

Travel Aggregator

APRIL 2023

WebBeds APAC Newsletter



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FOREWORD

Welcome to the April edition of Travel Aggregator, WebBeds' monthly newsletter dedicated to the travel trade in Asia Pacific.

Earth Day, which falls on 22nd April, provides a timely reminder of the need to protect our planet. In this issue, we take a look at some of Asia Pacific's most breath-taking natural landscapes, including waterfalls, lakes, mountains, caves and forests, where we can truly appreciate the beauty of Mother Nature.

April is also a fantastic month for those who love the thrill of street parties and celebrations. Many of the world's most iconic festivals are staged this month, so travellers can uncover the vibrant culture of their destination. For families, our "Travel Together" feature will provide a range of outstanding options for parents planning a vacation with their little ones.

Also in this issue, "Newly-Opened" shines a spotlight on the Blue Story Hotel in Busan, South Korea, and our "Featured Hotel of the Month" is Himm Bliss Southbeach Patong, which is nestled on the shore in Phuket's most popular tourist district.

And of course, you can catch up with all the latest news, photos and offers from WebBeds in Asia Pacific.

Enjoy the read!

KS Sun
President, Asia Pacific
WebBeds

To catch up on any past editions of Travel Aggregator, simply head to apac-marketing.webbeds.com/aggregator

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@webbeds.com. Alternatively, for marketing partnerships with WebBeds Asia Pacific, please email apac.marketing@webbeds.com

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Blue Story Hotel, Busan

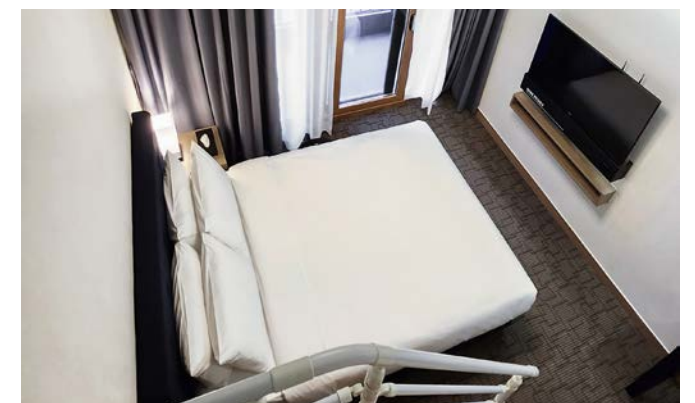


Visitors to Busan now have an elegant and affordable new place to stay, right on the seafront. Blue Story Hotel elevates the midscale sector to new heights with its contemporary interiors and exceptional location, opposite Haeundae Beach.

Multiple room types are available including double, twin and duplex options. All guests will enjoy modern in-room amenities including a 42-inch flatscreen TV with cable channels, complimentary Wi-Fi, electrical ports, a mini fridge, and free bottled water, coffee and tea. A balcony area - available in all room categories - enables every guest to admire views of the city or ocean.

The stylish restaurant features floor-to-ceiling windows, so diners can soak up panoramic sea views as they savour light bites or a fulfilling meal. For corporate travellers, the business centre offers a full range of professional services and support - or simply a space to work in peace. Meeting delegates attending an event at the Busan Exhibition & Convention Center (BEXCO) can reach the venue in just 10 minutes via public transport.

With its perfect location, just steps from the beach and surrounded by attractions, Blue Story Hotel is set to become an outstanding option for couples, families and solo business travellers alike.





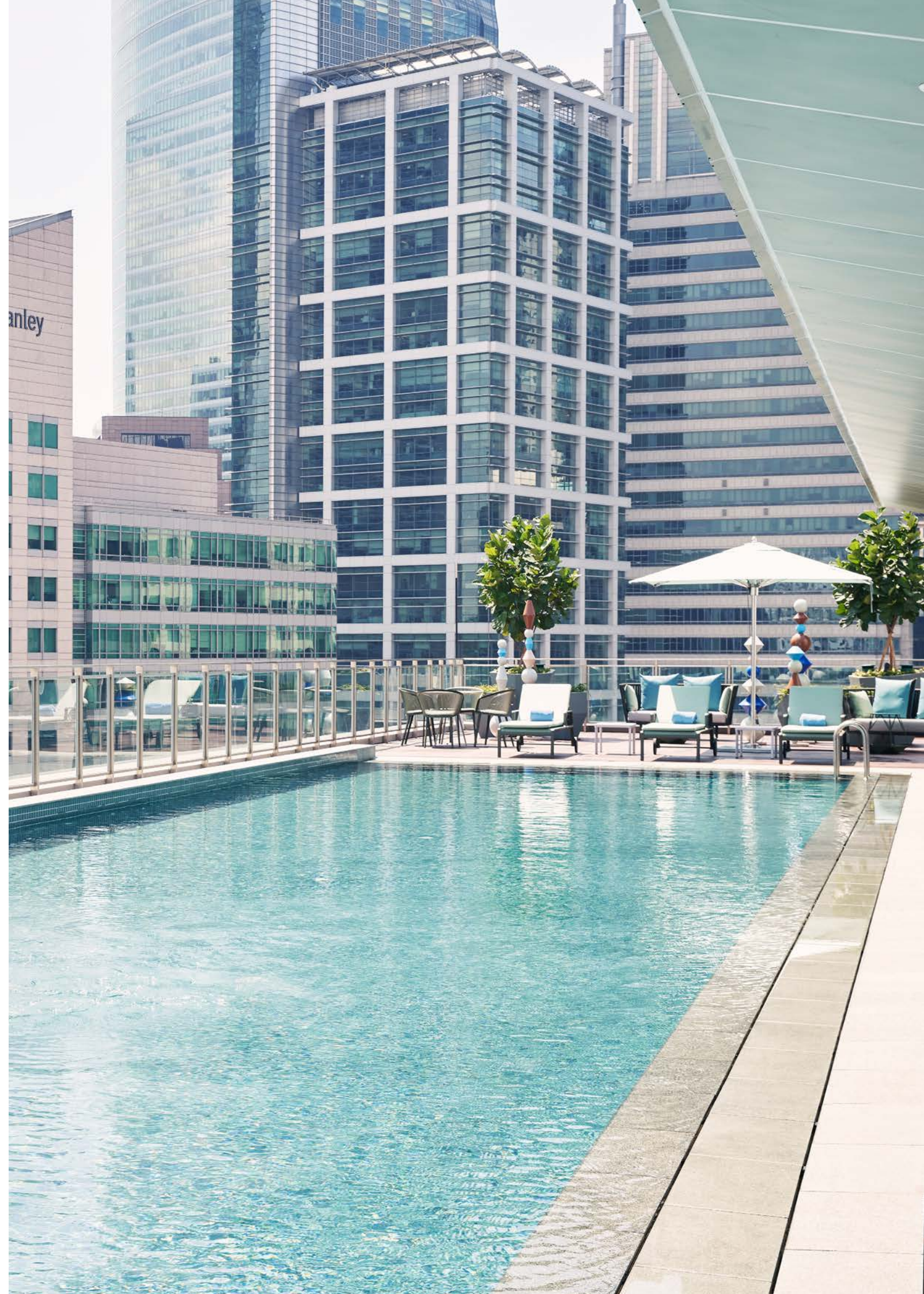
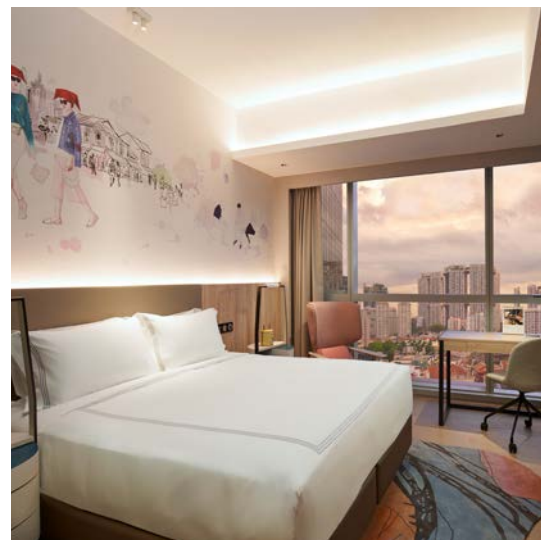
TRAVEL TOGETHER: FAMILY VACATIONS IN ASIA

When we look back on life, our most magical memories are always with the people we love. While family vacations can be stressful at times, they also create moments that we remember and treasure forever. Seeing the look on a child's face when they experience something new is so wonderfully rewarding. Fortunately, many hotels and resorts now intuitively cater to families. Here are our top picks for parents who want to treat their little ones to a great vacation...



Capri by Fraser China Square

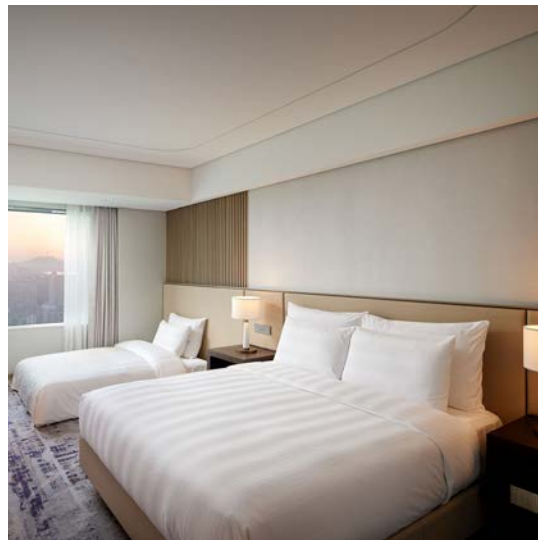
Capri by Fraser China Square is a stylish place for families to unwind together and explore the wonders of Singapore. Parents and kids can stay in comfortable apartment-style rooms with kitchenettes – perfect for family meals – and the rooftop pool offers floaties so little ones can splash safely. Surrounded by exciting attractions, including the colourful murals of Chinatown and the spectacular trees at Gardens by the Bay, this is a superb setting for all ages to soak up the spirit of the Lion City.



 SOUTH KOREA

LOTTE HOTEL WORLD

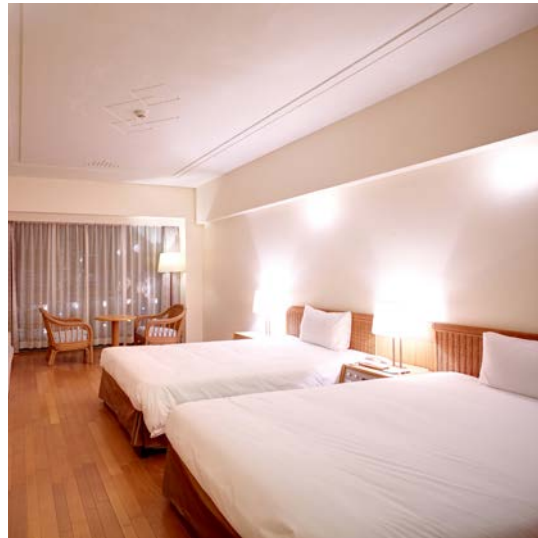
LOTTE HOTEL WORLD is a rare example of a five-star hotel designed specifically with families in mind. This activity-packed property features a choice of cute themed rooms, including the Bread Barbershop Room, Kakao Friends Room, and Lotty Lorry Room, which immerse guests in a fairy-tale world with plenty of products and services to spark every child's imagination. The hotel is directly connected to LOTTE World Mall, Asia's largest multiplex, and LOTTE World Adventure is just a short distance away.





Hotel Mahaina Wellness Resort Okinawa

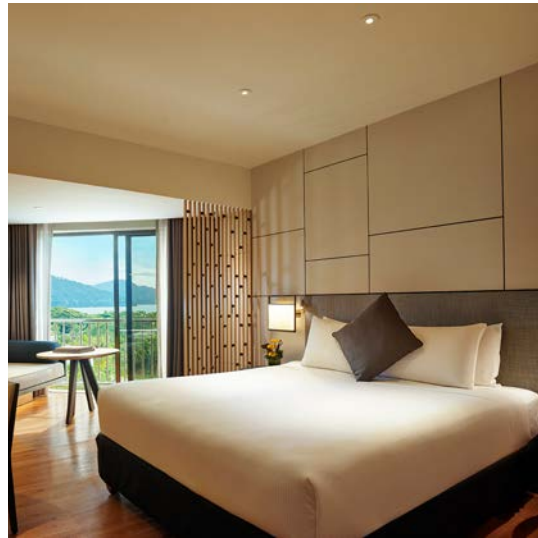
Hotel Mahaina Wellness Resort Okinawa surrounds guests with spectacular natural wonders, such as subtropical forests and sparkling seas. While this is a wellness resort, with adult activities and large natural rock baths, youngsters will also be kept fully entertained. The Kid's Space is filled with toys, games and books, while the outdoor garden pool includes a family area with a fountain and a shallow pool for children. Family rooms are available and the Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium is only five minutes' drive away.





PARKROYAL Penang Resort

PARKROYAL Penang Resort is a five-star haven of entertainment for all ages. Nestled on the shore at Batu Ferringhi Beach, this outstanding family hotel features two freeform pools, a children's pool and Amazonia Splash – an exhilarating water park. Film fans can catch the latest blockbusters at the movie room, and the Amazonia Kids' Club offers indoor and outdoor play areas and regular activities, from sand art to T-shirt painting. Meanwhile, parents can chill out in the yoga room, steam room and jacuzzi.





WebBeds

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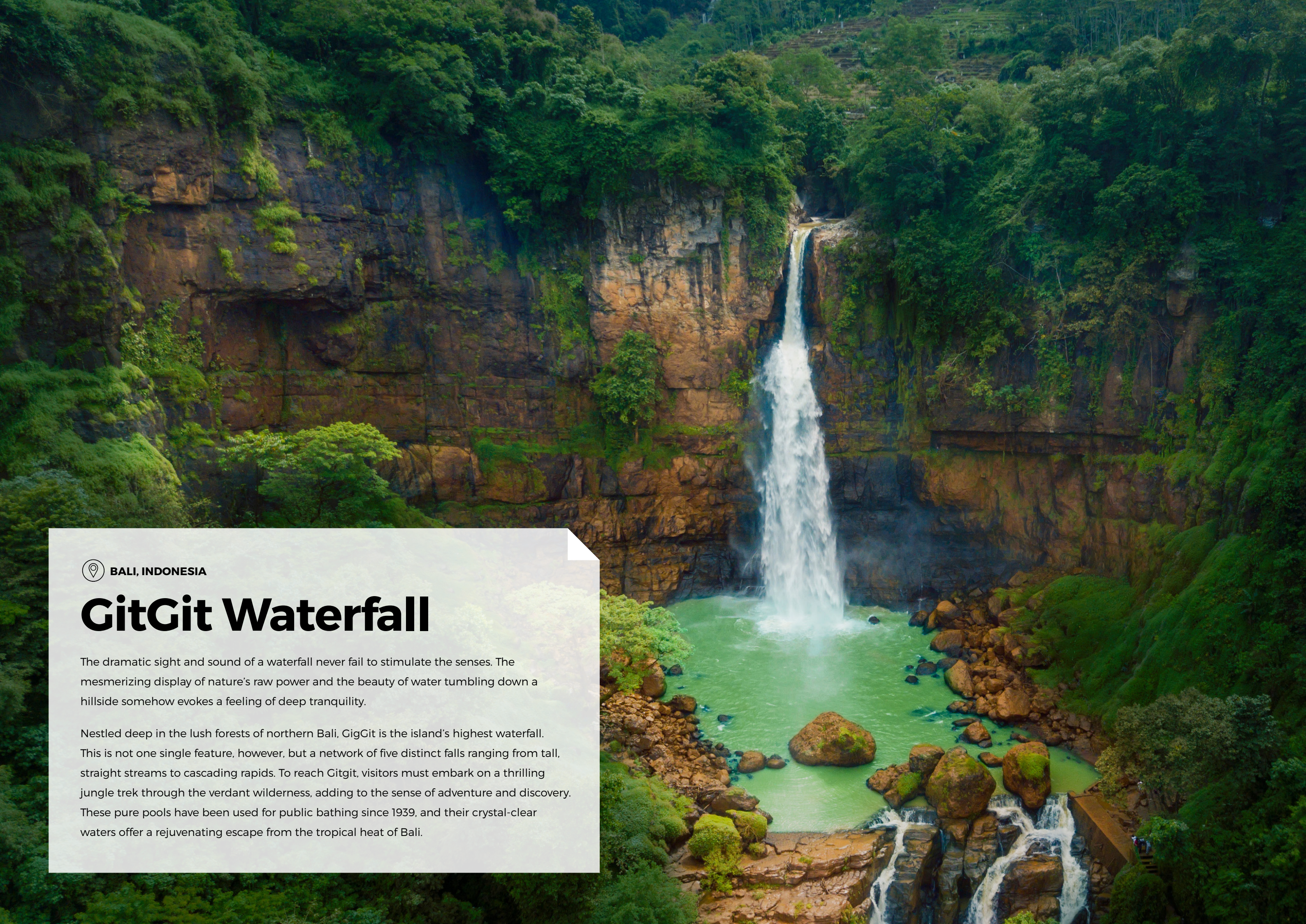
LANDSCAPES TO APPRECIATE

this

EARTH DAY

Observed on 22nd April, Earth Day provides a precious opportunity to reflect on how wonderful the world truly is. For city dwellers, it can be easy to become disconnected from nature and forget how mesmerizing Mother Nature can be. This makes it even more important for us to venture out into the wilderness and experience the planet's most spectacular landscapes.

In this edition of Travel Aggregator, we highlight five of Asia Pacific's natural wonders – waterfalls, lakes, mountains, caves, and forests – that will deepen our appreciation of the environment that sustains us all.



 **BALI, INDONESIA**

GitGit Waterfall

The dramatic sight and sound of a waterfall never fail to stimulate the senses. The mesmerizing display of nature's raw power and the beauty of water tumbling down a hillside somehow evokes a feeling of deep tranquility.

Nestled deep in the lush forests of northern Bali, GitGit is the island's highest waterfall. This is not one single feature, however, but a network of five distinct falls ranging from tall, straight streams to cascading rapids. To reach GitGit, visitors must embark on a thrilling jungle trek through the verdant wilderness, adding to the sense of adventure and discovery. These pure pools have been used for public bathing since 1939, and their crystal-clear waters offer a rejuvenating escape from the tropical heat of Bali.



 WHERE TO STAY

ELEVATE BALI BY HANGING GARDENS MUNDUK

For guests who want to be immersed in the natural wonders of the "Island of the Gods," this stunning five-star resort is an exclusive choice. Situated in Bali's northern highlands, this boutique retreat offers just 26 private villas with panoramic views of the jungle-clad hills. When guests are not exploring the area's waterfalls, they can unwind at the spa or indulge in Bali's finest culinary offerings at Clouds Kitchen.





 SOUTH ISLAND, NEW ZEALAND

Lake Te Anau

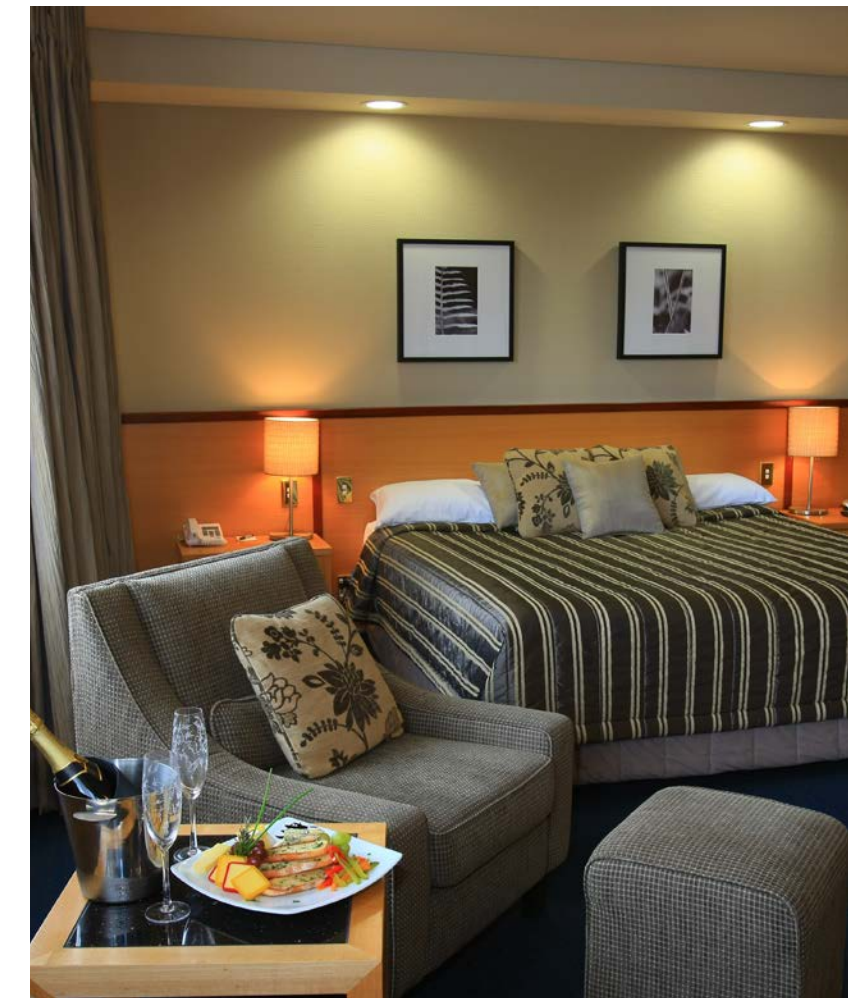
Lakes have an ability to soothe the soul. Without strong tides or currents, the calm waters often have a mirror-like quality that reflects the landscapes around them and creates a picture of peace. The reflective nature of the calm lake waters is not only a beautiful sight but also an indication of the cleanliness of the surrounding environment.

The largest of New Zealand's southern glacial lakes, Lake Te Anau has exactly that reflective quality. This pristine body of water ebbs and flows so gently that the soaring, snow-capped peaks that surround it – some rising up to 1,700 metres – cast perfect reflections on the surface, creating a truly breathtaking sight.

 WHERE TO STAY

DISTINCTION LUXMORE TE ANAU

Just a short walk from the shores of Lake Te Anau, this locally-owned and operated hotel provides the perfect base for eco-friendly vacations and trekking expeditions. The 180 rooms include a selection of romantic Deluxe Suites with spa baths, and the two restaurants provide excellent options for daytime and evening dining. A wide range of activities, including guided nature walks and kayaking tours, can be organised to showcase the beauty of the lake and surrounding area.



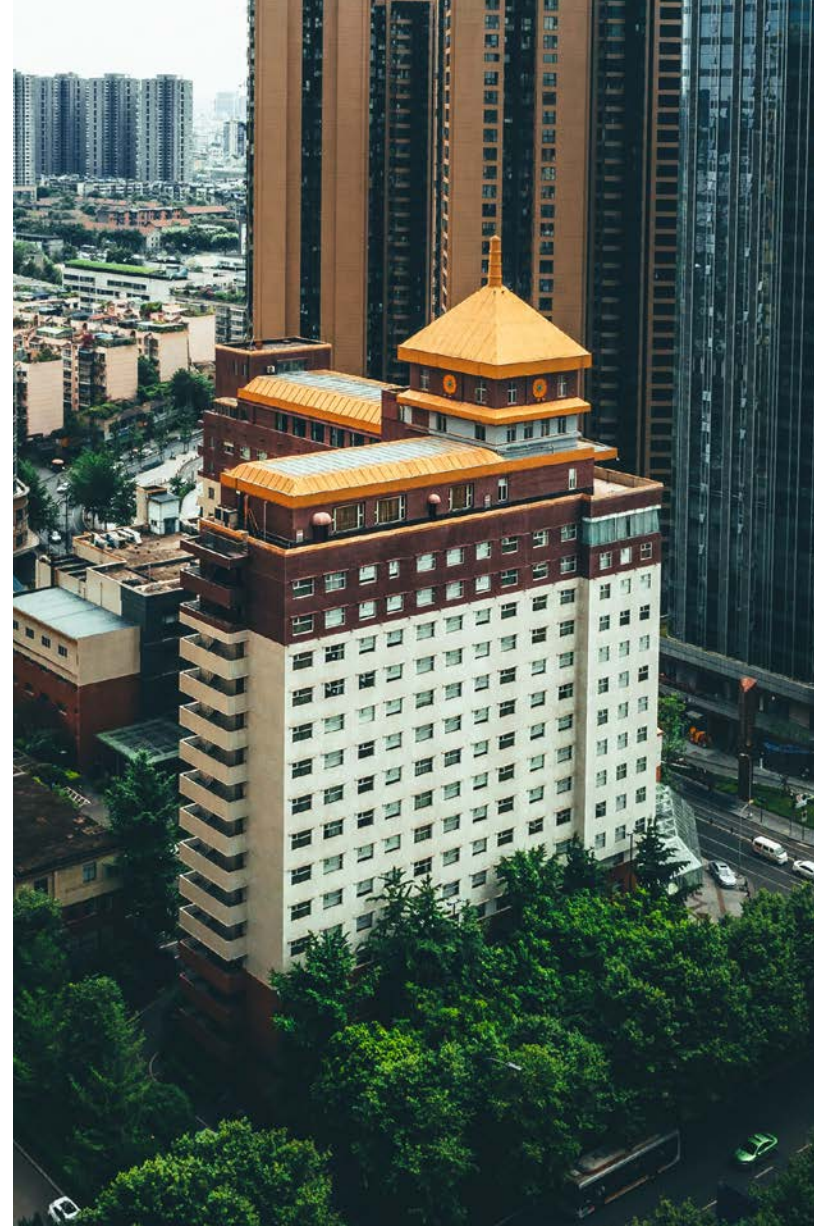


 SICHUAN PROVINCE, CHINA

Emeishan

Mountains have a wonderfully humbling quality and standing atop can also give us a sense of perspective. Formed over millions of years, these soaring peaks have the power to make us feel small and appreciate the sheer size and grandeur of Mother Nature.

It is little wonder that ancient humans believed that mountains held special power. Emeishan stands 3,099 metres high and is one of China's four sacred Buddhist mountains. This UNESCO World Heritage site is not only renowned for its natural beauty, but also for the many ancient monasteries scattered along its slopes, some of which date back over 1,000 years.



 WHERE TO STAY

TIBET HOTEL CHENGDU

Inspired by the grandeur of Lhasa's iconic Potala Palace, this spectacular five-star hotel is the perfect base for a trip to this sacred mountain, which is just over two hours' drive away. Guests will be immersed in Tibetan culture, including the exquisite, handcrafted furnishings and authentic cuisine at the restaurant. Former First Lady Michele Obama even dined here during her trip to Chengdu.





QUANG BINH PROVINCE, VIETNAM

Son Doong Cave

The timeless beauty and enigmatic allure of caves are truly captivating. Stepping inside the subterranean world feels like entering the insides of the Earth – a hidden world where unknown wonders await. These wonders are as breathtaking as they are mysterious.

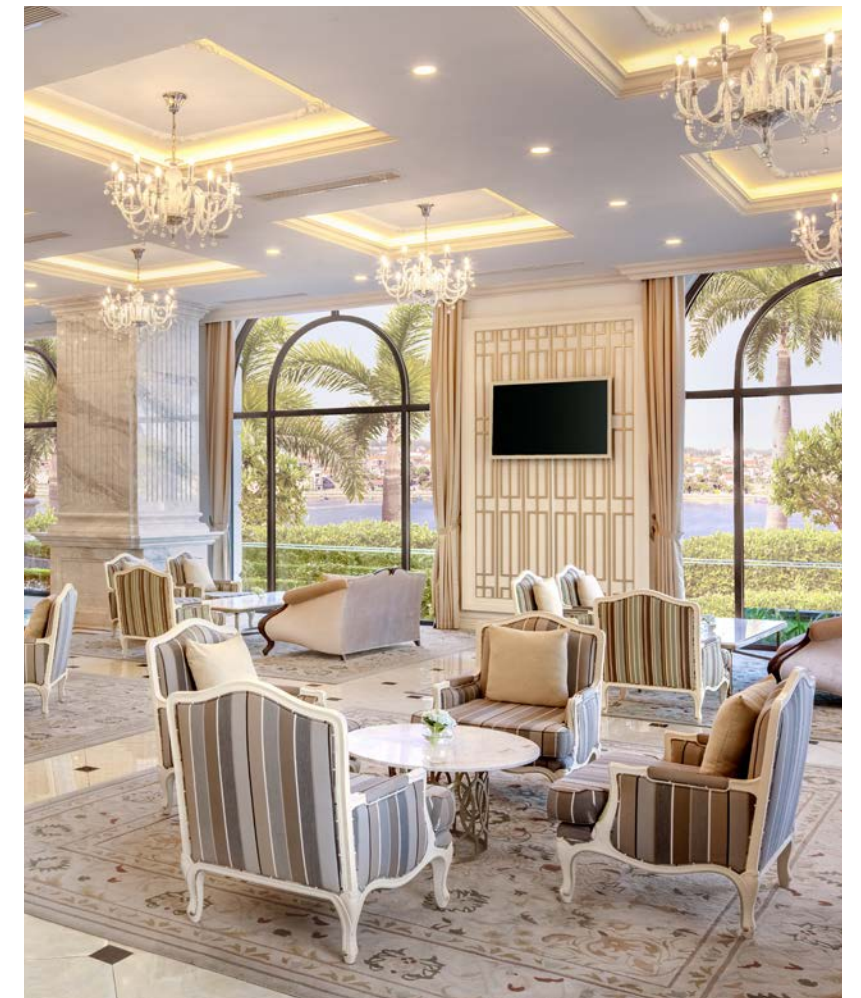
The world's largest cave, Son Doong is so mysterious that it wasn't discovered until 1991. Beyond the jungle-shrouded entrance lies a 9km-long cave network of chambers and tunnels so vast that it even forms its own clouds. Spectacular stalagmites rise 70 metres from the floor and an underground river flows through the chambers. To truly appreciate the wonder of Son Doong, visitors must embark on a multi-day expedition led by experienced guides that includes trekking, climbing, and caving.



 WHERE TO STAY

MELIA VINPEARL QUANG BINH

Perfectly positioned on the banks of the river in Dong Hoi, the capital of Quang Binh province, this five-star hotel is a luxurious base for guests who want to explore the lush forests and dramatic limestone karsts of Phong Nha National Park or embark on an unforgettable adventure to Son Doong Cave. Guests can stay in elegant rooms and suites, unwind at the spa or swim in the heated indoor pool.





 QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA

Daintree Rainforest

The lungs of the Earth, rainforests are among the planet's most precious habitats. They play a vital role in mitigating climate change and providing important resources for local communities. Highly biodiverse, these lush regions are home to up to 75% of the world's species of flora and fauna.

One of the world's most ancient rainforests, Daintree Rainforest is believed to date back 180 million years. This vast organic paradise is the most nature-rich corner of Australia, housing many native species including saltwater crocodiles. Taking a hike through the forest, meeting local indigenous communities, or rafting down the river are some ways to fully appreciate the Daintree Rainforest.

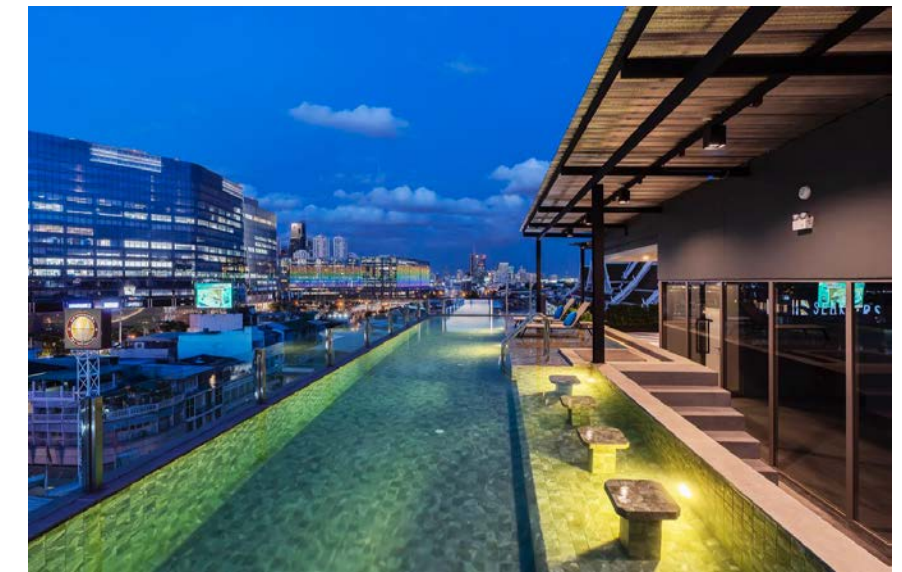


 WHERE TO STAY

DAINTREE WILDERNESS LODGE

This upscale boutique eco-retreat is the perfect choice for those looking to immerse themselves in the natural beauty of the Daintree Rainforest. Nestled in the giant fan palm gully of the rainforest, it features only seven elevated cabins with bright, modern interiors. Stroll through the lush jungle on hidden paths and wooden boardwalks, discover swimming holes, spot the diverse local wildlife, or take part in important environmental projects such as reforestation. Discover the flavours of the tropics at its on-site restaurant, Cycad, which showcases the finest local and seasonal produce.






SWISS-BELBOUTIQUE NAPIER

The first 5-star international hotel brand in Napier, offering an Art Deco-style stay in the heart of downtown, just a 5-minute walk from the Hawke's Bay waterfront and its attractions like the Sunken Gardens and National Aquarium of New Zealand.



 Swiss-Belboutique Napier
36 Munroe Street 4110
Napier, New Zealand

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Perfectly positioned on Rama IV Road between Khlong Toei MRT station and Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre, Seekers Finders is moments away from Bangkok's major business and leisure attractions, making it an excellent base to explore the rest of the city.

Guests can unwind in style at the hotel's rooftop infinity pool that overlooks the city. All 81 rooms are ideal for short and extended stays, with comfortable bedding, working desks, rain showers and a pantry area.



APRIL CELEBRATIONS TO BRIGHTEN UP YOUR TRAVELS

As the sun shines brightly and flowers start to bloom, April is one of the most vibrant months of the year. But it is not only the arrival of spring that brings colour to the world; this is also the month when many countries celebrate major festivals and national holidays - often marked with upbeat street parties, fantastic feasts and other fun activities. If you want to be immersed in cultural heritage and festive cheer, April is the perfect time to travel.



EASTER

CELEBRATE IN: **ORLANDO, USA (9TH APRIL)**

While Easter is a religious festival for the Christian community, its timing (usually falling in April) means that it has evolved into a celebration of springtime. This is reflected by traditional activities such as Easter brunches, egg hunts and more! The

USA is a great place to celebrate this annual festival, and there can be few more uplifting destinations than Orlando, Florida – the spiritual home of America's theme parks.

 **WHERE TO STAY**

ROSEN SHINGLE CREEK

Rosen Shingle Creek is an outstanding upscale hotel that puts guests in the heart of Orlando's tourism attractions. Swim in a choice of pools, tee off at the 18-hole golf course, enjoy soothing therapies at the spa, or dine at a choice of 12

restaurants and bars. On Sunday 9th April, the hotel's Easter Brunch offers an amazing array of dishes, an egg hunt for youngsters and unlimited Champagne and mimosas for parents.





EID AL-FITR

CELEBRATE IN: **ABU DHABI, UAE (21ST TO 22ND APRIL)**

Marking the end of Ramadan, Eid al-Fitr is one of Islam's major religious festivals. Following a month of fasting, the "Festival of Sweets" is a great opportunity for Muslims to come together with family and friends, wear new clothes and enjoy

memorable meals. In the UAE, many local residents gather at Abu Dhabi's new waterfront area, Yas Bay, to watch the firework displays and enjoy plenty of live entertainment.

WHERE TO STAY

CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL ABU DHABI YAS ISLAND

Crowne Plaza Hotel Abu Dhabi Yas Island is a great place to celebrate Eid al-Fitr, with a wealth of activities onsite and in the local area. The hotel's all-day dining restaurant, Jing Asia, will stage a gala dinner on all three days of Eid, and

guests will be able to walk to the waterfront fireworks. The nearby Etihad Arena will be welcoming well-known Saudi singer Abdel Majeed Abdallah for a concert during Eid.





KING'S DAY

CELEBRATE IN: **AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS (27TH APRIL)**

Amsterdam is the only place to be on King's Day, the Netherlands' upbeat annual celebration. Known locally as "Koningsdag," this national festival sees Dutch people come together on the streets (and canals) of towns and cities all across the country,

almost all dressed in orange – the national colour – for a series of open-air parties and parades. An estimated 700,000 revellers are expected to transform Amsterdam into one huge carnival!

 **WHERE TO STAY**

MAI AMSTERDAM

MAI Amsterdam is an upscale, art-inspired boutique hotel in the centre of the city, surrounded by many of Amsterdam's most popular attractions. This makes it the ideal place to stay on King's Day, as the celebrations take place in the streets all

around the hotel. The 81 rooms offer views of the canals, plus rain showers and Nespresso machines. Enjoy eclectic interiors with original artworks and sip social drinks at the honesty bar.





SONGKRAN

CELEBRATE IN: **BANGKOK, THAILAND (13TH TO 15TH APRIL)**

Thailand's New Year festival is one of the world's most iconic celebrations. Traditionally marked with the gentle pouring of water to cleanse the body and spirit for the year ahead, Songkran has evolved into a nationwide water party, as Thai

people soak each other with water guns, hoses and buckets. April is also the hottest month of the year in Thailand, so this is a wonderful way to cool down!

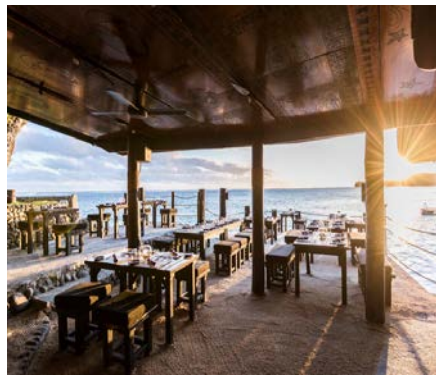
 **WHERE TO STAY**

ASPIRA GEMS CENTER SILOM

Aspira Gems Center Silom is perfectly situated for a stylish Songkran escape in Bangkok. Silom Road is one of the main thoroughfares for the city's annual water parties, so guests will be plunged into the action. This new boutique hotel features just 48

modern rooms, equipped with free Wi-Fi and Netflix. It is also located close to the Chao Phraya River and surrounded by local restaurants, bars and attractions.





Ideally situated in the heart of the Coral Coast with white sand beaches and crystal-clear lagoons, the five-star Warwick Fiji resort offers an authentic experience unlike any other. The Warwick Fiji won't just set the standard for your Fijian experience, it will exceed it... as we have been doing for nearly 40 years.

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THE MAGANI
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The Magani Hotel and Spa is a chic and centrally located urban hotel that prides itself on its attentive and welcoming staff. With a focus on personalized service, the hotel provides a peaceful and comfortable sanctuary for your Bali vacation.



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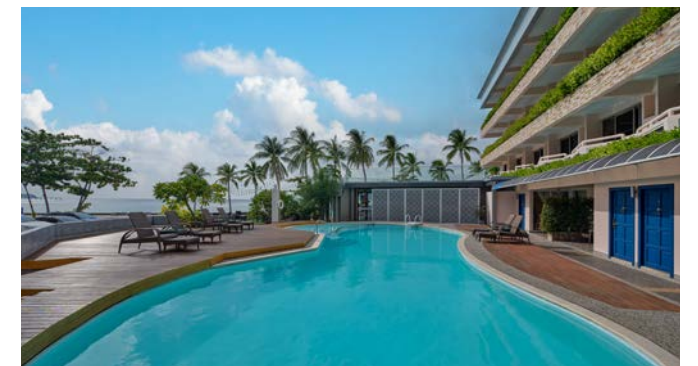
★ Featured Hotel of the Month



HOMM BLISS SOUTHBEACH PATONG

Situated at the quieter southern end of Patong Bay, Phuket's most popular tourism hub, Homm Bliss Southbeach Patong is a stylish boutique hotel that blends upscale amenities with unbeatable views.

The majority of the 71 modern rooms and suites offer sea views, and some feature private plunge pools or direct access to the hotel's main swimming pool. In fact, the hotel features two pools - one on the main level with a sundeck and children's area, and an elevated aquatic haven on the second floor, surrounded by tropical greenery.



The Rice Bar & Bowl Restaurant promises pan-Asian and international cuisine throughout the day with panoramic vistas, and Seagulls at Southbeach is a casual café for cool drinks and light bites. Alternatively, adventurous guests can simply stroll into the heart of Patong to discover a wide range of restaurants, bars, shops and nightlife just a few minutes away.

For travellers seeking a tropical escape in the heart of the action, Homm Bliss Southbeach Patong is an outstanding option.






Kata Sea Breeze
Resort, Phuket
Breeze Up Your Breezy Day



Kata Sea Breeze Resort, Phuket

Perfectly nestled between the golden sands of Kata Beach, the green inland hills and moments from Kata Centre, **Kata Sea Breeze** boasts 330 spacious guest rooms and suites, with the smallest room size being 44 square metres!



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