

Australia: Sydney's Star's Event Centre Opened last Month

The \$100 million multi-purpose Event Centre opened last month and created new opportunities as a perfect new venue for business events.

It is a stunning platform for business and special events and its enviable position (on the iconic harbor foreshore), offers both domestic and international event attendees a truly unique experience.

The Event Centre boasts 1,077sqm/ 11,600 sqft of column free event space and has a capacity of up to 4,000 participants, making it suitable to host all types of events, trade shows, exhibitions, international meetings, seminars, functions, gala dinners, award ceremonies and special events.

www.star.com.au/star-event-centre



Discover Atlantis Paradise Island, Bahamas

Atlantis, Paradise Island provides a dazzling array of options for groups ranging in size from 10-4,000 persons. With 3,400 rooms and suites located in five distinctive resort towers, Atlantis promises something to exceed every expectation.

Atlantis rivals every top meeting and incentive destination worldwide with its 141-acre Aquaventure water park - not to mention more than 21 restaurants, bars and lounges (including celebrity chef attractions like Nobu Matsuhisa's Nobu and Bobby Flay's Mesa Grill), the chic Aura nightclub, 30,000 sqft / 2,787 sqm Mandara Spa and dolphin interactions at Dolphin Cay.

The Conference Center features the 50,000-sqft / 4,645 sqm Imperial Ballroom (the largest ballroom in the Caribbean) and the 25,000-sqft / 2,323 sqm Grand Ballroom, over 40,000 sqft / 3,716 sqm of pre-function space, plus 33 breakout rooms and five boardrooms.

www.atlantismetings.com



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Germany: MICE Day at ITB 2013

The ITB MICE Day on March 6, 2013 takes a look behind the scenes of event planning. An overview of the different rules of play and their finer points in the events industry will be provided.

At the ITB Berlin 2013 distinguished specialists will show how events can be staged successfully in spite of the many rules and regulations. Details on the ITB MICE Day program are available [here](#).

Attendance at all MICE Day addresses is included in the price of the ITB Berlin ticket for professional attendees.

ITB Berlin 2013 - March 6 to March 10, 2013. From Wednesday to Friday the ITB Berlin is open to trade visitors. Coinciding with the trade fair, the ITB Berlin Convention runs from Wednesday to Friday, March 6 to 8. It is the leading travel industry think tank in the world.

www.itb-kongress.de/businesstravel

India: REED launches a MICE tradeshow in Mumbai (India)



Incentives, Business Travel &
Meetings Expo
India

The Indian edition of REED Travel Exhibitions' series of MICE tradeshows debuts in 2013 at the Grand Hyatt Mumbai from September 12-14. The new event is expected to showcase more than 110 MICE suppliers, such as venues, hotels, DMCs and NTOs.

REED feels that India holds an enormous potential for the worldwide MICE industry, showing already a substantial annual growth in outbound travel. The Ministry of Tourism has plans to build additional convention centers and several hotel groups are

building new properties with appropriate meeting and conferencing spaces.

IBTM's entry into India shows confidence in the growth and potential of the Indian MICE market. The SITE India chapter will be a partner of IBTM to offer educational elements to Indian MICE planners during the show.

www.ibtmevents.com/IBTM-India/

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**Austria Trend Hotel
Congress**

Innsbruck, Austria The hotels top location between the convention and exhibition centers, next to the Hungerburgbahn funicular railway and just a five-minute walk from Innsbruck's Old City provides an ideal base, offering modern, understated design and outstanding amenities in order to guarantee highest comfort levels and an unforgettable stay. 106 Rooms/Suites, 5 Mtg Rms, Theater 210, Classroom 80, Cocktail 140
[See more details!](#)



**Austria Trend Hotel
Ljubljana**

Ljubljana, Slovenia The 4-Star Superior Austria Trend Hotel Ljubljana is a modern first-class hotel located in business and financial district of Beograd. Easily accessible and best choice for hosting conferences, incentives and sports events, the hotel offers spacious rooms, friendly personnel and an inspiring atmosphere. 214 Rooms/Suites, 11 Mtg Rms, Theater 400, Classroom 230, Cocktail 450, Banquet 300
[See more details!](#)

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Malaysia: Penang created MICE bureau



PENANG created its own CVB, as part of the city's ongoing efforts to position itself as a MICE destination in South-east Asia.

In early January, at the 3rd Penang International MICE Conference, the chief minister announced the launch of the Penang International Convention & Exhibition Bureau (PICEB).

A pro tem committee will be established until April 2013, but no date was given on when PICEB will be in operation.

PICEB would be run by the private sector, and the state government will support it in all means. PICEB will support the product development in Penang and will work on bids to bring business events to Malaysia.

www.myceb.com.my

UAE: Mega-Projects in Dubai for Meetings and Events

The Government of Dubai announced several megaprojects will strengthen the city's appeal as a business and incentive destination.

In November 2012 a string of multibillion-dollar projects were unveiled:

- Mohammed bin Rashid City – featuring the world's largest shopping mall, 100 hotels, golf courses, arts and entrepreneurship centers and a massive park, reportedly larger than London's Hyde Park.

www.sheikhmohammed.co.ae - definetelydubai.com

- The planning includes also a US\$2.7 billion entertainment complex in Jebel Ali featuring five theme parks, a replica of India's Taj Mahal, a tram project (opening in 2014) and a Business Bay Canal, a 2.8 km/1.5 miles artificial waterway, connecting the office district to Downtown Dubai and Burj Khalifa.

definetelydubai.com

While some of the megaprojects are geared towards the leisure market, the city is sure that they will help the meetings and conventions industry as well. With the additional hotels and facilities, planners will have more choice on where they can conduct their meetings, incentives and conferences. Dubai wants to move from being just a stopover to a complete destination with options for all types of travelers and budgets.

definetelydubai.com



Buenos Aires, Argentina Situated in the heart of Buenos Aires and the Historic Monserrat Neighborhood, the hotel is surrounded by attractions and historical sites offering quick access to both airports. Its central location, excellent conference area infrastructure and its outstanding cuisine make the hotel a perfect venue.

309 Rooms/Suites 15 Mtg Rms,
Theater 900, Classroom 432,
Cocktail 500, Banquet 500
[See more details!](#)

Buenos Aires, Argentina Conveniently located in the heart of Buenos Aires, overlooking Plaza San Martin, just steps from Calle Florida shopping area, the hotel offers exclusive amenities, high speed Internet access and Wi Fi. With nine ballrooms, the elegant hotel provides the perfect venue for any type of group meeting and memorable event.

318 Rooms/Suites 10 Mtg Rms,
Theater 820, Classroom 395,
Cocktail 1,350, Banquet 740
[See more details!](#)

Palm Beach, Aruba The hotels stunning oceanfront welcomes its guests to a contemporary Caribbean experience, offering 7 bars and restaurants and nearly 11,000 sqft/1,021 sqm of indoor meeting and function space. Event participants enjoy the pool, swim up bar, the all new adults' only H2Oasis pool and the exciting Stellaris Casino.

411 Rooms/Suites 9 Mtg Rms,
Theater 880, Classroom 350,
Cocktail 800, Banquet 450
[See more details!](#)



USA business travel spending to rebound in 2013



Based on the latest report by GBTA (Global Business Travel Association), the prospects for business travel in 2013 are looking encouraging with corporate spending expected to be greater than in the recent past.

According to GBTA the US business travel spending will increase by about 4.6 per cent in 2013 to US\$266.7 billion. The reasons for this growth are the increase in international outbound travel and an increase in group travel based on the willingness of companies to spend more money on business trips and meetings.

The projections for both international and group travel are encouraging, says the GBTA.

www.gbta.org

USA: Las Vegas gains business from emerging China segments

The Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority (LVCVA) is reaching out to new segments in the emerging Chinese market such as MICE and luxury travel. Chinese arrivals to Las Vegas had been growing annually by about 30 per cent. Intense focus on the Chinese MICE segment will assist increasing occupancy during weekdays. Las Vegas' 151,000 rooms and more than 980,000 sqm/ 10,550,00 sqft of exhibition space could appeal to large groups from China. LVCVA will organize several fam trips for Chinese MICE sellers this year.

www.lvcva.com



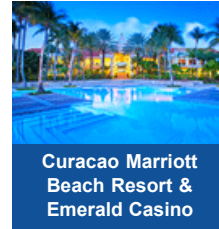
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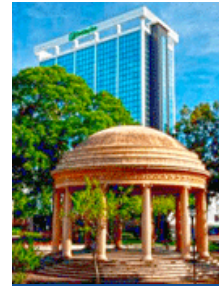
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Curacao Marriott Beach Resort & Emerald Casino

Piscadera Bay, Curacao Find the best of old Amsterdam charm in the sunny warmth of the Caribbean. Located on six oceanfront acres, the resort features stunning views, recently renovated pool facilities, many outdoor activities, world class dining and over 27,000 sqft/2,508 sqm of meeting and event space in the World Trade Center.

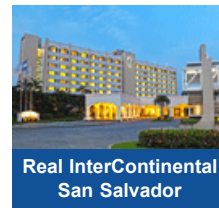
247 Rooms/Suites 4 Mtg Rms, 12 Mtg Rms+Halls in adjacent WTC Theater 1,000, Classroom 500, Cocktail 350, Banquet 800
[See more details!](#)



Holiday Inn San Jose Auroa

San Jose, Costa Rica Surrounded by museums, theaters and exciting and cosmopolitan nightlife, the hotel offers an entire floor dedicated to the MICE industry accomplishing every need. On 17th floor a beautiful, large meeting room offers a fantastic view of Central Valley. Enjoy Wi-Fi high speed Internet access and many other amenities.

200 Rooms/Suites, 7 Mtg Rms, Theater 350, Classroom 180, Cocktail 220, Banquet 220
[See more details!](#)



Real InterContinental San Salvador

San Salvador, El Salvador The hotel is where you want to be, in the heart of the city's business district, close to shopping centers and corporate offices of many major companies, with easy access to the airport. Newly remodeled rooms offer the fastest Internet access in El Salvador and many other exceptional amenities.

228 Rooms/Suites, 13 Mtg Rms, Theater 600, Classroom 350, Cocktail 700, Banquet 700
[See more details!](#)