

Germany Number Two Worldwide as a Convention Destination



Germany has again defended its position as one of the leading global destinations for meetings and conventions. For the eighth year in succession, the study conducted by the International Congress & Convention Association (ICCA) showed that Germany is the top location in Europe for association meetings. Globally, Germany occupies second place.

According to the rankings, only the USA has more international conventions. In 2011, the experts counted a total of 577 international association meetings in Germany - an increase of 35% over the previous year - and considerably more than second-placed Spain, which hosted 463 conventions. The United Kingdom follows in third place with 434 events.

"It is no accident that Germany is a fixture among the world leaders in organising international conventions. As well as offering very good value for money, excellent infrastructure and a wide range of event centres, Germany also scores highly in terms of innovation..." says a confident Matthias Schultze, managing director of the GCB German Convention Bureau e.V. The GCB markets Germany both nationally and internationally as a destination for conventions, meetings, incentives and events and is the central point of contact for all customers planning events in the country.

info@gcb.de - www.germany-meetings.com

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Crystal Ballroom



Westin Suite

Free Wi-Fi availability tops all other hotel amenities



[Hotels.com](#) recently conducted a hotel amenities survey, asking travelers to dish on their favorite in-room and hotel perks. Question after question, guests reported that free Wi-Fi is a must when choosing a hotel room and that this amenity

overwhelmingly factored into the decision on which hotel to book. 38 percent of travelers reported that free Wi-Fi played a part in their decision as a "must" to stay at a specific hotel, 35 percent reported it is the simple amenity they want to see more in hotels, with 31 percent wishing it would become a standard in all hotels in 2012. Given the explosion of mobile use in the past few years, it is no surprise that travelers are requiring free and fast Wi-Fi. People never travel without their tablets, smart phones and laptops. It's as intuitive as packing a toothbrush.

Other amenities:

- Travelers felt like extra luxuries like turndown service and bath menus were "not worth the hype," according to 44% of female respondents and 30% of male respondents.
- The bathroom phone gets no love. It is the least used hotel amenity, with 37 percent of total respondents saying they never touch it.
- When asked about amenities at luxury hotels, women prefer designer toiletries (23 percent) and men prefer the fitness center and spa (27 percent.)

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Theater 1,000, Classroom 530, Reception 800, Banquet 600
[See more details!](#)



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This oceanfront property presents European plan quality for All Inclusive style — and that's something one simply won't find anywhere else. 502 Rooms/Suites
Theater 1,100, Classroom 800, Reception 1,100, Banquet 800
[See more details!](#)



Puerto Rico Convention Center

San Juan, Puerto Rico The Caribbean's largest and most technologically advanced facility provides meeting accommodation for up to 10,000 people, all within a facility of stunning architectural beauty. It is, in a word, breathtaking. An ideal choice for meetings of almost any size.
Theater 16,965, Classroom 8,727, Reception 16,075, Banquet 12,710
[See more details!](#)

China, Macao: Macau to get Ritz-Carlton, JW Marriott hotels



MARRIOTT International and Galaxy Entertainment Group have signed a contract to manage the Ritz-Carlton (first all suite hotel) and the world's largest JW Marriott hotel in Macau. They are Marriott International's first properties in

Macao and scheduled to open in 2015. Marriott considers China the second largest market outside North America.

The JW Marriott Hotel Macau will have about 1,100 rooms and suites and the hotel's signature restaurant will be Chinese with private dining rooms. Hotel facilities include a swimming pool, a spa and a fitness center and a salon.

The Ritz-Carlton, Macau will offer 250 suites. F&B options will include a Chinese restaurant, a pool bar, a lobby lounge and bar and a Ritz Bar with views of the Cotai skyline. The hotel will also offer an outdoor rooftop pool with a Jacuzzi and a spa, as well as eight private cabanas.

www.marriott.com



THE LANGHAM
XINTIANDI
Shanghai



Summer Mice Offer from RMB 1,200*

The Langham, Xintiandi, Shanghai, China is offering a meeting package from RMB 1,200* per room per night and RMB 550* for a Full Meeting Package for groups of 10 or more who stay a minimum of two nights. Located in the heart of Shanghai's Xintiandi entertainment district, The Langham Xintiandi offers the perfect location for meetings and events and is surrounded by exceptional dining, entertainment and shopping.

Offer includes:

- Grand Room accommodation with complimentary international Skype phone calls
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- One return airport transfer for every 15 rooms booked
- Two upgrades to next available room category for every 15 rooms booked
- Welcome fruit

Visit xintiandi.langhamhotels.com or phone +86 21 2330 2210
*Terms and conditions apply, offer valid until 31st August 2012

Germany, Berlin: Waldorf Astoria comes to Berlin

This hotel will offer five star luxury next to the world famous memorial church, the Kaiser Wilhelm Gedächtniskirche, and just a few steps away from Kurfürstendamm, the Champs Elysees of Berlin. Waldorf Astoria's first hotel in Germany will occupy the newly built Zoofenster building, the highest building in the west side of the city rising up to a height of 118 meters/387 feet, designed by the renowned German architect, Professor Christoph Mäckler. The hotel, which will feature 232 stunning rooms, apartments and suites, and will also have a Pierre Gagnier restaurant, a Romanische Café on the ground floor with a terrace looking out onto Kantstrasse, an American bar on the first floor and a lobby bar set beside the famous Waldorf Astoria grandfather clock. The second floor of the hotel is reserved exclusively for events featuring a 3550 sqft/330 sqm ballroom and five conference rooms, all with natural lighting, capable of hosting world class conferences, grand banquets and memorable celebrations. The Waldorf Astoria Berlin will have the only Guerlain Spa in Germany, occupying an area of 8,780 sqft/815 sqm on the fifth floor of the building.

Contact: Werner Pichler at Werner.pichler@hilton.com



Puerto Rico
Convention Bureau

San Juan, Puerto Rico Discover beautifully preserved Old San Juan, the 500 year old city with blue cobblestone streets enclosed by a massive wall, built when the city was a Spanish military stronghold. Find white sandy beaches; rolling mountains; El Yunque tropical rain forest; see the bio luminescent bays, whose waters glow at night; and experience great support from the Convention Bureau.

[See more details!](#)

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City Conference
Centre Stockholm

Stockholm, Sweden Scandinavia's largest conference venue is special with regard to atmosphere and architecture and its unique city center location. The rooms accommodate from 5 to 1,400 people and the total capacity is around 4,000 guests. The catering and banquet solutions offer a wide range of first class food and drink.

Reception 600 Banquet 300
[See more details!](#)



One World Hotel

Petaling Jaya, Malaysia A new dimension in service and quality standards providing grandeur, elegance and unequalled amenities and facilities is located in the heart of Petaling Jaya. First class conference facilities and the skilled staff ensure successful events. 438 Rooms/Suites

Theater 3,500, Classroom 1,100, Cocktail 2,500, Banquet 2,000
[See more details!](#)



Consolid Peru DMC

Lima, Peru Consolid Peru Nuevo Mundo Viajes DMC, is a leading company with over 30 years' experience and more than 500 professionals. best services for the events market, excellence and quality are the companies guiding themes in event management and client relationship. 21 offices in Lima, Arequipa, Cuzco, Mexico and Miami, and an own hotel network support the extraordinary programs.

[See more details!](#)



Gran Melia
Puerto Rico

Rio Grande, Puerto Rico A definite expression of refinement with an avant garde flair, a lush peninsula, a bold new statement on the nature of hospitality: Gran Melia Puerto Rico is your host for remarkable events right between rainforest and oceanfront.

486 Rooms/Suites
Theater 1,150, Classroom 810,
Cocktail 1,300, Banquet 900
[See more details!](#)

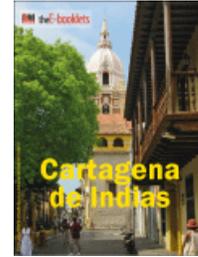
Saudi-Arabia, Makkah: Swissôtel Makkah to open in July 2012

Spectacular experience awaits guests at Swissôtel Makkah, with 1,487 beautifully appointed rooms and suites constituting to be the largest hotel of Saudi Arabia and the biggest entity of Swissôtel Hotels & Resorts. With a modern design, complementing the values of the authentic Arabian culture, the new hotel will offer deluxe rooms and suites with breathtaking views of the Grand Mosque and the Holy Kaaba, making it an unforgettable and overwhelming experience in the Islamic Capital of the world. Strategically located at a distance of few steps from the Grand Mosque, Swissôtel Makkah offers the exquisite portfolio of compellingly elegant rooms and suites which includes comfortable 36 sqm rooms, pre-set 352 triple-bed rooms and also 22 disabled-friendly rooms along with free Internet access for all the guests of the hotel. The hotel will feature a wide variety of worldwide culinary pleasures to suit every palate. A multi-functional business center will feature state-of-the-art facilities, enabling guests to seamlessly conduct their business engagements. Further, the business center will also include a waiting area as well as dedicated stations for fast internet access along with two spacious meeting rooms (40sqm each) available for guests who wish to organize meetings with a higher degree of privacy. These services and facilities collectively will pave the way for successful hosting of events and corporate activities including meetings and conferences that will be a hallmark of Swissôtel Makkah.

www.swissotel.com



Latest E-booklet updates on micePLACES.com



Cargagena de Indias, Colombia

Declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, Cartagena de Indias stands as testimony of the colonial splendor of the New World, the jewel of the southern Caribbean. Keeping the memory alive, Cartagena is a city of diversity in architecture and light, quaint streets, friendly people and special cuisine. Visitors will discover endless hues in the marvelous pastel colored sky, in the blue of the deep, crystal clear waters shimmering under the burning golden sun, in the green gardens and in the contagious smiles of its people. [Click here to view](#)



Russia

Russia's capital, Moscow, was founded in 1147. The focal point of the city is Red Square, on one side of which is the Kremlin surrounded by a thick red fortress wall containing 20 towers. The Tsars were crowned here; Ivan the Terrible's throne is situated near the entrance. St Petersburg is spread over 42 islands in the delta of the River Neva. Wide boulevards, tranquil canals and bridges led to the city being known as the 'Venice of the North'. The Palace Square and the Winter Palace are among the most interesting sites for followers of Russian history. [Click here to view](#)



Puerto Rico

The old part of San Juan was founded in 1521 and is now officially declared a National Historic Zone. It contains many 16th and 17th century buildings, which have been fully restored and refurbished in the original Spanish style. The city also boasts several museums including one devoted to the legendary cellist, Pablo Casals. Its famous San Juan Cathedral, originally built in the 1520s, was completely restored in 1977. San Jose Church is reputed to be the second oldest church in the Western Hemisphere. [Click here to view](#)

Park Inn by Radisson Budapest

Opening in August 2012

New Carlson Rezidor Hotel, located in the heart of Budapest's business district, next to Budapest's main road Váci út and 30 minute drive from the Airport. The hotel is close to one of the main shopping centers, Duna Plaza and it is only a short subway ride from the city center. The hotel offers well equipped rooms with trendy design and laptop sized safes; 110 double rooms, 20 business friendly rooms and 8 suites.

Conference facilities for up to 500 persons, a 360 sqm/ 3,875 sqft dividable ballroom with glass roof and further 6 section rooms (30 60 sqm/323-646 sqft) with the most modern technical equipment are also at the guests disposal. There is a restaurant with Hungarian and international cuisine, Lobby Bar with all day snacks, coffee and cocktails, a fitness center and free Wi-Fi in the entire hotel.

Szekszárdi u. 16-18, 1138 Budapest, Hungary
info.budapest@rezidorparkinn.com
www.parkinn.com/hotel-budapest



SAS – again, the world's most punctual airline in April 2012

SAS was the only worldwide airline to achieve a higher than 90% punctuality rating in April, scoring actually 90.78%. 17,782 flights out of 19,701 flights arrived on time in April.

SAS has also been named Europe's most punctual airline for the past three years. SAS Group subsidiaries Wideroe and Blue1 were also amongst Europe's best performers (91.95% and 90.17% respectively).

Flightstats, as an independent source, provides all data. Flightstats tracks the performance of over 150,000 flights daily, archives the data for publications and analysis. It also provides daily real time flight status to travelers worldwide.

www.flysas.com

