

Travel Aggregator

JUNE 2018

WebBeds APAC Newsletter

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WIN!
3D2N Stay at
Parkroyal Penang
Resort



FOREWORD

Welcome to the latest edition of Travel Aggregator, the new monthly newsletter created especially for the clients of WebBeds Asia Pacific.

This month, we focus on the vibrant culinary scene in Bangkok, Thailand's captivating capital city. Famous for its sizzling street food and fantastic fine-dining, Bangkok is truly a food lover's paradise. Following the recent launch of the city's first Michelin Guide, we'll uncover some of the Thai capital's gastronomic jewels, quirky cafes and hidden gems, alongside the best places to stay.

Also in this edition, we're proud to announce an exciting new partnership with Alila Hotels & Resorts, the luxury group that specializes in stylish and sustainable stays across Asia. And following our recent tie-up with Switzerland Tourism, we'll reveal even more top Swiss summertime attractions.

Keep up with all the latest news from WebBeds Asia Pacific, including our exciting new office in Indonesia, and much more!

We hope you enjoy reading Travel Aggregator!

Daryl Lee
CEO, WebBeds Asia Pacific

ABOUT TRAVEL AGGREGATOR

Travel Aggregator is the monthly newsletter published in-house by WebBeds Asia Pacific. Created especially for our travel trade partners and clients, this informative newsletter will include the latest updates from WebBeds Asia Pacific, including our news and developments, plus exciting offers from our partners, a selection of the hottest hotel deals, and much more!

If you'd like to be featured in the next issue of Travel Aggregator, please email Travel.Aggregator@fitruums.com. Alternatively, for marketing partnerships with WebBeds Asia Pacific, please email marketing@fitruums.com.

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Cover image: Infinity Pool at So Sofitel Bangkok



WebBeds Asia Pacific Opens New Indonesian Office

WebBeds Asia Pacific has moved into a brand new Indonesian office in Jakarta, as part of the company's continued regional expansion strategy.

Located in the vibrant Menteng district of Central Jakarta, surrounded by tree-lined streets, parks, coffee shops and upmarket restaurants, the new office covers almost 370 square meters and will house close to 40 team members, making it WebBeds Asia Pacific's largest office. It also becomes the first office in the region to feature the new WebBeds Asia Pacific visual branding, marking a major milestone in the company's evolution.

The new facility will provide a comprehensive range of services to WebBeds Asia Pacific's clients and partners across the region, including operations, contracting and mapping, with multi-language support.

Bangkok: World-class dining meets spectacular Street food

Bangkok is one of the world's undisputed culinary capitals - a gastronomic paradise to rival anywhere else on Earth.

From modern restaurants that harness cutting-edge culinary trends and techniques, to traditional street-side eateries that have stayed faithful to the same recipes for generations, Thailand's capital city has a range of dining options to suit every style and budget.

This rich culinary diversity was captured recently by the inaugural Bangkok Michelin Guide. It awarded one of its prestigious stars to Jay Fai, an open-fronted shop-house that serves sizzling bowls of noodles to roadside diners seated on plastic chairs. This unassuming hideaway, which sells its dishes for about 3 dollars per dish, took its place in the guide alongside five-star establishments run by world-renowned chefs such as Joël Robuchon and David Thompson.

While Bangkok is a wonderfully cosmopolitan culinary city, with many different global cuisines on offer, most visitors come to experience the Thailand's own famous food culture. Exotic, aromatic and often featuring a fierce kick, Thai cuisine is a true feast for the senses.

It is no surprise therefore, that food plays a pivotal role in Thai society. One of the first questions one Thai person will ask another is "ghin khao reu yang?", which means "have you eaten yet?". If the answer is "yang" (not yet), food will be prepared or the two people will seek out somewhere to eat.

In Thai cuisine, fresh and fragrant ingredients are often combined with sweet, sour, spicy and salty elements, such as lime, chili, palm sugar and fish sauce, to create beautifully balanced dishes. Curious travellers can spend hours strolling through Bangkok's markets, entranced by the smoking, sizzling street food stalls. Many of these specialise in just one dish which they have perfected.

Less adventurous visitors need not miss out; everyone can enjoy a refreshing bag of tropical fruit or freshly squeezed juice.

For guests seeking a more upmarket dining experience, Bangkok is home to numerous breathtaking dining destinations - including many now with one or two Michelin stars. From spectacular rooftop restaurants overlooking the glittering city to evening dinner cruises along the Chao Praya River, Thailand's capital is a magical destination for special occasions.

In this edition of Travel Aggregator, we'll focus on a series of local culinary experiences that are located close to the city's leading hotels, but which you won't find in the usual guide books. Whether you're seeking a quirky café, relaxing riverside refreshments or sumptuous street food, our insider's guide will explore the weird and wonderful world of Bangkok's culinary scene.





Nearby SO Sofitel Bangkok



Top Instagram spot: Unicorn Café

Unleash your inner unicorn! Diners wanting to enter a magical world should head to the Unicorn Café on Sathorn Soi 8 - a pink and purple paradise that is filled with fluffy toys, whimsical artworks and of course, plenty of sweet and sparkly treats.

Located on Sathorn Soi 8, near Chong Nonsi BTS station.



Local hidden treasure: Jack's Bar

Squeezed between the luxury hotels on the Chao Praya River, Jack's Bar is a Bangkok icon that transports guests back to a bygone era. Friendly and inexpensive with stunning river views, this unassuming wooden shack is a chilled out spot to relax with a cold beer and snap the sunset.

Located at the end of Soi Wat Suan Plu.



Nearby Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok



Top Instagram spot: Mr Jones' Orphanage

Transport yourself back to your childhood at this cool, creative and entertaining café. Located within the Siam Center, diners are surrounded by carousels, toy railways and teddy bears whilst savouring delightfully sticky cakes. Guests can also make donations to children's charities.

Located on the ground floor of the Siam Center.



Local hidden treasure: Som Tam Nua

Som tam (papaya salad) elevates the concept of a salad to new heights. Salty, sour, sweet and extremely spicy, this hugely popular dish reflects the country's balanced culinary style. Located in Siam Square, Som Tam Nua serves traditional Thai dishes to Bangkok's trendy set.

Located on Siam Square Soi 5, near Siam BTS skytrain station.



Nearby Grande Centre Point Ratchadamri



Top Instagram spot: Mermaid Castle Café
Nestled in trendy Siam Square, just a short walk from Grande Centre Point Ratchadamri, this adorable aquamarine eatery allows guests to fulfil their mermaid fantasies, posing for photos, buying merchandise and, of course, tasting mermaid-themed sweet treats.

Located at Siam Square Soi 2.



Local hidden treasure: Moo Ping Hea Aoun
For the ultimate quick street food snack, moo ping is hard to beat! Marinated pork skewers are quickly grilled on a street-side grill, creating a beautifully balanced sweet and smoky barbecue flavour. This tiny stall on Silom Road is a great place to try it.

Located on Silom Road, close to Sala Daeng BTS skytrain station.



Nearby AVANI Atrium Bangkok



Top Instagram spot: B-Story Café
Transport yourself to a classical yet quirky European café in the heart of the city. Located in the central Ratchathewi district, B-Story Café is a unique two-storey coffee shop styled as a gothic country house. Unwind with a cold drink or contemporary cuisine, surrounded by lush greenery.

Located next to Ratchathewi BTS skytrain station.



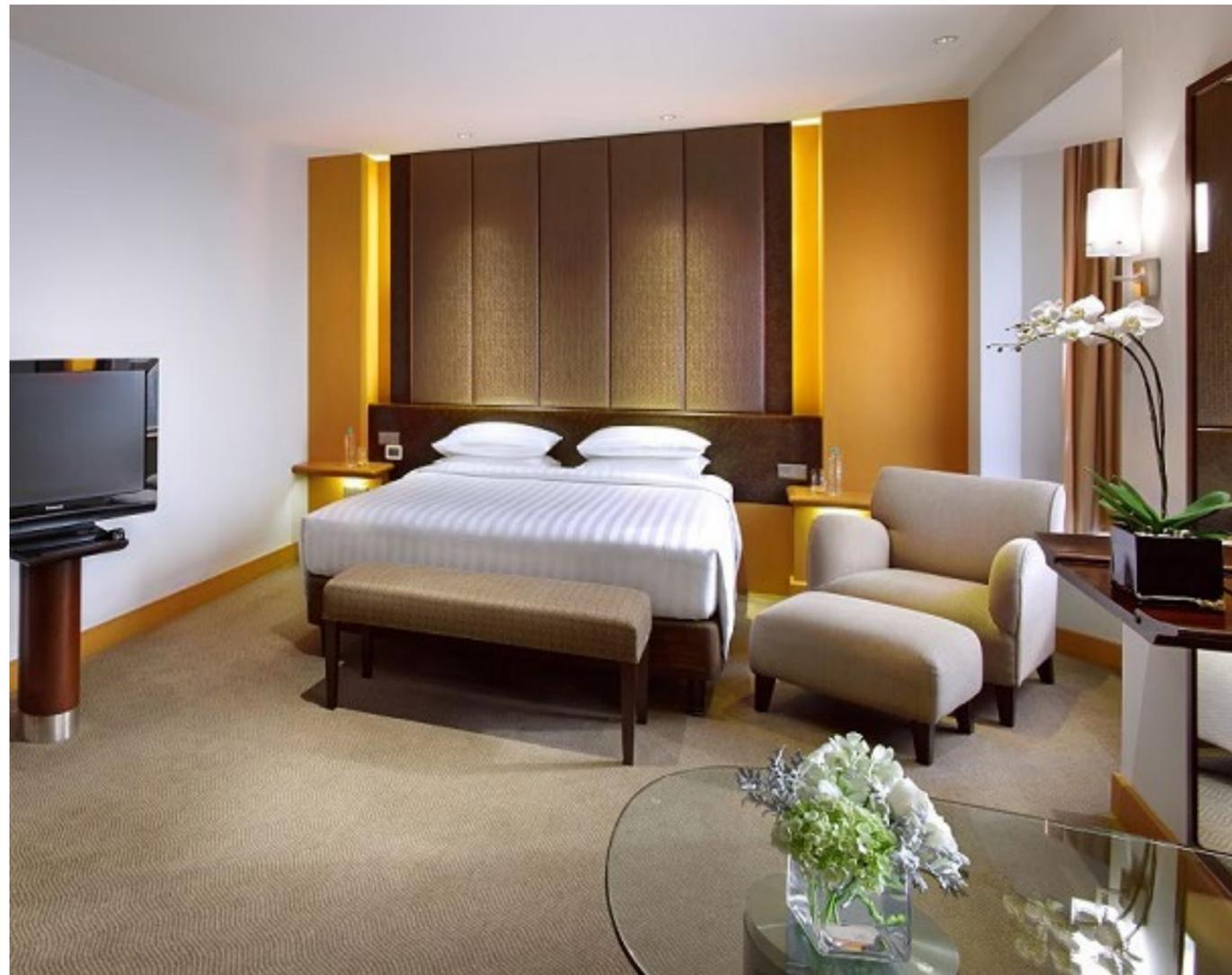
Local hidden treasure: Kuang Heng
Khao man gai, which simply means "chicken and rice", is one of Thailand's simplest and tastiest dishes. Discover this perfect street food at Kuang Heng, a traditional shop that has been feeding the local population in the Pratunam area of Bangkok since 1932.

Located near the malls of Pratunam on Phetchaburi Rd.

Have a Selamat Hari Raya getaway at Grand Hyatt Jakarta

Perfectly positioned on Jalan MH Thamrin, Grand Hyatt Jakarta is a luxurious downtown sanctuary where guests can enjoy a wealth of business and leisure facilities. These include six restaurants and bars, a tropical lagoon pool, jogging track, 24-hour fitness centre, executive lounge and extensive event

space. This Ramadan, Grand Hyatt Jakarta has created a pair of promotions for guests staying until 1st July, including accommodation in a Grand Room, breakfast and free Wi-Fi. **Log on to WebBeds platforms to book the special offer now.**

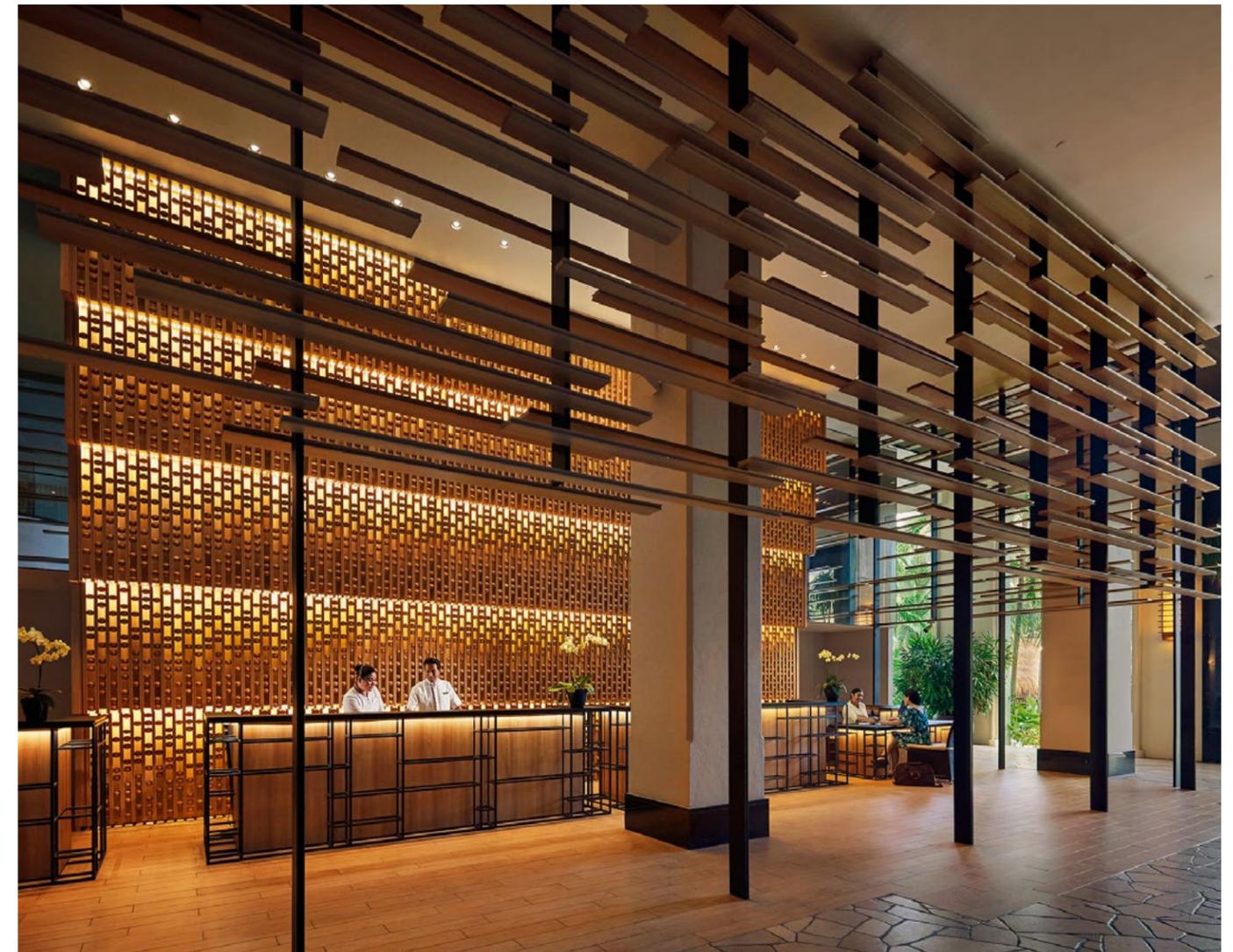


A new taste of Parkroyal Penang Resort

Nestled on Penang's idyllic north shore, overlooking the Andaman Sea, PARKROYAL Penang Resort is one of the island's most popular upscale hotels.

Check out the newly refurbished Cinnamon Asian Kitchen and how to win a 3D2N complimentary stay here. [➤](#)

WIN!
3D2N Stay at
Parkroyal Penang
Resort



Alila Hotels and Resorts

Translated as “surprise” in Sanskrit, Alila invites guests to take part in the Alila Experience, which allows them to learn more about the local culture – and even about themselves – through a series of cultural activities. From culinary journeys to ancient healing arts and adrenalin sports, these experiences set Alila apart from other luxury hotels.





Cliff-Edge Cabana at Alila Villas Uluwatu

Alila Hotels and Resorts first launched in 2001 as a contemporary luxury brand specializing in stylish and sustainable stays. Today, under Two Roads Hospitality, Alila manages 13 properties across Asia and the Middle East, including a live-aboard phinisi cruise boat, Alila Purnama.

Read more about Alila Hotels here. [➤](#)



One Bedroom Villa at Alila Villas Uluwatu



Suite at Alila Jabal Akhdar

For the Minimalist..

The third Minimal Hotel from Tang's Living Group, **Minimal Hotel • Urban** promises smart, simple and stress-free stays in the heart of Hong Kong.

Tucked away in an easy-to-reach corner of Causeway Bay, this stylish hotel is perfectly positioned for guests wanting to explore the major business, retail and entertainment areas, including Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre. Meanwhile, MTR Causeway Bay Station is just a six-minute walk away, putting the rest of this vibrant city within easy reach.

Minimal Hotel • Urban features 80 contemporary and comfy rooms over 25 floors, all equipped with modern amenities including complimentary Wi-Fi, flat-screen TVs and electric kettles. Beyond the rooms, key amenities at this non-smoking hotel include a 24-hour front desk and luggage storage, ensuring that all guests are guaranteed comfortable, convenient and connected stays.



TANG'S LIVING GROUP

Tang's Living Group is a vibrant young hospitality group totally committed to providing unparalleled hospitality solutions for property owners and guests. The Group embraces several distinctive brands to address a broad range of accommodation needs; including Hotel COZi, Hotel Ease, Hotel Ease Access, Minimal Hotels and T.Lodge. Each brand is dedicated to offer a pleasing and contemporary ambience to meet the needs of different customers and guests.



The Great Roots Forestry Spa Resort

The Great Roots Forestry Spa Resort is a magical destination with many magnificent treasures.

Nestled in 17 hectares of mountainous forest in New Taipei City, this upscale resort allows guests to discover the last remaining area of pristine sub-tropical rainforest in Taiwan. More than 300 metres above sea-level and home to hundreds of species of plant, thousands of insects and many rare birds, this rich ecosystem can be genuinely regarded as a national treasure.

The resort's main attraction is its full-service spa, where guests can enjoy a full range of massages, body treatments and facials, or simply unwind in the hot springs, outdoor pool and sauna. There is also a choice of restaurants, a gym, children's playground and even a tea museum. Finally, the extensive event facilities make the resort ideal for weddings and other special occasions.

Alternatively, guests at the Great Roots Forestry Spa Resort can simply head out and explore the spectacular surrounding area on foot or by shuttle bus. The charms of Sanxia Old Street, Jiobanshan Park, Ta Shee Golf & Country Club and Xiao Wulai Sky Walk are all just a short distance away.



DoubleTree by Hilton Okinawa Chatan Resort

DoubleTree by Hilton has expanded its presence in Japan with the opening of a third hotel in Okinawa.

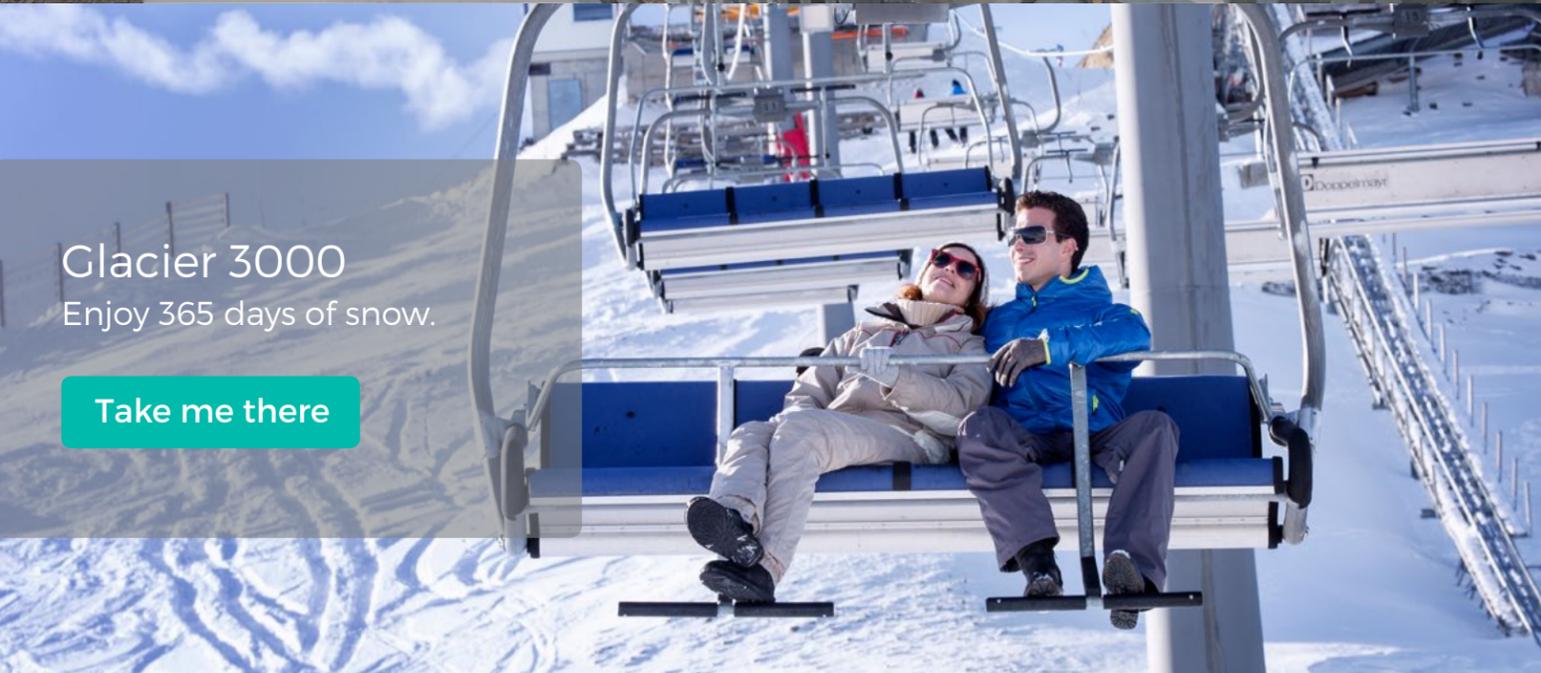
Launched on 1st June, DoubleTree by Hilton Okinawa Chatan Resort is a beautiful beachfront property located on the Chatan waterfront, adjacent to the Hilton Okinawa Chatan Resort. Okinawa's beaches and crystal clear seas are on the doorstep, while an array of attractions including Mihama American Village and the SKYMAX Ferris Wheel are just a short distance away.

Guests can unwind in contemporary rooms and suites, most of which feature a balcony or terrace; plunge into the outdoor pools or dine at the modern restaurant. The rooftop bar is ideal for sunset cocktails. For business travelers, the Okinawa Convention Center is just 15 minutes away.

DoubleTree by Hilton Okinawa Chatan Resort is now open for booking on all WebBeds platforms.



Top Summer picks in Switzerland



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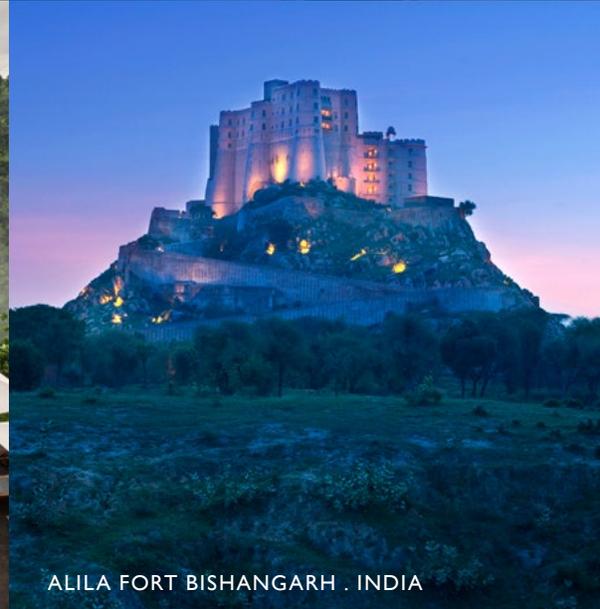
ALILA VILLAS ULUWATU . BALI



ALILA SOLO . JAVA



ALILA UBUD . BALI



ALILA FORT BISHANGARH . INDIA

Alila means “Surprise” in Sanskrit, which suitably describes the refreshing character of our hotels and resorts. To stay at any of Alila’s hotels or resorts is to embark on a learning journey. Whether recreating the flavours of the local cuisine, enhancing your well-being through ancient healing arts, tasting the thrill of adventure sports or participating in volun-tourism, you’ll find life at Alila an inspiration. Re-discover the luxury of living at Alila...

www.alilahotels.com