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NEWS FOR ASIA'S TRAVEL PLANNERS

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Centara sets out climate-related targets

Centara reaffirms commitment to sustainability with an ambitious long-term plan for an ecologically conscious future.

Centara Hotels & Resorts, Thailand's leading hotel operator, announces a renewed commitment to environmental sustainability with a new long-term goal to meet climate-related targets.

The 10-year corporate level roadmap includes measurable goals for four key initiatives, including a drastic 20% reduction in energy and water usage, greenhouse gas emissions, and the amount of waste sent to landfills.

To achieve these goals, the group is implementing solar power projects and installing sub-metering systems for water and electrical management. Energy conservation measures and heating system upgrades are being implemented wherever possible and embedded

into daily operations and ensuring that the waste management policy is being strictly followed by the individual property, especially keeping food waste reduction in focus.

"By adopting sustainable, green practices, we are actively choosing to be more aware of our environmental impact. This not only protects

By 2025, Centara aims to have 100% of its properties certified to an international sustainability standard, as well as eliminate singleuse plastic items in the entire guest journey, further demonstrating the organisation's commitment to long-term sustainability.

the natural surroundings that enhance the guest experience in so many of the locations where we operate but also creates long-term benefits for the company, our customers and our employees. Setting long-term sustainability goals allows us to incorporate green practices into our

identity and ensures that all our stakeholders are aligned with Centara's values and vision for a more mindful, ecologically conscious future," said Centara Hotels & Resorts

CEO Thirayuth Chirathivat.

He added that
Centara's approach
to sustainability is
intrinsically aligned
with its mission:
"To provide
locally-relevant,
Thai-inspired
experiences in
each of our global
destinations,
delighting
guests through

a blend of innovation, authentic family values and the unique passion of Centara's people, whilst maintaining a commitment to sustainability."

For more information about Centara's commitment, please visit https://investor.centarahotelsresorts.com.

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BRING BACK THE LOVE

Join us as we celebrate the reopening of our hotels in Phuket and Krabi, where your clients can **enjoy up to 100% of the room rate as daily hotel credits**, redeemable immediately on arrival.

At Centara Grand Resort Phuket, your guests can use the hotel credit for a room upgrade, ease into their holiday with a relaxing spa treatment, or indulge in a culinary experience before heading to the resort water park.

Nestled within its own secluded bay, Centara Grand Beach Resort & Villas Krabi invites travellers to check in and chill out with a choice of four restaurants and rejuvenating spa rituals at SPA Cenvaree.

Rates from THB 3,315 per night



















EU and ASEAN establish open skies

EU and ASEAN signed off on an open skies aviation pact, late last week the first-ever between two regions.

ASEAN's 10 member countries successfully concluded the ASEAN-EU Comprehensive Air Transport agreement with the European Union last Friday.

It will open skies between the EU and ASEAN member countries, allowing airlines home-based

Negotiations stretched out five years leading up to the historic signing ceremony last week.

Singapore's Ministry of Transport said in a statement following the landmark agreement that it would enhance air connectivity between ASEAN and Europe and "facilitate people-to-people and business exchanges to support economic growth."

The two regions pledged to work towards recovery from the Covid-19

and Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations S. Iswaran called the successful conclusion of the ASEAN-EU Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement "a historic achievement and a milestone in our bilateral ties."

A statement of commitment by ASEAN and EU Member States said, "they will together tide over the current COVID-19 crisis, reconnect, and resume cross-border travel to boost business confidence and support economic recovery."

Under the agreement, airlines of ASEAN and the EU will have greater opportunities to operate passenger and cargo services between and beyond both regions. Airlines of ASEAN and the EU will be able to fly any number of services between both regions; airlines will also be able to fly up to 14

Under the agreement, airlines of ASEAN and the EU will have greater opportunities to operate passenger and cargo services between and beyond both regions. Airlines of ASEAN and the EU will be able to fly any number of services between the two regions. They can also fly up to 14 weekly passenger services and any number of cargo services via and beyond to any third country.

Meanwhile, the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA) said it welcomed the conclusion of negotiations.

"This important development comes at a critical moment for airlines from both regions, paving the way for increasing air connectivity across nearly 40 countries.

"AAPA applauds the foresight shown by ASEAN and EU regulators at a crucial time during a global health pandemic, with the farreaching Agreement creating optimism and industry confidence".



in either region to fly unlimited services between EU and ASEAN member countries.

ASEAN, made up of 10 nations (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam), stands to benefit as more direct competitive services will be established linking aviation hubs in Europe with ASEAN capital cities that will ultimately boost leisure and business travel.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the European Union signed off on the Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement (AE CATA), credited with being the first region to region aviation agreement in the world. pandemic and the liberalising of air services. They will collaborate on aviation safety, air traffic management, consumer protection, environmental and social issues.

The successful conclusion of the AE CATA marks the culmination of eight rounds of negotiations that started in October 2016. Singapore led the negotiations for ASEAN while the European Commission (EC) led the negotiations on behalf of the European Union. Efforts to establish the AE CATA can be traced back to the EU-ASEAN Aviation Summit in Singapore in February 2014, where the EC announced its intention to secure a mandate to begin negotiations with ASEAN.

Singapore's Minister for Transport



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Princess CrewCall stays in touch

Princess Cruises unveils a new ondemand feature that lets guests call a crew member to their location for assistance.

Princess is introducing a new ondemand service that allows guests to call a crew member to their exact location to make an in-person request for assistance.

The CrewCall service on demand is available on stateroom TVs as well as the MedallionClass app and leverages the innovative





OceanMedallion wearable to guide a crew member to a guest's exact location to be of service to the guest.

The new capability is yet another example of how Princess is leveraging MedallionClass technology to increase high-touch and personalised service versus replacing it.

The corresponding CrewCall Chat feature lets guests text their specific question or request using a smart device to be answered or actioned virtually by the crew.

"CrewCall significantly expands





our MedallionClass service-ondemand capabilities allowing us to deliver high-touch, personalised service that doesn't interrupt the vacation they are enjoying to find a crew member," said Princess Cruises, president Jan Swartz. "It minimises wait time at our guest services desk while simultaneously improving our responsiveness."

Both CrewCall features expand the OceanNow® digital experience guests use to place food, beverage, retail and amenity orders for delivery directly to their location.

"Every minute a guest has to stand in line to wait for service or to have a simple question answered diminishes the value of their vacation," added John Padgett, chief experience and innovation officer, Carnival Corporation. "OceanNow with CrewCall really delivers on the MedallionClass 'service now' philosophy and maximises the vacation value for all Princess guests by responding to their wants, needs, and desires without any inconvenience."

CrewCall is part of a new array of TrulyTouchlessTM conveniences that will be available to guests when Princess returns to sailing starting 25 July aboard Majestic Princess in Alaska and aboard Regal Princess and Sky Princess with "seacations" in the UK starting 31 July.

The feature is the latest of several enhancements recently added to the Princess MedallionClass experience to deliver an effortless and more personalised vacation. The awardwinning OceanMedallionTM wearable elevates the guest experience by enabling touchless embarkation and disembarkation, frictionless commerce, and keyless stateroom entry, as well as additional contactless capabilities accessible using smartphones and tablets, including wayfinding; family and friends locator.



Be Enchanted!

Kinabatangan River is the second longest river in Malaysia. The area is known for its remarkable wildlife.

f SABAH, Malaysian Borneo 🏼 O sabahtourism 😈 sabahtourism

▶ Sabah Tourism 🤏 美丽沙巴 💣 美丽沙巴







HPL bags 11 Tripadvisor awards



HPL Hotels & Resorts properties in Asia-Pacific take home 11 awards under the Tripadvisor "2021 Traveller's Choice Awards" banner.

HPL Hotels & Resorts has achieved outstanding recognition from the internationally well-known Tripadvisor 2021 Traveller's Choice Awards with 11 of its properties honoured.

The achievement celebrates businesses that consistently deliver fantastic experiences to travellers around the globe, having earned great traveller reviews on Tripadvisor over the last year. As challenging as the past year was, all 11 properties managed by HPL Hotels & Resorts have stood out by continuously impressing travellers for their hospitality and outstanding facilities.

Awards winners across the HP Hotels & Resorts

Maldives

Gili Lankanfushi Maldives: 2021
 Traveller's Choice Best of the
 Best Award for Top 25 Hotels –
 Asia



Malaysia

- Casa del Mar Langkawi: 2021
 Traveller's Choice Best of the
 Best Award for Top 25 Hotels for
 Romance Asia
- Hard Rock Hotel Penang: 2021 Traveller's Choice Award
- The Lakehouse Cameron Highlands: 2021 Traveller's Choice Award
- Casa del Rio Melaka: 2021 Traveller's Choice Award
- Concorde Hotel Kuala Lumpur:
 2021 Traveller's Choice Award
- Concorde Hotel Shah Alam: 2021 Traveller's Choice Award

Singapore

 Concorde Hotel Singapore: 2021 Traveller's Choice Award

Indonesia

Hard Rock Hotel Bali: 2021
 Traveller's Choice Award

Thailand

- Hard Rock Hotel Pattaya: 2021 Traveller's Choice Award
- The Boathouse Phuket: 2021
 Traveller's Choice Award

Travellers' Choice award winners were determined based on the millions of reviews and opinions collected in a single year from Tripadvisor travellers worldwide. The hallmarks of Travellers' Choice hotels winners are remarkable service, value, and quality.

For hotel reservations and

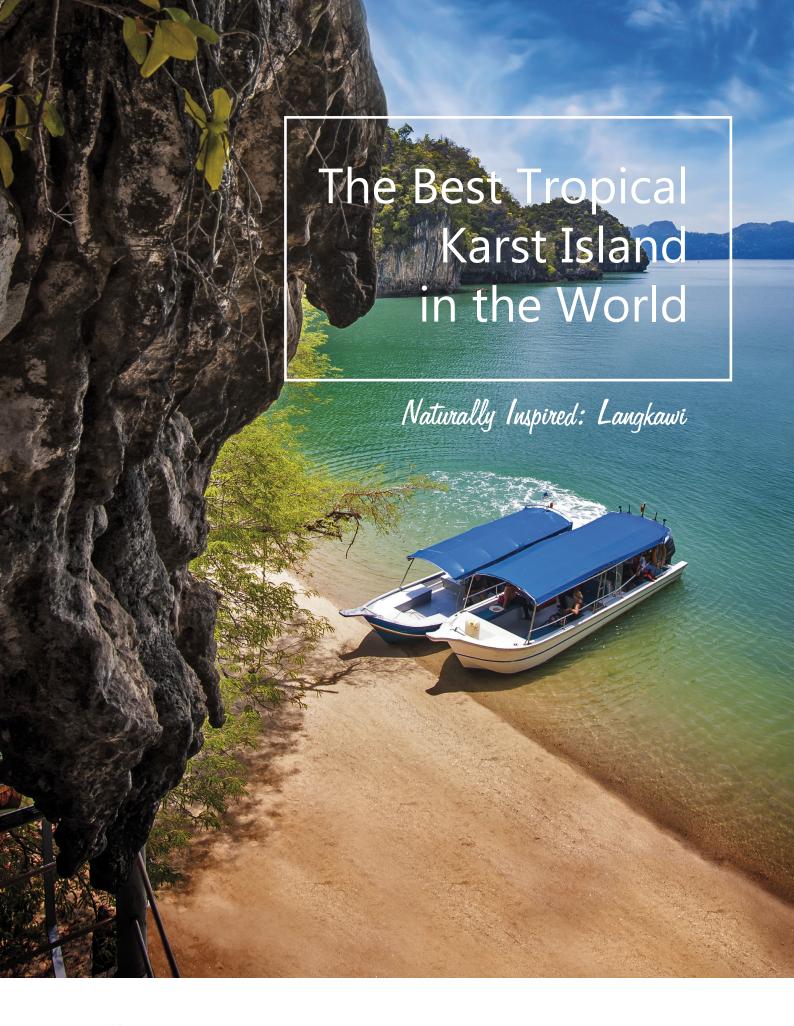


enquiries, please visit your travel agent or contact us on +65 6734 5250, email info@hplhotels.com, or via the website at www.hplhotels.com.

About HPL Hotels & Resorts

Headquartered in Singapore, HPL Hotels & Resorts currently manages 11 hotels and resorts in the Asia Pacific and the Indian Ocean. These include Concorde Hotel Singapore, Concorde Hotel Kuala Lumpur, Concorde Hotel Shah Alam, Hard Rock Hotel Bali, Hard Rock Hotel Pattaya, Hard Rock Hotel Penang, Casa del Mar Langkawi, The Lakehouse Cameron Highlands, Casa del Rio Melaka, The Boathouse Phuket and Gili Lankanfushi, Maldives.

Visit www.hplhotels.com.













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