

Business Traveller Poland

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Business Traveller Poland

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VIEW COSMOPOLITAN WARSZAWA

WINE IN THE SKY

How does wine taste 11 kilometres above the ground? It turns out that slightly different than at home or in a wine bar. It is the third time when we have awarded airlines for serving high quality wine that truly deserves the Sky Vineyards accolade. This year the 12 participating airlines provided nearly 70 samples of wine and the undisputed winner of that swept up most awards was Singapore Airlines. However, many wines served by other airlines are also good enough for wine aficionado to feel on board as if they were in their favourite restaurant.

Divided into two sub-panels, the jury that consisted of the editors of a wine magazine and sommeliers, tasted wine in the following categories: sweet, sparkling, and white and red served in economy, business and first class respectively. This time most carriers decided to present wine served in business and first class cabins, which is barely surprising, as high-quality wines are served mostly in those premium classes. In this issue you will find the complete list of all the winners as well as interesting comments of the members of the jury.

Enjoy your reading!

Marzena Mróz
Marzena Mróz

Najlepiej Zaprojektowany Fotel w Klasie Biznes



Połączenie komfortu, luksusu oraz nowoczesnej technologii
pozwoiliło nam stworzyć doskonały fotel w klasie biznes.

Podróżuj z nami - Najlepszą Linią Lotniczą na Świecie.

qatarairways.com/pl





Airline

Lufthansa

NEW CONNECTION FROM RZESZÓW TO MUNICH

Lufthansa will introduce a new direct connection between Rzeszów and Munich - Germany's second largest airport and a 5-star Lufthansa's hub located in the south of the country. Daily services on this route will commence on 28 March 2016, served by Canadair Regional Jet CRJ900 aircraft, which can take up to 78 passengers on board. Flight LH 1618 will take off from Munich at 10:45 am, reaching Rzeszów after 35 minutes, at 12:20. The return flight LH 1619 will depart Rzeszów at 12:55 and land in Munich at 2:30 pm.

"I am certain that the new route will appeal to passengers travelling from Rzeszów, as have flights to Frankfurt, especially because the port in Munich offers Polish passengers a very convenient flight network of more than 90 connections to European cities and almost 20 destination in the North America and Asia. Lufthansa, along with other member airlines of the Group, offers from Munich 130 connections to various destinations around the world," says Frank Wagner, Country Manager Lufthansa Poland.

The airport lies nearly 35 kilometers to the north-east of the Bavarian capital. Its Terminal 2 constructed exclusively for Lufthansa serves all flights of the carrier, as well as the connections operated by other Star Alliance member airlines. T2 has received multiple accolades in the prestigious World Airport Awards ranking that lists it as the world's fifth best terminal in the world. It also wins top marks for the comfort and quality it provides. It also ranks high third place in "leisure facilities" category, right behind the terminals in Singapore and Seoul. The airport in Munich is Europe's first to have been awarded five stars by Skytrax Institute.

Beauty

La Mer

INSPIRED BY THE SEA

Pure, perfect and concentrated form of Crystal Miracle Broth™ brings the promise of a journey back in time. La Mer presents skin care products inspired by the sea and the never-ending quest for perfection. All this started with the discovery with which the age does not matter anymore. The Serum Essence the groundbreaking first treatment

From the new Genaissance de la Mer Collection, has originated from pure Crystal Miracle Broth™,



which accelerates the natural process of skin rejuvenation. Lines and wrinkles become less visible, the skin is visibly smoother, the production of natural collagen and elastin is improved, the pores shrink and the skin barrier is reinforced.

The work on the serum began three years ago when a scientist from Max Huber Research Labs in New York discovered pure crystals of the Miracle Broth™. It took a lot of experiments to recreate the phenomenon that lies at the heart of Genaissance de la Mer. Combining Crystal Miracle Broth™ formula with rare ingredients found in the sea and the latest technology, Genaissance de la Mer fills the skin with the revitalising energy of the sea and rejuvenates it.



Medicine

CKR Konstancin

HEALTH SYMPOSIA

The Centre for Comprehensive Rehabilitation in Konstancin is one of the largest rehabilitation centres in the Mazovia region, which specializes both in treatment of musculoskeletal diseases and performing specialized orthopaedic operations. The centre also conducts research and other scientific activities, such as organising symposia for doctors, physiotherapists, as well as the managers of healthcare facilities. Such events are an opportunity to exchange knowledge and experience, attracting a lot of interest among both participants and the media. The main pride of this unique centre is its highly qualified medical personnel that uses the latest treatment methods. The centre has been providing rehabilitation services since 1992 when the first rehabilitation centre was opened here. This was soon followed by first inpatient rehabilitation programmes organised by the institution. Later, following several structural and ownership reorganisations, the centre launched new facilities, such as the cryochamber or the swimming pool. The centre also boasts now the Department of Spine and Orthopaedic Surgery along with the state-of-the-art operating theatre, as well as the Diagnostic Imaging Laboratory. In 2010 the centre opened the Department of Neurological Rehabilitation with the Neurological Clinic. This was followed by creating a nationwide network of outpatient rehabilitation clinics; more info at ckr.pl



TWÓJ OSOBISTY BARISTA

Ekspres Incanto Executive można porównać do dzieła sztuki zaprojektowanego z myślą o doskonałości. Dzięki zaawansowanym technologiom, takim jak ceramiczny młynek czy podwójny bojler, błyskawicznie przygotowuje doskonałą kawę.



Saeco

Saeco Incanto HD9712 to ekspres dla prawdziwych kawowych ekspertów. Można w nim przygotować dowolną ilość latte macchiato i cappuccino, a każda filiżanka napoju będzie tak dobra, jak poprzednia. Wykonany z ceramiki młynek doskonale mieli ziarno, co pozwala wodzie równo przepływać przez blok zaparządzający, wydobywając najczystsza esencję bez posmaku przypalonych ziaren. Ponadto, w ekspresie Incanto można dostosować grubość mielenia, wybierając spośród pięciu grubości – od najdrobniejszego w celu przygotowania prawdziwego bogatego w aromat espresso, po najgrubsze – do zaparzenia łagodniejszej kawy. Niezależnie od tego, czy wybieramy latte macchiato, cappuccino lub café latte, każdy napój będzie gotowy w kilka sekund. Karafka na mleko ekspresu do kawy Saeco jest wyposażona w wygodną funkcję automatycznego czyszczenia, co oznacza, że dwa cykle płukania parą czyszczą obieg mleczny po każdym użyciu, gwarantując świeży smak mleka za każdym razem.

Kawowi eksperci, choć lubią eksperymentować z nowymi smakami, z pewnością znają parametry swojej ulubionej kawy. Marka Saeco doskonale to rozumie i dzięki innowacyjnej funkcji pamięci, która umożliwia ustawienie odpowiedniego czasu parzenia, mocy i temperatury, z ekspresem Incanto zawsze otrzymają oni filiżankę wymienionej kawy zaparzonej zgodnie z preferencjami. Dodatkowo ekspres jest wyposażony w opatentowany system poprawy struktury cremy i kawy. Jego pokrętko, wygodnie umieszczone na kraniku ekspresu, umożliwia płynną regulację ciśnienia w celu zmiany struktury napoju; cena 7609 zł.



Germany

Christmas fairs

A FEAST FOR THE SENSES

Deliciously fragrant and exuding the Christmas atmosphere thanks to charming holiday tunes and mouth-watering culinary delicacies, German Christmas fairs simply appeal to all your senses. The most popular are the fairs in Nuremberg opened by Jesus Child himself (Christkindlmarkt) and the Striezelmarkt in Dresden that owes its name to the Christmas strudel. Large traditional fairs are held in more than 150 cities, and the local ones in a virtually every town and neighbourhood, some near the Polish border. You can, for example, go to the fair in Königsstein fortress or the ones in Cottbus, Neubrandenburg and Stralsund. Berlin hosts nearly 60 fairs, some truly unique. These include the fair in Gandarmenmarkt next to Charlottenburg palace, and St Lucia fair in Prenzlauer Berg district. Most fairs are held between 23 November and 24 December. The overview of the Christmas fairs can be found at germany.travel/christmas

Beauty

Dr Irena Eris



GIFT OF BEAUTY

All of us want to give their loved ones something completely unique for Christmas.

If you are still unsure about what could bring joy to the ones you care of, and at the same time you are looking for something original, then why not give them the Gift of Beauty? It is a unique, elegant and discreet gift for special occasions that can be used in all Dr Irena Eris Cosmetic Institutes and Beauty Partner facilities. This sort of a gift does not impose a person a specific treatment or product, as it entitles the holder to individually tailored beauty services, as well as purchase of Dr Irena Eris products. The Gift of Beauty has one more advantage - it is a perfect surprise for both him and her.

Hotel

Polonia Palace

TASTING MENU

The historic Polonia Palace hotel located in the very centre of Warsaw has introduced into its Strauss restaurant a new seasonal tasting menu created by the head chef Grzegorz Goleń. The new dishes are based primarily on the concept of the traditional Polish cuisine. Until Christmas the menu will be dominated by goose meat. From appetizers such as Warmia goose-breast and dumplings stuffed with goose meat, through consommé with small dumplings, to the delicious leg of this underestimated bird. And this is just the beginning! Other delicacies will appear in the menu after Christmas! Anyone can come here and try a three-course meal for PLN 99, that you can compose to your liking from the starters, soups and main dishes available in the menu. The atmospheric environment and the ambience of the restaurant, as well as the entire Polonia Palace hotel, will put you in a proper mood, as they are in a perfect harmony with the flavours of the served dishes.





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Odkryj najpiękniejsze jarmarki bożonarodzeniowe w Niemczech! Poczuj magię świąt i rozkoszuj się niezwykłą atmosferą Adwentu. Kolorowe karuzele dla dzieci, unoszący się w powietrzu zapach grzanego wina i prażonych migdałów oraz radość na twarzach zwiedzających to tylko kilka powodów, aby odwiedzić kiermasz adwentowy w Niemczech. **Najpiękniejsze z nich znajdziesz na www.germany.travel – oferty specjalne**

_magia Bożego Narodzenia



Beauty

Shiseido

NEW FRAGRANCE

If you are looking for a perfume for a Christmas gift, then look no further than Ever Bloom fragrance by the world-renowned Shiseido brand. The fragrance is advertised with the slogan: "There are women you notice and those you remember". Ever Bloom is more than a perfume: it is an attitude, a state of mind. The subtle sophistication included in every drop. A white scent enrobed in light that expresses the inner beauty of a woman. Ever Bloom has a unique fragrance pyramid, developed exclusively for Shiseido. It is far from being a classic, linear sequence of the well-known head, heart and base notes. Here it is composed around two accords that together create a truly unique aura. The Radiance Accord (cyclamen, lotus, rose essence) brings pure, natural impression of the mesmerizing freshness; Presence Accord (orange blossom, gardenia, Sykolide musk) expresses sensuality, addiction and tenderness.

The brand promises that: "Over time, Ever Bloom will reveal its composed self-confidence and will remain close to your skin and heart. It will certainly appeal to those you meet and seduce those you know".

Ever Bloom fragrance was created by Aurélien Guichard. Available in 30 ml (PLN 214), 50 ml (PLN 306) and 90 ml (PLN 423).

Airline

LOT

HUB IN WARSAW

More than twice as many check-in desks, new bag drop desks, extended zone for passengers of the LOT Business and Premium Economy Class, one of the quickest fast tracks in Europe or solutions intended for families with children. These are only some new, comfortable solutions for LOT customers. In this way, the carrier is building the most convenient transit airport in this part of the world. From now on, there are over 20 desks for economy class passengers which guarantee a quick check-in without queues.



In the LOT Economy Class check-in zone, there are also desks intended for families, a waiting area for children and desks for elder passengers or those requiring special care. For LOT Business and Premium Economy Class passengers, the carrier has opened a special, 150-metre long zone with 10 check-in desks and relaxation zone. Passengers can also use a renovated fast track. Only 76 metres, which is fewer than 100 steps, from the security control area, there is the LOT Business Lounge Polonez with an entirely new standard of food, dedicated chef and newly arranged interior.



Technology

BOSE

NEXT-GENERATION HEADPHONES

BOSE QuietComfort 25 are headphones with active noise-cancellation technology, making them an ideal companion for people who feel overwhelmed with the noises of the great world. Not only do they provide the best sound in its class that BOSE is famous for, but also come equipped with the state-of-the-art Acoustic Noise Cancelling technology to cut the outside noise and focus on your favourite music or films. With the lightweight design of the headphones, you can easily wear them all day. The distinctive design and the highest quality materials won the QuietComfort 25 the 2015 Red Dot award for the unique blend of the innovative technology and design.

The headphones are available in two colours - black and white, as well as in two versions: for mobile Apple devices and those running under Android operating system. Price: PLN 1,299; bose.pl



Serfowanie z Microsoft Surface

Jesteś jednym z prekursorów kitesurfingu w Polsce i jednym z najbardziej utytułowanych kitesurferów globu. Jak zaczęła się twoja przygoda z tym sportem?

Tomek Janiak: Zaczęło się na plaży w Łebie w 2000 roku, kiedy Sebastian Ginter, wówczas ekspert w tej „egzotycznej” dyscyplinie, pozwolił mi posterować swoim latawcem. Wrażenie było niesamowite, choć muszę przyznać, że nie zakochałem się w kajacie od pierwszego wejrzenia. Dopiero po dwóch latach pływania zamieniłem deskę z żaglem na deskę z latawcem. Z windsurfingu przeszedłem na kitesurfing. W międzyczasie – jeszcze na kasetach VHS... (takie kiedyś były technologie, jeśli pamiętasz....) – podpatrywałem jak na kitesurfingu pływają zawodowcy. I jakoś to poszło.

No właśnie... technologie mają dziś niebagatelne znaczenie w sporcie. Czy jest dla nich miejsce również w kitesurfingu?

Tomek Janiak: Kitesurfing jest naszpikowany nowymi technologiami. Nie wyobrażam sobie treningów na kajacie czy prowadzenia mojej szkółki kitesurfingowej na Helu bez wykorzystywania nowoczesnych urządzeń. Od niedawna używam Microsoft Surface, na którym – za pomocą specjalnego pióra Surface Pen – szkicuję i projektuję deski do kitesurfingu typu split oraz twin-tip, a także hydrokryłta do kitefoila. Pulpit mojego Surface jest po brzegi wypełniony aplikacjami współpracującymi z urządzeniami ubieralnymi, dzięki którym mogę analizować dane z treningów i na bieżąco monitorować kondycję. Można powiedzieć, że surfuję z – nomen omen – Surface.

Jako kitesurfer większość czasu spędzasz poza domem. Jak sobie z tym radzisz?

Tomek Janiak: Żyję na walizkach i większość dni w roku spędzam na desce z latawcem, ponieważ profesjonalny kitesurfing to wymagający sport. Z jednej strony daje mnóstwo frajdy i adrenaliny, ale z drugiej pozwala też na totalny relaks i wyciszenie. To, co znalazłem w życiu na desce z latawcem – wolność, pasję, mobilność, połączenie żywiołów – odkryłem w nowych technologiach właśnie dzięki Surface.

Pojawia się pytanie – czym jest w zasadzie Surface? Tablet kojarzy się z mobilnymi urządzeniami do konsumpcji treści. Laptop to produktywność i tych treści tworzenie. Microsoft Surface Pro 4 to uniwersalne urządzenie, które łączy w sobie możliwości laptopa z praktycznością tabletu. Do tego wyrafinowany design, najwyższa jakość i technologie Microsoft. Microsoft Surface Pro 4. Tablet, który zastąpi Twój komputer.

Urządzenie ultra mobilne:

- Obudowa: ze stopu magnezu – trzy razy lżejsza od aluminiowej.

Waga: od 766 g

- Grubość: 8,38 mm

- Czas pracy: do 9 godzin odtwarzania video

Urządzenie pobudzające do kreatywnej pracy dzięki technologii Microsoft:

- Wyświetlacz: 12,3 cala, dotykowy PixelSense™, rozdzielczość: 2736 x 1824
- Kamera z przodu: 5,0 megapiksel z funkcją rozpoznawania twarzy i automatycznego logowania
- Kamera z tyłu: 8,0 megapikseli z funkcją autofocus i możliwością nagrywania filmów rozdzielczości 1080p HD
- Podświetlana klawiatura Surface Pro 4 Type Cover w różnych kolorach
- Pióro Surface Pen z 1024 poziomami nacisku i zapewniające naturalne doświadczenie pisania
- podpórka wielopozycyjna Kickstand

Wydajny komputer:

- Procesor: Intel® Core™ m3, i5 lub i7 szóstej generacji, w zależności od wybranej konfiguracji
- Pamięć: 4 GB, 8 GB lub 16 GB
- System operacyjny: Windows 10 Pro
- Porty: USB 3.0, pełnowymiarowy, czytnik kart microSD, port Mini DisplayPort, gniazdo słuchawkowe, Surface Connect



www.microsoft.com/surface





Sky Vineyards 2015

WE HAVE CHOSEN THE BEST WINES SERVED BY AIRLINES!

Can you enjoy fine wine 11 kilometres above the ground? Definitely! It is the third time when Business Traveller Poland along with Poland's most prestigious wine periodical Magazyn Wino, have awarded airlines for serving high quality wine that truly deserves the Sky Vineyards 2015 accolade.



Winners

SKY VINEYARDS 2015

Best sparkling wine

1. Brut Réserve, Champagne, Charles Heidsieck, SINGAPORE AIRLINES
2. Brut, Champagne, Laurent Perrier, BRUSSELS AIRLINES
3. Dom Pérignon 2004, Champagne, SINGAPORE AIRLINES

Best White Wine in Economy Class

1. Cuvée Anna White 2015, Stellenbosch, Kaapzicht, AIR BERLIN

Best Red Wine in Economy Class

1. Merlot 2014, Pays d'Oc, Robert Olivier, SAS

Best White Wine in Business Class

1. Sauvignon Blanc 2013, Collio, Livon, BRUSSELS AIRLINES
2. Sauvignon Blanc 2014, Awetere Valley-Marlborough, Yealands, SINGAPORE AIRLINES
3. Chenin Blanc 2014, Cederberg, Cederberg Private Cellar, SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS

Best Red Wine in Business Class

1. Director's Reserve 2011, Stellenbosch, Tokara, SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS
2. Château Godeau 2010, Saint Émilion Grand Cru, BRUSSELS AIRLINES
3. Brioso Single Vineyard 2012, Mendoza, Susana Balbo, LAN/TAM AIRLINES

Best White Wine in First Class

1. Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese GL 2013, Mosel, Reichsgraf von Kesselstatt, SINGAPORE AIRLINES
2. Schlossberg GG 2014, Rheingau, Schloss Vollrads, LUFTHANSA
3. Chardonnay 2012, Mornington Peninsula, Kooyong, SINGAPORE AIRLINES

Best Red Wine in First Class

1. Château Léoville Poyferré 2004, Saint Julien, SINGAPORE AIRLINES
2. F de Fuentespina 2011, Ribera del Duero, Bodegas Fuentespina, LUFTHANSA
3. O'riada Shiraz 2013, Canberra District, Clonakilla - SINGAPORE AIRLINES

Best sweet wine

1. 20 Year Old Tawny, Vinho do Porto, Taylor's, SINGAPORE AIRLINES
2. Cape Tawny Classic Collection, KWV, SOUTH AFRICAN AIRLINES
3. LBV 2009, Vinho do porto, Croft, LAN/TAM AIRLINES

Best Wine List Design

1. Lufthansa
2. Alitalia
3. Aeroflot

Most awards in this year's edition of our contest have been swept up by Singapore Airlines. However, many wines served by other airlines are also good enough for wine aficionado to feel on board as if they were in their favourite restaurant. "One might argue that for the most reliable results we should have held the wine tasting session at the altitude of 11,000 metres and use exactly the same glasses as the ones available on aircraft," joked some of the members of the jury. However, for obvious reasons, the Sky Vineyards wine tasting was held on the ground, in the business lounge of Endorfina restaurant in Warsaw.

The jury were the regular members of the tasting panel of *Magazyn Wino* - a bimonthly that has been promoting wine drinking culture for 13 years. They are: the deputy

editor-in-chief Ewa Wieleżyńska, the editor-in-chief Tomasz Prange-Barczyński, editors Anrzej Daszkiewicz and Grzegorz Wajner, as well as the panel secretary Paweł Bravo. This year they were joined by professional sommeliers and multiple Polish champions - Tomasz Kolecki and Andrzej Strzelczyk, along with Szymon Milonas from WSET (Wine and Spirit Education Trust).

The competition for best wines served on board aircraft has now been a fixed point in the calendar of wine events in Poland. The 12 participating airlines provided nearly 70 samples of wine.

Divided into two sub-panels, the jury tasted wine in the following categories: sweet, sparkling, and white and red served in economy, business and first class respectively. This time most carriers decided to present wine served in business and first class cabins, which is barely surprising,



Divided into two sub-panels, the jury tasted wine in the following categories: sweet, sparkling, and white and red served in economy, business and first class respectively.



From the left: Monika Leszczyńska (Lufthansa), Anna Włodarczyk (Lufthansa), Adrian Kubicki (LOT), Beata Wieteska (Aeroflot), Barbara Grabowska (Singapore Airlines), Peter Tomasz (Singapore Airlines), Sebastian Rieckesmann (LAN), Wanda Brociek (SAS), Katarzyna Tomczak (South African Airways), Marta Orlof (British Airways), Emil Delibashev (British Airways).



Marzena Mróz, the editor-in-chief of Business Traveller, and its publisher Robert Grzybowski. From left Maciej Prędko, advertising manager.



Behind the scenes – Anna Włodarczyk and Monika Leszczyńska (Lufthansa) and Adrian Kubicki, executive director corporate communications LOT Polish Airlines.

Special awards

SKY VINEYARDS 2015

Wine with exceptional food matching qualities that ideally pairs with the menu offered on board

- **White:** Chardonnay 2014, Elgin, Oak Valley, BRITISH AIRWAYS
- **Red:** Peppoli 2012, Chianti Classico, Antinori, LOT

GRAND PRIX

SKY VINEYARDS 2015

SINGAPORE AIRLINES



Peter Tomasch, regional public relations manager Europe Singapore Airlines

as high-quality wines are served mostly in those premium classes.

“Anyone who has ever been on a long-haul flight knows that at high altitude our perception and senses are slightly dulled,” explains Tomasz Prange-Barczyński. “In addition to specific conditions (such as the altitude, air pressure, air quality and the specific humidity), there are also other factors, such as stress and, despite best efforts made by carriers, some travel-related discomfort. All of this means that high in the air we need slightly stronger stimuli than on the ground - at home, in a fine restaurant or our favourite wine bar,” adds the editor-in-chief of Magazyn Wino.

No one, therefore, seemed surprised by a large number of distinct wines from the New World that offer firm aromas. Up in the air they seem slightly more appealing than subtle European wines that are more appreciated on the ground. The jury had to take those qualities into consideration and at least try to imagine how each wine would taste... at the altitude of 10 kilometres.

Sometimes the classics turned out to be unbeatable. In the “sparkling wine” category, all medals were presented to champagnes, as a reminder that there is only one king here. However in the “sweet wine” category (where Port wine was an easy winner) an unexpected medal was awarded to a fortified wine from RSA.

Compared with the previous editions of the contest, the economy class had quite a modest representation. It must be remembered, however, that many airlines have either given up on serving alcohol in this class or significantly reduced the offer there. The winners in this category included Air Berlin and SAS.

Also, in contrast with the previous editions, this time many wines have truly appealed to the members of our jury. “Even if in a particular category the winner was chosen unanimously, we still had a large pool of good wines among which we could choose the second and third place winners,” says Prange-Barczyński.

“You need to bear in mind that up in the air it is the passenger who is the ultimate juror, and depending on their mood on a particular day they may choose one wine over the other. Who knows - perhaps on their return trip, they will choose something completely different?” adds the editor-in-chief of Magazyn Wino. One thing is for sure: the results of the Sky Vineyards contest have proved that wine lovers can feel completely safe in the air. As well as well-cared for.



magazyn
WINO



Wanda Brociek,
country manager SAS



Anna Włodarczyk,
Lufthansa press office



Katarzyna Tomczak,
South African Airways



Beata Wieteska,
sales manager Aeroflot



Robert Grzybowski, the publisher of Business Traveller, Peter Tomasz, regional public relations manager Europe Singapore Airlines and Tomasz Prange-Barczyński, the editor-in-chief of Magazyn Wino.



Adrian Kubicki, executive director corporate communications LOT Polish Airlines



Sebastian Rieckesmann, sales manager Switzerland & Austria LATAM AIRLINES GROUP



Emil Delibashev, commercial manager Balkans&Hungary British Airways

W BEIJING CHANG'AN HOTEL



As the name may suggest, W Chang'an is situated in Chang'an - one of Beijing's diplomatic and commercial districts. The area is a blend of modernity and history.

Iconic and stylish - these two words best describe the spirit of the five-star W Chang'an Hotel in Beijing. W Hotels & Resorts is an unusual luxury brand owned by the hotel industry giant - Starwood Hotels & Resorts. The "W" brand is present in almost 50 cities worldwide, including London, Bangkok, New York or Barcelona. The first W hotel was opened in 1998 in New York City. The brand has been present in Europe for a relatively short time, with the first W opened in 2008 in Istanbul. The first property in Western Europe was launched in Barcelona in 2009.

The concept is mainly aimed at younger customers who value innovative solutions, stylish interiors and a laid-back atmosphere. All hotels instead of the lobby feature the so-called living room, while the W letter is used to describe almost all hotel services you can find here. Swimming pools are referred to as "Wet"; laundry bags are called "Wash" while the concierge is simply "Whatever Whenever".

WHERE IS IT?

As the name may suggest, W Chang'an is situated in Chang'an - one of Beijing's diplomatic and commercial districts. The area is a blend of modernity and history - there's the Silk Market and the famous Forbidden City, it's also close from here to the Tiananmen Square and the Yuan Ming Yuan Imperial Garden. From the hotel windows you will also see the popular CCTV Tower as

well as the Olympic Stadium. The hotel is well connected to the airport - it takes only 45 minutes to get there by car. Just a hundred metres away from the property is Jian Guo Men metro station that can serve you as a base point to explore almost any corner of the Chinese capital.

ROOMS AND SUITES

The W in Beijing offers 349 rooms of different type and with various interior design, but each comes with panoramic floor-to-ceiling windows, the high-end JBL audio system, satellite TV, broadband Internet connection, as well as Samsung tablets and iPod docking stations.

The hotel rooms are available across seven categories whose names refer to the fairly laid-back concept of the brand. The smallest, but still quite spacious (about 50 sqm) are the Wonderful Rooms. Similar area is offered in Spectacular Rooms whose windows overlook the bustling western Beijing. The 60 sqm Cool Corner Rooms let you enjoy the view of the ancient city walls. The bathrooms are lined here with marble tiles and come equipped with a separate bath and a shower.

The hotel also has four types of suites. The smallest, the 80 sqm Fantastic Suite apart from the bedroom has also a living room, as well as work area. The 100 sqm Marvellous Suites come equipped with two TVs (in the bedroom and the living room) and offer the view of the northern Beijing. Wow Suite, in turn, has an impressive area of 172 sqm and boasts a 60-inch TV as well as a 180 panorama of the city. The most spectacular are (as you might guess from the name) Extreme Wow Suites, located on the top floor of the hotel. Their total floor area is the head-spinning 344 sqm and they come with a 75-inch Samsung TV, separate bedrooms and a spacious living room.



The concept is mainly aimed at younger customers who value innovative solutions, stylish interiors and a laid-back atmosphere.



BARS AND RESTAURANTS

W hotel has a few good places where you can eat well. There are two main restaurants: the Kitchen Table offers delicious international cuisine. Its décor is ultra-modern with striking violets as well as blue and orange themes. The kitchen is

run by Gunnar Kuchenbecker who specializes in various types of Chinese dumplings. You can also try here the international hits of the brand, such as the W burger.

There's no way to visit the capital of China without trying the typical Chinese cuisine, which in W Beijing is served in

CONTACT

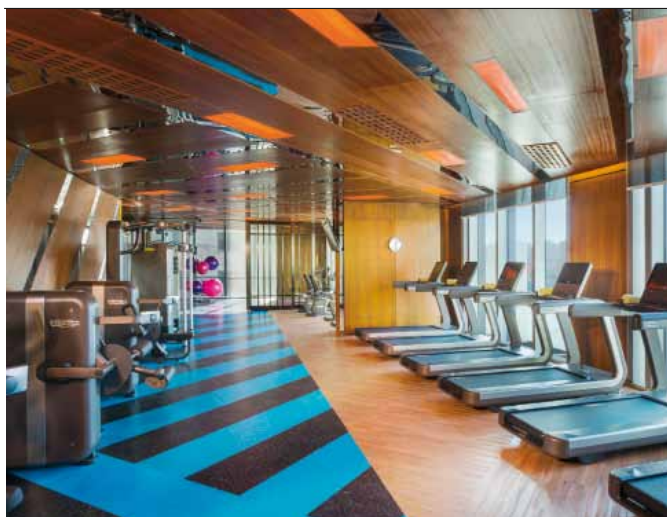
W Hotel Chang'an
No. 2 Jianguomennan Avenue
Beijing, 100022
tel.: +86 10 6515 8855
whotel.beijing@whotels.com

PRICES

PLN 1,000 - 1,200 per room per night.

Hotel

BEIJING



You will find here a 24/7 fitness centre called FIT with state-of-the-art equipment including the Technogym brand. And after the workout you can relax in AWAY SPA that offers dozens of massages and special treatments.

YEN restaurant. The place offers mainly dishes of Cantonese cuisine and the head chef Kong Khai Meng specializes imperial golden duck. Add to this a broad choice of Chinese tea and you are in the Chinese heaven.

If you wish to have a little fun and enjoy a nice drink with music played by the local DJs, then go to W/Lounge. Personally, I recommend the Jiny Style cocktail served here. Simply delicious. Finally there's also the X25 club situated on the top floor of the hotel. It's a place to go for fans of modern music and dance.

SPA AND BUSINESS MEETINGS

The hotel has an indoor swimming pool (140 sqm) called WET, which is located on the third floor. On the same floor there is a 24/7 fitness centre called FIT - a 250 sqm space with state-of-the-art equipment including the Technogym brand. After the workout you can relax in the sauna, steam room or jacuzzi. Another attraction of the hotel is its AWAY SPA, where on almost 1,500 sqm you can enjoy a wide variety of massages and special treatments. W Beijing has

more than 1,500 sqm of event space. The largest room is the Great Ballroom (520 sqm), which can accommodate up to 500 people.

VERDICT

W Beijing is a great option for those who want to enjoy a laid-back stay in the capital of China. With its décor, design and nice atmosphere it definitely is able to attract slightly younger customers. One of its biggest advantages is also a great location, close to a metro station, as well as fine cuisine.

Rafat Sobiech





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ROSEWOOD HOTEL



CONTACT

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Jing Guang Centre, Hujialou
Chaoyang District, 100020
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+86 10 6597 8888
beijing@rosewoodhotels.com
www.rosewoodhotels.com/en/beijing

PRICES

from PLN 900/1,200 per room
per night

Rosewood hotel in Beijing advertises with the slogan “An expression of luxury” and I must admit that it seems to truly reflect the property’s nature.

The five-star hotel chain Rosewood Hotels may seem rather unknown to Polish readers of BT. The chain comprises merely 30 hotel located in the most prestigious parts of the world. You can find them, for

example, in several US states, the Bermudas, the Caribbean, as well as in Canada, Paris, London, Abu Dhabi, Bangkok and Bali. Rosewood hotel situated in the Chinese capital is one of the four properties of the brand in the Middle Kingdom, but it’s still truly unique. It’s located in the prestigious Chaoyang district close to some of the tallest skyscrapers in the city.

ROOMS

The hotel offers 283 rooms and suites of 11 types. However, Rosewood has one remarkable advantage over other five-star hotels - the impressive size of the rooms. Even the smallest Deluxe Rooms boast 45-50 sqm, so you can feel there as if you were staying in a small private flat. Grand Studio rooms offer 53 sqm with a separate living room.

Another category are the so-called Club Rooms. Club Deluxe Rooms boast 56 sqm, are perfectly designed, and offer a breathtaking view of the Beijing's skyscrapers. Club Premier Rooms (50 sqm) overlook the famous Beijing CCTV Tower. Guests staying in Club Rooms (and those of the upper category) have access to the phenomenal and beautifully designed Manor Club - a special lounge with outdoor terrace. The club guarantees an intimate atmosphere - ideal for work or business meetings. This is likely to be the world's largest business lounge available in luxury hotels. The discreet rooms of the club feature modern Chinese art as well as a wide selection of fine spirits and great food.

And for the real luxury you should opt for one of the hotel's suites. The smallest one called Manor Suite offers 68 sqm, a separate living room and floor-to-ceiling windows with the views of the centre of Beijing. The 100 sqm Premier Spa Suite comes with a private massage table, as well as a luxury bathtub and a balcony. The most impressive is the 177 sqm Beijing House suite, which resembles a real house and offers separate kitchen, separate guest bathroom, large walk-in closet, and study office with a large screen TV. It also features a separate dining room that seats up to 10 people.

RESTAURANTS

Rosewood in Beijing is a perfect place for the lovers of Chinese, Asian, but also European cuisines. The offer of its six restaurants, bars and lounges will satisfy even the most discerning palates. But being in China, you simply must try the delicacies of the local cuisine served in Country Kitchen restaurant. The place offers an array of Northern Chinese specialties. With an open show kitchen and a wood-roasting oven, chefs demonstrate their



culinary art with dishes such as hand-pulled Chinese noodles, Beijing duck and a variety of dumplings.

Chinese cuisine is also the main theme of the Red Bowl restaurant that offers the freshest meats, seafood, and vegetables cooked at the table along with a vast assortment of draft beers, wine and sake. It features a large bar counter with an individual hot pot for each guest or guests can gather around a delicious simmering metal pot at the centre of each table. It's an ideal place for discreet business meetings in four private rooms.

Bistro B is, in turn, a perfect place for the lovers of French cuisine. Dishes are prepared here by Jarrod Verbiak, a former protégé of celebrity chef Daniel Boulud. It's the most interesting culinary venue at Rosewood, reminiscent of an old French bistro. The showcase of this interactive restaurant is an expansive open-island kitchen, featuring wood-fired oven, grill and large wok.

The culinary offer of the hotel is complemented by the unique The House of Dynasties restaurant where each private dining room was meticulously de-

Beijing's Rosewood hotel is a truly unique property. It's located in the prestigious Chaoyang district close to some of the tallest skyscrapers in the city.

Hotel

BEIJING



The hotel is also a perfect place for the lovers of Chinese, Asian, but also European cuisines. The offer of its six restaurants, bars and lounges will satisfy even the most discerning palates.



signed to reflect a Chinese dynasty with the unique décor and show plates beautifully representing ancient eras of Chinese history. Guests can relax here with quiet music, try typical Cantonese dishes and taste numerous varieties of the aromatic Chinese tea.

SPA AND CONFERENCES

The Sense spa offers several packages: Sense Journeys is a range of treatments aimed at taking you back to the sense of well-being; Sense Massages is an array of massage techniques to restore the mind-body-spirit connection. Ladies will find here a wide range of treatments for the face. The ultra-modern Fitness Studio has running machines equipped with VI-SIOWEB, from which guests can surf the net, play games and watch TV doing workouts. The hotel also has its indoor swimming pool (850 sqm) situated on the sixth floor of the building. You can also take advantage of the offer of Yoga Studio and the classes that are held there regularly.

Rosewood is a perfect place for both large and small business meetings. The 12 conference rooms offer a total area of 2,620 sqm arranged exclusively for meetings. The largest one is the Grand Ballroom, which can accommodate up to 800 guests, while the smaller ones can seat up to 75 people.

VERDICT

The five-star Rosewood brand is a guarantee of a great location and the excellent facilities, as well as the beautiful design in the spirit of modern art. The Rosewood in Beijing is a gem on the map of the capital city of China - a property with a perfect location and the interiors designed with the greatest care. It's a good place to relax surrounded by the works of the modern Chinese art.

Rafat Sobiech



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THE FEISTY ARISTOCRAT



CONTACT
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It's a dream car for anyone who appreciates comfort, prestige and the sporty vigour. The latest generation of this model raises dynamics, aesthetics, luxury and innovation to an even higher level. The new BMW 6 Series brings a whole new meaning to the car maker's "Sheer Driving Pleasure" slogan.

NOT ONLY THE ENGINE

BMW 6 Series Coupé speaks for itself and its word along with the exciting roar of the eight-cylinder engine penetrate the ears and heart of all those who had the opportunity to drive it. I did and completely enchanted with this car, I will try to describe the experience. The delightful sounds that I've mentioned weren't accidental. All the petrol engine versions of the model boast a sport exhaust system with a variable acoustic characteristics. The effect can amaze even the most demanding drivers who are used to driving real sports cars.

SILHOUETTE, COLOURS AND INTERIOR

You can fall in love at first sight with this car, before even starting the engine. Its dynamic, feisty, and at the same time refined stance brings to mind the most beautiful works of the modern design. It's worth noting that the car features remodelled side and front curtains, as well as air intakes to highlight the width of the bodywork, its robustness and the power of the new BMW. The model I drove came in a beautiful and quite unusual Mediterranean Blue metallic body colour. Other available colours are Jatoba metallic, Cashmere metallic, Glacier Silver metallic and Melbourne Red metallic.

The interior impresses with the quality of materials and finishes used here with great refinement. Perfectly selected, fresh-smelling, two-tone leather, gives the car the look of a prestigious, upper market vehicle. This was possible with the introduction of new finishing lines called Design Pure Experience and Design Pure Excellence that truly highlight the sporty and luxury qualities of

the new BMW 6 Series Coupé. Care for the individual need of discerning customers is also expressed by brand new elements of the BMW Individual interior trim. In this way, every drive can create a unique character of the interior that matches the individual tastes of a proud owner of the BMW 6 Series Coupé.

VERDICT

The car is great to drive. The power it offers guarantees dynamic acceleration to safely overtake other vehicles, giving you the comfort of a smooth ride, which is so valuable on Polish roads - especially one-lane carriageways. I also liked the new generation Head-Up Display that kept me informed on my speed, speed limits that are so frequent on Polish roads, as well as displayed the GPS data. In this way it saved me from peeking at the dashboard and I could fully concentrate on driving and the road ahead. I could also feel that my BMW had an electrifying effect on all other drivers, although they had no chance to experience it to such an extent as I did.

Marta Wilk

Dzisiejszą noc spędzi w Courtyard by Marriott...

Dzisiejszą noc spędzi w Courtyard by Marriott. Niedawno wylądowała. To było najwygodniejsze i najlepsze rozwiązanie. Znała ten hotel. Dobrze jej się kojarzył. Z dala od miejskiego ruchu, spokój i ta bliskość samolotów, które fascynowały ją, startując i lądując w pobliżu. Od małego dziecka samoloty kojarzyły jej się z czymś magicznym. Później na niejedną randkę zabierała mężczyznę w pobliże pasa startowego, żeby oglądać podwozia samolotów przelatujących tuż nad ich głowami. A teraz znów spała tu w Courtyardzie. Fajnie – pomyślała, kiedy wyobrażała sobie jak za chwilę, po zameldowaniu, wyjdzie przed hotel zacerpnąć świeżego powietrza przed snem.

Lekko szpakowaty mężczyzna wszedł do hotelu tuż za nią. Udając, że się nie spieszy, podszedł do recepcji. Elegancki, dobrze ubrany, pachniał odważnie i przyjemnie. Nie znała tego zapachu, ale nie mogła przejść koło niego obojętnie. Meldował się równoległe z nią. Obsługiwała go młoda atrakcyjna dziewczyna. Wizytówka, którą podała recepcjonistce, zwróciła jej uwagę. Nie znała tego gatunku papieru, a pracowała w tej branży od lat.

Kiedy tylko się zameldowała, chciała jak najszybciej znaleźć się w pokoju, zostawić bagaż i wyjść popatrzeć na samoloty. To zawsze była ta jej chwila.

Po chwili ponownie była na dole. Kierując się do wyjścia usłyszała „Armani... Armani Si”. Zwolniła. Czy ktoś mówił do niej? Nie było w pobliżu nikogo innego, a ona faktycznie pachniała dziś Armanim.

I wtedy go zobaczyła znowu.

- Zastanawiałam się czy pan zwróci na mnie uwagę.
- Widzi pani, są takie miejsca na świecie, gdzie piękno zbliża.
- Niezłe – uśmiechnęła się. – Courtyard by Marriott i Fryderyk

Chopin. Miejsce, gdzie piękno zbliża.

- To pewnie prawda. Ale ja akurat myślałem o pani.
- No, no... Niby banalne, ale miłe. W mojej branży mógłby pan być niezłym copywriterem.

- Skąd pani wie, że nie jestem?
- Nie jest pan. Podejrzałam wizytówkę, którą podała pan recepcjonistce – uśmiechnęła się tak delikatnie, jakby miała tym jednym uśmiechem zmienić cały świat. – Widzę, że zainteresowały pana czarno-białe fotografie Warszawy na ścianie w lobby? Zdjęcia zachęcają do odkrywania i podziwiania nieznanych zakątków stolicy.

Zaprosił ją na drinka, zamówiła cosmopolitan – tak też dzisiaj się czuła, jak kosmo-kobieta.

- Nie będzie panu przeszkadzało, jeśli na dziesięć minut wyjdę przed hotel? Lotnisko nocą, a już Lotnisko Chopina na pewno, ma jakiś niesamowity urok. Lubię chwilę popatrzeć na samoloty i wyobrazić sobie tych ludzi, którzy dokądś lecą lub skądś przylatują. To takie tajemnicze.

- Take your time – uśmiechnęła się.
Cały czas miała przed oczami fotografie Warszawy, które widziała w lobby. Popatrzyła na mężczyznę siedzącego naprzeciwko. Pomyślała, że z wielkim zaciekawieniem będzie odkrywać i podziwiać nieznanne zakątki.

- Wnoszę toast – powiedział gdy znów poczuł jej perfumy - za Courtyard, gdzie sztuka sprzyja spotkaniom.

Zaśmiała się swoim niskim, zmysłowym tembrem głosu.

- Kto wie, może jeszcze zatrudnię pana w mojej firmie?

■ Kornelia Krakowski

www.warszawacourtyard.pl



OCEAN OF CHOICE

New narrow-body aircraft designed for transatlantic crossings will open up options for travellers – but will a compromise be made on comfort? **Alex McWhirter** reports.





Forty-five years ago, when Pan Am's Boeing 747 appeared on the London-New York route, passengers believed air travel could only get better.

Back in 1970, airlines and aircraft manufacturers proclaimed it was the era of the wide-body jet. Larger aircraft such as the B747, DC-10 and Lockheed Tri-Star would replace narrow-bodies like the B707, DC-8 and VC-10. Passengers taking long-distance flights could look forward to a roomier, more comfortable and smoother flying experience.

ALL FOR PASSENGERS

However, as we have seen so many times before, nothing is set in stone when it comes to aviation. Although wide-body jets enabled the airlines to provide passengers with a superior experience, they were a mixed blessing in a competitive market.

In the distant past, larger aircraft enabled the airlines to get away with offering passengers fewer flights. It was good news for the carriers (because they could control capacity), the airports (because they had room for expansion) and the environment. However, it wasn't good news for passengers. Not only

was there less choice, but fewer flights also meant higher load factors, which in turn pushed up prices.

That unhealthy situation existed for a couple of decades after the B747's arrival because regulations at the time restricted choice. But in today's liberalised and ever-more competitive market, passengers demand a range of options.

This is where the narrow-body aircraft have come into their own. Cheaper to operate, they also have fewer seats so are easier to fill. It means they are a flexible option for newcomer carriers.

TIME FOR A CHANGE

The B747 and its ilk reigned supreme across the Atlantic for a good number of years. Until US carrier Continental decided to start serving a number of secondary destinations from New York using two-class, narrow-bodied B757s – aircraft more at home on 800km flights within Europe than on 5,600km transatlantic marathons.

These B757s used by Continental (now part of United) were fitted with extra fuel tanks, allowing them to fly greater dis-

tances, and their smaller cabins made them easier to fill on less busy routes to the UK, mainland Europe and Scandinavia. More recently, American Airlines has emulated Continental with B757 services to various secondary airports.

Passengers now had a choice. If they wanted wide-body comfort then they flew from a major airport. But if they wanted to travel from their local airport then, by and large, they had to opt for a single-aisle product.

Until now, leaving aside the specialised all-business class routes, that has largely been the case for regular flights.

But the B757s are getting older (my first trip on this aircraft type was with BA on the London-Glasgow shuttle service back in 1983), and so Airbus and Boeing have long-haul versions of their popular twin-engined short-haul A321s and B737s ready to enter service in the coming years.

THE NEW AIRCRAFT

Airbus is proposing the A321 Neo LR ("Neo" standing for "new engine option", LR for long range). This can carry up to 240



WYBIERAMY TABLET DO FIRMY



Lenovo™

Tablety typowo biznesowe, wykorzystywane są najczęściej przez pracowników mobilnych. To narzędzie pracy ma być ułatwieniem w codziennych obowiązkach. Dlatego musi być nie tylko jak najlepiej dostosowane do charakteru pracy, ale również odpowiednio skonstruowane, aby mogło spełniać swoje zadania.

Urządzenia mobilne bardzo szybko znalazły zastosowanie na rynku rozwiązań profesjonalnych. Dziś korzystają z nich zarówno pracownicy terenowi, których praca wymaga rozwiązań działających w sieciach komórkowych, jak i pracownicy stacjonarni, poruszający się w ramach lokalnych, biurowych sieci bezprzewodowych.

Bez względu na charakter wykonywanych zadań, urządzenie musi spełniać kilka warunków, dzięki któremu jest maksymalnie funkcjonalne. Na co zwrócić uwagę, wybierając tablet, który będzie narzędziem pracy?

JAKOŚĆ I WYTRZYMAŁOŚĆ

Najważniejszym elementem każdego tabletu jest ekran. To właśnie dlatego warto zwrócić uwagę na to, aby był on szczególnie odporny na zarysowania i uderzenia. Dbając o wysoką jakość użytkowania, Lenovo matryce swoich biznesowych tabletów pokrywa taflą pancernego szkła Dragontrail Glass.

Z dużą wytrzymałością ekranu w parze idzie jakość matrycy. Wyświetlacz w technologii IPS zastosowano w tablecie ThinkPad 8 oraz ThinkPad 10. Dzięki temu zapewnia on znakomite odwzorowanie kolorów oraz szeroki kąt widzenia (160 stopni w przypadku tabletu z ekranem 8" oraz 170 stopni w wersji 10").

Dodatkowym elementem wpływającym na większą wytrzymałość urządzenia jest sama obudowa wykonana z trwałego i elegancko prezentującego się materiału (aluminium) oraz dodatkowe wzmocnienia – np. gumowe wykończenia – które zabezpieczają sprzęt w przypadku upadku, co pozwala uniknąć kosztownych napraw.

FUNKCJONALNOŚĆ

Tablet, jako urządzenie z definicji mobilne, musi być wygodny w użyciu w różnych sytuacjach. Wybór takiego rozwiązania nie oznacza już rezygnacji z zalet tradycyjnego komputera. Na rynku dostępne są propozycje, które zapewniają pełną funkcjonalność komputera – są to tablety, które mają kilka trybów działania: tablet, tryb namiotu, czy komputer stacjonarny. Ten ostatni może być realizowany w przypadku tabletu ThinkPad 10 dzięki wykorzystaniu dedykowanej stacji dokującej, zewnętrznego monitora, klasycznej „desktopowej” klawiatury oraz myszy. Z kolei, aby obejrzeć film lub prezentację wystarczy użyć dodatkowego pokrowca Quickshot i ustawić tablet w trybie namiotu.

BEZPIECZEŃSTWO

Duża mobilność pracowników, wiąże się ze zwiększonymi standardami ochrony danych. Aby zapewnić użytkownikom biznesowym jak największy komfort i bezpieczeństwo, stosuje się w tabletach takie zabezpieczenia jak układy szyfrujące TPM, zintegrowane czytniki kart Smart czy czytniki linii papilarnych.

ZARZĄDZANIE DANYMI

Mobilność niesie za sobą również zmianę w sposobie wymiany danych. Liczy się nie tylko dostępność, jakość i prędkość, ale również bezpieczeństwo. Dlatego powstają specjalnie dedykowane aplikacje, jak np. Lenovo QuickDisplay 2.0, dzięki której można bezprzewodowo transmitować prezentacje lub filmy w jakości HD. Ciekawą propozycją jest również technologia Lenovo Reach, dzięki której można skonfigurować prywatną chmurę, aby zapewnić bezpieczeństwo i stabilność usług na wszystkich swoich urządzeniach.

SYSTEM

Przy wyborze tabletów dla biznesu, bardzo istotne jest czy działają one pod kontrolą systemu operacyjnego Windows 10 Pro. Umożliwia on bezproblemową integrację urządzeń z całą infrastrukturą IT w ramach organizacji. Dodatkowo dzięki zastosowaniu wersji 64-bitowej systemu, w ramach oferty tabletów ThinkPad 10 znajdują się także konfiguracje wyposażone w pamięć operacyjną 4GB.

ŁĄCZNOŚĆ

Istotnym elementem ułatwiającym pracę na odległość 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 pracodawcy możliwość precyzyjnego określenia współrzędnych geograficznych pracownika korzystającego 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 wszechstronnie pomocne pozwalające skutecznie realizować cele biznesowe organizacji.



Tomasz Szewczak

jest związany z branżą IT od 17 lat. Jako SMB Product Manager w Lenovo Polska jest odpowiedzialny za sprzedaż produktów dedykowanych do segmentu małych i średnich przedsiębiorstw.

passengers in a one-class layout on a long flight, although it would accommodate fewer passengers on a two-class transatlantic mission.

Boeing has developed the B737 Max, which is yet another development of the aircraft that first entered service with Lufthansa in 1968. Seat capacity is about 200 but the actual number will depend on individual airline configurations.

The B737 Max is now on the Boeing assembly line with service entry expected in 2017.

Budget airline Norwegian has put in its order for a huge fleet of 100, which will enable it to operate between the UK, mainland Europe and US East Coast ports such as Boston, New York and Washington.

Interviewed on Danish site *business.dk*, Norwegian chief executive Bjorn Kjos said that the B737 Max would open up new opportunities for routes to the US.

“The Max planes are smaller than the B787 [wide-body] Dreamliner [the mainstay of Norwegian’s long-range fleet] but are still able to fly across the Atlantic,” he said.

“This creates the opportunity to fly directly between smaller airports such as Aalborg [Denmark] and Bergen [Norway] to the US East Coast nonstop. On these routes we would never be able to fill a wide-body, but without any problems we can fill a narrow-body such as the Max and still fly nonstop.”

THE EXPECTED DEBUT

Norwegian has announced that some of its initial B737 flights (using either B737-800 or Max versions) will operate between Cork and Boston from May next year. Another route linking the Irish city with New York is planned for 2017. Additional sectors will be unveiled in due course.

Launch of the A321 Neo LR is still a few years away (deliveries expected in 2019) and it is as yet unclear which airlines will acquire it or the routes it will serve.

But from IAG’s submission to the Irish government regarding Aer Lingus, it was revealed that if the airport group were allowed to acquire Aer Lingus it would consider launching transatlantic flights from Shannon using the A321 Neo LR.

It is true that versions of the B737 and A321 already ply the Atlantic, but these are limited in number and are either all-business class offerings or make an en route stopover to refuel.

Canadian budget carrier Westjet operates nonstop high-density flights from Halifax to Dublin and Glasgow. This can be achieved because they are just that bit closer to one another than the main transatlantic city pairs.

Still, it is possible to use a B737 aircraft nonstop across the Atlantic. Everyone was surprised by the recent announcements

from Scandinavia’s SAS that it would start a Copenhagen-New York Newark service this winter (alongside its existing route) with a two-class B737 leased from upmarket Swiss charter carrier Privatair. The airline will also operate a B737 between Copenhagen and Boston next summer.

MORE CHOICE

This particular aircraft can accomplish its mission as it is fitted with only 20 business class and 66 economy seats, so passenger and baggage weight is reduced.

SAS has switched the jet from the Stavanger-Houston route (where it offered an all-business class configuration) and is taking advantage of Copenhagen-New York now that the US airlines have retreated.

Once they enter service, the A321 Neo LR and B737 Max are set to change the way we cross the Atlantic. Not only are they cheaper to operate than the B757, but they will also provide passengers with more choice.

Fares, especially in premium class, should be competitive, although much will depend on the price of oil in the years ahead, and on seating configurations.

Still, remember that these are essentially short-haul aircraft. Do not expect the same standards of comfort and space normally found on a wide-body.



FOT. MATERIAŁY PRASOWE

Note that these are essentially short-haul aircraft, so do not expect the same standards of comfort and space normally found on a wide-body.

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Dodaj skórze blasku i świeżości razem z Carpe Diem!

Każda pora roku jest dobra na poprawę wyglądu i zdrowia, ale szczególnie w okresie Świąt Bożego Narodzenia i karnawału chcemy, by nasza twarz i ciało było piękne i zadbane. Jeśli Twoja skóra jest poszarzała, sucha i brak jej blasku oraz jędrności, oznacza to, że powinieneś skorzystać z profesjonalnych zabiegów z zakresu medycyny estetycznej, które wykona wykwalifikowany lekarz tej dziedziny. Warto pomyśleć nie tylko o skórze twarzy ale

również szyi, dekoltu i dłoni. Zima jest okresem, kiedy możemy stosować całą gamę zabiegów, łączyć je ze sobą nie martwiąc się o promienie słoneczne.

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 zabiegów wysokoenergetycznych, takich jak fala radiowa, światło podczerwone czy laser frakcyjny z zabiegami z użyciem kwasu hialuronowego, którego gęstość lekarz dobiera w zależności od wskazania.

Idelnie sprawdzają się tu preparaty marki Neauvia ORGANIC, które są zupełnie nową gamą wypełniaczy, przeznaczoną do nawilżania, wypełnienia i korekcji twarzy i ciała, pobudzania wytwarzania kolagenu oraz regeneracji skóry. Są to pierwsze na świecie wypełniacze organiczne, które są pozyskiwane przy użyciu bakterii *Bacillus Subtilis* w środowisku wodnym. Ta metoda pozyskiwania kwasu hialuronowego w porównaniu z dotychczas znanymi zapewnia wyjątkową czystość, dającą bezpieczeństwo stosowania. Dodatkowa zawartość Hydroksyapatytu wapnia pozytywnie

dr Magdalena Opadczuk i aktorka Sylwia Gliwa

wpływa na elastyczność i grubość skóry. Używamy ich do modelowania objętościowego, jak i poprawy nawilżenia oraz napięcia skóry. Z uwagi na nadzwyczajną lepkość 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.

Z myślą o jak najszybszej regeneracji i pełnej satysfakcji naszych pacjentów po zabiegach z zakresu medycyny estetycznej proponujemy terapię produktami Neauvia Cosmeceuticals. Należą do nich krem pielęgnacyjny, regenerujący podkład i masa oraz system Neauvia Peel. Wystarczy jeden zabieg, aby przywrócić Twojej twarzy młodzieńczy kontur i nadać jej atrakcyjny wygląd. Marzenia wielu kobiet spełnia Centrum Medycyny Estetycznej Carpe Diem!



Na hasło Business Traveller oferujemy **20%** rabat na zabiegi z użyciem kwasu hialuronowego. Oferta dotyczy cen regularnych i jest ważna do 31.01.2016 r.



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LUFTHANSA HONOURED

Marzena Mróz interviews **Frank Wagner**, the Country Manager for Poland at Lufthansa.



The turn of the years is a perfect time to sum things up. How do you assess this year regarding the development of the airline's business in Poland?

We are very pleased with the results, especially as we have noted an increase in the number of passengers at each port where we offer our connections. This year Lufthansa has been focusing mainly on regional airports. In 2014 we launched flights from Lublin, in March 2015 from Bydgoszcz and we have also improved on our offer from Gdańsk by 4%, from Katowice by 15%, from Cracow by 12%, from Poznań by 20%, from Rzeszów by 28% and from Wrocław by half. This indicates that Poland is a key market for us.

Also this year, for the fifth time in a row Lufthansa was awarded the title of Europe's Leading Airline at World Travel Awards gala that was held on 5 November. Add to this the fact that travel and tourism experts worldwide honoured Lufthansa

with the award of Europe's Leading Airline Lounge for the lounges at Frankfurt Airport. Both these awards confirm our deep commitment to continuous investment that translates into an increased customer satisfaction. Also from this year onward our passengers can enjoy the full benefit from our multi-billion investments in quality, equipment and services. This helps us continue to strengthen our leading position in the group of premium airlines.

Lufthansa is the largest international air carrier in Poland. However, to retain your position, you must constantly attract new customers. How do you want to win new passengers and maintain the current status?

In these highly competitive times, we want to assure passengers that travelling with Lufthansa, they experience the best service in the world. In order to meet the expectations of all our customers, we are constantly in-

vesting in safety and fleet, regularly expanding the range of our onboard amenities. The attention to the highest quality is a very important part of our strategy. We are continuously expanding our route network to enable our passengers flights around the world from the nearest port via our airport hubs in Frankfurt and Munich. In addition, Lufthansa has recently completed with success the largest cabin refurbishment programme. Passengers can now fully enjoy the state-of-the-art solutions in all four our travel classes: Economy, Premium Economy, Business and First.

Also, our cabin crew in Business Class offers passengers even more personalized care and services tailored to the individual needs and requirements. This involves the introduction of an innovative Restaurant Service in Business Class cabin on intercontinental flights, based on culinary impressions from the finest restaurants. It is a truly unique offer for Lufthansa passengers.





What new connections will there be in 2016 for passengers travelling from Poland?

This winter, Lufthansa will serve 197 destinations and operate a total of 9,900 flights per week. With the introduction of the winter schedule, we are expanding our new intercontinental flight offering, which is tailored to the needs of leisure travellers. Passengers from Poland can take advantage of those routes, travelling via our hubs in Frankfurt and Munich. Lufthansa is to introduce a new non-stop service between Frankfurt and San Jose, California (USA). The new service, which will commence on 29 April 2016, will be the first non-stop flights to the state's Silicon Valley from a European airport. The five-times-weekly service will be operated using Airbus A340-300 equipment. From the end of October, Nairobi (Kenya) will be included in the Lufthansa flight schedule, and at the beginning of December, Cancun (Mexico), served mainly by charter flights, Malé (Maldives) and Mauritius will follow, with Panama City rounding off the new timetable in March 2016. From 19 December 2015, Luf-

thansa will take off every Saturday to Kittilä, 170 kilometres north of the Arctic Circle. The nearby skiing resort of Levi is the largest winter sports centre in Lapland.

What new products are you going to offer in the near future?

Following the introduction of our latest product - the brand new Premium Economy Class that has become a hit, we are obviously planning further innovations. In the early summer 2016 Lufthansa will become Europe's first airline to offer broadband Internet access on its short-haul and intercontinental flights. As a result, our passengers on continental routes will be fully connected with the web. The first aircraft equipped with this technology will take off at the beginning of summer 2016. Recently we have also introduced new ticket fares that enable passengers to choose and pay only for the services that they actually use. Light, Classic and Flex fares differ regarding the services they offer depending on the price. Given this flexibility, every passenger is able to individually create a tailor-made

flight with the various service components that we are offering. The new Light fare will, from 1 October, be the most economical option for those travelling only with hand luggage and not in need of any ticket flexibility. The Classic fare includes the opportunity to check-in a piece of luggage of up to 23 kg. The Flex fare is focused principally on passengers that require more flexibility in their travel planning.

What are your goals for the next few years?

We wish to continue taking care of the highest travel comfort of our passengers, aiming to become the first Western five-star carrier. The offer of Lufthansa is very popular with passengers. This is confirmed by the results of surveys conducted by Skytrax. We are systematically increasing the quality of the offered products under the Lufthansa Group.

We will continue to strengthen our position, offering the product at the highest level, because this is what our Polish passengers expect from us.

Thank you for the interview.

The continuous care for the highest comfort of travel is Lufthansa's to priority.

TASTES OF JAPAN ON BOARD DREAMLINERS



Your Japanese adventure starts as soon as you go on board! Passengers travelling from Warsaw to Tokyo by LOT Polish Airlines' plane will be offered a special Japanese menu on board Dreamliners.

THE CHEF'S DELIGHTS

The first Japanese experience awaits for passengers travelling from Warsaw to Tokyo as early as aboard LOT's Dreamliner. The creation of refined dishes served to our passengers is an outcome of the collaboration of the LOT Product Department with Alon Than, this year's sushi world champion, who runs the Izumi Sushi restaurant in Warsaw.

"I am honoured to take part in the process of creating the menu for LOT passengers travelling to Tokyo. For LOT, the quality of products does matter, and this is an extremely important element in Japanese cuisine, because freshness is an essential characteristic of Japanese dishes. By combining products of the highest quality and traditional recipes, we have managed to create heavenly delicious Japanese masterpieces. At the flight altitude, achieving such a fusion seems to be a great challenge. Dishes served in all travel classes on the route are a true foretaste of Japan", says Alon Than, a Japanese chef.

DEDICATED MENU

Passengers of all three travel classes will have a choice between an European menu and the special Japanese menu offered exclusively on this route.

In the Business class, meals will be served in special pottery for Japanese dishes made by Bolesławiec, a company which is popular with the Japanese. LOT Business Class passengers will also have an opportunity to taste Umeshu, the best Japanese wine, and Souhanna Sake, served in such prestigious places as the Tokyo Imperial Palace. Besides carefully selected Japanese alcohols, LOT Business Class passengers will find a special menu including, among



others, miso soup, Japanese bento box dishes or Japanese snacks. As a special treat, the cabin crew will serve Polish flavoured liqueur and the famous Polish delicacy - chocolate-covered plums, between meals. All for the passenger!

Japanese meals will also be served in LOT Economy and LOT Premium Economy Class. For these passengers LOT prepared original Japanese snacks served between meals and the delicious Japanese sencha green tea. But this is not the end of signs of the Land of Cherry Blossoms in LOT.

“We want our customers from Europe and Japan to feel home on board of our planes. Therefore, we have put great emphasis not only on the menu. There will always be a Japanese-speaking crew member on board, wearing a badge saying “I speak Japanese”. Passengers will find a wide range of the latest Japanese dailies on board, and the entertainment system will include Japanese films, series and music. The entire in-flight entertainment system will also be available in Japanese”, says Krzysztof Moczulski, Director of Product Standard Department in LOT.

VIA WARSAW TO ASIA

The first aircraft heading to the capital of Japan will take off

on 13 January, and the return flight from Tokyo to Warsaw is planned for 14 January. LOT expects that the new connection will be popular with customers from Japan. For these passengers it is the quickest and the most comfortable connection not only to Poland, but also to other countries of the New Europe. Operated by the LOT Polish Airlines, the flight from Warsaw to Tokyo will be performed by means of the most advanced plane in the world, Boeing 787 Dreamliner,

By combining products of the highest quality and traditional recipes, we have managed to create heavenly delicious Japanese masterpieces.

and shall take around 10 hours one way.

The Tokyo route will be LOT's second regular Asian route after Beijing. This shows, among other things, that LOT is no longer an ethnic carrier and that it has become an airline of first choice also for Asian customers, including business people who appreciate the product's quality and standard of service on board LOT's Dreamliners, for which a dedicated Elite Fleet personnel, specially trained and carefully selected, is responsible.

Tickets for flights between Warsaw and Tokyo are already on sale in all channels, among others in LOT Travel offices, from agents and at lot.com, also in its mobile version.

LOT has become an airline of first choice for business travellers who appreciate the product quality and the standard of service on board the carrier's Dreamliners.



NOVOTEL HOTELS FOR WORK AND LEISURE



Novotel has also prepared special, cosy family rooms to easily accommodate four adults and two children, providing them with maximum comfort.

The 12 Poland's Novotel hotels with their convenient location, elegant design and excellent facilities, are perfect places to unwind from the bustle of the city, as well as ideal venues for business events. All of this is possible with the refined "Meeting at Novotel" and "Family & Novotel" offers, aimed at business guests and families respectively. With these dedicated offers you will easily combine your work with pleasure.

"Our MICE offering, designed to improve the service quality of business guests, is based on four equivalent pillars," says Joanna Świerkosz, the Deputy Director of the Sales, Distribution, Marketing & Revenue Management for Poland & Baltic Area. "One of them is an individual consultant for groups of more than 80 people, who guarantees the highest level of service, as well as guest satisfaction at every stage of their stay. This is combined with new sales procedures and dedicated trainings for our personnel. As we are aware of the diverse dietary needs of our guests, we have a very wide range of catering options. These include breaks during which we serve fruit, organic and regional products, as well as those that improve detoxification of the body. We have also made a number of technological improvements, including the introduction of new wireless PA systems. All of this guarantees successful and fully custom-made events," she continues.

REFRESHED BUSINESS OFFER

Novotel's three- and four-star properties are known for great



service and excellent cuisine, guaranteed by the perfectly tailored offers under the NOVO2 concept. The brand has also decided to refresh its “Meeting at Novotel” offer aimed at business guests. The so-called MICE customers experience now one model of service based on four pillars. The most crucial ones are the individual approach and excellent support. From the very first replies to inquiries concerning the organization of your meeting, through the choice of possible options and planning of the whole event, to price proposal - you will be contacted by only one and the same consultant. Undoubtedly, this is much more convenient and improves customer service. All of this is done to further ensure that your cooperation with Novotel is flawless. There are, however, a number of other factors that contribute to a successful business meeting. In the 21st century, an innovative, interactive and intuitive environment, seems to be a basic need. Public wifi, support for various

operating systems, a wireless projector, access to the printer or controlling various functions of the room with just one remote - these are just some of the most basic amenities that any good meeting facility must have to attract business customers.

THE SECRETS OF A COFFEE BREAK

Novotel guarantees excellent and comprehensive services. For this reason the third pillar of the offering for MICE organizers is based on healthy and a diverse catering offer. To ensure balanced snacks that are appropriately nutritious, the brand has prepared 5 thematic coffee breaks. The offer includes small meals consisting of fruits or organic products. There are also products that detoxify the body or provide extra energy. You can also opt for a coffee break with food based on regional specialities. In addition, the lunch offer has also been improved to guarantee Novotel guests a pleasant and balanced meal. The fourth pil-

lar of the enhanced MICE offer is the standardized sales and service procedures.

NOVOTEL AFTER HOURS

After the exhausting business meetings you can take advantage of the “Family&Novotel” offer aimed at families. Each Novotel property around the world treats the young guests exceptionally well and receive a nice gift at the check-in. The hotel lobby features a play area where kids can take a dip in the pool, play on a console, read their favourite comic book, or build a city with Kapla blocks. And if they are below 16, their stay in the room with their parents, as well as breakfast is free of charge. Novotel has also prepared special, cosy family rooms to easily accommodate four adults and two children, providing them with maximum comfort. Each meal in Novotel properties is prepared with fresh products to ensure that kids have tasty and healthy diet. At the request the hotels provide parents with bottle warmers and high chairs.

The 12 Poland's Novotel hotels with their convenient location, elegant design and excellent facilities, are perfect places to unwind from the bustle of the city, as well as ideal venues for business events.

NEW HOTEL IN WARSAW



Marzena Mróz
interviews
**Gonçalo Duarte
Silva**, the Area
Manager
at Starwood Hotels
& Resorts
in Poland

Let's talk about your business in Poland. How do you assess this year regarding Starwood activities in our country?

I am satisfied with our results, and especially the fact that we are planning to launch a new hotel in Poland that will be the debut for Four Points by Sheraton brand in our country. Our global development department has just signed a contract for building a new property in Mokotów area, Warsaw. It will have 192 rooms, meeting spaces, a restaurant and a bar and is scheduled for opening in 2018. We are confident that the hotel will be a great addition to our portfolio in Poland. We have worked for some time on

introduction of the Four Points by Sheraton brand to Poland, as in our view it is perfectly suited to the needs of the market, offering rooms at affordable prices. The brand is also a perfect choice for business travellers, providing guests with a good quality product in many places worldwide.

This is a great news - congratulations! How was this year for the hotels that are already present in the market?

It was exceptional, because we have managed to carry out a number of renovations of our properties, significantly enhancing our product. We modernized the lobby, restaurant,

bar, Executive Club Lounge and 40% of guests rooms in Westin Warsaw. The renovated Westin alludes to the brand, which in turn, draws inspiration from the nature. The author of the project is Anita Rosato, a recognized designer from London. In Bristol hotel in Warsaw we have just completed a thorough renovation of the banquet halls. The new product is simply unrivalled, as we have managed to create the most beautiful banquet halls that I have ever seen during my long career of an hotelier. In Sheraton Cracow we have modernized the banquet space and now are having the guest rooms refurbished. All this investment are already bringing profits and I consider



In Bristol hotel in Warsaw we have just completed a thorough renovation of the banquet halls.

2015 to be much better year than the previous one. This is especially true of Warsaw that hosted a few important sporting events, such as the UEFA Europa League. The occupancy rate is high and in summer, which is always a difficult season for us we have managed to attract a number of foreign tourist groups. However, the biggest challenge that this market must face is the room rates that are still much lower than in other European capitals.

What about Sheraton which is now being rebranded. What does this process mean for the Polish hotels of the brand and guests of Sheraton hotels worldwide?

It was a remarkably important year for the Sheraton, as we announced our new vision of the brand, called Sheraton 2020. It is a five-year plan designed to communicate the new positioning of the brand, expand the hotel portfolio, provide even greater profits for hotel owner, as well as guarantee a consistent experience for all our guests worldwide. We are also investing in marketing - we have spent more than US\$ 100 mln on our global advertising campaign. In Poland we are focused on implementing the new vision of the brand in our hotels and providing the experience that is characteristic of Sheraton hotels.

How do you assess the prospects for the forthcoming year?

Future prospects are very good. I expect that the situation in the market will remain good both in 2016 and 2017. The real challenge lies in expanding our portfolio and raising prices that are still much lower than in other European countries. One way to do this is to penetrate new market and introduce new services.

Speaking of development - what are Starwood's plans



for the expansion of the portfolio?

I can already talk about one of our investments - the first Polish Four Points by Sheraton hotel that will open in 2018 in Warsaw. We intend to make it the flagship hotel of the brand. But, of course, we do not rest on the laurels, as our global development department is actively seeking partners with whom we could manage the hotels of our brand. We would like to expand our portfolio by properties in Cracow and Zakopane. My personal aim is also to introduce Aloft brand into the Polish market.

I am a big fan of Aloft. When can we expect to see the opening of the first hotel of the brand?

In my opinion, in Poland there is still a lot of space for international hotel brands that reflect a specific lifestyle and offer a customized service - especially on the four-star market. I am confident that Aloft that so far has been absent in Poland, would be a perfect solution for this market, so we are working hard to introduce it here.

Thank you for the interview. Warsaw is waiting for the new hotel!

The renovated Westin alludes to the brand, which in turn, draws inspiration from the nature. The author of the project is Anita Rosato, a recognized designer from London.

SCALPEL OR HIGH-TECH?



Ultraformer is the development of the groundbreaking American invention called the Ulther. It looks like Star Wars' R2-D2 and is an innovative, high-tech device.

Imagine that your aging, sagging skin on the face, abdomen and arms can be firm and young again. If you wash old, woollen sweater in hot water, it will shrink so much that it may even get too small. You can use a similar method with your flabby muscles and skin. The skin's top layer will remain intact, and all deeper layers will be treated with HIFU ultrasounds to make them shrink and become much firmer than before.

It seems that the majority of middle-aged people would like to turn back time, of course not the one that has brought us knowledge and experience, but the nasty one that takes away your attractive look. Never mind women, they can undergo a facelift, but what about men? The result of a facelift is always visible and leaves a mark. Even a well performed procedure of this type can be easily noticed and the person who underwent it may be criticized for trying to outsmart the nature.

FACELIFT - MEDDLING WITH THE UNKNOWN

In recent years women wishing to make their flabby skin look firmer, have opted for the lesser evil - that is skin fillers. That's why, when you go to a party, you may get an impression that you are in a cage full of hamsters or guinea pigs. This is because all the ladies look alike with their protruding, immobile cheeks. The traditional facelift, that is removing excess skin, is always a risky procedure. Apart from complications from such a surgery, you can never predict what the final effect will be. The face may look like a mask and some facial nerves may get damaged

causing numbness. The best warning can be the looks of some of the wealthiest Polish ladies who underwent the procedure in London or Switzerland, and now look as if the gravity changed the direction by 180 degrees. They may have fewer wrinkles, but their faces look completely unnatural.

R2-D2 IN ACTION

Year by year the billion-dollar aesthetic medicine industry comes up with a series of novelties. The leaflets advertising various laser treatments, always show the photos of faces before and after the procedure. Interestingly, the second picture is usually taken from a slightly different angle and is always brighter. A smart photographer knows that changing the angle by a few millimetres may produce a photo where fewer wrinkles are visible. So, can you believe all those advertised novelties? No doubt, a lot of those inventions have improved the appearance of some ladies, but do we now have an effective tool to restore a youthful appearance? Well, a true challenger in this category may be something called the Ulther. It looks like Star Wars' R2-D2 and is an innovative, high-tech device, producing the so-called High Intensity Focused Ultrasound (HIFU) whose primary use was to destroy tumour cells.

Just as Botox has been used over the years by medicine to treat twitches, uncontrolled blinking, and proved a real hit in reducing wrinkles, so HIFU has turned out a remarkably effective weapon in fight against cancer as well as a non-invasive facelift method without any side effects. This state-of-the-art and extreme-



ly expensive “R2-D2” produces a focused beam of high-intensity ultrasound that penetrates into the deep layers of the skin. HIFU causes thermal coagulation at different depths of the skin and the SMAS - the myofascial layer of the face, which contributes to precise and effective regeneration of the collagen fibres. The effect is visible immediately after the procedure - the skin seems as if it were ironed out. One month after the treatment the flabby neck and cheeks start rising and the final effect, the regeneration of the deep layers of the skin (the process of scarring may seem something nasty, but it’s, in fact, our ally in the fight against aging, as it increases production of collagen responsible for the elasticity of the skin) is completed in three months.

Ultraformer is a great antidote to the drooping eyebrows, saggy cheeks, loose neck or crow’s feet. You can opt for the procedure on the whole area of the face or just on some sections.

The facelift of the entire face takes almost 30 minutes. In the first 10-12 minutes, when the most powerful pulses reaching the deeper layers of the skin are applied, the pain is very strong, but the next phase is felt as a relief. Fortunately, you can ease the pain with over the counter painkillers as well as anaesthetic cream. The face is neither swollen nor aching and you can immediately return to your regular

activities. The prize for this discomfort is the visible effect - the skin shrinks and the wrinkles are less visible. However to see the long-term effects, you need to wait three months.

It’s good to know that Ultraformer 3 can be used to shrink and lift the skin not only on the face. The heads of the device are designed to also lift the sagging skin of the armpits, neck, inner thighs, abdomen and almost anything that hangs loose as a result of our slimming efforts or simply because of old age.

In healthy people there are no contraindications to use this method except for wounds or infections, but the treatment is always prescribed by a doctor.

You can also combine Ultraformer treatment with fillers or laser, but it’s advisable to keep a month break and give priority to HIFU before fillers are applied.

Time will tell if this “R2-D2” thing will become the most popular method of fighting the effects of aging. As of now, this non-invasive, natural way of restoring young appearance without virtually any recovery period and any preparations, seems to have a lot of advantages, but there’s also one snag... the price. As for a Ferrari or any other superluxury, the price for this procedure must be high. The clinic is now offering promotional pricing of the procedure to build a customer base, but ultimately the face treatment may cost even PLN 20,000. But aren’t

we worth of it, as an advert of a cream tries to convince us? The difference is that the creams are a blatant hoax, promising miracles for more than 30 years, while with HIFU the effect is guaranteed without the need of using a scalpel.

LA PERLA CLINIC

As a precursor in using state-of-the-art equipment for aesthetic medicine, La Perla has decided to entrust this expensive but also innovative technology. It sent doctors to HIFU-related trainings, and its owner Kalina Ben Sira also underwent the treatment. It’s hard to say if it was necessary, but her perfect face without any wrinkles is an excellent showcase of the clinic.

The first customers who underwent the facelift with this method, now return to the clinic to lift the skin on other parts of the body. Some of them also bring their partners who aren’t ashamed to use the treatment, but of endure less pain than women. The best time to make changes is in winter to boast your dream figure in spring. Ultraformer can also remove fat, without damaging the surrounding tissues, but it’s always better to take care of your weight yourself and use the procedure only to make the body firmer. Well, shrinking one’s body needs much more effort than shrinking a piece of clothing.

Magdalena Boratyńska

As a precursor in using state-of-the-art equipment for aesthetic medicine, La Perla has decided to entrust this expensive but also innovative technology.

MUSIC LIKE A DREAM

Marzena Mróz talks to the composer *Radzimir Dębski*.



The starting point for me was the Cosmopolitan building, which seems like an island in the centre of Warsaw. And an island is always an interesting issue. It's in the middle of the sea, completely surrounded by it. When you are on an island, your perception of the world is also slightly different.

What sort of music can be heard today in the centre of Warsaw? What rhythms are there?

It's certainly something very dynamic that is developing very rapidly. You can hear in those sounds the echo of the past, but also a lot of notes of the future.

Is music better perceived high above or on the ground?

It all depends on the acoustics. But it's always like this with the art that it's good to be surrounded by it. When you're in a beautiful location, somewhere high and look at something special - you can perceive sounds differently, more thoroughly. Music must act on your soul.

The soul must play.

And a happy soul is much more sensitive. Through art we seek various sensations. Art can trigger emotions that have been hidden in our souls, and when it's good, it amplifies those feelings. It can intensify the emotions that we have inside us and might not even be aware of.

You've just finished composing your latest piece entitled...

"Skey" - which means "an island" in Scottish. And an island is always an interesting issue. It's in the middle of the sea, completely surrounded by it. When you are on an island, your perception of the world is also slightly different.

But an island has its limitations, too.

In this track I'm trying to show the space that is so characteristic of an island. We feel safe standing there, but at the same time we can see the enormity of what's around.

What was your inspiration for this piece?

The starting point for me was the Cosmopolitan building, which seems like an island in the centre of Warsaw. This is exactly the kind of feeling you have, standing on the 42nd floor of this skyscraper and seeing the city. You are on an island surrounded by glass, looking at the horizon and feeling safe, even cosy.

What instruments did you use in this composition?

There's a special grand piano that I created for this piece and which is a slight modification of the classic piano. It's a bit warmer, more intimate and very internal. There are also several sampled and modified organic sounds of various bells, metallic sounds, as well as electric pads for the feeling of space. All this electronically modified and multiplied creates a texture that gives a sense of security and shimmers in the sun. It's working all the time, though nothing happens to it.

The Cosmopolitan building is exactly the same.

It's a point standing in a given space, but it's also changing, evolving. And then there was a "music rage" that is the leitmotiv of practically all my compositions.

What is the "music rage"?

It's a sort of an artistic imperative that I don't have any control of. The "rage" gives me everything! I always try to achieve it before I start composing a new piece. It's similar to a sportsman's anger that must be given an outlet. It seems to me that every artist should know the feeling. You

feel like an athlete who doesn't think of winning, but more of destroying something. This energy liberates, but primarily allows you to create - not just properly, but better, the best you can. In "Skey" that was inspired by the amazing architecture of the Cosmopolitan, this liberating energy is released by the drums that act as a small thunder.

Will you include "Skey" in one of your albums?

I've been thinking about it. I might include it in my solo album that I've been working on for several years now.

What is your Warsaw like? Which places appeal to you here and which ones do you simply like?

I've recently given an interview where I also tried to choose the place that would summarize the whole identity of Warsaw. My choice is Próżna Street with all its modern elements like the nearby Cosmopolitan building, but also - until recently - the ruins dating back to WWII. Now the street has been beautifully restored, but at its back you can still find the original, old backyards.

If I were to imagine a Warsaw in a nutshell, it would be exactly such a backyard in Próżna St., showing the whole history of the city. The restored pre-war capital that we fight for and we try to revive, as well as the most modern one aspiring to become one of the most recognized capitals of the world, the part of which is the place we are now - the Cosmopolitan building that beautifully blends into the surrounding architecture.

Thank you for the interview.



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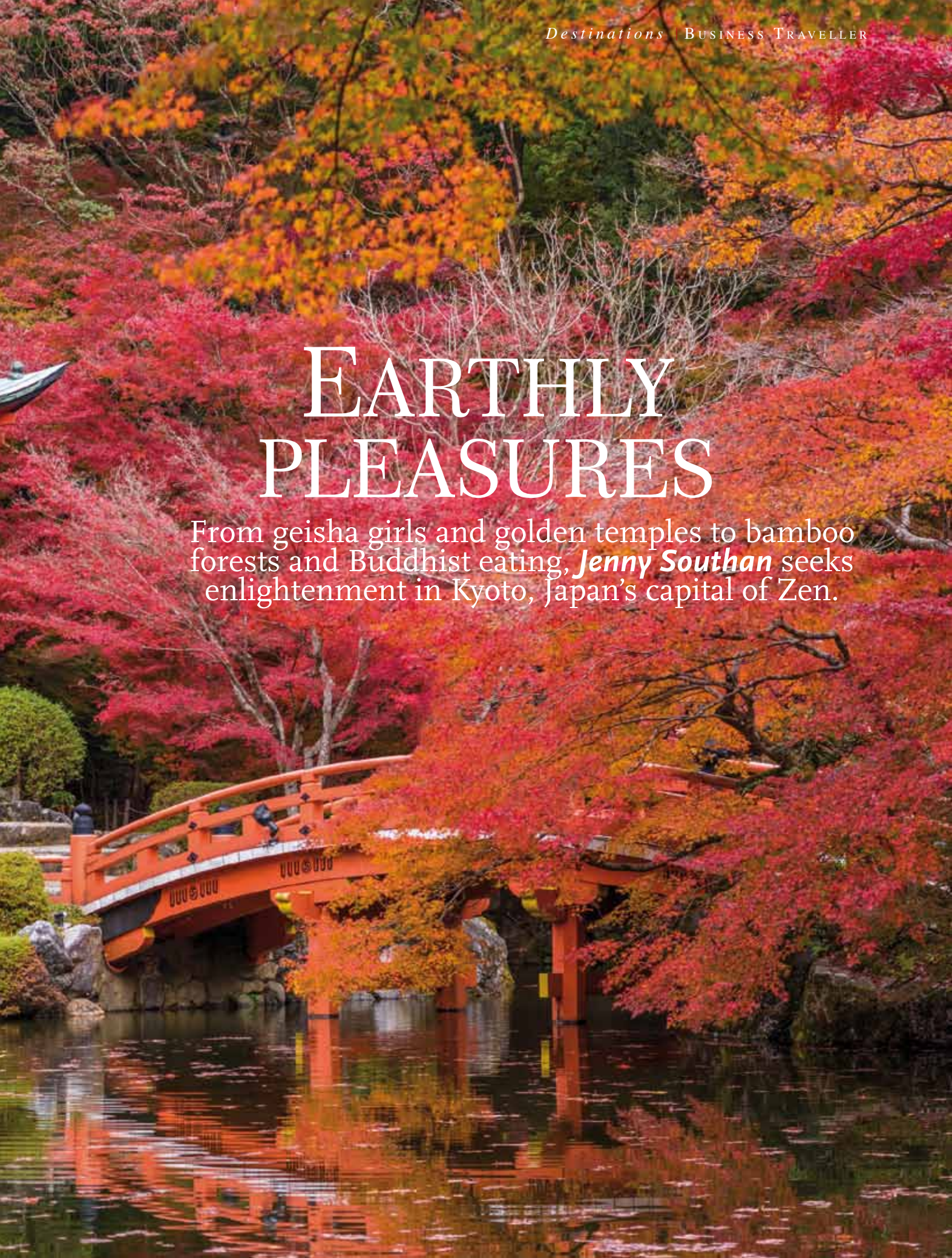
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EARTHLY PLEASURES

From geisha girls and golden temples to bamboo forests and Buddhist eating, **Jenny Southan** seeks enlightenment in Kyoto, Japan's capital of Zen.



It's almost impossible to get face time with one of Kyoto's famous hostesses unless you have an introduction from a local. Luckily, I've had help from the Hyatt Regency hotel's manager who arranged for me a meeting with Toshitomosan - an 18-year-old maiko, a trainee geisha. What I didn't expect was that this rarefied entertainer would demand I entertain her.

Gion is Kyoto's most famous geisha district - a place where you'll find wooden teahouses, inns and exclusive restaurants - but these elusive Japanese entertainers also reside in the low-rise Miyagawa-cho district, where I am. There are 33 okiya (geisha houses) in this atmospheric part of the city, and Komaya is one of the best.

Hidden away here are a small group of trainee maikos and fully fledged geikos (geisha). Their days are spent mastering the traditional arts of dance, song, classical music, tea ceremony and flower arranging.

The girls are relatively cut off from the wider world - until recently they couldn't use the internet or mobiles, although Toshitomo tells me that she is allowed to

go to Starbucks once a month to have the "seasonal special". Needless to say, it's a dying lifestyle.

The translator tells me that five or six years ago there were about 200 geisha in Kyoto but now there are only 100 or so. If you want to spend an hour with one, it will cost around £250.

Formalities out of the way, Toshitomosan says: "You sing song from Titanic?" Before I can protest further, the maiko has pulled out a karaoke console, and I have little choice but to attempt My Heart Will Go On. Thankfully, Toshitomo joins in, and by the end she's laughing and hugging me with tears in her eyes.

Contacts

- Inside Japan insidejapantours.com
- Hyatt Regency Kyoto kyoto.regency.hyatt.com
- Japan National Tourism Organisation jnto.go.jp
- Japan Rail japanrailpass.net/en

"This is the beauty of Kyoto," says Ken Yokoyama, the Hyatt Regency's general manager. "If you know someone, you can do anything. We can arrange a visit to a special temple before it opens or introduce you to a Zen monk who will teach you meditation."

WEEKEND TRIPS

The Japanese city can be something of an enigma to foreigners - signs in unreadable script, restaurants hidden away behind sliding doors marked with red lanterns and little English spoken.

However, tour company Inside Japan specialises in private tours and bespoke experiences, whether that's meeting geisha, local craftspeople or sake brewers. If you have any local contacts you can also ask them for advice.

Yoshio, an erudite chap of many languages that I meet on my trip, recommends Ganko Takasegawa Nijoen restaurant, located in a 380-year-old villa with a beautiful garden designed by Meiji-era master Ogawa Jihei (gankofood.co.jp/en; tel +81 752 233 456).



The Japanese city can be something of an enigma to foreigners - signs in unreadable script, restaurants hidden away behind sliding doors.



LEĆ PRZEZ LOTNISKO SCHIPHOL W AMSTERDAMIE INNOWACYJNE I INSPIRUJĄCE



ULUBIONE LOTNISTO Europy

Port Lotniczy Amsterdam Schiphol jest domem i lotniskiem bazowym KLM. Jesteśmy bardzo dumni z jego świetnym rezultatem: od 1980 r. Lotnisko Schiphol zdobyło ponad 200 nagród w kilku kategoriach jako „najlepsze lotnisko w Europie” w 2009, 2011, 2012 i 2013 roku. Amsterdam znalazł się też w pierwszej dziesiątce najlepszych lotnisk świata. Zbudowane według konceptu jednego terminala gwarantuje sprawną i szybką przesiadkę i wygodny transfer. Efektywny układ lotniska niewątpliwie pomógł KLM uzyskać w 2014 r. tytuł najbardziej punktualnej linii lotniczej na świecie (FlightStats).



4-te MIEJSCE

W 2014 r. Lotnisko Schiphol gościło 55 milionów pasażerów, co czyni je czwartym największym lotniskiem w Europie pod względem ruchu pasażerskiego.

55 milionów

PIERWSZA NA ŚWIECIE

Tutaj, w 2010 r. otwarto pierwszą na świecie LOTNISKOWĄ BIBLIOTEKĘ.



ŁACZYM ZE ŚWIATEM

Z lotniska Schiphol KLM oferuje BEZPOŚREDNIE loty do 6772 miast w Europie i tras międzykontynentalnych.

HOTEL W WERSJI "MINI"

Podróżni mogą odpocząć lub przenoctować w KABINACH wyjątkowego „mini hotelu” znajdującego się na terenie terminala, zaledwie kilka minut OD BRAMEK do samolotów.



MISSION IMPOSSIBLE? JUŻ NIE!

Na lotnisku w Amsterdamie działa jedyne w swoim rodzaju biuro rzeczy znalezionych KLM. Specjalnie powołany zespół pracuje nad tym, aby zwrócić wszystkie przedmioty znalezione przez załogę w samolotach KLM lub pracowników na lotnisku ich prawowitym właścicielom – tak szybko jak to możliwe.



365/24/7

Lotnisko Amsterdam Schiphol i jego usługi funkcjonują bez przerwy 24 godziny na dobę, 7 dni w tygodniu, przez 365 dni w roku. Wszystko po to, aby zagwarantować pasażerom sprawną i wygodną podróż o każdej porze dnia i nocy. To lotnisko nigdy nie zasypia!



100

SKLEPÓW I DUŻO WIĘCEJ

To doskonałe miejsce, dla tych, którzy szukają okazji do dobrych i wcale niedrogich ZAKUPÓW lub mają dłuższą chwilę na RELAKS: ponad 100 sklepów, darmowe i nielimitowane WIFI, masaż, ekspresowe SPA i inne rozrywki.

Miłośnicy SZTUKI też znajdą tu coś dla siebie. Schiphol był pierwszym na świecie lotniskiem, które uruchomiło muzeum z prawdziwymi eksponatami, m.in. obrazami Wielkich Mistrzów malarstwa holenderskiego – koniecznie odwiedź Rijksmuseum! Natomiast fani HAZARDU mogą spróbować szczęścia w prawdziwym kasynie.

SZTUKA PRZEZ DUŻE I MAŁE "S"



NAJSTARSZE NA ŚWIECIE

Warto wiedzieć: Schiphol jest najstarszym lotniskiem na świecie o zasięgu międzynarodowym, zlokalizowanym w tym samym miejscu, w którym wylądował pierwszy samolot w 1916 r.



MOBILNA MAPA

Zaraz po przybyciu na lotnisko, pasażerowie otrzymują mapę na swoje SMARTFONY, która wskazuje im drogę oraz potrzebny czas na dotarcie do następnego wejścia do samolotu.

LOTNISKO SNÓW

Za pośrednictwem serwisu internetowego „Sleeping in Airports” już od 17 lat pasażerowie oceniają różne lotniska świata pod kątem warunków noclegowych. W 2014 roku lotnisko w Amsterdamie zajęło trzecie miejsce na świecie i pierwsze w Europie pod względem warunków do krótszej lub dłuższej „drzemki” między lotami.





The capital of Japan until 1868, Kyoto is easy to reach by Shinkansen (bullet train) from Tokyo (two hours 20 minutes) and JR Special Rapid trains from Osaka (30 minutes). The vast glass-and-steel station is a sight in itself.

At 828 sq km, Kyoto is not as small as you may think, but with the Kamo River running through the centre, quaint pedestrian districts, and thousands of Shinto shrines and Buddhist temples, it makes for an inspiring weekend.

RYOKAN OR HOTEL?

Stay in a ryokan (a traditional inn – although there might be a curfew), or for Western hospitality, an international hotel such as the new Ritz-Carlton, which opened in February last year.

The smart Hyatt Regency has a spa, Asian and international breakfast buffets and a garden terrace, and is conveniently located opposite the National Museum. This houses collections of calligraphy, ceramics, lacquerware and woodblock prints. (Entry ¥520/£2.80; open Tues-Sun; 9.30am-5pm; kyohaku.go.jp/eng.)

Being inland, Kyoto doesn't have its roots in sushi; vegetables play a bigger part in local cuisine thanks to a strong Buddhist influence.

OCTOPUSES AND BONSAI TREES

The 400-year-old covered Nishiki market is a fascinating place to spend an hour or two – stretching five blocks, it is lined with open-fronted shops selling rice balls, octopi on sticks, inky squid, seaweed and pickled root vegetables. You can also try Baumkuchen sponge cake, baked slowly on a spit before being sliced into wheels. (Take a taxi to Takakura-dori. Open daily; 9am-6pm.)

I visit the Tenryu-ji Temple (entry ¥500/£2.70; 8.30am-5pm) for a taste of Zen cuisine. Set in gardens of cherry, acacia and bonsai trees, it has an eatery where you can sit cross-legged on a tatami floor and sample tofu, yuba (dried bean curds), nama-fu (raw wheat gluten) and seasonal vegetables with Asahi beer. (Open daily 11am-2pm; set meals ¥3,000-¥7,000/£16-£38; tenryuji.com.)

Another incredible restaurant is Ankyu (tel +81 755 3159 99; book in advance), near Toshitomo-san's house. A family business, it has only six stools set at a bar facing the kitchen. The 12-course kaseike tasting menu (vegetarian on request) changes daily and each delightful morsel – be it three delicate pieces of tempura (ostrich fern, hen of the wood mushroom, sweet potato), or a chunk of bamboo scattered with shiso leaf – is served on a different ceramic dish. It won a second Michelin star in 2012.

MIND THE MOSS

With time short, I prioritise the Golden Pavilion (Kinkakuji) in the north. This majestic Zen temple, dating back to the 1300s, when it was occupied by shogun Ashikaga Yoshimitsu, and rebuilt in 1955, stands at the edge of a lake and is covered entirely in gold leaf.

During cherry blossom season and in the autumn, when the leaves are turning, the shore is packed with tourists, but the woodland trails around it lead you to more tranquil spots, where signs read "Mind the moss". (Entry ¥400/£2.15; open 9am-5pm; shokoku-ji.jp/k_sanpai.html.)

Apart from the magical Arashiyama bamboo forest (30 minutes' drive west), the place I most want to see is the 15th-century Fushimi Inari-Taisha shrine on Inari Mountain (open 24 hours).

Hiking the 4km of trails that run up the forested slopes through tunnels of orange torii gates, I come across hundreds of kitsune (stone foxes) – messengers of the god Inari, they are idols of rice and sake, promising success in industry and agriculture – as well as altars where you can light candles or add messages to wooden votive plaques.

In honour of Toshitomo-san, I write out the chorus of My Heart Will Go On.

CHROŃ SWOJE KARTY

Najnowsze karty bankowe, karty kredytowe i dowody osobiste mają zintegrowany chip RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) i antenę, które umożliwiają im komunikację bezprzewodową. Bywa to niezwykle wygodne, ale istnieje niebezpieczeństwo skanowania czujników RFID i kradzieży danych w celu ich nielegalnego wykorzystania. Niezwykle cienki Cardprotector, który jest sercem każdego portfela Secrid, chroni twoje karty przed skanowaniem, czyli działa jak zaporę firewall. Jednocześnie zapobiega ich wyginaniu czy nawet złamaniu. Cardprotector wyposażono w innowacyjny system wysuwania kart: jedno pociągnięcie wystarczy, by wszystkie karty wyszły w określonej kolejności, gotowe do użytku. Cardprotector mieści od czterech do sześciu kart, w zależności od tego, czy są one wytłaczane. Najpopularniejszą wersją portfeli Secrid są Miniwallety, czyli Cardprotector obłożony skórą garbowaną w Holandii lub we Włoszech. Nazwa Miniwallet mówi sama za siebie, jest niewielki i z łatwością zmieści się w każdej kieszeni czy torebce. Zaskakujące jednak jest, jak wiele potrafi pomieścić dzięki swojej przemyślanej konstrukcji. Skórzane wnętrze ma dodatkowe miejsce na następne cztery dowolne karty (np. prawo jazdy, dowód osobisty), wizytówki oraz specjalne miejsce na banknoty.

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SKY'S THE LIMIT

The skyscrapers springing up across Kuala Lumpur's skyline are testament to rapid development despite some recent setbacks. But have the city's planners got it right? **Tom Otley** investigates

There's an air of cautious optimism in Malaysia. GDP of 6 per cent in 2014 may have slowed to under 5 per cent in 2015 because of lower-than-expected oil revenues, but still the World Bank's Report on Doing Business 2014 placed Malaysia 18th for ease of doing business among 183 economies.

And it's clear that the nation's capital is expanding. Arriving in Kuala Lumpur after a three-year absence, this dual sense of a slight setback combined with forward momentum is obvious. The positive aspect first: it's immediately noticeable how the infrastructure has improved.

THE POWER OF THE PORT

Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) is the third-busiest airport in ASEAN by international cargo traffic, and the fourth-busiest by international passenger traffic.

It is efficient and clean, with plenty of natural light, and there's a rapid monorail that takes you from satellite terminal A to the main terminal and immigration. If there's one disadvantage to the airport, it is how far it is from the centre of KL. However, the KLIA Ekspres (sic) service, built in 2002 and now extended to connect the new (2014) KLIA 2 budget terminal, gives all passengers the same quick journey – 28 minutes from KLIA main terminal – into the centre of town, with free wifi onboard.

CHATTY TAXI DRIVERS

My lasting memory from previous visits to Kuala Lumpur centred around its heavy traffic and the near impossibility of reaching appointments on time. In the rush hour, it can sometimes seem that the entire population – pushing two million when the offices disgorge their commuters – is in a traffic jam, and this is made worse by the construction work taking place to implement what hopefully will act as a partial solution – a new Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) rail system of, initially, 31 stops on Line 1, and a further 56 stops for Line 2 (Line 3 awaits a formal announcement).

In the meantime, the best advice for getting around town is to use the various rail options – after the airport link, I tried the monorail and the light rail system and found them infinitely better than relying on taxis.

When I did get in a taxi, the long delays meant interesting chats with the drivers as we sat in stationary traffic and watched mopeds speed past. This ability to interact with foreigners is just one of Malaysia's strengths. Locals speak Malay, English,



There's no doubt that the city's infrastructure has improved over the years.



Poznaj Daleki Wschód z Qatar Airways



and then, depending on their origin, perhaps Hindi or Tamil, or Mandarin.

NEW SKYSCRAPERS

Returning to KL you will also notice the skyscrapers – many 60 storeys-plus – springing up all over the city to cater in part for these companies, encouraged by Kuala Lumpur's mayor Ahmad Pheal Talib, who describes them as "Towers of Excellence". The most famous of these, the twin Petronas Towers, provide an excellent vantage point for checking out the new towers.

They are on every tourist's itinerary, but booking an online ticket ensures queuing is kept to a minimum, and the experience also gives a good sense of KL's organisation, both on a micro and macro scale. The micro part comes in the organisation of it all as you are shepherded from one place to the next, along with school groups and tourists.

The macro part is clear both at the 41st floor sky deck connecting the two towers – a good vantage point to check out the solar panels helping to power the Suria KLCC shopping centre and Philharmonic Hall below – and higher still on the 86th floor observation deck, from which the park surrounding the towers can be seen most clearly, a feature set to continue with new construction as developers are required to set aside 10 per cent of land for green space.

A NEW STRATEGY

The infrastructure works aren't all high-rise, however. Kuala Lumpur takes its name from being at the confluence of two rivers, the Gombak and the Klang, and these are gradually being rehabilitated, not least through the River of Life project, which is opening up cycle tracks and paths alongside the rivers in the centre of town.

Malaysia is big on planning, and in May, Prime Minister Najib Razak unveiled the latest five-year economic development plan with the intention of Malaysia achieving developed economy status by 2020. The 11th Malaysia Plan (11MP), which is the final one in the lead-up to the 2020 goal, includes updated forecasts for the country's economy and its finances, as well as new infrastructure projects.

The most anticipated new project is the US\$11 billion, 340km Kuala Lumpur to Singapore fast rail link, with seven stops in the country. It's certainly not going to be an easy proposition, not least because the airlines flying between the two cities aren't keen on seeing their traffic disappear.

Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore figures show air traffic between the two countries as 7,500 people leaving Singapore for Malaysia daily, the majority of whom are heading for KL. That doesn't include other crossing points – a fast drive can take you there in less than five hours and traffic be-



A visit to Petronas Towers gives a good sense of KL's organisation, both on a micro and macro scale.

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KL is an inexpensive place for companies to set up operations, but Malaysia is more about the skills it can offer.

tween both countries through the Causeway and Second Link is estimated at 400,000 crossings both ways daily.

But with a proposed time of 90 minutes, the rail link would clearly open up all sorts of opportunities, and not just for people looking to take advantage of the wage rates in Singapore, which are some 250 per cent higher than in Kuala Lumpur. And then there's the large matter of freight.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

KL is an inexpensive place for companies to set up operations, but Malaysia is more about the skills it can offer.

"A lot of electronic businesses that first went to China have come here. China may be cheaper in the middle and the north there, but the logistics of that means it's not viable. If you want value-added electronics, then Malaysia is the place. All of Dyson's global production comes out of here, for instance," says Tony Collingridge, director of UK Trade & Investment in Malaysia. "This is a regional centre, so if you want China you go to China, but if you are looking at elsewhere in the region, then Malaysia has a very good sell."

No wonder that multinational corporations are keen to relocate to Malaysia. These include Japanese engineering and electronics conglomerate Hitachi Systems, Germany's industrial gases and engineering company Linde, British business services group Rentokil Initial, Zurich Insurance, US food giant Cargill and the world's largest oilfield service company, Schlumberger. The aim for the government is to get the whole popu-

lation earning at least US\$15,000 each a year by 2020, and in Kuala Lumpur that average has probably been achieved, but the greater KL region of more than seven million still has a way to go – and the population of the country as a whole is 30 million. In the meantime, the government has continued moves to reform the tax base and introduce a general sales tax of 6 per cent.

UNDENIABLE ADVANTAGES

Tourism plays an important part in that. YTL Hotels owns some 20 properties across Malaysia including the Majestic Hotel, dating from 1932 and close to the historic centre. The company is part of the larger Malaysian conglomerate YTL, which has interests in everything from utilities to rail, and built the KLIA Ekspres out to the airport. Chief executive of the Hotels Division, Mark Yeoh, says the country is doing well at attracting both business and leisure visitors, and that repeat visits are high.

Accommodation prices in KL are a significant attraction, with the city coming in at 115th in Mercer's Cost of Living Survey 2014, well below city-state Singapore and Hong Kong, which ranked fourth and third, respectively.

IMPORTANT SPOT ON THE MAP

Truly a nice earner In 2014, Malaysia registered 27.4 million tourist arrivals and MYR72 billion (US\$19.2 billion) in receipts, making tourism its second-largest foreign exchange earner.

Each year there is a different Visit Malaysia theme – 2014 was "Celebrating Malaysia

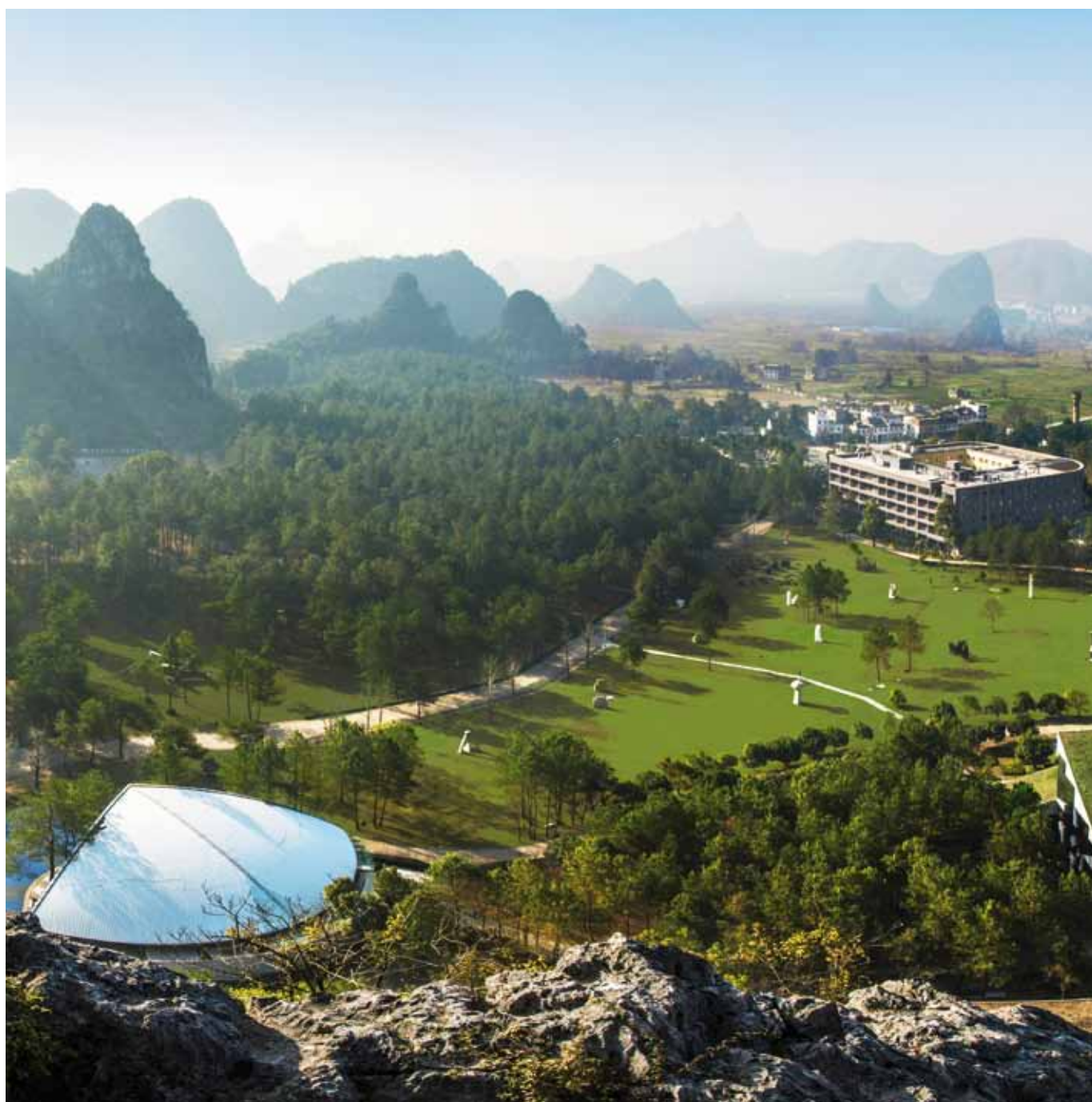
Truly Asia" while this year is "Malaysia Year of Festivals" (MyFEST); the country does like acronyms, hashtags and buzz words – or at least its marketing people do.

The theme song for this year's promotion is Endless Celebrations, which sounds exhausting but in fact simply refers to the country's multicultural society and all the celebrations they enjoy.

All of this is to drive tourism on to achieving the country's target of not just 36 million tourist arrivals, but MYR168 billion (US\$45 billion) in receipts by 2020, as outlined in the Tourism NKEA (National Key Economic Area). Targets set under the Tourism NKEA will be achieved through the implementation of 12 Entry Point Projects (EPPs) clustered under five themes: Affordable Luxury; Nature Adventure; Family Fun; Events, Entertainment, Spa and Sports; and Business Tourism.

Z Warszawy
do ponad
150 miast na
całym świecie.





THE CHINESE GEM OF GUILIN

China is such a vast country, that you wouldn't have a chance to visit all that it offers, even if you were granted a few lives. However, apart from interesting cities and their historic sites that you can enjoy on various trips, the Middle Kingdom is also a place to go for scenic sights and the beautiful nature.



The new Club Med Guilin complex is located in the very heart of China's most beautiful natural park, between the Li River and hill ranges that resemble sugar mounds.



Getting around China all by yourself would be a truly challenging task, simply because it's one of few countries where your knowledge of Western languages seems useless. With the exception of large metropolitan areas, most Chinese don't know any English, including the popular "OK".

That's why, it seems that the best way to explore this exciting country is with the assistance of the Club Med international network that has recently launched its new property. It's located in the very heart of China's most beautiful natural park, between

the Li River and hill ranges that resemble sugar mounds. The club boasts European standards, though most guests are Chinese. The staff of the club, the so-called GOs (Gentil Organiseurs), represent 17 countries and speak fluent English. At the reception you can also communicate in other languages.

The area of the club covers 49 acres of a beautiful park, which includes the old pine forest, high mountains, a waterfall and a lake, as well as a natural beach and the view of the picturesque hills. The club park is perfectly maintained and features several sculptures and numerous other works

of art. The place also features a former Relais&Chateaux hotel which, following a thorough renovation, is now a part of the Club Med Guilin complex.

Although the club offers plenty of activities for young people and provides child-care services for the youngest ones, it's primarily a property aimed at business events, such as conferences or team-building experiences. The place is truly unique and even if you don't plan on going to such a remote corner of the world, it's worth taking a few minutes to browse the photo gallery at www.clubmed.pl

CLUB 4Ψ

- **area:** 47 ha
- **Location:** Guangxi province, south-eastern China
- **Formalities:** passport valid for min. 6 months and a visa
- **Flights:** e.g. WAW-PEK and then a 2-hour PEK-KWL + 40 min. transfer
- **Weather:** the club is open all year round, summers are hot and humid, winters cold, springs and autumns short, warm and very pleasant.
- **Hotels:** two separate properties - a former Relais&Chateaux and a newly built one by Club Med, 212 rooms (23-43 sqm) and a choice of spacious suites with a terrace.
- **Restaurants:** four dining options, serving variety of food, including Fusion and Mongolian cuisine, a la carte dishes; Noodle Bar open 24/7; several drink bars.
- **SPA:** a large facility with 15 spacious treatment rooms (each with a large stone bathtub), a relaxation area. All designed with typical Asian flair.
- **Sports included:** mountain biking, flying trapeze, archery, gymnastics, tai chi, yoga,

several fitness centre rooms, golf, tennis, volleyball, basketball, badminton, trampoline, guided nature tours, rock climbing etc.

- **Highlights:** indoor and outdoor pools, adult-only pools, ZEN zone (adults only), dance classes, numerous arts activities, such as pottery making, bead mosaics, bead jewellery making, figurine painting, numerous old Chinese arts, including ink painting, calligraphy, linoleum printmaking, drypoint printmaking.

Other Club Med resorts in China:

- **Yabuli** - in the most beautiful ski region of China,
- **Dong'au** - south of Hong Kong, dubbed the new Chinese Maldives,
- **Sanya** - Club Med will soon launch its fourth club in Sanya region, in the southern tip of Hainan island that boast heavenly beaches and where the world's leading hotel brands open their most luxury properties.

- **Children:** full range of services, including child care, numerous courses and sports for all ages, from 2 to 18 years.

Entertainment popular Club Med Shows, Flying Trapeze Show in the garden, karaoke under the stars, music band and the Impression Show - display of lights and fireworks by local actors. In addition to weekly foam parties, the club offers also various other events and surprises.

- **Conference rooms:** a professional conference centre with several rooms up to 370 sqm that can be arranged to accommodate even 200 participants, a large terrace ideal for cocktails, reception desk - all this in the middle of a picturesque park. It's the ambition of the Chinese to offer things that are the best and most modern so as to impress the visitors from Europe.

- **Trips:** The Silver Cave, the Yulong river, a cruise along the Li - China's most beautiful river, off-road Jeep expedition, paddy fields, Shangri La and many other trips to see the country's numerous monuments and attractions.

Magdalena Boratyńska



When it's raining, the main bar transforms spontaneously into a dance floor. The foam parties are a great fun especially for young people that come to Guilin from all over the world.





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MORE THAN A CAR

The art of finding harmony in life lies in a proper use of all the achievements of the present times along with an understanding of history and its masterpieces.

Ford Mondeo Vignale is exactly such a car, combining state-of-the-art technology with an exceptional attention to individual needs of the customer.

Gone are the days of car companies that made bespoke vehicles according to the individual wish of a client. The might be gone, but the desire to stand out from the crowd and enjoy life to the fullest is now stronger than ever. Ford Mondeo Vignale is the first representative of the Vignale model range in FordStore showrooms. Available in special colours: Vignale Nocciola, Vignale Black, Vignale White and Vignale Silver, and hand-finished, the car is just the beginning of your Vignale adventure, which affects many aspects of life with the car, not only the mere travel. Ford Mondeo Vignale is offered with two diesel engines: 180 HP TDCi and 210 HP bi-turbo, a petrol EcoBoost unit producing 203 or 240 HP, as well as a hybrid engine (187 HP), which in combination with Active Noise Cancellation system and acoustic glass provides an ideal environment for long escapades. The interior of the

car is available with Lux Charcoal Black or Lux Cashmere quilted leather, reminiscent of classic automobiles from the era of Alfred Vignale. The adaptive LED headlights and the optional AWD system allow for confident driving in all weather conditions.

Even the choice of the car and the ordering process seems to be something special. Vignale assistant can arrange a special, longer road test that last even a whole weekend for the customer to fully appreciate how different the Mondeo Vignale is from other models. You do not have to go to a FordStore to pick your Vignale when it is ready, as it can be delivered to your home or work. In Poland there are six authorized Vignale showrooms.

- Auto Boss – Chorzów,
- Euro Car – Gdynia,
- PGD Partner – Cracow,
- Auto Brzezińska – Łódź,
- BCH Chwaliński – Opole,
- Bemo Motors – Warsaw.

When a new Mondeo Vignale is delivered to customers, they are no longer bound by the duties of a typical car owner. This is because Vignale saves your precious time. To begin with, servicing the car, which is, after all, a very complicated machine, has never been easier. You can arrange for your Ford Mondeo Vignale to be collected from you for the time of a repair or maintenance, and then delivered to your home or office. But that is not the whole story. Over the lifetime of the car the owner is entitled to a free car wash on demand, combined with the detailing of the vehicle's interior. As a result Ford Mondeo Vignale always looks exactly like its designer wanted it to look - perfectly. Finally, it is worth noting the Vignale OneCall service available 24/7 (phone: 61 831 99 72) with which you can call for roadside assistance, arrange a service or find answers to your questions related to using the car. Owning such a unique car has never been easier; vignale.ford.pl



Ford Mondeo Vignale is the first representative of the Vignale model available in FordStore showrooms. This is just the beginning of your Vignale adventure, which affects many aspects of life with the car, not only the mere travel.



one number

to rozwiązanie zunifikowanej komunikacji, które pozwala na dostęp do usług z dowolnego miejsca na świecie.
Poczuj swobodę i komfort komunikacji, gdy Twój numer jest zawsze tam gdzie jesteś TY!

4 HOURS IN... HAMBURG

Tom Otley gets on his bike for a two-wheeled tour of the Elbe riverside.



One of the city's best-known attractions is the fish market that takes place every Sunday morning.

BLANKENSE

Hamburg has many attractions in the city centre, but this tour ventures further afield and takes advantage of the excellent U-Bahn, S-Bahn and even bike rental to make the most of the Elbe river.

Both the S1 and S11 lines will take you to Blankenese ("white promontory") – a 15-minute ride from Landungsbrücken, the departure point for ferries across the Elbe – but it's better to rent a bike from Hamburg City Cycles and then head back to town from Blankenese in a leisurely fashion, with the prevailing westerly winds at your back.

A suburb on the north side of the Elbe, Blankenese was for many centuries little more than a fishing village, and the steep, narrow streets of cottages are reminiscent of Cornwall, with their multicoloured fronts.

Mixed in are country houses, many still privately owned, and half a dozen parks – Bours, Bismarckstein, Gossler's, Hesse, Hirsch (Deer) and Sven Simon. There are also some hotels, most notably the Strand (Strandweg 13; strandhotel-blankenese.de), a good place for a coffee while you watch the container ships arrive at Hamburg port.

Cycle a little further and you'll start to see the markers charting the disastrous floods Hamburg has suffered in the past, including those in 1962, 1976 and 2013, the last made bearable by new, improved defences.

BEACHES

Cycling back into Hamburg along the Elbestrande, you'll notice occasional beaches – and then the astonishing Alter Schwede – a giant 200-tonne rock pulled out of the river during dredging work in 1999. It's now a popular meeting point for youngsters.

The beaches are a great place to relax, although watch out for sudden waves caused by passing ships. To make the most of the view, take a stop at the Strandperle beach club (there are other beach clubs, although many are actually on pontoons with the sand simply spread underfoot).



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ALTONA

You'll next ride through Altona, now just a suburb but for centuries an independent city with a troublesome rivalry with Hamburg, symbolised by the Stuhlmannbrunnen statue of two centaurs fighting over a fish.

After locking up your bike, climb the many steps to reach the Platz – the view of the port is worth it. Walk inland a couple of hundred metres to find the statue; you will also pass a rectangular sculpture by Sol Lewitt: Black Form – Dedicated to the Missing Jews (1987).

The Platz is also home to the Altonaer Museum (altonaermuseum.de), which has a section on shipbuilding, and Gerhard Brandes' sculpture of three fishermen. If you have the energy, you can climb up the side of a nearby office building, Dockland, to an observation deck that resembles the prow of a ship.

ST PAULI

Once a place to avoid, St Pauli is moving up-market, yet still has enough edginess and graffiti to keep most visitors away.

One of its best-known attractions is the fish market that takes place every Sunday morning, where revellers end up after a night on the nearby Reeperbahn (fischauktionshalle.com/en/fish-market).

For the rest of the week, it's the high-end interiors shops of Stilwerk (Grosse Elbstrasse 68; stilwerk.de/hamburg) that are likely to get your attention – that and cobbled streets, which can be a challenge if cycling.

Another reminder of the Elbe's floods are the protective doors across many of the shop and warehouse windows. The Fish Auction Hall, which stands close to the waterfront and is now used as an event space during the week, simply opens its doors and lets the water run through, then hoses itself down afterwards.

LANDUNGSBRUCKEN

These "landing bridges" (in fact a series of pontoons) are the embarkation point for countless tourist and commuter ferries, as well as a great – and inexpensive – place to get a cheap fish lunch or a Currywurst.

It's also the location of the Alter Elbtunnel, built in 1911 to connect St Pauli with Steinwerder on the other side of the Elbe. You can take your bike through the tunnel but unless you plan to cycle on the other side, it's better to leave it chained up, take the lift (or stairs) down and walk through the atmospheric tunnel, imagining the thousands of dock workers who have used it to get to and from work over the past century, and examining the terracotta tiles depicting Elbe myths and legends. Hamburg City Cycles, located on the edge of New Town and near the Reeperbahn, rents bikes and can offer several tours of the city or out to Blankenese. Bernhard-Nocht-Strasse 89-91; hhccitycycles.de



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

Seats on a plane

I have a problem with plane seats for my employers. I usually book flights with British Airways, asking them to reserve seats according to the preferences. It rarely happens that the seats are assigned; sometimes there are no seat numbers at all. Sometimes one of the bosses has an assigned seat, the other does not. Our travel agency is not responding specifically to my questions, explaining that it is not always possible to assign seats, as we buy too cheap tickets. Last time my boss was dissatisfied as he was assigned a middle seat. What are these procedures?

Lena

Dear Lena,

Each airline offers different options regarding booking seats ahead of time. The service used to be free of charge, limited only by the efficiency of the system. Nowadays it is an extra service. The airlines give you a seat choice, promoting the passengers travelling a lot, or buying tickets at higher fares. The rule is simple – the higher the status in Frequent Flyer programme and the more expensive ticket, the greater the possibility to book a particular seat.

British Airlines apply this policy. Passengers travelling in first class can always choose a seat earlier, regardless of the fare and Frequent Flyer programme status. Passengers with Gold status in Executive Club programme can choose a seat at any time before departure. Passengers with Silver status have a similar possibility of seat selection, except they cannot choose the seats in the front row, or by the emergency exit. Passengers with Bronze status can choose a seat seven days prior to the departure, while those travelling with Blue status, can do it 24 hours before departure.

Those rules do not apply to passengers who buy tickets at the lowest fares. In this case, the seats can be assigned only at the airport check-in, or when checking in online. One of your bosses has the highest status in Frequent Flyer programme, the other one – the lowest. This is why there have been problems with assigning the seats at the same time and next to each other. The type of the fare is the second factor limiting the possibility to choose a seat. You can always select a given seat by logging in to your airline website and paying an extra fee.

Car insurance

I would like to ask about the insurance of a car hired during a business trip. I was charged with extra insurance costs, but I did not know that the original price did not include the insurance. Why did I have to pay extra? Can my agency estimate all the insurance costs at once? What is the extra amount I need to pay?

Bartek

Dear Bartek,

The subject of car insurance and related costs keeps coming back regularly just because of the possibility of additional insurance you have mentioned. Travel agencies always confirm and guarantee the basic rental rate. Some of the fees are mandatory, others might be optional.

I have read the copies of the reservation and the contract you sent me. Your agent confirmed the lowest weekly rate available. The rate included VAT and basic insurance, giving you minimum protection. Third party liability insurance was paid up in full. As regards the Theft Protection, Collision Damage Waiver and Loss Damage Waiver, the fee included the lowest rates. In the event of car damage or theft you would have to pay €1,500 or €3,000 of excess fee respectively. You were offered two ways of lowering the excess fee: to €500 for each of the aforementioned occurrence and a fee of €12 per day, or an option to do away with the excess fee altogether for a fee of €23 daily. Your documents show you have selected the first possibility, although the safest option would be to pay the highest fee and avoid unforeseen and unpleasant costs. Not to mention the time wasted on post-accident formalities.

Another cost you have to bear in mind is Personal Accident Insurance. The original offer included basic Personal Accident Insurance with the payment of the minimum amount of compensation. It was wise of you to have chosen an additional insurance of €5 per day. In the event of an accident, you would be paid the maximum amount of compensation for personal injury.

The agent making the reservation does not always have access to additional insurance options. These are usually offered when picking up the car and signing the contract.



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