

Hilton Worldwide Makes Business Connections Easier with Launch of CONNECT

Even in today's digital world, the value of face-to-face connections has not been lost. In a recent U.S. Travel Association study*, business travelers claim they are nearly twice as successful in converting prospects to customers after conducting in-person meetings. Additionally, those same travelers acknowledged 42 percent of customers would eventually be lost without in-person meetings. Today, Hilton Worldwide introduces CONNECT at Hilton Worldwide, an online portal, built from the company's belief in face-to-face communications, which gives planners instant access to event management tools and everyday business solutions through one convenient site - hiltonworldwide.com/connect.

Connect at Hilton Worldwide is the latest innovation from the global hospitality company, whose 10 distinct hotel brands have a legacy of providing world class service and expertise for planners of events of all sizes. Beyond a comprehensive hotel search engine, products and offerings accessible through Connect at Hilton Worldwide include:

Meetings Simplified: Recently-introduced, Meetings Simplified provides planners with the

- facilities and services ideally suited for smaller groups, offering simplified, bundled packages with per person pricing.

Connect +: Connect+ is the enhanced online platform, located at

- hiltonworldwide.com/connectplus, that offers a high level of event expertise and planning support at 115 of the largest hotels within the Hilton Worldwide portfolio in the Americas.

Each of the Connect+ hotels are located in a destination city and either have 450+ rooms or 40,000 square feet or more of meeting space.

For more information on Connect, visit hiltonworldwide.com/connect, watch the following video or join the Hilton Worldwide Meetings & Events group on LinkedIn.

**INDIA: Hyatt Regency ads to Gurgaon's meeting space**

Last June HYATT Hotels opened the Hyatt Regency in Gurgaon with over 3,700 sqm/39,830 sqft meeting space.

The hotel is located near the Delhi-Jaipur Highway and sits on over 2.4 hectares of land offering 451 rooms and 37 suites (when completely opened in September, at the moment 231 rooms are available).

The meeting facilities are located on the ground floor, including the pillar less Regency Ballroom with its 1,924 sqm/21,00 sqft and 8.5m/28 feet high ceiling for up to 3,000 people. Additional 8 meeting rooms, a boardroom and a pre-function area are available. Hyatt felt, that there as a need for a large MICE hotel, as the city of Gurgaon as it is one of the corporate hubs of the country.

The hotel offers 4 F&B outlets: specialty restaurant Lavana with Awadhi cuisine, the Kitchen District, The Lounge and the Long Bar.

gurgaon.regency.hyatt.com

**VIETNAM: Lao Cai as a new MICE destination**

Lao Cai is the location of the latest Swiss-Belhotel International property. The hotel group hopes to establish Lao Cai as Vietnam's newest MICE destination.

Opened last month, the Swiss-Belhotel Lao Cai is situated in the center of Lao Cai, bordering China and is known as the gateway to the famous tourist destination Sapa. In the past the city has seen only a few international visitors spending the night. MICE business is therefore not yet exiting and Swiss-Belhotel will try to change that. The group will target first of all the local MICE market, with a strong focus also on business from China. Swiss-Belhotel Lao Cai offers 186 guestrooms, a fitness center, business center, lobby lounge, a bar, several restaurants and several meeting rooms including a ballroom with capacities for up to 550 persons.

www.swiss-belhotel.com

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Situated in the heart of Stockholm's central business district only minutes away from the Airport Rail Link and Central Station, guests may stroll out and enjoy the surrounding shopping area, the picturesque Old Town as well as the City Hall, where the annual Nobel Prize ceremony is held. Being certified with the Swedish environmental classification, the Swan, the hotel is a premier choice for your events. 465 Rooms/Suites 15 Mtg Rms, Theater 380, Classroom 200, Cocktail 250, Banquet 330

[See more details!](#)

**JW Marriott Hotel Lima****Lima, Peru**

The 25 story crystal tower is one of the most magnificent luxury hotels in Lima. Located in front the grand cliffs in the Miraflores' district, it offers spectacular ocean views from every room. Hosting also a complete entertainment center with exclusive shops, restaurants, lounge, health club, spa and 24 hour room service guests will surely love Miraflores' beautiful green areas such as the Kennedy Park where artists, painters and folklore groups meet. 300 Rooms/Suites 15 Mtg Rms, Theater 500, Classroom 300, Cocktail 600, Banquet 390

[See more details!](#)

**JW Marriott Hotel Cusco****Cusco, Peru**

The old Colonial Convent of San Agustin (16th century) a National Cultural Heritage, was carefully restored to host the hotel in which the archaeological remains from Pre Inca to Contemporary periods can be observed – an incomparable cultural experience for the guests. Due to the altitude of 3,800 meters/12,228 feet, the hotel has a supplementary oxygen system in all rooms. the entrance to the Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu is only 3 hours away. 153 Rooms/Suites 3 Mtg Rms, Theater 75, Classroom 75, Cocktail 130, Banquet 64

[See more details!](#)



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AIRLINES: Lufthansa App now also for Windows Phone 8



Lufthansa has expanded its mobile services with a smartphone app for users of Windows Phone 8. A special feature of the app on this operating system is the live-tile function with which the most important information on flight status – continually updated – is pinned on the start screen without the need to open the app. As with the other mobile operating systems the Lufthansa app provides easy access to the entire Lufthansa timetable from anywhere. Once a suitable connection is found, it can be booked on the move immediately. Passengers can also check in whenever they want and file their electronic boarding pass in their smartphone. When travelling abroad this saves them the roaming fees they would otherwise incur by downloading the boarding pass anew. The free app is available for download at www.lufthansa.com/WindowsPhone8.

With Windows Phone 8, Lufthansa has now come up with a specially adapted app for all of the most widely-used mobile smartphone operating systems. Whether with Android, Apple iOS, BlackBerry and also Windows Phone 8, more than 98 per cent of all smartphone users, worldwide, can utilize the Lufthansa app and benefit from its extensive functions. The new app for the smartphone Windows Phone 8 operating system was developed in cooperation between Lufthansa, Microsoft and Nokia, and implemented by SapientNitro.

Web Marketing Association:
Best Directory Website 2012



The Most Unique Research Tool for MICE Buyers on the Web

Create your own personal directory of beautiful, highly detailed pdf pages of hotels, destinations, congress centers and dmc's worldwide. Assemble your research into a single pdf document and download.



[Click Here](#)

AIRLINES: Delta Greenhouse Gas Emissions Down 18.4 Percent Since 2005

Airline verifies 2012 emissions with The Climate Registry

Delta Air Lines has lowered its annual greenhouse gas emissions by 8.5 million metric tons, an 18.4 percent reduction since 2005. In its continued commitment to transparency, the airline has reported successful verification of its 2012 greenhouse gas emission inventories under [The Climate Registry](#).

Delta's focus on third-party verification aligns with the data integrity component of the IATA resolution on the Implementation of the Aviation Carbon Neutral Growth 2020 Strategy, approved at the organization's annual general meeting in June 2013.

The airline has improved annual aircraft fuel efficiency by an average of 1.7 percent from 2009 to 2012, exceeding the International Air Transport Association's fuel-efficiency goal of 1.5 percent.

The Climate Registry is a non-profit organization with established standards for calculating, verifying and publicly reporting carbon footprints. In 2012, Delta became the first legacy carrier to join the registry with successful verification of its 2005-2011 emissions.

[The Climate Registry](#)



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San Lawrenz, Malta

Indulge in luxury, history, culture, sun and sea on Malta's little sister island Gozo and give your incentive, product launch, meeting or reunion the backdrop that befits the occasion.

Located in a picturesque valley of Gozo, built amidst 30,000 sqm/322,950 sqft of lush gardens, its 122 rooms and

suites are airy, spacious and tastefully decorated in the traditional Maltese style.

122 Rooms/Suites 4 Mtg Rms,

Theater 300, Classroom 160, Cocktail 400, Banquet 220

[See more details!](#)



Meeting planners are
the real stars in Berlin.



Caribbean Islands

Jamaica - idyllic white sand beaches and vibrant tropical blooms sit on a backdrop of blue mountain peaks. Lively clubs, fine restaurants and world-class golf are as inviting as the astonishing hues of sand and sea spanning the color spectrum from twinkling turquoise to rose pink, crystal clear waters secrete ancient shipwrecks and a rainbow of coral reefs, the Bahamas.... Listing the Caribbean Islands

means listing a paradisiacal expanse of uncounted islands... a perfect settings for gorgeous events.

[See more details!](#)



Malta

Malta, an archipelago situated in the center of the Mediterranean, has some of the oldest man-built free-standing structures in the world, dating back to 3,600 BC. Ever since, a well-known and important meeting point at one of the oldest sea lines. Today, the island's 4 and 5 Star hotels include renowned chains, as well as boutique up market properties and the MICE infrastructure is outstanding and

supports all kinds of events.

[See more details!](#)