

Twój prywatny raj

IDEALNE MIEJSCE NA ZIEMI- TWOJA WILLA NA WODZIE!

Mała, prywatna wyspa i nowe przestronne eco chic wille. Każda z własnym basenem, obsługą butlera i wszystkim, o czym zamarzysz...



Kontakt:

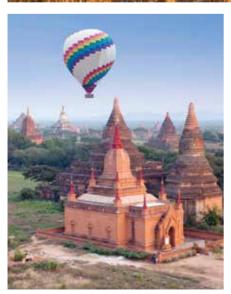
Przedstawicielstwo Club Med w Polsce ul. Tamka 16, lok. 4, Warszawa www.clubmed.pl Private concierge:

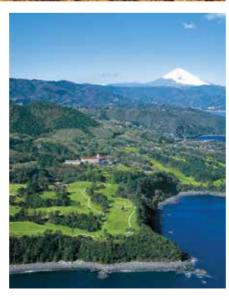
p.maciejko@clubmed.pl +48 664212513 Club Med ?

CONTENT | April 2018









Editorial	4
On Top	
• Hotel, restaurant,	
and airline news	6
Cover Story • LA story	
Tried&Tested	10
• Constance Prince	
Maurice Mauritius	16
• Sofitel Singapore Sentosa Resort & Spa	20
Report	20
• Relaxing in a spa	24
Hotels	
• Spa in harmony with nature	
Leisure in the rhythm	
of slow life • ibis Styles Warszawa City	30
Enjoy a unique journey! Passion. Perfection. Experience	32
Sheraton Catering Service	34
Destinations	
• Time for Burma	36
• Raising the bar	44
Enduring loveTee time in Tokyo	48 54
• 4 hours in Zurich	64
Fashion	
• On top	57
Beauty	
• Fit for business	58
Moto&Techno	
• Rising stars	60
Ask Peter	66



Business Traveller Poland

ul. Tamka 16, lok. 4, 00-349 Warszawa tel.: +48 22 455 38 14, faks: +48 22 455 38 13 www.businesstraveller.pl

Redaktor naczelna Marzena Mróz

m.mroz@businesstraveller.pl

Dyrektor artystyczna Barbara Scharf

b.scharf@businesstraveller.pl

Skład/łamanie LACRIMA

lacrima.barbarascharf@gmail.com

Wydawnictwo ul. Tamka 16, lok. 4

R&S Media sp. z o.o. 00-349 Warszawa

tel.: +48 22 455 38 14 faks: +48 22 455 38 13

Wydawca Robert Grzybowski

robertg@businesstraveller.pl

Szef serwisu Filip Gawryś

www.businesstraveller.pl f.gawrys@businesstraveller.pl Reklama, sponsoring biuro@businesstraveller.pl

Dystrybucja, prenumerata Piotr Grzybowski

p.grzybowski@businesstraveller.pl

Druk LOTOS Poligrafia sp. z o.o.

04-987 Warszawa

ul. Wał Miedzeszyński 98

tel.: 22 872 22 66 www.lotos-poligrafia.pl

Business Traveller Julian Gregory Managing Director Panacea Media

Lower Ground Floor 41-43 Maddox Street

London W1S 2PD

tel.: +44 20 7821 2700

www.panaceapublishing.com www.businesstraveller.com

In the US "Business Traveller" is published at 303 Fifth Avenue, 1308, NY 10016, tel.: 1 212 725 3500. In Germany "Business Traveller" is published at Schulstrasse 34, 80634 Munich, tel.: 89 167 9971, fax: 89 167 9937. In Denmark "Business Traveller" is published at Rymarksvej 46, 2900 Hellerup, tel.: 45 3311 4413, fax: 45 3311 4414. In Hungary "Business Traveller" is published at 1074 Budapest, Munkas utca 9, tel.: 36 1266 5853. In Hong Kong "Business Traveller Asia-Pacific and China" are published at Suite 405 4/F Chinachem Exchange Square, 1 Hoi Wan Street, Quarry Bay, tel.: 852 2594 9300, fax: 852 2519 6846 In the Middle East "Business Traveller Middle East" is published jointly by Motivate Publishing, PO Box 2331, Dubai UAE, tel.: 9714 282 4060, and Perry Publications. In Africa "Business Traveller Africa" is published by Future Publishing (Pty) Ltd, PO Box 3355, Rivonia 2128, South Africa, tel.: 27 11 803 2040.

© 2009 Perry Publications Ltd – a subsidiary of Panacea Publishing International Ltd, United Kingdom



HOLLYWOOD AND NEW **TECHNOLOGIES**

alifornia, Los Angeles and Hollywood - the world's largest entertainment centres are undergoing fast transformation. New industries, investments and opportunities for development can be seen today on the west coast more and more clearly.

Employing more than 141,000 people, entertainment industry is the most important pillar of LA's "creative economy". Last year it generated US\$190 billion and employed one in eight people. Consequently, Los Angeles has been dubbed the most creative city in the US. But there is also a fresh-paint feeling of newness in the air. The industry is changing, with online streaming shaking up Hollywood in a way it's never experienced before. Even social media

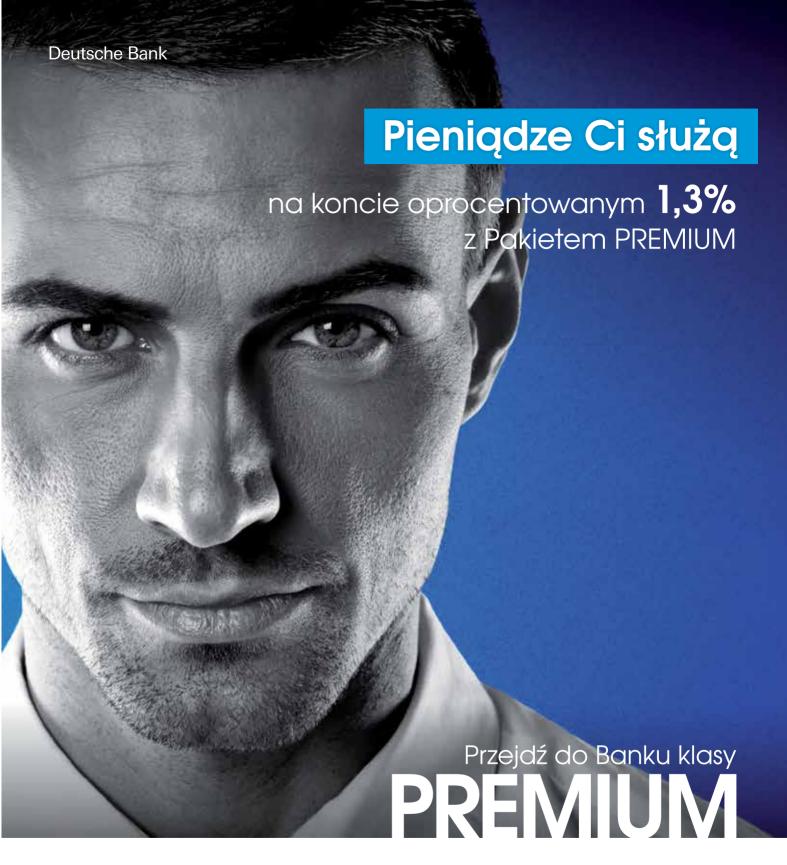


companies such as Facebook, with a new campus in LA's Playa Vista, are investing heavily in bespoke video content (Facebook's Watch video-on-demand platform).

In 2017, Netflix spent US\$6 billion on original programming, and is reportedly planning to plough another US\$7-8 billion into dramas and documentaries in 2018. You only have to drive down Sunset Boulevard to see the literal rise of extended format programming, with huge billboards advertising The Crown (Netflix), Big Little Lies (HBO), The Problem with Apu (TruTV) and The Marvelous Mrs Maisel (Amazon).

You can find out more about the development of new technologies in the shiny state of California, reading our cover article entitled "LA Story". I do hope you will enjoy this issue of our magazine.





Poznaj korzyści nowego konta www.dbNETpremium.pl







Airline

LOT

NEW B787-9 DREAMLINER HAS LANDED IN WARSAW

The Dreamliner 787-9, registered as SP-LSA, has landed in Warsaw after its maiden flight from the Paine Field airport serving the Boeing factory in Everett. It's the newest and largest aircraft in LOT's fleet, taking up to 294 passengers on board. The freshly received 787-9 has joined the fleet of eight B787-8 Dreamliners currently operating in the carrier's fleet.

On its first flight, without regular passengers (the so-called delivery flight) the aircraft covered almost 10,000 kilometres in 9 hours and 20 minutes. The city of Everett near Seattle where the LOT's new aircraft took off on its maiden flight, is the seat of Boeing's factory, where wide body airplanes, such as the B787 Dreamliner, are produced. The first of the B787-9s ordered by LOT was initially used on the Toronto route (LO45/46) and since April it has been serving flights to Chicago (LO3/4).

The deliveries of the next two B787-9s are planned for April and June. From then on the larger Dreamliners, in addition to Chicago and Toronto, will also serve routes to New York and Seoul. The last aircraft of this type will be delivered to the Polish national carrier early next year. This means that in 2019 the fleet of LOT Polish Airlines will comprise 12 Dreamliners. The new aircraft carries 294 passengers, 42 more than the smaller 787-8. Passengers can travel in three classes: Business Class with 24 seats, Premium Economy with 21 seats and Economy with 249 seats. One of the highlights of the cabin are larger IFE screens compared to those offered in B787-8. lot.com

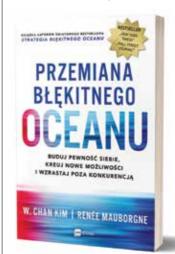
Business

Book

BLUE OCEAN STRATEGY

In 2005, professors W. Chan Kim and Renée Mauborgne published their book entitled "The Blue Ocean Strategy", which has transformed the landscape of global business. The book remained on the bestseller list for more than a hundred weeks. has been translated into 44 languages and sold in 3.6 million copies, marking the beginning of a dynamic movement. Now, after 10 years of extensive research, Kim and Mauborgne are ready to change the course of the events once again. W. Chan Kim and Renée Mauborgne are lecturers at the INSEAD and jointly run the INSEAD Blue Ocean Strategy Institute. They are also the winners of numerous awards.

The "Blue Ocean Shift" is a collection of easy to implement strategies that allow you to think about business in new categories. The book is full of inspiring examples, taken from the real world, and telling you how leaders in various industries and organizations have transformed the red oceans crowded by competitors into broad, open blue oceans of the new market space, using the processes and tools described by the authors. mtbiznes.pl





France

Exhibitions

THE TRAIL OF **GREAT ARTISTS**

This year, the largest French cities pay tribute to great artists. Here are a few suggestions for a cultural trip:

"Dali in Nantes": The exhibition presents the city as seen with the eyes of the artist through the largest private collection of his works. La Rosière d'Artois Nantes From 26 December 2017 to 31 March 2018.

"Picasso, voyages imaginaires": A double exhibition of Picasso's works in Marseille. as part of the international art festival Picasso-Méditerranée 2017-2019. Mucem and Centre de la Vieille Charité, Marseille, From 16 February to 24 June 2018.

"L'Empire des roses, chefsd'œuvre de l'art persan du 19e siècle" (The Empire of Roses, Masterpieces of 19th Century Persian Art): The Louvre-Lens Museum presents the world's first retrospective on the art at the times of Qajar dynasty, which ruled Iran from 1786 to 1925. Presented in scenography by Christian Lacroix. Louvre-Lens. From 28 March to 22 July 2018.

"Picasso - Donner à voir" - an exhibition constructed around 15 key moments in the artist's life, and taking visitors on a journey through different periods of his work. Musée Fabre, Montpellier. From 16 June to 23 September 2018.



OFERTA SPECJALNA

WAKACJE NA ZANZIBARZE



30% RABATU NA LUKSUSOWE WILLE W KWIETNIU I MAJU 2018

OAZA SPOKOJU, TURKUSOWY OCEAN, BIAŁY PIASEK, EGZOTYCZNE WIDOKI I PRYWATNA LUKSUSOWA WILLA Z BASENEM, PRZY PLAŻY NA ZANZIBARZE.

UDOGODNIENIA HOTELU: SPA, RESTAURACJA, BARY, FITNESS, BASENY, CENTRUM SPORT WODNYCH, BBQ NA PLAŻY

WIECEJ INFORMACJI:

WWW.WHITESANDVILLAS.COM





Portugal

Weekend

RIA FORMOSA, **ALGARVE**

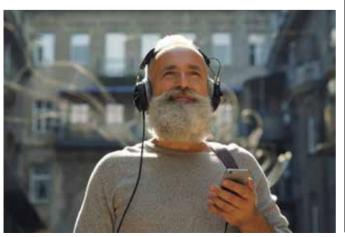
The coastal lagoon, which starts off the coast of Faro on Garrão Beach and stretches for almost 60 kilometres to Tavira, has been hailed as one of Portugal's seven natural wonders. Ria Formosa has been a nature park since 1987. The new status has enabled the place to enhance its lagoon system maintenance, as well as improve protection of its flora and fauna. It's worth visiting one of the islands to enjoy the sun and bathe in the azure waters. However, one of the biggest highlights of this place are canoe trips and boat cruises. You can go to the charming village of Cacela Velha, located at the eastern end of Ria Formosa, and discover its impressive historical heritage.

Airline

KLM

TELL US ABOUT YOUR JOURNEY

KLM has launched "The Journey," an English-language podcast platform. The podcasts, in which passengers talk about a journey that has changed their lives, will take listeners to different parts of the world, from the endless snow-covered Alaska to the busy streets of New Delhi. KLM is the first airline that uses a podcast to display the power of travelling. KLM's customers and fans are invited to participate in this project and share their personal stories in the form of a podcast. From today, every two weeks, we will be able to listen to new episodes of inspiring programmes. Each of them is a true story of a journey that has changed someone's life. klm.com





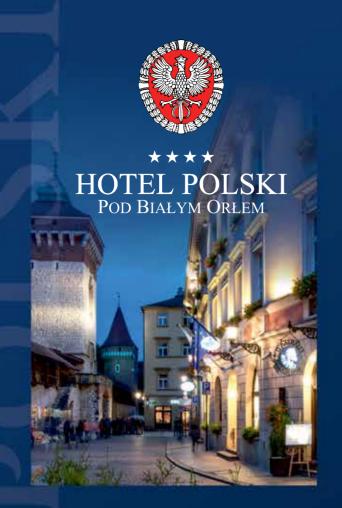
Airport

Wrocław

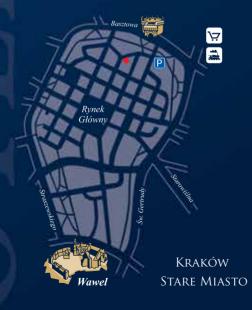
NEW SUMMER DESTINATIONS

Ten new regular routes, including Faro, Podgorica, Porto, Athens, Bari, the launch of Air France's connection to main airport of Paris, as well as more flights on popular routes. On 25 March, Wrocław Airport presented its new flight schedule, comprising almost 85 low-cost, business and charter connections.

This is going to be a record summer at the main air hub of Lower Silesia. The carriers will offer nearly 85 services, including 10 new regular connection in all key segments. "Airlines recognize the great potential of our airport. They are happy to launch here their new services, as is the case with Air France and SWISS. Our strength is in the diversity that attracts new passengers to Wrocław. In 2017, we handled oa record 2.85 million passengers, and this year we expect this number to rise to 3.2 million," says Dariusz Kuś, the President of the Management Board at Wrocław Airport.



- 💆 ul. Pijarska 17 Kraków
- +48 12 422 11 44
- @ hotel.polski@donimirski.com
- f hotel polski
- f 🛮 restauracja pijarska17







GOŚCINA W SERCU KRAKOWA

Oferujemy noclegi w eleganckich, jasnych i komfortowych pokojach oraz luksusowych, przestronnych apartamentach. Wnętrza są atrakcyjnie urządzone, harmonijnie łącząc zabytkowy styl wykończeń i umeblowania z nowoczesnymi udogodnieniami.

Hotel Polski to również nowoczesne centrum konferencyjne z możliwością organizacji wydarzeń dla nawet 150 uczestników.

W Restauracji Pijarska 17 można skosztować wyśmienitych dań kuchni polskiej serwowanych przez naszego mistrza kuchni.







www.donimirski.com

LA STORY

As the entertainment industry evolves, Tinseltown is in a state of transformation. We look behind the scenes of the USA's creative powerhouse.







California spent US\$30 billion on film and TV production in 2016, with the average movie budget being just over US\$75 million.

he prop house at Warner Bros Studios has four floors, each the size of an American football field. It's said to be the largest prop house in the world... though there's one under construction in China, by Wanda Studios, that may soon surpass it. From Tiffany lamps and presidential desks to oil paintings and telephones from every era, there are almost half a million items available for rental. It's like walking through an antiques shop on an industrial scale, with all manner of curiosities to catch the eye along the way. Here's a gold ladder signed by Lady Gaga, an Iron Throne from Game of Thrones, a cobwebbed skeleton from Pirates of the Caribbean, the piano from Casablanca. Outside, huge trucks are loaded up with eclectic hauls of cargo to be delivered to the many sets and studios located across the city of Los Angeles and beyond.

According to Film LA (the official film office for LA), California spent US\$30 billion on film and TV production in 2016, with the average movie budget being just over US\$75 million. Along with Paramount, Universal, 20th Century Fox, Disney and MGM, Warner Bros has been at the heart of filmmaking in Hollywood for decades. Today it has 35 cavernous sound stages and 14 exterior sets, including a New York Street complete with fake subway entrances, shop, hotel, theatre, diner and residential facades ready for dressing. "If you have the dime, we have the time," says my guide, explaining that movies and shows don't have to be Warner Bros productions to shoot here. Long-standing TV shows that have been filmed in this location include Ellen and The Big Bang Theory.

ONLINE STREAMING

Employing more than 141,000 people, entertainment is the most important pillar of LA's "creative economy". Last year it generated US\$190 billion and employed one in eight people. Consequently, Los Angeles has been dubbed the most creative city in the US. But, disruption is afoot. The industry is changing, with online streaming shaking up Hollywood in a way it's never experienced before. Even social media companies such as Facebook, with a new campus in LA's Playa Vista, are investing heavily in bespoke video content (Facebook's Watch video-on-demand platform launched in the US in summer 2017).

In 2017, Netflix spent US\$6 billion on original programming, and is reportedly planning to plough another US\$7-8 billion into dramas and documentaries in 2018. You only have to drive down Sunset Boulevard to see the literal rise of extended format programming, with huge billboards adver-



Many people have dismissed Los Angeles as a vapid place to live, but its growing status as a cultural capital is gaining respect.

tising The Crown (Netflix), Big Little Lies (HBO), The Problem with Apu (TruTV) and The Marvelous Mrs Maisel (Amazon).

"There aren't enough sound stages in LA to cope with demand," says Chris Rico, director of innovation at the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. Competing with Hollywood's traditional studios, Netflix has now signed a ten-year lease for 52,000 sqm of space from Hollywood's Sunset Bronson Studios (the original Warner Bros location and where 1927's The Jazz Singer was filmed), including sound stages, production studios and a shiny new 14-floor Gensler-designed office. Amy Dee, Netflix's director of global real estate, workplace and procurement told the Los Angeles Times: "We wanted to be where Hollywood came to life. Even though we're a cutting-edge tech company, we take very seriously the history of the entertainment industry and its roots in Hollywood."

Meanwhile, Amazon is moving from Santa Monica to Culver Studios (near Sony Pictures in Culver City) where films such as Citizen Kane were once made. Apple, too, is keen to muscle its way into Hollywood production and is apparently on the lookout for a permanent studio base to create original content (it plans to spend US\$4.2 billion on programming by 2022). Over the next year, Google's Youtube is funding more than 40 movies and shows for its site, which is a state-of-the-art production facility in Playa Vista. It occupies a former aircraft hangar once used by legendary film director and aviator Howard Hughes, but now refurbished with giant green screens. Buzzfeed Motion Pictures has been entrenched in Hollywood's Siren Studios for the last couple of years as it looks for somewhere bigger, while, conversely, famed director James Cameron is renting studio space 25 miles away in Manhattan Beach, where he is filming his Avatar sequels.

BILLION DOLLAR BABIES

There have been all manner of bankruptcies, mergers and takeovers in Tinseltown, and new deals are being forged all the time. But the most headline-grabbing deal in recent times was the announcement in December 2017 of a planned US\$52.4 billion sale of the majority of Rupert Murdoch's 21st Century Fox empire (including the movie and TV studio) to the Disney Company. If it happens, by 2019 Disney will have added two new streaming platforms - one for sports and one for entertainment. Disney will also be gaining control of homegrown LA streaming (video on demand) company Hulu (Fox, Comcast and Time Warner also have stakes in it), which spent an estimated US\$2.5 billion on original content last year.

A report from the Otis College of Art and Design predicts that, over the next four years, employment in LA's creative economy will grow by more than 5 per cent across sectors including entertainment, fashion, printing and publishing, architecture, interior design and digital media (the fact box on page 28 gives details). It's easy to believe when people speak of the flood of New Yorkers, for example, moving here for more opportunities, cheaper rents and sunnier climes.

Rico says: "I find that if you asked New Yorkers ten years ago if they'd ever live in Los Angeles, they would have said 'No way, New York is the place to be, I would never live in LA, it's too big, there's too much traffic'.

But relative to Manhattan it's a bargain. Whereas they will have been living in a 300 sq ft apartment there, for a comparable amount of money, here they can have 1,000 sq ft. I think for people who are artistic, being in a place that's conducive to being in a good mood can be beneficial for their work. After getting used to a frenetic pace of life, they come to LA and it's as if they have excess bandwidth. It's infused new energy into the city."

The lifestyle is, of course, very different. During my time in Los Angeles I went to an afternoon soirée at a beautiful low-rise house in West Hollywood. Out the back, people had gathered in the garden by the pool (it was still warm enough for this in December) to listen to a string quartet perform renditions of Schubert and Gershwin, an ensemble crowdfunded by the guests through a platform called Group Muse. Once the performance was over, I overheard two New York expats getting heated about how spontaneous (or not) you can be in LA. "In New York you could leave the house at six and walk to the theatre for a show," said one, "That would depend where you live." said the other. "In LA, I love being able to jump in my car to visit a friend whenever I like." The fact is, you do have to drive everywhere here, and there is no true centre: rather, as someone witty once said, "72 suburbs in search of a city".

TINSELTOWN GETS CEREBRAL

Many people have dismissed Los Angeles as a vapid place to live, but its growing status as a cultural capital is gaining respect. It's much deserved, when you consider it has some of the best museums and galleries in the country, including the Getty, The Broad and LACMA, which will be expanded by 2023 thanks to a US\$600 million investment that will see its campus extended over Wilshire Boulevard with the addition of the LACMA Building for the Permanent Collection. (The new nearby Wilshire/Fairfax subway station will open at around the same time.) Running from September 2017 to January 2018, "Pacific Standard Time LA/LA" was an ambitious four-month exhibition of Latin American and Latino culture with works by 1,100 artists from 45 countries displayed across more than 70 venues in LA and the wider state. It's endeavours like these that are inspiring an influx of talent.

INNOVATION AT ITS BEST

With a growing community of creatives comes innovation, which means LA is also leading the way when it comes to everything from food trends to the experience economy (Airbnb Experiences lists dozens of activities you can book with a local, such as vinyl record shopping with a Grammy award-winning artist). Los Angeles has been a health-conscious city for decades. but it's amazing to see the number of juice bars, organic supermarkets, protein shake stands and vegetarian/vegan restaurants. Stop by Cafe Gratitude, for example (there are four outposts in the city) and you can order beer-battered coconut "calamari" and blue algae superfood smoothies; Gracias Madre on Melrose, which has a Mediterranean-style garden, serves "crab" cakes made from hearts of palm, Mexican quesadillas slathered in cashew cheese and "high vibes" cocktails infused with cannabidiol CBD oil (marijuana use is now legal in California).

At another restaurant called Ysabel, I find it has given over its bar for a few nights to local cocktail maestro Matthew Biancaniello, who specialises in savoury and edible drinks. He begins by enthusiastically serving new arrivals cups of alcoholic French onion soup made with ingredients from the local farmers' market. After spending four and a half years bartending at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel's Library Bar, he is now focusing on pop ups such as this, where he can be truly inventive, mixing the likes of Ogo seaweed tequila with lemon guava, curry leaves and fresh chamomile; and shiitake mushroom-infused bourbon with bergamot vodka, blood orange, smoked jalapeño and arugula (rocket) blossoms.

It's not without its challenges, though, Biancanello says. "Since I have been living here, so many places have opened and LA seems to be so fickle when it comes to longevity. Rents are high and it is increasingly difficult for restaurants to maintain themselves. There are too many options available and people are constantly looking for the hottest spots. Not having my own laboratory to really build upon what I am doing is difficult too. Eventually, I would very much love to open my own tasting menu bar in Los Angeles or have a travelling one that goes around the world."

WHERE THE COOL KIDS ARE

There are lots of trendy hotspots such as Abbot Kinney, Echo Park, Silver Lake and Los Feliz emerging across LA these days, but one area that has seen significant change in terms of the creative economy is



Elon Musk's Boring Company has already started digging tunnels beneath the city for a new kind of transport system





Downtown. It's impossible to miss, being the only cluster of high-rise buildings in an otherwise low-rise city. Essentially the central business district, its make-up has been changing. It's become more residential and, over the past five years or so, the old warehouses and lofts have been taken over by artists. Gentrification has swiftly followed and, now, beyond the apocalyptic border of Skid Row, where desperate drug addicts and homeless people live in tents on the pavement (outrageous to see in a state as wealthy as California), you'll find the fully fledged Arts District and some of the most expensive real estate in LA.

The Arts District has the familiar feel of New York's Brooklyn or London's Shoreditch with murals on the sides of buildings, hipster boutiques, neon sign workshops, coldbrew coffeehouses, ice cream parlours, breweries, distilleries, concept stores, coworking spaces and galleries such as Hauser & Wirth, which also has a chic bistro called Manuela next door and a mini urban farm with chickens. As artists are evicted or forced to move on because of inflated rents, corporates are taking the opportunity to reap the benefits of this new walkable neighbourhood. The Hyperloop World Headquarters has moved to the Arts District; there's the Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator; and Warner Music will be relocating from its headquarters in Burbank. Designer Phillip Lim and Dover Street Market will be opening stores later this year.

Chris Rico says: "I left LA for San Francisco between 2010 to 2014 because I got tired of the fact that the only thing anybody ever talked about was 'The Business'. It was always what sucked the oxygen out of the room - even in the LA Times, the whole business section was about Hollywood. So I went to San Francisco seeking a place where there was a diversity of thought and ideas. and in the time I was there, LA and San Francisco switched places. With the arrival of Dotcom 2.0. San Francisco became a one conversation town – all anyone talks about is what app they are building. LA, meanwhile, has this complement of new technology, aerospace, autonomous vehicles, fashion, digital media and art. Movies are not the only thing that people talk about now."

He continues: "If you think about Charlie Chaplin, Howard Hughes and Walt Disney, people like that were what defined Los Angeles as this place for dreamers. Enter the present day and you have new dreamers such as Elon Musk [founder of Space X, Tesla and Hyperloop] and Evan Spiegel, who created Snapchat and decided to keep it in LA because of the creative economy and how integral that was to its offering, even though many of its venture capitalists were desperately trying to get him to move to Silicon Valley. I think what is happening in LA right now is you are seeing that convergence, where you have all of these artists and new technology. When you get into designing rockets and imagining future modes of transportation, for example, it's very creative."

By the time of LA's Olympic Games in 2028, Rico predicts the city will look very different. There will be a new light rail and metro system (public transport is severely lacking right now). Meanwhile Musk's Boring Company has already started digging tunnels beneath the city for a new kind of transport system in which cars are shuttled beneath the roads on drive-on, drive-off "skates". There will probably be self-driving cars too, so instead of getting angry at being stuck in traffic, you can sit back and enjoy watching Avatar 4.

Jenny Southan

Ceative economy

IN NUMBERS

- US\$190.3 billion Financial output of the creative economy
- 13% Ratio of people in LA working in the creative economy (both freelance and salaried)

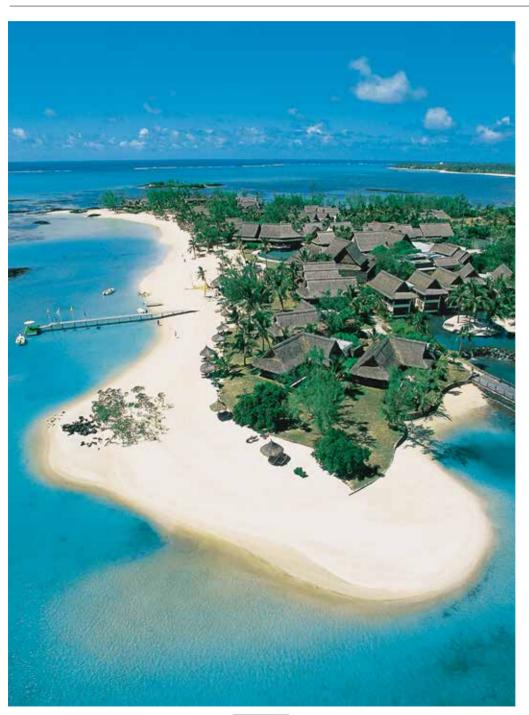
SECTORS The creative economy includes: entertainment, fashion, architecture, interior design, art galleries, digital media, furniture/ decorative arts, communication arts, industrial design, toys, visual and performing arts, and fine and performing arts schools

- 759,000 Total jobs (direct, indirect and induced) in the creative economy
- 429,400 Direct salary/freelance jobs in the creative economy (489,500 in New York)
- 4 million Population of LA (New York has 8.5
- 141,400 Jobs in entertainment
- **87,600** Jobs in fashion
- 33,800 Jobs in printing and publishing
- 5.1% Predicted creative industry employment growth over the next five years
- US\$56.9 billion Total wages earned from the creative economy
- US\$2 trillion Total economic output of Cali-
- 11% Percentage of economic output from creative economy in California
- SIXTH in the world If California was a country, it would be the world's sixth-largest
- **NUMBER ONE** California's ranking among US states for number of people working in the creative economy



Hotel MAURITIUS

CONSTANCE PRINCE MAURICE MAURICE MAURITIUS



All the hotel buildings and villas are situated on the area of 70 hectares of tropical gardens, covering a small peninsula on the waters of the Indian Ocean.

t's one of the most beautiful hotels on the island, a real legend of the hotel industry, attracting the rich and the famous from all over the world. Add to this lush, tropical vegetation of Mauritius, delicious local cuisine as well as maximum privacy offered by luxury beach villas, and you can be sure that even one week spent at Constance Prince Maurice Mauritius will be enough to unwind and recharge at any time of the year.

WHERE IS IT?

The five-star Constance Prince Maurice Mauritius is located close to the coastal town of Poste de Flacq, 35 kilometres from the capital of Mauritius - Port Louis and 45 kilometres from the Seewoosagur Ramgoolam International Airport in Mahebourg. The property is part of the luxury Constance Hotels chain specializing in seaside resorts and whose offer also includes hotels in the Maldives, the Seychelles, Zanzibar and on Madagascar.

Constance Prince was one of the first five-star hotels that have sprung up in Mauritius in recent years. It was created by architect Jean Marc Eynaud who has over 30 years of experience designing numerous building in Mauritius and the Seychelles. In addition to several dozen smaller projects, Eynaud boasts more than 10 large investments carried out under his supervision.

The hotel buildings and villas are situated on the area of 70 hectares of tropical gardens covering a small peninsula on the waters of the Indian Ocean. Some of them were built directly over water surface, sitting comfortably on wooden stilts.





ROOMS, SUITES AND VILLAS

The hotel offers seven types of rooms, suites and villas. The most modern (though "modern" is a very relative term here) type of accommodation is provided in 70 sam Junior Suites with Garden View. All are air-conditioned and come with a bathroom with large tub and a separate toilet and shower cabin. Other amenities include a large desk, a coffee maker, Hi-Fi stereo equipment, telephone, satellite TV, free Wi-Fi and... a Mac Mini computer. Each room has also a spacious balcony or terrace with garden furniture. Similar facilities can be found in the Iunior Suite on Stilts, which, as the name suggests, is a suite built on tall stilts in a charming bay where in the morning you can observe numerous exotic species of fish.

If you wish to relax as close to the ocean as possible, you may

want to opt for the comfortable Junior Suite Beachfront. Situated almost on the sands of the beach. among lush palm trees and just several metres from the shore, the suites are an ideal choice for those seeking ultimate relaxation. All Junior Suites are perfectly designed for a stay of two adults and one child.

Those with two kids shouldn't worry, though, as for them, the hotel has prepared comfortable Family Suites, which are slightly larger than the regular ones (86 sqm). There is a separate room with a dedicated bathroom for children, while adults have their own, comfortable bedroom. The whole family can enjoy time spent together in the spacious and bright living room that overlooks the beach.

A completely different type of comfort and luxury is offered in Villas on Stilts, which are fullfledged houses, boasting 130 sqm of floor area, as well as 24-hour room service. They are intended primarily for couples who seek intimacy (they can also be used when travelling with a child up to the age of two). For even more comfort and a wider choice of amenities you can book Beach Villas with Private Pool, which are also 130 sqm, but additionally offer direct access to the beach and a private heated pool. The most luxurious option offered by the resort is the large 350 sqm Princely Villa. It's the perfect choice for up to six guests, e.g. two families with one kid each, or one larger family with four offspring. Princely Villa has three terraces, each facing a different section of the ocean, and they can also serve as dining spaces. Other amenities include a full-sized kitchen and two heated pools. Princely Villa is undoubtedly the

CONTACT

Constance Prince Maurice Mauritius Choisy Road, Poste de Flacq Mauritius tel.: (230) 402 36 36 www.constancehotels.com





Hotel **MAURITIUS**



An absolute "must have" is a dinner in a unique floating seafood restaurant Le Barachois, which comprises of five decks and can be reached via a wooden pathway. most private accommodation at Constance Prince Maurice Mauriting

FOOD AND DRINK

Fans of dishes from various parts of the world, will find here several different venues to try international cuisine at its best. The main hotel restaurant, called Archipela, is situated near the beach and specializes in light dishes, which are popular on the island. An absolute "must have" is a dinner in a unique floating seafood restaurant Le Barachois, which comprises of five decks and is located among the natural fish reserve, which is reached via a wooden pathway.

Asian is a beach restaurant, offering mainly Japanese and Chinese flavours - a real treat for sushi and dim sum aficionado.

In addition to the restaurants, the resort also has three bars, including the most popular poolside Laguna Bar. Those preferring indoor venues, may want to try the Lounge Bar, housed in the main hotel building, next to Archipel restaurant. It's a perfect place for a pre-dinner apperitivo. Then you can spend the rest of the night in the atmospheric Floating Bar.

THE LARGEST WINE **CELLAR IN MAURITIUS**

One of the unquestionable and attractions of the stay at Prince



It's also a perfect venue for intimate wine tasting, accompanied by excellent finger food and hilarious stories by hotel sommeliers.

wine cellar in Mauritius.

SPA

A visit to the on-site U Spa by Constance is an important part of the stay at the Prince Maurice. Most procedures are performed on the sea shore, in airy pavilions, with the use of the best available cosmetics and oils, including Sisley brand. There is a wide choice of treatment for couples, including the relaxing Couple Massage or the Island Ritual that comprises several procedures.

The spa and, the nearby swimming pool and the so-called wet zone with saunas can be used daily from 9.00am to 8.00pm, while the fitness room with modern equipment is open 6.30am-8.30pm.

ACTIVE LEISURE

Those bored with the run-of-themill relaxation poolside or in the

turquoise sea, can try one of the most popular attractions of the resort (and offered free of charge), which is water skiing. Constance Prince Maurice Mauritius also organizes catamaran cruises, fishing trips to the open sea, and speed boat cruises. Other popular activities include canoeing, kite surfing and diving. You can also easily rent here a private car with a driver to explore the island. Although Constance Prince Maurice Mauritius is a typical holiday destination rather than a venue for business activities, it's still possible to hold here a small meeting in one of its dedicated rooms for up to 16 people. Of course, the hotel also offers a range of comprehensive services for the participants: from provision of office equipment to excellent catering.

VERDICT

It's undoubtedly one of the most interesting hotels in Mauritius, combining tradition, luxury and elegance. It's also a perfect holiday destination for couples seeking privacy, offering excellent cuisine for even the most refined gourmets, as well as lush vegetation to sooth your senses. A real oceanside gem that meets the demands of the most discerning holidaymakers. It's a perfect address for unforgettable holiday at any time of the year.



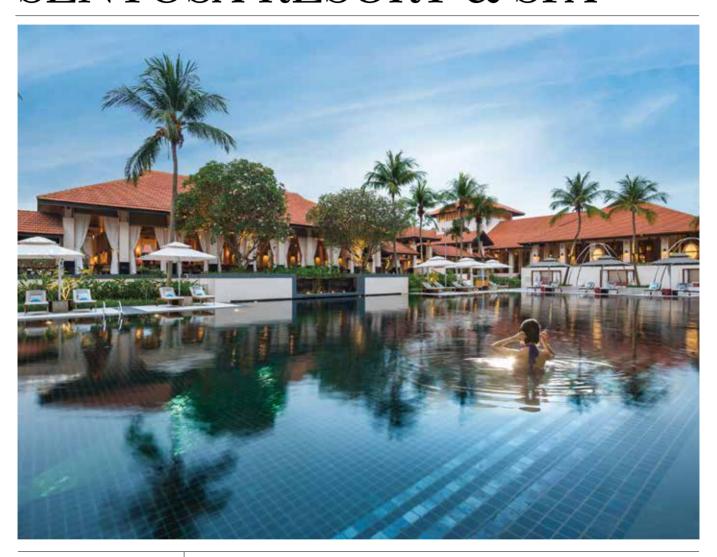
A visit to the on-site U Spa by Constance is an important part of the stay at the Prince Maurice. Most procedures are performed on the sea shore, in airy pavilions, with the use of the best available cosmetics and oils.





Hotel **SINGAPORE**

SOFITEL SINGAPORE SENTOSA RESORT & SPA



CONTACT

Sofitel Singapore Sentosa Resort & Spa Sentosa, 2 Bukit Manis Rd 099891 tel.: (65) 6708 8310 e-mail: h9474@sofitel.com www.sofitel-singapore-sentosa.com

ofitel Singapore Sentosa Resort & Spa is unquestionably one of the best business hotels in Singapore. Located just a 20-minute drive from the strict centre of this Asian metropolis, it offers you all the charms of a quiet resort situated by a tropi-

There is a small revolution in making on the Asian air market. In May this year our national air carrier LOT Polish Airlines will launch regular services on Warsaw - Singapore route, operated by the airline's Dreamliners.

Singapore is a unique citystate, a global commerce, finance and transport hub, as well as home to the world's best airport Changi International, which is also the larger air hub for the region of Southeast

Whether you are arriving in Singapore on business or as a tourist, you may want to expe-

rience its one-of-a-kind atmosphere in a slightly different way than regular travellers. To do this, instead of booking a stay in a multi-storey skyscraper hotel, choose the luxury Sofitel Singapore Sentosa, resembling a tropical resort rather than a five-star hotel situated in the very heart of a large metropolis.

WHERE IS IT?

Sofitel Singapore Sentosa is one of two Singapore properties of the brand, owned by the French Accor Group. The group has in the city also a business-oriented typically property Sofitel Singapore City Centre. Note that the general manager of both hotels is... Piotr Kupiec, a Pole who has been part of Sofitel brand for many years, and has gained his vast experience in, among others, hotels of the chain located in Mauritius. He is doing a great job. He is highly respected by his employees for his sheer commitment and attention to every detail. Perhaps this is why most female members of the personnel know basic Polish words and expressions. Their boss will not only make sure that his Polish guests have everything they need, but he's happy to advise you on places worth visiting in the city. He's a perfect contact for Polish guests and groups, planning a stay in Singapore.

The hotel, situated on the Singaporean island of Sentosa, is set in a beautiful park with peacocks strolling around, sometimes peeking into guest rooms. Sentosa is the leisure and entertainment part of Singapore, only 30 minutes from Changi International Airport and 15 from the city centre. It's close to MRT Harbour Front station; the popular Tanjong Beach is also within easy reach, as is an excellent golf course.

The hotel buildings look quite impressive; the large lobby has a few ponds with fish that can groom your feet. Taking centre stage in the open-air lobby is a dramatic hand-blown glass installation called Stellar, hoisted from a recessed pink ceiling, itself inspired by the song La Vie en Rose. The whole looks like a giant glass roof with the sun shining through it.

ROOMS

Sentosa Resort & Spa has more than 200 rooms, suites and villas on its offer. All standard rooms are situated in several



The luxury Sofitel Singapore Sentosa resembles a tropical resort rather than a five-star hotel situated in the very heart of a large metropolis.





Hotel **SINGAPUR**





Anyone who has ever visited any Sofitel property, will probably know well the So SPA brand, present in many hotels of the group. In Singapore, this concept combines local Asian techniques with French high-quality cosmetology.

low-rise buildings, offer 36 sqm of space, stylish modern furniture, free Wi-Fi, digital newspapers and magazines, as well as coffee and tea making facilities.

Hotel suites are obviously much more comfortable and spacious. The smallest one, the 55 sqm Junior Suite, is an airy room without partition walls, comprising a sleeping area and a living zone.

Other suites have a more classical design - for example, the 64 sqm Prestige Suite features a visibly separated bedroom. Family Suite is a slightly larger option, offering ample 72 sqm. The title of the queen of suites belongs unquestionably to the Imperial Suite with 190 sqm of floor area. The suite consists of a living room, a dining area, a library, and is offered with a range of Hermes products.

Hotel guests may also opt for Villa Du Jardin, an impressive 300 sqm building with two bedrooms, a dining room, as well as a spacious living room. It also feature a large open-air terrace surrounded by garden, as well as a private pool.

FOOD AND DRINK

All those acquainted with Sofitel brand know that the food served here meets the requirements of even the most demanding gourmets, including those who like and respect French cuisine.

The pan-Asian-style Kwee Zeen restaurant (note the wordplay) serves dishes of international, Asian and French cuisine. On Sundays you can also enjoy here the Magnifique Sunday Champagne Brunch.

The Garden restaurant, on the other hand, serves balanced meals based on natural ingredients. It's a good place for those who must observe their diet. The Cliff is a venue for typical modern-casual dining - something for lovers of Italian flavours. Finally, open from morning to late night LeBar is the place to gor for light meals and cocktails.

SPA AND ATTRACTIONS

Anyone who has ever visited any Sofitel property, will probably know well the So SPA brand, present in many hotels of the group. In Singapore, this

concept combines local Asian techniques with French highquality cosmetology. You can enjoy here Turkish hammams, Asian or European massages, as well as wide range of procedures for women.

The hotel also offers a 22-metre swimming pool overlooking the sea. Right next to the property there is an excellent 18-hole Sentosa Golf Club.

On request, the hotel can organize sightseeing tours to all possible attractions of Singapore. On such trips guests are accompanied by a dedicated concierge who also serves as your driver.

VERDICT

The Sofitel Singapore Sentosa Resort & Spa is by far one of the best hotel addresses in Singapore. Whether you are on a fewday sightseeing tour or an important business trip, it's worth booking a stay here. With its picturesque garden, proximity to the sea and lush vegetation, Singapore Sentosa Resort is definitely a great alternative to high-rise hotels situated in the crowded centre.

Rafał Sobiech







Plac Teatralny ul. Wierzbowa 9/11, Warszawa Reservations - tel: 22 828 22 11 e-mail: restauracjaelixir@domwodki.pl







RELAXING IN A SPA

Everyday rush, stress, dozens of tasks that need to be completed and deadlines that you must meet - all this makes you feel you need to find some balance. With the fast-paced life we live today, it's safe to say that everyone needs a moment of rest and escape from everyday duties. One of the best options for perfect relaxation is a visit to a spa.







A few-day stay in a spa hotel can be a real game changer. Exercises under the watchful eye of an instructor, rejuvenating treatments and relaxing massages can work wonders.





he term "spa" comes from the Latin phrase "sanus per aquam", which means "health through water". Ancient people put a lot of emphasis on body care, but later this tradition disappeared, only to be rediscovered in modern times.

A few-day stay in a spa hotel can be a real game changer. Exercises under the watchful eye of an instructor, thermal pools, whirlpool baths, rejuvenating treatments and relaxing massages - all of these can work wonders. To discover all the benefits of spa treatment, it's worth visiting one of several luxury spa centres situated in mountains, on the Baltic coast or in other regions of Poland.

Modern spa centres are usually specialized and often sophisticated hotels, offering cosmetic treatments, massages, comprehensive wellness services, as well as alternative medicine. No wonder that each year we can observe a flurry of new openings of facilities of this type. Also business hotel chains more and more often provide spa facilities, knowing that for their customers it's often the only possible option form of relaxation after a busy day.

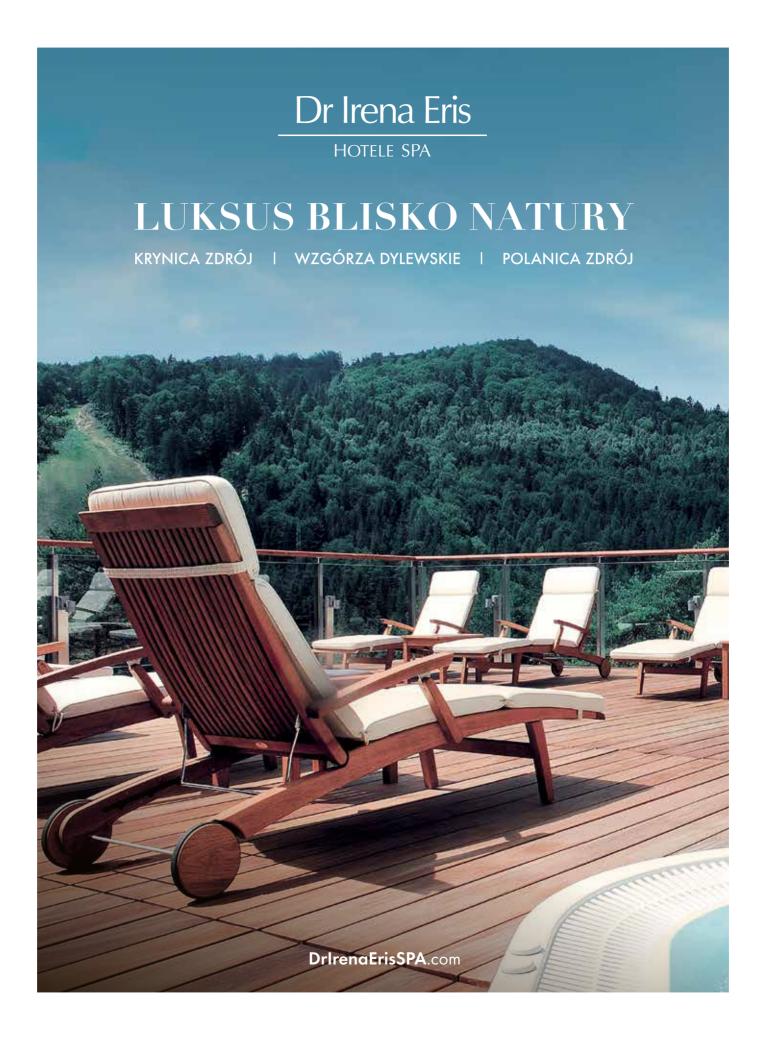
Here are a few tried and tested addresses from various regions of Poland.

SPA DR IRENA ERIS HOTEL DYLEWSKIE HILLS WYSOKA WIEŚ

Located near the picturesque Dylewskie Hills Landscape Park, the resort offers a wide range of spa facilities, including Roman bath, brine pools, saunas and jacuzzi. If you are extremely busy and seek ultimate weekend rest, go for the "SPA Touch" package, consisting of facial relaxation massage and the hand rejuvenation treatment. The "Heat Touch" procedure is, in turn, the massage of neck and shoulders. Add to this unique on-site restaurants and the one-ofa-kind opportunity for a rest away from the hustle of the big city. drirenaerisspa.pl

HOTEL SPA IRENA ERIS, KRYNICA-ZDRÓJ

The winner of "SPA Prestige Awards", and a place widely acclaimed by industry experts and guests alike, Spa Irena Eris Krynica Zdrój, attracts guests with stylish décor throughout - from luxury rooms to the swimming pool and fitness room overlooking the Czarny Potok valley near Krynica Górska. The intimate climate enables guests to immerse themselves in an atmosphere of complete relaxation from the very moment they enter the hotel. Further pleasures await at the institute offering a



wide choice of signature Dr Irena Eris procedures, including massages, spa treatment and medical cosmetology. The first visit starts with a professional skin examination, base on which an individual treatment programme is designed. There is also a choice of complex treatments with use of therapeutic waters. This unique sanctuary of vitality also features a sauna complex, a relaxation area with heated chairs, and a restaurant serving delicious and healthy cuisine.

GŁĘBOCZEK VINE RESORT&SPA, BRZOZIE NEAR BRODNICA

Located in the Masuria region, this luxurious haven of tranquillity, is also a wine lovers' paradise. The area around the spa is surrounded by lush vines, the décor of the hotel is evocative of picturesque villages in southern Europe, and there is a wide choice of rejuvenating treatments with vinotherapy being the most important. Procedures available at Winnica SPA include a bath in a tub filled with the nectar of gods, but also compresses with fruit pulp and grapeseed scrub. The substances contained in seeds destroy free radicals responsible for ageing processes. In this way, you can retain you younger look for longer.

Other beneficial treatments include herbal and flower inhalations in the Brodnica Baths, Watsu (aquatic bodywork used for deep relaxation and passive aquatic therapy), and KMI method which uses techniques to manipulate the myofascia (muscles and fascia) to reorganise the body's structure. After treatments you can, for example, taste

wines from the world's best wine producing regions. <code>gleboczek.pl</code>

HOTEL WELLNESS PROVITA, KOŁOBRZEG

Wellness ProVita is well-known not only for its excellent location and creative interior design, but above all for its extremely friendly approach to guests. This four-star facility, situated in the spa district of Kołobrzeg, has found its own way of creating unique atmosphere which promotes relaxation, tranquillity and natural harmony.

The philosophy of the hotel is also evident in the architecture of the building. With its design, Wellness ProVita stands out from other Kołobrzeg hotels. You can see here heavy inspiration with the Scandinavian minimalistic style. The interiors are dominated by simple forms, toned colours and natural materials. Is it possible to combine nature with the latest technology? Yes it is, and Team dr Joseph cosmetics brand is the best example of this. The company's products are based on the latest technologies, natural medicine and herbal knowledge. No paraffin, parabens, silicone, alcohol, synthetic dyes and aromas. One of the most relaxing treatments is special Ayurvedic massage, which combines a number of Ayurvedic techniques (including old-Hindu ones) with elements of yoga and inclusion of powdered herbs. The massage has a very broad spectrum of beneficial effects. First of all, it deeply relaxes and revitalises, at the same time nurturing the skin and cleansing the body of toxins. Here everything is based on natural, manual procedures, carefully developed in order to produce the best results. Gentle smell of the cosmetics resembles the scent of a blooming meadow. All procedures are so carefully designed that you can experience deep state of relaxation even during the facial treatment.

Another perfect spot for peaceful relaxation is the hotel's pool complex. You can unwind here in a specially designed relaxation room with a fireplace, sauna room overlooking the seaside park, or the private wellness room with biosauna. The hotel has also its own Health Institute, where you can take care of your health and fitness in a natural way. The institute has its own dietary advice centre; it's also possible to undergo here a thorough medical assessment by a traditional Chinese medical doctor, as well as innovative health diagnostics, including food intolerance test or live blood drop examination. hotelprovita.pl

KRASICKI HOTEL LIDZBARK WARMIŃSKI

Old, historic buildings where time seems to move slower, therapists educated in holistic philosophies, as well as high quality cosmetics - all of these are a guarantee of enjoyable experience at St. Catherine's Spa at Krasicki Hotel. The facility offers a wide variety of packages and procedures for both men and women. The offer can also be tailored to individual needs and wishes of guests. It's a truly holistic spa where your body and soul will experience the state of deep relaxation. hotelkrasicki.pl

Rafał Sobiech





Modern spa centres are usually specialized and often sophisticated hotels, offering cosmetic treatments, massages, comprehensive wellness services, as well as alternative medicine.











SPA IN HARMONY WITH NATURE

Leisure in the rhythm of slow life



Saunas, yoga, massages as well as the unique award-winning cuisine combined with seaside atmosphere and tasteful design - all of these are a guarantee for the best relaxation ever.

ess than a hundred metres from a wide beach of Kołobrzeg there is a unique place. The place where your body can relax, the mind calms down and your spirit rejuvenates. This effect is the result of a well-thought out philosophy, modern design and a holistic approach to relaxation. It's a well-known fact that time slows down at ProVita hotel. Where lies the secret of perfect wellness Kołobrzeg-style?

IN LINE WITH NATURE

Wellness is closely linked to the attentiveness and slowness of the atmosphere, and at ProVita these guidelines are taken very seriously. That's why, the spa personnel are well aware of the

need for an individual approach every guest. Determining preferences, expectations and contraindications enables to choose appropriate treatment and cosmetics, as well as strengthen their effect with appropriate recommendations on diet and physical activity.

Care and attention to detail mean that even the well-known massages at the ProVita are often rediscovered by guests and appreciated even more. A real highlight of the spa zone is the Ayurvedic yogic massage, which is rarely performed in Poland. The procedure is adjusted after the patient has been assigned to an appropriate element of the nature. Focus on the patient, the combination of different Ayurvedic massage techniques with the use of natural oils, ground herbs and some elements of yoga, result in the state of deep relaxation, which promotes rejuvenation. The massage cleanses the body of toxins, nourishes and smoothes the skin.

In the spa zone you can also undergo a professional medical examination and prepare a regeneration plan together with professionals - a dietitian, a personal trainer and a psychologist. However, regardless of the recommendations you receive and your favourite style of relaxation at the hotel, you are guaranteed here excellent cuisine, carefully selected and performed treatments, as well

as sophisticated spaces offering tranquil atmosphere.

NATURE KNOWS BEST

The spa at the ProVita Hotel offers primarily natural manual treatments for the face and the body.

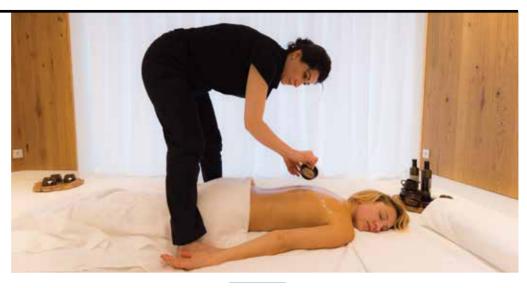
"We have deliberately decided not to use the excess of specialist mechanical equipment. In this way, we want to emphasize the natural character of the place and provide an even more effective relief to the senses that are exposed to too many stimuli on a daily basis," explains Jolanta Sokołowska, the manager of the hotel's wellness & spa area.

A similar philosophy of minimalism and return to the nature is adhered to by the Italian brand Vitalis Dr Joseph. The collaboration of ProVita with this company boasting more than 30 years of experience in the field, means that the signature spa treatment designed in South Tyrol are now also available in Kołobrzeg. The procedures are varied through the use of traditional or natural solutions, such as Tibetan bowls, cupping glass, warm compresses, basalt stones and sticks, as well as herbal and floral stamps.

The brand's products are a perfect combination of natural plant ingredients and state-ofthe-art technology. They are never tested on animals and contain no paraffin, parabens, silicone, alcohol, synthetic dyes or aromas. Their gentle aromas evoke the pleasant smell of a blooming meadow - it's noninvasive, not attacking your senses, but instead gently wrapping you with delicate notes designed for both women and man. The spa at ProVita hotel uses exclusively the cosmetics by the biocertified brand Vitalis Dr Joseph.

IN LINE WITH THE NATURE OF KOŁOBRZEG

The four-star Wellness Hotel ProVita is located right next to a wide beach. The space and atmosphere of the building are



A real highlight of the spa zone is the Ayurvedic yogic massage, which is rarely performed in Poland.



in perfect harmony with the adjacent tranquil seaside park and spacious hotel garden.

The interiors of the hotel have been carefully thought out. The décor of the spaces draws inspiration from the Scandinavian design, as well as coastal nature. This means elegant simplicity, minimalism, subdued tones, wood and felt touches, and tons of the natural light. Cosy spaces that guarantee both intimacy and freedom, while comfortable and functional rooms promote tranquillity. No ads and other unwanted stimuli promotes relaxation and attention to what is important here and now.

With smart space arrangement public spaces are never crowded, even at peak occupancy, and everything runs surprisingly smoothly. All the applied solutions contribute to the overall sense of order and inner peace. Consistency and harmony are the main theme for all the interiors - from the lobby, through the reception area, rooms and restaurant to the wellness & spa zone.

Saunas, yoga, massages as well as the unique award-winning cuisine combined with seaside atmosphere and tasteful design - all of these are a guarantee for the best relaxation ever. Wellness ProVita is a oneof-a-kind offer for those who are trying to find their inner peace in a tranquil environment. Here their pursuit of ultimate relaxation can come to an end.

IBIS STYLES WARSZAWA CITY

Enjoy a unique journey!



Located in the very heart of the capital, ibis Styles Warszawa City harks back to the fascinating history of Warsaw's trams, which are a kind of bloodstream of the city.

ocated at 43 Grzybowska Street, the ibis Styles Warszawa City takes visitors to the world of... Warsaw Trams! It's the capital's first property owned by the brand which builds its chain with original concepts for unique spaces in mind. Their inspirations come from different sources, and their common features are unlimited creativity, positive energy, upbeat mood and excellent comfort.

FASCINATING WEALTH OF HISTORY

Warsaw is a city with an exceptionally rich past, whose traces are present everywhere. Almost every street and building has its own colourful story, which combines the past and the present in a unique way. The whole creates a unique mosaic of memories reflected in the mirror of modern buildings. This mosaic is made up of many elements. Located in the very heart of the capital, ibis Styles Warszawa City harks back to the fascinating history of Warsaw's trams, which are a kind of bloodstream of the city. A colourful scheme of connections running inside the hotel, aims at reconstructing the route of the first horsedrawn tram line, which was launched in 1866 and ran near Grzybowska Street. However, the modern interiors of the hotel offer even more interesting tidbits related to public transport in the capital. In the stylish common spaces, guests will find tram cars, traction equipment and route maps, which take unique forms and patterns.

Visitors to the hotel can also admire here a number of works by well-known artist Tytus Brzozowski, drawing inspiration from the urban lifestyle. The surreal space created in the painter's world blends perfectly with the modern character of the interiors, giving them a unique feel. Ibis Styles Warsaw City promises all visitors an unforgettable journey throught time and and a one-of-a-kind trip along a tram route. And after the day full of fun and entertainment, you can rest comfortably in the heavenly Sweet bed by ibis Styles, offered in all 220 rooms of the hotel.

JOURNEY TO... THE MODERN PAST

At ibis Styles Warszawa City your unique journey begins on the doorstep of the hotel. Colour-



ful lighting imitating tramway maps leads you to the reception area inspired by the style of the old trams. That's not all. In the hotel lobby you will now find an old-style tram stop with wooden benches, similar to those found in pre-war Warsaw. The hotel's main theme is also clearly visible in the restaurant's buffet. Have you ever wondered what it would be like to move to another dimension for a moment and look at the city we know from a different perspective? Here you can do it! The references to history offered in an ultra-modern form create a futuristic atmosphere - a truly unforgettable experience. The unconventional and unique character of the ibis Styles brand philosophy is reflected here through the use of numerous non-standard elements and solutions. These include a part of a tram emerging from the wall, old-style tram seats, carpets with railway track patterns, traction

equipment in the breakfast zone, or the description of hotel floors made in the form of a timetable. There are also numerous wall graphics and decorations with transportation motifs throughout other spaces of the property. Is this a typical hotel interior? Well, you won't find a similar one, that's for sure. This original interior design creates a remarkable atmosphere of the place, at the same time it inspires and encourages guests to explore the

PERFECT SURROUNDINGS

While colourful, energetic hotel spaces tell you the story of the city's past, outside you can explore Warsaw's contemporary incarnation, which to a large extent, has been shaped by its history. The inspiration for ibis Styles Warszawa City was primarily the city in its broadest sense - with its traditions and culture. To fully benefit from the experience of



the hotel, you need to get to know it better. This is greatly helped by the hotel's excellent location, in the very centre of the capital, which combines historical monuments with modern infrastructure and futuristic solutions. It's only a 10-minute walk from here to the Palace of Culture and Science, and even less to the Warsaw Uprising Museum or the modern Warsaw Spire complex with a tourist section at the European Square. Those wishing to explore more distant areas of the city, will also easily do so, thanks to the comprehensive tram network covering whole Warsaw. And the friendly staff of the hotel always at your service, will be happy to give you all necessary tips and advice to make your tour of Warsaw an unforgettable exprience. After all, there are so many places to discover and interesting things to do here.

The references to history offered in an ultrá-modern form create a futuristic atmosphere - a truly unforgettable experience. The unconventional and unique character of the ibis Styles brand philosophy is reflected here through the use of numerous nonstandard elements and solutions.



PASSION. PERFECTION. **EXPERIENCE**

Sheraton Catering Service



ational trade fairs, a lavish banquet, a formal gala, a business conference, company meeting or a family picnic. Each of these events requires appropriate preparation and individual approach in order to meet all the requirements and needs of the participants. Whether it's a private or a corporate meeting, it's best to entrust professionals and let them take care of everything. This way you can rest

assured that the whole meeting will run smoothly and that all details will be properly worked out. Opting for the right company, you might want to take into account its experience and previous projects it worked on.



Only in this way can you be sure that you have hired a competent and proven team of specialists. Enter the Sheraton Catering Service - a group of experts in the field, responsible for organizing major events for more than 20 years, and knowing that event planning is not as simple task.

20 YEARS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL

Sheraton Catering Service is one of the oldest catering companies in the hospitality industry in Poland. Its history began in 1996, with the opening of the Sheraton Hotel in Warsaw. A small banquet held on this occasion was just a foretaste of what was to come. Sheraton Catering spread its wings for good two years later, in 1998, when foreign companies began to enter Poland in their hundreds. The catering service was a response to new market needs and made perfect use of the niche that needed to be filled at that time. New companies were looking for a partner to organize events, build their own brands and introduce their first products. A partner that would be able to provide services at the highest global level. Drawing on the experience of the hotel's catering and banqueting services, Sheraton Catering Service has been a guarantee of excellent service

and menu since the very first days of its existence. Each event was tailored to the client's needs and matched thematically to the nature of the meeting. Some of the most prominent clients of the company include Maspex, Samsung, Triumph and Bayer.

FOR EVERY OCCASION

During 20 years of its operation, Sheraton Catering Service has been involved in a number of projects. The services are provided throughout Poland, both indoors and outdoors. Many of them have gone down in history, such as the sumptuous wedding at Malbork Castle organized for the niece of David Lynch. Costumes from the period, stylish decorations and royal menu, helped guest immerse deep in the atmosphere of this magical place and made the event truly memorable.

The unquestionable advantage of the SCS team is its readiness to come up with innovative ideas and the pioneering approach both in the kitchen and the set design for the event. In 2008, by co-organizing a congress on wind energy, the company became part of the eco-development and recycling trends, which are so popular today. Talking about creativity, you can't forget about the head chef Marcin Sasin, whose culinary sense and inspiration drawn from long journeys are simply irreplaceable. His talent is highly-valued by clients, including those performing public functions both in Poland and abroad.

MOTIVATION AND PURSUIT OF PERFECTION

The high quality of services provided by Sheraton Catering Service is proved by numerous flattering recommendations and a group of regular customers, as well as, of course, new projects. The excellent work has been noticed by the event industry, which nominated the company for the prestigious MP Power Awards, appreciating its contribution to the organization of the ZMPD gala for almost 2,000 people last year.

As the 20-year history shows, regardless of the scale of the event, Sheraton Catering Service makes every effort to meet the needs of its customers and exceed their wildest expectations. Organising a catering service in even the most unusual venue isn't a problem, so no matter what you plan, the professionals from the Sheraton Catering Service will be a real highlight at every event.

The Sheraton Catering Service is the guarantee of perfect service and delicious menu!

To find out more or to book service, go to: sheratoncatering.pl

During 20 years of its operation, Sheraton Catering Service has been involved in a number of projects. The services are provided throughout Poland, both indoors and outdoors.

TIME FOR BURMA

Burma (Myanmar) is becoming an increasingly popular tourist destination in Asia. Isolated for years by its military authorities, this poor and slightly backward country has finally opened its borders, setting their eyes on international tourism.





ou won't find here a large number of luxury hotels and conveniently located infrastructure. In return, however, you get a chance to experience a wonderful feeling of going back in time and seeing a piece of genuine wild world, unaffected yet by the omnipresent civilization.

It's a truly beautiful country and utterly different from its neighbours. A country with more Buddha statues than inhabitants, abundant in natural resources: the sea, rivers, lush vegetation, fertile soils, friendly climate, towering mountains, lots of minerals such as marble, gold, rubies and emeralds. At the same time, it's a place stricken by real poverty. However its inhabitants don't look poor and miserable, at all; on the contrary, the keep smiling and seem very cheerful. All their wealth is located in gold pagodas, statues of Buddha and gifts offered to him. In Burma you can admire both the beautiful nature and stunning works of art.

TOURIST GEMS

Despite gaining popularity with travellers in recent years, Burma lacks the luxuries that tourists can enjoy in other countries. In the largest city of Rangoon, which is most conveniently accessed by air, and where you can cross the border (you need to obtain a visa first), there are merely a few hotels offering the so-called Western standards. By far the best of them is The Strand - a luxury five-star property, housed in a colonial style mansion. With its convenient location, the hotel provides an easy access to the Chinatown neighbourhood, as well as the local food

market or the historic Shwedagon Pagodas. All its suites feature tasteful Victorian style décor, and come with a dedicated concierge service available 24/7. Despite the downright traditional style, the rooms have both a TV set with access to satellite TV channels, and fast Wi-Fi. The Strand is the place to go for a romantic dinner poolside, and if you want to feel the atmosphere of the 1950s, you can visit the on-site chic restaurant to try traditional Burmese crispy cookies or sip a refreshing drink at the bar. The hotel is also well-known for its luxury spa centre.

THE STRAND

Travelling businesspeople are always in a hurry, so good news is that visiting Rangoon's most interesting sights doesn't take more than two days, with The Strand serving as a base to provide you with all necessary comforts you may need after a day spent touring this hot and noisy city. However, the most enticing reason for using the hotel's services is its tourist package, which comprises the stay, airport transfers by a limo, and Burma's biggest attraction - a cruise down the Ayearwada River from Bagan to Mandalay (four nights) or in the opposite direction (three nights). There are numerous travel agencies offering similar cruises, but The Strand's package is far ahead of the rest. This applies both to the ship with its cabins being in fact luxury suites, and exquisite food, as well as the international crew, including a top class chef and a mysterious magician from France, without whose sense of humour, care and sheer commitment to entertaining guests, the cruise wouldn't be so unique. In addi-

tion to meals, the price includes also access to the open bar and quality wine, as well as two daily land excursions to the country's most beautiful attractions, such as temples, pagodas and old monasteries. The experience is a one-of-a-kind opportunity to learn about the wealthy historical and cultural heritage of Burma. Each excursion is done by a different means of transport, whether it's a bus, a limo, a horse-drawn carriage, a rickshaw, a bicycle or... your own feet. Visiting temples isn't a pure pleasure, though; you can only enter them barefoot, so even socks or protective plastic bags are out of question. Luckily, the ship's crew are present at each exit, offering their guests a hot wet towel for their feet and a cold one to wipe their hands, before boarding the ship again where all luxuries wait, spa included. Each evening guests are also treated to a gourmet dinner, held in an unusual location. One time this can be the upper deck of the ship, on other occasion a sandy beach with comfortable tables set up by the fire; or simply elegant interiors of restaurant with floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the bank of the river illuminated by the moon.

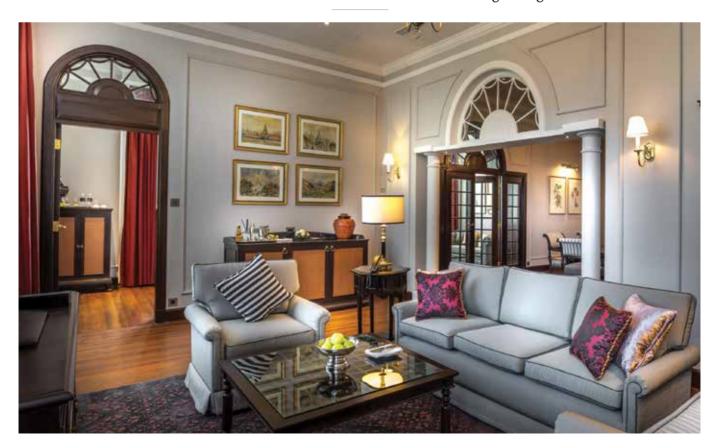
CAPITAL WITHOUT RESIDENTS

The "must see" set of attractions for those with little time on their hands consists of the "great four": the Golden Shewedagon Pagoda in Rangoon along with the large statue of reclining Golden Buddha; the ancient Bagan; surrounded by high mountains, magical Inle Lake that residents navigate using their feet to paddle and steer; as well as the city of Mandalay packed with



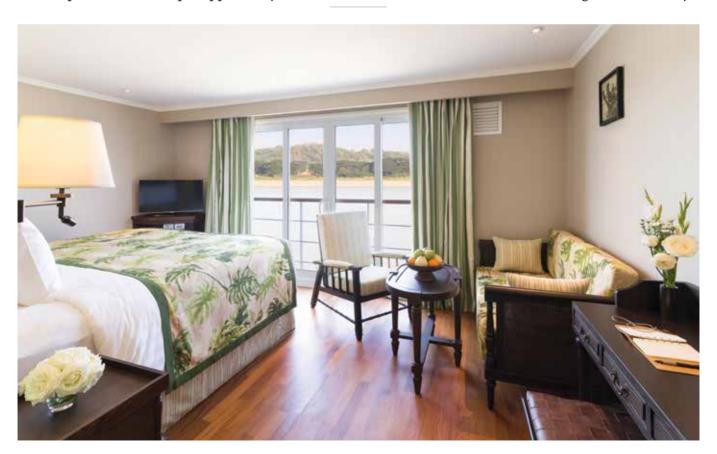


The Strand is a luxury five-star property, housed in a colonial style mansion. With its convenient location, it provides an easy access to the Chinatown neighbourhood, as well as the local food market or the historic Shwedagon Pagodas.





A cruise on the Ayeyarvada River from Bagan to Mandalay is one of the main attractions of Burma. The experience is a unique opportunity to learn about the historical and cultural heritage of the country.



numerous temples and monasteries, where streets are lined with Buddha statues offered for sale: from giant marble ones to tiny ones made of jade or gold.

I was especially impressed by the capital city Nay Pyi Taw. The present authorities, fed up with living in the dirty and crowded Rangoon, decided to design a modern, perfectly planned city for chosen citizens, with low architecture for both government buildings, villas, and apartment blocks. In consequence, the city's thoroughfares, though 10 lanes wide, are almost completely empty, because nobody wanted to live here, apart from the members of the government. And despite the fact that Nay Pyi Taw is relatively small, somehow getting around it takes a lot of time. This is because distances between major points within the city are large, and the roads are somehow more of an obstacle than an aid.

FLYING OVER BAGAN

One of the greatest attractions of the Southeast Asia is the ancient Bagan Kingdom, where between 9th and 13th centuries more than 10,000 temples were built. Unfortunately, the majority of them were completely destroyed in Mongol invasions and earthquakes. Currently, Bagan, whose inhabitants were forcibly relocated in 1990s, has 2,230 ancient temples. They all look stunning, and though similar in style, they differ in character.

It's worth taking a hot-air balloon flight at sunrise to enjoy the most spectacular views in this part of Asia. Despite the cost of about US\$350 per person, the trip must be booked well in advance. If you are out of luck, however, you can embark on a dawn hike to one of the highest temples in the area. To do it, you have to climb a series of narrow steps to one of the upper terraces, from which you will be able to enjoy the stunning view of 22 red hotair balloons rising up to the sky before sunrise. You may have seen such a photo online or in a book about Asia, but being there and watching the sky dotted with tiny red balloons flying over your head and around the tips of temples protruding from lush woodland, is a truly surreal experience.

PECULIAR CUSTOMS

Local women walk the streets with painted faces, or rather with something resembling a dried mask. The paste they use, called thanaka, is obtained from the bark of several trees, primarily Murraya and Limonia acidissima. Known for more than 2000 years, thanaka has been used primarily to protect the skin from the sunlight and repel insects. It also has a mild anti-inflammatory effect, prevents unpleasant body smell and serves as a makeup. Burmese women also use it to paint beige





In addition to meals, the price includes also access to the open bar and quality wine, as well as two daily land excursions to the country's most beautiful attractions, such as temples, pagodas and old monasteries.



Useful

INFORMATION

- What's the best time to go to Burma? The rainy season lasts from May to the end of September, which is the least favourable time to visit the country. Plan your trip to Burma for the period between October and April, though even in March the temperatures are quite high.
- How do I get a visa to Burma? There is no embassy of Burma in Poland. The closest one is in Berlin, but you can also buy a visa by filling out an online form and paying US\$50 by bank transfer. You will receive the document after about three days.
- Internet in Burma. LTE available in Burma is of fairly good quality. You can buy a SIM card at the airport; choose the one with more generous mobile data packages, such as Telenor. Avoid the so-called "tourist SIM" that will cost you K15,000. It's better to buy a card with a new number for K1,500 and top it up as you like (e.g. with K5,000). In this way it will cost you only about US\$6.
- Money in Burma. It's a good idea to bring with you a stack of small-denomination dollar notes, which you can use to pay anywhere without having to exchange your money to local currency. Make sure the notes are in good condition.
- Domestic flights. This is what surprised me the most. Though Burma is considered a poor and backward country, the quality of service and food on board its aircraft is just like in Europe 30 years ago, which means it's excellent. Fares are also very low, there are no crowds, all passengers flying from e.g. Nay Pyi Taw (a ticket to Bagan costs just US\$30) can use the comfortable business lounge, and the airport looks similar to its Warsaw counterpart about 30 years ago. It's almost empty and very spacious.
- Shopping in Bagan. Visiting numerous temples, you will have a great opportunity to do some shopping there, as apart from the statues of Buddha, the temples offer a vast choice of wonderful masterpieces: hand-made lacquerware items, thin light clothing, paintings made on fine sand from Irrawaddy River, and many other genuine objects. Prices are quite low, but haggling is a must.
- The Strand booking. Both the wonderful The Strand hotel and river cruises need to be booked some time in advance. The details of the trip can be found at:

www.thestrandcruise.com/contact-us.php www.hotelthestrand.com



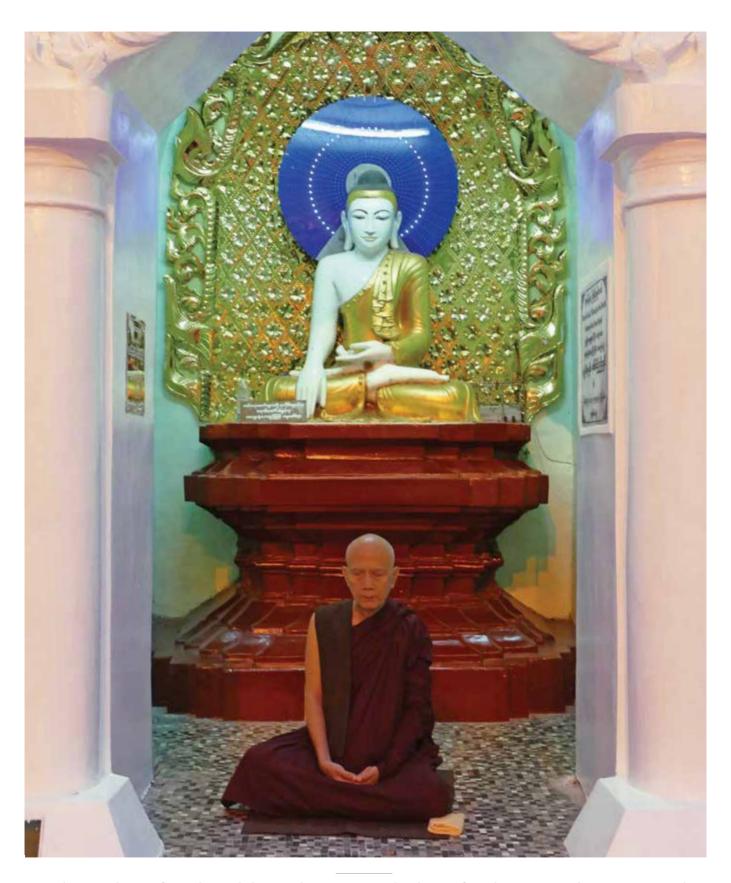
stripes, circles or other patterns on their cheeks, but also sometimes put thanaka on their children and even their husbands.

Although Burma has right-hand traffic, nearly 90 percent of its cars have the steering wheel on the right. This is all due to the eccentric decision of General Ne Win, who ruled the country between 1962-88. In 1970. left-hand traffic, which was a remnant of the British colonial era, was changed overnight to right-hand. Legend says that the decision was taken after consultation with He Win's astrologer. However, no one predicted that decades later the market would still be unable to adapt to that change, because countries producing inexpensive cars and exporting them to Burma, still use left-hand traffic. In Rangoon you won't find a single scooter. This is because this means of transport has been forbidden since the accident of one of the dignitaries. However, motorbikes are allowed anywhere else in the country, including the ultra-modern capital.

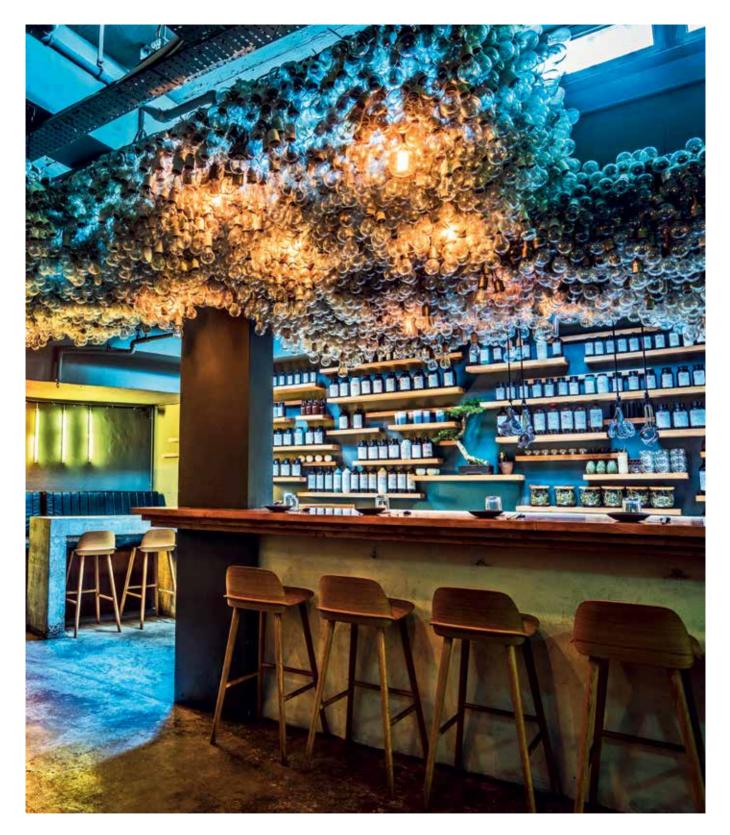
In towns and villages, both men and women wear skirts. The traditional Burmese longyi is a cylinder of fabric that you step into, much like a Western skirt. Men's longvi is often referred to as passos pasos and is secured with a large knot in front, while women tuck theirs at the hip. Longyis for men and women also differ in colours and patterns. This is a unique invention as longyis are all sewn in the same way and can be made into practically anything (by tying them together) - a whole outfit, bath shorts, headwear, a baby carrier, a cradle, a sleeping bag, a net, and a base for a basket worn on the head. In this way, you can fit all you wardrobe in just one bag. Just as modest are the clothes of Burmese people, so are their houses, or rather the places where they live. Those are usually tiny plots of lands, rarely fenced, with a simple wooden shack on stilts, covered with a roof made of woven bamboo. Inside there may be a small bed, a fireplace and an odd bowl or a bucket. Add to this a couple of Chinese plastic chairs, a motorbike or a bike, a horse and a cow, and obviously gold, marble and jade statues of Buddha. One might say that the Burmese are the most religious nation in the world, but after talking to an experienced guide I got an impression that they don't fully understand what they believe in, and their tradition and culture is limited to taking care of the statues of Buddha instead of their own lives. However, observing their cheerful disposition, I have come to think their carefreeness and lack of need to gather earthly goods, is enviable.

For those who love to explore the world and have already seen a lot, the contemporary Burma is one of the most interesting countries in Asia. Still unchanged and mostly unscathed by modern civilisation, it offers a unique insight into life as it was many years ago. An oxen-drawn wooden carriage or a herd of goats in the middle of a road are still a run-of-the-mill sights here. I can't find any excuse for heaps of rubbish or piles of crushed plastic bottles lying everywhere, but it's a novelty that has come with the opening of the country and the crowds of tourists visiting it every year. Hurry up to see Burma in its pristine state, before it becomes a tourist destination with ubiquitous hotels and modern infrastructure. Tomorrow, this remarkable place may be a completely different country.

Magdalena Boratyńska



Pagodas are places of worship, while temples are primarily places of meditation. For this reason pagodas are richly decorated, with numerous details to attract your sense of hearing, sight and smell. The temples, on the other hand, are dark and austere, so as not to distract people who meditate there.



RAISING THE BAR

Innovative cocktails, chic interiors and intriguing food menus – we round up some of the best bars in Singapore by *Nikhil Agarwal* and *Craig Bright*



ingapore's bar scene has a proud heritage. This is, after all, the home of Raffles and its renowned Long Bar, where the legendary Singapore Sling cocktail was invented. Though that bar is currently closed (due to reopen later this year), there is no shortage of other great places to enjoy a drink in glamorous surroundings. And, thanks to the high-rise nature of Singapore's skyline, fantastic views will often accompany your cocktail. We've bar hopped our way around the city to bring you some of our favourite drinking dens.

OPERATION DAGGER

Hidden in the basement on Ann Siang Hill, this has perhaps the most bizarre menu of any bar in Singapore. Cocktails feature an array of unexpected ingredients, from goat's cheese to bone marrow. Fans of industrial style will appreciate the polished concrete table tops and filament-bulb installation that covers the ceiling.

Open Tue-Sat 6pm until late; +65 6438 4057; operationdagger.com

IIGGER & PONY

This made the 2017 list of Asia's 50 Best Bars. It has a warm, friendly vibe and 20 simple yet chic cocktails, which vary from classics to signature creations. Bartender Boo Jing Heng, who deservedly won the 2016 Diageo World Class Singapore Champion award, is the wizard behind these magical drinks.

Open Mon-Thur 6pm-1am, Fri-Sat 6pm-3am; +65 9621 1074;

jiggerandpony.com

THE SECRET MERMAID

The design here is industrial-edgy, with a library-like wall of bottles, and metal and wood finishes. What makes the bar special is its selection of American spirits and the curated tasting flights. Don't miss the rye whiskey and some truly adventurous cocktails – such as salmon-flavoured vodka. Delicious tater tots are also served with each drink.

Open Mon-Fri 5pm-11pm; thesecretmermaid.com

Five classic

COCKTAILS

Can't make it to Singapore to sample the bars? Mix your own drinks at home with these essential recipes...

Margarita

•Very few cocktails are as feel-good as this classic Mexican concoction, which combines the tang of lime and sweetness of orange liqueur with the punch of tequila.

- 50ml silver tequila
- 25ml Cointreau
- 30ml lime juice
- Coarse salt
- Crushed ice

Put plenty of salt in a wide bowl. Rub the rim of a chilled margarita glass with lime juice and dip it into the salt. Add the lime juice, Cointreau and tequila to a cocktail shaker, and give it a good mix. Put plenty of ice into the glass and pour over the mixture.

Manhattan

According to popular legend, this blend of rye whiskey, sweet vermouth and bitters takes its name from New York's Manhattan Club, where it was invented in the 1870s.

- 50ml rye whiskey
- 25ml sweet vermouth
- 50ml Angostura Bitters
- Handful of ice
- Maraschino cherry

Put all the ingredients into a mixing glass and stir together. Pour into a chilled glass and garnish with the cherry.

Cosmopolitan

3. This fruity vodka-based cocktail came into being in the 1970s, but gained mass popularity in the late 1990s - then early 2000s courtesy of Sex and the City.

- 50ml vodka
- 25ml Cointreau
- 25ml cranberry juice
- 25ml lime juice
- Crushed ice
- Twist of orange or lemon peel, to garnish. Add the ingredients and plenty of ice to a cocktail shaker and shake for 20 seconds. Strain the mix into a chilled coupe or martini glass. Decorate with orange or lemon peel.

Negroni

One of many stories behind this drink is that an Italian asked his bartender friend to strengthen his favourite cocktail, the Americano. The resulting drink saw gin replacing soda water. It has seen a strong revival in recent years.

- 25ml Campari
- 25ml gin
- 25ml sweet vermouth
- Handful of ice cubes
- Twist of orange peel

Put all of the ingredients into a shaker and shake well. Pour into a chilled glass and decorate with the orange peel.

MojitoThis Cuban cocktail is a brilliant refreshment and a deserved classic.

- 65ml white rum
- 8 mint leaves, plus a sprig to garnish
- Handful of ice
- Juice of 1/2 lime
- 2 teaspoons caster sugar
- 65ml soda water

Muddle the mint in a highball glass with the end of a rolling pin, then transfer to a cocktail shaker. Add the sugar, lime juice, rum and ice. Shake well and pour back into the glass. Top up with soda and decorate with a mint sprig or lime slice.



28 HONGKONG STREET

You wouldn't know this buzzing bar existed unless someone told you about the unmarked entrance amid a row of shophouses. Craft cocktails are made from artisanal and organic ingredients, and it has great whiskybased cocktails. It's no wonder it topped the list of Asia's Best Bars in 2016 and held on to a top-five position in 2017.

Open Mon 12pm-2pm & 6pm-2am, Tue-Wed 6pm-2am, Thur-Sat 6pm-3am; +65 6533 2001: 28hks.com

1-ALTITUDE

The highest outdoor bar in the Singapore, 1-Altitude boasts some pretty spectacular views over Singapore's Marina Bay Sands and beyond. Set across three levels, with an al fresco bar at the top and a restaurant and nightclub below, you have everything you need for a great evening in one place. This is the place to visit if you want to rub shoulders with Singapore's high-profile residents late into the night.

Open Sun-Tue 6pm-2am, Wed, Fri-Sat 6pm-4am, Thur 6pm-3am; +65 6438 0410; 1-altitude.com

MANHATTAN

The winner of Asia's Best Bar 2017 is located in the lobby of the Regent Singapore. Manhattan nods to the golden age of cocktails in the US and its pièce de résistance is an on-site rickhouse (a whiskey-ageing warehouse) filled with enticing-looking casks. Don't miss the adults-only Sunday brunch or the eponymous signature cocktail.

Open Sun-Thur 5pm-1am, Fri-Sat 5pm-2am; +65 6725 3377; regenthotels.com

LEVEL 33

This "urban penthouse dining" space has its own craft brewery and great views. Contemporary interiors feature wood finishes, earthy colours and copper brewing kettles. As well as its own and European craft ales, food is available from a menu that showcases ingredients used in brewing, while a special "beer dining" menu features easyto-eat nibbles.

Open Mon-Thur 11.30am-12am, Fri-Sat 11.30am-2am, Sun 12pm-12am; +65 6834 3133; level33.com.sg

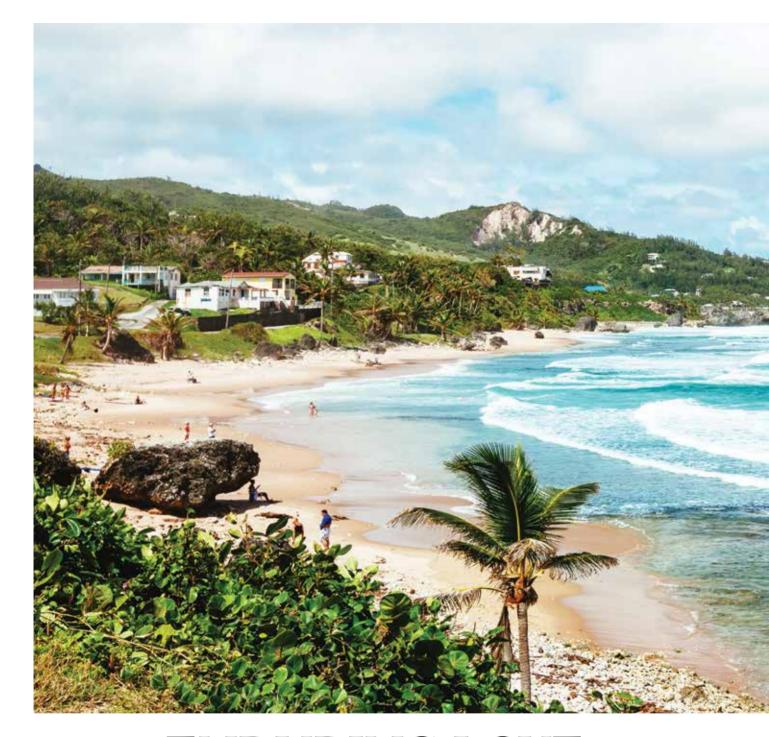
PARTY ROOM AT MEZZA9

Grand Hyatt Singapore's flagship restaurant has unveiled this gin and tonic bar, boasting more than 60 premium gins, including Asia's first craft gin, Paper Lantern. Spacious yet warm and inviting, the interior features hand-woven peranakan fabrics. The revamped Martini Bar next door has also introduced seven new flavours including a gummy bear martini.

Open Sun-Thur 5pm-12am, Fri-Sat 5pm-1am; +65 6732 1234; singapore.grand.hyatt.com



Level 33 has its own craft brewery and great views. Its contemporary interiors feature wood finishes, earthy colours and copper brewing kettles.

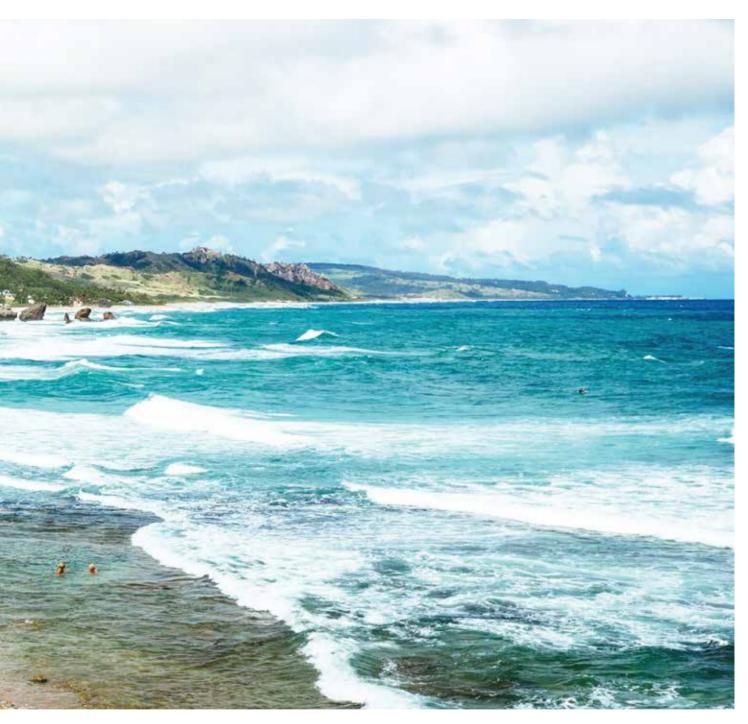


ENDURING LOVE

James Henderson says that it's quite easy to see why Barbados has long been favoured as an escape to the sun.

rop a regular Caribbean traveller blindfolded onto an island and they will know which one they are on. Each has its own distinctive traits and atmosphere. Barbados has a gentler landscape than the raging

Windwards (Dominica and Grenada among them) and a slightly balmier climate, with some 3,000 hours of sunshine each year. The island is entirely coral-based, giving it more of the Caribbean's white sand and lustrous blue sea. And the Bajans are extremely welcoming - gracious and polite, even a mite reserved (for the Caribbean, that is). The island has always had a special place in British hearts. So how did this come about? Partially through an uninterrupted 340year colonial connection (positioned up-



wind, Barbados was difficult to invade). And with the advent of leisure travel in the 20th century - a trend that started with the banana boats to Jamaica (a journey made by JP Morgan, William Randolph Hearst, Bette Davis and Errol Flynn) - it became a natural choice for British travellers.

SWEET MEMORIES

Beach hotels began to appear on the now famous west coast in the 1960s and island regulars built their villas, many of which were decorated by stage designer Oliver Messel. A winter social whirl began. Visi-

tors would stay a month or two, avoiding the cold weather. The island was renowned among the horse-racing set (the sport continues here and the island has its own Gold Cup). They were followed by the jet set. Barbados was so popular that until 2003 Concorde flew directly to it. It made the Atlantic crossing in four hours, arriving before it left London. There is now a Concorde on display at the airport.

CASUAL VS GLITZY

In the 1980s, as package tourism arrived, Barbados was quick to respond and less expensive hotels began to appear along the south coast. The two coasts still retain their distinctive feel: the south coast easy, upbeat and unpretentious, the west more mannered and glitzy.

Meanwhile, in the 1990s Barbados discovered fine dining. According to one chef, in the early days, salmon would arrive "deepfrozen, with the elasticity of a cricket bat". Nowadays, fish comes packed for sous-vide cooking, and local fishermen phone in their catch by mobile.

The villas took a new turn too, as visitors fell in love with the island and invested.



Barbados has a breadth of appeal for all budgets that few islands can match.





Properties started to appear on estates, each of which has a speciality. Royal Westmoreland centres on a golf course, Port St Charles and, more recently, Port Ferdinand on their marinas, and Sugar Hill on tennis. Apes Hill was built around a polo pitch (of which there are an improbable four on an island of just 21 by 14 miles).

All this is to say that Barbados has a breadth of appeal few islands can match, not just for wealthy clientele, but, given that it's possible to get a week all-inclusive with flights and transfers for less than £800, also for travellers of more restricted budgets.

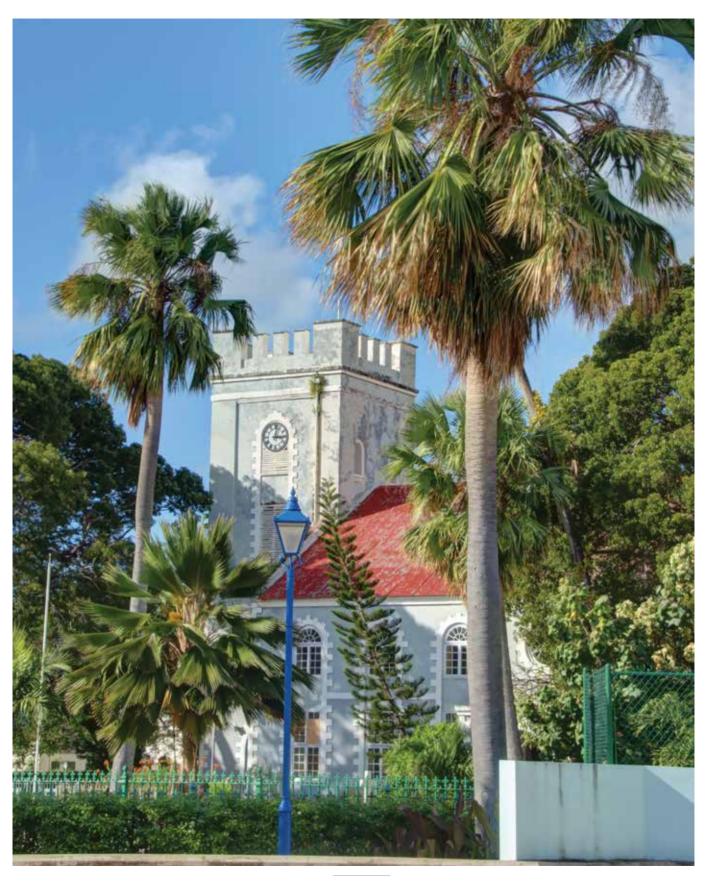
ALL FOR TOURISTS

Tourism contributes 12 per cent of GDP, which stood at US\$4.5 billion in 2016. Brits form a high proportion of visitors, at around one third (by comparison Jamaica sees approximately 90 per cent Americans). From January to November 2017, there were 200,000 air arrivals from Britain out of a total of 590,000 and, not to be forgotten, 560,000 arrivals by cruise ship. Around 14,000 jobs are directly tied to tourism, around one in ten of the island's workforce. And then there are dependent industries, such as tours and activities, food supply and construction. The best way to get a feel for Barbados is to take a drive around the island, which is about the size of the Isle of Wight. This comes with a warning: you will undoubtedly get lost, though this is part of the fun.

First, cruise along the southern coast from Bridgetown, through suburbs called Hastings, Dover and St Lawrence. This is the tourist heartland, with hotels and apartments lining the shore and dotted along the roads. Just inland from here is where the majority of new homes have been built for Bajans, too.

GREAT ESCAPADE

Some of the best beaches are beyond the airport, cut into the coves in the south east, all stacked sand and luminous turquoise sea: Harrismith, Foul Bay and Bottom Bay. Borrow a cooler and take a picnic from Cutters Deli. Or mosey up the Atlantic coast to the Atlantis Hotel in Bathsheba, whose tables groan twice a week with a West Indian buffet - pumpkin soup, curried fish and candied sweet potato. Or head for the northernmost point, where the restaurant at the Animal Flower Cave has lovely views. You will drive between rippling 15-foot-high



The best way to get a feel for Barbados is to take a drive around the island. This comes with a warning: you will undoubtedly get lost, though this is part of the fun.

curtains of sugar cane, grown since the 1600s to satisfy the European sweet tooth (and the source of untold misery to those enslaved to work it).

FLOWERS AND RUM

Today, the sugar industry is stuttering all over the Caribbean. However, if there is a maxim in Caribbean economics, it is that where one crop declines, another rises. Currently there is a revival in sugar's by-product, rum. Mount Gay, Cockspur and Malibu are made here. Join the Bajans in any rum shop (though never allow yourself to think you might beat them at dominoes) and if you want to tour a distillery, try Four Square or the smaller, delightful St Nicholas Abbey. Barbados is generally well organised in comparison to some parts of the Caribbean - a fact that both benefits the island and which causes some ribbing from other West Indians – and so there are plenty of things to do and places to visit. The Bajans love their gardens. Perhaps it's another British legacy, like its parliament and education system, both of which are built on the British model. Even a humble yard will have a tree and a line of plants such as colourfully variegated crotons, with some hot peppers growing at the rear. Hunte's Gardens, which fill a limestone sinkhole to bursting, and Andromeda

above the east coast display fantastic collections of tropical plants.

Finally, you will run down the west coast, with its exceptionally smart hotels, villas and restaurants, winter home to so many extremely wealthy British families. The media moguls and models we hear about are just the tip of an iceberg.

Barbados may not have the vertiginous beauty and explosive greenery of the larger Caribbean islands, nor the bygone charm found elsewhere. It is more developed than that. But what the island sets out to do - to provide a reliable holiday at all levels, from bucket and spade to super-luxury - it does like no other.

WHAT'S NEW FOR 2018

The most notable arrival is restaurant and beach club Nikki Beach of Florida fame. which has moved into Port Ferdinand, on the west coast north of Speightstown. The beach bar's trademark white parasols and double daybeds have been laid out around a pool just above the sea.

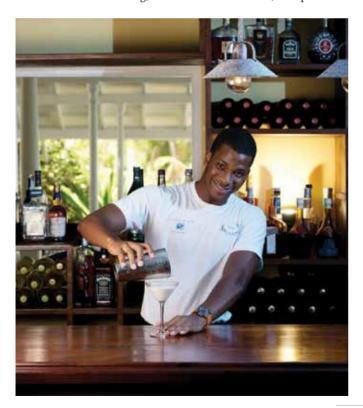
Every new restaurant opening is an event in Barbados. Hugo's, serving international cuisine in Speightstown, has begun to make a name for itself, as has the nearby Lobster Pot. And the beloved Bomba's beach bar is back, now painted in red, green and gold.

Among the top restaurants, The Cliff (and The Cliff Beach Club for lunch) are top of the tree, joined by The Tides and Cin Cin. The Lone Star is always fun. On the south shore, Primo in St Lawrence Gap and Champers continue to do a fine job.

Elsewhere, a new catamaran is making waves for its luxury service. The 62ft The Cat & The Fiddle offers daytime and sunset sails up and down the west coast of the island, with top-notch meals. If you are the active type, then Bike Caribbean from St Lawrence Gap will guide you along the east coast by cycle.

Of course the crowds shift from bar to bar just as sand shifts on the tide, but the epicentre of evening action is still Holetown (and St Lawrence Gap on the south coast). This year, popular bars include Fusion in Limegrove, popular with Bajans after work as well as with tourists, and West Bar. After an early evening drink, people head for restaurants up and down the coast before returning to round the night off at the Red Door on Second Street.

January to April this year sees the Sugar and Rum Season (which itself forms part of the 2018 Year of Culinary Experiences) highlighting everything from local cuisine to mixology classes, historical lectures and tours of distilleries and great houses.





Today, the sugar industry is stuttering all over the Caribbean, though currently there is a revival in sugar's by-product, namely rum.



BANGKOK SUVARNABHUMI AIRPORT HOTEL



Are you looking for a flexible airport hotel?

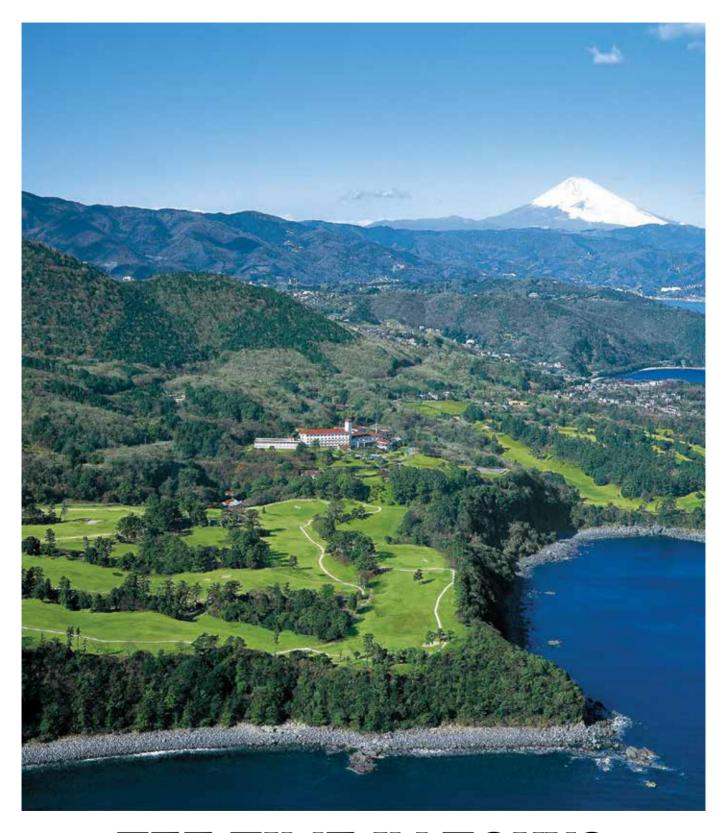
With 24 Hours Flexi and Flexi Meal, and no set check-in time, guests can arrive at any time of the day or night and check out 24 hours later, receiving the usual breakfast meal adjusted to any buffet of the day.

Experience this unique service only at Novotel Bangkok Suvarnabhumi Airport Hotel!

NOVOTEL BANGKOK SUVARNABHUMI AIRPORT HOTEL

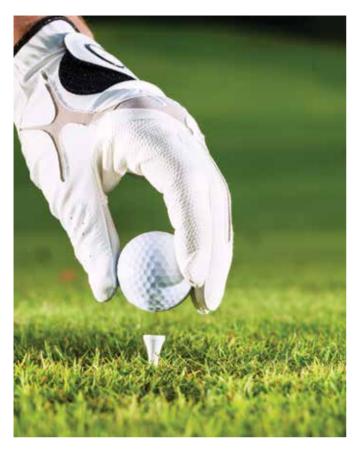
Suvarnabhumi Airport Hotel Co., Ltd. • 999 Suvarnabhumi Airport Hotel Building • Moo 1 • Nongprue • Bang Phli • Samutprakarn• 10540 Phone +66 (O) 2 131 1111 • Fax +66 (O) 2 131 1188 info@novotelairportbkk.com • www.novotelairportbkk.com





TEE TIME IN TOKYO

In the run up to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games, the golf courses around Japan's capital are swinging





KAWANA HOTEL

Where 120km south of Tokyo (one hour by bullet train, plus 15-minute minibus).

- Why The Kawana's first course, Oshima, opened in the 1920s. Then followed a visit from revered course architect CH Allison. Staying at the Kawana Hotel, he persuaded Anglophile owner Baron Kishichiro Okura to create the Fuji Course, named for the mountain seen from the 11th fairway. This course, laid out through mature parkland with changes of elevation and deep bunkers, opened in 1936. The opening tee shot is steeply downhill, begging the question, "what comes next?". The answer is a gruelling three-hole climb. After the halfway house - a compulsory 15-minute stop - fairways cross a plateau towards the finishing stretch along spectacular cliffs. The 11th is the longest hole, while the 15th, which slopes down towards the shore, is the most dramatic. No buggies on Fuji, but Oshima allows them. Some holes have robot carts to carry players up steep inclines, an eerie taste of the automation to come.
- Price Fuji: weekdays ¥26,000 (£175), weekends ¥34,000 (£230), play fee includes caddie and range balls. Oshima: weekdays ¥12,300 (£85), includes buggy with GPS and range balls; weekends ¥14,300 (£100). Club hire ¥6,480 (£45), Japanese brands.

- Hours Fuji: stay-and-play tee times 8-10.30am. Oshima: visitors any time from 8am until sunset.
- Facilities Fuji: 18 holes, 6,701 yards par 72; Oshima, 5,711 yards par 70. No outdoor practice area. Underground electronic driving range. Putting green.
- Max handicap 24
- Food and leisure The Kawana Hotel, built in the 1920s, has 100 rooms and was stayed in by honeymooners Marilyn Monroe and Joe DiMaggio. Not all rooms are non-smoking, so reserve ahead. There are two grass tennis courts, swimming pools, and billiard and mahjong rooms. The restaurant serves sashimi and sushi.

Contact

1,459, Kawana, Ito-shi, Shizuoka, 414-0044; +81 557 45 1111; princehotels.com

KASUMIGASEKI COUNTRY CLUB (KCC)

Where 40km north of Tokyo (35 minutes from Kan-Etsu/Ken-O expressway).

• Why The most likely way to get into this private club, the 2020 Olympic course, is through an invitation from a member. To stage the event, the club was pressured into opening to women members in March 2017.

The KCC was established in 1929 with the East Course and redesigned in 1930 by CH

Allison. His secret design weapon was a cavernous bunker, represented at the par 3 10th on Kasumigaseki East. He also provided input for the West Course.

In that era, courses routinely had twin greens, with different grass for winter and summer - a feature considered out-dated now that bent grass can cope with climatic vagaries. Part of the brief for Tom Fazio and son Logan, the US team refashioning the East for the Olympics, is to eliminate the twin-green system. In other respects, they remain true to tradition, lengthening and opening up the fairways and enhancing the bunkers - without adding gimmicky water features to existing lakes and streams.

- Price Weekdays ¥27,000 (£180), weekends/holidays ¥31,000 (£210).
- Hours 7.30am to sunset. Closed Monday.
- Facilities

East Course (2020 Summer Olympics) 18 holes, 7,466 yards par 71; West Course 18 holes, 7,117 yards par 73. 250 yard range, five short-game practice greens and putting greens. Five pros offering tuition. Club hire not available.

- Max handicap 20 (certificate not requested, but best to take a copy).
- Food and leisure Understated luxury marks a low-rise clubhouse in a circle of pines, which serves quality Japanese food



With its 50th birthday approaching in 2019, Lakewood is one of the most popular golf day trips from Tokyo. Visitors love the course, the facilities, meals in the clubhouses and the dramatic setting between Mount Fuji and Mount Hakone.

and has a bar/terrace Where businesspeople can be seen making deals after their rounds.

Contact

3398, Kasahata, Kawagoe-shi, Saitama 350-1175; +81 492 31 2181; kasumigasekicc.or.jp

TOKYO GOLF CLUB

Where 33km north of Tokyo, 45 minutes from the start of the Kan-Etsu expressway.

- Why Inspired by a visit to the USA, the first Japanese-designed course was created by golf course architect Mitsuaki Otani, and opened near Tokyo as a six-holer in 1913. This was the start of a tumultuous history, which included three changes of venue and requisition, first by the Imperial Japanese Army and then by the US Army at the end of World War II. The club settled into its current location in 1956 and is now an oasis in a very urban world. As with many Japanese courses, the Allison factor can be clearly seen in the demanding bunkering and approach shots that require guile rather than strength to be successful. Later influences on the design include the UK's Sunningdale and Wentworth, bringing a touch of Surrey heathland to the Japanese capital. As a prized venue for the Japanese Open, the layout was refurbished in 2010 by Gilbert Hanse, the architect of the Olympic Golf Course in Rio de Janeiro.
- Price Weekdays ¥29,000 (£195), weekends

¥33,500 (£225), with a compulsory caddie.

- Hours 7am-6.30pm. Closed Monday.
- Max handicap 20.
- Facilities 18-hole course, 6,904 yards par 72, practice area, putting green. Club hire not available.
- Food and leisure The club celebrated its 50th anniversary in 1963 in style with the addition of an elegant yet rustic clubhouse designed by distinguished architect Anthony Raymond. Set among deciduous trees, it has a long terrace overlooking the course – a relaxing venue for 19th hole analysis.

Contact

1,984, Kashiwabara, Sayama, Saitama 350-1335; +81 4 2953 9111; tokyogolfclub.jp

LAKEWOOD GOLF CLUB

Where 75km south-west of Tokyo (72 minutes by train with 15 minutes by bus).

Why

With its 50th birthday approaching in 2019, Lakewood is one of the most popular golf day trips from Tokyo. Visitors love the course, the facilities, meals in the clubhouses and the dramatic setting between Mount Fuji and Mount Hakone. In spring on the West Course, the more challenging of the two, the opening tee shot onto a fairway lined with cherry blossoms is nothing short of dazzling. The course rewards intelligence over power, with changes in elevation and abundant water features; the most dramatic is the four-tier waterfall at the signature 4th. The East is marginally more spectacular. The 1st sets the tone with a lake to the left and bunkering on both sides of a relatively generous fairway, followed by a blind dogleg approach shot. The course asks tactical questions as it meanders through the forest, culminating in a nail-biting risk-reward decision over water to a three-tiered green at the par 5 18th.

- Price Weekdays ¥25,150 (£170), Saturday ¥40,150 (£270), Sunday/holidays ¥37,150 (£250); green fees include caddie and buggy.
- Hours 7am to sunset.
- Max handicap 36, certificate not required.
- Facilities West Course: 18 holes, 6,554 vards par 72. East Course: 18 holes, 6,524 yards par 72. 19-stall covered driving range (7-10.45am), practice bunker, bent grass put-
- Food and leisure The main West clubhouse has guest locker rooms with onsen (Japanese baths), showers and massage chairs. Breakfast and lunch are served in the Cafe, while Dinac, the restaurant on the second floor, offers an international menu. Kohantei, the clubhouse for the East course, serves seasonal food at its restaurants.

169 Kuroiwa, Oiso, Naka, Kanagawa 259-0105, +81 4 637 2115, lake-wood.co.jp



ODYSSEY O-WORKS PUTTER

First used by Phil Mickelson in the 2016 Ryder Cup, the Odyssey O-Works putter is now available for everyone in several options and grips. It has a stainless steel Microhinge plate moulded against an elastomer layer, providing gains in topspin and a better roll on impact.

Price: PLN 950.



ON TOP

Latest golf equipment and accessories.



All good courses will have clubs to hire, but you want to take your own and not watch them appear at the other end looking like they've been used in a Game of Thrones fight scene. The Sun Mountain Clubglider travel bag comes in three versions – Journey (pictured), Meridien and Tour series - all with good outer protection for your clubs and pull-down wheels for a quick escape from the airport.

Price: PLN 900.

GALVIN GREEN ACHILLES

Golf can be miserable; and in bad weather, it's worse. When the rain sets in, take pleasure in remaining warm and dry with top class Galvin Green rainwear. The Achilles range is a full-zip jacket in ultralightweight stretch Gore-Tex with a clever lining allowing you to swing without impedence. Don't neglect the matching waterproof trousers.

Price: PLN 1800.



CALLAWAY GREAT BIG BERTHA EPIC DRIVER

There are more important parts of the game than your drive from the tee, but this is when most people are watching, so it matters. The new Big Bertha has a crown, sole and face that bend, flex and rebound on impact, increasing the ball speed, distance and control. Or that's the theory anyway. It may just mean it goes further out of bounds. But at least it will be Epic. Well, you can't have everything.

Cena: PLN 2300.



FIT FOR BUSINESS





The spring
is a good time to take
care of your figure.
First of all, it's
important to select an
appropriate diet
and to do so,
the best idea is to visit
a trusted dietician.
We have consulted
the specialists from
Radzikowska Clinic.

hat's the best way to keep fit during your business trip? Dietician Paulina Gąsiewska from Radzikowska Clinic says that it doesn't have to be a gargantuan task, if you stick to several rules.

EAT REGULARLY

You should eat your meals every three or four hours. Obviously, it can be much more difficult on the move than when you stay at home, so you need to plan everything properly. A home-made sandwich is always a much better solution than a hamburger bought on the go. For your journey you can take e.g. a banana and kefir, a handful of natural nuts (30 g), an apple, chopped carrot or other vegetables, pumpkin and sunflower seeds, and dried fruit without added sugar.

DRINK A LOT

With dry air on a plane, car or train it's much easier to become dehydrated, so it's extremely important to top up fluids. Drink water, tea, fruit and herbal teas and coffee. Remember, proper fluid supply is important every day, not only on the move.

MOVE!

Practising various sports and regular workouts sculpt the body, improve your physical con-

dition and reduce excessive body weight. They also help reduce the risk of numerous health problems, including heart disease, several types of cancer, and type II diabetes. That's why it's crucial to keep moving while on the go. Always put your sportswear and trainers into your travel bag. Mornings belong to you!

BE READY TO SAY "NO".

It's difficult to keep a proper diet during a business trip. Try to impose a certain regime or at least refuse an extra serving during a lavish dinner, and choose a low-calorie soup (e.g. tomato soup) instead of one with much higher calorie content (e.g. żurek).

ALCOHOL - TRY TO AVOID IT

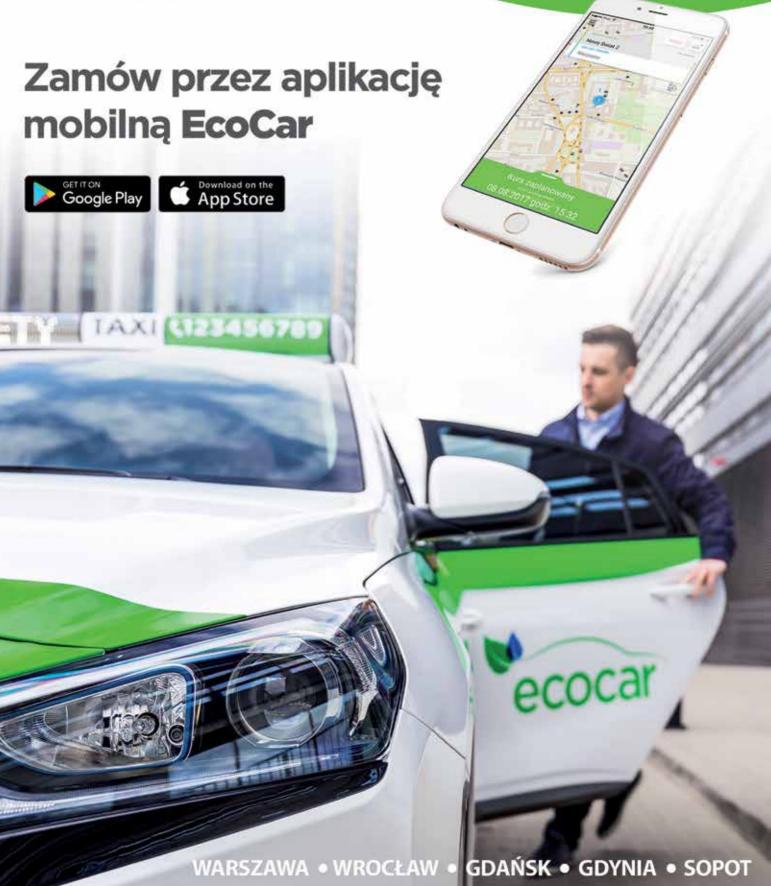
Alcohol is high in empty calories and actually makes you fat. If you need to make a toast, then better choose wine. Dry whites and reds have the lowest calorie content compared to other drinks (and can be diluted with water). Alcohol puts you in a state of relaxation and reduces your vigilance. That's why, people under its influence are more likely to go for snacks.

WHAT AN EXPERT SAYS

According to Dr Elżbieta Radzikowska, the owner of Radzikowska Clinic, the spring is a good time to take care of your figure. First of all, it's important to select an appropriate diet. To do so, the best idea would be to visit a trusted dietician who will measure the amount of your body fat and percentage of muscle mass, pointing out the areas in which you can improve. Analysing the results of the tests, they will also tell you which products should be dropped from you menu. A specialist doctor can change the way you think about food. It's also important to combine the dietician's recommendations with skin stimulation by means of high-tech procedures, massages and cosmetic treatments. There are also those who prefer fast body shaping. Indeed, liposuction is an effective medical intervention, but remember that it's not a slimming procedure, but one used to shape the body. In other words, if after long months of strict dieting and exercising, you find out that there are still some areas of the body where fat persists, then liposuction may be a proper solution. Importantly, by removing unwanted fat cells from certain areas, you can be sure that they will no longer accumulate there. On the other hand, the fat tissue obtained during such a procedure is a good material that can later be used to improve the appearance of the breast or the face. radzikowskaclinic.pl



Zadzwoń +48 123456789



RISING STARS

Jaeger-LeCoultre's Polaris range comprises a host of covetable timepieces, with the nostalgic, limited-edition Memovox alarm watch sure to pique the interest of collectors

ew horological complications were treated as mercilessly by the digital revolution as the mechanical alarm watch - nothing could be simpler than telling a miniature speaker to beep at a preordained time. Engineering the frequencies to be incredibly annoying presumably took most of the effort. The hammer-and-springs alarm predecessor, while admittedly not complex by horological standards, was a threecourse meal compared to the takeaway that superseded it.

Mechanical alarms were the preserve of just a handful of manufacturers, one of the best-known being Jaeger-LeCoultre. Others, such as Vulcain, were famous solely for their alarm watches, but Jaeger-LeCoultre had the distinction of supplying half of the industry with movements - including illustrious names such as Patek Philippe - as well as making the watch worn by Queen Elizabeth II at her coronation.

FOLLOWING THE POLE STAR

Jaeger-LeCoultre called its alarm watch the Memovox - the voice of memory and dozens of variants existed, including a gold-cased model worn by Charlie Chaplin for the last 25 years of his life. In 1959 the Memovox Deep Sea became the first diver's watch with an alarm to tell you when it was time to ascend, of course - and in 1965 an improved,





more audible version was launched. bearing the name Polaris. The origins of the name are unclear; some say it is associated with the ballistic nuclear missiles used by the US (and carried by the British Royal Navy from 1968). And although there is a tenuous naval connection, it's hard to see that the brand would have made such a direct link to weapons of mass destruction. More believable is a general marketing impulse to evoke a spirit of exploration, as the original meaning of the word is Pole Star.

TIME IN 24 CITIES

This year Jaeger-LeCoultre has brought the Polaris name back (not quite for the first time; there was another tribute ten years ago), this time at the head of a whole collection of watches. Among them is a limited-edition Memovox, faithful to the 1968 diver that has become a collector favourite. Back then the Polaris was a type of Memovox (just over 1,700 were made), but now the Memovox is a type of Polaris - the range also includes a chronograph, time-only dive models and a world timer (WT) that can give the time in 24 cities.

It marks a big step for Jaeger-Le-Coultre - the first of several designed to re-frame the brand in terms that are more appealing to younger buyers. The vintage angle to the narrative might not seem like the most obvious path to millennial hearts, but there is a universal accessibility to the watches that should serve them well, combined with enough personality to stand out.

DUAL-CROWN

Take the simplest watches in the collection, the Polaris Automatic and Polaris Date. They have retained the dual-crown system of the 1960s dive watches, something that's by no means necessary today (even with the sportier blue dial and steel bracelet, these are unlikely to see



A chronograph and a world timer says loud and clear that these are watches for active, energetic types

much water) but that adds that all-important "fiddle factor". The crown at two o'clock rotates an inner bezel with simple markers for tracking elapsed time. Instead of a chunky bezel around the outside of a dive watch, this was an alternative solution to the problem of never overestimating your remaining oxygen reserves and allowed the watch to stay relatively slender.

FOR ACTIVE USERS

Further up the range, the choice to launch with a chronograph and a world timer says loud and clear that these are watches for active, energetic types. Jaeger-LeCoultre hasn't had a tough, sporty watch since the oversized and somewhat over-engineered Master Compressor series was launched; its other staples such as the Reverso are better suited to well-tailored gents. I'm a particular fan of the chronograph.

The one that will excite collectors, however, is the Memovox. Very faithful to its 1968 inspiration, it has three crowns: one for setting the time, one for that rotating inner bezel and one to set the alarm. This is indicated by the position of the arrowhead on the central disc, which rotates (you can, therefore, only set the alarm for a time within the next 12 hours). The new watch has dropped one key feature of its ancestors – a double-layered case back, with per-

forations on the outer case that made for a louder alarm. This won't detract from your appreciation of the watch very much; having two layers would have made the whole case thicker, for one thing.

What does raise eyebrows is the pricing: the Polaris Automatic costs £5,950, which is pretty entry-level for a brand of this calibre (and also part of the overarching strategy), but the Memovox costs nearly twice as much at £11,300. That's more than the chronograph (£9,600), and despite it being a limited edition of 1,000, I feel the asking price is a bit steep. What do I know though – by the time you read this, they will probably have sold out.



Poszerzaj zasięg swojego biznesu IT

z Federation of IT Experts!

Sprawdź korzyści na:

Fite-pl.org

Dowiedz się więcej:

+48 22 393 69 93

members@fite-pl.org

4

HOURS IN... ZURICH

Famous for banking and frequently top-ranked for quality of life, this cultural, compact city is also a pleasure for leisure.



The 36-storey Prime Tower is a popular venue for business meetings and conferences.

CLOUDS KITCHEN AT PRIME TOWER

Begin your four-hour walking tour of Zurich West in the former Industriequartier at the mirrored 36-storey Prime Tower, which was the tallest building in Switzerland until 2015 when the Roche Tower was unveiled in Basel. For visiting businesspeople this may well be a venue they find themselves having meetings in. Take the lift to the 35th floor and you will find Clouds Kitchen, a restaurant, bistro and bar. There's also a smokers' lounge where you can enjoy a cigar. Whatever time of day or night you visit, the views are impressive, and give you a great opportunity to see Zurich West and the train lines that run alongside up to the main Hauptbahnhof station. Come for a coffee or cocktail. Hardstrasse 201; clouds.ch/en

FREITAG STORE

Cross the road (Hardbrucke) and walk a short way down Geroldstrasse to another, smaller, tower, this time built out of colourful shipping containers stacked on top of one another. This unusual construction houses the four-floor Freitag store, a brand that has carved a niche in "upcycling" old truck tarpaulins and turning them into one-of-akind, highly durable bags and wallets. The concept was launched in 1993 and has since been so successful that the homegrown Swiss company now has 18 outlets around the world, as well as 450 resellers. The Zurich West flagship store is well worth a visit, and is a good place to buy a souvenir. It's possible to apply for a tour of the factory in the Noerd industrial complex 6km away. Open Mon-Fri 10.30am-7pm, Sat 10am-6pm. Geroldstrasse 17; freitag.ch/en

FRAU GEROLDS GARTEN

Next door to the Freitag store is five-yearold Frau Gerolds Garten, a beer garden strung with lights. During the warmer months between April and September, enjoy gravel walkways, trees, potted plants and herbs, murals on walls, bars, food stalls and some quirky outdoor sculpture. Head up to the terrace (again built out of shipping containers), which is a perfect vantage point for trainspotting and order a cold brew. If you come in winter (October to March), then it will probably be too chilly to sit outside; in which case, head for the giant wooden yurt in the middle. Inside is a cosy restaurant furnished with throws and cushions: if hungry, order the fondue. Open Mon-Sat 11-12am, Sun 12-10pm (summer); Mon-Sun 6pm-12am. Geroldstrasse 23/23a; fraugerold.ch

IM VIADUKT

At the heart of Zurich West is Im Viadukt, a 500-metre-long warehouse that sits beneath the arches of a 19th-century railway viaduct. Under every arch (there are 36 in total) is a different boutique, interior design store, café or concept shop, on both the Viaduktstrasse side and the other side where there is a park. Only a couple of minutes' walk from Frau Gerolds Garten, it's an interesting place to browse ateliers such as Timetunnel Living, Klangwandel, Kitchener Plus, Brankob and Street Files. These brands sell everything from stylish trainers, watches and jeans to handwoven throws and headphones. There's also the cavernous Markthalle, stocked with sausages, deli goods, bread, pastries, flowers and vegetables. Open Mon-Fri 11am-7pm, Sat 10am-6pm; imviadukt.ch/en

SCHIFFBAU

Complete your tour at the Schiffbau, a ten-minute stroll from Im Viadukt. Once used for shipbuilding, this imposing brick structure has been turned into a theatre with three stages (visit schauspielhaus.ch/en/ for more information); there is also a jazz club and restaurant La Salle. Set to the left of the great entrance hall, the restaurant is an ideal place to come for lunch or dinner, either with clients (it's popular with professionals) or a companion for something less formal. The modern cuisine takes influences from French and Italian cooking with dishes such as veal cutlet with herb butter, horse fillet with garlic, or ravioli of the day. Open Mon-Fri from 11am, weekends from 5pm. Schiffbaustrasse 6; lasalle-restaurant.ch



Im Viadukt also houses the cavernous Markthalle, stocked with sausages, deli goods, bread, pastries, flowers and vegetables.









ASK PETER

Letters

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

Change of travel plans

I've just had another problem with our travel agent. My boss was supposed to fly to Paris and later to London, but he couldn't get out of Paris because the British carrier had cancelled the flight due to heavy snowfall. He got a text message that the flight was cancelled, but no one from the travel agency called me. This is the second time this has happened. Luckily, it all ended well, because my boss was offered a connection three hours later. Why did I have to learn from him that I would have to change the ticket, after all, it's the travel agent who should have informed me about it.

Beata

Dear Beata,

In case of changes in the status of the flight, an airline always sends an appropriate message to the booking systems. That info is also visible to the agents. A change in status (for example, a cruise cancelled, delayed, not available for sale, withdrawn from sale, confirmed from the waiting list) is immediately displayed in the reservation systems.

The situation is slightly different for last-minute operational changes, made usually within 24 hours before departure. In this case, the information about a cancelled flight isn't always sent from the operating system to the reservation system (or to all reservation systems). However, an automatic SMS or e-mail message can be generated and sent directly to the passenger. There is no uniform rule here, because airlines and agents can use different reservation systems. That is why, it's extremely important to provide agents and airlines with current, updated contact numbers.

A travel agency may be informed of a change in the status of the flight with a slight delay. It's important that the air carrier effectively notifies the passenger of any changes, and this was done in the case you are describing here. Travel agents act solely as an intermediary here and isn't responsible for cancellations or delays. In addition, the airline, as the company providing air transport service, effectively informed the passenger about the changes.

Where will the luggage go?

I'm planning a combined trip and I will fly to my destination by aircraft of several airlines. I'm flying to Asia with Qatar Airways, British Airways and Cathay Pacific. I know luggage allowances, but I'm not sure if I must pick up my baggage at every airport where I have a connecting flight. What are the rules for baggage checking and its collection? The agent issued two different tickets for the journey. I know this may be a problem.

Marek

Dear Marek,

In the case of combined flights (with different airlines and different transport documents), there are two important issues. The first one - the agreement between airlines on mutual recognition of documents and baggage check-in (interline agreements). The second issue is more technical and concerns specific capabilities of booking and airport systems.

I've read the documents that you've sent me. In your case the case is quite simple. Indeed, two documents were issued for the entire journey, but at the same time all the flights were booked under the same reference number. You can check in your luggage to any destination you will be stopping, without having to pick up your suitcases at transfer points. This is possible because all the airlines you travel on belong to Oneworld alliance.

The same would happen if a single ticket were issued for the entire journey: there would be no problem with baggage being picked up at transit airports. This scenario would be the simplest.

The problem begins when separate tickets are issued and you travel with two airlines that don't have appropriate agreements for baggage delivery to the final destination, and are members of different air alliances. The same is true if some of the flights were booked separately under a different reference number (two different booking files). In these cases it may not be possible to check in your luggage to your final destination, you will need to pick up your suitcases at transfer points and check them in once again. However, your agent has made sure you wouldn't have to do it.







Wznieś się wyżej z dwuosobową Radą Doradców

Mady jemet wysoka, whose, firewisily a drosposale materych keist. Cantries, demonstrate Paris Provideler is drovenskie materych keist. Palacie far i by, 'To alia, latin warmat Branco or wydany produce.

Rather

