



**Magical Holiday Events Around The World This Season.
Merry X'mas And Happy New Year!**

**The Singapore
EDITION
Luxury
Redefined
With First
Southeast Asia
Outpost In
Singapore**

**Forbes Asia
Names
Chairman
Kwek
'Philanthropy
Hero'**

**MHR In New
Zealand
Sails For
Excellence
With Aon
Yachting
Awards**

**Esther An
Shares
Passion On
Climate
Change,
Green
Building And
Sustainability**



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Magical
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This Season.
Merry X'mas
And Happy
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New York, New York! If you're in the Big Apple for the festivities this year, check out M Social New York Times Square to see a live view of the ball drop from their 5,700 square foot outdoor terrace. Attendees seeking the full New Year experience (capped at 40 guests) will have access to the open bar, an appetizer platter at your table, champagne toast at midnight, bottle service and much more! Other hotels in New York also include Millennium Broadway Times Square, Millennium Premier New York Times Square, and Millennium Downtown New York. Please visit <https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/offers/united-states/m-social-hotel-times-square-new-york/new-years-eve-exclusive-offer/?promo=&promocode=&hotel=m-social-hotel-times-square-new-york&checkin=2023-12-03&checkout=2023-12-04&adults=2&children=0&rooms=1>

Need to be inspired for the upcoming festivities? Hi Life has put together some events happening around the world to celebrate the holiday season and the new year!



In Auckland for the holidays? Christmas is coming early to the city centre this year with a month of festive Saturdays bringing Queen Street to life! Check out stilt walkers, street performers, live music, giveaways and more (left photo). There's even a 'Theatre Christmas Imagination Workshop', a magical zone with interactive games and theatre performances for more family fun at Auckland's famed Sky Tower (right photo). Visit any of our Auckland hotels at <https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/auckland/>



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Fancy a photo with one of our favourite celebrities? Take a trip to Madame Tussauds New York Museum if you want to get away from the Christmas party crowd but still get the best of New York (left photo). Or take a spin on the ice and grab some hot chocolate at the Bank of America Winter Village, one of NYC's favourite holiday traditions with holiday shops (right photo). There's no other place than our hotels like M Social New York Times Square, Millennium Broadway Times Square, Millennium Premier New York Times Square, and Millennium Downtown New York right at the doorstep of these activities! For more information, visit <https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/new-york/>



Make some of your best stylish holiday memories with Millennium Knickerbocker in Chicago! Visit <https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/chicago/millennium-knickerbocker-hotel-chicago/>

Rustic orange is the colour theme of the Christmas tree at Heritage Hotel Manila this year. Symbolising warmth, radiance and togetherness, the hotel is the perfect place to stay if you're in Manila, Philippines. Come visit Heritage Hotel Manila at <https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/manila/the-heritage-hotel-manila/>



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Fancy a photo with one of our favourite celebrities? Take a trip to Madame Tussauds New York Museum if you want to get away from the Christmas party crowd but still get the best of New York (left photo). Or take a spin on the ice and grab some hot chocolate at the Bank of America Winter Village, one of NYC's favourite holiday traditions with holiday shops (right photo). There's no other place than our hotels like M Social New York Times Square, Millennium Broadway Times Square, Millennium Premier New York Times Square, and Millennium Downtown New York right at the doorstep of these activities! For more information, visit <https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/new-york/>



Get ready to jingle all the way through the most epic Christmas markets in Shanghai with month-long bazaars decked with a million baubles, 18-meter-tall Christmas trees, and more than 80 vendors selling local arts and craft like woven baskets, jewellery, soaps, and festive food and drinks with local delicacies. For a great stay, visit Grand Millennium Shanghai Hongqiao at <https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/shanghai/>

This year sees TaipeiXmas bring together 15 major department stores across Taipei City in an event allowing people to enjoy bargains by following a stamp collecting map. The event is combined with various festive performances and Christmas light decorations to spread festive cheer. Stay in Grand Hyatt Taipei and welcome 2024! Visit <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/hotel/taiwan/grand-hyatt-taipei/taigh>



If winter is not your thing, plan a trip to Dubai and have an offbeat experience with a desert safari and celebrate the festivities in the sand. Engage in a variety of activities such as camel rides, sandboarding, quad biking, or spend a night in a Bedouin tent with belly dance performances, folk songs and local cuisine. Visit our hotels like Grand Millennium Dubai, Copthorne Dubai, Millennium Place Barsha Heights and Studio M Al Barsha.

<https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/dubai/>



Teddy bears reign this Christmas at Orchard Hotel Singapore, where the loveable creatures gather at the life-sized Teddy's Christmas Cottage – jam-packed with festive goodies to welcome the holiday season. Succumb to the irresistible charms of these furry mascots as you take photos while shopping for gift hampers, turkeys, hams, log cakes and other goodies for your festive table at home. For more information, visit <https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/offers/asia/orchard-hotel-singapore/dining/festive-offers/>



It's not every year that you can have a Smurf-blue Christmas. This season, City Square Mall and Nickelodeon are painting the town blue with A Very Smurfy Christmas from now till 31 December 2023 to mark the 65th anniversary of these adorable characters. Please visit <https://www.citysquaremall.com.sg/news/a-very-smurfy-christmas-at-city-square-mall/>



South Beach Avenue in Singapore lights up with digital artwork where innovation meets geometry. Check out the lobby at JW Marriott Singapore South Beach too!



Here at CDL's flagship building, Republic Plaza, the concept of "A Diamond Celebration" is amplified with iridescent diamonds and reindeers at the main entrance (left photo) and on the Christmas trees at the lobby with interchanging digital artwork on the lobby's 1,800 sq ft digital wall (right photo), beautifully encapsulating both CDL's 60th Anniversary celebrations and the festivities to create a whimsical winter wonderland.



Copthorne Merry Hill-Dudley Celebrates Big Hearts With Dudley Community Awards

The winners of the Dudley Community Awards at Copthorne Brierley Hill Hotel include non-profit organisation, Ladies Fighting Breast Cancer. (Image: NQ)

Copthorne Merry Hill-Dudley was proud to host the Dudley Community Awards 2023 in a glistening ceremony that saw winners recognised for their efforts in helping the community. The event was held on November 23.

Guests were dressed in their best attire as the community gathered to celebrate the very finest in the borough and all they do to help make the region so unique.

The awards are designed to recognise those that go the extra mile for the community from individuals and families to businesses and charities.

In partnership with the University of Worcester, the stories reflect those told in Newsquest's newspapers every day and gives people a chance to be recognised.

The overall winner of the evening was non-profit organisation, Ladies Fighting Breast Cancer in the category for 'Best Community Project or Group'.



Overall winner was non-profit organisation Ladies Fighting Breast Cancer. (Image: NQ)



live



The Astor Grill Takes Permanent Residences At The St. Regis Singapore

The Astor Grill's steaks are cooked on a custom-built parrilla grill.

The Astor Grill is now a permanent fixture at The St. Regis Singapore following a successful three-month trial pop-up that ran from June to August at the hotel. It takes the space of the former Brasserie Les Saveurs at the lobby.

The grill concept is helmed by Chef de Cuisine Angelo Sergio with more than 20 years mastery in steakhouses, and well-equipped with butchery, dry ageing, curing and grilling skills.

Under him, the menu has expanded with new primary cuts, such as the 500 days grain-fed full-blood autumn wagyu striploin (\$138 for 250g) and 450 days grain-fed bone-in New York striploin (\$158 for 500g), a cross-breed of Australian and Japanese wagyu.

There are also new non-beef options as well, such as starters of grilled Spanish octopus (\$36), grilled Kurobuta pork chop (\$52) and grilled Boston lobster (\$108 for 550g).

Inspired by the heritage of St. Regis with culinary craft that harks closely to the landscape of original great chophouses set in the early century New York (where the first St. Regis was established), The Astor Grill celebrates quality cuts of exceptional eminence, as well as bespoke dining experiences of storied legacy and rituals from the House of Astor.

The exquisite experience is available for a la carte lunch and dinner at [The Astor Grill, The St. Regis Singapore.](#)



Chef de Cuisine Angelo Sergio helms The Astor Grill



live



Korean Actor Lee Min-Ho Stars In JW Marriott's New K-Drama Inspired Campaign

South Korean superstar Lee Min Ho at the launch of the global campaign at JW Marriott Seoul where he appeared for a Q&A session and greeted fans. (Image: JW Marriott/Aaron Chow)

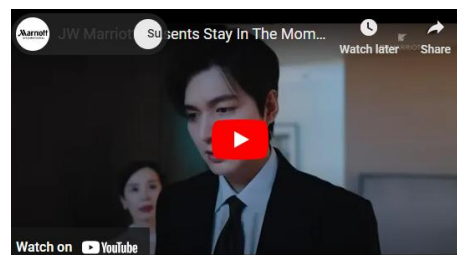
K-fever has officially landed at luxury hotel brand JW Marriott with the launch of a new Korean drama-inspired campaign starring South Korean actor, Lee Min Ho.

The global campaign, titled “Stay in the Moment”, features a short film that aims to underscore the beauty of human connections.

The nearly 4-minute video, which was filmed at JW Marriott Seoul and Jeju properties, tells the dramatic story of a wayward son reconnecting with his family. He reminds them in the short film what it means to be there for each other and how to stay present in the moment, dissipating a world of tension.

According to Lifestyle Asia, Lee Min-ho said: “I personally appreciate and align with the JW Marriott brand’s seamless attention to people, nature and culture. The ‘Stay in the Moment’ philosophy by JW Marriott inspires me as an actor as well. Embracing the present moment and cherishing special memories not only provides a comforting rest but also acts as a catalyst for personal growth. Additionally, it sparks my imagination and allows me to breathe life into the characters I resonate, infusing them with more vibrancy than the script merely outlined.”

Inspired by the principles of mindfulness, JW Marriott hotels around the world including its Singapore outpost, the **JW Marriott Singapore South Beach** have curated a number of holistic experiences. The “Stay in the Moment” packages offer guests the chance to wonder, relax, create, and connect with those who give their lives true meaning. Programmes include JW Garden, immersing guests in lush greenery and serene nooks, Family by JW, offering experiences that appeal to every generation, Spa by JW, and Savor by JW in-room dining options focusing on the pleasures of healthy eating.



The Marriott campaign video, “Stay in the Moment”.



Journey Through The Beatles' Universe In Liverpool With Hard Days Night Hotel Taking Centre Stage

This was the night of The Beatles' famous appearance at the Royal Variety Performance on 4 November 1963, in the presence of the late Queen Mother and Princess Margaret at the Prince of Wales Theatre in London. It was a significant moment of pride for the Fab Four and Liverpool, their birthplace.

The city of Liverpool is the proud birthplace that revolves around one of their own, The Beatles, the most successful band in rock history.

The significant moment for the city came on the night of 4 November 1963 when the Fab Four – John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr – made their famous appearance at the Royal Variety Performance, in the presence of the late Queen Mother and Princess Margaret at the Prince of Wales Theatre in London. It was a proud moment not only for the boys, but also for Liverpool as it reflected how one of their own has become a successful and respectable worldwide phenomenon.

Hard Days Night Hotel: The Beatles here, there and everywhere

It is here that Hard Days Night Hotel takes centre stage, the only Beatles-themed hotel in the world. Named after their famous song, "A Hard Day's Night", the hotel is housed in a huge 1884 building with rooms and public areas decorated with Beatles-inspired artwork. Let's take a little journey through The Beatles' universe to get to the hotel.



From London, one can easily get to Liverpool by train arriving at Lime Street Station, or simply fly direct to the city of the Beatles and land at the Liverpool John Lennon Airport.



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From Lime Street, it is a 15-minute walk to Hard Days Night Hotel which is housed in a huge 1884 building. The hotel is the only Beatles-themed hotel in the world.



A statue of John Lennon stands at the facade of the hotel.



Furnished with a white baby grand piano, the John Lennon Suite is filled with tasteful memorabilia including a portrait of John Lennon himself, and a large private balcony offering spectacular city views.



Blakes Restaurant is the hotel's flagship restaurant named after Sir Peter Blake, who designed the iconic sleeve for the Sgt Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band album. The all-day dining restaurant boasts wall-to-wall original Beatles-themed artwork.



The Bar at Hard Days Night Hotel is undoubtedly one of the must visit bars in Liverpool city centre with a chic and stylish vibe. The reference to the Beatles is even in the smallest details where one can even order the drink, "Strawberry Fields with Pepper".



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Saudi Arabia And Singapore Strengthen Built Environment Cooperation With Visit To HLA's Prefab Hub

Visiting delegates from Saudi Arabia and representatives from Hong Leong Asia's Building Materials Group take a pose at HL-Sunway Prefab Hub.

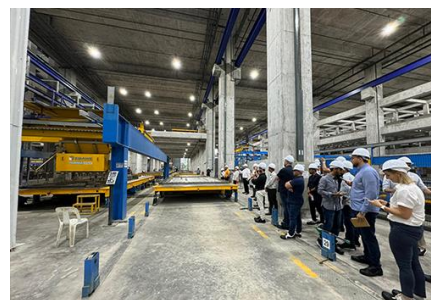
Hong Leong Asia (HLA) recently hosted a group of visiting delegates from Saudi Arabia as part of their visit to meet with built environment companies in Singapore.

The delegation of industry participants, led by the National Development Division at Public Investment Fund, visited HL-Sunway Prefab Hub, the latest state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Singapore, and was able to see first-hand the integration of precast concrete automation technologies with green features which will not only improve the supply chain resiliency of construction projects but also enhance the quality of precast components.

During the visit, Mr Patrick Yau, HLA Chief Investment Officer, Mr Simon Loh, Chief Operating Officer of HLA's Building Materials Group and the R3 Precast team, met with representatives from Saudi Arabia companies, Red Sea Global, Qiddiya, Rua Al Madinah, Diriyah, Roshn Development, NEOM and New Murabba, to discuss automated precast manufacturing techniques with a presentation to the delegation members.

Initiated by Enterprise SG, the Saudi Arabian delegation's visit presents an opportunity for Hong Leong Asia to showcase its capabilities and portfolio of industry-leading businesses in the build environment industry.

HLA also shared how it contributes and exchange with value-chain players in developing industry expertise towards integrating greener practices, and optimise productivity and efficiency in the region and beyond.



The delegates on a tour of HL-Sunway Hub where HLA presented various precast manufacturing techniques to enhance supply chain and quality of precast components.



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CDL Expands UK Private Rented Sector Portfolio With Acquisition Of Manchester Project 1NQ

Named 1NQ, the 261-unit freehold Manchester project will mark CDL's fourth PRS project in the UK since 2019. (artist's impression)

City Developments Limited (CDL) has expanded its United Kingdom (UK) Private Rented Sector (PRS) portfolio with the acquisition of 1NQ, a 261-unit freehold project in Manchester for £75.6 million (approximately S\$125.7 million). CDL will forward-fund the PRS project, which is currently under development.

The site is located near Piccadilly Station, along Tariff Street and Port Street in the Northern Quarter, within the Piccadilly Basin neighbourhood of Manchester. Full planning permission was obtained in October 2023. CDL plans to develop the site into two new-build 10 and 12-storey apartment blocks housing a mix of 1-, 2- and 3-bedroom apartments and two commercial units on the ground floor. The project is expected to be completed in 2026.

1NQ is the Group's fourth PRS project in the UK since 2019. The first was CDL's acquisition of the development site for a 665-unit project in Leeds called The Junction. This was followed by another two acquisitions in 2021 – one by CDL Hospitality Trusts (CDLHT), the Group's REIT associate, a 352-unit forward-funded project in Manchester named The Castings, and the other project by CDL called The Octagon in Birmingham, with 370 units.

Mr Sherman Kwek, CDL Group Chief Executive Officer, said, "Despite an uncertain macroeconomic environment, our PRS assets have shown resilience and strong growth potential. We have continued to scale up our global living sector portfolio to drive growth in our recurring income. This year, our Group's global PRS portfolio has grown by almost 70% to 4,489 operational and pipeline units in the UK, Japan, Australia and the US, up from 2,640 units last year. 1NQ marks CDL's first UK PRS acquisition under a forward-funding arrangement, which enables us to secure our investment at a fixed cost, manage our cash flows over the development period and benefit from potential capital appreciation."

The 1NQ site is near numerous amenities such as cafes, bars, restaurants, gyms and independent retailers. It is an 8-minute walk to Piccadilly Station and a 14-minute walk to Victoria Station. The site is one of the last few residential sites available for development in the Northern Quarter, ranked by Time Out magazine as "one of the coolest neighbourhoods on earth" in 2022. The Northern Quarter is one of Manchester's liveliest neighbourhoods and is popular with young professionals.

A bustling place for startups, creatives and digital companies by day, the neighbourhood transforms into a leisure scene at night with restaurants, bars, pop-up events and live music.

As the second largest city in the UK outside of London, Manchester has a relatively young population. Greater Manchester is also home to five major universities and has the best graduate retention rate of 51% amongst all the UK regional cities.



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CDL And JV Partner Galliard Homes Acquires London's Morden Wharf

CDL and joint venture partner Galliard Homes, a leading UK residential and mixed-use developer, has acquired the 13.8 acre Morden Wharf development in the Royal Borough of Greenwich, located in southeast Greater London, England.

The joint venture partnership between CDL and leading UK residential and mixed-use developer Galliard Homes, has completed the acquisition of the 13.8-acre Morden Wharf development in the Royal Borough of Greenwich in southeast Greater London.

The partnership acquired the site from LandsecU+I and the Morden College charity, with hybrid planning permission secured in September 2022 for a residential-led mixed-use scheme. The proposed development will comprise 12 blocks up to 36 storeys, delivering around 1,500 new residential units with stunning 360° views that overlook iconic landmarks such as the River Thames, Canary Wharf, and The Old Royal Naval College in Greenwich.

The Morden Wharf development will include 186,000 square feet (sq ft) of commercial floor space, which can accommodate logistics, industrial, and flexible creative workspace units. The site will feature 50,000 sq ft of retail, restaurant, community, and convenience spaces, fostering a vibrant and well-rounded community atmosphere.

It will also boast a 275-metre riverside frontage with an enhanced Thames Path, and a unique 3.9-acre riverside park with ample green spaces. A riverside pier will provide access to the new Uber Boat by Thames Clippers service, adding transportation options in the area.

This acquisition marks the first partnership between Galliard Homes and CDL, bringing together two leading developers with over 90 years of combined experience and strong expertise in delivering sustainable developments within which communities can flourish and grow.

Mr Stephen Conway, Executive Chairman at Galliard Homes, says: "Galliard Homes is delighted to announce our partnership with CDL, to provide much-needed homes within Greenwich. CDL's worldwide reputation as an industry leader, marked by their commitment to delivering first-class development across numerous asset classes, aligns with our values. We hope this will be the first of many more future projects together. We thank LandsecU+I and Morden College for their active support and collaboration. We look forward to turning their exciting plans into a new landmark scheme for London".



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Hong Leong Finance Wraps Up 2023 Early In Style

Launches brand new uniform for all branch staff

Out with the old, in with the new: Hong Leong Finance wraps up 2023 with brand new uniforms for staff at all of its 28 branches and 12 SME Centres.

Hong Leong Finance (HLF) gave customers a pleasant surprise when staff greeted them donning chic, modern uniforms that focused on style and functionality.

The new uniforms consisting of a dark grey dress with deep maroon half-sleeved cardigan for women, and a pink-striped, mandarin-collar shirt with tailored grey suit pants for men, was launched in November.

A Uniform Committee was convened in August 2022 to explore uniform options for fabrics and designs with different suppliers, with the aim to provide a stylish fit and comfort for staff. Frontline staff also gave their feedback to the Committee for their uniform selection decision.

HLF looks forward to seeing branch colleagues' continued dedication, confidence, and pride in serving our customers in the brand-new uniform.

Come down to one of HLF's 28 branches and 12 SME Centres and show them your support!



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CDL And CDLHT Report Operational Updates For 3Q 2023

CDL's Q3 sales rise to S\$325m on launch of The Myst, a 408-unit residential development located in Upper Bukit Timah Road.

City Developments Limited (CDL)

In Q3 2023, CDL Group and its joint venture (JV) associates sold 183 units with a total sales value of S\$325 million (Q3 2022: 95 units with a total sales value of S\$281 million). Sales were largely driven by the launch of The Myst in July.

For the first nine months ended 30 September 2023 (YTD Sep 2023), the Group and its JV associates sold 691 units with a total sales value of S\$1.4 billion (YTD Sep 2022: 802 units with a total sales value of S\$1.9 billion). Private residential property prices showed resilience despite macroeconomic concerns, achieving moderate growth in Q3 2023.

The Group's hotels continued a strong recovery momentum. Global Revenue Per Available Room (RevPAR) rose 31.6% to S\$163.6 for YTD Sep 2023 (YTD Sep 2022: S\$124.3). All regions achieved a higher RevPAR, with Asia and Australasia showing the greatest improvement, increasing 62.1% and 67.5% respectively. RevPAR for YTD Sep 2023 also exceeded YTD Sep 2019 levels by 20.0%, attributed mainly to higher room rates.

As at 30 September 2023, the Group's net gearing ratio (after factoring in fair value on investment properties) stands at 58%, following the completion of various acquisitions in 2023, including St Katharine Docks, two hotels and several PRS assets.

CDL Hospitality Trusts (CDLHT)

CDLHT achieved a strong year-on-year ("yoy") improvement in performance in 3Q 2023, which reflects the continued recovery in international travel. RevPAR growth was recorded across most portfolio markets, with seven hotels having achieved their highest 3Q RevPAR. CDLHT's 3Q 2023 gross revenue grew by 19.7% (or S\$11.6 million) yoy to S\$70.1 million, of which S\$6.0 million of the increase was contributed by its Singapore Hotels. In tandem with the higher revenue, net property income ("NPI") increased by 23.3% (or S\$7.4 million) yoy to S\$39.0 million for 3Q 2023.



Enhancements to the public areas of W Singapore - Sentosa Cove were completed substantially in 3Q 2023.

For the first nine months ended 30 September 2023, CDLHT's gross revenue increased by 20.4% (or S\$32.1 million) yoy to S\$189.3 million, of which S\$21.7 million and S\$11.9 million of the increase was attributed to the Singapore Hotels and the overseas portfolio (excluding the New Zealand Hotel) respectively. The improvement was partially offset by lower contribution from the New Zealand Hotel, following the reversion to public trading from 2Q 2022 onwards, after its exit from the government isolation programme.

In tandem with the increased revenue, NPI increased by 23.3% (or S\$19.3 million) yoy to S\$101.9 million for YTD Sep 2023. The higher NPI was largely attributed to the Singapore, Germany, Italy and Japan portfolios, which increased collectively by S\$21.5 million yoy. This improvement includes higher NPI from Claymore Connect, which increased by 63.9% or S\$1.6 million. These increases were partly offset by lower NPI from the New Zealand Hotel and Maldives Resorts, which declined collectively by S\$3.7 million yoy for YTD Sep 2023.

The Managers continue to explore investment opportunities through asset enhancements. Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, a major asset, has completed the full renovation of all of its rooms and meeting spaces, solidifying its position as a leading conference hotel in Singapore for years to come. Enhancements to the public areas of W Hotel are substantively completed while that of Grand Millennium Auckland are ongoing, which will augment their competitive standing in the respective markets.



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Celebrating A Decade Of Partnership For High Performance Engines

Liebherr's components product segment and Guangxi Yuchai Marine and Genset Power Co, Ltd. Celebrate ten years of successful partnership that has yielded large, high-performance engines with innovative injection solutions. Seated in the picture is Mr Bao Xiaofei, Assistant General Manager of Guangxi Yuchai Marine and Genset Power Company Ltd (left) and Mr Hou Lei, Sales and Business Director, Liebherr Common Rail System. In the back row is Mr Ning Xingyong, Executive Chairman of Guangxi Yuchai Marine and Genset Power Company Ltd (2nd from left) and Mr Richard Pirkel, Managing Director of Liebherr-Components Deggendorf GmbH (3rd from left) with their teams.

Liebherr-Components together with Guangxi Yuchai Marine and Genset Power Co., Ltd recently celebrated ten years of successful partnership on the manufacturing and distribution of high-performance engines for on- and off-road applications in China. The collaboration extends across the high-performance off-highway and large engine sectors as well as alternative powertrain solutions with significant joint developments in the field of propulsion technology.

In August 2013, both companies initiated their first joint project, the development of the 6-cylinder in-line diesel engine, 6TD, used in Genset applications. In the following years, the partnership expanded to include additional engine platforms in the high-performance sector and the diesel large engine domain to respond to the changing needs in drive technology and emission reduction.

For example in 2022, the first firing of the Yuchai hydrogen engine equipped with a Liebherr injection solution reflects their joint capacity for innovation and technological excellence in eco-friendly propulsion solutions.

"Yuchai and Liebherr are two powerful companies that, over the past ten years, have jointly delivered powerful products to the market. Together, we have mastered all previous challenges and are also facing the new demands of drive technology with the same determination," said Mr Richard Pirkel, Managing Director of fuel injection technology and development at Liebherr-Components Deggendorf GmbH.

"Over the past ten years of co-operation both teams have always had very good communication, both teams have worked together as a family to overcome many difficulties and problems, and have completed the matching and batch production of many projects very well. Yuchai has a very high degree of trust in Liebherr, and decided to equip the most important engine platforms with Liebherr's common rail system at the early stage of cooperation." concludes Mr Ning Xingyong, Executive Chairman of Guangxi Yuchai Marine and Genset Power Company and points out that

"we are confident and looking forward to the future cooperation to deal with various challenges in the market."

Both parties have signed a new strategic co-operation framework agreement to provide innovative solutions in propulsion technology, meeting the demands of both the Chinese and international markets.

Guangxi Yuchai Marine and Genset Power Company is one of the leading players in the marine and power generation equipment sector in the Chinese market today. Liebherr Group's Fuel Injection product line has established itself as one of the largest suppliers of fuel injection systems for Yuchai Marine and Genset over the past decade.



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CDL Secures Singapore's First Net Zero-Aligned Loan Towards A Low-Carbon Economy

City Developments Limited is the first corporate in Singapore to obtain the OCBC 1.5°C sustainability-linked loan.

City Developments Limited (CDL) marks a new sustainable financing milestone as the first corporate to obtain the OCBC 1.5°C loan, with interest rate incentives pegged to annual decarbonisation performance targets. The three-year £200 million (approximately S\$338.2 million) sustainability-linked revolving credit facility (RCF) will be utilised for refinancing, general corporate funding and working capital purposes.

The 1.5°C loan provided by OCBC is a new financing solution launched earlier this year to incentivise corporates to set and work towards clear carbon emissions reduction targets aligned with internationally recognised, science-based net-zero decarbonisation pathways for their sectors. When the annual targets are met or exceeded, corporates will get a reduced interest rate on their loans. The reference pathways, developed by autonomous global organisations, are geared towards achieving a net zero level of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) by 2050 to limit global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

The sustainability-linked loan is aligned with CDL's commitment to achieve operational net zero by 2030 for its new and existing wholly-owned assets and developments under its direct operational and management control, with the entire portfolio achieving operational net zero by 2050. As part of the loan terms, CDL will enjoy interest rate reductions upon meeting the pre-agreed annual decarbonisation performance targets, in line with CDL's Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi)-validated targets of a reduction in GHG emissions intensity by 63% per square metre leased area (Scope 1 and 2), 41% per square metre gross floor area (Scope 3 GHG emissions from purchased goods and services) and 58.8% including hotels managed by CDL's wholly-owned hotel subsidiary, Millennium & Copthorne Hotels Limited (Scope 3 GHG emissions from investments), against its 2016 baseline, by 2030. The performance measurements will be externally assured.

In 2022, CDL achieved a 24% reduction in carbon emissions intensity, against its baseline year. It achieved a 10% reduction in total operational carbon emissions across all its business operations in Singapore compared to 2021 as well as a 22% reduction in embodied carbon of building materials compared to the conventional equivalents.

Ms Yiong Yim Ming, Group Chief Financial Officer, CDL, said: “We are delighted to partner OCBC in this new financing solution that allocates capital to support climate action and achieve measurable decarbonisation impact. This first-of-its-kind sustainability-linked loan directly incentivises decarbonisation performance and reflects our focus on aligning our capital management matrix with our sustainability commitment. Since 2017, we have embarked on alternative financing avenues to channel capital towards building smarter, greener and more climate-friendly infrastructure. With rising investor expectations and a global shift to a low-carbon economy, we will continue to explore more sustainable financing initiatives aimed at developing green buildings that enhance our emissions pathways to reach our decarbonisation targets. By aligning finance with sustainability, the investment community and corporates can collectively mobilise capital towards delivering positive impact.”

Ms Elaine Lam, Head of Global Corporate Banking, OCBC, said: “We are pleased to partner CDL on the first OCBC 1.5°C loan. Ranked by Corporate Knights as the world’s most sustainable real estate management and development company and Singapore’s most sustainable company, CDL has established ambitious SBTi-validated 1.5°C targets towards net zero and put in place a rigorous action plan to achieve these targets. We look forward to supporting CDL and gaining more insights into their transition strategies and progress on their targets going forward. As the low-carbon race intensifies and more companies chart out their net-zero journeys, we stand ready to support their decarbonisation ambitions. After all, the only viable way for us to reach net zero in our financed emissions is for our clients to reach net zero in their emissions.”

The OCBC 1.5°C loan reflects OCBC’s longstanding commitment to support its customers on their net-zero journeys. The insights gained from working with corporates that take up the OCBC 1.5°C loan will help the Bank better support their transition plans with suitable advisory and financing solutions.

Since 2015, CDL has established a Climate Change Policy and set climate-related targets in 2017 to mitigate its environmental impact. Over the years, it has continued to transition towards net-zero and refine these targets in line with its corporate commitments towards climate action. In 2021, CDL was the first real estate developer in Singapore and the first real estate conglomerate in Southeast Asia to sign the WorldGBC’s Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment.

With this latest 1.5°C loan, CDL has secured around S\$6 billion of sustainable financing in the form of a green bond, various green loans and sustainability-linked loans to date, starting with its launch of the first green bond by a Singapore company in 2017.



work



CDL Kicks Off Maiden Build-To-Rent Project In Australia

Pictured here at the groundbreaking ceremony at Normanby Road development in Melbourne (L-R): Mr Cameron Laird, Head of Development, CDL Australia; Mr Gerald Yong, CDL Group Chief Investment Officer; Mr Kwek Eik Sheng, CDL Group Chief Operating Officer; Mr Matthew Choo, Assistant Manager, CDL Group Investments; Ms Poh Wei Jun, AVP, CDL Group Investments; and Mr Federico Keil, Development Manager, CDL Australia.

Construction is underway on CDL Australia's first build-to-rent project in Australia, which is set to bring more than 237 new units to Melbourne's Southbank. The groundbreaking ceremony at the Normanby Road development site marks the commencement of works by Crema Construction on the Hayball-designed BTR project, slated for completion in 2025.

"It is very exciting to see our vision for this wholly-owned BTR project in Melbourne start to take shape. "Following the construction sign-off, demolition was completed in September, making way for the commencement of piling and our official ground-breaking ceremony this month," said Mr Cameron Laird, head of development at CDL Australia.

The project will include a range of apartment sizes, including studios, one- and two-bedroom apartments. Amenities will include a mix of health and wellness facilities, podcast rooms, cinema room, outdoor BBQ terrace and collaborative working spaces.

"Normanby has been designed with a modern lifestyle in mind, and in a thriving location that is only two kilometres from Melbourne's CBD. As more and more young professionals switch to remote working arrangements, we have also included co-working areas so residents can work from home in a dedicated space, or students can easily collaborate together," said Mr Laird.

The Southbank project is the first of two BTR projects in the pipeline for CDL's subsidiary in Australia. The second development planned is a 320-plus apartment project in Brisbane's inner west suburb of Toowong.

CDL Australia has also recently commenced works on a second build-to-sell project, Fitzroy Fitzroy. Earlier in October, the group announced its \$130 million residential development, Brickworks Park, saw 95% of construction waste from demolition at the former Newmarket Brickworks site declared recyclable.



meals & deals



The Biltmore
Mayfair,
Where
Happiness
Meets
Hospitality

Located in the prestigious Grosvenor Square, The Biltmore Mayfair offers opulent accommodations and a prime location for exploring the capital. Discover London's top shopping destinations with Oxford Street and New Bond Street within walking distance.

Brimming with festive cheer! Our hotel lobby decorated in vibrant red hues, capturing the joy of the season. Every corner sparkles with holiday magic.

Come and experience the warmth of our Christmas decorations – where happiness meets hospitality.

Our hotel is now ready for the festive season and we cannot wait to welcome everyone. Bookings are available via our website or by calling 020 7596 3200:

- Christmas Afternoon Tea in our Tea Lounge
- Festive Lunch & Dinner in Café Biltmore
- Christmas Day Lunch & Dinner in Café Biltmore and Grill 88
- Festive Cocktails in The Pine Bar

For more information, please visit <https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/longsol-the-biltmore-mayfair-london/>

** Information correct at time of print.*



meals & deals



Say Merry X'mas With Yuzu!

JW Marriott Singapore launches zesty yuzu Christmas log cake.

Check out JW Marriott Singapore's Japanese-centric flavours in its Christmas log cake, with zesty yuzu and mango balanced out by a luscious core of earthy matcha cream.

Rather than venturing down the traditional path of sinfully decadent Christmas yule logs, boozy liqueurs and heady chocolate overtones, JW Marriott Singapore South Beach has decided to take a different approach with its centrepiece pastry.

Executive pastry chef Edina Si has left the visual of the classic log behind, opting instead for a minimalist pastel-yellow slab adorned with a green template bearing the word "Christmas". In line with its colour palette, Japanese-centric flavours underscore the log cake, with zesty yuzu and mango balanced out by a luscious core of earthy matcha cream.

Available till January 1, 2024; \$78 for 1kg. Order at https://shopatjw.oddle.me/en_SG/

** Information correct at time of print.*



meals & deals



Stay In The Moment At JW Marriott Around The World

Take a moment to pause and focus on what matters most. The “Stay In The Moment” package is designed for guests to be mindful, be present and be nourished - mentally, physically and spiritually.

What you get:

- A night's stay in Premier Marina View Room or Signature Suite
- Daily Buffet Breakfast at Beach Road Kitchen for two persons
- Gin & Tonic experience at Tonic, with botanicals harvested from the hotel's JW Garden for two persons
- Daily access from 10.00 am to 8.00 pm to Spa by JW thermal facilities including sauna, steam room, jacuzzi and Relaxation Lounge for two persons
- Promotional Code: A1475What's this?
- Valid stay dates: October 25, 2023 - December 31, 2023

For more information, please visit <https://www.marriott.com/offers/stay-in-the-moment-off-92829/sinjqw-jw-marriott-hotel-singapore-south-beach>

** Information correct at time of print.*



meals & deals



Fancy A Day
With Feathered
Friends And
An Overnight
With Penguins?
Glamp It Out
At Bird Paradise!

Glamping with the penguins: Cozy up close and personal with penguins at Bird Paradise in a luxurious bell tent with a Southern Lights showcase screened at Penguin Cove exhibit. (Image: Mandai Bird Paradise)

Singapore's latest tourist attraction, Bird Paradise (formerly Jurong Bird Park) has launched a two-day glamping itinerary that includes guided tours, bird interactions, and behind-the-scenes experiences as part of the bird park's recent grand opening celebrations.

Guests will get to enjoy front-row seats to the Wings of the World Presentation, guided tours through the park's massive aviaries, special access to behind-the-scenes facilities like the nutrition centre and avian hospital, and even a special Southern Lights showcase.

Lunch and dinner will be settled at the park's Crimson Restaurant, which not only serves up a curated menu by celebrity chef Eric Teo, but also comes with a striking view of the Hong Leong Foundation Crimson Wetlands (waterfall, pink-feathered friends, and all).

For more information, please visit [Glamping With The Penguins at Mandai Bird Paradise](#).



A guided tour at Hong Leong Foundation Crimson Wetlands includes being close and personal with feathered friends. (Image: Mandai Bird Paradise)



meals & deals



Feast, Friends And Savour Christmas At Orchard Hotel

Celebrate the magic of the season with loved ones at The Orchard Café and indulge in a festive feast featuring an array of holiday carvings. Diners on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be further delighted with our Christmas Carols and a meet-and-greet session with Santa Claus.

Celebrate the magic with your loved ones at The Orchard Café and indulge in a festive feast featuring an array of holiday carvings, including Traditional Roasted Turkey stuffed with French Rougie Duck Foie Gras, Manuka Honey and Macallan Whisky Baked Bone-in Gammon Ham, Slow Roasted Black Angus Bone-in Prime Tomahawk, Charcoal Grill Roasted Lamb, Salt Baked Norwegian Whole Salmon, and more.

Enjoy Seafood on Ice including Abalone, Boston Lobster, Snow Crab, and further feast on charcoal grilled delights such as Mentaiko Cheese Baked Canadian Oyster and King Prawns A La Plancha.

For desserts, enjoy a Christmas Crêpe Live Station with flavours such as rum and raisin, cream cheese, caramel, and candy bacon. There are also Pastry Chef Nicole's signature log cakes like Chocolate Hazelnut Log Cake and Yuzu Bergamot Log Cake, and other traditional favourites including Traditional Fruit Minced Pies, Marzipan Stollen, and Christmas Panettone Pudding.

For reservations, please call +65 6739 6565 or email orchardcafe.ohs@millenniumhotels.com

** Information correct at time of print.*



meals & deals



Discover
'Seasonal Wonders'
At New World
Millennium
Hong Kong

New World Millennium Hong Kong Hotel invites guests to embark on a remarkable journey of seasonal wonders and heart-warming connections with their loved ones during the upcoming joyous festive season over a delightful blend of delectable cuisines.

Extravagant Festive Buffets at Café East

The lunch and dinner buffets on festive days each present more than 90 mouthwatering delicacies, including unlimited servings of seafood on ice like Boston Lobsters, Brown Crabs, Shrimps and Mussels, as well as Christmas "must-indulge" Maple-Glazed Turkey, Foie Gras Terrine, Lobster Thermidor and Holiday Charcuterie Board. Other recommended dishes include Italian Beef Carpaccio, Honey-Glazed Ham, Portugal-style Roast Suckling Pig, Double-boiled Soup, Teppanyaki Beef, Lamb Rack and more.

Festive Feast at La Table French Brasserie

On Christmas and New Year's Eves, La Table French Brasserie will be serving five-course set dinner along with a glass of Charles de Cazanove Blanc de Noirs NV Champagne per guest, in its modern, relaxed setting.

Traditional Japanese Celebration at Sagano

Diners enjoy a seven-course Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Eve set dinner at Sagano. Highlights include Japanese-style Stewed Deep-fried Ebi Taro with Crabmeat and Black Truffle Sauce, Seasonal Sashimi, and authentic Japanese specialties such as Sea Bream Rolls with Spicy Miso and Green Vegetables, Wagyu or Winter Yellowtail Small Hot Pot, and Grilled Spanish Mackerel with Miso Paste. A complimentary glass of Charles de Cazanove Blanc de Noirs NV Champagne is served to every patron to celebrate the holidays.

For more information on the hotel's full festive offerings, please call +852 2739 1111, email reservations@newworldmillenniumhotel.com, or visit <https://www.newworldmillenniumhotel.com/en/>

** Information correct at time of print.*



meals & deals



Roasts & Log Cakes At The St. Regis Singapore

Create your own holiday merriment traditions with a parade of epicurean festive roasts and yule logs from The St. Regis Singapore.

Craft your own holiday merriment tradition at home with epicurean take-home appetisers showcasing Foie Gras Terrine and Pate' en Croute and curate a festive table centerpiece with St. Regis Christmas Roasts highlighted by Black Angus Cote de Boeuf, Slow Cooked Lamb Shoulder as well as signature Roasted Turkey and Boneless Gammon Ham.

Complete the celebrate with decadent yule logs with two exquisite creations this season of Vanilla & Mandarin Logcake as well as St. Regis Chocolate Logcake.

Available for takeaway and delivery with 2-days advance order.

For more information, please visit https://giftwithstregis.oddle.me/en_SG/.

** Information correct at time of print.*



meals & deals



Ho Ho Ho
Your Way To
Christmas
Goodies
At M Hotel

Indulge in the delightful treasures that M Hotel Singapore has in store for you!

This holiday season, let the warmth and joy of Christmas fill your heart as you indulge in the delightful treasures that M Hotel Singapore has in store for you!

Whether you're hosting a festive gathering or simply looking to satisfy your sweet tooth, we have all the Christmas treats you need. From our traditional Roasted Turkey, Signature Jumbo Chicken Pie, to Moutai Lychee Igloo Cake, we have something to delight every palate.

We also offer enchanting holiday bundles for you to take home, and naturally, these packages feature our delectable Yule Log Cake!

For enquiries, please call +65 6233 1338 or email cafe2000.mhs@millenniumhotels.com

** Information correct at time of print.*



meals & deals



Naughty
Or Nice,
You've Made
The List On
W Singapore's
Festive Bliss!

Whether you've been naughty, nice or bit of both, W Singapore has a place for you.

W Singapore – Sentosa Cove is excited to announce its unmissable “Festive Made the List” experience for the upcoming Christmas and New Year celebrations. Nestled in the heart of Sentosa Cove, this iconic retreat has transformed into a holiday haven, promising guests a truly fun festive season.

This holiday season, revel in the joy and magic of Christmas with us. We're thrilled to announce that each and every one of you has made the list.

Our enchanting decorations, cozy rooms, and festive spirit are here to make your Christmas dreams come true. With our exquisite dining options and holiday festivities, you can savor delectable holiday feasts and join in the fun, we've catered to both sides of the list. It's a Christmas celebration that unites 'Naughty and Nice' in a perfect blend of joy and excitement.

So, whether you've been naughty, nice, or a bit of both, W Singapore has a place for you in our heartwarming festivities. Join us for a memorable Christmas experience where everyone makes the list.

Please visit <https://www.sevenrooms.com/experiences/thekitchentablesinwh/made-the-list---christmas-9740551077>

** Information correct at time of print.*



meals & deals



Celebrate
Christmas &
New Year's
Eve At
The Harbour
In London

Experience culinary bliss this festive season at The Chelsea Harbour Hotel & Spa, and welcome 2024 with a magical display of fireworks at midnight.

Christmas Day

Embrace the enchantment of Christmas at Chelsea Harbour Hotel & Spa, where our festive culinary celebration awaits you from 12:30pm to 09:00pm. Immerse yourself in the magic of Christmas Day with a luxurious five-course menu. Commence your gastronomic odyssey with the exquisite Foie gras & Barbary duck terrine or opt for two other delightful choices.

Navigate through a myriad of heavenly dishes, experiencing an indulgent richness and a lavish assortment of other tantalizing delights. Let the enchanting sounds of Christmas music serenade your dining experience, complemented by the picturesque views of the Harbour. Priced at £95 per person, this delectable journey includes a complimentary glass of champagne upon your arrival.

New Year's Eve

Welcome the New Year in Style! Amidst exquisite surroundings and in the company of your cherished ones, start your evening with a welcoming glass of Champagne, & choose between our decadent £150 four-course or £250 five-course menu, crafted to delight and inspire your taste buds, complemented by the harmonious notes of live music.

Witness the magic of fireworks at midnight and extend the joy until 2am as our DJ keeps the celebration alive. Conveniently located in the heart of Chelsea. Just a 4-minute walk from Imperial Wharf Station, 5-minute walk from the famous King's Road, and 10-minute drive from Fulham Broadway, Sloane Street, Earls Court, South Kensington, and Knightsbridge.

For more information and reservations, please email brasserie.res@millenniumhotels.co.uk or visit <https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/destinations/europe/uk/london/the-chelsea-harbour-hotel/dining/christmas-and-new-year-2024/>.

** Information correct at time of print.*



meals & deals



Spread Joy
This Festive
Season At
At Millennium
Gloucester

Make this a season to remember.

At this special time of the year, the Millennium Gloucester Hotel London Kensington is the ideal venue for your event. Why not book your office Christmas dinner with us, or enjoy a festive buffet with friends? Our festive party packages guarantee our guests a truly memorable occasion, with excellent food, drinks and impeccable service! Find out more about our festive party packages by [clicking here](#).

Book your event and accommodation today by calling 020 7331 6109 or 020 7331 6253, alternatively e-mail mccevents.gloucester@millenniumhotels.co.uk.

** Information correct at time of print.*



meals & deals



Heritage Hotel
Manila
Welcomes
The Holidays
With Flavours
Of The Season

Heritage Hotel Manila welcomes the holidays with flavours of the season at the Riviera Café.

Gather your friends and family and make this holiday season truly special with a dining experience that's as memorable as the moments you share.

Festive Holiday Dinner Buffet is available from 1-30 December 2023, Wednesdays to Saturdays, 6:30pm to 10:30pm at Php 1,888 nett per pax.

For reservations, please call +63 (2) 8854-8888 or visit Heritage Hotel Manila at <https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/manila/the-heritage-hotel-manila/riviera-cafe/>

** Information correct at time of print.*



meals & deals



Celebrate
Christmas
At Bintang
And Welcome
2024 In
Kuala Lumpur

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at Grand Millennium Kuala Lumpur!

Christmas at Bintang

The festive mode is on at Grand Millennium Kuala Lumpur with a festive spread that includes a 'Turducken', a boneless turkey stuffed with boneless duck and chicken, and a delicious mixture of chestnuts, raisins and mushrooms sandwiched between each layer. The three combinations are then carefully marinated in spices and slow-roasted in the oven.

Roast Turkey, Salmon Wellington, Harissa Marinated Whole Lamb and Herb Crusted Beef Knuckle are also featured with various seafood, Malay, Chinese, Japanese, Indian and Korean delicacies. Christmas desserts are also not to be missed.

Christmas Eve Dinner is available 7pm to 10pm at RM198++ adult / RM99++ child. Christmas Day Lunch is available 12pm to 3pm at RM178++ adult / RM89++ child.

Countdown to 2024

Celebrate the new Year with Delectable Dining, Exclusive Party Packages, and Groovy Music! Secure your spot by 20 December for fantastic savings on New Year's Eve and Day buffets at The Mill Café with festive fun for kids like a Happy Kids' Corner and Clown Balloon Twisting.

Available at 20% off for in-house guests, 15% off for non-in-house guests.

For reservations, please visit

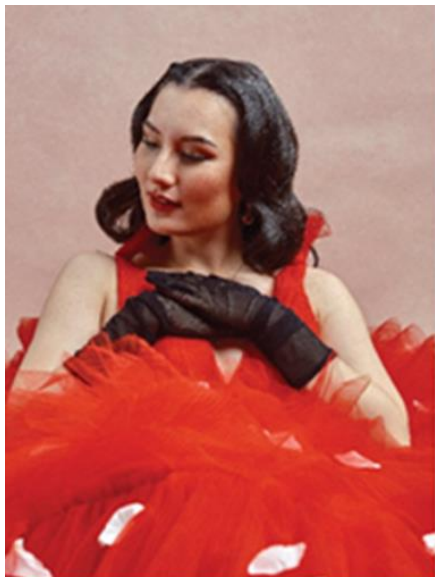
<https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/offers/asia/grand-millennium-hotel-kuala-lumpur/dining/new-year-dining-promotion/>



A delicious 'Turducken' of boneless turkey stuffed with boneless duck and chicken to whet the appetite!



meals & deals



Jazz It Up For 2024 At The Grand Shanghai Restaurant

Relive 'Paris of the East' at Grand Shanghai Restaurant this season with Jazz classics by a live band entertainment.

As the year comes to a close, it's time to bid farewell to 2023 and welcome the promise of 2024.

Grand Shanghai is excited to invite all Hong Leong Group staff members to an exclusive event promising an enchanting experience filled with live jazz performances by the incredible Miss Lou & Carol Gomez, from 29 - 31 December 2023.

Savour Grand Shanghai's exquisite S\$188++/pax menu for just \$168++/pax, exclusively for our valued staff.

As the night unfolds, excitement awaits with a nightly lucky draw, offering you the chance to win a luxurious 3D2N stay at the prestigious W Singapore – Sentosa Cove!

For reservations:

1. Visit the [booking website here](#).
2. Select a date and time (6pm onwards) between 29 - 31 December 2023.
3. Opt for the \$168 menu and indicate that you are a "myHLGSRC" member in the request section before payment to receive an upgrade to the \$188 menu.
4. If you prefer making your reservation via phone or email, simply let them know that you are a myHLGSRC member and show the Grand Shanghai staff your member's profile upon reaching the restaurant.

**Information correct at time of print.*



play



MHR In New Zealand Sails For Excellence With Aon Yachting Awards

Sailing (often also referred to as yachting) is one of New Zealand's most successful Olympic sports in one of the most beautiful sailing destinations in the world.

Millennium Hotels and Resorts (MHR) in New Zealand is a proud supporter of this year's Aon Yachting Excellence Awards. MHR New Zealand regularly offers special rates to the organiser, Yachting New Zealand, and in turn, receives continuous promotional exposure across New Zealand's yachting fraternity as they travel and compete in world competitions.

The awards recognise high performance excellence in sailing, from Optimists (sailing boats for beginners) to offshore boats. But it is also an opportunity to acknowledge the dedication and resilience of its club members throughout the year, according to Chief Executive of Yachting New Zealand Mr David Abercrombie.

Sailing is one of New Zealand's most successful Olympic sports in one of the most beautiful sailing destinations of the world. Sailing (often also referred to as yachting) features races between boats that use sails powered by the wind.



The 'Millennium Hotels and Resorts Official of the Year Award' went to Alistair Deaves (left photo) from Wakatere Boating Club, a family sailing club founded in 1926 in Auckland. A representative accepted the award on his behalf from Mr Stuart Harrison, Managing Director for Millennium & Copthorne Hotels New Zealand Limited (right photo).



Team
Copthorne
Cardiff
Surprises
James Swan
With A Big
'Thank You!'

The team at Copthorne Cardiff surprised loyal colleague and employee, Mr James Swan with an archived photo taken of him in 1998 as a young 16-year-old teenager when he first started as a Building Services Apprentice. Today at age 41, Mr Swan does not look like he has aged a day!

Mr Gareth McDuff, General Manager of Copthorne Hotel Cardiff submitted this little piece as a little 'surprise' to thank and appreciate loyal employee Mr James Swan for his 25 years of dedication and hard work to the hotel. Here's what Mr McDuff shared with Hi Life about James who was recently named 'South Wales Apprentice of the Year' by the Welsh Government, for excelling in aptitude and achievements in skills development.

James joined the hotel on the 2nd November 1998, as a Building Services Apprentice. During the following 4 years, he attended college twice a week, and completed various work-place assignments, culminating in his winning an award for South Wales Apprentice of the Year*.

On completion of this period, James joined the Maintenance team, full time, as a Room Technician, eventually graduating to his current role of Assistant Engineer. He played an active role in helping us achieve our ISO 18001/14001 accreditation in 2019. His work ethic has always been second to none. He is always looking to extend his skills base and share his knowledge across the team. He is qualified to carry out PAT testing and also has Pool Plant, Legionella Management, First Aid and H&S L3 qualifications.

Another interesting fact: James has never had a single day's sickness, during his 25 yrs with M&C!

*Organised by the Welsh Government and supported by the National Training Federation for Wales, the awards showcase and celebrate the achievements of those who have exceeded

expectations and shown a dynamic approach to training, demonstrated initiative and enterprise, innovation and creativity, and shown an understanding of, and commitment to, the improvement of skills development for the Welsh economy.

On behalf of all of us at Hi Life and the Hong Leong Group of companies, here's a big thank you to James!



James poses for a photo at his 'second home', Copthorne Cardiff with General Manager Mr Gareth McDuff (standing on the left) and Head of Property Maintenance Department Mr Gary Hughes.



Hong Leong Olympics Tackle For Supremacy To A Climatic Finish!

Jubilant cheers all around as everyone enjoyed the camaraderie and sportsmanship. CDL won Hong Leong Finance by only 3 points! In front row with all participants and their families are (L-R): Mr Sia Nam Chie (Hong Leong Finance), Mr Chia Ngiang Hong (CDL), Ms Kwek Pei Xuan (Hong Leong Asia), and Mr Roy Chiang (CBM).

The Hong Leong Olympics 2023 recently came to an exciting close at the Finals event held at Yio Chu Kang Stadium. Staff from across the Hong Leong Group of companies came together to participate and cheer their colleagues in a variety of athletic and novelty events, including the signature 'Tug-Of-War' competition. Congratulations to CDL who surpassed last year's overall winner, Hong Leong Finance, by only 3 points!



Ms Riz Garcia (CBM Pte Ltd) tossing a beanbag in the Precision Throw novelty event.

1st	City Developments Limited	86 points
2nd	Hong Leong Finance	83 points
3rd	Hong Leong Group of Companies	50 points



Staff from CBM and companies pulling with all their might in the Tug-of-War competition.



Participants doing their best to score their way to first place in the Men's Hula Hoop novelty event.



Ms Nguyen Thi Hien (CBM Pte Ltd, in the foreground) and Ms Kwek Pei Xuan (Hong Leong Asia Ltd, in the background) attempt to do a leg lift while keeping the hula hoop going in the Ladies Hula Hoop novelty event. What a difficult feat for our ladies!



Pictured here is Mr Teo Hwee Yean (CBM Pte Ltd, in white T-shirt) and Mr Daniel Goh (Island Concrete Pte Ltd) sharing a hearty handshake after the Tug-of-War heats.

The Hong Leong Group Sports & Recreation Club (HLGSRC) would like to thank all staff who participated in the Hong Leong Olympics 2023 events throughout the year. The tournaments not only serve as a platform for friendly competition but also to foster a sense of unity and connection between the companies, forging stronger bonds among the staff. We look forward to even more staff participation in the years to come!



Hong Leong Companies Bond In 'Flamazing Family Style' At Crimson Wetlands

HLGSRC President Ms Kwek Pei Xuan (wearing a pink lanyard) takes a fun pose with Hong Leong staff and management at Crimson Wetlands, a coastal wetland exhibit adopted by Hong Leong Foundation.

Hong Leong Group Sports & Recreation Club (HLGSRC) recently resumed its annual Family Day event in 'flamazing family style' at the newly opened Bird Paradise. The event is HLGSRC's first Family Day outing in three years since the Covid-19 pandemic hit.

HLGSRC is the social and recreational club of Hong Leong Group companies and subsidiaries, including CDL, Millennium Hotels and Resorts, Hong Leong Holdings, CDL Hospitality Trusts, Hong Leong Finance, Hong Leong Asia, and CBM.

Over 800 staff and their families gathered at Mandai Wildlife Reserve's Bird Paradise on the very sunny Sunday morning, donned in the Family Day T-shirt which was designed by the Club's President, Ms Kwek Pei Xuan. The design features a flamingo, one of the stars of the Crimson Wetlands, with the slogan "We are a Flamazing Family!"

Participants enjoyed unlimited entry into Bird Paradise for the day that included carnival and stage games and bento lunch sets.

The lucky draw was one of the many highlights that saw staff winning hotel stays and F&B vouchers, grocery vouchers, sustainable eco gifts and workshops, and the grand prize of a 10th generation Apple iPad!



Over 800 staff and their families sported the Family Day T-shirt designed by Mr Kwek, with the slogan "We are a Flamazing Family!"



play

The Club would like to thank the following companies who supported the event by sponsoring prizes for the lucky draw, without which the event would not have been such a success.

- CBM Pte Ltd
- City Developments Limited
- Copthorne King's Hotel
- Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel
- Grand Millennium Kuala Lumpur
- Hong Leong Corporation Holdings
- Hong Leong Finance
- Hong Leong Holdings
- M Hotel Singapore City Centre
- M Social Phuket
- M Social Singapore
- Millennium Hotel Sirih Jakarta
- Orchard Hotel Singapore
- Studio M Hotel Singapore
- The Heritage Hotel Manila
- Tower Club



Participants joining in the fun, Macarena style!



Forbes Asia Names Chairman Kwek 'Philanthropy Hero'

He is the sole Singaporean on the prestigious list.

Hong Leong Group Executive Chairman Mr Kwek Leng Beng is named a philanthropy hero by Forbes Asia for his joint S\$24 million donation with City Developments Limited (CDL), to the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT). The endowed gift was witnessed by Emeritus Senior Minister Mr Goh Chok Tong (left) when Mr Kwek announced it at the recent launch of his biography. Also pictured (from left) is CDL Group Chief Executive Officer Mr Sherman Kwek, SIT President Professor Chua Kee Chaing and SIT Institute Professor Tan Thiam Soon.

Hong Leong Group Executive Chairman Mr Kwek Leng Beng has made it to the 17th edition of Forbes Asia's annual list 'Heroes of Philanthropy' in 2023. He is the only Singaporean on this year's list that spotlights 15 philanthropists from the Asia Pacific region who have in the past year shown commitment and donated generously to causes close to their hearts.

Mr Kwek announced an endowed gift of S\$24 million, jointly made by him and CDL, to the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) at the launch of his biography last month in November.

With an enhanced matching grant from the Singapore Government, the total endowment contribution amounts to S\$60 million that will help fund the construction of the university's administrative building, named the 'Kwek Leng Beng University Tower' at its future campus in the Punggol township in northeastern Singapore.

Earlier this year, Mr Kwek donated S\$720,000 to SIT to start six new academic initiatives, including bursaries and scholarships for SIT Hospitality Business undergraduates.



In appreciation of Mr Kwek's endowed gift, SIT will name its new University Tower at its future campus in Punggol, the Kwek Leng Beng University Tower. It is presented in a masterful replica of the 10-storey building made of 5,500 Lego pieces put together by 10 students and took more than 120-man hours to complete.



care

“Through this SIT donation, I am privileged to play a part in building future generations of talents and professionals for Singapore, especially in hospitality,” said Mr Kwek in a statement revealing the gift. Mr Kwek is also the Executive Chairman of CDL.

Kwek’s passion for hotels started five decades ago when he built the company’s first hotel, the King’s Hotel, which has been renamed Copthorne King’s Hotel, near Singapore River on Havelock Road. City Developments has since grown to become one of Asia’s largest hospitality operators with a global network of over 155 hotels, and owns iconic office buildings such as the Republic Plaza skyscraper in Singapore’s central business district. It’s the city-state’s top developer by revenue.



Copthorne Effingham Park Gears Up To Reopen Doors As Support For Afghan Refugees Comes To An End

Gatwick Diamond Business, a business community association in Gatwick, London, says thanks to Copthorne Effingham Park Hotel for their efforts to care for Afghan refugees for over two years, and welcomes the hotel's coming reopening to the public in January 2024.

Under the UK Government's Afghan Resettlement Programme, Copthorne Hotel Effingham Park in Gatwick, London has been temporarily housing Afghanistan refugees who fled to the UK due to the Taliban uprising in August 2021. The hotel has been helping the refugees settle into life in the UK.

As the programme comes to an end with almost all families found permanent homes, the hotel is gearing up to welcoming back tourists and businesses. Hotel Manager Mr Torsten Puck shares more on the hotel's humanitarian journey, culminating in its re-introduction to the Gatwick business community as it prepares to reopen its doors on 8 January 2024.

“ Copthorne Effingham Park's Millennium Suite was recently selected for a Members Meeting of the Gatwick Diamond Business (GDB), a business community association around and beyond the manor royal district reaching from London to Brighton.

Mr Raj Singh, Cluster General of Copthorne Effingham Park, Copthorne Gatwick Hotel and Copthorne Hotel Manchester who introduced the re-opening of the Hotel to 125 present businesses in a short but concise speech at the beginning of the event.

The Copthorne Hotel Effingham Park had not been trading publicly since the pandemic starting in 2020. There was a short re-opening time in between lockdowns but the hotel soon entered a government agreement, by providing legally required quarantine to travellers entering the United Kingdom from Red List Countries*.

As other hotels continued to operate to the general public after the ease of lockdowns, Copthorne Hotel Effingham Park remained under government acquisition to house refugees.

The cohort accommodated at the hotel had assisted the allied freedom forces in Afghanistan during an anti-terrorist operation and were removed before extremist organisations could seize control of the country after the scheduled retreat.

The UK Home Office, local authorities, and the hotel team have worked since to great efforts in order to integrate the traumatised people to the way of life in the UK. The Programme is now coming to an end as nearly all families have been found a permanent home, releasing the hotel from its humanitarian mission.

With the GDB Members Meeting, as one of the first corporate events in the re-decorated Millennium Conference Centre, the largest event hall between London and Brighton, we have been given the opportunity to present our abilities not only to hold large events but to succeed in customer service excellence.

**Red list countries are a list of destinations defined by the UK government as particularly high-risk for new and emerging strains of coronavirus.*



Cluster General Manager of Copthorne Effingham Park, Copthorne Gatwick and Copthorne Manchester, Mr Raj Singh shares Copthorne Effingham's journey in caring for the Afghan refugees as he re-introduces the hotel's events and conference capabilities to more than 125 businesses present at GDB's Members Meeting.



The sumptuous spread at the hotel's re-decorated Millennium Conference Centre, the largest event hall between London and Brighton that accommodate 700 for a banquet.



care



Millennium Airport Dubai 'Say Yes' To Recycling, Collects 73kg Cans

Millennium Airport Dubai collected 73kg of cans for recycling as part of a 'Can Collection Drive' by the Emirates Environment Group to manage waste and save the environment.

Millennium Airport Hotel Dubai recently participated in the Can Collection Drive organised by the Emirates Environmental Group (EEG), advocating the theme "Say 'Yes' to Can Recycling, 'No' to Carbon Emissions."

As part of the hotel's sustainability initiatives led by the Human Resources and Engineering team, the hotel collected 73kg of cans and delivered them to EEG. The campaign aims to spread awareness about the need for waste management and recycling to protect the environment.

Mr. Simon Moore, the General Manager of Millennium Airport Hotel Dubai, expressed, "Waste stands as one of the foremost environmental challenges, and it is our responsibility to contribute to the ongoing protection of our environment. We are committed to actively participating in initiatives that promote an eco-friendly and sustainable society, ensuring the longevity of our planet for future generations. Preserving our environment is key to maintaining the safety and health of our planet."

Since its inception in 1991 in the UAE, EEG has been at the forefront of the environmental conservation and sustainability movement. Among its recycling programmes, the "Can Collection Campaign" is its most successful, running since 1997. The campaign strives to foster a culture of effective waste management and recycling. It also works continuously to raise awareness about the importance of recycling and resource conservation to preserve nature's delicate balance and nurture a healthier planet for all.



congratulations / appointments



Congratulations to our leading 'Service Ambassadors' from City Square Mall and Palais Renaissance!

The team at CDL's leading shopping malls, City Square Mall and Palais Renaissance, recently achieved Singapore Retailers Association (SRA) Excellent Service Awards 2023 with 5 Star awards and 2 Gold awards.

The awards reflect a continuing success of consistent service excellence by our 'Service Ambassadors' at City Square Mall since 2012, and Palais Renaissance since 2014.

Our winners

City Square Mall	Palais Renaissance
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms Lim Siok Yee (Gold Award)• Ms Sarah Dula Jimenez (Star Award)• Ms Natalie Lim Bee Hoon (Star Award)• Mr David Chew Chin Meng (Star Award)• Ms Patsy Lim Siu Gek (Star Award)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms Christina Kong (Gold Award)• Ms Flogean Cataylo Baguio II (Star Award)

EXSA is a national award that aims to recognise individuals who have delivered exceptional service. Spearheaded by Singapore Retailers Association in 1994, it seeks to recognise the achievements of service staff, identify service role models, as well as to create new service champions by inspiring others to scale new heights. The award is conferred at three levels: Silver, Gold and Star.

This year's ceremony honoured nearly 5,200 retail staff from almost 140 companies for their exemplary customer service.



congratulations / appointments



MHR Welcomes New SVP Operations For Middle East & Africa

Millennium Hotels and Resorts (MHR) welcomes Mr William Harley-Fleming as the newly appointed Senior Vice President Operations, bringing a wealth of international experience to steer operational excellence in the Middle East and Africa Region.

A dynamic and results-oriented hospitality professional, William has over 27 years expertise across the Middle East, Asia, and Europe. His most recent journey to the region began with JA Resorts & Hotels in 2007 as the Corporate Food and Beverage Concept Director, and achieved his first General Manager's role in 2009, and later becoming Vice President of Operations for the group.

William's career includes holding various senior management roles with Starwood, Rezidor, and more recently with JA Resorts & Hotels, overseeing key properties such as the luxury JA Manafaru in the Maldives, the JA cluster of properties in Dubai Marina, and JA The Resort, where he played a pivotal role in managing the entire operation of the expansive resort, earning accolades for sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility. In his last role with JA Resorts & Hotels, he was its Corporate Vice President of Operations.

In addition to his impressive career achievements, William holds a Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management from Manchester Metropolitan University, and a Diploma in Food Hygiene and Safety from The Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene UK.

William said: "Assuming the position of Senior Vice President of Operations at Millennium Hotels and Resorts is an honor. The brand's commitment to driving excellence aligns with my own values, and I look forward to contributing to the continued success and growth of the organization."

Fahad Kazim, CEO of Millennium Hotels & Resorts said: "We are delighted to welcome William Harley-Fleming to our leadership team as the Senior Vice President of Operations. His extensive experience and dedication to excellence align perfectly with our vision for operational success. We are confident that his strategic insights will contribute significantly to our continued growth and commitment to delivering exceptional guest experiences."

William Harley-Fleming's insightful leadership and wealth of experience will undoubtedly contribute to Millennium Hotels and Resorts' ongoing commitment to operational excellence.



congratulations / appointments



Millennium Plaza In Doha Gets New General Manager

Mr Bassam Bou Sleiman named new General Manager at Millennium Plaza Doha.

Mr Bassam Bou Sleiman has been named as the new General Manager at Millennium Plaza Doha, located at Suhaim Bin Hamad Street, C Ring Al Sadd in Doha – Qatar.

The 5-star hotel with 232 rooms is managed by Millennium Hotels & Resorts.

Born and raised in Lebanon, Bassam brings 20 years of hospitality experience working in the GCC region. Previous roles have taken him to Riviera Hotel & Resort Beirut, Mist Hotel & Resort Ehden by Warwick International Hotels, The Palms Hotel & Resort in Kuwait, Le Meridien and Crowne Plaza and recently moving from Millennium Place Mirdif Hotel Dubai.

Bassam said he is keen to take on new the assignment. "It is an absolute honour to accept this transfer appointment. Millennium Plaza Doha is an exciting property spot within a commercial & residential neighbourhood that has become a landmark among the list of touristic destinations in Doha. And I look forward to this new challenge."

Bassam will serve as the team's leader in all aspects of operations, including marketing, hotel oversight and guest services and satisfaction.



getting to know you



The Singapore
EDITION
Luxury
Redefined
With First
Southeast Asia
Outpost
In Singapore

Located at the rooftop terrace of The Singapore Edition is the swimming pool and The Roof (pictured). With a semi-al fresco setting, it is the ideal venue to chill and catch the tropical breeze amidst luxuriant greenery, while snacking on Southeast Asian favourites in the shaded dining area. (artist's impression)

Lifestyle brand, Edition, has opened its first hotel in Southeast Asia with The Singapore EDITION. Located in the upper Orchard Road shopping district, the hotel opened its doors on 9 November 2023, revealing a modern take on luxury inside. Let's have a peek at Singapore's latest new gem!

Conceived by Ian Schrager (who partnered with Marriott to launch Edition in 2008) in collaboration with interior design firm Cap Atelier, the 204-room Singapore Edition is located just off the west end of Singapore's upper Orchard Road.

At the core of the architecture and interior design is access to nature, with greenery integrated throughout the hotel.

The hotel features a bronze-and-glass façade and white-marbled lobby with domed ceiling covered with gold leaf. Floor-to-ceiling windows in the lobby are covered with the broad planes of plantation shutters. Towering windows in the lobby's far wall feature a long, light-filled conservatory, complete with a green wall. A curvaceous glass roof brings in views of the sky and outdoor greenery.



Guests are immediately welcomed with a white marbled lobby where simple purity is contrasted by a stunning domed ceiling covered with gold leaf. In the far wall are towering windows that look into a long, light-filled conservatory complete with a soaring biophilic green wall and a curvaceous glass roof that brings in views of the sky. (artist's impression)



getting to know you



The spiral staircase at the lobby is a signature design of the hotel (Image credit: CNA/Jeremy Long)

The lobby bar is sheathed in sharp pink velvet and features a rose-coloured pool table of Calacatta marble. Christian Liaigre leather chairs and lamps accent the space, while the bar itself is styled with Lalique-inspired crystal decanters and sculptures.

The hotel's restaurant, Fysh at Edition, is spearheaded Australian chef Josh Niland. The seafood-focused restaurant is Niland's first outside Australia.

The Punch Room, Edition's signature bar, is "swathed in a shade of Yves Klein blue and lined with oak panels on the walls and ceilings," Edition said. "The space channels the intimate mood of a classic London gentleman's club serving brandy with a modern and deviant approach."



The Lobby Bar is sheathed in sharp pink velvet with Lalique-inspired crystal decanters and sculptures (left photo) and features a rose-coloured pool table of Calacatta marble (right photo). (Image credit: CNA/Jeremy Long)

In every guestroom, white rugs cover white oak-planked floors while decorative pots of orchids and thick drapes frame bay windows. The rooms also feature deep-seated sofas and hand-sewn damask throws on the beds.

The second-floor spa features sunken vitality thermal pools, an ice fountain, relaxation lounge, sauna and steam room, and a gym.

On the rooftop terrace, the pool is framed with day beds. The Roof has a semi-al fresco setting and serves Southeast Asian favorites and tropical cocktails.



getting to know you



Spearheaded by renowned Australian chef Josh Niland, FYSH at EDITION is a sustainable seafood-focused steakhouse that seats 80 in the main dining room across jade-coloured velvet banquettes and booths with Calacutta white marble tables. (artist's impression)



Adjacent to FYSH's main dining area is a leafy conservatory that has capacity for another 22 seats. This indoor garden is home to over 300 plants and 162 suspended preserved fern spheres, all born in Southeast Asia. (artist's impression)

By fusing the indulgent comfort and service of a luxury hotel that is synonymous with the EDITION brand, with the refined glamour and energy of the tropics, the highly anticipated arrival of The Singapore EDITION in the heart of the island-state's most iconic neighborhood signals a high-water mark of hospitality.

The hotel offers an exclusive opening preview rate, available for a limited time only. Room rates start from SGD\$680+++ per room, per night. Terms and conditions apply.

For more details, please visit the hotel website at www.editionhotels.com or its Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/EDITIONHotels/>