

Travel Aggregator

APRIL 2024

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!

This month, we celebrate the power of travel to break down boundaries and bring people closer together. As part of WebBeds' new "Time to Explore" campaign, our latest article, "The Joy of Shared Experiences," showcases a selection of vacation styles, dream destinations and exceptional hotels that are perfect for friends and families.

April also marks Earth Day, the global movement which has been striving to save the planet ever since it was launched more than 50 years ago. Guests can get involved in this important mission with a series of immersive activities that weave sustainability into their vacation.

Also in this issue, we reveal a brand-new feature for foodies. "Eat Your Way Through..." will transport readers on a culinary tour of Asia Pacific's gastronomic centres, with expert insights on where to dine and what to order. This month, our epicurean adventure starts in Hong Kong!

Our "Featured Hotel of the Month" is Rex Hotel Saigon, "Newly-Opened" offers an exclusive preview of Travelodge Myeongdong Namsan, Seoul, and of course, you can catch up with all the latest news 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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Nysa Hotel invites you to embrace the best of both worlds – a haven of calm amongst Bangkok's vivid tapestry. Step into a tranquil and soothing space amongst a bustling urban backdrop, a place to unwind and delight the senses, and where your every need is anticipated with a smile.

Nysa Hotel Bangkok
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For booking and enquiries, email apac.sales@webbeds.com



Travelodge Myeongdong Namsan



NEWLY OPENED

Travellers to Seoul will soon be able to enjoy modern, affordable stays in the city's dynamic downtown district. Travelodge Myeongdong Namsan will open its doors on 15th April, surrounded by the major retail and cultural attractions of South Korea's captivating capital city.

Like all Travelodge hotels in Asia Pacific, this three-star property will focus on the essentials. Guests can unwind with a comfy bed and a choice of pillows, a power shower, free high-speed Wi-Fi, and 24/7 services such as a fitness centre, working space and a self-service laundry. This 173-key hotel will also feature a selection of Queen, Twin, and Friends & Family rooms for different types of traveller.

The hotel will provide the perfect base from which to discover the city's top sights, such as the vibrant shops, malls and markets of Myeongdong, the cultural charm of Gyeongbokgung Palace and Myeongdong Cathedral, and the green landscapes of Namsan Mountain Park, with its observatory tower and cable car. Two subway stations (Chungmuro and Euljiro 3-ga) are just a short walk away, making the whole of the city easily accessible.

Complementing three existing Travelodge hotels in Seoul, this new property will be an excellent option for guests seeking an international standard hotel at an attractive price point in the heart of the city.





ECO-SENSITIVE ESCAPES FOR EARTH DAY

Celebrated annually on 22nd April, Earth Day is a global environmental movement that calls on people all around the world to come together and combat the climate crisis. The hospitality industry is already leading the way, with sustainable solutions integrated into many hotels' operations and guest experiences.

Here is a selection of the forward-thinking hotels offering eco-friendly adventures in Asia this April...

EMBRACE AND IMMERSE IN NATURE

 HANGZHOU, CHINA

Hangzhou Shusheng Longjing Hotel

Nestled in the UNESCO World Heritage-listed scenic area of West Lake, this stylish and sustainable five-star hotel immerses visitors in the cultural charm of the Middle Kingdom. Eco-conscious explorers can stay in a choice of traditional Chinese rooms with views of the tea fields, savour highly authentic cuisine with locally-sourced ingredients, and enjoy time-honoured activities such as calligraphy, tea ceremonies, and the art of playing the guqin – an ancient Chinese string instrument with 3,000 years of history.

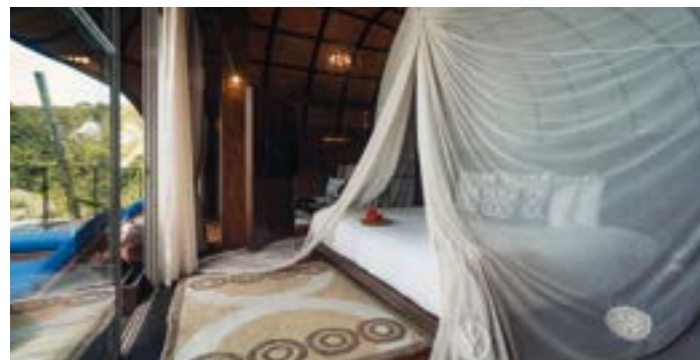


EXPERIENCE FARM-TO-TABLE DINING

 PHUKET, THAILAND

Keemala

This five-star eco-resort is so sensitively designed it appears to be woven seamlessly into the lush jungle that surrounds it. Just as the thatched cottages and pool villas seem to grow out of the forest, the cuisine at Keemala's Mala Restaurant is crafted using locally-sourced, sustainably harvested ingredients. Guests can take part in hands-on cooking classes and engage in the garden-to-kitchen initiative, which allows them to track their meal's journey from seed to plate, and onwards to eliminating food waste.



EMBARK ON ECOTOURISM ADVENTURES

 **BATANGAS, PHILIPPINES**

The Farm at San Benito

This five-star wellness resort is a haven of tranquility where guests can relax and recalibrate with views of the Malarayat Mountains. This natural paradise sets the stage for immersive ecotourism adventures, including the chance to explore the vast organic farm, discover how the resort uses its 3,000 coconut trees to produce sustainable oil, and how medicinal herbs grown onsite are used in its spa products. Visitors can also learn how The Farm eliminates food waste by distributing meals to disadvantaged communities.



A group of people of various ages, including an elderly man, a young child, and several adults, are embracing each other on a beach at sunset. The scene is warm and joyful, with the golden light of the setting sun illuminating their faces and the background. The text 'THE JOY OF SHARED EXPERIENCES' is overlaid on the left side of the image in a large, white, serif font.

THE JOY OF SHARED EXPERIENCES

Friendships and family bonds are built upon the foundations of shared experiences – those precious moments that we create together and keep in our hearts forever. Travel has always been the best way to make new memories, so to be able to share these with a larger group will spread the joy of discovery. Travelling with other people can also help to break down personal barriers and redefine our relationships.

As part of WebBeds' new "Time to Explore" campaign, we reveal which vacation styles are perfect for bonding with family and friends...



The Wellness Retreat

Wellness retreats offer a unique opportunity for loved ones to escape the distractions of daily life and enjoy moments of pure pleasure in each other's company. With no outside interruptions, friends can unwind in an atmosphere of complete serenity, exchange their latest stories and forge new personal bonds. Whether it's a couple's spa treatment, a soothing sauna experience, or simply a quiet walk in nature, a wellness retreat has the power to relax, revive and reconnect.



 **RECOMMENDED HOTEL:**

Tanadewa Resort and Spa by Cross Collection

Tanadewa Resort and Spa by Cross Collection lets guests escape the hustle and bustle of city life and unwind in an oasis of tropical tranquility. Nestled in the jungles of Ubud, Bali's cultural heart, this five-star retreat commands views over lush rice fields and flowing rivers – especially from its dramatic infinity pool. The yoga hut is a dedicated space for mindfulness and TanaSpa specialises in traditional Balinese therapies.



 **RECOMMENDED HOTEL:**

Lomani Island Resort

Lomani Island Resort exudes the laid-back spirit of life in Fiji. Set directly on the country's stunning Coral Coast, this adults-only upscale resort sets the scene for endless days of relaxation. Wellness seekers can experience pampering at the Lomani Spa, where local therapists practice traditional Fijian massages. The crystal clear seas also set the stage for immersive activities such as snorkelling, kayaking, surfing and more.





The Urban Adventure

Big cities can sometimes seem like daunting places to visit, but the company of fellow travellers makes every urban adventure feel less intimidating. Shared enthusiasm creates a sense of excitement and the encouragement of loved ones can instill the confidence needed to explore an intriguing side street or an interesting local restaurant or bar. Also, cities have something for everyone, including iconic attractions, so each member of the group can tick an item off their personal bucket list.



 **RECOMMENDED HOTEL:**

Hilton Garden Inn Singapore Serangoon

Hilton Garden Inn Singapore Serangoon gives guests a chance to experience a different side of the "Lion City" - an area they might not visit as a solo traveller. Nestled in Little India, this upscale hotel is surrounded by cultural attractions, including Hindu temples and local shophouses, while also being fully connected by Singapore's MRT network. Family rooms are available and all guests can cool off in the outdoor pool.



 **RECOMMENDED HOTEL:**

Grids Premium Hotel Osaka Namba

Grids Premium Hotel Osaka Namba puts families and friends in the heart of this dynamic Japanese city's most vibrant retail and entertainment district. This makes it the perfect base for urban exploration and shopping, and a choice of malls and street markets is just steps away from the hotel. The hotel's Family rooms are equipped with bunk beds and the restaurant offers healthy food throughout the day.





The Outdoor Expedition

There are few more inspiring and empowering experiences than getting back to nature and embracing the “great outdoors,” and doing so with friends and family can be even more rewarding. Overcoming challenges and sharing new experiences can create a spirit of camaraderie that will live long in your shared memories. And the ultimate reward – that breath-taking view across an endless landscape or an invigorating dip in a jungle pool or mountain stream – will be treasured forever.



 **RECOMMENDED HOTEL:**

QT Queenstown

QT Queenstown blends the rugged outdoor lifestyle of New Zealand's adventure tourism capital with the luxury of a five-star boutique hotel. Overlooking Lake Wakatipu and The Remarkables mountain range, guests can plan their intrepid itinerary in comfort and style, with design-led rooms and suites, and lakeside cuisine at Bazaar. Reds, the chic cocktail lounge, is a great place to meet up and reflect on a day of discovery.



 **RECOMMENDED HOTEL:**

SCAPES Hotel

SCAPES Hotel inspires a sense of adventure. Nestled in Malaysia's Genting Highlands, this striking upscale property frames endless rainforest views in every direction. When friends and families are not exploring this natural paradise (including a spectacular cable car ride over the jungle canopy) they can cool off in the pool or dine at a choice of restaurants. Double, triple and quad rooms offer options for every group.





The Cultural Discovery

The joy of travel is making new discoveries and expanding our knowledge and understanding. Families and friends who immerse themselves in the cultural heritage of their destination will not only broaden their own horizons; they could also embrace a new open-minded outlook. By celebrating the beauty of life's colourful tapestry, we can all foster a sense of acceptance, tolerance and respect for others – and isn't that a wonderful vision to share with those closest to us?



 **RECOMMENDED HOTEL:**

The Oberoi Grand Kolkata

The Oberoi Grand Kolkata is one of the finest places to stay and soak up the splendour of India's cultural capital. With its colonial architecture, shady courtyards, spacious accommodation and five-star facilities, this "grand dame" is ideal for explorations of Kolkata's rich heritage, from the grandeur of the Victoria Memorial and the Indian Museum to the vibrant daily life of Dacres Lane, College Street and more.



 **RECOMMENDED HOTEL:**

Lotte Hotel Busan

Lotte Hotel Busan is perfectly positioned in the centre of this compelling Korean port city, surrounded by cultural attractions and bustling markets. Stay in a selection of Family Twin or Triple rooms, dine at a choice of four restaurants, relax at the indoor & outdoor pools, and tee off at the golf driving range, then head out and uncover iconic local sites such as Seomyeon Market and Hocheon Village Cultural Centre.



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Book: 29 March - 7 June 2024

Travel: 1 April - 30 June 2024

[Find out more](#)

TIME TO
Explore



EAT YOUR WAY

THROUGH... *Hong Kong*

Yue Kee Roast Goose Restaurant

TSUEN WAN

This all-in-one meal is one of Hong Kong's most beloved dishes. Savour the satisfying crunch and crackle of baked rice, which blends perfectly with the meat, vegetables and soy sauce. For a truly authentic dining experience, head to a dai pai dong (streetside food stall).

Where to try it:

- **Four Seasons Clay Pot Rice** in Yau Ma Tei offers a variety of claypot rice flavours cooked over a charcoal fire.
- **Kwan Kee Clay Pot Rice in Sai Ying Pun** has been serving this classic dish for more than 20 years.
- **Hing Kee** in Temple Street offers more than 60 varieties, allowing diners to choose their favourite toppings.

There are few more elegant and enticing dining experiences than dim sum. Ideal for a light lunch or afternoon treat with friends, these bite-sized savoury delights are traditionally served in bamboo baskets, brought to the table on trolleys and accompanied by Chinese tea.

Where to try it:

- **Tai Wai Dining Room** has been recognised by Michelin for its classic dim sum at reasonable prices.
- **Forum Restaurant** is a Michelin three-star restaurant founded by "abalone king" Yeung Koon Yat.
- **Yum Cha** in Central has become famous for its innovative and artistic dim sum dishes.



CLAYPOT RICE



DIM SUM

Tai Wai Dining Room

Kam Wah Café

MONGKOK

Hing Kee Restaurant

Four Seasons Claypot Rice

TSIM SHA TSUI

Kwan Kee Claypot Rice

Yum Cha

Sham Tseng Chan Kee Roasted Goose

CENTRAL

SHA TIN

Sai Kung Café & Bakery



PINEAPPLE BUN

Also known as the "polo bun," this sweet treat does not actually contain any fruit – its name simply refers to the chequered topping which resembles a pineapple. A soft and sweet dough is baked in the oven and best served piping hot with lashings of butter.

Where to try it:

- **Kam Wah Café** in Mong Kok is famous for its freshly baked pineapple buns and silky-smooth milk tea.
- **Kam Fung Restaurant** is a local institution in Wan Chai with a history that dates from the 1950s.
- **Sai Kung Café & Bakery** offers jumbo-sized pineapple buns that blend Chinese and Western styles.



ROAST GOOSE

Roast goose is a classical Cantonese barbecue dish that has become a popular comfort food for many Hongkongers. The light, crispy skin creates the ultimate contrast with the indulgent fat and soft, tender meat, finished with a sweet and tangy plum sauce.

Where to try it:

- **Yue Kee Roast Goose Restaurant** in Sham Tseng has been serving chargrilled roast goose since 1958.
- **Kam's Roast Goose** in Wan Chai is a Michelin-starred family restaurant that specialises in goose dishes.
- **Sham Tseng Chan Kee Roasted Goose** is a famous no-frills restaurant popular with locals in Tsuen Wan.

CAUSEWAY BAY

Forum Restaurant

Kam's Roast Goose

Kam Fung Restaurant

HONG KONG ISLAND



 WHERE TO STAY:

Alva Hotel by Royal

Alva Hotel by Royal is a five-star oasis in a unique riverside setting in Sha Tin. Blessed with lush greenery and integrated with smart technology, this impressive hotel exudes a sense of tranquility with panoramic windows, forest views, water therapy showers, a thermostatic rooftop pool, and an outdoor terrace for yoga and tai chi. Active travellers can hire bicycles to uncover the city.



 WHERE TO STAY:

Mondrian Hong Kong

Mondrian Hong Kong puts lifestyle-seekers in the beating heart of Tsim Sha Tsui, overlooking Victoria Harbour and adjacent to the K11 Shopping Mall. Guests can discover dramatic art and design, world-class wellness and two acclaimed restaurants and bars: Carna by Dario Cecchini, a vibrant Italian steakhouse, and Avoca, a cosmopolitan bar with curated cocktails, creative cuisine and live DJs.





 WHERE TO STAY:

Royal Plaza Hotel

Royal Plaza Hotel is a fully connected five-star hotel in bustling Kowloon. Situated on top of Mong Kok East MTR station, guests can explore the entire city or simply unwind and enjoy the fantastic facilities, including the 40-metre outdoor pool and gym. A choice of outstanding restaurants includes Di Kong Heen, which serves award-winning Cantonese cuisine including handcrafted dim sum.



 WHERE TO STAY:

The Hari Hong Kong

The Hari Hong Kong is a stylish luxury retreat in Wan Chai, surrounded by pulsating attractions. Crafted by renowned interior designer Tara Bernerd, the eclectic, art-inspired rooms and suites frame stunning views of the city, The Peak and Victoria Harbour. Guests can enjoy alfresco drinks at The Terrace, exquisite Japanese cuisine at Zoku and modern Italian fare at Lucciola Restaurant.



★ Featured Hotel of the Month



REX HOTEL SAIGON

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

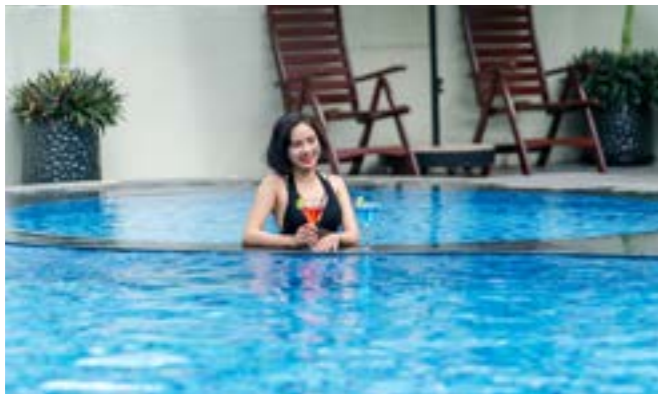
An urban landmark in the heart of Ho Chi Minh City's District 1, Rex Hotel Saigon is set in a grand colonial-style building with 90 years of history. Now, this impressive property is witnessing a new era of success as one of Vietnam's finest five-star hotels.

Guests can stay in a choice of 286 spacious rooms and suites that reflect the grace and style of a bygone era, with a blend of colonial charm and classical Vietnamese elements. Seven types of suite are available, ranging from the chic Rex Suites with Juliet balconies to the stunning Presidential Suite, which showcases 200 square metres of luxurious living space and outstanding city views.



Rex Hotel Saigon is also a centre of gastronomy with six F&B outlets, including Hoa Mi Restaurant, a glamorous golden dining room which presents authentic Vietnamese cuisine and charming local performances, the sophisticated Rex Havana Cigar Club, and the award-winning Rooftop Garden Bar, which has been a popular place to unwind ever since it served international correspondents during the Vietnam War. With outdoor pools, a spa, gym and tennis court, this is an urban sanctuary of health and relaxation, and world-class retail therapy can be enjoyed at the designer shops, including a flagship Chanel store.

With such a spectacular collection of accommodation, activities and facilities for business and leisure under one roof, all infused with the essence of Vietnamese culture and heritage, Rex Hotel Saigon is an outstanding option for discerning visitors to this vibrant city.



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