



# Business Poland Traveller

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| 9,60 zł (8% VAT included) | N°7-8/2015 (64) JULY/AUGUST 2015 |

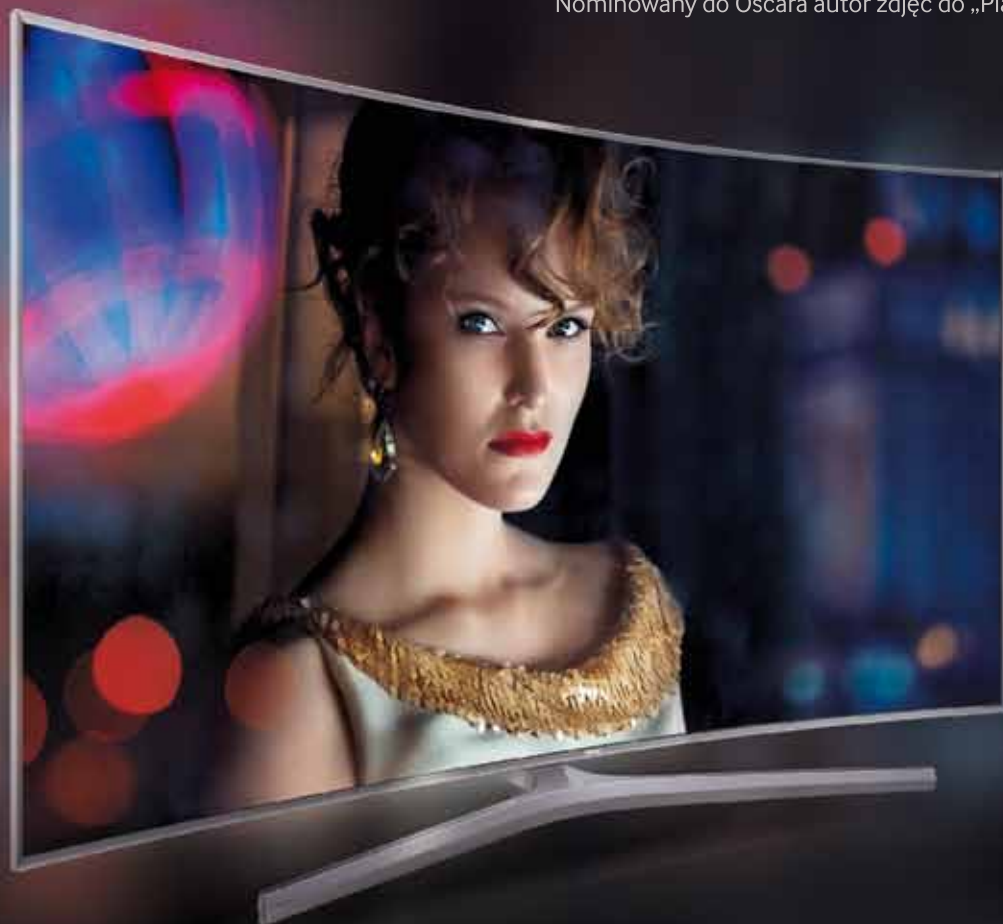
## ALL THAT GLITTERS

| PHILADELPHIA | BELGRADE | BOMBAY | AFRICA | CHINA |

*KIEDY MYŚLĘ JAK WYDOBYĆ EMOCJE  
I PRAWDĘ SCENY, MYŚLĘ O ŚWIETLE,  
O DETALACH, GŁĘBI OBRAZU I BARWACH*

*Pavel Edelman*

Nominowany do Oscara autor zdjęć do „Pianisty”



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# SZTUKA ŻYCIA



ZAMIESZKAJ TAM,  
GDZIE ARCHITEKTURA  
STAJE SIĘ SZTUKĄ,  
A CODZIENNOŚĆ  
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PRZEŻYCIEM.

Apartamentowiec Cosmopolitan ma wielkomięską duszę, dlatego tak idealnie dopełnia się z Warszawą i jej kosmopolityczną naturą.

Powstał w sąsiedztwie Parku Saskiego - jednego z najpiękniejszych parków stolicy i przesyconego historią Placu Grzybowskiego. Jego usytuowanie stanowi najlepsze połączenie - enklawy spokoju i rytmu serca metropolii, oferując z jednej strony ogromny wachlarz atrakcji życia kulturalnego, a z drugiej zaciszne i zielone miejsce do zamieszkania. Taka lokalizacja to ukłon w stronę tych, którzy cenią swój czas.

Lunch z przyjaciółmi w świetnej restauracji za rogiem, książka w klimatycznej kawiarni z jej autorem przy stoliku obok, nowa opera, wieczorny koncert i oklaskiwany spektakl dwa kroki od domu. Na dotarcie do tych miejsc wystarczy zaledwie chwila, odmierzana przez widoczny z okien apartamentów zegar na PKiN.



# NA NAJWYŻSZYM POZIOMIE



Elegancki, minimalistyczny, 44-piętrowy apartamentowiec z niezwykłym widokiem na panoramę Warszawy to projekt światowej sławy architekta - Helmuta Jahna. To miejsce dla ludzi z pasją, dynamicznych, aktywnych, poszukujących intensywnych doznań, jakie oferuje miasto.

W nim serce bije mocniej nie tylko dlatego, że obok wciąż dzieje się coś intrygującego, ale również dzięki temu, że stając w świetle okien ukazujących rozpościerającą się panoramę miasta czujesz, że to Twoje miejsce i Twoja przestrzeń nad dachami Warszawy.

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tel. +48 22 252 80 38  
fax +48 22 252 55 07

**Druk** Drukarnia TINTA  
13-200 Działdowo,  
ul. Żwirki i Wigury 22,  
www.drukarniatinta.pl

**Business Traveller**  
**Managing director** Julian Gregory  
Panacea Publishing  
International Limited  
Warwick House  
25/27 Buckingham Palace Road  
London  
SW1W 0PP  
Tel: +44 20 7821 2700  
www.panaceapublishing.com  
www.businesstraveller.com

In the US, Business Traveler is published at 303 Fifth Avenue, 1308, NY 10016, tel 1 212 725 3500. In Germany, Business Traveller is published at Schulstrasse 34, 80634 Munich, tel. 89 167 9971,

fax 89 167 9937. In Denmark, Business Traveller is published at Rymarksvej 46, 2900 Hellerup, tel. 45 3311 4413, fax 45 3311 4414. In Hungary, Business Traveller is published at 1074 Budapest, Munkas utca 9, tel. 36 1266 5853. In Hong Kong, Business Traveller Asia-Pacific and China are published at Suite 405 4/F Chinachem Exchange Square, 1 Hoi Wan Street, Quarry Bay, tel. 852 2594 9300, fax 852 2519 6846. In the Middle East, Business Traveller Middle East is published jointly by Motivate Publishing, PO Box 2331, Dubai UAE, tel. 9714 282 4060, and Perry Publications. In Africa, Business Traveller Africa is published by Future Publishing (Pty) Ltd, PO Box 3355, Rivonia 2128, South Africa, tel. 27 11 803 2040.

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# A CITY WITH A VIEW

In this issue I invite you to visit another megalopolis, where the area of 2,000 sq km is populated by 38 million people. Why do you need to see the capital of Japan? For a couple of reasons. In the 2014 IESE Cities in Motion Index from the University of Navarra, Tokyo was ranked number one in the world (out of 135 cities) based on “smart” indicators such as human capital, urban planning, public management, internet outreach, transport and the economy. It was also rated fourth (behind New York, London and Paris) in AT Kearney’s Global Cities Index 2014, which evaluates business activity, cultural experience, political engagement and information exchange, among other things. The Tokyo Stock Exchange has almost 2,300 listed companies with a combined market value of more than US\$5 trillion dollars. This puts it behind only the US and China. In the last year, unemployment fell here to only 3.4 percent. Tokyo is also an unusual mix of old Japanese traditions and modern achievements of the civilization. On a clear day you can see Mount Fuji, but the metropolis looks best at night, when the streets are illuminated with signs stretching up the sides of buildings and the tops of towers are picked out in red by gently pulsing aircraft warning lights. Enjoy your reading!

Marzena Mróz

Marzena Mróz  
Editor-in-Chief





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## Airline

### Lufthansa

## HOLIDAY DESTINATIONS WITH LUFTHANSA GROUP

With the continuously growing market share, Lufthansa Group (Lufthansa, SWISS, Austrian Airlines, Germanwings, Brussels Airlines) is the strongest international line among traditional air carriers in Poland. Lufthansa has been present in our country for 44 years, while in the regions for the impressive 22 years.

Weekly the airline offers 243 connections to Frankfurt and Munich from nine airports: Warsaw, Cracow, Gdańsk, Wrocław, Poznań, Lublin, Katowice, Rzeszów and Bydgoszcz. Flights between Poland and Germany are served by Airbus A321s, A320s, A319s, Boeing B733s, B735s, Embraer 95, 90 and Bombardier CRJ and CR9.

This summer, the Lufthansa Group airlines will be linking 321 destinations in 103 countries on four continents via its hubs in Frankfurt, Munich, Zurich, Vienna and Brussels. It will also offer a number of point-to-point connections.

In summer schedule the Lufthansa Group offers Polish passengers 349 flights per week. In 2014 Lufthansa reported a record 1,752,658 passengers carried to and from Poland. The most popular regions chosen by Polish passengers are Europe, North America, and Asia-Pacific.

The most popular destinations with this group are: Frankfurt, Munich, New York, Shanghai and Barcelona. Lufthansa is especially focused on premium and business segments. At Frankfurt Airport passengers of the German carrier can use its luxury First Class Terminal, four Senator lounges, seven business lounges, as well as the welcome lounge.

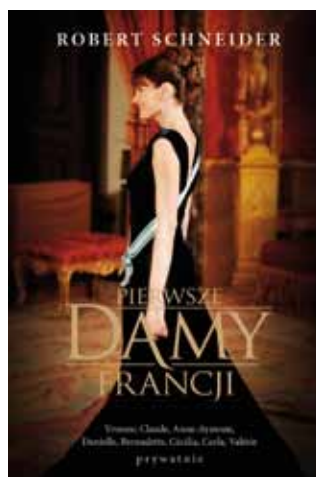
## Book

### Summer reading

## FIRST LADIES OF FRANCE

Life companions of French presidents were extremely different. They supported the heads of the state, but also caused scandals. They influenced politics, customs and fashion. Their stories are included in the book entitled "The First Ladies of France" by Robert Schneider.

The author describes the stories of eight First Ladies of the Fifth French Republic: Yvonne de Gaulle who was strongly attached to the Catholic tradition and very modest, the modern Claude Pompidou, the aristocratic Anne-Aymon Giscard d'Estaing, the revolutionary Danielle Mitterrand who came from a highly esteemed French lineage, Bernadette Chirac for whom her



successor Cécilia Sarkozy was a simple immigrant, the spoilt and wealthy Carla Bruni, and finally the morbidly jealous Valerie Trierweiler.

The book describes the colorful and highly diverse personalities of the women whose impact on the lives of millions of Frenchmen was often imperceptible, but very important. The stories of the First Ladies of France clearly show a huge transformation that has taken place in the morality of the French and the Europeans.



## Tourism

### Greece

## GREAT HOLIDAYS

Grecos travel agency invites you to take part in great Greek holidays. The sun, the sea and the region-specific specialities are here second to none. Greeks hardly ever have breakfasts, and the lunchtime is for them a perfect time for a nap. But dinner is a completely different kettle of fish. Lamb sizzling on the grill (it's considered to be the most delicious here, because Greek sheep eat aromatic herbs), mutton or fish (while on Cephalonia you should try the so-called cipura, swordfish and grilled sardines), pastitsio (baked pasta dish including ground beef), skordalia (thick puree with bruised garlic served with grilled fish) or home-made moussaka. And, of course, the Greek salad. In Greece how you eat is as important as what you eat. In family taverns where locals eat and which fill up with people in the evening, you can see chequered tablecloths and waiters are happy to show you around the kitchen. If several people in the group order the same dish, it's possible that you will be served just one huge dish to share. And the portions are large, because the Greeks love to eat.





# Twój prywatny raj

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# Club Med



## Airline

### Turkish Airlines

#### NEW FLIGHTS

Turkish Airlines is planning to launch flights to several Polish cities. Presently, regular flights from Poland to Istanbul are held by the Turkish carrier five times a week. Only in 2014 the Warsaw - Istanbul connection was chosen by nearly 60,000 passengers and the airline predicts that in 2015 this number will increase by 9,000. "We want to operate three daily flights from Warsaw and fly at least to four or perhaps even five airports in Poland," said Fatih Cigal, the vice President for sales and marketing at Turkish Airlines. "We are also considering flights from Gdańsk, Poznań, Wrocław, Katowice and Łódź," he added. Istanbul is an important hub and is one of the favourite European capitals, visited both by business travellers and tourists. TA offers connections to 109 countries and a total of 271 destinations worldwide, making the airline the world's fourth largest in this respect.

## Railways

### Deutsche Bahn



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## Good spot

### Lawendowy Winiec

#### HOLIDAYS IN MASURIA

Lawendowy Winiec is located in the very heart of Western Masuria. The guest house offers 15 beds in five comfortable rooms with bathrooms. Everyone can find peace and solace, surrounded by unspoiled nature, the beautiful landscapes, silence and unique flavours and aromas. The property is located on the shores of Bartężek lake, has access to a private beach and a jetty. Lawendowy Winiec is designed in a truly Masurian style, combining tradition with modern elements.

The ground floor features a spacious living room with a fireplace and AV equipment. It's a perfect venue for various conferences, corporate training, as well as festive meetings. The guest house takes pride in its home-made cuisine. [lawendowywiniec.pl](http://lawendowywiniec.pl)





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## TURKUS

Pozwól sobie na chwilę relaksu na dziewiczych plażach o złotym piasku. Popatrz, jak jasne, błękitne niebo łączy się z orzeźwiającymi, turkusowymi wodami morza.

Wstuchaj się w delikatny szum fal i rozkoszuj się ciepłem letniego słońca. **Odkryj Turcję, home of turkus.**

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## Monako

### The Luxury Principality

#### FESTIVALS, COMPETITIONS AND STARS

While in the south of France, you should definitely visit Monaco. Taking advantage of the unique climate with over 300 sunny days per year, this tiny principality is annually visited by 7 million tourists. It's not surprising, because Monaco is a venue for numerous world-renowned cultural events, famous for its excellent hotels and Michelin-starred restaurants, as well as luxury shops and the Mediterranean charm. With such cultural institutions as the Philharmonic Orchestra, Ballet, Opera, the New National Museum or the Festival of Classical Music, Monaco is famous on all continents. Also Garibaldi Forum takes an active part in the cultural life of the principality, organising numerous thematic exhibitions. Monte-Carlo SBM group is also an important member of the cultural scene here, organizing in Monaco a series of artistic events in unique places. These include Monte Carlo Jazz Festival in Garnier Opera or Sporting Summer Festival in the Salle des Etoiles. Monaco is also well-known for sporting events organized here throughout the year. Formula 1 Monaco Grand Prix held here since 1929 is one of the most prestigious events in motor racing. Even older is Rally Monte Carlo which every year is attended by almost 60 rally teams. Swimmers from all over the world meet here in June for the Meeting International de Natation - one of the stages of the Mare Nostrum. And the Stade Louis II attracts numerous football fans who eagerly support their beloved club AS Monaco. It has been one of the top French teams since 1924. [visitmonaco.com](http://visitmonaco.com)

## Airline

### Finnair

#### AWARD FOR THE MOOD

Finnair has won a prestigious International Yacht & Aviation Award for the design of its new Airbus A350 XWB cabin interiors in Economy and Business Class. Finnair's A350 cabin, the creation of Helsinki-based dSign Vertti Kivi & Co, applies the design firm's Space Alive concept to dynamically change the colours, mood and atmosphere on board, easing customers on long-haul journeys into new time zones, destinations and seasons.



## Premiere

### Wedel

#### FRAPPE FLAVOUR

Wedel has prepared a new sweet product for summer months: the incredibly soft, frappe-flavoured Ptasię Mleczko® covered in white chocolate. It tastes best after freezing and is a perfect snack on hot days. After just two hours in the freezer, the delicious creamy and coffee flavour becomes even more distinct. It's a perfect choice for holidays! The product is available in a limited series.



## Restaurant

### Baltazar

#### NEW MENU

Baltazar by Mondovino restaurant has launched its summer menu. The chefs of the restaurant, twin brothers Michał and Kuba Budnik, have created their own variations of the best French and Mediterranean flavours. The lunch menu, which is faster and simpler, features such delicacies as crostini with mushrooms and shallot, risotto with asparagus, pork tenderloins served with lentils, spinach and carrots, as well as fresh fruit zabaglione. The menu served in the afternoon and evening is more sophisticated. For an appetizer you can order here snails, scampi, octopus, marinated salmon with French mustard and fennel, as well as the famous French dish - foie gras served here with red onion jam. Main dishes include salad with roasted salmon and olives served with cucumber in balsamic sauce; lamb chops with spinach and smoked garlic puree, as well as fillet of duck with dumplings. The restaurant also offers a variety of fish. As for dessert, we recommend crumble with rhubarb, crepes suzette or espresso crème brûlée. This exquisite cuisine is obviously accompanied by a great variety of good wines at reasonable prices, served by a sommelier. [baltazar.warszawa.pl](http://baltazar.warszawa.pl)



## Airline

### LOT Polish Airlines

## TOKYO, SEOUL AND BANGKOK

The ambition of LOT Polish Airlines is to double its size within the next five years. The carrier wants to serve 10 million passengers per year, which is almost twice as many as now. LOT also plans to increase its fleet and operate 60 percent more flights than now. The company has presented its strategic objectives and development plans for 2016-2020. It has announced opening five new long-haul connections next year. Three new connections to Asia - Tokyo, Seoul and Bangkok and more than dozen European connections have also been announced. Other new routes will be known this autumn. This is the first such dynamic growth in the company's history. LOT intends to compete for leadership in the region, becoming the largest network carrier in New Europe.



## Chopin Airport

### Preludium and Fantazja

## NEW EXECUTIVE LOUNGES

Chopin Airport offers two new luxury Executive Lounges: Preludium and Fantazja. The first one is 500 sqm large and is located on Level 0, near gates 33-35. It's open 6-22. The lounge is available to Business Class passengers, as well as silver, gold and upper tier members of loyalty programmes offered by One World and Sky Team airlines. Fantazja lounge is slightly smaller. It's open 5-23 and is located on Level +1 near gates 36-37. Fantazja is used by Business Class passengers as well as gold and upper tier members of loyalty programmes offered by One World and Sky Team airlines.

## Carpe Diem pozwól sobie na piękno!

Pacjenci zgłaszający się do naszej kliniki coraz częściej przychodzą z problemami złożonymi dotyczącymi zarówno twarzy jak i ciała. Oczekują od lekarza kompleksowej opieki, indywidualnego podejścia oraz pielęgnacji skóry całego ciała. W związku z oczekiwaniami naszych pacjentów staramy się działać kompleksowo, wykorzystując terapie łączone, które przynoszą lepsze i trwalsze efekty. Często proponujemy łączenie zabiegu Maximus z kwasem hialuronowym.

### Skóra napięta i jędrna, redukcja zmarszczek

Zastosowana w urządzeniu Technologia TriLipo™ RF emituje falę radiową, która podnosi temperaturę skóry właściwej, doprowadzając do skurczu włókien kolagenowych i natychmiastowej poprawy napięcia skóry. Motywuje też skórę do produkcji nowych włókien. Efekt zagęszczenia i liftingu nasila się i utrwała w czasie. W tym samym momencie uruchamiana jest dynamiczna aktywacja mięśni (TriLipo™ DMA), która wyrównuje wyraźniej kości policzkowe oraz poprawia owal twarzy.

### Mniej centymetrów w obwodzie, gładka skóra bez cellulitu

TriLipo™ RF działa również na komórki tłuszczowe. Rozgrzewając je, topi ich zawartość, która następnie wydostaje się na zewnątrz. W tej samej głowicy uruchamiana jest jednocześnie opatentowana technologia dynamicznej aktywacji mięśni (TriLipo™ DMA). Funkcja ta powoduje drenaż limfatyczny, pomagający opróżnić

upłynnioną zawartość komórek tłuszczowych. Efektem współpracy tych dwóch technologii jest utrata centymetrów w obwodzie, redukcja cellulitu oraz wymodelowanie sylwetki.

### Kwas hialuronowy

Tak przygotowaną skórę możemy wspomóc zabiegami z użyciem kwasu hialuronowego. W zależności od problemu i wskazań dobieramy preparat o odpowiedniej gęstości i stopniu usieciowienia. Naszym nadrzędnym celem jest bezpieczeństwo, pacjentów dlatego stosujemy tylko sprawdzone produkty, do których należą preparaty Neauvia ORGANIC. To pierwsza na rynku linia organicznych wypełniaczy tkankowych, charakteryzująca się zawartością najczystszej formy kwasu hialuronowego. Dodatkowa zawartość Hydroksyapatytu wapnia pozytywnie wpływa na elastyczność i grubość skóry i zwiększa spectrum zastosowań. Używamy ich do modelowania objętościowego, jak i poprawy nawilżenia oraz napięcia skóry. Z uwagi na nadzwyczajną lekkość użytego hydrożelu produkty dłużej zachowują trwałość. Możemy podawać za pomocą kaniuli w postaci nici hialuronowych tworzących stelaż napinający skórę lub miejscowo w celu wymodelowania policzków i owalu twarzy. Wystarczy jeden zabieg, aby przywrócić Twojej twarzy młodzieńczy kontur i nadać jej atrakcyjny wygląd. Marzenia wielu kobiet spełnia Centrum Medycyny Estetycznej Carpe Diem!



Dr Magdalena Opadczuk i aktorka Magdalena Schejbal

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# ALL THAT GLITTERS

While its economy has faced challenges, Tokyo remains one of the world's biggest powerhouses – and with an Olympics approaching, it's set to step up a gear, reports **Jenny Southan**.









I am sitting on a golden throne shaped like a giant snail shell. The long underground room, beneath the frenzied streets of Kabukicho, is covered from floor to ceiling in digital displays, mirrored panels, glowing glass tiles and psychedelic crystals.

It's like going to a Japanese version of a Las Vegas pleasure palace at Christmas, on acid. At the far end, two men dressed as Daft Punk-style droids play smooth jazz on electric guitars. It's the strangest place I have ever had a meeting.

A hallucinogenic vision of Japanese pop culture, somewhere between cabaret and carnival, the futuristic Robot Restaurant (pictured left) opened three years ago at a cost of ¥10 billion (£54 million). As the spectacle unfolds downstairs, groups of salarymen watch agog, chopsticks in hand, as troupes of geishas twirl parasols, and half-naked fembots battle giant smoke-breathing snakes with laser eyes.

Nine years ago I was working in Tokyo as an English teacher, and this is the first time I have been back since. Living here as an expat can be a challenge – from navigating the language barrier to adapting to foreign bureaucracy – but the capital is a fascinating megalopolis where age-old beliefs, traditions and festivals run alongside Western ideologies,

high technology and rampant consumerism. Shinto and Buddhism provide the spiritual roots of society, but as one man tells me: “The true religion of Japan is work.”

In the 2014 IESE Cities in Motion Index from the University of Navarra, Tokyo was ranked number one in the world (out of 135 cities) based on “smart” indicators such as human capital, urban planning, public management, internet outreach, transport and the economy. It was also rated fourth (behind New York, London and Paris) in AT Kearney's Global Cities Index 2014, which evaluates business activity, cultural experience, political engagement and information exchange, among other things.

However, just as the Japanese can be formal and conservative on the surface, yet zany and boisterous underneath, signs of cognitive dissonance extend to the country as a whole. When it comes to equality between men and women, Japan lags far behind – the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Index 2014 put it in 104th position. The Cities in Motion Index also found Tokyo fell short when it came to social cohesion.

## MONEY MATTERS

With a population of 38 million people in the greater metropolitan area, Tokyo

spreads far and dense across 2,000 sq km. On a clear day you can see Mount Fuji, but the metropolis looks best at night, when the streets are illuminated with signs stretching up the sides of buildings and the tops of towers are picked out in red by gently pulsing aircraft warning lights.

It's against this backdrop that the capital of the world's third-largest economy pumps its monetary lifeblood. The Tokyo Stock Exchange has almost 2,300 listed companies with a combined market value of more than US\$5 trillion dollars. This puts it behind only the US and China, although Hong Kong is set to overtake.

Unemployment has fallen to 3.4 per cent, but gross public debt in Japan is still 246 per cent of its GDP (more than double that of the US). The ageing population also presents problems.

Managing the necessary reforms is Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. After two decades of deflation, his tri-part plan to boost the economy combines aggressive monetary easing, concerted fiscal stimulus, and structural reforms to increase productivity. He has also stressed the importance of innovation, especially in the realm of big data and the internet.

Philippe Roux-Dessarps, general manager of the Park Hyatt hotel, says: “Japan's econ-



Living here as an expat can be a challenge – from navigating the language barrier to adapting to foreign bureaucracy – but the capital is a fascinating megalopolis.





With a population of 38 million people in the greater metropolitan area, Tokyo spreads far and dense across 2,000 sq km. On a clear day you can see Mount Fuji, but the metropolis looks best at night..







In 2020, 75 years after the end of the war, Tokyo will once again host the Olympic Games. There are also plans to introduce the world's fastest Maglev train.

omy is still soft and it is unsure if 'Abenomics' has been successful, [but it has] devalued the Yen versus other major currencies." This means travellers will likely find it more affordable.

### OLYMPIAN QUEST

In August, Abe will lead commemorations for the 70th anniversary of the Second World War. It will also be a time to reflect on how, in 1964, Tokyo hosted the Summer Olympics – the first chance Japan had after the war to present itself to the world as a stable nation on the road to recovery.

About US\$10 billion (at today's rate of exchange) was spent on the Games – the equivalent to the nation's entire budget at the time – while the country's first shinkansen bullet trains, between Tokyo and Osaka, went into service just before the event.

Fittingly, the Olympics and Paralympics will be returning to Tokyo in 2020, 75 years after the war; and there are plans to introduce the world's fastest Maglev train – capable of travelling at 603km/ph – between Tokyo and Nagoya in 2027.

Hidetoshi Fujisawa, executive director of

Tokyo 2020's communication and engagement bureau, says: "The 2020 Games will enable Japan, now a mature economy, to promote future changes throughout the world and leave a positive legacy for future generations." Its estimated net contribution to the economy is predicted to be ¥3 trillion (£16 billion).

Preparations are well under way. Kasumigaoka National stadium, which was used in the 1964 Olympics, is being rebuilt in time for the 2019 Rugby World Cup. The 70-metre-high structure has been designed by Zaha Hadid, but renderings of what it will look like have not been well received. Its budget has almost been cut in half to ¥169 billion (£902 million), and Japanese architect Arata Isozaki has described its alien form as being "like a turtle waiting for Japan to sink so that it can swim away".

### LEGACY PLANNING

Where possible, all venues will be within 8km of the Olympic Village by Tokyo Bay. Here, athletes will find a mini eco-city powered by hydrogen filling stations, and as part of the legacy, there are plans to turn the site into a town for 10,000 people after.

Nearby on the Sumida River, the 80-year-old Tsukiji fish market will move 3km south to the island of Toyosu at the end of next year so that the new Loop Line 2 artery – connecting central Tokyo with the Olympic Village – can be completed.

While most of the 14km Loop Line 2 is above ground, a 1.4km section connecting Shibashi with Toranamon has an underground expressway for cars and 13-metre-wide pavements for pedestrians. Unveiled in March, it has been described as "Tokyo's answer to the Champs-Élysées" and is planted with almost 200 trees.

At the heart of the emerging Toranamon business district, and directly above the tunnel, is the 52-floor Toranamon Hills skyscraper, completed last June. Surrounded by 6,000 sqm of green space for outdoor yoga, it houses offices, residences and restaurants, as well as an Andaz hotel with 164 rooms and a rooftop bar (click here for a review).

Other recent openings include the luxurious Aman, which occupies the top six levels of the 38-floor Otemachi tower near Tokyo station, and was unveiled in December. It has 84 rooms starting from 71 sqm, a 2,500 sqm spa with communal onsen bathing,



and a 30-metre pool with panoramic views of the city.

In April, the 970-room Hotel Gracery, which has seven special Godzilla-themed rooms, arrived in Shinjuku. Next year, the Hoshinoya Tokyo will open in Otemachi as the capital's first high-end ryokan – a Japanese-style property with 84 suites with tatami floors. Nearby competitors include the Shangri-La, the Peninsula and the 100-year-old Tokyo Station hotel.

There is also the Mandarin Oriental, which hosted “best restaurant in the world” Noma as a six-week residency at the beginning of the year. Head chef René Redzepi made waves among food critics for serving live shrimps covered in ants, but this didn't seem to put off the 3,456 people who managed to get a reservation, or the 62,000 others who were on the waiting list.

### VISITOR BOOST

Margaret Mann, convention manager for the Japan National Tourism Organisation ([jnto.go.jp](http://jnto.go.jp)), says: “The number of visitors to Japan rose by 29.4 per cent last year to 13.4 million, a record high.”

By the time the Games begin, the country hopes to be welcoming 20 million a year, of which half will be coming to Tokyo. During the Olympics, 920,000 visitors a day are expected.

To cope with increased demand, by 2020, annual flight departures and arrivals at Haneda airport will rise by 39,000 (from 447,000 today), and 40,000 at Narita (from 270,000). There are also plans for new underground lines from both airports to Tokyo station that will cut journey times from 30 minutes to 18 minutes for Haneda, and 55 minutes to 36 minutes for Narita by about 2025. In April, Narita's new Terminal 3 was unveiled, with colour-coded running tracks along corridors to lead passengers to departures and arrivals.

A spokesman for tour operator Inside Japan ([insidejapantours.com](http://insidejapantours.com)) says: “The transport infrastructure in Tokyo is second to none. It is reasonably easy to use, and cheap.” The capital has also been ranked the safest in the world in The Economist's Safe Cities Index 2015.

During my visit, I am consistently impressed by the level of service – from the

airport staff who guide you through the terminal, and the white-gloved taxi drivers, to the sales assistants who wrap whatever you buy beautifully, and the cleaners (dressed in pink or blue) who bow as you get off the bullet train.

Walking around the trendy streets of Hara-juku and Shibuya, I can see this part of Tokyo is now trumping the likes of Brooklyn, with its concentration of vintage stores, quirky boutiques and designer outlets.

Other parts of the city continue to be more specialised, such as Kappabashi, which is known for kitchenware and plastic replica food, and Akihabara, for electronics and manga.

Golden Gai in Shinjuku, meanwhile, has a maze of 280 tiny dive bars in ramshackle old buildings. It's not far from the Robot Restaurant but feels a world apart. There have been rumours this area will be destroyed to make way for Olympic development, but so far this remains unconfirmed.

With any luck, Tokyo will realise success in the next decade will rely just as much on soft power in the form of culture and creativity, as on strengthening its economy.



During my visit, I am consistently impressed by the level of service – from the airport staff who guide you through the terminal, and the white-gloved taxi drivers, to the sales assistants who wrap whatever you buy beautifully.

# THE OBEROI MUMBAI



## CONTACT

The Oberoi Mumbai, Nariman Point; tel +91 226 6325 757; [www.oberoihotels.com](http://www.oberoihotels.com)

## PRICE

Internet rates for a flexible midweek stay in July started from £171 for a City View room.

**T**he Oberoi and its sister hotel the Trident are among the best-known hotels in Mumbai, with the Oberoi ranked one of the best in India. The property is located in South Mumbai, on Nariman Point, 27km from Mumbai International airport, which takes 45 minutes to two hours to reach by car, depending on traffic. Its last refurbishment was completed in 2010.

## WHAT'S IT LIKE?

It's five years since I stayed here, following its revamp, and while there have been no major changes, it's impressive how fresh the fixtures and fittings are, and how immediate and spontaneous the service feels.

There is a liveried doorman and at least half a dozen employees and security staff to greet you when you arrive – as you approach the hotel, a full search is undertaken beneath the vehicle and in the boot before the gate is opened, then your luggage is passed through an X-ray machine, and you are scanned with a metal detector.

Inside is a small welcome area – with a discreet door at the top of some stairs leading to the exclusive Belvedere Club – and lifts up to the main lobby.

This area is a stunning space of white Greek Thassos marble, modern artworks, a red grand piano and double-height windows

looking out to the Arabian Sea. Check-in takes place in your room. If you take a hotel car from the airport, it is wifi equipped and you will be asked if you would like any food or drink on arrival.

## ROOM FACILITIES

The hotel is built around an atrium with surrounding corridors giving access to the bedrooms. There are 287 rooms, including 73 suites, and they are located on floors ten-21 (below these are three service floors – the levels start on ten, more for image than as an accurate reflection of how high you are).

Some 40 per cent have ocean views, and 15 per cent bay views. Deluxe queen rooms (31 sqm) and Luxury twin/king-size rooms (37 sqm) have city views. Smoking floors are 17 and 21.

All rooms have butler service, dark oak flooring (the Presidential suites have marble), walnut furniture and oil paintings.

Tech includes an iPod dock, DVD player, high-speed wired and wifi internet (Rs 1,000/£10 per 24 hours; free in rooms), international plug sockets and a media hub in the workdesk with a USB socket and an HDMI port for connecting devices to the 40-inch LCD TV.

The maid left a note saying she had noticed I had a lot of chargers so had left a small bag for them, and as I travel with the small tubes of toothpaste you

get in airline amenity kits, she thought I might run out and had left more.

Bathrooms are finished in Botticino marble and have separate tubs and showers, Kama Ayurveda toiletries and 17-inch LCD TVs.

There is no executive floor but suite guests have use of a residents' day lounge where drinks are served, and a cigar lounge.

## RESTAURANTS AND BARS

Fenix is the main all-day dining option, with Italian restaurant Vetro used as an overflow when it is full for breakfast (as it was each morning I came down).

Ziya is an Indian speciality eatery under two-Michelin starred chef Vineet Bhatia – I had a great meal here. Eau bar serves cocktails and single malts and has a varied wine list.

## BUSINESS AND MEETING FACILITIES

The hotel has small meeting rooms, with most large gatherings held at the Trident.

## VERDICT

The Oberoi is better than ever. With the excellent co-owned Trident next door (in many ways its fiercest competitor), the Oberoi has to be very good to stay ahead, and it succeeds, with its pristine rooms, outstanding dining options – both international and contemporary Indian – and unbeatable 24-hour service.





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# STAYBRIDGE SUITES LONDON VAUXHALL

**S**taybridge, the long-stay brand of Intercontinental Hotels Group (IHG), made its UK debut in Liverpool in 2008. The Vauxhall property is its fifth in the UK, and the second in London. It launched in February as part of the Albert Embankment's Spring Mews development project.

## WHAT'S IT LIKE?

The hotel's entrance is floor-to-ceiling glass with revolving doors, and opens to a reception on the left and a 24-hour shop, the Pantry, where you can buy items to eat or cook.

The open-plan effect is homely, and there's even a hotel dog – Waggles – lounging by reception to complete the effect.

Check-in was friendly, and service throughout the stay was personable, with the staff obviously recognising many guests.

The brand is designed for longer stays, although it is possible to book for only one night, if available. The VAT rate drops from 20 per cent to 4 per cent after six weeks.

Even this early in the hotel's operation, I was told that the aim was to have 74 per cent oc-

cupancy, with people staying at least seven nights, and the rates are designed to encourage that.

## WHERE IS IT?

On a quiet street set back from the road (the Albert Embankment), next to Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens, which has seen a regeneration in recent years with trendy bars, shops and restaurants.

## ROOM FACILITIES

The 93 rooms are on floors one to five and come in three main categories – Studio suite (28 sqm), Deluxe suite (32 sqm) and One-bedroom suite (36 sqm); there are also some "Easily Accessible" rooms (34 sqm) that interconnect with those next door.

All rooms feature fully equipped kitchens with a microwave, hob, dishwasher, fridge and kettle, as well as a 42-inch Samsung Smart TV with dozens of channels in different languages and access to BBC iPlayer. All of the rooms have a good-sized desk and free basic wifi.

The rooms are cleaned daily on weekdays and on request at the weekend, with full housekeeping once a week.

## RESTAURANTS AND BARS

The Kitchen area (a sort of self-service restaurant for breakfast and a social area the rest of the day) serves a free full breakfast buffet from 6.30am to 9.30am (7.30am to 10.30am at weekends). There is also a social evening reception three days a week (Tuesday to Thursday) with complimentary drinks.

## BUSINESS AND MEETING FACILITIES

A meeting room on the ground floor can be booked (for a fee) or used informally – it has a flatscreen TV, and board games are also available.

## LEISURE FACILITIES

There is a mini gym in the basement next to the self-service laundry area.

## VERDICT

For long stays this is an excellent location, with easy connections into central London (or out via Vauxhall station).

Being south of the river and part of a regenerated area, it also allows for some peace and quiet, particularly at the weekend. Great value, and a very well considered offering.

*Tom Otley*

## CONTACT


Staybridge Suites London Vauxhall, 100 Vauxhall Walk; tel +44 (0)20 3096 1555; staybridgesuites.com/londonvauxhall

## PRICE

Internet rates for a flexible midweek stay in July started from £180 for a Studio suite.







**Tomasz Szewczak** jest związany z branżą IT od 18 lat. Jako SMB Product Manager w Lenovo Polska jest odpowiedzialny za sprzedaż produktów dedykowanych do segmentu małych i średnich przedsiębiorstw.

Lenovo™

# RÓŻNICE POMIĘDZY TABLETAMI KONSUMENCKIMI I BIZNESOWYMI

– wyjaśnia Tomasz Szewczak z Lenovo Polska

**R**óżnice pomiędzy tabletami konsumenckimi a typowo biznesowymi można podzielić na kilka grup. Pierwszą z nich są różnice w samej konstrukcji. Wytrzymałość urządzeń wykorzystywanych przez pracowników, którzy nie pracują z biurka musi być dużo wyższa, niż tych używanych w warunkach domowych. Sprzęt pracowników mobilnych często narażony jest na uszkodzenia, dlatego jego obudowa powinna być wykonana z trwałego materiału oraz posiadać dodatkowe wzmocnienia, np. gumowe wykończenia, które będą chroniły tablet w czasie upadku, czy wzmocniony ekran dzięki zastosowaniu matrycy w technologii Dragontrail® Glass czy Corning® Gorilla® Glass.

Drugim ważnym aspektem odróżniającym te dwie grupy produktów jest kwestia bezpieczeństwa danych. Od tabletów konsumenckich nie oczekujemy zaawansowanych rozwiązań ochronnych. Natomiast w urządzeniach biznesowych ochrona danych jest sprawą priorytetową. Dlatego te urządzenia posiadają takie

zabezpieczenia jak układy szyfrujące TPM, zintegrowane czytniki kart Smart czy czytniki linii papilarnych.

Trzecią różnicą jest bogata oferta dodatkowych akcesoriów, które uzupełniają urządzenia biznesowe i sprawiają, że są jeszcze bardziej funkcjonalne. Gama takiego uzupełniającego wyposażenia jest bardzo szeroka: od dedykowanych stacji dokujących, zasilaczy podróżnych i samochodowych, poprzez wzmocnione etui, które dodatkowo chronią tablet, po filtry prywatyzujące, czy rysiki które pozwalają na wygodniejsze wprowadzanie danych. Wszystko to sprawia, że codzienna praca staje się bardziej ergonomiczna i produktywna.

Tablety dla biznesu działają pod kontrolą systemu operacyjnego Windows 8.1 Pro, który umożliwia bezproblemową integrację urządzeń z całą infrastrukturą IT w ramach organizacji. Dodatkowo dzięki zastosowaniu wersji 64-bitowej systemu, w ofercie znajdują się także konfiguracje wyposażone w pamięć

operacyjną 4GB. Istotnym elementem zwiększającym mobilność jest wyposażenie takiego rozwiązania w moduły LTE oferujące łączność z Internetem z praktycznie dowolnego miejsca. Poza tym wyposażone są one także w odbiornik GPS, który daje możliwość precyzyjnego określenia współrzędnych geograficznych osoby korzystającej z tabletu.

Wybór konkretnego modelu urządzenia determinowany jest potrzebami użytkownika. Dzięki ofercie tabletów do biznesu oraz dedykowanych do nich opcji, firmy mogą zyskać narzędzie w pełni profesjonalne i wszechstronne pomocne pozwalające skutecznie realizować cele biznesowe organizacji.

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LIDEREM NA GLOBALNYM RYNKU PC.  
W ROKU 2013 SPRZEDAŻ TABLETÓW  
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# AMBASADA AT FOKSAL



## CONTACT

Ambasada Restaurant  
Warsaw, ul. Foksal 1  
tel.: 22 826 52 04  
[www.restaurantambasada.com](http://www.restaurantambasada.com)

**T**here is a new, small restaurant right at the east end of Foksal street in Warsaw. It is distinguished by light, varied and healthy menu, cosy white interior designed by Joanna Sobierajska, as well as by positive energy that beams from young chefs and waitresses who work here.

## RAW FOOD

Ambasada is well-known for its vegan and raw food dishes that are prepared here with strict adherence to the rules of the cuisine. The menu is often modified as it is based on seasonal products. Just one lunch here is enough to realize that Ambasada was created around a specific concept that incorporates the belief in food and its healing effects on our bodies.

## SUMMER MENU

The head chef Maciej Prot has just presented his summer menu, which is dominated by fresh fruits and vegetables. I especially recommend spicy red lentil dahl soup served with coriander (PLN 19); salad of lamb's lettuce, rocket, avo-

cado, mango, pomegranate, sprinkled with sea-buckthorn juice (PLN 28), as well as tiny sandwiches made with sada bread with tomato salsa and vegetables. You should also try cauliflower patties with curry and ginger, served with sweet potato chips (PLN 25), and almond and carrot burgers with vegan mayo, ketchup and kohlrabi fries (PLN 18). A totally positive surprise is raw food sushi with daikon radish, avocado and sweet soy sauce (PLN 23), as well as raw food pizza (PLN 22).

And for dessert the outstanding raw food/vegan citrus cheesecake (PLN 19), vegan brownie (PLN 16) or chia pudding with apples and strawberries (PLN 19). All the dishes are light, so when you leave the restaurant you do not feel bloated – quite opposite, you feel full of energy.

## HEALTHY JUICES AND TEAS

Ambasada is also renowned for its delicious fruit and vegetable smoothies, e.g. the orange one made with carrots, apples and ginger, the green one with kale, banana and kiwi, or the red one

with beetroot, carrots, spinach and banana. The smoothies cost PLN 14. Ambasada also serves excellent herbal teas.

## Ambasada's shop

The on-site shop sells healthy products or you can have them delivered to your door throughout Warsaw. The offer includes, among others, vegan mayo and lard, lentil pate, nut hummus, vegan cheesecake, bread without flour, sweet potato paste, as well as meringue cake. The restaurant also offers organic oils, herbs and wine.

## VERDICT

Excellent, healthy food available in the very heart of Warsaw, with parking free of charge. The restaurant is a charming place with green and white interiors. In the summer months you can sit in its small garden located at the front. Ambasada has also large catering facilities, as well as huge experience in this field. On Sundays you can try here vegan brunch for PLN 45 per person. Friendly and professional service is yet another advantage of the place.

**Rafał Sobiech**







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# CHANGING ROOMS

A new breed of lifestyle hotel brands aims to help you balance work and leisure – but are they right for the business traveller? **Jenny Southan** reports

The world's ten largest hotel chains now offer a combined 113 brands, 31 of which didn't exist a decade ago, it was recently reported.

A portion of these, such as Hyatt's Andaz and Marriott International's Edition, are "lifestyle" concepts that are designed to appeal to urbane, 21st-century travellers – cultured, young, tech-savvy mobile workers. And the trend is gathering momentum, as the number of new brands being unveiled is reaching a crescendo – this year there are a flurry of arrivals, from Canopy and Even, to Vib and Jaz in the City.

### LIFESTYLE HOTELS

Lifestyle properties embody a more boutique feel than their traditional "cookie cutter" counterparts, and are a way for multinational chains to express a sense of individuality and personality that people are looking for, along with – to a greater or lesser degree – uniform facilities and standards of service. The modus operandi seems to be for hotels to provide more informal service, value for money, convenient locations and a sense of place through décor and locally sourced produce. In the past, the fact that brands prided themselves on providing the same environment whether guests were in Moscow or Manila was a comfort – nowadays, not everyone wants to be so cocooned. Travel writer Anna Hart says: "My generation doesn't aspire to chain-hotel, five-star luxury; we possess no brand loyalty. There

is far more social kudos in sourcing an under-the-radar find. Travel is still about showing off, but we want to show off our good taste and travel smarts, not our salary bracket."

Parag Vohra, general manager for hotels at Sojern, a data platform to help brands engage with travellers, says: "It used to be that consistency trumped everything, but lifestyles have changed. If you do all this research into changing tastes and alter the lodging experience [accordingly], then you should go out and have a narrative to explain what you have done." He adds: "Sometimes it is easier to build a brand from scratch than to have an audience unlearn perceptions."

### MORE AND MORE BRANDS

Is there a limit to how many sub-brands a chain can have? Fred Finn, "the world's most travelled person", according to Guinness World Records (he has flown 22.5 million kilometres and made 718 flights on Concorde), says: "All of these brands are confusing – I suppose they are trying to get every angle of the marketplace from the lower to the upper end covered. But how many can the market take?"

Marriott International has 19 brands in total, from Ritz-Carlton and Renaissance in the luxury segment to Courtyard and Fairfield Inn at the select-service end. It also has four lifestyle concepts.

Markus Lehnert, vice-president of interna-

tional hotel development, says: "You want to avoid any of your customers drifting, so wherever your customer goes, you want to have a hotel."

At age 75, what kind of places does Finn stay in? "I prefer traditional, full-service hotels that know I am coming," he says. "I just sign in and within a few minutes someone is calling to ask if my room is alright. I like Marriott because they are pretty much everywhere and I have stayed with them since they started. I also stayed in the new Conrad in Dubai recently and it was fantastic."

He doesn't just go for major chains, however. "I regularly stay in a boutique hotel in Kiev with 150 rooms," he says. "It has superb service – you can put your shoes outside your door and they are clean by the morning. It's a little old-fashioned; everyone smiles, staff are polite and helpful." So would he consider a lifestyle hotel? "I'm always ready to give something new a try," he says.

### NOT ONLY FOR YOUNG GENERATIONS

Marriott International launched its Moxy brand last September, at Milan Malpensa airport. Lehnert says that targeting young people exclusively is not its intention. "There is a continued blur between business and private life," he says. "You may sit there at 9pm working on a presentation but in the afternoon you may be on Facebook. We want to make sure Moxy appeals not just

In the past, the fact that brands prided themselves on providing the same environment worldwide, but times have changed. Many hotel chains attaches great importance to research on the changing tastes of guests, trying to tailor the offer to their needs.







Lifestyle hotels are to attract guests with less formal atmosphere, competitive prices and good locations. The modus operandi involves also providing a sense of place through décor and locally sourced produce.

to the millennial, but to the kind of people who live this life.”

More to the point, he says: “Fifty per cent of our overnight stays are from reward-card holders and there are very few millennials among them.”

Behind the scenes, Moxy has also taken a fresh approach to operations. Lehnert says: “We have fewer staff [than traditional hotels] – we run a 170-room property with 15 FTEs [full-time equivalents]. There are no departments – everyone does everything so they have to be specially trained. There is no office for the general manager – they have a lockable drawer but they are in the public space – and staff all eat with the guests.” This helps to offset the extra money invested in the design and facilities (such as 42-inch flatscreen TVs), which are decidedly “not budget”, meaning people get a better experience.

Will lifestyle hotels be successful? Hart thinks so: “My prediction is that the hotels that will thrive are those that cater to this new breed of working traveller – we want sumptuous, interesting décor, personality and a dose of luxury. We also want our partners and families catered for if they’re in tow, as well as super-fast, free, hassle-free wifi, great public spaces for meetings and hot-desking, and sharp staff that respond swiftly to our needs.”

Yet this doesn’t mean the demise of cookie-cutter operations. Amir Segall is vice-president of international for booking app Hotel Tonight, which has 13 million downloads

and a 50-50 mix of business and leisure customers. He says: “The younger generation likes to be spontaneous, to try something different. But I think the traditional chain will always be around – people like places that are familiar.” Ultimately, travellers will have more choice, and can earn points at the same time.

## NEW BRANDS

● **MOXY** Marriott unveiled “fun, edgy, social” three-star Moxy last September at Milan Malpensa airport. Sexy digital prints feature throughout the property, and there is an Instagram wall in the open-plan lobby lounge. There are Scandi fixtures and fittings, Tom Dixon pendant lights, Vitra tables, colourful Fat Boy cube stools, stacks of art books and raspberry-coloured rugs.

Another 150 Moxys are set to arrive by 2020, with five in Germany, one in Aberdeen and two in London next on the list. There will be 30 in Europe in the next three years, as well as at least eight in the US. moxy-hotels.marriott.com

● **CANOPY BY HILTON** In October, it was announced that Canopy by Hilton would arrive this year – the 12th brand for the company. A statement reads: “We are all about being local, through design, food and beverage, art, and local know-how. No two Canopy hotels will be the same.” A promotional video adds: “Travel should be fun, even on a business trip. We get you. Mobile check-in, tastings every evening, [and an] artisanal breakfast is included.”

Canopy will be developing new-builds and conversions, with letters of intent signed so far for one property in London and ten in the US, including Washington DC, Miami and Portland. canopybyhilton.com

● **HYATT CENTRIC** Hyatt has designed its full-service Centric brand “for multi-generational modern explorers”. The first two to open were in Chicago (the Loop) and Miami (South Beach) in April. Occupying a repurposed historic building, the former has 257 rooms, while the latter houses 105 rooms in a glass tower. All will have free wifi and Bluetooth TVs.

Hyatt says: “While each hotel will be custom-designed to its market, the brand will be characterised by certain common elements, including spaces like the Corner, where guests can work, socialise and peruse a curated collection of local books and magazines.”

A dozen will arrive by this summer in destinations such as Paris, New York, Atlanta and Houston. hyattcentric.com

● **EVEN HOTELS** Intercontinental Hotels Group’s ninth brand has two properties so far in the US and three in the pipeline. They are aimed at “business and leisure travellers who maintain a healthy and active lifestyle and are looking for a complete wellness experience at a mainstream price point”. IHG hopes to fulfil this need by providing rooms with enough space to do a workout, plus group exercise activities, free filtered water, gyms and healthier food. There will also be free wifi. evenhotels.com





● **HOTEL JEN** Shangri-La's four-star Hotel Jen is "inspired by the virtual persona Jen, a professional hotelier who loves life, travel and the adventure of discovering new places".

The first ten properties opened in Asia-Pacific between September 2014 and March 2015. Jen is replacing the company's outdated Traders brand – the first transformation was the Orchardgateway in Singapore. Free wifi, plenty of mobile charging points, and complimentary coffee and snack kiosks are brand standards. [hoteljen.com](http://hoteljen.com)

● **CORDIS HOTELS AND RESORTS** Langham Hospitality Group's upscale brand Cordis ("high-end but without the opulence") was announced in February. The first opening will be a rebrand of the Langham Place Mongkok Hong Kong in August. A mix of new-builds and conversions, Cordis will be focused on cities in Asia and North America – agreements have been signed for the launch of eight (five in China) in the next three years.

Chief executive Robert Warman says: "Each Cordis hotel will be individual in style, architecture and design, all of which will be reflective of its location and culture, and tailored to the requirements of our guests." [cordishotels.com](http://cordishotels.com)

● **RADISSON RED** Carlson Rezidor hopes to have 60 Radisson Reds worldwide by 2020. The first open next year in Cape Town and Shenyang Hunan. Rooms are affordable, with the option of being personalised (for a fee) with pre-selected minibar drinks and sandwiches from a 24-hour deli, plus family photos on the TV. The reception will be a gallery-like space, and some rooms will have bunks. Guests will be able to check-in and use a "glocal" concierge via an app. [radissonred.com](http://radissonred.com)

● **VIB** Best Western's Vib is a new "urban boutique concept focused on style, technology and engagement". Interiors will be bright with LED lighting. There will be media walls, as well as smart TVs in the rooms for streaming content. "Grab and go" food will be available around the clock, and there will be Zen Zones, virtual concierges, gaming pods and free wifi. Construction begins this year in Miami, Chicago and Seoul. [bestwestern.com](http://bestwestern.com)

● **JAZZ IN THE CITY** "In tune but offbeat", this new brand from Germany's Steigenberger Hotel Group will launch with an Amsterdam property in September featuring 11 suites and 247 rooms (all 26 sqm with smart TVs). Guests can expect rotating exhibitions of local art, gigs, state-of-the-art technology and urban design. [jaz-hotel.com](http://jaz-hotel.com)



The younger generation likes to be spontaneous, to try something different. But the traditional chains will always be around – people like places that are familiar.



# UNDER THE WINGS OF LUFTHANSA



**Marzena Mróz** talks to **Frank Wagner**, the Country Manager for Poland at Lufthansa German Airlines

## What are the main goals of the new Country Manager for Poland at Lufthansa?

I would like to continue to strengthen Lufthansa's position as the leading carrier in Poland, using my experienced that I have gained in other markets (such as Portugal and the UK). The Polish aviation market continues to grow, new airports are being built and existing ones expand rapidly, making it easier for airlines to increase the number of offered connections. We are continuously expanding our route network to enable our passengers flights around the world from the nearest port via our airport hubs. In Poland we currently offer 233 weekly connections to Munich and Frankfurt (altogether 349 as Lufthansa Group) from nine ports. I will focus on all airlines of the group that are present in Poland, including Austrian Airlines,

SWISS, and Brussels Airlines, but also on the promotion of our joint venture companies with Air Canada, United Airlines and All Nippon airlines from Japan. We would like to reaffirm our position as the leading airline group in Europe. We are constantly investing in the development of our offer. Even in those difficult economic times, we are doing our best to meet the expectations of customers, be a leader in innovation and reliability, as well as a trustworthy partner for our passengers and business partners.

## What in particular do you intend to focus on? The competition in the Polish skies is becoming increasingly intense. What is your strategy to entice passengers to fly with Lufthansa?

We would like to take our Polish passengers and business

people to destinations where they can do business, whether it is in Europe, North America or the Far East. No other group provides better connections to North America, with which Poland has strong business relations. Our main goal is to offer a convenient flight schedule, not only from Warsaw, but also from other regional airports. Some of them, for example Cracow Airport, are served by all member airlines of Lufthansa Group.

In these highly competitive times, we want to assure passengers that travelling with Lufthansa, they experience the best service in the world. Regardless of whether they travel in Business, Economy, or the recently introduced Premium Economy Class, the flight with Lufthansa will be a wonderful journey. Half of our intercontinental fleet is equipped with the new Premium Economy Class that



We are continuously expanding our route network to enable our passengers flights around the world from the nearest port via our airport hubs.





provides even more personal space, better service and a lot of extra goodies for our passengers. Our lounges are luxury places, where you can relax between flights, take a shower, work or enjoy our delicious cuisine. In order to meet the expectations of all our customers, we are constantly investing in safety and fleet, regularly expanding the range of our on-board amenities.

#### **Why is it worth choosing to fly with Lufthansa Group?**

The highest quality is a very important part of our strategy. We do our best to offer our passengers an excellent range of services. We invest in new aircraft and technologies. We operate Airbus A380 – the world's largest and most modern aircraft with 525 passengers seats, as well as Boeing B747-8s – the latest version of the jumbo jet. The comfort of travel is excellent in each cabin class. However, we do not focus only on convenience, but also on the environment - for example, by using eco-friendly solutions to reduce the noise level during the trip. Lufthansa has also ordered 25 Airbus 350-900s, which generate about 30 percent less noise.

The new aircraft will consume about 2.9 litres of kerosene per passenger for 100 kilometres, which is about 25 percent less than the current generation of aircraft. Not to mention that we are the only carrier providing FlyNet - a broadband Internet access on intercontinental flights. All this makes it worthwhile to travel with us.

#### **Where can we fly this summer with Lufthansa?**

The picturesque capital of Umbria is within a half-hour flight from Munich. Since May Lufthansa has been flying to Perugia twice a week. The city is only one of eight new holiday destinations offered by Lufthansa this summer. From Munich we can also now fly to Heraklion in Crete, Glasgow in Scotland, as well as Bodrum in Turkey. New destinations that can be reached from Frankfurt this summer include Cagliari in Sardinia and the Marrakech in Morocco. Apart from this, both Frankfurt and Munich offer now flights to Reykjavik (Iceland) and the Spanish Sevilla. Lufthansa customers also have now access to 35 weekly connections from Munich to 18 popular summer destinations

and the summer flight schedule from Frankfurt includes 59 weekly connections to 17 destinations.

#### **What new routes will LH offer this autumn and winter?**

Starting from 27 October, Lufthansa will fly to Nairobi, Kenya. The connection will be operated from Frankfurt, initially four times a week, but from 11 December the frequency will increase to five times a week. Lufthansa hopes that this route will be very popular, especially with tourists. Other summer destinations include Panama City, Cancun, Malé and Mauritius.

In the winter, Lufthansa passengers will have an opportunity to fly from Munich to Kittili, the largest and most popular winter sports centre in Finland. Flights will be run each Saturday, beginning from 19 December. Kittilä and the nearby Levi ski resort are located 170 kilometres north of the Arctic circle. Also Eurowings, our new low-cost airline, is expanding its intercontinental route network. First connections, operated every Saturday from Cologne to Puerto Plata in the Caribbean, will start on 7 November.

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In these highly competitive times, we want to assure passengers that travelling with Lufthansa, they experience the best service in the world. Regardless of whether they travel in Business, Economy, or the recently introduced Premium Economy Class.

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# A THRILLING EVENING AT MERCURE GDYNIA CENTRUM



Representatives of the Orbis Hotel Group and AccorHotels with Gdynia's mayor Wojciech Szczurek.



Małgorzata Miernik and Bogdan Czajkowski, Orbis Hotel Group.

The festive gala organized on 12 June at Mercure Gdynia Centrum celebrated one of the most important events for the hotel industry in Poland - rebranding and modernization of two hotels: Mercure Gdynia Centrum and Mercure Gdańsk Posejdon. The gala was attended by more than 400 guests, including the brand's clients, business partners, journalists, representatives of culture and art, politicians, athletes, as well as employees of AccorHotels and Orbis Hotel Group, all having a great time in the newly renovated Mercure hotel located in the very heart

of Gdynia. Obviously, there was plenty of delicious food, exquisite drinks, and even fire performances. The main attraction of the evening was a concert of Mika Urbaniak and Urszula Dudziak.

## EXCEPTIONAL SPEECHES

The official part, led by Dorota Gardias, started with a speech by Gdynia's mayor Wojciech Szczurek, who talked about the history and role of Orbis Gdynia hotel that underwent an amazing transformation and was rebranded as Mercure Gdynia Centre. Then the assembled guests listened to short speeches by Laurent Picheral, Direc-

tor General, Hotel Services for Central and Eastern Europe Accorhotels Group, Gilles Clavi, Chairman of the Board and CEO of Orbis Hotel Group, and Marek Przeorski, the Manager of the Hotel.

## A THRILLING NIGHT

The organizers made sure that the evening would be full of impressive and memorable attractions. Six chefs from hotels belonging to the Orbis Hotel Group prepared in front of the guests such delicacies as Wellington beef tenderloin from the organic Kashubian farm, served with chanterelle mushrooms and shallots in puff pastry, ac-



accompanied by parsnip puree with cream and a choice of sauces. You could also try exquisite desserts, such as rhubarb jam with raspberries and zabaglione or Kashubian strawberries with petals of pink pepper and amaretto liqueur.

There were also the so-called "fun tables" full of treats and delicious alcoholic beverages. The guests were impressed by the hotel's rooms, conference facilities and restaurants. They were accompanied by the personnel of Mercure Gdynia Centrum who talked about the details of the renovation and provided interesting historical anecdotes. The guests were also encouraged to try wines and dishes provided by the hotel's Winestone.

#### STAR PERFORMANCES UNDER THE STARS

A few minutes before 9 pm started the concert of Fryderyk-winning artists Mika Urbaniak who has cooperated, among others, with such stars as Mieczysław Szczepniak, O.S.T.R., Grzegorz Markowski, Kayah, Bolec, Andrzej Smolik and Sławek Jaskulke. She was accompanied by the outstanding jazz vocalist and composer Urszula Dudziak, who has her handprint in the renowned Gdańsk Walk of Fame. The concert was a combination of several genres: jazz, R&B and hip-hop with the elements of improvisation. At 11 pm in the garden in front of Mercure Gdynia Centrum everyone watched a 30-minute fire performance. The party, as you might expect it, lasted until late.

#### UNIQUE PLACES ON THE MAP OF THE TRI-CITY

In this way Orbis Hote Group celebrated modernization of two its hotels: Mercure Gdynia Centrum and Mercure Gdańsk Posejdon. In Poland, you can relax or organize a business meeting in as many as 23 Mercure properties.



The symbolic cutting of the ribbon to launch the two rebranded hotels.



Fun tables with snacks and drinks.



Wine and food tasting at Winestone.

Marek Przeorski, Urszula Dudziak and Sylwia Gadomska, Orbis Hotel Group.



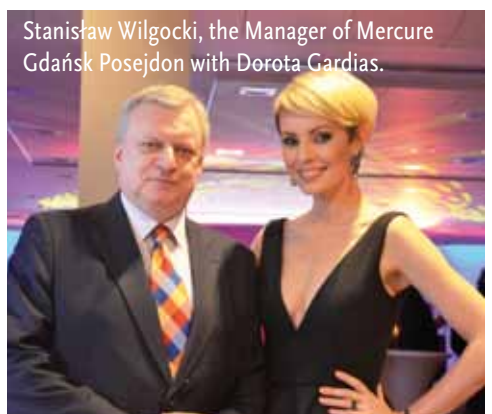
Representatives of the Group Orbis and AccorHotels, along with Małgorzata Miernik, the Project Director and Anna Michalak, the Project Manager.



Victor Davies and Mika Urbaniak.



Sales Representatives of the Orbis Hotel Group.



Stanisław Wilgocki, the Manager of Mercure Gdańsk Posejdon with Dorota Gardias.

# LIFE IS BETTER WHEN SHARED

## Sheraton Hotels



**CONTACT**  
www.sheraton.pl

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

Sheraton's mission is to connect and bring travellers closer, which reflects the belief that Life Is Better When Shared. In its mission to connect people, Sheraton has created products and services to ensure that the guest who choose its hotels, will have a comfortable stay in a place with a remarkably friend-

ly atmosphere. The first place where they can experience this Sheraton's travel philosophy is the hotel's lobby. It is a space full of life, with Link@SheratonSM Experienced with Microsoft, situated in the very centre. It has been created for guests who wish to get in touch with their loved ones or colleagues, work, or socialize.

For the most demanding guests Sheraton has created Sheraton Club, with superior rooms and access to the Club Lounge - a space that can be used for work, rest or informal meetings. It also offers free snacks and drinks, and is accessible to guests around the clock.

For all those who do not like to break with their training

regime while travelling, the chain has designed Sheraton Fitness by Core Performance programme. It offers access to the most modern fitness centres, a special menu available in hotel restaurants and via room service, as well as a specially designed website with exercise programmes available online. A part of the programme is Colour Your Plate concept, which is an uncomplicated approach to healthy eating.

### **SOPOT – POLISH SAINT-TROPEZ**

Sopot is deservedly called the Pearl of the Baltic, for years attracting tourists from Poland and abroad. Its wide and sandy beaches, modern clubs and the





elegant Sheraton... In other words, it can easily live up to the expectations of the most demanding tourists.

The Hotel is located in the very heart of the city, right on the beach, close to the most famous pier and the equally known promenade – Monte Cassino Street. Its location gives guests a rare opportunity to have relaxing walks along the seashore, as well as be in the very centre of all the events happening in the city.

We also choose Sheraton because it offers attractive accommodation packages that include spa treatment. The offer is quite comprehensive, and there is something for everyone here. The hotel is a perfect choice for a romantic getaway for two,

as well as a family stay with children. There's the comfortable and spacious spa, several restaurants and bars, the Kids Club, and the unique view from the window. The management guarantees that every guest that uses the hotel's spa will leave Sheraton rejuvenated, because the place boasts its holistic approach to life.

The hotel's restaurants are also a guarantee of unforgettable experiences. Wave serves international and Polish cuisine in accordance with the philosophy of slow food. The extremely talented head chef Krystian Szidol prepares here dishes based on local products from Pomerania and he masterly combines them together to create unforgettable flavours. Sheraton Sopot Con-

ference Center & Spa also houses an oriental restaurant InAzia, which offers a wide range of Asian flavours. The menu, décor, service – all these elements have been refined to the tiniest details to create a one-of-a-kind place attracting guests with its unique atmosphere. The restaurant offers a beautiful view of the sea. It's also worth visiting the Vinoteque Sopot & Cigar Lounge - an extraordinary wine cellar located in the basement of the Spa House, which store more than 200 wines from around the world. Specially selected wines are served by an experienced sommelier. Snacks served in Vinoteque are perfectly matched to the particular type of wine in order to bring out the best of them.

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Sheraton's mission is to connect and bring travellers closer, which reflects the belief that Life Is Better When Shared. Life Is Better When Shared

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# INTO THE WILD

Visiting a luxury private game reserve,  
**Jenny Southan** comes face to face with life  
and death in the South African bush









Thanda is a special kind of nature reserve. Located in KwaZulu-Natal, just over three hours' drive from Durban.

I must confess, I am nervous. Really nervous. I am sitting no more than two metres from a lioness tearing at the flesh of a dead antelope. The jeep we are in is open – no glass or metal to separate us – and for a moment she stops what she is doing to stare at me.

The sound of her gnawing through skin is like scissors cutting through thick card, and every now and then I hear the crunch of bone. On safari, aside from witnessing the kill itself, seeing a big cat feeding is the Holy Grail.

### THE SUNRISE

The hunt started at sunrise. We set out with our guide, Themba, and tracker, Nhlanhla, who sits in a special seat on the bonnet of the Land Rover so he can spot paw marks in the road.

On some game drives, you are lucky to see anything, so the sight of a mother and her cub walking along the side of the track is a thrill. (I'm told not to stand or make loud exclamations that will alert animals to the fact we are human – the vehicle isn't something they react to.)

We follow them all the way down to the watering hole, where we see the impressive shape of a male lion waiting for them. Together, the three of them hunch down and drink.

They then lead us back to where the rest of the pride are hiding, and we go off-road, crushing bushes, weaving through long grass, to where we find them feasting on their prey. The other cubs lie sleeping in a copse, their bellies visibly full.

Thanda is a special kind of nature reserve. Located in KwaZulu-Natal, just over three hours' drive from Durban (making it a feasible extension to a business trip), it not only offers the chance to see the Big Five – buffalo, leopard, rhino, lion and elephant – but to do so with knowledgeable local guides who specialise in seeking out encounters you wouldn't have on self-drive safaris.

You are also safer, as the rangers can read the beasts' behaviour, and know when to retreat.

### VISITED BY A HYENA

Covering 14,000 hectares, the land was bought in 2000 by Swedish entrepreneur Dan Olofsson, who joined together four farms, then erected a 900-volt electrified fence and began introducing wild animals to replace the livestock.



Four years later, it opened with a five-suite villa for exclusive hire, a camp with 15 luxurious tents, and nine 220 sqm lodges. Each of these has a four-poster bed, deep plunge pool, outdoor shower, terrace on stilts and sandy-floored boma (a traditional circular enclosure of tree trunks) for dinners by an open fire under the stars.

Apart from guests and staff (these include armed guards who try to keep out poachers), you won't come across anyone else for miles around, and the accommodation areas are some distance apart so feel remote. Perhaps disconcertingly, there is nothing to protect you from any animals that might decide to venture in – one night, at dinner, we see a hyena prowling about. After dark, you have to be escorted back to your room by torchlight, but staff never carry weapons so you're at the mercy of the wild.

### LIFE IN THE BUSH

A typical day at Thanda begins with a 4.30am wake-up call (or knock if you are in a tent with no electricity). Three-hour game drives are at 5am and 4.30pm.

Upon your return, a sumptuous breakfast buffet is laid out in the open air; in the evening, it's an à la carte dinner of ostrich, kudu and springbok. The days are yours to do as you wish, whether reading, playing board games or visiting the spa.

Curious to learn more about traditional culture, I book Thanda's "In the footsteps of the Zulus" excursion, which arranges introductions to families in nearby villages. The region is home to about eight million amaZulu (meaning "people of heaven"), and surrounding Thanda are three villages spread across green hills dotted with homesteads and humble farms.

Zacks, our guide from the resort, says: "Our goal is to take guests to 150 different families a year – Hector chooses who they are and works with local leaders to set up visits." Hector, who is wearing a Zulu fur headband to show he is married, first takes us to a supermarket to buy some toys and sweets for the children, then drives to the rural community of Mdletshe, some distance away.

When we pull off the road towards a cluster of huts, we are greeted with the sound of rhythmic clapping and singing – the women have come out in fur skirts to perform a welcome dance. This family is made up of a grandmother, her son, his four wives (each of whom has her own home) and their 15 offspring.



Experienced local guides will take you to see here numerous wild animals, including buffalos, leopards, rhinos, lions and elephants.





## USEFUL INFO

### How to get there

- South African Airways flies 14 times a week from London to Johannesburg with 13 daily connections to Durban. [flysaa.com](http://flysaa.com)
- Aqua Tours and Transfers can provide transport. It takes about three hours by road to travel from Durban to Thanda. [aquatours.co.za](http://aquatours.co.za)

### Prices

- Rates include two game drives per day, plus drinks and meals.
- A Thanda Safari Lodge starts from R6,250 (£341) per person;
- Tented Camp from R3,550 (£194) per person.
- Visiting a local Zulu village organised by Thanda costs R1,375 (£75). [thanda.com](http://thanda.com)

They teach us to say sawubona (good morning) and unjani (how are you?), and to give a Zulu handshake. We sit on hides laid out on the dust and ask each other questions, with Hector translating.

On the farm, they keep goats, cows and chickens, which peck around inside a circular kraal – an ancient defensive structure. Before leaving, we dole out the gifts to whoops of joy, and are encouraged to join in with the farewell dance.

Back at the reserve, we prepare for the evening game drive, counting which animals we have yet to see.

### LOOKING FOR THE CHEETAH

Only the cheetah and notoriously elusive leopard remain on our list – in a couple of days, we've sat among a herd of 19 elephants as they tear at foliage with their trunks; spotted a warthog and her three piglets bounce along in front of us; observed "towers" of giraffe (the collective noun for a group of Earth's tallest terrestrial animals); and been surrounded by bad-tempered buffalo – the most dangerous of the Big Five because of their unpredictable nature.

We have also managed to spot a pair of endangered black rhinos in the savannah – usually hard to find as they are nervous and shy. (No surprise when you consider their horns can

fetch US\$65,000 per kilo on the black market. "We have lost four rhinos to poaching in the past two years," Themba says.)

This time, we have been driving for about half an hour without seeing so much as a butterfly, when we receive a radio alert from a jeep that has come across two cheetahs. As the sun sinks, we arrive back at the watering hole, where, under the shadow of a tree, two male cats lounge – one looking east, the other west.

"Cheetahs don't do very well in the wild as other predators kill them," Themba tells us. "That is why they are keeping a look out."

We sit quietly with them for about 45 minutes as they roll around in the scrub. With their dappled fur and soulful amber eyes, they look harmless enough to stroke.

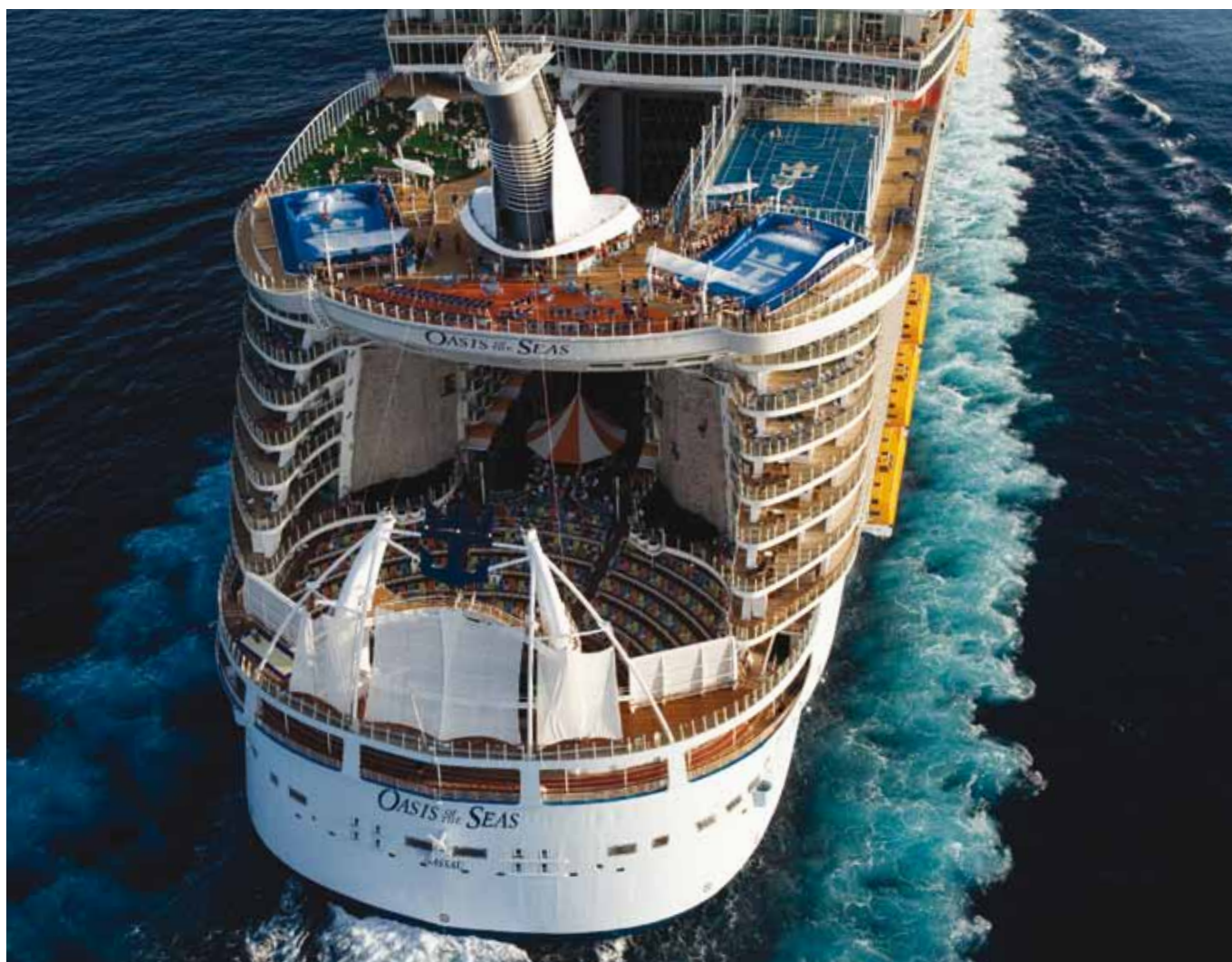
Departing, we head to the summit of a mountain ridge to park for sunset. Clambering up to the highest rocks, we can see a vast plateau stretching all the way to Swaziland on the horizon.

Nhlanhla hands out G&Ts and we sit chatting as the heavens above gradually reveal the Milky Way. "The pale yellow moon shone in his eyes; his path was marked by the stars in the Southern Hemisphere; and he walked his days under African skies," echoes Paul Simon's famous song.

We will save the leopard until next time.







[www.royalcaribbeancruises.pl](http://www.royalcaribbeancruises.pl)  
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info@rccl.pl, tel. 004822 455 38 48







# DELTA FORCE

Foshan is one of China's Pearl River Delta manufacturing powerhouses, with a long history of trade. **Tamsin Cocks** reports.

**I**f you've never heard of Foshan, don't worry – you're not alone. Despite being one of the most important economic regions in the Pearl River Delta, and an ancient cultural centre, the city isn't that well known outside China.

Inside, it's a different story. Foshan is an economic powerhouse with a population of more than seven million people – the same as Hong Kong.

It's the third-most important manufacturing hub in Southern China, after Shenzhen and Guangzhou, with a number of specialised industries. One of these is the production of home appliances, thanks to big Chinese firms such as Midea and Hisense

Kelon, while other core sectors include telecommunications, furniture, metals, plastics and ceramics.

Foshan first rose to prominence during the Tang Dynasty (618-906AD) and was renowned for its skilled artisans, flourishing art scene, fertile lands and productive fisheries.

The area continued to prosper throughout the Ming (1368-1644) and Qing dynasties (1644-1911), and gained a special place in Chinese history as one of four recognised "ancient towns" (the others being Hankou, Jingdezhen and Zhuxianzhen). It has been credited with giving birth to Cantonese opera, ceramics and certain forms of martial arts.

As the locals are proud to tell you, Foshan was one of the first places in China to open up for foreign trade, and thanks to favourable administrative reforms, this legacy persists with a receptive atmosphere for overseas investment.

Companies that have set up large-scale manufacturing operations here include Audi, Volkswagen, Siemens and Toshiba.

Getting here is relatively simple. The closest major airport is Guangzhou Baiyun International, about an hour's drive from central Foshan. Rail and metro networks have been extensively developed, and travellers can reach the centre of the city in just over half an hour from Guangzhou railway station.



## Where to stay

### HOTELS

● **Hilton Foshan** The 600-room Hilton opened last year and is a good choice for business travellers. It is slightly out of the way – a 15- to 20-minute taxi ride to the CBD costs 20-25 yuan (£3) – but the concierge can order a cab and provide directions, and a return address written in Chinese.

Standard city-view rooms (40-50 sqm) are well equipped with a desk, universal power points, large LCD TV, bath and rainshower. There are 31 meeting rooms and a 1,300-sqm pillar-free ballroom as well as a spacious executive lounge. [hilton.com](http://hilton.com)

● **Marco Polo Lingnan Tiandi Foshan**

In terms of location, this hotel is an excellent choice, in the middle of Chancheng CBD and close to local attractions. The 390 rooms and suites feature light décor and furnishings and many offer views over the Lingnan Tiandi heritage development and Zumiao Ancestral Temple.

There is a 1,260 sqm ballroom, three food and drink venues and an executive lounge. [marcopohotels.com](http://marcopohotels.com)

● **Shunde Marriott Hotel** The most recent hotel opening in Foshan is the five-star Shunde Marriott at the beginning of this year. All 258 guestrooms feature either a view of Shunfeng Mountain Park or the city's skyline, and come with marble bathrooms, minibars, desks and safes. Executive rooms and suites are located on the 28th floor, near the executive lounge. There are three choices of restaurant, serving local and international fare, and a 1,400 sqm, pillarless grand ballroom. [marriott.com](http://marriott.com)



## Where to eat

### BARS AND RESTAURANS

● **Wumi Zhou** Housed in a heritage building, Wumi Zhou's original walls, floor and other features have been immaculately restored, and the restaurant has lots of private rooms tucked away down higgledy-piggledy corridors. It serves a Foshanian specialty – porridge hot pot. It sounds bizarre, but it is delicious. Meat, seafood and vegetables are cooked in a wok full of a bubbling congee-like substance, which gives the food a light, almost creamy texture and delicate flavour.

Other Cantonese specialities include youtiao (deep-fried dough sticks) and Chencun fen rice noodles. 6 Wenming Lane, Lingnan Tiandi, Chancheng District; tel +86 757 6669 1922/6669 1822.

● **Yuu** For excellent Japanese food, head to the Hilton Foshan's Yuu. Dark, oriental décor illuminated with low lighting creates an intimate feel. Most of the tables are enclosed in individual booths, aside from a teppanyaki bar beside the open kitchen. The set menu is highly recommended. Starting with a fresh selection of sashimi and sushi, the courses include tender grilled beef, clear seafood soup served in a teapot, and salt baked ayu fish.

The Golden Sword sake cocktail is a must. Open 5.30pm-10pm daily. Hilton Foshan, 127 Lingnan North Avenue, Chancheng; tel +86 757 8306 9999; [hilton.com](http://hilton.com)

## Tourist attractions

### WHAT TO SEE

● According to the local saying – if you haven't been to Zumiao, you haven't been to Foshan. The 900-year-old Zumiao Ancestral Temple (open 8.30am-6pm daily; 20 yuan/£3; [fszumiao.com](http://fszumiao.com)) is a much-revered cultural and geographical focal point in the city. It is located in the heart of the Chancheng CBD and is a welcome oasis of calm, as much a tourist spot as it is a refuge for elderly citizens, who can enter for free.

● Another popular attraction is the Qinghui Garden in Shunde district, although if you're based in Chancheng, Liang's Gardens (93 Xiangfeng Gu Dao; 10 yuan/£1.50) are closer, and filled with water features, koi ponds and beautiful blooms.

● The Ancient Nanfeng Kiln is also a must-see, with the original 500-year-old pottery kilns still on display and the opportunity to see modern craftsmen at work – and even have a go yourself.

● Close to Zumiao Ancestral Temple, in Chancheng CBD, is Foshan Lingnan Tiandi, an ongoing restoration project by the Shui On Land development company, responsible for Shanghai's charming Xintiandi district. Aside from a few questionable choices (a Hello Kitty café?), it has been tastefully put together. There are 22 monuments and 128 traditional buildings – including the original "marriage house" – and many have been carefully renovated to maintain the original façade. Coffee shops with old-style bamboo bar doors, boutiques housed under traditional "wok handle" style roofs, and an assortment of restaurants, bars and cafés are dotted throughout. It has a good atmosphere, even midweek, and is a popular destination for visitors to congregate – ideal for those travelling alone.

In the evening, the area springs to life with music venues, nightclubs and open-air bars. Luxury apartments, modern shopping malls and more heritage conservation sites are also being developed.





# A NEW CHAPTER

Belgrade is putting its turbulent past behind it with an explosion of economic and cultural developments, writes **Paul Revel**

**B**elgrade's current wave of regeneration is nothing new. Its 6,000 years of history have seen the city destroyed and rebuilt more than 40 times – attackers and invaders have included the Celts, Romans, Huns, Goths, Ottomans, Austro-Hungarians, Nazis and NATO.

Architecturally, much of its rich and violent history has turned to dust – apart from the indomitable Kalemegdan fortress, parts of which date back to the sixth century.

Some of the surviving buildings have gorgeous art nouveau and art deco façades from the late 19th to early 20th centuries – many are shockingly dilapidated, but an increas-

ing number are beautifully restored. There's also a smattering of intriguing architectural styles, from neo-Baroque to Secessionist and Balkan-Oriental.

The city's carbuncles, its brutalist Soviet blocks, remain for now, as do the gaping missile holes left by NATO in the old Yugoslav Ministry of Defence building. But there





The city will be playing host to a number of international events this year, which will further help to put it on the map. All of this can turn Belgrade into a true Dubai of the Balkans.



is also a fresh-paint feeling of newness in the air – of construction, investment and progress.

I meet Belgrade's mayor, Sinisa Mali, and his team at City Hall – an elegant 19th-century former royal palace. Mali, who has an MA from Washington University, is a fresh-faced 42-year-old, and points out he's probably the oldest on his team.

### OPTIMISTIC PROSPECTS

This youthfulness reflects an attitude of getting optimism, and sends a deliberate message of change from previous eras' corruption and dysfunctionality.

"They are not paid well – we are state administration – but they all believe in this new story," he says. "There is so much energy and creativity – they want to make this city a better place to live."

Mali is enthusiastic, but seems candidly realistic. He says his goal is to "re-assert Belgrade's position as an economic, political and social centre for the region", while admitting to inheriting "huge financial problems" which have meant a period of difficult economic reforms.

"We are on the path to European Union accession but are not yet EU members," he says. "We have free-trade agreements with

Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Turkey, the EU and the US. No other country has that. That's why you're seeing all these investors coming – because they can export to all these markets.

"And with political stability since the new government was formed last year, with an absolute majority, we have an important opportunity and we must not miss it."

### TAX HOLIDAY

To attract inward investment, a range of tax incentives are on offer, including, for large companies, a corporate tax holiday for up to ten years, subject to various criteria.





To attract inward investment, a range of tax incentives are on offer, including, for large companies, a corporate tax holiday for up to ten years, subject to various criteria.



Among international companies investing in Serbia, Microsoft has a development here and Fiat is expanding the car plant it opened in 2010.

Mali's not afraid to share unvarnished truths about the city's challenges: "We still lack mains sewerage in parts of the city, believe it or not," he says. A €250 million waste management project starts this year, a public-private partnership deal that will include waste-to-energy technology.

A somewhat more glamorous project is the €3.5 billion, 1.8 million sqm Belgrade Waterfront Development along the Sava riverbank, which comprises hotel, residential and commercial space.

The multi-phase scheme, in partnership with Abu Dhabi-based firm Eagle Hills, will feature the region's largest shopping mall, performance venues, restaurants, green spaces and a 180-metre-tall hotel and residential tower with a rooftop winter garden. Other major projects include a new metro system, a city ring road and a second runway at Belgrade's Nikola Tesla airport.

#### THE SUCCESSFUL AIRLINE

Mali also highlights the success of Air Serbia (formerly Jat Airways), in which Etihad bought a 49 per cent stake in 2013. The recent launch of Etihad's global ad campaign was a glamorous affair, with actress Nicole Kidman on stage at the glitzy Emirates Palace hotel in Abu Dhabi.

But Etihad's chief executive James Hogan was all business when he talked about the airline's partnership strategy.

He said investment in other airlines was about "stretching the network and reducing costs collectively, and ensuring all those airlines move to profitability" – citing Air Serbia's impressive turnaround.

Air Serbia reported a net profit of €2.7 million for 2014, an eye-catching reversal of its €73 million loss for 2013. Revenue was up 87 per cent to €262 million, passenger numbers up 68 per cent and capacity up 74 per cent.

Air Serbia chief executive Dane Kondic says: "We had to re-fleet, rebrand, retrain and reinvest. Etihad gave Air Serbia scale and allowed it to access its training facilities, avoiding a double-up on investment and reducing costs." He also cites improved aircraft utilisation and being able to connect with Etihad's global network.

Kondic says that business travel has been a "key driver" of his airline's expansion. He adds: "An interesting trend is the growth in investments between the regional countries, particularly among the former countries of Yugoslavia. This process places Bel-





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Alongside the headline infrastructure and corporate projects, a more street-level, community-based regeneration is taking place. The Savamala district was until recently a bleak post-industrial zone. Now, it's undergoing a renaissance as a creative hub.

grade and Serbia at the centre of the region and, as a result, business travellers are increasingly taking advantage of our strong regional network."

#### SAVAMALI'S TRANSFORMATION

Alongside the headline infrastructure and corporate projects, a more street-level, community-based regeneration is taking place. The Savamala district was until recently a bleak post-industrial zone; now, it's undergoing a renaissance as a creative hub. At the heart of this movement is Mikser House, a former warehouse and now a multifunctional design, performance, exhibition and meeting space. Founder Ivan Lalic said the area was previously "Sin City, known for its pollution and prostitutes". Three years ago, "artists started to try and change the area", and now, he says, there are more than 50 new initiatives locally, from galleries to restaurants to design co-ops.

On the programme at Mikser during my visit was a theatrical production of Lars von Triers' *Dogville*, as well as concerts from classical to rock'n'roll. The annual Bel-

grade Dance Festival attracts international performers and audiences, while other events range from annual fashion and design weeks to a host of festivals for food, wine, art and music.

This renaissance is accompanied by a growth in chic cafés and excellent restaurants.

#### DUBAI OF THE BALKANS

Those heading to do business in Serbia should be able to obtain good deals on accommodation – according to hotel data specialist STR Global, last year saw a 47.5 per cent occupancy rate for the country, with the average daily rate around £66. STR reports that Belgrade has 33 hotels with a total of just under 4,000 guestrooms.

Corporate hotel booking specialist HRS notes that average rates in Belgrade have hardly shifted since 2012 – from €74 per night to €79 in 2014. "However, we are watching with interest how Belgrade may become more popular as it grows its reputation in the corporate travel world," says Jon West, managing director for HRS in the UK and Ireland.

He believes Belgrade is in a similar price bracket to Warsaw, Budapest and Prague. "The city will be playing host to a number of international events this year, which will further help to put it on the map," he says.

"This, coupled with plans for huge investment by the UAE to make Belgrade the 'Dubai of the Balkans', with an investment of US\$3.6 billion expected, should boost its profile on the international scene."

The grandiose Waterfront project is attracting opposition from various quarters, however, with critics citing a lack of transparency and unanswered questions around funding and timelines. And many of the city's infrastructure projects await private investment before completion dates can be envisaged.

Still, the daunting tasks ahead are not deterring mayor Mali and his young team. "Our biggest challenge is the lack of financial means to do this on our own," he says. "So we have to find partners for specific investments. And to do this we must have stable public finances.

Our challenge is to find partners that we can build a better city together with, and share the benefits."

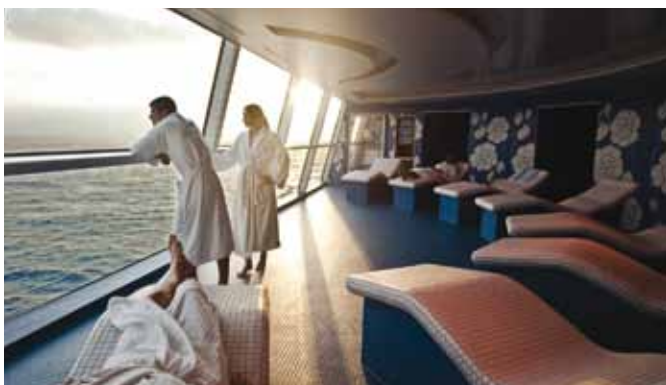




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# MARRIED TO YOUR JOB

**Sally Brown** reveals how to maintain healthy, happy relationships when you are a frequent traveller.



# W

hen you took your wedding vows, chances are you didn't promise to "love, honour and fly off to another country, leaving your partner to cope on their own, on a regular basis".

Yet, that's the reality of family life when your job demands frequent travel. According to our 2014 reader survey, the average Business Traveller reader spends 56 nights a year in hotels on business. That's an awful lot of time away from home.

For some people, absence makes the heart grow fonder. Comedian Bob Hope ascribed his successful 69-year marriage to his only spending ten years of it at home, but for others it can necessitate a split personality. Each partner must be self-sufficient and self-contained when alone, yet flexible and open enough to work as a couple when together.

It's a juggling act that's challenging, no matter how successful or financially secure you are, as actor Damian Lewis admitted in a recent interview when talking about time away from his wife, fellow actor Helen McCrory: "Helen and I are strong, independent

people and you become single very quickly again. She soon feels like a single mum if I'm away for a period of time. I feel like a single man. It's disconcerting. So coming back, you're keen for it to just take off exactly where it left off. It never does, it's never that smooth, and there is no shorthand or short cut."

## SEPARATION ANXIETY

Being apart can create a level of stress in couples that they may not be aware of, according to a 2008 study from the University of Utah.

Social psychologist Lisa Diamond looked into the effects of frequent, employment-based separation on a relationship and found minor withdrawal-like symptoms, such as irritability and sleep disturbances, along with an increase in the stress hormone cortisol in partners after they were separated for four to seven days.

Participants who reported high anxiety about their relationships had the biggest spikes in cortisol levels, but even those who reported low levels of stress and anxiety showed some degree of increased cortisol and related symptoms.

Many parents also battle with guilt at being away from their children. When the former chief financial officer of Uber, Brent Callinicos, resigned recently, he said: "It is time to do what I have desired for a very long time: to keep a promise to my wife of not missing another school play, swim meet, or academic achievement of our daughter's childhood."

According to the latest ONS statistics, 42 per cent of marriages end, with more than 118,140 people getting divorced in 2012 in England and Wales, and almost half of divorces involving children under 16. Kingston, a contributor to our online forum ([businesstraveller.com/discussion](http://businesstraveller.com/discussion)) is going through his second divorce, which he attributes to "excessive travel".

He says: "It is always difficult when travelling great distances to slot back into the family unit, which does put pressure on. Jet lag and demands on your time through time zones, when managing a global organisation, make the situation worse.

"I have three wonderful children, aged 25, 22 and 16, who are balanced and adorable, but I always regret the time away from them as I strove for the corporate dollar to ensure



Many frequent travelling parents struggle with guilt, realizing that they don't devote as much time for their children as they would like.





## Take advantage of your experience and the miles you have accumulated on your numerous trips to organize family trips.

they had things that I never had. I guess when I look back on my career I will be able to say I was successful, but at what cost?”

### A HEALTHY DISTANCE?

It's not all bad news. A 2013 study published in the *Journal of Communication* found that people in relationships that involved time apart often had stronger bonds from more constant and deeper communication than normal partnerships.

“There are benefits in spending time apart on a regular basis,” says relationship counsellor Andrew Marshall, author of *I Love You But I'm Not In Love With You: Seven Steps To Saving Your Relationship*. “It allows each of you to develop a sense of independence and the ability to rely on your own strengths.”

Time apart can also help you to retain a degree of differentiation as a couple that can keep the chemistry alive.

“Sexual attraction is built upon being attracted to someone who is different from you,” says Julianne Davis, co-author of *Stop Calling Him Honey... and Start Having Sex*. “We are attracted to those who seem elusive, who we cannot totally control and understand. It is the friction and fascination of being two separate people that keeps the fire alive.”

The key to making it work is to stay flexible, Marshall says. “By necessity, at-home partners become very efficient at coping on their own but they must let go and make space for the returning partner or they will feel excluded.”

He even recommends the at-home partner saves specific jobs and tasks for the returnee, so they can feel immediately involved on a practical level.

It's also important that the travelling half of the relationship stays “plugged in” to the minutiae of family life as much as they can – for example, by making sure they get the school emails as well as the at-home partner. “Let your other half know that you value hearing the details of daily life when you're away,” Marshall says. “They can seem trivial to the stay-at-home partner, but it's the daily detail that keeps you feeling connected.”

### USE YOUR MILES

Don't underestimate the benefit of using your experience – plus any air miles – to organise family breaks.

MrMichael, another contributor to our forum, suggests trips away as a couple. “MrsM and I value our time together without the kids; it lets us do what we want without having to wait until they fly the nest.”

Taking your other half along on a trip can also give them an insight into your world. Forum poster Alex Sing says: “I got my wife to come on several trips to experience what it involves and see that I am generally back at the hotel at 11pm and up at 7am. She now understands.”

There's no doubt that most frequent travellers will do anything to minimise time spent away. “Occasionally I have to route myself on less favourable flights to get home at better times, but you do what you can to make the kids happy, right?” says forum contributor Falcon7x.

In the end, time apart can keep your relationship intact. According to one study, when partners were separated by travel, the pleasure and benefit from interactions went down, but so did opportunities for arguing.

## Tips

### DO

- Keep in close contact. According to a University of Utah study, couples who had longer daily conversations or more frequent calls, emails, text or voicemail messages reported the least change in the quality of their day-to-day interactions with their family when they travelled.
- Spend time with each child on their own before and after your trip. “Until they become teenagers, what every child wants and values more than anything is one-on-one time with a parent,” says Andrew Marshall.
- Take regular holidays without the children where you can be a couple, rather than parents. As well as valuable time together, it can help partners to understand that travel can be hard.
- Have a daily meal together via Skype or Facetime if time differences allow, and talk over recent events in the same way you would if you were at home.
- Keep your sex life going – get creative with Skype and phone calls.



## Tips

### DON'T

- Check your smartphone when you're home with your children or partner. Give them your full attention.
- Feel obliged to bring presents home every time – occasional spontaneous, thoughtful gifts go down better than duty-free purchases.
- Feel guilty. It's the least useful of all human emotions.
- “The idea that there is one way of parenting and if you're not doing it, you're failing, is wrong. We need to move away from comparative parenting and find what works for you,” says Marshall

# THE FUTURE OF LOGISTICS



**Marzena Mróz** talks to **Piotr Sukiennik**, the General Manager of FM Logistic in Poland.

## **FM Logistic celebrates 20 years of its presence in Poland. Is it now more challenging to run the logistics business than two decades ago?**

Yes, indeed in 1995 FM Logistic launched its first platform in Mszczonów near Warsaw. Poland was one of the first two countries for the French operator's international expansion. It is hard to compare the logistics business 20 years ago and today. The reality at that time was radically different from the present times. During the transformation our country's economy began to recover and logistics came in, which previously was a virtually unknown concept. Is it more difficult for us to do business today? Given the huge competition and a high level of customer expectations – yes, it is. However, 20 years ago we were the pioneers who had to overcome many obstacles that do not exist today. Although we were entering the market with the knowledge derived from our French parent company, we had some difficulties. Poland had hardly any relevant regulations, the road infrastructure left a lot to be desired, and our potential customers did not realize how helpful in their business may be to outsource logistics.

However with deep commitment of our team, year by year we strengthened our position, becoming a recognizable brand. Our first customer in Poland was Mars company, but now we have a sizeable portfolio of customers, including most well-known European and world manufacturers, as well as food distributors, cosmetic and pharmaceutical companies.

## **In what way have customers changed their attitude**

## **towards external logistics operators?**

The needs of customers grew along with the development of the market. Today our partners are much more aware and are able to better utilize the opportunities that come with logistics outsourcing. In the past there was a widespread belief that only the largest companies can afford such services, because they generate high costs related to the implementation of the project. Today, more and more small and medium-sized companies are thinking of using professional support, perceiving this first stage as an investment which in the long term may bring considerable profits and enable them to focus on their core business. We are pleased with the fact that customers increasingly see us as an advisor and an expert, not just a service provider. We are sure that only such an approach to cooperation is beneficial to the parties involved. Logistics is a process, and that is why we try to work closely with our customers from the very moment the project is implemented. We organize workshops and are constantly looking for areas to improve. And all of this for the supply chain to be the most effective.

## **How has FM Logistic changed over the years?**

We started with a single platform in Mszczonów, but now we have nine. These include multi-client warehouses, those dedicated to specific customers, as well as specialist ones adapted to handle pharmaceutical, cosmetic or fresh food industry. The total warehouse area is more than 500,000 sqm. In 1995 FM Logistic employed 50 people. Today we are one of

the largest employers in the logistics industry, providing jobs for more than 3,000 people. We also have a sizeable fleet of various types of vehicles adapted for transporting goods that require specific temperature, and we meet the requirements of even the most demanding customers.

## **Where will FM be in 20 years' time? Can you predict how the industry will change?**

We try to plan long-term, but 20 years is a long time and anything can happen. In our planes entitled "Ambition 2022" FM Group intends to reach the turnover of €2 bln. In 2014 we were able to achieve the turnover of €1 bln. Ultimately, we do not focus solely on the financial aspects - our ambition is to become the first choice operator for our customers. Operation-wise we can expect huge changes towards process automation. We are constantly looking for innovation and we are working on innovative projects that are still in the research stage. But bringing them to life is only a matter of time. I can already say about the tests that we run with the AGVs – the automated guided vehicles, that would move around the warehouse without the help of a driver or operator. We are also looking closely at the automated arms that might be useful in co-packing processes. This is certainly the future of logistics, though I must emphasize that in our human factor will still play a key role in the processes. This is because all the process can function well only with the knowledge and assistance of the specialized team.

**Thank you for the interview.**



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# ONES TO WATCH

Why carry your gadgets when you can wear them?

**Steve Dinneen** tries out ten of the best

**T**he more observant among you may have noticed that Apple has started selling watches.

If this is news to you, you might be intrigued to know that there was also a general election last month and that the Duchess of Cambridge recently gave birth to a human baby.

Wearables are a big deal right now, evolving from a niche market aimed largely at fitness fanatics to an increasingly mainstream ad-

dition to your family of gadgets. By 2020, it is predicted that the sector will be worth US\$57 billion in revenue annually.

Where once wearable tech would merely record data to be interpreted by your computer or smartphone, now it acts as a conduit for information, pushing your calls and messages to your wrist and telling you when you have a social media alert.

The more advanced watches are almost threatening to replace your phone altogether,

although none have managed that feat just yet.

While wearables used to be manufactured from utilitarian plastic and rubber, today's cutting-edge products are fashioned from the kind of materials that have for centuries been associated with high-end wristwatches – rose gold, stainless steel and fine leather. Smart devices are also turning to traditional timepieces for design inspiration, with Motorola and LG producing stunning





models that wouldn't look out of place on Bond Street.

As with the smartphone and tablet markets, the big commercial battle to control the eco-system is between Apple and Google with their Watch OS and Android Wear software.

The phone you use will largely prescribe the watch you buy – so far, no Android Wear watch works with an iPhone (although the rumour mill suggests this could change in the not-too-distant future) and Apple's watch is also locked to its own range of devices.

As ever, investing in technology that is in an early stage of development is a risky business. Still, there are some strong products worth considering.

## Japanese precision

### SONY SMARTWATCH 3

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

Sony raised eyebrows when it released the third iteration of its smartwatch running Android Wear instead of its own software. As we've come to expect from Sony, it's packed with high-spec hardware. Its 1.2GHz quad-core processor, 512MB of RAM and in-built GPS make it among the most powerful watches on the market, and it also has wifi and NFC (near field communication). It comes with a "transflective" screen that makes reading in sunlight easier, although the display is noticeably less crisp than that of a top-end phone. This steel version has a pleasing retro look to it, like something out of the original *Battlestar Galactica*. Its battery is a beast compared with most smartwatches and you should comfortably achieve the two-day longevity that Sony claims.



## Press the button

### MISFIT FLASH

**Price:** £50, [store.misfit.com](http://store.misfit.com)

Released at the end of last year, this affordable fitness/sleep monitor comes in the form of a small disc (roughly the size of a two-pence coin) that slips into a watch strap mount. It can even be set into a necklace or kept in your pocket. The entire surface of the unit is a button – when you press it, it displays the time and your stats. The Flash automatically measures calories, steps and distance, as well as sleep quality and duration. It comes in seven colours, is water resistant up to 30 metres, so you can wear it while swimming, and it needs no charging. To look at, it's not all that stylish, but the benefit is you don't have to make a show of wearing it – just hide it in a pocket or put it on a keychain.



## For active people

### FITBIT SURGE

**Price:** £200, [fitbit.com/uk](http://fitbit.com/uk)

With GPS, a heart rate monitor, altimeter, ambient light sensor and digital compass all squeezed into one fairly attractive band, this is a great all-round fitness tracker. It can connect to major smartphone operating systems via Bluetooth and log seven days' worth of info before you have to upload the data to your phone. The accompanying app is slick and provides some genuinely useful information. The battery lasts a stonking seven days. On the downside, it's rather cumbersome for everyday use, and not cheap. If you're looking for an activity tracker with a lot of features, and are not too worried about people asking you about it all the time, this could be the one for you.



## A real watch

### LG G WATCH R

**Price:** £200, [lg.com/uk](http://lg.com/uk)

The LG G Watch R wins the award for having the most superfluous letters, and for being one of the finest Android smartwatches. It's built to look like a traditional watch, and from a distance you could just about mistake it for one, with its round 3.3cm display. Its hardware is at the top end of the scale, with a 1.2GHz processor, 512MB of RAM and 4GB of storage, as well as a heart rate monitor, barometer, accelerometer and compass. As ever, battery life is an inexact science given differences in usage, but it should last two days for most people. If you want a smartwatch that looks like a watch, this is the one for you. It comes in black only.



## Simple is good

### GARMIN VIVOSMART

**Price:** £120, [garmin.com](http://garmin.com)

Garmin has been in the fitness tracking game since its early days, and the Vivomart certainly looks the part. It's a discreet band with a snazzy, glowing OLED screen that can receive notifications from your phone via Bluetooth. It comes with its own app but, even better, is compatible with Apple Health, which is a far prettier interface and means the band can be used as part of a wider health regime. It's available in berry, blue, black, slate and purple. In terms of functionality, it's fairly rudimentary, especially given the upper-mid market price point, with step, distance, calorie and sleep trackers. The battery will last a week between charges and it's compatible with iOS and Android. What it does, it does relatively well, and it looks nice.



## Quality counts

### MICROSOFT BAND

**Price:** £170, [microsoft.com/uk](http://microsoft.com/uk)

The major selling point of Microsoft's new fitness tracker is having a market-leading ten sensors, including heart rate monitor, accelerometer/gyroscope, GPS, microphone, ambient light sensor, skin response detector (so it knows when you're asleep, for example) and UV sensor. It's compatible with iOS and Android, as well as Windows Phone, making it a good all-round device. It will send notifications when you receive calls, texts and social media alerts (via Bluetooth). The slimline 3.3cm x 1cm screen features Microsoft's now-familiar tiles, which are intuitive to interact with. The graphs of your fitness data supplied by Microsoft Health are useful and attractive. Unfortunately, it has no internal storage, so you can't upload a playlist for running, and it's rather uncomfortable to wear. The battery lasts up to 48 hours.



## Tennis anyone?

### ZEPP SENSOR

**Price:** £130, [zepp.com](http://zepp.com)

One of the zanier trackers, the Zepp promises to help you improve your game, as long as that game is golf or tennis. It is sold on the Apple Store as either the Zepp Golf Swing Analyser (with golf glove mount) or the Tennis Swing Analyser (with tennis racquet mount). Both cost £130 and the analysis is done by the corresponding app (free, iOS and Android store). It's unobtrusive, at only 2.8cm x 2.8cm, but promises to map your swing in 3D – tracking power, spin and trajectory – and beam your results to your iOS or Android device. It sounds like a gimmick, but sportsmen and women say the data is accurate and can genuinely help hone their performance.



## King size

### SAMSUNG GEAR S

**Price:** £329, [samsung.com/uk](http://samsung.com/uk)

This is a huge smartwatch. The two-inch curved screen looks great in the showroom but it's a beast when it's on your wrist. It has a built-in SIM card – which you will probably have to pay for depending on your contract – allowing you to take calls and texts without your phone. The display is crisp, with one of the highest resolutions (360 x 480 pixels) and an ambient light sensor that brightens it when outside. There is a heart rate monitor, accelerometer, gyroscope, compass, UV sensor and barometer, and you can even send text messages. It has 4GB of storage and connects to Bluetooth headphones. Battery life is between one and two days. The flexible rubber strap comes in white, grey, red and two shades of blue.



## Pricey quality

### APPLE WATCH

**Price:** From £299, [apple.com/uk](http://apple.com/uk)

With its rectangular design, the Apple Watch appears quaint compared with some of the more stylistically advanced Android pieces. But it soon becomes apparent that – as you'd hope for the price – it's the most finely crafted device out there. The cheapest model is the Sport, which is £299 for the 3.8cm or £339 for the 4.2cm version (with a white, blue, green, pink or black strap). Next is the Apple Watch, which has no less than 20 varieties, from £479 to £949. Lastly, there is the Apple Watch Edition, which costs between £8,000 and £13,500. The more expensive versions simply have nicer straps and gold cases. Each features an elegant "taptic" alert that vibrates on your wrist when you receive a notification.



## A designer's dream

### MOTOROLA MOTO 360

**Price:** £199, [motorola.co.uk](http://motorola.co.uk)

Motorola is enjoying something of a resurgence of late, with some decent mid-range phones and now one of the best smartwatches out there. The Android Wear Moto 360 is handsome, with a large round face, stainless steel case and leather strap (both available in black or grey). It feels like a quality gadget, borrowing something from the craftsmanship of traditional Swiss watches (although, just to be clear, it's no Rolex). It has a heart rate monitor, pedometer, ambient light sensor and wireless charging. The battery should just about last a full day if you're not a heavy user, but it's one of the weaker models in this regard. Overall, this is the best-looking smartwatch you can buy, although it may not be long before its hardware is outdated. Still, Motorola is one to watch.





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# APPS IN THE SKY



We will guide you around airports, help you check what aircraft is landing and which ones are now flying over your head, and if you get bored on the plane, we will suggest good paper and audio books to read and listen on board.



## FLIGHTRADAR

If you're curious what plane is now flying right above you (its model, airline and route), you have to test FlightRadar24. With this app, you can get precise info on virtually every flight which is now in the air. At the moment, all aircraft are equipped with integrated transponders ADS-B that inform of their position and FlightRadar24 uses this data. Moreover, with the app you can watch take-offs and landings from the plane's perspective. Identifying planes is easier thanks to the built-in AR (augmented reality) module. In other words, you look at the screen of your phone or tablet and the app recognizes what you want to see. You simply must have it!



## FLIGHTTRACK 5

If you travel frequently, you should have an application that will keep monitoring your flights, departure times, gates and any delays. FlightTrack 5 will guide you around an unfamiliar airport, show you on a map where is the delayed plane you are waiting for. In just one place you can also check the weather along

with satellite imagery. With FlightTrack 5 you will also inform your family where you are right now – of course if your plane offers WiFi on board.



## SKYSCANNER

Skyscanner compares millions of flights by numerous airlines to offer you available cheap tickets. It instantly scans offers, from chartered flights to no-frills carriers, looking for the best solution for your needs. With this app you will find flights quickly and easily. It's used by 35 million cost-conscious travellers, which by itself is the best proof how effective and convenient Skyscanner is. The flight search will help you save money whether you're aiming at cheap last minute flights for a spontaneous getaway or good prices for planned long holidays. Interestingly, although the app is available in 30 languages and on numerous markets, it was created by Polish programmers. A must have.



## KINDLE

How to kill the boredom during the flight? Perhaps by reading? And the best idea is to use the

solution offered by Amazon, that is the Kindle. The name refers to an excellent e-book reader, but also a separate application available on mobile apps, giving your tablet or phone the same functions that are available on the reader. You can also take notes and, most importantly, fully synchronize data between all your devices, so you can start reading a book on your Kindle and continue reading on the plane using your smartphone or tablet. Useful.



## AUDIOTEKA

Or perhaps instead of reading you feel like listening to some good music? It can be even more convenient during a flight. That's why it's worth installing on your device the largest Polish audiobook store called Audioteka. The app offers more than 3,000 books read in Polish and 500 ones for language learning. Audioteka is known for its blockbuster audio books released as radio plays. These include "The Game of Thrones", "Blade Runner" and many others. All you need to have is good headphones and then even the longest flight will become a pleasant experience.





#### Nowoczesna flota

Maksymalnie trzyletnie, jednakowo oznakowane samochody.

#### Profesjonalizm

Wysokie standardy obsługi klienta. Regularnie szkolona kadra kierowców.

#### Innowacyjny system

Szerokie możliwości zarządzania indywidualnym kontem.

#### Komfort

Monitoring kursu online. Dogodne formy zamawiania i płatności.



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EcoCar S.A. to najnowocześniejsza firma taksówkowa w Polsce, która dysponuje własną, jednorodną flotą maksymalnie trzyletnich samochodów, spełniających najwyższe standardy w zakresie norm emisji spalin. Innowacyjny system informatyczny pozwala na pełny monitoring kursów oraz generowanie szczegółowych zestawień przejazdów. Różnorodne formy płatności i sposoby zamawiania taksówek odpowiadają na potrzeby najbardziej wymagających klientów.



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# 4 HOURS IN... PHILADELPHIA

*Tom Otley* goes on an art tour of the US city, taking in its murals and masterworks



## PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART

Philadelphia has had its problems, but is now on the up. This city of 1.5 million people on the eastern seaboard, a 90-minute train ride south of New York and two hours north of Washington DC, went through tough times in the 1980s, but credits part of its recovery to art.

It was briefly the capital of the United States (1774-1800) and, while politics moved to Washington DC, it continued to be a major centre of industry, commerce and wealth for more than a century.

The art collection built up over that time can be seen in the huge Philadelphia Museum of Art at the end of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. Masters such as Cézanne, Duchamp, Renoir, El Greco, Rubens, Turner, Manet, Monet and Picasso are among those represented, and there are also collections

of ceramics, sculpture and furniture, and even entire original room interiors imported from China, Japan and London. Visiting exhibitions are also staged.

From inside you can find a window and watch people running up the steps of the museum – just like Rocky. There's a statue of the character near the bottom on the right.

If you think people come to Philly for the culture, bear in mind this prop from one of the films is one of the most visited spots in the whole of the city. Open Tues-Sun 10am-5pm (main building until 8.45pm Wed and Fri); entry US\$20. [philamuseum.org](http://philamuseum.org)

## BARNES FOUNDATION

There's nowhere in the world like the Barnes Foundation, which holds one of the globe's largest – and finest – collections

of post-Impressionist and early modern paintings.

Since 2012 it has been housed in an elegant new building about a 15-minute walk along Benjamin Franklin Parkway.

It includes the largest single grouping of Renoir works (181), 69 pieces by Cézanne and seven by Van Gogh, as well as paintings by Matisse, Picasso, Degas and Modigliani – and since they are never lent out, they can only be seen here, hung just as Dr Albert C Barnes intended, with the emphasis on education and interesting juxtapositions across the ages. Open Wed-Mon 10am-5pm; weekday US\$22, weekend US\$25. [barnesfoundation.org](http://barnesfoundation.org)

## READING TERMINAL MARKET

You'll need a snack by now, and Reading Terminal Market, about a 20-minute walk



away at North 12th and Arch Streets, is a good place for a pit stop.

It has more than 100 food outlets selling artisanal cheese, fruit and vegetables and speciality and farm-fresh produce, as well as dozens of restaurants.

The building dates back to the 1890s, when the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company purchased a block of the city for its new railway terminal only to find that the market holders trading there refused to move.

The compromise was a market created under the train station, so if you feel rumbling, it's less likely to be your stomach, and more likely to be a train, although these now run underground to nearby Jefferson station. Open 8am-6pm (Sun 9am-5pm). [readingterminalmarket.org](http://readingterminalmarket.org)

### MURAL ARTS TOUR

Already on your travels you may have noticed the city's many and varied murals, on

the end of houses, spare walls, and overlooking parking lots.

"Art ignites change" is how the Philadelphia tourism people put it – more than 3,500 have been painted since 1984, first as an anti-graffiti measure and then as part of the Mural Arts Programme.

Guided tours (from US\$20) depart from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, about a five-minute walk away on North Broad Street, but you will spot them everywhere. Don't miss Common Threads, a short stroll north on Broad and Spring Garden Streets – when unveiled in 1998, at eight storeys high, it was the largest, most expensive mural.

Since then, the scheme has expanded to include inmates and victims of crime as part of a restorative justice programme, with only 13 per cent of participants reoffending compared with the city-wide rate of 66 per cent over three years. [muralarts.org](http://muralarts.org)

### CITY TAVERN

Philadelphia is renowned as the home of the (cracked) Liberty Bell, as well as Independence Hall, but assuming you like your history interactive, finish your tour with a sit-down meal at the outstanding City Tavern.

A faithful reproduction of the original venue dating from 1773, where everyone from George Washington to Thomas Jefferson dined, it is filled with antiques (courtesy of the National Parks Service) and has creaking wooden floors, authentic furnishings and live music.

Liveried waiting staff serve original dishes such as West Indies peppercorn soup, colonial turkey pot pie and Chesapeake-style crab cakes, while drinks include Colonial Raspberry Shrub – fruit juice vinegar sweetened with sugar and spiked with alcohol.

Lunch from 11.30am daily; dinner Mon-Sat from 4pm, Sun 3pm. 138 South Second Street; tel +1 215 413 1443; [citytavern.com](http://citytavern.com)



Already on your travels you may have noticed the city's many and varied murals, on the end of houses, spare walls, and overlooking parking lots. People in Philadelphia believe that art ignites change.





# 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)

### Ticket for miles

*I've booked a cruise from Venice to Istanbul. Now I'm looking for plane tickets, but most search engines don't show such a connection. I have to separately buy a plane ticket from Warsaw to Venice with a change and then a second one from Istanbul to Warsaw. Is it possible to buy one ticket for this trip? I was thinking about redeeming my points from Miles and More programme - would such a combination be possible? My travel agent says that I'll have to pay through the nose for various charges and taxes.*

**Andrzej**

Dear Andrzej,  
Indeed, a lot of search engines have limited choices and allow you to search only for one-way or return tickets. However, there are professional portals where you can select more advanced options, such as a return from another airport. The most convenient way is to use the help of a consultant. I'm sure your travel agent will be able to propose several options of the flight. I've checked the available connections and found out that many flights that meet your criteria in terms of price and time, are offered by Star Alliance member airlines (Lufthansa, Austrian Airlines, SWISS, LOT, Turkish Airlines).

Prices start at PLN 1,200 and most of that amount is, in fact, airport and fuel charges.

It would be beneficial for you to use a prize ticket bought for the miles collected in your loyalty programme. You can book it online, and Miles and More system enables you to search for connections to Venice and return flights from Istanbul. Normally such a ticket would cost you around 30,000 miles. You can take a chance and wait for two weeks before departure. Then the ticket in Europe can be booked for only 15,000 miles (in Smart offer). All fees (airport taxes and fuel charges) will be charged additionally. In this case this would cost about €200. In 2015 it's still possible to pay those charges with your miles. This applies, however, only to European flights and costs 18,000 miles. I know that a lot of passengers use this option.

### Transfer to Monaco

*My boss is going to a conference in Monte Carlo. The organizers will provide accommodation, but I must arrange his transfer from the airport. The information leaflet states that the best way is to fly to Nice. Is the transfer from that airport convenient? Does it take a lot of time? Should I look for connections to Monte Carlo, or to Monaco? There are different names of the place on the Internet. What is the cost of transport? We were able to buy a cheap ticket to Nice much earlier.*

**Kasia**

Dear Kasia,  
Monte Carlo is an administrative part (district) of the Principality of Monaco. You can opt for an air connection to Monaco, which doesn't have any airport that serves planes (the nearest aircraft airport is in Nice). Monaco has, however, a heliport which serves regular connections between the airport in Nice and Monaco. This is by far the fastest option to reach Monaco. Helicopters take off from Terminal 2 at Nice airport and the whole flight takes about 6 minutes. Please note that the flights are run only during the day, after dark it's no longer possible to reach Monaco by air. These are shuttle helicopters, so during peak hours there are take-offs literally every few minutes. However, it's not the cheapest option. A one-way ticket costs €150 per person and you can't combine the helicopter flights with your plane connection to Nice on a single ticket. You would have to buy two separate tickets for the journey. You should also remember about the minimum transfer times in Nice, which is 60 minutes. From the heliport in Monaco you can take a taxi to the hotel.

Another option to get to Monaco is by train. A one-way ticket costs €5 per person. The trip is quite short and takes about 20 minutes. During the tourist season the trains tend to be quite crowded, and business travellers aren't too fond of the train station in Monaco because of its multi-level design.

The simplest option is to request the transfer by the hotel or use a taxi. It's the most convenient method, because you are taken directly to the hotel. A taxi will cost €80-100. During peak hours the trip can take a lot of time due to heavy traffic.





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Aktualnie projektanci wnętrz kuchennych proponują proste formy wkomponowane w otwartą 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

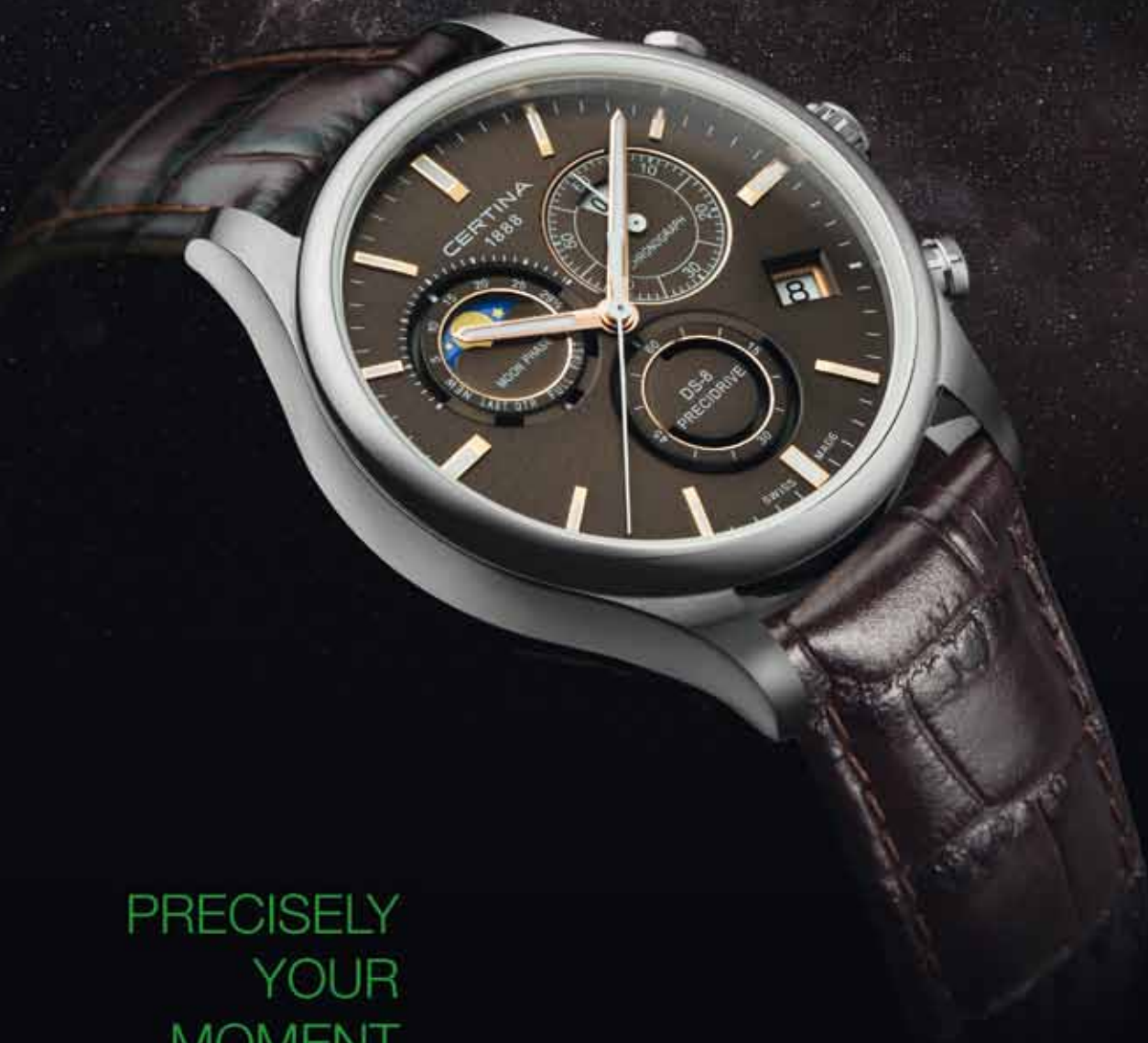
kryje innowacyjne rozwiązania i zaawansowaną technologię która zapewnia urządzeniom maksymalną samodzielność i efektywność. Kontrolowane przez elektroniczne systemy sensorowe, pracują oszczędnie i cicho, z gwarancją doskonałych efektów.

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