(Chiang Mai, Thailand)

InterContinental Chiang Mai The Mae Ping, offers a romantic and exhilarating adventure. Sky Romance Hot-Air Balloon Adventure provides a unique perspective of Chiang Mai. Guests are picked up by a limousine before dawn and taken to a field to watch the balloon fill with hot air, before ascending through the cool morning air, feeling the tranquility of a world slowly waking up. As they glide over the landscape, they will witness the majestic beauty of Chiang Mai, catching the golden sunrise piercing the horizon. After landing, adventurers will receive a flying certificate and sip champagne with the pilot, before being whisked off to a secret spot by the lake to enjoy a picnic breakfast with stunning mountain views - the perfect finale to an unforgettable morning. W intercontinental.com/chiangmai





Singapore's Largest Outdoor F&B Container Park Opens in Changi

(Singapore) Cosford Container Park opened 29 January 2024. Nestled in the heart of Changi at 30 Cosford Road, the Park spans 35,000sqft, with 340 seats for indoor and outdoor dining. The space provides a unique and vibrant experience with an outdoor stage for sports screening and live music, a rooftop bar and more. More than just food, the one-stop

container park enjoys a breathtaking view of the airport runway. With an eclectic selection of over 13 vendors, it is home to Hello Butter Chicken as well as Cluny & LUK'ERS. Peranakan flavours are offered at Nyonyas & Gentlemen Restaurant. As the sun sets, Cluny transforms into LUK'ERS, a lively bar with a wide selection of drinks. There is free shuttle bus service every 10 minutes from 5:00pm to 11:00pm from the bus stop opposite St. John's Crescent, Upper Changi Road North. W: jaresortshotels.com



Kenya is a Visa-free Country

(Nairobi) Kenyan President, William Ruto announced on 12 December 2023 the removal of visa requirements for all global citizens effective 1 January 2024. As an alternative to traditional visas, all guests, even those who were previously exempt from visa requirements, will need to acquire an Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA). A digital platform has been developed to identify all travellers in advance through an electronic system. Once identified, quests will obtain an ETA, streamlining the entry process. The decision to eliminate visa requirements stemmed from a recent scientific discovery that Turkana County, located in the former Rift Valley Province of Kenya, is the cradle of mankind.

WHAT'S NEW

New Sunset Bar Launches in at Ja Manafaru

(Maldives) JA Manafaru has opened the most northern bar in the Maldives known as Veli Bar, which is Dhivehi for Sand Bar. Perched over the tranquil waters of Haa Alifu Atoll, it adds to the Dine and Imbibe offering of this 5-star resort. The bar has been created in line with the resort's focus on from scratch creations. The crafted cocktail menu has been designed in-line with the resort's sustainability focus using produce from the gardens to create fresh flavours. The menu works to fulfil JA Manafaru's zero food waste goals with creative garnishes and the creation of Tepache, a fermented beverage that uses waste pineapple skins. Veli Bar is home to the resorts Wellness Lab creations where the bar team have created an array of tinctures to craft specialised Bitters to suit individual cocktails.

They make chemical free natural tonic water the old-fashioned way with Cinchona bark. The bar's décor has been devised with the islands skilled tradesmen upcycling furniture and using items from nature such as tree stumps for side tables.

W: jaresortshotels.com



Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga Now Welcoming Guests

(Rwanda) The luxury houseboat, Mantis Kivu Queen uBuranga, is now welcoming guests for voyages along one of Africa's great waterways, Lake Kivu. This magnificent lake is renowned for its fishing industry, preserving local traditional methods. The vessel, with 10 cabins, is the first of its kind to sail the region and serve as a gateway for travellers to explore Rwanda's treasures. The vessel has a restaurant and bar, a plunge pool and outdoor spaces

where guests can relax and enjoy captivating vistas. Plan your Rwanda adventure in the dry seasons between December - February and June - September. There are daily international flights to Kigali International Airport in Rwanda. Once in the country, there are two ways in which guests can board the vessel: either a road transfer to Gisenyi (also known as Rubavu) or to Rwesero (Nyamasheke).





Ricola Launches the First Karaoke Gondola in The

(Grindelwald, Switzerland) Riiiiiicolaaaa!

The world-famous jingle needs no introduction. This winter, it resonates through the Swiss Alps, echoing across Eiger, Mönch, and Jungfrau. Guests can enjoy karaoke-style singing of 36 songs in two exclusively designed cabins of the Männlichen cable car. This unique experience kicks off the winter fun right at the valley station, turning the wait for the ski slope into an unforgettable experience. In collaboration with the Männlichen cable car, Ricola has transformed two cabins into the Ricola Karaoke-Gondolas. Guests can choose from the greatest music hits of all time from Abba to Queen, and Psy to Taylor Swift and sing along with fellow cabin guests. To enhance their singing experience and unlock their full vocal potential, quests can enjoy Ricola herb drops. The Ricola Karaoke-Gondolas run on the Grindelwald-Männlichen route. Each gondola accommodates eight people, and the ride lasts for 20 minutes. W: rico.la/karaoke

Jumeirah Maldives Olhahali Island Launches MURACA Art Studio

(Maldives) Get creative at Jumeirah Maldives Olhahali Island with the launch of the impressive new creative space, the MURACA Art Studio. Offering a diverse range of activities, guests can unleash their artistic flair with a range of exciting art-related activities while enjoying an idyllic island escape. Inspired by the mesmerising coral reefs and surrounding crystalline turquoise waters of the North Malé Atoll, the Studio invites guests to explore their creative side in a playful and

unique space. From immersive watercolour workshops to engaging seashell jewellery making sessions, the resort's resident artist is on hand to assist and inspire. Dive into the art of T-shirt painting, explore the intricacies of paper crafting, or craft a personalised tote bag – each activity is a brushstroke in the canvas of unforgettable memories. Leave with not only a handmade piece of the Maldives but memories to last a lifetime.

www.jumeirah.com





The Vietage by Anantara Unveils All-New Luxury Railway Journey

(Vietnam) The Vietage by Anantara is adding a second railway carriage, which will operate a daily return journey between Nha Trang and Quy Nhon commencing 15 May 2024. Building on the resounding success of the existing

carriage running daily between Da Nang and Quy Nhon, the second carriage aims to capture the international hub of Nha Trang served by Cam Ranh International Airport and connect the central coast of Vietnam offering opportunities for visitors to explore more of the stunning country in luxury. Reservations for the new route between Nha Trang and Quy Nhon will open on 1 February 2024. The Vietage by Anantara will reveal more details soon on its exciting new route. W:minorhotels.com

Cathay Pacific's First Ferry Lounge Opens

Cathay Pacific first-ever lounge outside an airport is now open at the Shekou Cruise Home Port in Shenzhen. This new ferry lounge further enhances the intermodal travel experience for customers and elevates sea-to-air connectivity between Hong Kong International Airport and the whole of the Greater Bay Area. Cathay Pacific customers can enjoy effortless transfer using its codeshare ferry services to go directly from the Shekou Cruise Home Port to the SkyPier Terminal at HKIA. There are 11 round-trip ferry services per day between the Shekou Cruise Home Port and the SkyPier Terminal. The journey takes about 30 minutes and customers can collect ferry tickets, boarding passes and throughcheck their luggage onto their Cathay Pacific flights to destinations around the world. W: cathaypacific.com

