

Business Traveller Poland

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Business Traveller Poland
Awards 2016

THE BEST OF THE BEST!



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Club Med 



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BUSINESS TRAVELLER AWARDS

Handing statuettes to the winners of Business Traveller Awards is one of the most exciting days of the year, both for me and Robert Grzybowski, the publisher of the Polish edition of our magazine. It is the perfect occasion to meet the best of the best - the winning companies that have been selected by our readers.

The report from the awards ceremony is this issue's cover article. You will find there a long list of companies that have been awarded.

The spacious winter garden of the welcoming Villa Foksal gathered more than 130 guests. We were delighted to host the heads of airlines, hotels and airports - from Poland and around the world, as well as the official partner of the event: Tacit Investment, the developer of Warsaw's Cosmopolitan

Twarda 4 apartment building. We were also happy to welcome the representatives of the automotive and banking industries, car rental companies, as well as manufacturers of electronics and luggage for business.

We do hope that our prestigious statuette will be your guide to the best products and services. Enjoy your reading and have wonderful trips!



Marzena Mróz

Marzena Mróz.
editor-in-chief



NR 1

w optymalizacji podatkowej i ochronie majątku
spółki zagraniczne w ponad 40 jurysdykcjach

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Technology

FUJITSU

AIR-CONDITIONING AT HOME AND IN THE OFFICE

Fujitsu LT is a series of wall-mounted air-conditioners, intended for home use, but also often utilized in office spaces as well as small shops. Experts say that LT is a successful marriage of top design with best technology. The devices combine state-of-the-art, environmentally-friendly technology with elegant design, that won Red Dot Award for Product Design. Air conditioners provide effective cooling of the floor area of up to 35 sqm., and, if necessary, can also be successfully used as efficient heaters, when the external temperature is as low as 20 degrees below zero. Devices from the LT series are also a comfortable and cost-effective solution. They are extremely quiet (21 dB), offer low energy consumption (A+++ class) and have a built-in presence sensor. Importantly, the Fujitsu LT air conditioners are equipped with ion and polyphenol air filters, which absorb odours, remove fungi, dust mites and mould, as well as purify the air of numerous harmful substances. Add to this the hard-to-beat manufacturer's warranty period of 10 years. More info at klima-therm.pl



Spain

Semana Santa

PROCESSIONS IN ANDALUSIA

Seville is believed to have more churches than Rome and during the period that extends from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday, the city witnesses as many as 70 religious processions. Every day, there are 5 to 7 of "marchas procesionales" during that time. The first procession starts at 3 am, while the last one ends 24 hours later. Each one lasts at least nine hours. In the meantime, casual viewers, take short breaks to drink coffee or pop into the nearby tapas bars.

At night when the crowd moves forward among the intense scent of incense, people refresh them-



selves with a glass of wine.

Processions often compete against each other. They are attended by the members of hooded brotherhoods, carrying relics of saints, holy books, as well as medieval statues crying with diamond tears. It's also worth going to Semana Santa in Andalusia, to see the annual paschal mystery. Easter celebrations there involve numerous ancient rituals.



Tourism

Germany

HAMBURG

Hamburg is one of the most beautiful metropolises in Europe. The city charms with its Hanseatic elegance and creates a particularly friendly atmosphere for relaxation. In addition to HafenCity and Speicherstadt districts, it's also worth seeing such tourist attractions, as the Miniatur Wunderland or the Elbphilharmonie. In the evening, tourists come to St. Pauli neighbourhood and Reeperbahn street which never sleeps. One of the most popular attractions of 2017 is, undoubtedly, the Elbphilharmonie – one of the tallest buildings in the city and the most modern philharmonic hall in the world. The building stands 110 metres tall, and has hardly any right angles. It's topped with a roof in the shape of a wave, or a sail. The Elbphilharmonie is a multifunctional facility. It houses a large and small concert hall, hotel, luxury apartments, restaurants and a car park. The acoustics of the largest of these, which seats 2,100 people, were developed by Yasuhisa Toyota, who worked on the renovation of the Sydney Opera House. As a result, even those listeners who sit far away, can easily hear whispers coming from the stage. It's definitely worth visiting Hamburg in spring!



Tourism

Czech Republic

MOST BEAUTIFUL CASTLES

Did you know that the Cesky Krumlov castle is the most popular construction of this type in the Czech Republic? The second and third places are occupied by Lednice and Hluboka palaces. At the beginning of April, the palace of Lednice, which was visited by 411,000 people last year, has inaugurated the season, opening all its tour routes. This year tourists can visit the freshly-renovated interiors of the minaret situated in the park. In 2016, Hluboka palace at Vltavou river was visited by 293,000 people.

This season, the place offers a new walking tour. Hluboka is one of the most beautiful Czech castles, whose romantic shape was inspired by the architecture of the English royal castle of Windsor. No wonder that today the palace is one of the most favourite tourist destinations. It's also very popular with film makers who use the fairytale-like building as a location.

Law

Business

ANOTHER SUCCESS OF "SKARBIEC" LAW FIRM

In February 2017 "Skarbiec" law firm, acting on behalf of Raven Trade sp. z o.o., concluded an arrangement in restructuring proceedings, for the amount of more than PLN 6 million. It's one of the largest arrangements in Poland, so far.

"During the seven months of negotiations, we were able to not only work out a compromise, which was accepted by the creditors of our customer, but also to obtain extremely favourable conditions for Raven Trade. This creates a real chance for the effective restructuring of the company," says attorney Robert Nogacki, the founder of the law firm.

Raven Trade sp. z o.o. will now have a chance to repay the public debt of about PLN 850,000 for the Social Security Office (ZUS) and Tax Office in 84 monthly instalments and the 8-month grace period. In addition, the com-

pany's private debts were spread over 48 instalments. Debts to contractors in the amount of approx. PLN 5,200,000 were reduced to 60 percent and covered by a 6-month grace period. Such favourable conditions will enable the company to stay in the market, maintaining the current employment of 70 people and 120 FTEs.

"We have been helping businesses in crisis situations, for more than 12 years now, and in the last several months the amended restructuring law has become one of our key scopes. We carry out restructuring both for debtors and creditors, as well as for restructuring advisors, managers and supervisors. We provide comprehensive legal services, based on the knowledge of the specifics of proceedings in bankruptcy and restructuring courts," adds attorney Robert Nogacki.





Austria

Carinthia

NASSFELD FOR CYCLISTS AND HIKERS

Nassfeld and its surroundings are well known to winter sports aficionados. However, few people know that the area is not only a perfect spot for skiers, snowboarders and sledge lovers, but also for those who like the nature and Alpine wildlife, both in summer and spring. The changing landscape of the beautiful Carinthia, which is all green at this time of the year, as well as the numerous opportunities for hiking, attract here tourists from all over the world. The region offers as many as 950 kilometres of cycling trails. Varied landscapes, Alpine passes and lakes, great possibilities for rock and mountain climbing, as well as the traditional Austrian cuisine - all this can be found in Nassfeld. An ideal spot both for spring and summer!

Beauty

Sephora

SPRING INSPIRATIONS

Sephora has presented the new, spring look both for businesswomen and women on the go. Luminous complexion, fresh skin, radiant look and revitalized face. What do they all have in common? According to the stylists of the brand, the connecting link here is brilliance. For those who want to capture it, Made in Sephora - the expert in radiant look of the face - proposes a number of products to illuminate the skin. You can do it with soft daubs or covering the entire surface of the face, adding the attractive gloss to your lips and healthy freshness to your cheeks. To do it, you can use the full range of carefully selected products, created to help ladies achieve this stunning, spring look.



France

Paris

SEINE AND MUSIC

Seine Musicale is a new, unique venue in Paris. Grande Seine can accommodate up to 6,000 people and is designed for concerts of contemporary music. The concert hall (1,150 seats) will host various classical music performances. The hall provides outstanding acoustics and reduces the distance between the audience and the artist.

The complex was designed by Shigeru Bana and Jean de Gastines. The architects created a huge 1,000 sqm sail, covered with solar panels, which rotates in line with the movement of the sun. The place will certainly become a symbol of Western Paris. In addition to the music zone Musicals Seine is also a space where you can actively spend time outdoors.

Technology

Huawei Mate 9 Pro

PERFECT IN THE OFFICE AND ON THE GO

Huawei Mate 9 Pro is an uncompromisingly designed smartphone, which combines high-quality components, advanced technology and a spectacular design. The device is a perfect companion on long-distance journeys, especially for those travellers who like to have everything under control.

When you travel on business, Mate 9 Pro is your office at hand. The device supports advanced office applications, multimedia and is a leading smartphone when it comes to speed and performance. With the lightning-fast Kirin 960 processor and the smart memory management, the device will be as efficient after 1.5 years of using, as it was on its first day. The innovative self-learning algorithm system in Huawei Mate 9 Pro predicts the behaviour of the user and prepares resources well in advance, to increase the speed of the device. The new, intuitive EMUI 5.0 interface provides exceptional comfort of use.

Have you forgotten to charge the phone before leaving home? No worries - plug it in for just 20 minutes and Mate 9 Pro will have enough juice to work for the whole day. All thanks to the super-fast charger and the powerful 4,000 mAh battery, combined with smart power management technology. Huawei Mate 9 Pro is a truly captivating device. It has a large, impressive screen with rounded edges and brushed aluminium back panel, making it look solid and extremely appealing. The device also comes with the characteristic dual-lens camera, created in collaboration with the legendary German Leica brand. Conveniently, Mate 9 Pro supports two SIM cards. Price: PLN 3,699; huaweipolska.pl



HUAWEI Mate 9 Pro

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W CENIE WYBRANYCH MIESZKAŃ
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BALKONU!**

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Business Traveller Poland Awards 2016

WE HAVE SELECTED THE BEST OF THE BEST!

It is the fourth time in the history of the Polish edition of Business Traveller when our readers and frequent travellers voted to select the best of the bunch in the industry.

If you find it difficult to decide which airlines, hotels and other services offer superior quality and are especially useful for those travelling on business, then we believe that our recommendations may prove invaluable.

We have met for the fourth time to present the most valuable awards to those who travel not only on their own business. It is worth noting that the number of our readers, as well as people doing business in Poland, Europe and beyond, is increasing steadily.

This year the editors of Business Traveller met the winners of the award in Villa Foksal, one of the best restaurants in Warsaw. In the stylish interiors and the picturesque spring garden, we were accompanied by the official partner of the Business Traveller Award Ceremony - Tacit Investment, the mastermind behind the Cosmopolitan Twarda 4 apartment building, as well as Skarbiec Law Firm, which provides strategic consulting services for business. In front of the building we could admire unique cars, courtesy of Chodzeń Maserati dealership.

Business Traveller was created in 1976 in London. Its annual Business Traveller Awards ceremonies attract the CEOs of major airlines and hotel chains around the world. The Polish edition of the magazine has been in print since 2009. Business Traveller Poland Awards are awarded based on the votes of our readers. The finalists are selected in collaboration with Deloitte Advisory, one of the world's most prominent consulting firms.

How do we choose the winners? We send our survey to such business travel giants, as HRG, Carlson Wagonlit, Weco Travel (Radius) or Air Club (BCD). The group of respondents also includes 5,000 subscribers to Business Traveller magazine. In this year's edition we received back more than 900 surveys. "Our annual awards are particularly helpful for those who value best services and high quality products," said Robert Grzybowski, the publisher of the Polish edition of Business Traveller.



Awards 2016

WINNERS

AIRLINES

Best Airline

Winner: Lufthansa

Finalists: Emirates, Qatar Airways, KLM

Best Short-Haul Airline

Winner: LOT Polish Airlines

Finalists: Lufthansa, SAS, Swiss

Best Long-Haul Airline

Winner: Lufthansa

Finalists: Emirates, Qatar Airways, KLM

Best Low-Cost Airline

Winner: Ryanair

Finalists: Wizz Air, Norwegian, Easyjet

Best Short-Haul Economy Class

Winner: Turkish Airlines

Finalists: Lufthansa, LOT Polish Airlines, KLM

Best Long-Haul Economy Class

Winner: Qatar Airways

Finalists: Lufthansa, Emirates, LOT Polish Airlines

Best Premium Economy

Winner: Air France

Finalists: Lufthansa, LOT Polish Airlines, British Airways

Best Short-Haul Business Class

Winner: Turkish Airlines

Finalists: Lufthansa, LOT Polish Airlines, British Airways

Best Long-Haul Business Class

Winner: Emirates

Finalists: Lufthansa, Qatar Airways, LOT Polish Airlines

Best First Class

Winner: Singapore Airlines

Finalists: Emirates, Lufthansa, Qatar Airways

Best Air Alliance

Winner: Star Alliance

Finalists: One World, Sky Team

Best Frequent Flyer Programme

Winner: Miles & More

Finalists: Miles & Smiles, Flying Blue, Executive Club

Best On-board Service

Winner: Singapore Airlines

Finalists: Emirates, Lufthansa, Qatar Airways



Robert Grzybowski, the publisher of Business Traveller Poland, and Marzena Mróz, the editor-in-chief of the magazine.



Adrian Kubicki,
Director of Communications,
LOT POLISH AIRLINES



Frank Wagner,
Country Manager Poland,
LUFTHANSA



Maciej Kacprzak,
WMI Base Captain,
RYANAIR



Erhan Ipek,
General Manager, Poland,
TURKISH AIRLINES



Ewelina Kwiatkowska,
Marketing Executive Poland,
QATAR AIRWAYS



Frantisek Siling,
Country Sales Manager for Poland,
AIR FRANCE



We were delighted to host the heads of airlines, hotels and airports - from Poland and around the world, as well as the official partner of the event: Tacit Investment, the mastermind behind Warsaw's Cosmopolitan Twarda 4 apartment building. We were also happy to welcome the representatives of the automotive and banking industries, car rental companies, as well as manufacturers of electronics and luggage for business.



Ewelina Karpińska, Marketing & PR Manager SHERATON WARSAW and Janusz Mitulski, Director International Hotel Development Marriott International



Maciej Pyrka, Manager Poland, EMIRATES



Peter Tomasch, Regional Public Relations Manager Europe & Communications Manager Germany, SINGAPORE AIRLINES



Magdalena Gniadek, Loyalty Programmes Department Manager, LOT POLISH AIRLINES



Grzegorz Michorek, Commercial Bureau Director, WARSAW CHOPIN AIRPORT

Best In-Flight Entertainment System

Winner: Emirates

Finalists: Lufthansa, Qatar Airways, British Airways

Best Airline Website

Winner: Air France

Finalists: Lufthansa, Emirates, LOT Polish Airlines

AIRPORTS

Best Airport in Poland

Winner: Warsaw Chopin Airport

Finalists: Wrocław Strachowice, Gdańsk Lech Wałęsa, Krakow Balice

Best Regional Airport in Poland

Winner: Wrocław Strachowice

Finalists: Katowice Pyrzowice, Gdańsk Lech Wałęsa, Krakow Balice

Best Airport in Europe

Winner: Frankfurt am Main

Finalists: Monachium Josef Strauss, Amsterdam Schiphol, London Heathrow

Best Airport in the World

Winner: Amsterdam Schiphol

Finalists: Dubai International, Singapore Changi, London Heathrow

Best Airport Business Lounge in Poland

Winner: Polonez Lounge (Chopin Airport)

Finalists: Elite Lounge (Chopin Airport), Executive Lounge (Gdańsk), Bolero Lounge (Chopin Airport)

Best Airport Business Lounge in the World

Winner: Dubai Emirates

Finalists: Lufthansa Frankfurt, Qatar Airways Doha, Air France Paris CDG

HOTELS

Best Hotel Brand in the World

Winner: Marriot International

Finalists: Accorhotels, Hilton Hotels & Resorts, Intercontinental Hotels & Resorts

Best Hotel Chain in Western Europe

Winner: Accorhotels

Finalists: Hilton Hotels & Resorts, Intercontinental Hotels & Resorts, Marriott International

Best Hotel Chain in Central Europe

Winner: Rezidor Hotel Group

Finalists: Accorhotels, Hilton Hotels & Resorts, Intercontinental Hotels & Resorts

Best Hotel Chain in Poland

Winner: Accorhotels

Finalists: Hilton Hotels & Resorts, Marriott Hotels & Resorts, Rezidor Hotel Group

Best Business Hotel in Poland

Winner: Sheraton Warsaw

Finalists: Andels Hotel Łódź, Hilton Warsaw, Intercontinental Warsaw

Best Hotel Conference Centre

Winner: Hilton Warsaw

Finalists: Intercontinental Warsaw, Marriott Warsaw, Sheraton Sopot

Best Airport Hotel in Poland

Winner: Courtyard by Marriott Warsaw

Finalists: Hampton by Hilton Gdańsk, Hampton by Hilton Warsaw, Hilton Garden Inn Krakow

Best Airport Hotel in Europe

Winner: Hilton Frankfurt Airport

Finalists: Hilton Munich Airport, Hilton Zurich Airport, Sheraton Frankfurt Airport

Best Hotel Loyalty Scheme

Winner: Le Club Accorhotels

Finalists: Hilton Honors, Marriott Rewards, Starwood Preferred Guest

Best Hotel Spa in Poland

Winner: Głębołek Vine Resort & Spa

Finalists: Dr Irena Eris Hotel Krynica Zdrój, Dr Irena Eris Hotel Spa Wzgórza Dylewskie, Sheraton Sopot Spa

Best Spa Brand in Poland

Winner: Dr Irena Eris Spa Hotels

Best Boutique Hotel in Poland

Winner: Mamaison Hotel Le Regina Warsaw

Finalists: Hotel Copernicus, Hotel Rialto Warsaw, Hotel Stry Krakow

Best Historic Hotel in Poland

Winner: Hotel Stry Krakow

Finalists: Hotel Krasicki Lidzbark Warmiński, Hotel Zamek Ryn, Le Meridien Bristol

BUSINESS SERVICES, CARS, CAR RENTAL, CONSUMER ELECTRONICS

Best Card for Business Travel

Winner: Diners Club LOT

Finalists: Citibank Premier Miles, mBank Miles & More, Pekao World Elite



Dariusz Kuś, President of the Management Board, WROCLAW-STRACHOWICE



Winfried Hartmann, Senior Vice President at Fraport AG Frankfurt Airport Services Worldwide, FRANKFURT AM MAIN



Lotte Harbers, Director Aviation Marketing, Aviation Marketing, AMSTERDAM SCHIPHOL AIRPORT



Joanna Świerkosz, VP Marketing, Quality, Loyalty – Poland and Eastern Europe, ACCORHOTELS



Eliza Marków, Cluster Marketing Executive, REZIDOR HOTEL GROUP



Ewelina Karpińska, Marketing & PR Manager, SHERATON WARSAW



Ewelina Przepiórka, Marketing and PR Coordinator, Skarbiec Law Firm



Agnieszka Najberek, Director of Sales, HILTON WARSAW



Paweł Paczek, Sales Manager, COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT WARSAW AIRPORT



Tacit Investment, the investor at Cosmopolitan Twarda 4 apartment building, was the official partner of the Business Traveller Awards Ceremony; apartamentycosmopolitan.pl



Mateusz Płochocki,
Member of the Board,
GŁĘBOCZEK VINE RESORT & SPA

Best GSM operator

Winner: T-Mobile

Finalists: Orange, Plus, Play

Best Business Travel Management Company

Winner: Weco Travel

Finalists: Airclub, American Express, Carlson Wagonlit, Hogg Robinson

Best Global Booking System

Winner: Amadeus

Finalists: Galileo, Sabre, Worldspan

Best Online Travel Agency

Winner: Booking.com

Finalists: Amadeus, Hotele.pl, HRS

Best Car Rental Company in Poland

Winner: Avis

Finalists: Budget, Europcar, Hertz

Best Car Rental Company in Europe

Winner: Hertz

Finalists: Avis, Europcar, Sixt

Best Car Rental Worldwide

Winner: Avis

Finalists: Europcar, Hertz, Sixt

Best Fleet Car

Winner: Skoda Octavia

Finalists: Ford Mondeo, Toyota Auris, Toyota Avensis

Best Executive Car

Winner: Audi A8

Finalists: BMW 7 Series, Lexus LS600H, Volvo S80

Best Smartphone for Business

Winner: Samsung

Finalists: Apple, Blackberry, Sony

Best Laptop for Business

Winner: Lenovo

Finalists: Asus, Dell, Hewlett-Packard

Best Luggage Brand

Winner: Wittchen

Finalists: Samsonite, Travelite, Victorinox

Best Clothing Brand for Business

Winner: Vistula

Finalists: Hugo Boss, Tommy Hilfiger, Wólcanka

Best Leisure Tour Operator

Winner: Neckermann

Finalists: Luxury Travel, Rainbow Tours, TUI



Paweł Chmielnicki, Director
General Manager - Board Member,
DR IRENA ERIS HOTELS



Agnieszka Tucharz,
General Manager, MAMAISON
HOTEL LE REGINA WARSAW



JJ Singh,
President & CEO Central Europe,
WECO TRAVEL



Monika Borowska,
Marketing Specialist,
AVIS



Tomasz Klepacki,
Digital Sales & Marketing Specialist,
HERTZ



Justyna Korniluk,
Account Manager Business Travel,
BOOKING.COM



Paweł Rek, Regional Manager
Central Europe Markets,
AMADEUS



The spacious winter garden of the welcoming Villa Foksal gathered more than 130 guests.



Marcin Bajor, Holding Liwa – Likus
Hotels & Restaurants,
HOTEL STARY KRAKOW



Justyna Kościuk,
PR Manager Vistula,
VISTULA



Konrad Mróz, Expert Corporate
Communication Department,
T- MOBILE



Klaudyna Gorzan, PR Manager,
Marketing Department,
ŠKODA

FOT. D.KAWKA



At the award ceremony held in Villa Foksal in Warsaw, we presented the prestigious 2016 Business Traveller Poland Awards.



Monika Grabowska, Director,
Products and Development
Department, DINERS CLUB LOT



Tomasz Włastowski,
SMB & Channel Sales Manager,
LENOVO



Karol Grabowski,
acting B2B Sales Manager,
WITTCHEN



Sylwia Nabywaniec,
Marketing Samsung Poland,
SAMSUNG



Jadwiga Borowińska,
PR Specialist,
AUDI



Magdalena Plutecka,
PR Manager, Spokesperson,
NECKERMANN



INDIGO HONG KONG ISLAND



CONTACT

Hotel Indigo Hong Kong Island
246 Queen's Road East
Wan Chai, Hongkong
www.ihg.com

The Hong Kong property of the Indigo brand, which is the boutique arm of the InterContinental Hotels Group, is fast becoming the accommodation of choice for the young business people who want five-star facilities, without having to pay top whack when in Central and Tsim Sha Tsui. The striking building, designed by the local Aedas architectural firm, is wrapped in a striking 'gold dragon' cast from burnished bronze, which is said to help

screen the building from hot spots and solar gain.

WHERE IS IT?

In the Wan Chai business district, a 5-minute walk from Wan Chai MTR Station, less than 2 km from the Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre, and a 45-minute drive from Hong Kong International Airport. It's also close to other attractions, such as Queen Elizabeth Stadium, Happy Valley Race Course, and Times Square Shopping Mall.

ROOMS

The hotel offers 138 Superior and Deluxe rooms, with décor that combines local flavour with an unpretentious slickness. There's a lot of detail in the design of each room, from the high end brands (Bang & Olufsen speakers and a Nespresso coffee machine) to the fun knick-knacks, photos and paintings, customised furniture, and themed fittings and furnishings. All the rooms and suites are non-smoking and feature floor-to-ceiling

windows, cable flat-screen TV with international channels, a Blu-ray player, mini bar, tea and coffee making facilities, as well as a spacious wardrobe. Each room also comes with an iron, safe, bathrobes and bath slippers. Free WiFi is available throughout the whole area of the hotel.

DINING

Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, the Indicolite Restaurant offers both Western and Asian favourites and serves the best coffee in Wan Chai. The restaurant also has an al fresco lounge area directly opposite to the Old Wan Chai Post Office that captures the spirit of the local history. The intimate rooftop Sky Bar which is located on the 29th floor, offers views over the metropolitan district of Wan Chai, and serves classic cocktails, bubbles and great wines as well as delicious snacks.

HOTEL FACILITIES

Indigo Hong Kong Island offers a wide range of on-site facilities and amenities including business centre, fitness centre, outdoor swimming pool, concierge, 24 hour room service and a dry cleaning and laundry service. The front desk operates round-the-clock and its service staff are extremely helpful.

SERVICE

A truly nice touch were the daily notes left in the room along with some kind of sweet treat - macrons, chocolate - letting me know to get in touch with the team in case I needed any assistance with my plans, and hoping I had a wonderful stay.

VERDICT

A very good hotel for business travellers. It has a convenient location, great service and lots of useful amenities. One of the design highlights of the property are the fast lifts that change colour, as well as pearly walls illuminated with led lights.

Rafał Sobiech



Indigo Hong Kong Island is a perfect choice for business travellers. It has a convenient location, great service and lots of useful amenities.



MELIÁ ZANZIBAR



CONTACT

Melia Zanzibar
Kiwengwa, Zanzibar
00200 Tanzania
www.melia.com

Meliá Zanzibar is a new way of experiencing an all-inclusive resort.

Situated on the north-East coast of the exotic island of Zanzibar, the resort was built on a 40 acre estate with a beautiful 300-metre long beach. Ringed by a natural coral reef, the place is a perfect spot for sunbathing and relaxing in a truly pleasant and safe environment. The hotel is situated around 45 - 50 minutes from the international airport of Zanzibar.

ROOMS AND SUITES

Standard rooms have spectacular garden or ocean views, and come equipped with spacious bathrooms and outdoor tropical showers. Romantic Pavilions with dazzling views of the Indian Ocean, are the perfect choice for couples. More demanding guests may go for a private villa with a garden and a swimming pool. Families with children are welcome at the Family Rooms, while larger groups can also be

accommodated at interconnecting rooms or at villas.

BARS AND RESTAURANTS

Gabi Beach Club gives you a real foretaste of the resort's beautiful Gabi beach restaurant, nestled quietly among palm trees. The stunning Jetty Lounge brings in the heart of the Indian Ocean. It's open for cocktails and dinners, and offers international tapas and sushi. Pool Bar & Restaurant is a perfect venue for light meals, sandwiches and snacks. It also offers an extensive menu of cocktails, beers and other beverages. Spices Market restaurant has three spectacular cooking islands and a beautiful terrace for alfresco dining. The exquisite Aqua restaurant, perched on the cliff side of the hotel overlooking the magnificent Indian Ocean, offers a la carte menu with excellent dishes of Mediterranean Fusion cuisine. The Library Bar is the place to go for a delicious drink, as well as to relax or read a newspaper, while sipping fine tea.

SPA, SPORTS AND CONFERENCES

The hotel's amphitheatre, which overlooks the ocean and comes equipped with the latest technology, is a perfect venue for a meeting or conference. "The Spa" is designed to restore balance and harmony between body and mind in an oasis of beauty, grace, and tranquillity. It has six private treatment rooms and an outdoor swimming pool with sun deck. Guests can also use the hotel's tennis court, table tennis tables, Petanque field, beach volleyball courts, and canoes. There is also a well-equipped gym and sauna.

VERDICT

An absolutely fabulous property! Note that the hotel collaborates with a PADI Diving Center, which offers diving and snorkelling excursions to discover Mnemba Atoll and to Stone Town's reef. Real daredevils can also take kite-surfing classes. I definitely recommend the place!

Rafał Sobiech



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Grupa KLIMA-THERM jest wiodącym dostawcą najwyższej klasy systemów klimatyzacyjnych i wentylacyjnych. W swojej ofercie posiada bogate portfolio rozwiązań dedykowanych do użytku profesjonalnego, jak również przeznaczonych na potrzeby odbiorców indywidualnych. Profesjonalizm oraz doświadczenie zdobyte na przestrzeni ponad 20 lat aktywnej działalności w branży HVACR, dziś plasują firmę na pozycji lidera rynku urządzeń klimatyzacyjnych i wentylacyjnych w Polsce.

DBAMY O KOMFORT POWIETRZA.

DBAMY O TWÓJ KOMFORT I TWÓJ SUKCES W BIZNESIE!

HIGH-TECH HOTELS

From robot concierges to emoji room service, technology is transforming the guest experience. **Jenny Southan** delves into the world's most high-tech hotels.





Not so long ago, I stayed in a hotel that had automatic fragrance dispensers in the rooms – on entering, I was greeted by a cloud of perfume so strong it nearly knocked me out. The window didn't open so I had no choice but to crank up the air con, unplug the offending pump and leave it in the corridor. That night, the bedside tablet refused to turn off, its screen keeping me awake with its ghostly glow.

Unfortunately, many hotels get tech wrong. I am reasonably competent at turning on TVs, but there have been many times when I have had to request maintenance to come and help me connect it to my laptop via a media hub, or sync it to the DVD player. I've struggled to find out what number to dial to reach reception, how to log on to the wifi or to turn out all the lights. These seemingly simple tasks can become incredibly frustrating and fire up a terrible rage against everything electronic.

By this summer, all 4,748 rooms and suites at the Wynn Las Vegas will have an Amazon Echo speaker, allowing you not only to play music but to control the air con, lights, curtains and TV with voice commands interpreted by Alexa, Amazon's built-in personal assistant. It sounds great, but I fear I would be the person who ended up screaming at it to close the curtains because it didn't understand my accent.

Hilton has designed an app for your phone that can be used to check in and open your room door, while the Four Seasons Toronto has in-room iPads allowing you to order a burger and fries at midnight without having to speak to anyone. Lucy is the Virgin hotel in Chicago app – tap the screen to request extra pillows, laundry pick-ups, meals or turndown service. At the Zetta in San Francisco, a new wellness programme

utilises brain-sensing Muse headbands for guided meditation.

Here is our pick of ten hotels and brands that are leading the way when it comes to technology. They are not scientifically ranked and we don't guarantee that you won't lose your cool when trying to engage with them, but the digitisation of real-world environments isn't going away so you may as well embrace it. According to the Institute for Global Futures, by 2060 we will all have access to DNA mobile payments, 3D printers and beds that will pre-programme our dreams...

1. HILTON MCLEAN TYSONS CORNER, VIRGINIA

Hilton's innovation lab has earned a place in the limelight for its cute-looking robot concierge, Connie. Powered by artificial intelligence from IBM Watson, she can provide restaurant tips in multiple languages and answer questions about hotel amenities. But the McLean has much more going on than that.

Rooms on the eighth and ninth floors have TVs you can log into and watch Netflix, YouTube and HuluPlus. Instead of having to call the front desk for toothpaste, you can send a text with Kipsu. Outside the Pantry is "RealSense by Intel", an eight-screen installation that responds to human gestures. By the Tech Lounge you'll find Amazon Lockers for deliveries.

Ava by Irobot is the hotel's mobile telepresence droid, which will act as your eyes and ears if you can't attend an on-site conference. According to Hilton: "When a person dials into the robot remotely, his or her face becomes the face of the robot and the person can manipulate its movements to interact with guests in real time." It can even mingle at cocktail parties.

Outside the hotel are five electric car-charging points, which are free for guests. At selected hotels, including the McLean, the HHonors app acts as a digital key allowing you to choose your room in advance via a floor plan, check in remotely and unlock your room within five feet of it.

Jonathan Wilson, Hilton's vice-president of product innovation and brand services, says: "[At the Hilton McLean Tysons Corner] we are conducting around 30 tests in partnership with more than 20 of the world's most inventive companies, including Google and Amazon. These tests allow us to capture feedback from guests and hotel management in real time, and are helping us to make travel more connected, personalised and fun. In the coming year, we are focused on harnessing the power of speech recognition and cognitive learning to deliver even better guest experiences." hilton.com

2. ALOFT

Described as Starwood's (now Marriott International's) "tech forward incubator brand", Aloft has introduced robotic butlers in its Cupertino and Silicon Valley hotels. The "Botlrs" work around the clock to deliver guests towels, newspapers, toiletries and bottles of water. They can use lifts without help, and when they arrive outside your room they will call your phone. They only accept tweets as tips and can pose for selfies.

At Aloft Santa Clara and Boston Seaport, meanwhile, the world's first voice-activated hotel rooms have been unveiled. By speaking into an iPad, tapping into the brain of Apple's Siri, travellers can turn lights on and off with a simple "Good morning" or "Good night", play music and fine-tune the air conditioning. At most Aloft hotels (as well as W and Element), Starwood Preferred Guest members can use the SPG



PHOTO: PRESS MATERIALS

TWÓJ ASYSTENT PODRÓŻY TWÓJ DORADCA MICE*



NUMER JEDEN W POLSCE



www.etravel.pl

*Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, Events



Keyless app to open their bedroom doors with their phone.

om service arrived last year at select hotels – text the water droplet, pill and banana emojis to receive two bottles of Vitamin Water, some Advil and two bananas (US\$10). Brian McGuinness, senior vice-president of Starwood's specialty select brands, says: "We look to consumer behaviour and think about how to integrate these trends into the Aloft experience. The rise of emoji was a logical next step." aloft.com

3. M BETA AT CHARLOTTE MARRIOTT CITY CENTRE

Described as a "travel innovation lab in live beta", this 1980s hotel was transformed by Marriott last autumn, and now exists as an interactive showroom for testing innovations that could then be rolled out across other properties.

In the gym, guests can take part in hundreds of virtual fitness classes presented on large wall-mounted screens, while in the lobby is a booth that measures your mood. Stay Well rooms have purified air systems and digitised lighting to help ease jet lag. Guests can give feedback by pushing Beta Buttons dotted around the property, with real-time approval rankings displayed publicly on digital boards.

At select hotels, not only can you check in and open your door with Marriott's app but use Mobile Requests to order a toothbrush, champagne or flowers. marriott.com

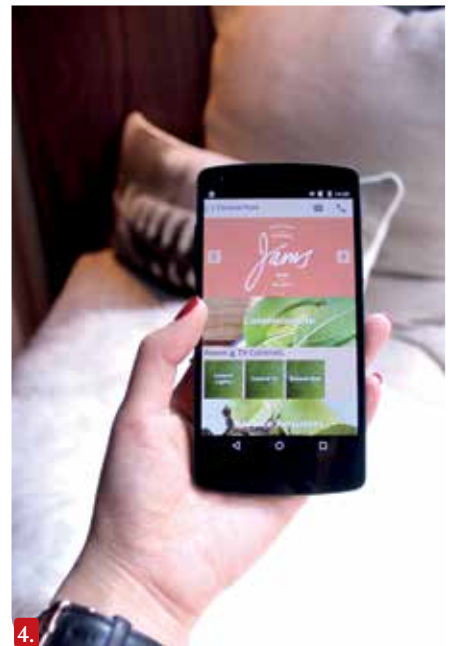
4. 1 HOTELS

1 Hotels is an innovative new brand that combines state-of-the art technology with

sustainability (rooms have bins for unwanted clothes, hemp-blend mattresses and refillable bottles of shower gel), as well as nature-inspired biophilic interiors (living walls, air plants, terrariums and raw timber furniture). Nespresso machines use recyclable pods and compostable cups, while handheld Nexus devices replace the need for guest books, newspapers (Press Reader is installed), room service menus and phones. The Vers 2Q Bluetooth stereos are made of wood from sustainably managed forests – for every tree cut down, they plant 100 more. Even the reusable electronic key fobs are made of wood.

"Technology is key to implementing sustainability, an integral component of the 1 Hotels mission," says Barry Sternlicht, founder of 1 Hotels and chief executive of Starwood Capital Group. "1 Hotels is part of a greater platform for change in moving hospitality forward and ultimately, making the world a better place. Having the latest in technological and digital innovation goes hand-in-hand in making this possible; from the highest-grade triple water purification systems found in all our hotel rooms to motion-sensor activated lighting and five-minute shower timers."

Not only is there free electric car charging, but access to a Tesla for free journeys within a 15-block radius. Gyms have self-powered Peloton Cycles and there are bikes (and recyclable helmets) to borrow instead of taking a taxi. These are available across all three hotels – one in Miami and two in New York. Upcoming openings will be in Sanya, China (2018), Cabo and Sunnyvale in California (2019). 1hotels.com



5. YOTEL

Capsule chain Yotel certainly has hotels that look sci-fi, with tiny rooms illuminated in purple and streamlined white surfaces that resemble a lunar module. But its tech is pretty space-age, too. In its flagship New York property, a huge robotic arm lifts suitcases into storage units, while guests use glowing airport-style kiosks to check in.

Signature features include space-saving adjustable SmartBeds that fold 90 degrees to create a couch, Smart TVs and USB/UK/EU/US plug sockets. The 80-room next-generation YotelAir hotel at Paris Charles de Gaulle airport has a co-working space with tables fitted with USB charging points and the ability to print wirelessly for free wherever you are.

The first city-centre Yotel to open in Europe will be the Yotel in Clerkenwell in 2018. The brand will arrive in Singapore, San Francisco and Boston this year, and Miami, Brooklyn and Dubai in 2018. yotel.com

6. ECCLESTON SQUARE, LONDON

This boutique hotel in a 19th-century building in Belgravia is one of the most technologically advanced in the capital. Every one of its rooms has a 46-inch HD 3D Neo Plasma Panasonic TV, a free 3D DVD library and an iPad 2 that functions as a virtual concierge. Hastens beds from Sweden can be adjusted electronically or set to massage mode.

Dividing the bedroom from the bathroom is a wall of Smart Glass – at the touch of a button, it can transform from transparent to opaque. An anti-mist mirror has an integrated LED TV so you can watch the news while brushing your teeth.



5.



6.



7.



Olivia Byrne, one of the hotel's owners, says: "When travelling, guests want a continuation of the technology, comfort and convenience they enjoy at home. So while some outlandish gimmicks are grabbing headlines, it's those tech services and amenities that offer an experience upgrade, but still a continuation and integration of their own personal devices, like AirPlay Mirroring, plus complementary communication technology, that really adds value to a guestroom."

Particularly useful for overseas guests, Handy smartphones with free calls and data can be borrowed. When visiting the hotel's website, a pop-up instant messaging window allows you to put questions to a real-life guest services consultant. ecclestone-squarehotel.com

7. PENINSULA CHICAGO

This luxurious outpost of the Hong Kong-based brand has implemented a number of innovations developed by the company's dedicated R&D team. This means all tech found in Peninsula properties is custom-made and rigorously tested.

Along with its Beijing property, the Peninsula Chicago has the most up-to-date gadgetry, including bespoke digital tablets (bedside, desk and wall-mounted) for controlling all in-room functions (lighting, temperature, privacy, valet call and curtains), as well as displaying city guides and restaurant menus, in

multiple languages. Workdesks have internet radio, weather panels and iPod docks, while bathrooms feature LED touchscreen panels for TV and radio. There are also "ambient spa" settings for a "light and sound experience". Flatscreen Blu-ray LED TVs have free HD movies, memory card readers and virtual surround-sound. The hotel's Rolls-Royce and Mini fleets are equipped with free wifi. chicago.peninsula.com

8. THE MIRA HONG KONG

In 2013, whistleblowing CIA contractor Edward Snowden holed up at the Mira before going on the run. Not only is the hotel one of Hong Kong's glitziest and most exclusive, but one of the most technologically advanced as well. All guests are loaned pocket wifi hotspots to use when out and about so they can use their own phones without racking up data costs.

Kenneth Sorensen, head of hotels and serviced apartments for the Mira Group, says: "Nowadays, every traveller carries at least one private device that has all their contacts and preferred apps. Guests staying in our hotels no longer need to go through the learning curve of getting familiar with a third-party smartphone provided by the hotel, which was the case until now."

The Mira's 492 rooms all have Bose sound docks, 40-inch LCD TVs, laptop safes with built-in chargers, and a tablet with Press

Reader and a call-the-concierge function. themirahotel.com

9. NH COLLECTION MADRID EUROBUILDING

The NH Collection Eurobuilding underwent a three-month renovation in 2014, turning the 412-room property into another test-bed for hospitality. Upon entering, guests will gaze up at Europe's largest (300 sqm) vaulted, multimedia LED screen. Four Living Lab rooms are fitted with wireless charging points and tablets that let you video-call receptionists. For meetings, there is the Microsoft Lync Online 3D holographic telepresence system. nh-hotels.com

10. MAMA SHELTER LOS ANGELES

Part of Accorhotels, funky French brand Mama Shelter has installed Apple iMac computers in all of its 600-plus hotel rooms. There are six hotels in the group – the one in LA is a good example of how high-tech they are. The sleek 27-inch desktop Macs are installed with information about hotel amenities and free movies – including porn. You can also access TV, radio and Airplay. Reception will lend you a keyboard to type with. Take pictures with the webcam and (with your permission) they will be displayed on screens in the public areas. mamashelter.com

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SUMMER WITH LUFTHANSA



Lufthansa is adding new attractive tourist destinations to its European flight timetable for the forthcoming summer season 2017. Lufthansa flies its holiday passengers to the “best weeks of the year” with the service of a scheduled airline – whether it’s for a beach holiday, an expedition or a city break.

SEEKING THE SUN

From the end of March 2017 for the first time, there will be three flights a week from Frankfurt to Santiago de Compostela (Spain). Bordeaux (France) is on Lufthansa’s flight plan from Frankfurt twice a week for wine fans and sun-seekers. Flights leave on Thursdays and Sundays for the metropolis on the Gironde, the economic, political and cultural capital of south-west France.

Lufthansa is offering flights to Shannon (Ireland) once a week from Frankfurt. Shannon is in County Clare, one of Ireland’s most popular holiday regions. The programme of summer destinations from Frankfurt is completed by Pula in Croatia and the Baltic resort of Heringsdorf. Last but not least, fans of the flower island of Madeira will be happy, be-

cause Lufthansa is now offering flights to Funchal (Portugal) from Frankfurt all year round, not just in winter. And Frankfurt-Paderborn is now back in the Lufthansa flight plan, too.

MORE SERVICES FROM MUNICH AND FRANKFURT

Starting this summer, Lufthansa will be extending its route network from Munich to include two great new flight destinations. Beginning 28 March 2017, there will be flights six times a week from Munich to Nantes, located in the Pays de la Loire region of France. Additionally, at the beginning of the Easter holidays, on 9 April 2017, Lufthansa will, for the first time, offer flights from Bavaria’s capital to Santiago de Compostela in northern Spain. From 27 March 2017 onwards, there will also be flights departing from Frankfurt every Monday, Thursday and Friday to the pilgrimage destination in Spain. This summer travelers will also have the chance to fly non-stop to Marrakech for the first time. There will be flights twice a week to the Moroccan royal city - popular with lovers of culture - departing every Friday and Sunday.

Aside from these new destina-

tions, the summer flight schedule is also being expanded to include more flights to some already popular destinations. There will be more weekly flights to Malta, Cologne, Dublin, the Romanian city of Sibiu, Geneva, Graz and St. Petersburg.

WITH NEW AIRBUS TO AMERICA AND INDIA

North America fans starting from Munich will be happy too - both the Canadian city of Montreal and Denver in the USA will be featured daily in the future flight program. There is also something special coming for Lufthansa passengers traveling to Boston - from 14 March 2017 onwards, the new Lufthansa A350-900 will be flying to this city in Massachusetts.

A third A350-900 service will start to Mumbai in the second half of April. This aircraft is currently the most advanced and most environmentally-friendly long haul aircraft in the world. If you don’t want to wait until then for this amazing new flight experience, starting 10 February 2017, you can fly with the Airbus A350-900 to New Delhi. Lufthansa will be operating daily flights to the Indian capital throughout the summer.

Aside from these new destinations, the summer flight schedule is also being expanded to include more flights to some already popular destinations.

There will be more weekly flights to Malta, Cologne, Dublin, the Romanian city of Sibiu, Geneva, Graz and St. Petersburg.

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LONG-HAUL TRAVEL: NARROW MARGINS

A new generation of single-aisle aircraft is set to serve long-haul routes. How will this affect passengers, asks **Alex McWhirter**.



Some 35 years ago, wide-body jets were ushering in a new era of comfortable long-haul flying. The Boeing 747, McDonnell Douglas DC-10 and Lockheed Tri-star provided flyers with space and comfort beyond their wildest dreams. Never again, it was thought, would passengers

be condemned to sit in a narrow, claustrophobic tube for hours on end.

However, recent developments threaten to turn back the clock. Narrow-body aircraft such as the B737 MAX and A321LR are shaking off their short-haul origins and are poised to make a comeback on longer flights. Ini-

tially, they will operate between Europe and the US East Coast but eventually they could ply other lengthy routes, too.

MAKING FLIGHTS CHEAPER

While it is true that a number of narrow-body aircraft are already in service across the Atlantic (see page 28), these updated

variants are more advanced. They are capable of flying with a full load of 180 or 200 passengers nonstop between cities in Europe and airports on the US eastern seaboard. So the economy class passenger located in those roomy B747 seats, configured nine-across with two aisles in the 1970s, will, in 2017, end up in a tighter, six-across, single-aisle charter configuration. Why are airlines downgrading their product? It's simply a question of driving down the ticket price. Forget the comfort and service – these aircraft will mainly be operated by low-cost carriers (LCCs). Narrow-bodied jets such as the B737 MAX and A321LR are cheaper to buy and operate compared with today's sophisticated wide-bodies like the B787 Dreamliner or Airbus's new A350 (which would normally find favour with LCCs). They may possibly be more reliable, too, considering the many problems that Norwegian experienced in the early days of B787 service.

SMALLER BUT MORE EFFICIENT

Their flying range varies between just over 3,000 nautical miles in the case of the B737 MAX, to 4,000 nautical miles for the A321LR. Their smaller size and passenger capacity also provides the operator with flexibility, enabling them to be rostered between secondary airports.

It means the LCCs face less risk in finding enough passengers to fill their flights. By operating between smaller airports, they pay lower fees and know that the big boys, with their 400- or 500-seat A380s and B777-300ERs, cannot challenge them directly.

Norwegian has ordered dozens of B737 MAX and A321LR aircraft. It intends to operate the former on a new route between Edinburgh and New York. The launch date is expected late this spring or early summer, with the carrier's B737s due to fly from Newburgh – a 60-mile



Narrow-body aircraft such as the B737 MAX and A321LR are shaking off their short-haul origins and are poised to make a comeback on longer flights.



drive from Manhattan – and Providence, Rhode Island, which is about the same distance from Boston. Norwegian also plans to operate these B737s out of Cork, and there will be many points elsewhere in both Europe and Scandinavia. When it takes delivery of 30 A321LRs in a couple of years' time, there will be further developments.

NEW FLEET

Aer Lingus is expected to launch a low-cost subsidiary in the coming years. The IAG carrier is likely to finalise a deal with Airbus to lease a number of A321LR NEO (new engine

option) aircraft. In an interview given by IAG boss Willie Walsh to the Irish Independent, he explained that the A321LR could be used both to expand frequency out of Dublin on busy routes such as New York, as well as operating to other US points. IAG could also use the A321LR out of regional Irish airports such as Cork or Shannon.

These smaller aircraft will allow niche carriers to enter the transatlantic market. Azores Airlines is a good example of this. Part of Portugal's SATA Group, it has an advantageous base between Southern Europe and North America. In 2019 it will



With their smaller size and passenger capacity, narrow-body aircraft provide operators with flexibility, enabling them to be rostered between secondary airports.



modernise its transatlantic fleet when it will lease four A321LRs.

The Azores are located 900 nautical miles west of Portugal, so the A321LR is ideally suited to the carrier's transatlantic ambitions.

Will we see these narrow-bodied jets flying between the Gulf and Europe? Existing B737s and A320s already operate some services to the Balkans and Central Europe but because of range limitations are not typically seen going into Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Paris or London.

Still, it can only be a matter of time before they arrive in Northern Europe. One issue delaying their arrival here is the fact that Europe to the Gulf is not yet a major point-to-point market like North America. Most passengers are travelling beyond, rather than to or from, the Gulf.

Anyone travelling for business would be wise to opt for premium or the most spacious seating provided, assuming, of course, that a superior product is offered on board (that was unclear for these new aircraft at the time of writing).

EXISTING SERVICES

A number of narrow-bodied aircraft already ply the Atlantic. American Airlines and United, for example, operate a number of B757 services from regional points to the US East Coast, while Icelandair and Wow Air operate various narrow-bodies between Europe and the East Coast but with a plane change in Reykjavik.

The difference is that these are older variants that, in the case of the B757s – a short-distance aircraft specifically adapted for transatlantic service – are somewhat long in the tooth. Range can be an issue. United's B757s, when faced with strong headwinds flying west, have been known to divert to Gander in Canada for refuelling. Canada's Westjet operates B737 services between Halifax in Nova Scotia and Glasgow, but it's a shorter distance.



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This year Mercure hotels invite their guests to go on a sensual journey into the fascinating world of hand-made chocolate. From 14 April to 4 June 2017 Mercure hotels will be filled with the velvety scent of unique pralines dedicated to the brand and hiding remarkable, often surprising flavours enrobed in the highest quality chocolate. The unforgettable experience of tasting exquisite chocolates is a result of the collaboration of Mercure brand with Polish chocolate company Karmello. The company's chocolatiers love tradition, but they are also renowned for their innovative approach to the chocolate magic.

Hotel guests will feel the distinct aroma of chocolate right after entering their rooms. For this occasion they will find there a special "Mercure" praline, which hides the mystery of the oriental refreshment, covered in classic, dark chocolate. The signature "Mercure" chocolate will be a unique gift for each guest. In addition, those who will book a room for at least two days at the time of the Sweet Secret campaign, will benefit from a special 30 percent discount off the price of the stay. They will also have an opportunity to try a number of other sensual chocolates, waiting for them in their rooms, in the elegant VIP boxes.

This year Mercure hotels invite their guests to go on a sensual journey into the fascinating world of hand-made chocolate.

Mercure Krakow Stare Miasto



ROSES ARE RED, VIOLETS ARE BLUE...

The comprehensive offer of the inspiring flavours, aromas and textures, the guests of Mercure hotels will enjoy unusual blends of dark, milk and white chocolate with the aroma of bison grass, rose petals, cherries, strawberries and raspberries, the delightful aroma of violets, walnuts, hazelnuts and pistachios, as well as salt, caramel, effervescent passion fruit and white wine.

The adventure of chocolate tastes and aromas will also continue in Winestone restaurant, which for the whole month will enrich its menu with chocolate delicacies. These will include chocolate Platinum ice-cream, chocolate cake covered with intense chocolate sauce, as well as special chocolate version of the Coffee Gourmet offering. Hotel boutiques will join the

campaign, offering chocolate-craving guests sets of 9 or 16 pralines from the Sweet Secret by Mercure offer.

Sweet Secret by Mercure is a unique invitation to immerse yourself in the taste of top quality pralines, which meet the demands of the most demanding connoisseurs. It's also a great opportunity to take advantage of the special promotional packages prepared in Mercure hotels.

WHEN WORK BECOMES PLEASURE

Mercure brand meets all the needs of business people, offering them its extensive expertise. After a long day's work, hotel guests can relax in the cosy bar, restaurant or fitness centre, or simply enjoy the comforts of Privilege rooms, which offer a range of bespoke services. With

the wide range of equipment, each Mercure hotel provides favourable conditions for doing business. Most Mercure properties have dedicated meeting facilities and offer extensive assistance in planning meetings, conferences and private events. The hotel staff is known for its full dedication to customers, offering them a friendly and hospitable atmosphere.

Mercure hotels rooms feature a classic yet contemporary decor, reflecting the nature of the properties. The décor promotes relaxation; the natural materials and warm colours help guests feel in their rooms as if they were at their own home. Fast and trouble-free internet connection, appropriate lighting and conveniently arranged seating, guarantee perfect conditions for relaxation, but also a convenient setting for work.

Sweet Secret by Mercure is a unique invitation to immerse yourself in the taste of top quality pralines. It's also a great opportunity to take advantage of the special promotional packages prepared in Mercure hotels.

Mercure Wrocław Centrum



Mercure Gdansk Posejdon



FISH MARKET IN THE WESTIN WARSAW



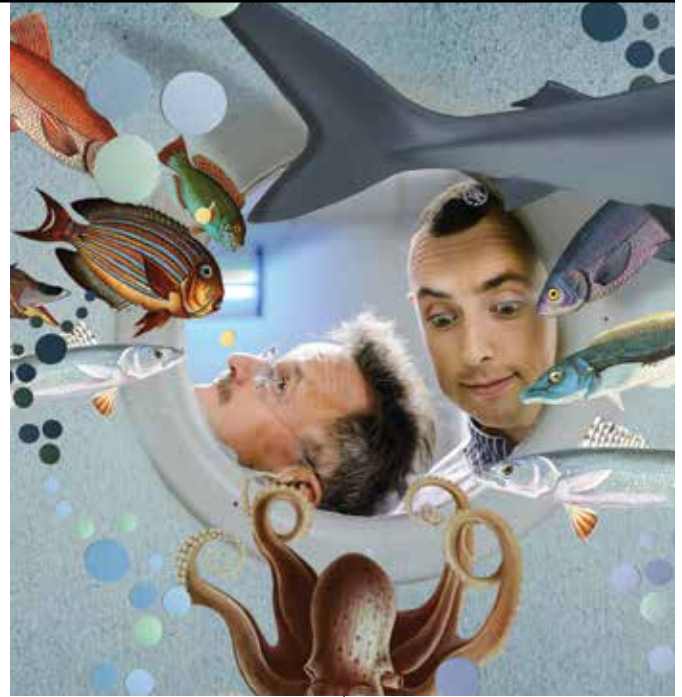
Some may think that to get the taste of good fish, you need to go on holiday to a Mediterranean or Asian resort. However, The Westin Warsaw hotel has managed to combine those two popular holiday destinations... on one plate.

Every Friday evening, the hotel's Fusion restaurant offers top quality seafood and fish, seasoned by the chefs with the flavours of the Far East.

There is a rich buffet menu, best seafood (including oysters and mussels), as well as the most exquisite types of fish. There are also cooking stations where you can compose a dish of your choice. This, of course, is done under the watchful eye of the chef who helps you select the most appropriate ingredients. Fish Markets are a unique opportunity to enjoy delicious fusion style snacks, as well as salads and wok dishes.

Start your feast with oysters offered with a number of dressings, then try fusion-style snacks, salads and the delicious fish prepared a la minute. It's difficult to decide on just one dish, because their heavenly taste and look is guaranteed by chef Janusz Korzyński who is known for his love for Asian cuisine, as well as healthy and tasty products.

No feast can do without good wine. Luckily, again you can rely



here on the expertise of Robert Mielżyński, a leading Warsaw sommelier, who knowledgeably pairs the dishes with appropriate wine.

The feast ends with delicious dessert prepared by the restaurants chief confectioner Adam Jakubowski. The choice includes heavenly cakes, mousses and sweet snacks. Fish Market at The Westin takes place every Friday from 6 pm to 10.30 pm.

The price (PLN179 per person, PLN135 when booking online) includes unlimited wine, beer and soft drinks.

The cuisine offered at Fusion combines the flavours of the East and West. Dishes are prepared with SuperFoodsRX ingredients as well as fresh, seasonal products. The key idea is to obtain synergy between all the ingredients, by combining them in an appropriate way.

In addition to the fish Fridays, Fusion is also renowned for its Sunday brunches, and quick business lunches served from Monday to Friday.

Janusz Korzyński began his culinary adventure about 30 years ago. His career was bol-

stered by his travels e.g. to RSA, where he tried products that were unavailable in Poland at that time. In Warsaw he began at the Marriott hotel, then he was hired by Sheraton. He has been the head chef at Westin for 13 years. "The most pleasant aspect of my work is the fact that cooking is a passion to create, which adds to the joy of working," says Korzyński. "Eating is pure pleasure. I often start and end my day in our patisserie, because I have a soft spot for sweets," he adds.

restauracjafusion.pl



In addition to the fish Fridays, Fusion is also renowned for its Sunday brunches, and quick business lunches served from Monday to Friday.

WHEN HOTEL BECOMES YOUR HOME

and your business trip is a unique experience



Breakfast based on regional products in "Delight" restaurant at andel's by Vienna House Łódź.

A hotel stay should involve unique culinary experiences, both at breakfast, lunch or dinner.

Business tourism is, undoubtedly, a very strong segment of the whole industry, and its potential is growing steadily. This is not only because a face-to-face business meeting can prove much more effective than a video-conference, but also because the preferences of travelers are changing, so hotels and hotel chains must continuously adapt and expand their offerings. Also rigid standards and conventions of the hospitality are becoming less and less important, in favour of a slightly more informal atmosphere and a better experience of service.

After all, the ultimate goal of every hotel is to make guests feel comfortable and offer them bespoke service. This is also one of the main principles of Vienna House hotel group. With its unique services, the chain wants its properties to become a true home, especially for those guests who spend a large part of their life on business trips.

TIME MATTERS

On a business trip, every second counts. It is therefore important to make hotel check-in and check-out processes as short as possible. In a lot of countries worldwide, it is a regular prac-

tice for hotel chains to install self check-in kiosks at their properties, as well as to enable guests to unlock the door of their rooms with their smartphones. One of the most useful innovations in the hotel industry are mobile apps that help guests find all the important information about their stay, as well as the services and amenities available in their hotel. Vienna House is promoting its own app, called Mobile Concierge with which you can chat with the front-desk staff, order a taxi, book a table in the restaurant, as well as read the latest issues of popular maga-

zines. With free access to Wi-Fi throughout the hotel, the app is easily accessible for all guests.

IN THE VERY HEART OF THE HOTEL

Today, guests are less willing to spend their free time in their hotel rooms. Instead they often want to feel the spirit of the place they are staying in. The typical, old-fashioned desks in rooms are on the way out, making place for the so-called co-working areas with long tables and easy access to power points and fast internet connection.

Rupert Simoner, the CEO of Vienna House, points out that hotel life is moving to its heart, that is, to its lobby. This idea has been implemented across all Vienna House Easy properties. The lobby in the hotels features co-working tables, while in the Lounge zone there are rocking benches for those who want to rest and unwind. The simplicity of solutions is combined here with design elements inspired by the local symbols of the city. All of this is set to create the 'easy' style of the hotel.

CREATIVITY IS THE KEY

In addition to the refined simplicity, Vienna House also focuses on creative solutions, not only in guests rooms and public

areas, but also in meeting facilities. Instead of typical chairs, there are comfortable armchairs of loungers, while breaks can be used for various team-building games, including foosball. In such an atmosphere, even the most intensive brainstorming session will be extremely successful. The configuration of the rooms largely depends on the needs of conference organizers, as well as the character of the meeting.

The inseparable part of each meeting are coffee breaks. "We believe that they need to be primarily healthy, based on regional ingredients, to efficiently boost the energy of the participants. The food we serve is also beautifully presented. Our chefs use various tricks of their trade to positively surprise our guests," says Anna Olszyńska, the general manager at andel's by Vienna House Łódź. Freshly squeezed juices, fruits and vegetables, nuts and other snacks are set on pallets and ladders. The more creative it looks, the better.

CULINARY FEAST

Obviously, a hotel stay should also involve unique culinary experiences, both at breakfast, lunch or dinner.

Regional cuisine is the key for all chefs working for the brand,

including Alexander Koppe the head chef of Michelin-starred SKYKITCHEN restaurant. Situated in Berlin's andel's hotel, the restaurant is known for refined German cuisine with a modern twist. The place is so popular that you need to book a table two months in advance. The hotel restaurant at andel's Łódź may be slightly less popular than its Berlin's counterpart, but it also serves numerous delicacies. The head chef Mirosław Jabłoński prepares mouth-watering dishes, based on fresh regional products. His restaurant called "Delight" has won two toques of Gault & Millau guide, and it serves Polish flavours in interesting fusion combinations. An additional advantage of the place is its interior, decorated with works by young, talented artists.

The hotel you stay on your business trip is often the only place you visit in a given city. Therefore hotel chains do their best to make your stay as unforgettable experience as possible. This is one of the main principles of Vienna House group. The hotels of the group are all about experience, design and refined simplicity. In this way, they can become real home for their guests.

viennahouse.com

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The co-working zone at Vienna House Easy Landsberg



Lounge Deli at Vienna House Easy Berlin

ON SAFARI



Meliá Serengeti Lodge is situated in Tanzania within the famous Serengeti National Park. The hotel has a rich programme of leisure activities, including hot-air balloon safaris, game drives and picnics.

Meliá Serengeti Lodge is situated in Tanzania within the famous Serengeti National Park. The property lies on a naturally terraced southern slope of Nyamuma hills with spectacular views down into the largely under-utilised Mbalageti River Valley. This location offers stunning sunset views over the mountains beyond with an abundant population of resident game as well as the annual migration right through the area.

AFRICA AT ITS BEST

Meliá Serengeti is built on 7,000 sqm of land. The site consists of three natural terraces descending from the edge of a raised plateau. The development occupies the middle terrace, with the building following the gentle meander of the terrace edge, engaging in an intimate relationship with the natural landscape of existing trees and rocky outcrops.

ROOMS AND SUITES

The hotel offers 50 guest rooms with terraces. All rooms and suites feature calm décor, accentuated by traditional Massai patterns and colours. The 33 sqm Melia Lagoon View rooms are situated on the ground floor of the building. Melia Savanah Panoramic (33 sqm) occupy the first floor and come with a King Size bed, as well as a private terrace. The 144 sqm, twin-bed-room suites with separate living room and a dining table, are situated on the first floor and have bush views.

TASTES OF THE LAND

Livingstone Bar offers Tanzanian coffee and tea blends, served in a very colonial approach, as well as African liquors menu and classic cocktails based on local and African Gin. Pool Bar is the place where you can enjoy Serengeti sunset with the best selection of East African wines,

sparkling wines, beers, long drinks, whiskies and local fruit cocktails, combined with a menu of African and international tapas. Nyumbu restaurant serves sumptuous buffet breakfasts and lunches, as well as various themed dinners. With spectacular open show cooking islands, the restaurant opens onto a beautiful terrace with fantastic views over the Serengeti park. Overlooking the largely under-utilized Mbalageti River Valley, Boma restaurant offers fine dining in an exclusive atmosphere.

SAFARI, GYM AND SPA

The hotel has a rich programme of leisure activities, including hot-air balloon safaris, game drives and picnics. Guests of the hotel have also access to the gym, spa, free wifi and laundry service. The property has its own conference centre, equipped with the latest technology; melia.com





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ZURICH: MACHINE LEARNING



The pretty city of Zurich is quietly becoming a world-leading destination for robotics, artificial intelligence and cognitive computing.
Jenny Southan reports.



There is something uncanny about the way this dog-like robot moves – its skeletal frame whirs loudly as it marches on the spot, then moves side to side, and around in a circle in a strange dance. Built by a team in the Robotic Systems Lab at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH Zurich), assistant professor Marco Hutter says the “ANYmal” is his newest creation.

Not only can it run but climb, crouch and jump. “We wanted to make something that was optimal from a robotics point of view,” he says. “We put springs in all the joints so we can use it in all sorts of environments.” As part of a pilot project, the ANYmal has been put to work on offshore oil and gas platforms where it can go about inspection tasks (often dangerous for humans) completely autonomously thanks to laser sensors and cameras.

INTELLIGENCE HUB

Founded in 1855, the ETH is Switzerland’s answer to MIT. Ranked one of the best universities in the world, more than 20 Nobel Prizes have been awarded to its alumni over the years, including Albert Einstein in 1921. Today it has 20,000 students and an annual budget of Sfr 1.7 billion (£1.4 billion), fund-

ed by taxpayers. “That is part of the reason the ETH is the best,” says professor Peter Seitz, a “sherpa” from its Innovation and Entrepreneurship Lab (ieLab).

In a warehouse on the Science City campus, a short drive north-west of the old town, architects are using giant mechanical arms to explore new construction techniques that employ nothing more than loops of yarn and pebbles, for example, or 3D printed concrete. Upstairs is the Arch Tech Lab, a vast, light-filled space with an undulating roof of 48,000 wooden beams that was built entirely by a single gantry robot. Aleksandra Anna Apolinarska, an architect in the Gramazio Kohler Research Lab at the ETH Zurich, says the days of mass production are behind us. “We think it is time for mass customisation.”

From self-driving cars to augmented reality, the ETH is forging a new tomorrow in myriad ways. And with the help of ieLab, Seitz’s students have the opportunity to take ideas from the research stage to market. Between 1996 and 2016, 355 spin-off companies have been founded at the ETH, a number of which have been in the field of robotics.

Verity Studios, for example, designs magical quadcopter drones that are being used in Cirque du Soleil’s Paramour show on Broad-

way, while Wingtra builds autonomous fixed-wing planes that take off and land like helicopters, and can be used for anything from filming to wildlife protection. Close to the ETH, Disney has a research lab that opened in 2010, and is putting its efforts into video of the future. In Oerlikon is the HQ of established industrial robotics giant ABB. It’s no wonder that Chris Anderson, CEO of 3D Robotics and former editor-in-chief of *Wired*, has dubbed Zurich “the Silicon Valley of Robotics”.

TALENT CONTEST

In 2016, Switzerland was ranked first in Cornell University’s Global Innovation Index, and Zurich came second in the Mercer Quality of Living survey, significantly ahead of San Francisco (28th position).

Unsurprisingly, over the decades, the ETH has provided a compelling reason for big companies to locate themselves in pretty little Zurich, a city of just 380,000 people that has grown into a global hub for banking, finance and innovation. The IBM Research Lab was the first from the company outside the US when it opened here in 1956.

Chris Sciacca, IBM Research’s communications manager for EMEA, says: “We now have four main buildings including



In 2016, Switzerland was ranked first in Cornell University’s Global Innovation Index, and Zurich came second in the Mercer Quality of Living survey, significantly ahead of San Francisco.



From self-driving cars to augmented reality, the ETH is forging a new tomorrow in myriad ways.

the Nano Technology Centre, which is the newest and the most cutting-edge. To build such a facility just 15km from a major city is unheard of. Normally the science that you will see in there takes place in the middle of the desert or mountains, away from interference.”

He adds: “We chose Switzerland because of the access to talent and skills that the country affords us. The standard of living is very good and the government is fantastic at supporting science and innovation with grants. It is very stable, democratic and open. All this means you can attract the best and the brightest.”

From his pocket, Sciacca pulls a gold medallion. It's one of IBM Zurich's four Nobel Prizes, two of which were won in the mid 1980s for the invention of high temperature superconductivity and the nanoscale microscope. “Up until this you really couldn't see atoms and molecules with good resolution. You can really point to the 30-year history of nanotechnology in Switzerland to this invention,” he says.

INDEPENDENT THINKING

The level of innovation going on at IBM is mind-blowing – in 2016, its inventors were awarded a record 8,088 patents in the US alone, more than any other company (Samsung was in second place with 5,518 and

Canon third with 3,665). Interestingly, more than 2,700 patents were related to artificial intelligence, machine learning and cloud computing. In between forkfuls of risotto, Curioni gives me a crash course in cognitive computing.

He says: “The way we interact with computers is changing. First it was tabular computing, then the programming era, now it is natural language. The ability to analyse unstructured data [such as images and sounds] will accelerate by an order of magnitude the research and development in every field, including aviation and space travel.”

The new Cognitive era began in 2011, when IBM's Watson super-computer won US TV quiz show Jeopardy. Eleni Pratsini, director of cognitive IoT solutions at IBM Research, says: “One of the rules of the game was that Watson was not connected to the internet so scientists had to feed it hundreds of books and teach it to reason like a human, to understand riddles, puns and subtle connotations.”

The breadth of this human-like AI, which can make associations and learn, has since been expanded – now you can log on to ibm.com/watson/developercloud and access more than 60 versions of Watson in the form of individual APIs created for specific tasks such as image recognition and personality insight. Want to build your own chat bot?

Where

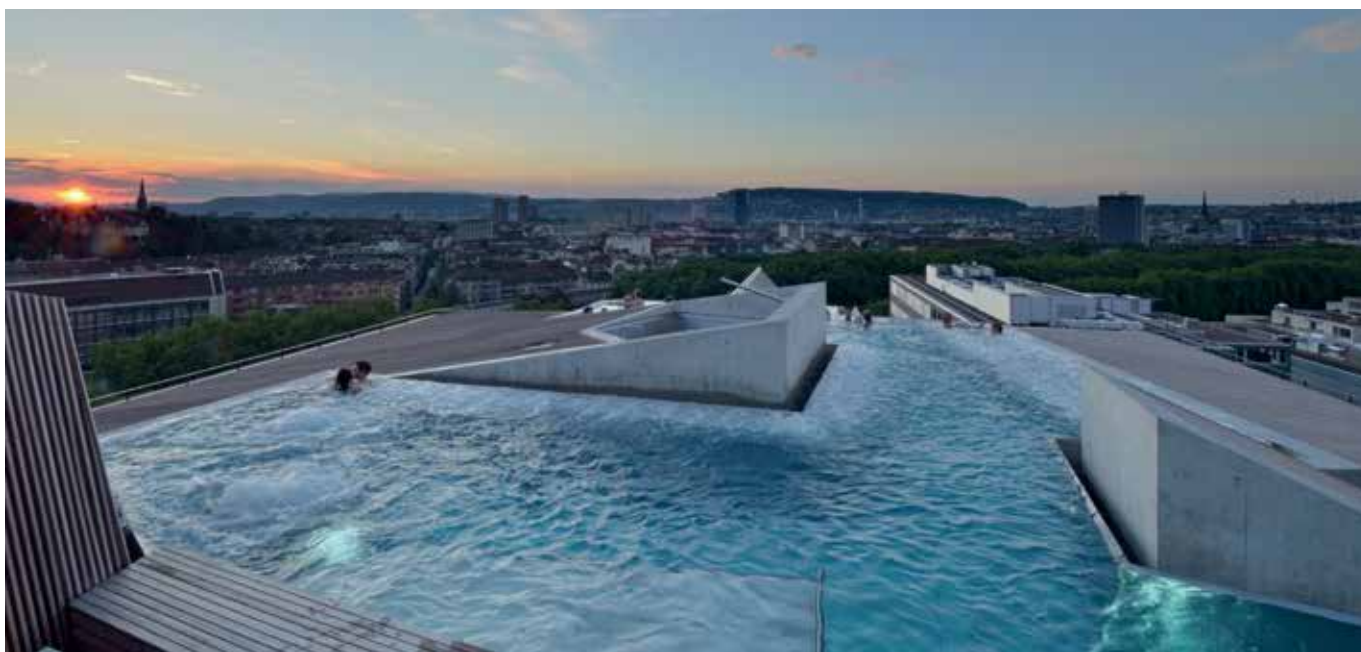
TO STAY

● Just 4km from the airport, in the up-and-coming business district of Glattpark, visitors can check themselves into the 245-room, five-star Kameha Grand (kamehagrandzuerich.com), a two-year-old hotel from Marriott's Autograph Collection. Bringing together the surreal and the luxurious, it has a cigar and shisha lounge, a Michelin-starred restaurant, striking event space for 960 people, and a dozen themed suites including the Gentleman, Watchmaker and Workout suite. The highlight, however, is the Space suite.

Designed by German artist Michael Najjar – who is in training for the inaugural Virgin Galactic flight – the 115 sqm windowless “space station” has a seemingly floating zero-gravity bed, silver furniture, astronaut artwork and an iPad installed with movies such as Star Wars and Moon that can be streamed to the TV via Airplay.

● The 39-room boutique Marktgasse (markt-gassehotel.ch/en) in the old town is equally suited to tech-minded entrepreneurs but in an entirely different way. The renovated 15th-century building has a superb street-level café serving healthy Ottolenghi-style food throughout the day, a chic speakeasy for sophisticated cocktails, a trendy brasserie and a library for communal working. It has the cosy feel of staying in someone's house, with simple rooms supplied with Aesop bathing products and comfortable beds, plus Nespresso machines and Geneva sound systems in the suites. Like the Kameha Grand, free wifi is available throughout.





In Thermalbad and Spa steam rises in clouds from the waters of the rooftop pool, while down in the vaults of this former brewery, locals soak in giant repurposed wooden vats.

Download the Conversation API and get to work. Hilton is already using the technology to power Connie, its robotic concierge in Virginia (see our feature on high-tech hotels, page 20).

Last year IBM's Matthias Reumann, from the company's cognitive healthcare department, began using Watson to help Germany's "Dr House", Jurgen Schafer, to diagnose rare diseases. Reumann says: "There about 7,000 known rare diseases with millions of people suffering from them [but] the diagnostic process is long and cumbersome. We get the patient's files, which can weigh as much as 5kg, scan them, do optical character recognition and store the information digitally. Patients then fill in an extensive online questionnaire, whereby Watson cross-references all the information and comes up with a list of differential diagnoses." As a human, gaining 25 years of experience takes 25 years – and even then you can't even come close to reading every medical report ever published. Watson can, though.

TOMORROW'S WORLD

Come Saturday, I take a trip to the public Thermalbad and Spa. Steam rises in clouds from the waters of the rooftop pool. Snow is falling; the sky grey like aluminium. Down in the vaults of this former brewery, locals soak in giant repurposed wooden vats. At the same time, in one of the buildings across the way, a solo employee pounds

away in a gym at the otherwise peaceful Google campus.

Since 2004, Zurich has been the home of Google's largest engineering base outside the US (the biggest is Mountain View in California and the second-largest New York City). Engineering director Emmanuel Mogenet heads up the company's new European Research Lab, which was set up last year on the existing office campus.

Operating in parallel to IBM (not collaborating but not competing), Google has chosen the Swiss city to host its first lab outside the US dedicated to AI, computer perception and machine learning (with the exception of Deep Mind in London, an AI start-up that was acquired by Google in 2014). Why? Because the ETH "produces the best computer scientists in Europe", says Mogenet.

To make sure they not only attract but retain them, the company goes out of its way to provide not just gyms and free food, but fantasy work environments complete with fireman's poles and slides, and egg-shaped privacy pods for when you need time to focus. Every day at 5pm they play the Heidi song and drink free beer. Mogenet says: "Our basic philosophy is that you are most productive when you are enjoying yourself. It is extremely informal – there are a lot of people who wear slippers at the office and bring their dog in."

At the moment, there are 2,000 people representing 75 nationalities working here, but this number is set to rise to 5,000 "Zo-

oglers" with the opening of its new offices in Europaallee, by Zurich Hauptbahnhof station, in January this year. Andreas Meyer, CEO of Swiss Federal Railways, says: "The district around the main station in Zurich will be a hotspot where innovative services are developed and tested, and the future is significantly shaped."

Just beyond the Hauptbahnhof is the former industrial quarter of Zurich West, which over the past few years has become a magnet for hipsters, with concept stores, bars, clothing boutiques and furniture collectives opening under 19th-century railway arches (Im Viadukt) and even disused shipping containers. In the shadow of the green glass Prime Tower, Frau Gerolds Garten lures both business people and families with bubbling saucepans of fondue in winter, served up inside a wooden hut kitted out with hand-knitted cushions and a roaring fire. In the summer, they come for a cold beer in the garden by the train tracks.

Nine minutes' walk around the corner is the Technopark, a 47,000 sqm site that is home to 300 start-ups all hoping to become a success story. Last year, Facebook bought local computer vision venture Zurich Eye, which was founded by three members of the University of Zurich's Robotics and Perception group. Although the social network has its main Swiss office in Geneva, it is opening a small base for its Oculus virtual reality subsidiary here. If you're smart, you'll get in on the action too.



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ESCAPE TO PROvence: PROVENÇALE PEACE

Provence's tranquil countryside is the perfect setting for a restorative weekend break,
says **Marisa Cannon**.

Mornings at Terre Blanche are long and languorous. One day, I manage to summon the energy to get up before eight, creeping on to the balcony to survey the cluster of terracotta-tiled villas below. There is no

one around, and the only sound to disturb the quiet is the soft twittering of sparrows overhead. By now, the sun is peeking over the horizon, throwing shafts of dusty golden light across the countryside and brightening the honey hue of the lodges on the hillside.

Below, I hear the whirr of a golf cart as it runs along a lane nearby. Navigating the resort's sprawling 300 hectares, the buggies are its main mode of transport, carrying guests between spa appointments, lunch dates, golf rounds and its 115 private villas and suites.



Set in the sun-soaked terroir of Provence, the Leading Hotels of the World member has had a number of owners in its time, most notably Sean Connery, who bought the property in 1979. He commissioned the first fairways for the resort's two championship golf courses, although the project never quite came to fruition under his direction. In 1999, billionaire German entrepreneur Dietmar Hopp took over the site with the intention of turning it into a first-class golfing destination. Today it is a European Tour venue with courses designed by Dave Thomas, a golf school and a biomechanical performance centre designed to analyse and improve your swing. While my golf skills are limited, I'm fairly accomplished at swimming lazy lengths in the infinity pool, lying prostrate on a massage

table and perusing the resort's exceptional contemporary art collection, which includes 300 sculptures and paintings from Hopp's private collection. Wandering the grounds, I discover works by the likes of Joan Miro and Antony Gormley.

Cuisine is also a strong point here – there are a number of outstanding restaurants spread across the resort, from Les Caroubiers at the clubhouse to the elegant Le Faventia, which won its first Michelin star last year. The resort has also partnered with a nearby cooking school, should you wish to try your hand at dishing up some local fare.

CULINARY PLEASURES

I sign up for a class at the Institut Gastronomie Riviera, a butter-coloured country

house in the neighbouring town of Seillons. It's headed up by former Four Seasons pastry chef, Nicolas Denis, who gives us a quick tour of the rustic front room and garden before leading us into the kitchen, where the ingredients for our lunch – cod fillet with bayildi of vegetables, black olives and coeur de boeuf tomato coulis – have been laid out.

The recipe is fairly simple, but with praise lavished over us at every stage, I start to believe I am the next Raymond Blanc. After a quick lesson in making pesto, we slide our lovingly layered vegetable terrines to one side to start on our final course – vanilla panacotta with pineapple brunoise and mango and passion fruit foam. Once our work is done, Nicolas promises us each



For celebrities stopping at Cannes and Nice for the film awards, Provence's evergreen lavender fields and twee country hamlets are a popular respite from the glitzy coastline.



a job if we were ever inclined to stay, and leads us into the garden for a congratulatory Prosecco before lunch is served.

LAVENDER FIELDS FOREVER

For celebrities stopping at Cannes and Nice for the film awards, Provence's evergreen lavender fields and twee country hamlets are a popular respite from the glitzy coastline. One company that has capitalised on this superstar allure is Rent a Classic Car, which does what it says on the tin with a fleet of 38 vehicles.

One morning, three beautifully maintained cars roll up to the hotel's entrance to take us for a spin around neighbouring Tourrettes and to a nearby winery. Spoilt between a 1983 Rolls-Royce convertible, a 1966 Ford Mustang and a convertible 1967 Citroën DS, I opt for the French model after hearing it was Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie's vehicle of choice in their 2015 film *By the Sea*.

The clouds look heavy, but the driver unfastens the roof regardless – "At least until it starts to tip it down," he says with a wink. Hopping in the front, I'm all for it, emulating Brigitte Bardot as we drive out of the resort, although half an hour later I'm more like a windswept Bridget Jones as we arrive for our tasting at one of Provence's largest producers of rosé, Château d'Esclans.

Owner Sacha Lichine was recently dubbed the world's most prominent rosé winemaker by *The New York Times* – an apt description given the revival that his top-selling rosé, *Whispering Angel*, has spurred. In 2006, Lichine took over the estate on a punt, hoping to shed the wine of its tacky reputation. Since then, it has grown from a production line of 165,000 bottles in 2006 to five million in 2016. The wines aren't cheap, either – a bottle of the estate's top-end wine, *Garrus*, will set you back around €100.

Tom Schreckinger, director of communications at Château d'Esclans, says: "The engine that's driving this growth is the US, which represents over 60 per cent of our market. Rosé is in such an age of discovery over there and the Côte de Provence of course has a certain allure to those buyers."

Having sold out its entire stock last summer, there isn't a drop of *Whispering Angel* left to try, but we sample the Château's *Rock Angel*, *Garrus* and *Les Clans* wines instead. I drink most of what we try – it's too good to waste – and feeling warm and heady, I walk back to the car where our driver is waiting. He asks if I'm ready for lunch. It's barely noon, but it feels like early evening, and I delight in how long there is left until tomorrow morning.



Set in the sun-soaked terroir of Provence, the Leading Hotels of the World member has had a number of owners in its time, most notably Sean Connery, who bought the property in 1979.

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THE VINEYARDS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

California is not all about Hollywood - the mecca for artists and beautiful beaches along the Atlantic Ocean. It is also renowned for its fertile vineyards that extend from the area around San Francisco to lesser known places in the northern part of the region of Santa Barbara.

The first Californian vineyard was founded in 1697 by a Franciscan priest Father Junipero Sierra, in the catholic mission of San Diego. At present, in the whole state there are more than 1,500 vineyards, spreading over the area of 200,000 hectares, which makes

California the fourth largest wine maker in the world. The region of Santa Barbara is situated on a south-facing section of coastline, while the wine-producing valleys stretch from east to west, which allows for the beneficial effect of the cool ocean breeze on the vines that grow here. Inter-

estingly, almost all grape varieties can be grown successfully in the area. The vineyards that are closer to the ocean produce the best Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. Lower regions have favourable conditions for growing Zinfandel and Bordeaux varieties. The warm climate of California produces



wine that is rich in taste, has distinctively fruity character and high alcohol content.

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

The 300,000-acre Santa Ynez Valley occupies the stretch between Santa Ynez and San Rafael mountain ranges. The American Riviera of Santa Barbara is only 50 kilometres away, while LA and San Francisco, 200 and 500 kilometres respectively. In the past, the area was inhabited by Chumash people. Then, in the 18th century it was conquered by Spanish conquistadors, who established here the first mission. Later, the region became a part of Mexico, and as a result of the gold rush of the 19th century, Santa Barbara saw a flow of settlers coming here from Europe.

The whole wine-making region comprises six adjacent towns whose history and character resemble single fruits in the

bunch of grapes. Los Alamos, Los Olivos, Buellton, Ballard and Santa Ynez - all form the most charming tourist region, soaked with the multicultural history, picturesque landscapes, architecture, numerous museums, art galleries, restaurants, bars and pubs. The area is inhabited by about 20,000 people. Solvang is an example of a local homeland of Danes, who established here their settlement back in 1911. Now the place is known for chic bars where you can taste various wines from Santa Barbara. Buellton with its Windmill Motel and Hitching Post II restaurant run by Frank Ostini, has gained its popularity after it was one of the shooting locations for the film "Sideways" directed by Alexander Payne.

Santa Ynez Valley and other town can be easily reached by car via Highway 101 and State Roads 154 and 246. You can also take an Amtrak coach to Solvang or a private jet

Recommended wineries

IN SANTA BARBARA AND SANTA YNEZ

in Santa Rita Hills:

Sanford & Benedict

in Santa Maria:

Cottonwood Canyon

Kenneth Volk Vineyards

Ovene

Addamo

J. Winkler

Au Bon Climat

Santa Ynez Valley has its own Top 10:

1. Sunstone Vineyards and Winery

sunstonewinery.com

2. Fess Parker Winery fessparker.com

3. Demetria demetriaestate.com

4. Andrew Murray Vineyards

andrewmurrayvineyards.com

5. Buttonwood Farm Winery & Vineyard
buttonwoodwinery.com

6. Zaca Mesa Winery zacamesa.com

7. Alma Rosa Winery & Vineyards

almarosawinery.com

8. Ken Brown Wines kenbrownwines.com

9. Rusack Vineyards rusack.com

10. Foxen Winery & Vineyard foxenvineyard.com

More info at visitsyv.com

visitsolvang.com

visitbuellton.com



Expert consultation: Tomasz Prange-Baczyński, editor-in-chief of "Magazyn Wino", Danielle Laundon, marketing director at Santa Ynez Valley

to Santa Ynez (IZA). Other nearby airports are located in Santa Barbara (SBA) and Los Angeles.

FOUR WINE AREAS

From 1 January 1983, similarly to French AOC (Appellation Contrôlée or protected designation of origin), the USA have developed the national scheme called AVA (American Viticultural Areas) that indicates the geographical origin of the produced wine, but without much quality assurance. California has four AVAs. Visiting the central area, which comprises Santa Barbara with sub-regions of Santa Maria Valley, Santa Ynez Valley, Santa Rita Hills and Los Alamos, you can either admire their picturesque towns, stunning architecture and landscapes, or take part in the greatest adventure of all, which is undoubtedly a tour of vineyards and wineries combined with tasting of fine wine. There are more than 120, small, boutique wineries there, which produce a total of one million boxes of wine each year. You can choose from a great variety of red wines (syrah, cabernet sauvignon) and white ones (viognier, chardonnay, pinot grigio, pinot noir or sauvignon blanc). If you are with a group of friends, you had better

book a guide who will give you a tour of the best vineyards and wineries in the neighbourhood. Obviously, you can also make the choice yourself or use one of the many local travel agencies who can organize for you various unconventional tours, e.g. wine tastings and horseback riding. In Los Olivos such tours are offered by Estelle Vineyard or Fess Parker Winery. Also, quite a lot of people go for a biking tour combined with wine tasting.

FOLLOWING THE TRAILS OF FILM CHARACTERS

Undoubtedly, the biggest attraction of the region is the Sideways Wine Trail, where you can follow in the footsteps of the film "Sideways" set in Santa Ynez Valley. The characters of the film spend their time primarily on eating and drinking wine, visiting local wineries and bars. In 2004, the film won an Oscar award for the best screenplay, and after its release, the sale of the local pinot noir doubled. After you arrive at a winery, you are invited to visit its bar or canteen, where you will taste delicious wines produced there. You can, of course, drink them or spit them out into special spittoons. Amateur visitors do not care much about the tasting

ritual, but simply try to enjoy each glass of the wine they are served. Interestingly, in some of the wineries it is possible to observe the entire production process.

In Poland, enotourism (wine tourism) is also slowly picking up, but compared to European and American standards, we are still in the infant phase. Fortunately, here it is also a very conscious, elegant and high-quality trend.

Californian wines are quite popular in Poland, but they are mostly known thanks to large manufacturers that produce less refined wines, such as Gallo or Sutter Home. Every year, "Business Traveller" in collaboration with "Magazyn Wino", organizes the "Sky Vineyards" competition for the best sparkling, white, red and sweet wines served in economy, business and first class. However, among the wines offered on board major airlines I have not noticed any wines from California. I hope this will change soon.

I asked one of the judges of our competition - Tomasz Prange-Baczyński, the editor-in-chief of "Magazyn Wino", who visited Santa Barbara and Santa Ynez Valley, to recommend a few interesting wineries.

Katarzyna Siekierzyńska



At present, in the whole state there are more than 1,500 vineyards, spreading over the area of 200,000 hectares, which makes California the fourth largest wine maker in the world.



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YOU'RE IN

A Piece of New York in Warsaw

Marzena Mróz interviews **Karolina Kaim** - the Chairwoman Of The Board at Tacit Investment and a premium real estate specialist



"You're IN" is a powerful slogan of the new campaign for Cosmopolitan Twarda 4 apartment building. What does it promise?

I think that it's primarily an intriguing phrase. It emphasizes the importance of our clients who, having decided to live in Warsaw at Twarda 4, next to the Grzybowski Square, are now where the action is. Exactly in the place where they want to be. They participate in the life of the city, its most important cultural events, they are a part of a larger whole, by their own choice or aspirations.

How should we read this new headline?

The previous campaign presented the Cosmopolitan apartment building through the context of our ambassadors, pointing out that such prominent artists like Tomasz Stańko, Anna Maria Jopek and Radzimir Dębski chose to live and create here. We believe that the building has, in a way, inherited the warmth, energy and charisma of those three extraordinary people and artists. Now, we are saying: "Be in the centre of the things, be with us" - in this most important place.

In Warsaw and in Poland?

As well as in the apartment building that stands at the unique Grzybowski Square. It's a hidden gem for those who know that you simply need to be here, in Warsaw. Grzybowski Square is quite small, a little bit empty, but at the same time it's

truly remarkable with its scale and the past. Each wall here is a testament to an important historical event. It encourages you to sit down for a moment, to slow down a bit. It has a good scale, you can sit here on beautiful benches, look at Próżna street, at Cosmopolitan, as well as at the old electric shops selling light bulbs and have been there for several decades. You can also think for a moment and decide to go either right towards the Saski Garden, or left to the business centre. Each of them is a stone's throw away from the square.

The new campaign reflects the NY style and the atmosphere of Cosmopolitan.

Because it is a piece of New York in Warsaw! It's perceived like this, for example from the perspective of Emilia Plater street. Also, looking at the capital from the 42nd floor of the building, you can admire the cosmopolitan views and the long lines of cars with their red and white lights, are a downright artistic phenomenon - not just an ordinary street stopper, which sometimes can be so frustrating. From above, the city looks much more spectacular. It's very picture-like. I personally also like the views from the lower floors of Cosmopolitan. From that perspective it seems like you can literally reach everything out there, rearrange houses, cars...

Who buys apartments in Cosmopolitan?

Our clients are real personalities. They are primarily owners of family businesses from Poland, also from Warsaw. They know what they want, have achieved a lot and built something by themselves. They have succeeded in life. Having an apartment in Cosmopolitan is for them both prestigious and convenient. We don't like to use the word "luxury", but convenience is, in a way, a form of exclusivity. Our residents like the city and they feel good being in its centre. Most of them are economically active and very busy, so no wonder they want to have everything available at their fingertips. And this is exactly what Cosmopolitan offers.

The patio of the building features some of the most exciting culinary concepts in Warsaw.

Undoubtedly, this place is teeming with life and has become a favorite meeting point for both residents of the capital and tourists.

How many apartments are there still for sale?

We have only 30 percent of them left. By the end of 2017 we want to sell 90 percent, and by mid-2018, all of them.

So you need to hurry, to be "IN".

Indeed. With each passing month the choice of available apartments is smaller.

Thank you for the interview.

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SAFE AS HOUSES

GPS-enabled devices are making it easier than ever to keep your accounts and valuables safe. **Steve Dinneen** looks into the best gadgets to give you peace of mind.

If business travel is a way of life, security should be your number-one priority. Tech experts agree that cyber security will be the defining trend of 2017; for every connected device that makes your

life a little easier, there's a scammer hoping to take advantage.

On a personal level this can mean major headaches, but if you're abroad for work, security lapses could be worth millions – or,

at very least, your job. Thankfully the tech industry is fighting back, coming up with ever more secure – and increasingly stylish – ways to protect yourself. The explosion of GPS-enabled devices means now you



Safe as a wallet

WOCKET

Price: US\$179 wocketwallet.com

Second only to having your passport stolen, on my list of travel headaches is having your wallet nicked. The Wocket smart wallet is designed to make sure that never happens. It allows you to securely upload details of every credit, debit and store card you own on to the wallet-sized device, and transfer them at will on to a removable card, which you can use to pay for things. Select the account you need on the screen, use the built-in biometric voice activation to transfer the details and you're good to go. If someone steals it, they won't be able to break into it, but you will still have to buy another one.



Make you house safer

CANARY SMART HOME SECURITY

Price: £159 canary.is/uk

Canary promises to be a one-stop shop for all your home security needs when you're on the road. The slick device, which borrows from the Apple design playbook, includes an HD camera with night-vision capabilities, motion activation and sensors to test temperature, humidity and air quality. It connects through wifi with your phone, allowing you to view your home from afar, with options to record when the motion sensor is activated, and to send alerts to your phone. It also comes with a built-in panic alarm to scare away burglars.



can be alerted if you walk absent-mindedly away from your suitcase, and track the location of your iPhone across continents. You can make sure your contactless payment cards aren't being used to raid the contents of your bank account, and check that your home is safe from the comfort of your hotel room (and if you spot an intruder, even yell obscenities at them over wifi).

Technology may be the problem, but it's also the solution – here are ten gadgets for your next trip...

Intelligent suitcase

BLUESMART ONE

Price: £399 uk.bluesmart.com

This is the smart suitcase you never knew you needed. The Bluesmart One isn't only stylish, it's also packed with tech to make your journey stress-free. The carry-on bag includes a built-in battery that allows you to power your phone on the go, with enough juice for six full charges from its two USB ports. It has a digital scale to ensure you don't have to pay excess baggage charges, a GPS location tracker so you can use its companion app to see where it is, and, best of all, a remote locking feature that will automatically seal the case shut whenever it senses you have walked away from it.



For the forgetful ones

TILE MATE

Price: £23 thetileapp.com

Tile is one of these gadgets that you don't need, right up until the moment when you do. The original Tile Mate is a one-inch square key-fob that you can sync with your phone, allowing you to use an app to see where you have left your keys, and to play an alert so you can find them when they have fallen down the back of the sofa (or press the Tile itself to play an alert on your phone, if that's what you have lost). The app allows you to sync multiple devices so you can keep track of everything from jackets to luggage, all visible on the app. It now comes in a Slim size, which fits inside your wallet.



Heavily encrypted

WD MY PASSPORT 4TB

Price: US\$120 wdc.com/en-gb

Keeping your data safe is imperative if you're carting your company's top-secret plans across the globe. A great solution is an encrypted hard drive such as the WD My Passport. With built-in 256-bit hardware encryption, there is virtually no chance of hackers accessing your files, and you can set the device to send a "return if found" message to anyone plugging it in. With 4TB of storage, it has plenty of space for HD video and audio, making it perfect for presentations. It comes in a range of colours, and is tough enough to endure the knocks of long-haul travel.



Advanced protection

ARMOURCARD

Price: US\$60 (plus US\$5 UK shipping) armourcard.com

Credit card skimming is a growing problem, with increasingly sophisticated scammers able to remotely hack contactless payment cards and even ePassports. This is where Armourcard comes in, a device that slides into your wallet and creates an electronic force-field to thwart intruders. Unlike many similar gadgets, Armourcard "actively" protects your information, rather than simply providing a passive barrier: nothing within six inches will be accessible, making it one of the most powerful data-protection solutions available.



Technology plus style

PORTFEL TUMI ID LOCK L-FOLD

Price: £95 uktumi.com

Tumi is renowned for creating stylish travel accessories, and this wallet is no exception. It features a proprietary technology sewn into the wallet's lining that prevents scammers from remotely hacking your NFC credit cards. Any card inside the wallet should be safe, meaning you can protect all of your information in one fell swoop. It's also a beautiful product in its own right, with a soft leather interior with six card slots and a tough, woven "ballistic nylon" exterior. Tumi also incorporates this technology into many of its bags and laptop cases.



Find your luggage any time

DYNOTAG ALUMINIUM LUGGAGE TAG

Price: US\$15 amazon.com

Every suitcase should have one of these affordable, stylish aluminium tags. If someone should find your luggage unattended, the tag, printed in English and Spanish, will direct them to scan the QR code or visit the unique web address, bringing up your contact details. Each tag can be individually programmed through your personal (free) Dynotag account. As the tag is "passive" – it doesn't contain any electronics, instead relying on the phone of whoever finds your stuff – you don't have to worry about it running out of battery.



Not only for bores

NEST CAM SECURITY CAMERA

Price: £159 store.nest.com/uk

The connected home revolution is taking rather longer than we had been led to believe – few people actually control their lighting/heating/curtains through an app, and those that do are terrible bores. One company making smart homes cool, however, is Nest, and this camera is genuinely useful. Like most security cameras, you can interact with it using your phone, receiving alerts if the motion sensor is triggered, and this one lets you talk back. You can store video on Nest's cloud, allowing you to play back up to 30 days' footage (from £80 a year).



Key hunting

PIXIE

Price: US\$50 for two "Points" getpixie.com

Described as "Pokemon Go for your iPhone", this will ensure you never lose your iPhone or keys again. Pixie "Points" come in packs of at least two, with one attached to your phone (order soon and get a free iPhone case; Android not currently supported) and the rest stuck to your favourite possessions. Tracking items works using augmented reality – rather nauseatingly branded "Pixie Dust AR" – overlaying the "lost" item over the real world using the free app. It works within 150ft outdoors, or 30-50ft indoors, and when you get close, it beeps until you have found your stuff.



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sprawdź nas



4 HOURS IN... COLOMBO

Hannah Evans takes a whistle-stop tour of Sri Lanka's largest city.



Next to Gangaramaya Park, you will find the Gangaramaya temple, Colombo's most significant Buddhist site.

PETTAH FLOATING MARKET

Colombo is a vibrant city with a long colonial history and exciting modern developments. Begin by visiting Pettah floating market, found on the banks of Beira Lake in Fort, the financial district. Opened in 2014, the 92 floating stalls sell a diverse range of clothes, shoes, fabric, gadgets and jewellery. Souvenirs here are cheap but be prepared to haggle. As you walk through the busy crowds, a mixture of tourists and local shoppers, you'll see freshly made dishes being prepared at local food stalls. Make sure you grab some roti (flat bread) as you wander along the market's pavilions. By now you will have noticed the prominent smell of Beira Lake, an ongoing issue in the area. Once you've finished, exit the markets to the east. W E Bastian Mawatha; open 8am-12pm.

GALLE FACE GREEN

The easiest way to get around is by using the city's plentiful tuk-tuks, most of which use meters. Fares start at Rs 66 (33p) and charge Rs 30 (16p) per kilometre plus waiting time. A ten-minute ride west along Lotus Road will take you past several buildings from the island's Portuguese, Dutch and British colonial periods. Once you have reached the seafront, head south and you will arrive at the historic Galle Face Green – this journey should cost no more than Rs 150 (82p).

Stretching for half a kilometre along the coastline, this urban park once played host to horse races and professional sports in the 19th century. Today these events have been relocated, but the seafront is still popular with families, tourists, kite flyers and street-food vendors. Walking south, you will see many of Colombo's five-star hotels. The recently renovated Galle Face, more than 150 years old, lies ahead of you, the Taj Samudra to your left and the Kingsbury behind you.

GANGARAMAYA TEMPLE

After reaching the southern end of the green, take a tuk-tuk five minutes south-east through Kollupitiya, a bustling shop-



End your tour at Barefoot Café, set in a delightful courtyard garden. It's a popular spot for lunch and is famous among tourists and locals for its relaxed ambience and Sunday jazz.



ping district. Located on Sri Jinārathana Road, next to Gangaramaya Park, you will find the Gangaramaya temple, Colombo's most significant Buddhist site. Built more than 120 years ago, the complex boasts an impressive collection of statues displayed on tiered terraces and in high-ceilinged chambers. A standout attraction is a museum housing the "world's smallest Buddha statue", best viewed through the section of magnified glass built into its glass case. Visitors must have their shoulders and knees covered to enter. Open 5.30am-10pm; entry Rs 100 (55p). gangaramaya.com

INDEPENDENCE MEMORIAL HALL

Drive ten minutes south past Viharamahadevi Park, through Cinnamon Gardens. One of Colombo's most exclusive neighbourhoods, this district was home to more than 100 hectares of cinnamon plantations

during the colonial period. Independence Memorial Hall can be found in Independence Square, and is a refreshing escape from the city's stifling heat and crowds. The monument was erected between 1949 and 1953 on the exact spot Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester, formed the island's first parliament in 1948. Marking the end of the British Empire's rule, the monument is a celebration of Sri Lanka's rich heritage and political independence.

Start at the site's north end, where a statue of Don Stephen Senanayake, Sri Lanka's first prime minister, stands. The assembly hall that lies behind him incorporates architectural styles spanning the 13th century to the Victorian period, featuring sculptures and carvings inspired by the country's Yapa-huwa, Gampola and Kandyan kingdoms.

Once you have admired the 60 engraved stone columns supporting the monument, visit the basement museum, which exhibits

artefacts relating to Sri Lanka's struggle for freedom, as well as dedications to soldiers who died during the island's civil war (1983-2009). Museum open Tues-Sat 9am-5pm; entry Rs 10 (5p).

BAREFOOT CAFE

End by visiting Galle Road's Barefoot Café, a ten-minute ride west along Baddhaloka Mawatha. Set in a delightful courtyard garden on an otherwise busy street, it's a popular spot for lunch and is famous among tourists and locals for its relaxed ambience and Sunday jazz. An array of fresh sandwiches, soups and curries are served – the black pork curry and Spanish quiche are highly recommended. Don't leave without visiting the adjoining Barefoot Gallery shop, which sells hand-woven crafts and clothes that are perfect for gifts. Open Mon-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun 11am-6pm; 704 Galle Road; barefootceylon.com/cafe



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

How to avoid overbooking

I've bought tickets for myself and family for the holidays. We're flying to California via Frankfurt. Last year when we flew on the same route, there was confusion at the check-in. One family with children stayed at the airport, as apparently, there weren't enough seats for them. They had to get on the next plane. How was such a situation even possible? After all, they had bought their tickets. How can I make sure that nothing like this will happen to me?

Michał

Dear Michał,

The situation you're describing is called overbooking. This occurs when the number of confirmed bookings exceeds the number of seats on a plane. There are several reasons for this. First of all, it's all about maximizing profits and reducing the losses on the part of the carrier, in the event of passenger no-show. For each flight there are usually a few passengers who don't show up. The travellers may not make it to the airport, be late for security check, change their business plans at the last moment, or cancel the trip because of personal or health-related reasons. It often happens that transit passengers fail to show up for their connecting flight, as the first one is substantially delayed.

In such a case, some of the seats on the plane remain empty. It's a classic example of a lost benefit, as the airline can't sell the same seat twice, if the plane has already departed. At the same time, there is still a demand for the seat on a given route, the waiting lists are long and the number of prospective passengers is growing. That's why, carriers allow the possibility of overbooking by selling additional, virtual seats.

The number of no-show passengers is closely monitored. Overbooking estimates are made based on historical data (it can be even up to several seats on a particular flight). Some airlines have a very aggressive overbooking policy, others may be more careful. If passengers are denied boarding, they are entitled to compensation under EU legislation (Regulation 261/2004).

I suggest checking-in online as early as possible and printing the boarding passes. Traditional airline allow for a check-in 24 hours before the flight, while low budget ones - even 30 days earlier.

Complicated route

I often make a reservation of airline tickets for my bosses and even more often have problems with check-in. My employer's travel plans are usually fairly complicated with many changes and cancellations. Recently I had a route from Frankfurt to Paris with Lufthansa, then to London with Eurostar, a British Airways flight to Amsterdam and a one to Warsaw with KLM. I returned the KLM ticket and exchanged it for a LOT Polish Airlines one. There was an issue at the check-in with each flight, as the website displayed an error saying that the online check-in was impossible and it was necessary to check-in at the desk. For my bosses, it's a huge waste of time. I had to call our travel agency for help several times. Is there a way to avoid all these issues?

Karina

Dear Karina,

I've checked the tickets you sent me and I've consulted your problem with check-in specialists. There might be several reasons behind the online check-in failure.

First of all, all the data from the reservation and your electronic ticket must be correctly loaded into the check-in system. This includes the name of the passenger, their passport details, telephone number, e-mail address and the frequent flyer programme number. Then, the systems compare if the ticket data is consistent with the flight information and verify the ticket status (i.e. whether it's open for check-in, under the control of the airport, returned, cancelled or exchanged). With simple point-to-point reservations there are usually no problems. When the number of data is larger, it gets more complicated. For example, when there are a few tickets issued on one reservation, then the system might have trouble matching different ticket numbers to individual flights. That was the case in your situation. On one reservation there are four different airlines and four separate tickets, including one with a 'returned' status. The check-in system could not automatically assign a correct ticket number to the corresponding flight. That's why you saw the error message on the website and the manual intervention of an actual airline employee was required.

This problem also occurs with the code-share flights (the same plane, but different flight numbers). In such a situation, you should check-in through the operating carrier's website.

Your problem was too many tickets on the same reservation. For future reference, I suggest making separate reservations for every leg of the journey (provided it is impossible to issue one ticket for all your destinations).



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www.siemens-home.bsh-group.com/pl/

Ekskluzywna linia sprzętu do zabudowy marki Siemens łączy elegancję oszczędnej formy z futurystyczną funkcjonalnością. Nowatorskie rozwiązania widoczne są zarówno w pięknym i konsekwentnym wzornictwie, jak i w zaawansowanej technologii, przekładającej się na maksymalną samodzielność i efektywność wszystkich urządzeń. Kontrolowane przez elektroniczne systemy sensorowe, pracują oszczędnie i cicho, z gwarancją

doskonałych efektów. Zarówno piekarniki, płyty grzewcze, okapy, jak i zmywarki oraz chłodziarki to prawdziwi eksperci, stworzeni do perfekcyjnego spełniania oczekiwań użytkownika. Technologia iSensoric otwiera przed nami nowe horyzonty, nadając obowiązkom kuchennym rangę kreatywnej twórczości. Marka Siemens wkracza w nową erę, inspirując swoich Klientów do odkrywania nieznanych dotąd możliwości dla domowej kuchni.

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