR 40 segments
Air India (AI)	25,000 miles	10% extra award miles; 10kg excess baggage allowance	50,000 miles
Air New Zealand (NZ)	450 Status points	2 lounge access coupons; access to business class award fares; 1 one-way upgrade award	900 Status points
ANA (NH)	30,000 points including 15,00 ANA points	40% extra award miles; 1 piece of extra luggage	50,000 points incl 25,000 ANA points
Asiana Airlines (OZ)	20,000 miles OR 30 OZ segments, valid 24 months	1 x 5,000 mileage redemption discount coupon; 2 lounge access coupons; 5% extra award miles; priority luggage handling; 10kg extra luggage	40,000 miles OR 50 segments on OZ, valid 24 months
Avianca (AV)	5,000 AV miles AND 17,000 miles OR 25 segments	25% extra award miles; access to AV lounges; priority luggage handling with AV; unlimited upgrades 48 hours before flight if available	10,000 AV miles AND 30,000 miles OR 45 segments
Copa Airlines (CM) United Airlines (UA)	25,000 miles AND \$2,500; OR 30 segments AND \$2,500	25% extra award miles; upgrade to Economy Plus including one companion; domestic upgrades to business/first class confirmed on day of departure if available; 1 piece of free checked luggage	50,000 miles AND \$5,000; OR 60 segments AND \$5,000
Egyptair (MS)	30,000 miles	20% extra award miles; priority luggage handling	60,000 miles
Ethiopian Airlines (ET)	25,000 miles OR 20 segments	25% extra award miles; 15kg extra luggage; ET lounge access	50,000 miles OR 40 segments
Eva Air (BR)	30,000 BR miles on 6+ BR international segments OR 26 BR segments	BR lounge access; 10kg or 1 piece extra luggage	50,000 international miles OR 50 BR segments
SAS (SK)	20,000 points OR 10 SK or Wideroe segments	SK lounge access in certain periods; increased award availability; 1 piece extra luggage with SK	50,000 points OR 50 SK or Wideroe segments
Shenzhen Airlines (ZH)	40,000km OR 25 segments	25% extra award miles; access to CA/SC/ZH lounges; 20kg extra luggage	80,000km OR 40 segments
Singapore Airlines (SQ)	25,000 miles	25% extra award miles	50,000 miles
South African Airways (SA)	25,000 miles OR 25 (0-999 miles) SA segments; 6 (1,000-3,999 miles) SA segments; 3 (4,000+ miles) SA segments	2,000 extra miles for every 10,000 miles flown on SA; 2,500 miles gift; 25% extra award miles; SA lounge access; 1 piece extra luggage	50,000 miles OR 50 (0-999 miles) SA segments; 12 (1,000-3,999 miles) SA segments; 3 (4,000+) SA segments
TAP Portugal (TP)	30,000 TP or Star Alliance miles OR 25 TP segments	25% extra award and status miles; 15kg extra luggage; free seat reservation	70,000 TP or Star Alliance miles OR 50 TP segments
Thai Airways (TG)	10,000 miles	Priority luggage handling; 10kg extra luggage to most destinations	50,000 miles OR 40 TG segments
Turkish Airlines (TK)	25,000 miles	10kg extra luggage; access to TK domestic lounges	40,000 miles

BENEFITS
2 one-way upgrade vouchers on attainment and retention of status; extra award availability; companion award
Fast-track security
50% extra award miles; access to any unsold economy class seat on AC flights
30% extra award miles
25% extra award miles; access to lounge + guest
Complimentary preferred seats
90% extra award miles; upgrade to premium economy if available
10% extra award miles; 1 x 10,000 miles redemption discount coupon
100% extra award miles; 1 piece extra checked luggage
50% extra award miles; domestic upgrades to business/first class confirmed 48 hours before departure if available; 3 pieces of free checked luggage
30% extra award miles when travelling with MS
75% extra award miles on ET
50% award extra miles when flying Eva Air during birth month
25% extra award miles
30% extra award miles on CA/SC/ZH
25% extra award miles
5,000 miles gift; 50% extra award miles
50% extra award and status miles
5,000 extra award miles gift; one round trip upgrade
175% status miles on TK business class flights; 50% discount on business class paid ticket for companion

### STAR ALLIANCE

The largest of the three, Star Alliance was the first global alliance when it was founded in 1997 by five airlines from three continents – Lufthansa, Scandinavian Airlines, United Airlines, Air Canada and Thai Airways.

It continues to enjoy high recognition among frequent travellers for its wide network, premium members and strong reliability. As of last month, it had 27 members serving 1,316 airports with 18,504 daily departures.

While Star used to dominate the alliance world, it suffered a major knock-back when it lost both TAM and US Airways to rival Oneworld earlier this year. TAM's departure was a particularly hard blow, as Star Alliance has always had big ambitions in the high-yield South American market.

It remains as strong as ever in Europe, with Lufthansa at the helm and subsidiaries Swiss, Austrian and Brussels Airlines in support. Singapore Airlines, Thai Airways and ANA form the backbone of the group in Asia.

In July, Air India finally became an official member after its integration process was put on hold in 2011 for failing to meet standards. This addition means Star will offer more flights to India than any other alliance. In Africa, Star is already the uncontested market leader with South African Airways, Egyptair and Ethiopian Airlines in its fold.

Star Alliance offers two status tiers, silver and gold. Silver does not provide any standardised inter-alliance benefits other than

priority waitlisting. Gold will give you 20kg extra luggage, priority baggage handling and access to more than 1,000 lounges worldwide.

Aegean Airlines' Miles and Bonus scheme requires a mere 20,000 miles to reach the top tier, but there are no additional perks such as extra award miles.

Asiana Airlines' Asiana Club awards gold status for 40,000 miles. It also offers a gift and extra award miles every time you fly Asiana.

Turkish Airlines' Miles and Smiles also requires 40,000 miles, after which you get 175 per cent award miles with every Turkish Airlines flight in business class and discounted companion tickets.

### Star Alliance

#### SILVER BENEFITS

- Priority reservations waitlist
- Priority airport standby



### Star Alliance

#### GOLD BENEFITS

- Priority reservations waitlist
- Priority airport standby
- Priority airport check-in
- Lounge access
- Priority boarding
- 20kg/one piece extra baggage
- Priority baggage handling



# 260 DESTINATIONS IN THE WINTER SCHEDULE



This winter, the Lufthansa Group airlines will be linking 260 destinations in 100 countries on four continents via its hubs in Frankfurt, Munich, Zurich, Vienna and Brussels. The group will also offer a number of point-to-point connections.

The airlines in the Lufthansa Group – Austrian Airlines, Brussels Airlines, Germanwings, Lufthansa and SWISS – are again offering their customers a dense and high-frequency route network in the upcoming 2014/2015 winter flight timetable, with 18,900 flights a week. This winter, the Lufthansa Group airlines will be linking 260 destinations in 100 countries on four continents via its hubs in Frankfurt, Munich, Zurich, Vienna and Brussels, but also with many point-to-point connections. Around 20,500 weekly code-share flights with other partner airlines extend the carriers' respective programmes and enable single-source bookings. On average, a Lufthansa Group aircraft is taking off somewhere around the world every 32 seconds. The individual route networks of the Group airlines are

increasingly converging with one another. Almost all destinations are connected via a Lufthansa Group hub. End-to-end fares enable passengers to book multiple journeys with convenient and punctual connecting flights. 49 per cent of the nearly 105 million passengers a year now book a transfer connection via a Lufthansa hub. 19 European airports are even served by all five airlines in the Lufthansa Group.

## LUFTHANSA

This winter, Lufthansa is extending its route network to attractive new holiday destinations in warmer regions. After a break of over 15 years, Lufthansa is resuming flights to Las Palmas in the Canary Islands this winter. From 26 October, the new connection will take off from Munich to Gran Canaria every Sunday, and every Saturday during school holidays too. Also new in the winter months

are flights from Munich to Split (Croatia) and Valencia (Spain). As of 2 October, Lufthansa also flies from Frankfurt to the Moroccan city of Marrakesh. This cultural city is situated at the foot of the Atlas Mountains in the Moroccan interior and can be reached in just under four hours with an Airbus A320 every Thursday and Sunday. A further addition to the flight plan from Munich is Miami in Florida, the US sunshine state, which will now have a daily non-stop connection. Delhi, the Indian capital, will also get a daily service from Frankfurt with the Airbus A380. The Frankfurt-Luanda connection to the capital of Angola will be strengthened by a third weekly flight. Starting on 15 December, Lufthansa and Deutsche Bahn will extend their joint AiRail product of fast ICE train connections to Frankfurt Airport from Karlsruhe and Kassel.



**SWISS**

In the winter flight timetable 2014/2015, SWISS is adapting its flight plans to winter demand. The long-haul route between Zurich and Miami is to receive four extra SWISS flights a week, taking the total to fourteen weekly connections. Services to São Paulo, the biggest city in Brazil, will also be increased by three flights a week this winter, taking the total to ten weekly connections. The flight timetable will also include a daily connection to Los Angeles again. In Geneva SWISS is continuing many destinations from its summer flight timetable throughout the winter, including Copenhagen, Rome, Lisbon and Pristina.

**AUSTRIAN AIRLINES**

In its 2014/2015 winter flight schedule, Austrian Airlines is again offering its passengers a wide range of up to 100 destinations in 56 countries around the world. Following the successful introduction of Newark (USA) last July, Austrian Airlines will increase its weekly capacity from five flights to six flights a week as of April 2015, and to one flight a day from June. From June 2015, Austrian will therefore be flying daily to all its North American destinations. As a result of high demand in transit traffic, Austrian Airlines is also increasing the frequency of its flights to and from Chişinău from seven a week to a maximum of ten a week in the future.

**BRUSSELS AIRLINES**

Belgium's largest airline is adding a new European destination to its winter flight timetable and improving many connections by adding additional flights: Riga, the capital of Latvia, will be served six times a week from Brussels as of 26 October. Riga is one of the most important cultural and economic centres in the Baltic region and is hosting the EU presidency in the first half of 2015. Brussels



Airlines is boosting its capacity with additional flights from Brussels to: Tel Aviv, Madrid, Marrakesh, Budapest, Geneva, Vilnius, Hanover and Bologna. Connections are also being improved to the African destinations of Douala, Yaoundé, Nairobi, Kigali, Bujumbura and Luanda.

**GERMANWINGS**

In its winter flight timetable, Germanwings is offering a total of 84 destinations from Berlin-Tegel, Dortmund, Düsseldorf, Hamburg, Cologne/Bonn and Stuttgart. Additional capacity will still focus on Düsseldorf, where Germanwings is taking over more routes from Lufthansa. There are new high-frequency connections from the Rhineland metropolis to Berlin (57 flights a week), London-

Heathrow (33 flights a week) and Zurich (24 flights a week). Also new from Düsseldorf are flights to Málaga (two flights a week), Naples (three flights a week), Nice (two flights a week), Moscow (seven flights a week) and Rome (five flights a week). The transfer of Lufthansa routes to Germanwings will be completed on 8 January 2015 with Düsseldorf – Zurich. Germanwings is also introducing a completely new route, Düsseldorf – Istanbul, with two weekly flights. Its programme in the German capital is also being extended with the takeover of two Lufthansa flights a week between Berlin-Tegel and Tel Aviv. With one flight a week, the German airline is also launching a new connection from Cologne/Bonn to the Cypriot port of Larnaca.

The individual route networks of the Group airlines are increasingly converging with one another. Almost all destinations are connected via a Lufthansa Group hub.

# ADJUST YOUR FLIGHT TO YOUR NEEDS

Extra services on Air France and KLM flights



**I**n Air France KLM you pay only for what you truly need.

Planning an air travel, you might want to know additional options that will allow you to tailor the flight to your individual needs, regardless of whether it is a trip for business or leisure. In the November issue of BT we wrote about such convenient options as “time to think” where in exchange for a

small fee (€5-15), you can book a ticket at a given price without having to pay for it right away – you can make the payment within 7 days. We also reported that KLM passengers can buy additional leg space, while those flying with Air France can opt for comfortable seats. This month we are focusing on other unique services available on board aircraft of KLM and Air France.

## FOR GOURMETS – DISHES MADE TO ORDER FROM THE A LA CARTE MENU

Before their journey passengers can now order dishes from the à la carte menu, as an addition to the standard meals served during the flight. Air France and KLM offer dishes of the world cuisine (including Japanese or Italian), as well as elegant gourmet sets on selected long-haul flights. Prices range from €12 to €28.



## À LA CARTE MENU/ ECONOMY

Offer	Availability	Price
Option to choose one of the five special meals (on a first come-first served basis): Bella Italia, Indonesian Rice Dishes, Japanese Delight, Captain's Choice, Champagne Delight.	Currently on flights from Amsterdam to Lima, Nairobi and to Abu Dhabi (possible extension of the offer at the beginning of 2015.).	€12-25 or Flying Blue miles (4,200-8,500)
<b>How to buy:</b> 48 hours before the flight at klm.pl (at the time of booking or by My Trip) and during online check in.		

## AIRFRANCE / À LA CARTE MENU/ECONOMY AND PREMIUM ECONOMY

Offer	Availability	Price
The option to buy one of the four special meals on intercontinental flights (online sales): La Menu Italia, Ocean Meal, Traditional Meal, Une Selection Lenôte.	On all intercontinental flights departing from Paris, in addition to flights to: Amman, Bangalore, Damascus, Delhi, Montreal, Mumbai and Toronto. In addition, Tradition, Ocean and Italia meals are available on flights to Paris from: Cayenne, Fort-de-France, Pointe-à-Pitre and Saint-Denis (Reunion).	€12 - €28.
<b>How to buy:</b> 48 hours before the flight at airfrance.pl (at the time of booking or by Twoje Rezerwacje) and during online check in.		

## AIRFRANCE / À LA CARTE MENU/LA PREMIERE AND BUSINESS CLASS

Offer	Availability	Price
The choice of six specially prepared dishes: Thai Cuisine, Chinese Tradition, Indian Delights, Seafood Selection, Korean Sensations, A Taste of Japan.	On intercontinental flights from Paris to: New York, Los Angeles, Tokyo, Singapore, Shanghai and Seoul.	No cost

### EXTRA LUGGAGE

When flying in Economy Class with KLM on most European routes the registered luggage is subject to a fee. The fee for one-way trips is €15 if paid in advance, and €30 is paid at the airport. You can also pay for the luggage with you reward miles. This extra cost for registered luggage does not apply to Flying Blue members with Silver, Gold and Platinum status, while the basic status is charged 50% of the fee. On Air France flights in Europe passengers do not pay for checked luggage (one piece up to 23 kg), if their ticket fare is other than the Mini. On intercontinental flights in Air France and KLM, Economy Class passengers may bring one piece of luggage free of charge. Excess luggage can be carried on board for an extra fee (€15 per item). If you pay online in advance at the carrier's website or a travel agent (no later than 48 hours before departure), you are entitled to a discount (from 20 % up to 50 %) in relation to the price offered at the airport.

### UPGRADE TO BUSINESS CLASS

Both Air France and KLM offer passengers with Economy Class tickets a paid cabin upgrade to

Business Class on intercontinental flights and within Europe. An upgrade is possible in accordance with the conditions of the tariff and is subject to availability. Depending on the carrier, the flight in Business Class can be purchased during the online check-in, at a travel agency, at an airport etc. The price is dependent on the route.

### SPECIAL SERVICES AT AIRPORTS

It is worth noting that Air France and KLM offer paid access to their business lounges, which are typically available only to Business Class passengers and Flying Blue Platinum and Gold cardholders. Now, for a small fee, also members with Silver and Ivory statuses in the loyalty programme can use the lounges. Prices range from €25,

depending on the lounge. Air France also offers the option to buy special assistance at the airport (Personal Airport Services) in order to provide extra comfort for passengers upon their departure, arrival or transfer at Paris CDG. Prices start at €150. Passengers with tickets in Business Class on selected intercontinental flights who depart from or through CDG, also can purchase concierge services that are dedicated to La Première passengers (Air France's First Class product). The package includes, among others: individual assistance at check-in baggage and at any other formal procedures, access to the exclusive La Première Lounge, dedicated transfer route, transporting the passenger by limousine to the aircraft etc. The price of the service is €300 or 40,000 Flying Blue miles.

You do not need to buy a Business Class ticket to travel comfortably. Great menu with seafood, a seat with extra legroom, free entry to the lounge at the airport – you can buy this and much more with your Economy Class ticket to feel like a true VIP.



# Life is Magnifique



Sofitel Warsaw Victoria

**CONTACT**  
[accorhotels.com](http://accorhotels.com)  
[sofitel.com](http://sofitel.com)

**S**ofitel is synonymous with luxury and comfort. The uniqueness of the brand lies in the ability to combine the French art of living - art de vivre - with local examples of excellence. The brand is based on three pillars: design and innovation, food & wine, and the culture & events. The combination of these values in conjunction with a professional service of the Ambassadors, which is tailored to the individual needs of guests, lets you feel that "life is magnifique".

Culinary art is a very prominent element of French culture, which also plays an important role in the philosophy of "art de recevoir à la française". Sofitel hotels are strongly attached to traditional cheese, wine, and

pastries rituals – so called Parisiennes, during which selected French specialties are served. The brand also attaches great importance to cultural events, organizing annual music festival Fête de la Musique, as well as fashion shows. Sofitel's attention to elegance and comfort is further seen in the fact that the brand collaborates with world's best designers in designing its properties. Regardless of whether the hotel is located in Buenos Aires or Amsterdam, in each of them the visitors will witness French chic and elegance. So far, Sofitel has invited to collaboration such fashion and style icons as Jean Nouvel, Christian Lacroix, Karl Lagerfeld or Andrée Putman. That is why, the brand is confident that each of its 120 hotels located in

40 countries and 5 continents, will meet the expectations of even the most demanding customers. In Poland, guests enjoy the offer of Sofitel in Sopot, Warsaw and Wrocław.

#### BY THE SEA

Overlooking the Baltic Sea and its own private beach, the luxurious Sofitel Grand Sopot subtly combines magnificent Art Nouveau architecture with the French "art de recevoir". Modern interiors, designed by Frederic Yzermana, are complemented by the spa and wellness centre, a gourmet Art Deco restaurant with sea views and a stylish bar serving caviar and champagne. One of the highlights of this historic hotel is its Ballroom with crystal chandelier, where numerous spec-

Sofitel Wrocław Old Town



tacular events are held. Sofitel Grand Sopot is also an ideal place for business travellers. It guests are offered 127 luxury rooms and suites. You can relax here in the tranquil library, take a stroll through the gardens, sunbathe on the hotel's private beach or enjoy a delicious drink at Le Bar.

#### IN THE CAPITAL

Located in the very heart of Warsaw, overlooking Piłsudski Square and Saski Garden, Sofitel Warsaw Victoria is just a few steps away from the Old Town, the Royal Palace and the National Opera. Since its opening, the hotel has been synonymous with true luxury. In 2013, it underwent a complete revamp in order to adapt to the latest

trends of the brand. The renovation included public areas, the lobby, guest rooms and the bar. The new interior was created by a famous French designer Didier Gomez as well as Kaczmarek Design Studio. With the revamp guests can now enjoy the taste of refined dishes in new Le Victoria Brasserie Moderne and Kitchen Gallery restaurants, or try the stylish Victoria Lounge bar, which offers a wide selection of signature cocktails. The hotel also features a modern leisure centre with a swimming pool, a gym, a sauna and massage facilities.

#### LOWER SILESIA

Sofitel Wrocław Old Town is only a few steps from the Market Square, which is the cul-

tural, entertainment and business centre of the bustling city of Wrocław. At your fingertips are elegant boutiques, cosy cafes and fine dining restaurants. One of the most distinct features of the hotel is an impressive glass atrium, which is an example of modern Polish architecture. Its guests are offered 205 luxury rooms. The elegant Pan Tadeusz restaurant, which overlooks Rzeźnicza Street, specializes in international cuisine. The menu is based on the freshest ingredients, with which the chef creates seasonal compositions, based on recipes from all over the world. Guests can get away from the everyday hustle and bustle, relaxing in the SPA centre or in the hot tub.

Sofitel is a perfect blend of luxury, elegance and comfort. The brand is distinguished by its philosophy based on the three pillars, inspired by the French art of life (art de vivre): food & wine, culture & events, and design and innovation.



Sofitel Grand Sopot



# EXPERIENCE ASIA WITH INAZIA RESTAURANT



**MORE DETAILS AT**  
[www.restauracja-inazia.pl](http://www.restauracja-inazia.pl)

**M**arcin Sasin the head chef of InAzia restaurant located in Warsaw's Sheraton Hotel, has prepared a special menu for lovers of flavours of Southeast Asia. Until 20 December InAzia will offer

a three-course menu consisting of the restaurant's bestsellers at a great price of PLN 75 per person.

"Our guests often say that we are the place to go for the best pad thai in Warsaw, lots of people return here for tom yang

kung soup, while others praise our delicate halibut in coconut milk. That is why, I have decided to create a menu that will consist of our best dishes and allow guests to compose them to their liking. To attract those who have not visited us yet, we

have lowered the price of the set to PLN 75,” said Marcin Sasin, the head chef of InAzia.

The tasting menu features 13 dishes (appetizers, soups, main dishes, wok dishes and desserts) from which guests can pick three they would like to try. We particularly recommend rolls with shrimp, pomelo, mango and sprouts; tom kha gai soup with chicken, galangal, lime leaf, coriander; sous vide duck breast with green vegetables and fresh plums; duck noodle – fried, spicy noodles with roast duck and vegetables. Dessert lovers must try coconut terrine with white chocolate and mango.

The tasting menu is available for just PLN 75 (instead of usual PLN 120) when you book a table online at [restaurancja-inazia.pl](http://restaurancja-inazia.pl) website. The offer is valid until 20 December 2014.

In the new restaurant all art lovers will find a unique and very personal dining experience that will be further strengthened by the decor of the interior, inspired by modern Asian design. However, a true advantage of the restaurant lies in the menu created by Marcin Sasin, whose passion is cuisine of Asia - especially its south-eastern part. For 15 years he gained experience under the guidance of excellent Thai chefs who told him the secrets of their best recipes for traditional dishes of the region. Dishes created by Marcin Sasin are an authentic journey through the aromas and flavours of Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, China and Indonesia. The chef regularly travels around Asia, looking for culinary inspiration both in best restaurants and from numerous street vendors selling delicacies from wheeled carts. His dishes are prepared exclusively with genuine products, which he finds and imports from Asia. Sasin likes to use traditional recipes, but he also enriches them with elements that represent the latest trends in cooking, such as molecular cuisine.



However, a true advantage of the restaurant lies in the menu created by Marcin Sasin, whose passion is cuisine of Asia. Dishes created by Marcin Sasin are an authentic journey through the aromas and flavours of Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, China and Indonesia.



# ORBIS - A NEW CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY



**Marzena Mróz** talks to **Gilles Clavie**, the CEO of Orbis SA.

## Taking over Accor's business in Central Europe, Orbis SA has started a new chapter in its history. What does this mean for the company?

Indeed, the transaction with Accor is a milestone in the activities of Orbis and fits perfectly in our strategy. We have intended to significantly increase our development in the region, for some time already. The new license agreement will be extended to 16 countries and will be valid for 20 years. Entering new markets gives us a great opportunity for a more dynamic growth. We will be Accor's platform for managing business in this part of Europe. We treat it as a sort of recognition and appreciation of our past achievements, as well as a strategic step towards further development of Orbis.

## How will Accor and Orbis customers benefit from this takeover?

Poland is one of the countries where our loyalty programme develops most dynamically across the Accor Group, because it offers LeClubAccorhotels cardholders the most interesting and unique deals. Orbis has made significant progress in the implementation of digital technologies in hotels and in communicating with modern customers who are keen on using e-solutions. In addition, Orbis teams have also introduced innovative culinary concepts, such as WineStone in Mercure brand or Novo2 in Polish Novotel hotels. We can offer this and more to the customers of the hotels acquired by us.

## How many hotels will Orbis take over? What countries does the transaction include?

The subject of the transaction is the takeover of 46 hotels in Central Europe and conclusion of a new license agreement (Master License Agreement), which will entitle Orbis Group to operate until 2035 under Accor brands in 16 countries: Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, Macedonia, Romania, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia and Moldova. Following the transaction, Orbis will become the exclusive licensor of all Accor brands in 16 countries and the leader of the hotel industry in this part of Europe. As a result, Orbis will take over the current network of Accor, which is 46 hotels, including 11 our own properties, 17 leased ones, 11 operating under the terms of a management contract, and 7 operating

under the franchise agreement. All the hotels operate under Accor brands: Sofitel, Pullman, MGallery, Novotel, Mercure, ibis and ibis budget. In total 38 properties are now fully operational. Further 8 are being developed, 3 of which will be managed, while 5 others will operate under the franchise agreement. 76% of the operating hotels is located in the capitals of the above mentioned countries.

## What is the value of the transaction?

The total price of the transaction is €142.3 million, which fits within the range of valuations that we conducted. Currently Orbis has a lot of cash and we do not have any liabilities to banks. Therefore, the transaction will be financed partly from our own resources and partly from a bank loan, which in the future we will be able to replace by the issue of bonds.

## What is the strategy of Orbis for the next five years?

With this transaction we will significantly expand our business. The total number of our hotels will soon exceed 110 and we will be able to expand in 16 countries. In this way, we will strengthen our position as the largest hotel chain in Central Europe. We are buying properties in good condition, which are located mainly in capital cities. Orbis has already excellent staff working in an international environment, which perfectly understand the business in the region. I am sure that both Orbis and companies operating in these new markets will benefit from mutual cooperation, and soon we will be able to achieve synergy.

**Thank you for the interview.**



M Gallery Nemzeti Budapest



Sofitel Budapest Chain Bridge



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**Aforte więcej niż Hot Spot**

# RED CITY RETREAT

**Jenny Southan** finds a luxury cultural hideaway in the Moroccan desert, complete with micro farm, artists in residence and championship boxer





I've always wanted to stay in a tree-house," I say as we stop to admire the bleached wooden structure suspended in the branches. "You can if you prefer," laughs my host, Julien Amicel, "but it tends to be for the children who stay with us."

I decide that the creaky steps don't look very strong and think better of it, before strolling over to say hello to the donkeys poking their heads through a fence.

We're exploring the Fellah, a desert retreat located 15km south of Marrakech. Continuing along the sun-drenched paths, which are lined with cacti bursting with prickly pears, I wave to the porter. Sporting red trousers, a double-breasted, gold-buttoned navy jacket and a battered cowboy hat, he is pulling my luggage along in an old cart (not because there's so much of it – that's just the way they do things here).

#### FOR ARTISTS AND TOURISTS

There's a definite rustic charm to the place, but it's not all vegetable gardens and chicken coops – set among ten earth-coloured vil-

las, which house 69 bedrooms, is a restaurant and an expansive, dark-blue swimming pool flanked with loungers, swaying grasses and giant spiky succulents.

Beyond are driftwood cabanas, a ping-pong table, a boutique, an old-fashioned barber shop and, on the other side of the resort, the Wat Po spa, where you can have a treatment from a therapist trained at Bangkok's Wat Pho temple, the birthplace of Thai massage. The story of Fellah begins in 2010, when Parisian stockbroker Redha Moali and his actress wife Houria Afoufou opened the Dar al-Ma'Mun cultural centre here to promote Moroccan art and education for local people. It has since become part of the UNESCO-Aschberg Bursaries for Artists Programme, which helps students to complete their training overseas.

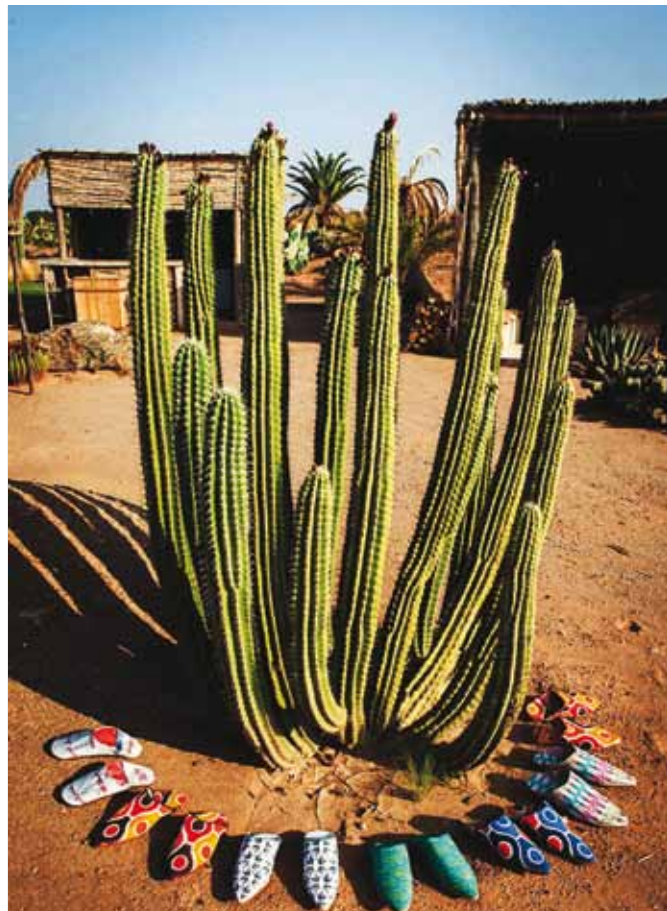
Amicel is co-director of the artist-in-residence scheme, which every year accepts applicants from around the world for three to five months, providing them with flights, accommodation, meals, a grant and access to a workshop within the estate's grounds.

Even creatives who are not part of the programme are flocking to the Fellah – Amicel tells me Egyptian writer/director Safaa Fathy is here to work on her new book, and on my return to the UK, I hear my friends Ben (a playwright) and Jemima (an actress) have just booked a stay for when their London stage production ends.

As a way of engaging with local people, there are free community lectures and a library, which houses more than 11,000 books in Arabic, French and English. "We have an emerging translation programme and teach literacy to locals of all ages," Amicel explains.

Later, we put our heads into the Fellah's school, where children are taught weaving and painting, and the conference centre for outside companies to hold meetings and events. Amicel says: "The artists are under no obligation to give us any work – it's non-profit. But every client that stays here is a patron of our activities."

The hotel aspect of the 11-hectare project launched in September last year, and Afou-



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fou designed the understated, contemporary rooms herself – mine has a step-out terrace where, at night, sweet-smelling smoke wafts up from the olive-wood torches illuminating the otherwise pitch-black pathways.

Floors and walls are cool concrete painted slate grey, and the bathroom has a huge walk-in rainshower, bowls of traditional Moroccan scrubs and sticky resin shampoo, and an egg-shaped free-standing tub. There are rugs made by indigenous Berbers, glazed Zellige tiles and filigree lamps, along with amenities including free wifi and minibars.

## SHOPPING IN MARRAKECH

Marrakech has always had a strong artistic heritage and, if you don't mind braving the hassle of the medina, you can discover a wealth of authentic craftsmanship, at very low prices if you're prepared to haggle. One afternoon, I am encouraged to follow unofficial tour guide Azdine to "the last day of the Festival of Colour – come, come, no money!"

Resisting my mistrust, I follow him down narrow alleys behind the souk, where shoemakers, carpet weavers and blacksmiths are hard at work. We finally come to "his uncle's shop", where the supposed festival is taking place – in reality, it's a courtyard strung with skeins of freshly dyed wool in black, orange, ultramarine and gold. While certainly beautiful, I know his real motive is to sell me a pashmina.

In just a few hours I have bought two bags of dried mint tea and 12 hand-painted skewers, smelt jars of eucalyptus crystals and crushed Nigella seeds, and held not one but three chameleons (none of which changed colour, despite assurances that they would). I take a break on the rooftop terrace of Café des Epices, and look down on the stalls of knitted hats, terracotta tagines and woven bags below.

## THE MODERN WORLD

Outside the ancient city walls, beyond the square with the horse and carts and men with snakes, is a far more modern world – one of sparkly designer stores, glitzy nightclubs, opulent hotels and sumptuous restaurants (Arancino at the Four Seasons serves classy Italian fare among olive trees and trickling fountains).

One of the most iconic hotels is La Mamounia, which had a multimillion-dollar revamp a few years ago. Set in lush gardens, the palatial Arab-Moorish property dates back to 1923 and has welcomed countless

politicians and celebrities. It also organises an annual literary prize.

The city itself has hosted an international film festival since 2001 (this year it will take place on December 5-13), and in February



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held the fifth Marrakech Biennale art fair ([marrakechbiennale.org](http://marrakechbiennale.org)), founded in 2004 by Vanessa Branson, Sir Richard's sister. In 2016, the David Chipperfield-designed Marrakech Museum for Photography and Visual Arts will be unveiled in the west of the city.

One evening, I go for a traditional Moroccan banquet at Dar Essalam ([daressalam.com](http://daressalam.com)), tucking into lavish mezze while Berber musicians leap and twirl. The next, I find myself at Palais Jad Mahal ([jad-mahal.com](http://jad-mahal.com)) with some new-found friends – it's packed with cigar smokers and belly dancers, and bottles of vodka are brought to our table with blazing ice-candle fireworks while a covers band blasts out eighties rock anthems.

Back at the Fellah, I find the best way to clear my head in the morning is to take a private class with championship boxer Fred in the gym. After learning "how to dance like a butterfly and sting like a bee", I have a swim and sit down to breakfast with one of the resident tortoiseshell cats.

In the afternoon, I head for the Jardin Majorelle ([jardinmajorelle.com](http://jardinmajorelle.com)). Planted over several decades in the mid-1900s by French artist Jacques Majorelle, the garden and villa were bought by Yves Saint Laurent in 1980. Painted cobalt blue with splashes of lemon yellow, the house sits among giant cacti, ponds, palms and colourful pots overflowing with flowers. If this doesn't inspire the artist within, nothing will.

[fellah-hotel.com](http://fellah-hotel.com), [fourseasons.com](http://fourseasons.com)

## NEW AND UPCOMING HOTELS

- Beachcomber Royal Palm Opened last December with 134 suites and villas and an 18-hole golf course. [beachcomber-hotels.com](http://beachcomber-hotels.com)
- Baglioni A five-star, 80-room property with Six Senses spa, opening next year. [baglionihotels.com](http://baglionihotels.com)
- Mandarin Oriental 54 villas with private pools and hot tubs, opening next year. [mandarinoriental.com](http://mandarinoriental.com)
- Park Hyatt 131 rooms and 44 villas, opening 2015. [park.hyatt.com](http://park.hyatt.com)
- Grace Hotels Boutique hotel with 18 suites and lofts at the foot of the Atlas mountains, opening next year. [gracehotels.com](http://gracehotels.com)
- W 148 rooms and Wet pool deck, due in 2017. [starwoodhotels.com](http://starwoodhotels.com)

The story of Fellah begins in 2010, when Parisian stockbroker Redha Moali and his actress wife Houria Afoufou opened the Dar al-Ma'Mun cultural centre here to promote Moroccan art and education for local people.



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# SPECIALITE DE LA MAISON

## Resort Les Deux Alpes – La France.

**A** book guide on this place states just a few cold facts that don't capture the imagination. Where is it? In the very centre of the French Alps. How far? 70 km from Grenoble. How can you get there? Preferably, by bus from Grenoble (2 hours) or Geneva (4 hours). Accommodation? The place offers numerous B&Bs and hotels offering 29,000 beds. Food? No problem – there are 120 bars, restaurants and cafeterias located along the main pedestrian street and on the slopes. Skiing? There are 225 kilometres of well-groomed pistes, plus a glacier open all year round...

I toss the guide off. I lie comfortably in a deck chair, enjoying my salad with goose livers. Red wine is chilling in the snow, looking suspiciously like the magic “2” from the resort's logo. What makes skiing in France so unique? I wonder. A hint of madness, a quest for novelty, fun, challenges, quirkiness. Just like in French cuisine. It's not enough to just eat something, or ski down a slope.

### THE KINGDOM OF FREERIDERS

Les2Alpes is a kingdom freeriders and off-piste freaks. Going off the beaten track and down the powder snow seems completely natural here. Is it dangerous? “C'est la vie,” a Frenchman will respond. Is it easy? Well, slightly harder than typical skiing: you shift the weight towards the back of the skis. Let's just say that complete beginners had better hire an instructor to teach them the tricks of the trade.

Those who don't like to stray too far from the life-giving watering holes, must settle for acrobatic stunts in the Europe's largest snowpark. It's primarily the world of snowboarders, but skier can also make here a jump or two. The place is packed with various jumps, rails, boxes, and there's, of course, a large

half-pipe. All these attractions are also available in versions for children.

### AERIAL VIEWS

“I believe I can fly...”. Well, s'il vous plait. Why don't you try the paraglide? You stand on the edge of a cliff (2,400 m), put on the harness with the instructor strapped to your back. Your skis stick out over the edge, a crowd of onlookers contemplates your facial expression and you start feeling dizzy. Than you take a step and... The canopy of the glider spreads over your head, gently lifting you up. Seated comfortably, you glide over the valley. Still not a big deal? You can always go to the very extreme and try speed riding, which is a combination of freeriding and paragliding. You fly just above the ground at a speed of 150 km/h, at times sliding down on skis or jumping over obstacles.

### THE LAND OF ICE

The very core of skiing activities is Mont de Lansa glacier, or one of Europe's largest sports areas located on a glacier. Thanks to this huge mass of ice Les2Alpes can be open throughout the year. It's here where best athletes train in summer. There's a snowpark, 45 km of slopes, numerous competitions, and other events. I especially recommend the Full Moon Evenings, held once a month at the full moon. It's a real treat for skiers and snowboarders with several hours of crazy rides down the lit slopes, with music, good food and competitions. All of this for only 50 euro.

If you like adventures, you should spend a night or two in Kanata Igloo, built according to Inupiat tradition at an altitude of 1,800 m. It seems that mountains by night are becoming increasingly popular. You can, for example, take a part in a night trip on cross-country skis,

or slopes around the resort. If you are tired you can always go for an evening snowmobile ride. All of this gives you the hint of French taste and style spiced with good fun. However, the main course consists of 92 well-prepared pistes with all levels of difficulty.

Access to the slopes is fairly easy. Ski lifts and cable cars take off from several lower stations, taking tourists from the resort and an altitude of 1,650 m to even 3,600 m. Right after breakfast you put on your ski gear, take a few steps and up you go. Since the town lies in a deep valley, you will be able to admire the Alpine panorama only when you reach the first ridge, and with a little bit of luck you may even see the peak of Mont Blanc. As part of the après-ski I recommend the communal heated pool called La Croisette.

### A BIT OF SPORT AND FUN

Les2Alpes ski station was established in 1946 and is now the second oldest ski resort in the French Alps. It doesn't have the aristocratic glitz of its older neighbour, instead offering a wide range of fun, unpretentious activities. It's undoubtedly one of the favourite ski resorts for younger generations, because its flagship product is good fun. During the day you can see it in the park, while in the evening on the boardwalk, where cheerful groups of people move from one pub to another. Especially attractive are Brasiliens and Avalanche discos, Motown drink bar, as well as La Porte d'à côté restaurant.

Those interested in folk tradition should visit the two neighbouring and old villages: Venosc and Mont de Lans. After all, the resort owes its name to those settlements, being located between the two. And so suspended between skiing and fun is Les Deux Alpes.

**Barbara Scharf**



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WHERE WILL YOUR IMAGINATION TAKE YOU ?



# TASTE PORTO

A trip to historic Porto will have you looking at its most famous export in a new light, says **Annie Harris**

**Y**ou can't fail to be impressed by Porto. The city cascades down to the Douro river, a tumble of multi-coloured houses with red roofs, their cast-iron balconies adorned with washing and vibrant pots of geraniums. Over the gorge spans an array of bridges connecting the UNESCO-listed old town of Ribeira to the wine lodge district of Vila Nova de Gaia and the vineyards beyond. The northern Portuguese city is, of course, renowned not only for its picturesque views but for the perennially popular fortified wine that bears its name. Once, traditional Rabelo boats transported the barrels downriver from the Douro valley vineyards to be

matured in the lodges, the temperate coastal climate suiting the drink's slow maturing process.

If you are interested in spending a couple of days exploring the region, a good place to base yourself is the Yeatman hotel, in the heart of Vila Nova de Gaia.

It classes itself as Portugal's first luxury wine hotel, and its cellars house an extensive collection of the country's vintages, to be enjoyed over a meal in the Michelin-starred restaurant. There is even a themed spa – you can have a wine scrub or bathe in the stuff.

On the doorstep of the Yeatman are Taylor's wine lodges, run by one of the oldest family-

owned port producers in the city for more than three centuries.

For €5 you can enjoy a guided tour of the extensive cellars, which house about 4,000 pipes (oak barrels), 200 toneis and balseiros (large oak vats), as well as bottles that date back three decades to what was one of the finest vintages in the history of port.

While the maturing process takes place in the lodges, the port is made upriver in the Douro valley, where all the quintas (vineyards) are located. Designated the world's first demarcated wine region in 1756, all port must be made here to bear the name.

It's created by fortifying wine with brandy to preserve its natural sugars, a process origi-

nally carried out to keep the drink fresh on its long sea voyage back to England.

After marvelling at the huge vats and dusty bottles, it's time to step back into the Portuguese sunshine and sample a few.

While all the different types of port may at first seem confusing – from LBV and tawny to ruby, white and even pink – a tasting session will soon have you looking at the drink in a new light.

For the full experience, head for the quintas in the remarkable Upper Douro valley, designated a UNESCO World Heritage site in 2001.

The train journey from Porto station to the pretty town of Pinhao takes a couple of hours – the Vintage House hotel, originally an old wine warehouse, has its own entrance from the station and can arrange tours of the area.

As much of the Douro is inaccessible by road, the river is the best way to get around, and a trip along one of its many tributaries is a relaxing way to see the vines. Some of the finest port is produced at Quinta do Panascal, in operation since the early 19th century and the flagship estate for Fonseca. Its vine-shaded terrace is a fine spot for lunch – sip an aperitif of ice-cold white port before tucking into some delicious

## Contacts

Taylor's cellars are open Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, weekends until 5pm. 250 Rua do Choupelo, Vila Nova de Gaia; tel +351 223 742 800;

- taylor.pt
- theyeatman.com
- csvintagehouse.com

Quinta do Panascal is open 10am-6pm daily Easter-Oct, weekend reservations required rest of year. Tel +351 254 732 321; fonseca.pt

local produce and you'll no longer think of the drink merely as an accompaniment to cheese.

## TYPES OF PORT

- **Vintage** The only variety that is unfiltered and bottle aged. Vintage port is only declared about three times a decade, and about 1 per cent of all port produced is good enough. It must be from a single harvest and aged for two to three years in barrels before bottling. It should be at least 15 years old and be decanted before drinking.
- **Tawny** A blended port that is barrel-aged for between three and 40 years. Its golden hue comes from the natural evaporation

of the wine, allowing oxidation to occur, which changes the colour and develops the rich raisin and nutty character. Best served chilled.

- **Ruby A** blend aged for up to three years in either stainless steel or concrete vats before bottling to preserve the fresh fruit flavours and deep berry colour.

- **Late bottled vintage (LVB)** Wines from a single harvest, barrel-aged for four to six years. They were destined to be vintage but when none was declared they were bottled later. These wines are intended to be drunk early and do not age in the bottle.

- **Single Quinta Port** from a single harvest at a single estate, the next best thing after vintage port and much more affordable. Bottle-aged and will need decanting.

- **Crusted A** blend from several vintages that is bottled unfiltered. Crusted ports have to be bottle-aged at least three years before release and will improve with age. An affordable alternative to vintage.

- **White Made** from white grape varieties, fortified and aged the same as ruby. Best served chilled as an aperitif.

- **Pink A** fairly new invention, technically a ruby but the wine has a limited exposure to the grape skins, thus creating the rose colour. Best as an aperitif.



While all the different types of port may at first seem confusing – from LBV and tawny to ruby, white and even pink (see right) – a tasting session will soon have you looking at the drink in a new light.



# FEATHERWEIGHT CHAMPIONS

**Steve Dinneen** referees a knock-out tournament between the latest tablet computers to hit the market

Only a few years ago, the tablet market didn't exist. Various manufacturers had tried to make the format work but nobody had happened upon the right formula. Then Apple had a crack at it, releasing the first iPad in 2010. Since then, it has sold more

than 200 million, releasing the latest versions – the iPad Air 2 and iPad Mini 3 – last month. But while Apple controls the lion's share of the market – 26.9 per cent, according to the International Data Corporation – it's by no means the only player; a host of innovative tablets have evolved, many to fill new niches

in the market. The rise of mobile gaming has led to a drive to create ever-more powerful tablets capable of running games that would have required an entire console a few years ago. Another interesting development is the emergence of the "phablet" – half phone, half tablet. The growth in popularity of this



category spurred Apple to release its 5.5-inch iPhone 6 Plus in September, in a bid to prevent sales haemorrhaging to Samsung's Galaxy Note. Google's Android operating system now accounts for 85 per cent of the market, followed by Apple's iOS with 11.7 per cent and Microsoft's Windows with 2.5 per cent. Microsoft is determined to strengthen its presence in the industry with its increasingly sophisticated Windows Phone operating system. How do you know if you're making the right choice? First, look at the phone in your pocket and the computer on your desk. Brands are at pains to make their devices as integrated as possible – if you have a Samsung laptop and smartphone, you'll find your life a lot easier if you complete the hat-trick with a Samsung tablet. This guide should help you out.

## On podium

### SAMSUNG GALAXY TAB S

**Price:** £399 (16GB) [samsung.com/uk](http://samsung.com/uk)  
Eubank and Benn, Wenger and Ferguson, Samsung and Apple. In terms of tech rivalries, it doesn't get more acrimonious than this. And when it comes to tablets, Samsung has been a distant second.

The Korean firm has pulled out all the stops with its latest 10.5-inch tablet, though, producing what it claims is the best screen on the market, fused with a seamlessly integrated Android operating system.

The battery will give you nine hours of continuous internet use, putting it almost on a par with the iPad Air. The device also has a slick bronze trim around the edge, pushing it closer to Apple in terms of attractiveness.

Should you rush out to buy it? Only if you're determined not to hand over your cash to Apple; the case is still a bit plasticky and doesn't have the quality finish of its rival, but it's probably the next best thing.



## For demanding users

### IPHONE 6 PLUS

**From:** £619 (16GB) [store.apple.com/uk](http://store.apple.com/uk)  
If you've held the new iPhone 6 Plus, you'll know why I'm including it in a round-up of tablets – it's gigantic. At 5.5 inches, it occupies the space Samsung had annexed with its popular Galaxy Note, rather inelegantly dubbed the "phablet". If you're a heavy mobile internet user, it's brilliant, with a huge screen that's great for watching movies on the go or working on apps that need a little space to breathe. It comes with Apple's latest A8 chip, making it the fastest mobile device on Apple's books. It's a pretty major redesign from the iPhone 5, with sleek, rounded corners and a chassis carved from a solid block of aluminium. It also comes with iOS 8 as standard, giving you access to features such as Apple's new predictive keyboard.



## The real king

### IPAD AIR

**From:** £399 (16GB, wifi only) [store.apple.com/uk](http://store.apple.com/uk)  
At the time of going to press, Apple had just unveiled its new iPad Air 2. The original Air, which came on to the market last year, remains a thing of beauty. Although it lags behind rivals in terms of raw specs – you'll find more RAM and bigger processors in most high-end Android tablets – but in real-world situations it's unbeatable. The Retina display is crystal clear and the graphics processing brilliant – perfect for playing hardcore games on long-haul flights. Apple has also cracked the battery-life issue: it seems to last forever (officially, it's ten hours of continuous use), although re-charging is painfully slow compared with the iPhone. As you'd expect, it looks great and is incredibly light, at only 469g. At 9.4 inches, it's a good size, too; plenty of screen real-estate without feeling unwieldy. In the world of tablet computers, it doesn't get better than Apple.



## Water resistant

### SONY XPERIA Z3 TABLET COMPACT

**From:** £329 (16GB) [sonymobile.com/gb](http://sonymobile.com/gb)  
Sony is once again a player in the mobile sphere, and it's all down to the Xperia range. It's an Android device that adheres to the same gimmick as the rest of the Xperia stable – it's waterproof, making it hands-down the best tablet for watching movies in the bath. At just 6mm, it's incredibly thin and weighs only 260g. Sony has another unique selling point – the Playstation. You can connect a dual-shock control pad and, through a special app, play your PS4 games on it over your home wifi connection. It also has a Snapdragon quad-core processor and a battery that allows for 13 hours of continuous video playback.



## Sharp as a knife

### GOOGLE NEXUS 7

**Price:** £199 (16GB), £239 (32GB)  
[google.com/nexus/7](http://google.com/nexus/7)

The Nexus 7 is the tablet of choice for the geek fraternity. The Google-branded device (it's manufactured by Asus) is the purest demonstration of the Android operating system, free from tweaks by external device manufacturers such as Samsung or Sony.

You certainly get a lot for your money – it has a great seven-inch screen with a higher pixel count than the iPad's Retina display, that reaches almost to the edge of the device. The build quality is tight – not quite as drop-dead gorgeous as the brushed aluminium iPad, but solid and sleek, in either matte black or white.



## Business on the go

### MICROSOFT SURFACE PRO 3

**From:** £639 (64GB) [microsoft.com/surface](http://microsoft.com/surface)

Remember the Microsoft Surface? No? Well, I suppose there's no reason why you would. Microsoft launched it in 2012 to much fanfare, vaunting it as the device that could help to bridge the gap between tablets and laptops. But a combination of a sky-high price and a fairly average product meant nobody bought it. It's now in its third iteration and still has the off-putting price tag, but it seems to have discovered its niche – business. Running Windows 8 and featuring a huge 12-inch screen, Microsoft is hoping to sponge up the business users who want to pick up the spreadsheets they left in the office and work on them when they're in the lounge. This time around, Microsoft has made a rather handsome device – thinner (9mm) and sturdier. Windows users will get on well with it, but it is still expensive.



## For shopaholics

### AMAZON KINDLE FIRE HDX 7

**Price:** £199 (16GB), £229 (32GB), £259 (64GB)  
[amazon.co.uk](http://amazon.co.uk)

The latest Kindle Fire will allow you to do the basics – browse the web, download the Facebook app, and so on – but the reason you buy it is for its seamless integration with Amazon's ecosystem. All your latest downloads are front and centre, and getting hold of more is a doddle – perhaps too much of a doddle for those on a budget (damn you, one-click purchases). It's thinner than the last one (9mm as opposed to 10mm) and the rear now has a pleasingly retro taper instead of rounded edges.

It's all perfectly pleasant, without being a patch on the best offerings from more established tablet makers.



## Solid player

### NOKIA LUMIA 2520

**Price:** £355 (32GB) [nokia.com](http://nokia.com)

It's not very fashionable – you're certainly not going to sit in Starbucks with it proudly typing away on your screenplay – but it's a good, solid 10.1-inch tablet. If you use Windows at home, the software will be familiar, and you can create and edit your Word, Excel and Powerpoint files on the move, saving them in Onedrive so you can open them up again on your desktop computer.

Like the Microsoft Surface, the Lumia tablet is best used with the keyboard/case, which turns it into a makeshift laptop. At 615g, it's a bit of a porker, but it feels robust, the kind of tablet you could drop a few times without worrying about it.



## Gamer's dream

### NVIDIA SHIELD TABLET

**Price:** £240 (16GB, wifi only) [shield.nvidia.co.uk](http://shield.nvidia.co.uk)

This eight-inch tablet is designed for one thing – gaming. The Android device packs the manufacturer's Tegra K1 system-on-a-chip and a quad-core processor, meaning it renders graphics at lightning speed. The tablet can link up to Nvidia's Gamestream service, giving you access to thousands of titles (individual fees apply). Nvidia also sells a separate wireless controller (£50), allowing you to play console-style games on the tablet.

If you're a dedicated gamer and can't be without Portal 2 while you're in the air, invest in one of these – just don't expect to get much work done.



## Unusual hybrid

### ADVENT VEGA TEGRA NOTE 7

**Price:** £140 (16GB) [nvidia.co.uk](http://nvidia.co.uk)

If you're worried about baggage handlers smashing the screen on your tablet, you may be better off going for a cheaper option rather than paying hundreds of pounds. With a 1.8GHz quad-core processor, the low-cost Advent Vega Tegra streaks ahead of most rivals on the market for less than £150. It's a competent gaming device, with a quick frame-rate and a decent battery. At only 320g and 9mm thick, you can slide it into your jacket pocket without feeling like you're wearing diving weights. It also has a stylus that slots into the chassis, as well as expandable storage (16GB in-built). It's not perfect – the screen is somewhat lacklustre and it has an inevitable air of "affordability" – but pound for pound, this tablet is a real contender.





**SIEMENS**

# Ekscytujące piękno, futurystyczna technologia.

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

Aktualnie projektanci wnętrz kuchennych coraz częściej proponują proste formy wkomponowane w otwartą, jasną przestrzeń. Najnowsze modele urządzeń Siemens świetnie spełniają te wymagania. Zarówno piekarniki, płyty grzewcze, jak i chłodziarki oraz okapy wyróżniają się ponadczasowym wzornictwem o niezwykle eleganckiej, oszczędnej linii. Ekskluzywna obudowa z materiałów

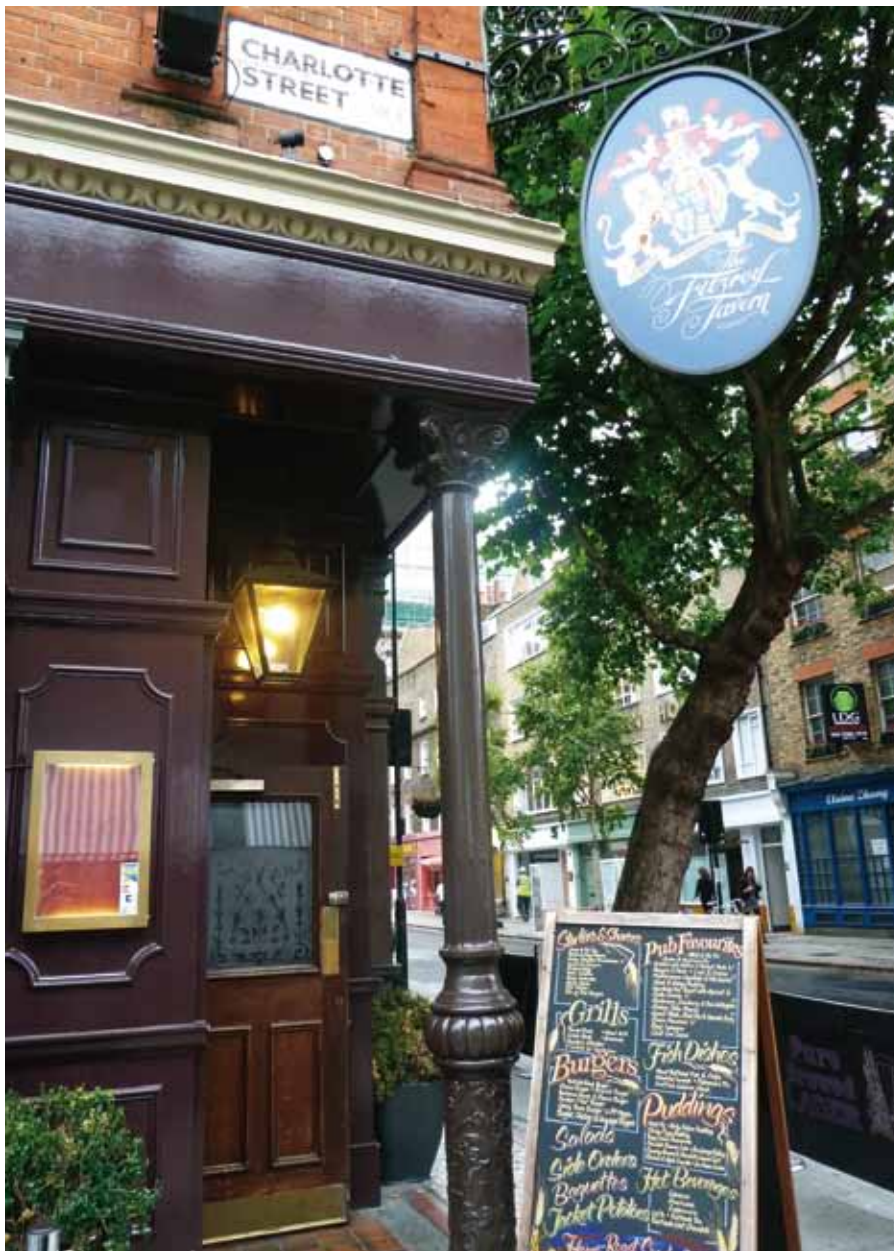
najwyższej jakości kryje innowacyjne rozwiązania i zaawansowaną automatykę, która zapewnia urządzeniom maksymalną samodzielność i efektywność. Kontrolowane przez elektroniczne systemy sensorowe, pracują oszczędnie i cicho, z gwarancją doskonałych efektów. Dla Twojego komfortu i dla dobra natury. Więcej informacji: [www.siemens-home.pl](http://www.siemens-home.pl)

**Siemens. The future moving in.**

DECEMBER 2014/JANUARY 2015 | 63

# 4 HOURS IN... LONDON

*Molly O'Shea* discovers curious museums and historic taverns on a walking tour of this central London neighbourhood



Fitzroy Tavern - for the decades it has attracted well-known writers, artists and intellectuals including poet Dylan Thomas and sculptor Jacob Epstein.

**T**ucked between the districts of Marylebone and Bloomsbury are the historic streets of Fitzrovia, lined with upmarket residences, galleries, design stores, cafés and trendy restaurants such as the newly opened Obika mozzarella bar ([obika.com](http://obika.com)) and Bubbledogs ([bubbledogs.co.uk](http://bubbledogs.co.uk)), for hotdogs and champagne. The area is famed for its bohemian air, having been the chosen hangout of authors such as George Orwell and Virginia Woolf.

Dominating the immediate skyline – and a useful landmark – is the 177-metre-tall BT Tower, which was the tallest structure in the city in the early 1960s. Several decades ago there was a revolving restaurant at its summit, but sadly not anymore. These days it remains closed to visitors, which is why we haven't included it in this walking tour.

## GRANT MUSEUM OF ZOOLOGY

Take the Tube to Warren Street Underground station, stroll along Tottenham Court Road and turn down University Street, where housed in an Edwardian former library you'll find the Grant Museum of Zoology, part of University College London (UCL).

It was established for educational purposes in the early 1800s by physician and lecturer Robert Edmond Grant, and moved from the UCL campus to its current location in 2011. The only remaining museum of its kind in the capital, it exhibits more than 67,000 specimens – from brains to bugs. There are even bones belonging to rare or extinct species such as the long-dead quagga, a South African ascendant of the zebra, and ancient flightless bird the dodo.

Entry is free. Open Mon-Sat 1pm-5pm; Rockefeller Building, 21 University Street; [ucl.ac.uk/museums/zoology](http://ucl.ac.uk/museums/zoology)

## THE BUILDING CENTRE

Turn right down Gower Street, which forms Fitzrovia's eastern boundary, and right again on to Store Street. At number 26 is





A few minutes away from the Building Centre, on the corner of Scala Street and Whitfield Street, is Pollock's Toy Museum.



the Building Centre, within which you'll be greeted by a 1:1,500 scale model of London, sprawling 12 metres.

The commercial arm of educational charity the Building Centre Trust, the centre has changing exhibitions on the latest architectural developments within the city – from improvements to the Underground system and Crossrail (Europe's most ambitious railway project) to the Olympic Park.

TV screens displaying panoramic views of the city and information on new and proposed developments provide an insight into the ever-changing capital. There are also regular exhibitions and a bookshop.

Entry is free. Open Mon-Fri? 9.30am-6pm, Sat 10am-5pm; buildingcentre.co.uk

### POLLOCK'S TOY MUSEUM

A few minutes away, on the corner of Scala Street and Whitfield Street, is Pollock's Toy Museum. Named after Benjamin Pollock, the last printer of Victorian miniature thea-

tres (constructed out of layers of card with movable paper figures), it has stood here since 1969 and is a treasure trove of memorabilia with board games, puppets, dolls and teddy bears from all over the world.

Narrow carpeted stairways lead to six rooms, which are set up to look like typical children's bedrooms from across the eras. Artefacts include a rocking horse dating back to 1840, lead soldiers forged at the turn of the 20th century and an American ventriloquist's dummy made in 1935.

There is also a shop selling a wide range of toys to take home.

Entry is £6. Open Mon-Sat 10am-5pm; 1 Scala Street; pollockstoymuseum.com

### GETTY IMAGES GALLERY

Walk down Goodge Street, which leads on to Mortimer Street, and then turn left down Great Titchfield Street to Eastcastle Street, where you will find the Getty Images Gallery at number 46.

## How to get there?

Daily convenient connections from Warsaw and London are offered by LOT Polish Airlines. The aircraft of the Polish national carrier fly to the English capital 7 days a week, taking off from Warsaw at 7.40 am, 3.05 pm and 8.05 pm. LOT operates now in the most modern area of Heathrow, the T2 Terminal, also known as the Queen's Terminal. All LOT Economy, Economy Plus and Business passengers can use 66 automatic check-in kiosks and baggage desks, and then proceed to one of 27 security check points. All that significantly reduces the check-in time and one can reach the departure area with 33 shops and 17 restaurants within just several minutes. The passengers of LOT Business Class can use the new executive lounge with a breathtaking view over one of the world's busiest runways! lot.com.

Digital photo library Getty Images – the archives of which hold millions of pictures from the 1850s to the present day – was founded in 1995 by Mark Getty, grandson of the more famous Jean Paul Getty. (One of the wealthiest Americans ever to have lived, he founded the Getty Oil Company and the J Paul Getty Trust.)

The gallery displays prints available for sale, and has changing exhibitions with subjects including Marilyn Monroe, London, cars, the rich and famous, musicians, footballers and Hollywood.

Entry is free. Open Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 12pm-5.30pm; gettyimagesgallery.com

### FITZROY TAVERN

Finish with a well-earned pint of lager at the Fitzroy Tavern. Located on Charlotte Street, opposite celebrity hangout the Charlotte Street hotel (a member of Firmdale Hotels), it was originally a coffee house before becoming the Hundred Marks pub in 1887, though it didn't gain its current name until 1919.

Over the decades it has attracted well-known writers, artists and intellectuals including poet Dylan Thomas and sculptor Jacob Epstein.

The walls are lined with photographs, cuttings, letters and plaques telling the pub's history, and it is owned by Yorkshire's Samuel Smith Brewery, which means it stocks its own beer, ale, cider, soft drinks and spirits, which are very competitively priced for the centre of town (expect to pay £3.24 for a pint).

Open 11am-11pm daily; 16 Charlotte Street



# ASK PETER

## Letters

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

### Fast immigration control

*I have recently been to Boston. I will be flying there more, as the company I work in has moved its headquarters there. At the airport, I had to stand in a long queue to the visa control desk. A few people from my plane passed by without having to stand in the queue, and headed directly to the desks resembling automatic check-in. They went through the visa control instantly. Can I also use this option in the future?*

**Rafał**

Dear Rafał,

I think you're referring to the Global Entry programme, which allows for a simplified automatic immigration control at selected airports around the USA. The programme is addressed at low-risk travellers provided they successfully complete complex verification procedures.

Global Entry is aimed at people frequently flying to the USA: American, Dutch, South Korean and Mexican citizens. No minimum number of past or declared journeys is required. At the airport, you quickly go through the immigration control, where your passport or permanent resident card is scanned by a device similar to a check-in kiosk. It also scans your fingerprints to check if they match those stored in the database. While going through the visa control, passengers make a customs declaration. Next, a confirmation is printed, and you can go claim your luggage.

Polish citizens can't be members of the programme (just like other EU citizens, except for the Netherlands). Canadian citizens use a similar programme called Nexus. Mexican citizens also use the Sentri programme when crossing the land borders. The qualification process is very rigorous and lengthy. Volunteers need to talk to US Customs and Border Protection officials and answer very specific questions. Only low-risk travellers of high reputation are chosen. The procedure costs about \$100, the permission is granted for 5 years.

But even after obtaining the permission, the members of the programme may be subject to the full immigration control procedure at the airport. People travelling to the USA on the basis of special visas (e.g. student or family reunion) are excluded from the programme.

In your case, every time you travel to Boston, you'll have to go through the standard immigration control procedures.

### A SAS airlines fan

*I buy tickets for my boss, who lives in Copenhagen. He likes travelling with SAS and collects points. My question concerns the prices in Europe. I bought a ticket in economy class, but when I made the payment, the boarding pass read "business". Now I want to book a ticket to New York, but there are no vacancies. Does having a loyalty card help in getting one?*

**Agnieszka**

Dear Agnieszka,

SAS airlines have introduced new rate products for Europe some time ago already. These are SAS GO offer, aimed at economy class passengers, and SAS PLUS – for business travellers. SAS GO rates are much more affordable, but subject to greater restrictions. The tickets are usually non-refundable, must be purchased well in advance, and all the changes are possible only after paying a fee and the difference in rates. Further restrictions apply to the selection of places on board and meals. On your boarding pass there is a designated seat in economy class. Business passengers are usually more willing to choose Premium Economy rates, i.e. SAS PLUS. The cost of the ticket is respectively higher, but you can purchase it at the last minute. Returns are allowed without deductions, the changes are free (there is no charge for the change, but you may have to pay the difference in rates). What's interesting, the boarding pass reads that the designated seat is in Business Class. This is a special tribute to business travellers. In this way you can go through the security check much faster, use the priority line when boarding the plane and earn more points in the loyalty scheme for the flight.

Your boss has a diamond status in the Eurobonus SAS loyalty scheme. It allows him to get a seat confirmation 24 hours prior to the departure. Remember, that according to the scheme regulations, the service class is not guaranteed. This means, that even if a Business Class ticket is purchased, SAS may offer a seat in Economy Class, if all the other business passengers show up. Please remember to once again check the flight with the stopover in Oslo. This connection usually has a greater availability of places.



AEROFLOT – OFICJALNY PRZEWOŹNIK KLUBU MANCHESTER UNITED



## NAJWYŻSZA RZETELNOŚĆ PRZEWOZÓW LOTNICZYCH

**DO MIAST ROSYJSKICH ORAZ WSPÓLNOTY  
NIEPODLEGŁYCH PAŃSTW PRZEZ MOSKWĘ**

Leć do Moskwy, Sankt Petersburga, miast Rosji, Wspólnoty Niepodległych Państw oraz setek innych miejsc docelowych na świecie korzystając z wygodnej siatki połączeń Aeroflotu!

Aeroflot otrzymał tytuł najbardziej punktualnej linii lotniczej na świecie w maju 2014 r.\* Aeroflot dysponuje najmłodszą flotą na świecie.\*\* Podróżujemy do ponad 300 miejsc w ponad 60 krajach.\*\*\* Członkostwo w sojuszu SkyTeam zapewnia Państwu dostęp do ponad 1000 miast w ponad 170 krajach na całym świecie. Daje to wspaniałe możliwości podróżowania.

\* Zgodnie ze statystykami społecznościowymi usługi FlightStats.

\*\* Zgodnie ze statystyką ACAS za lipiec 2014 r. spośród linii lotniczych dysponujących aktywną flotą ponad 100 samolotów.

\*\*\* W tym loty Aeroflot Group oraz partnerów code-share.



<http://manutd.aeroflot.com/top>

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