



AUGUST 2024
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A Hong Leong Group
E-Newsletter

highlights



Hong Leong's Love Story With 'Master Developer' Site In Singapore's Upper Changi

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Partners
"Asian Hall Of
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live



Millennium Hotels Partners “Asian Hall Of Fame” Awards In Los Angeles

MHR Chairman Kwek Leng Beng to be inducted in 2024 awards.

In the upcoming Asian Hall of Fame 2024 Awards on 19 October, Millennium Hotels and Resorts (MHR) will be named “2024 Corporate Inductee” and MHR Chairman Mr Kwek Leng Beng will be a “Class of 2024 Inductee”.

Asian Hall of Fame is pleased to announce Millennium Hotels and Resorts (MHR) as its Official Hotel Partner. Asian Hall of Fame is a leading cultural, educational, and research institution that advances public recognition of Asian and Indigenous legacy globally.

The Biltmore Los Angeles currently hosts Asian Hall of Fame ceremonies and will provide customized hospitality and catering for premiere Asian Hall of Fame events. Millennium Hotels & Resorts will also serve as a hospitality consultant on projects in Asia and Europe.

In the upcoming annual awards that will be held on 19 October this year, MHR will be named “2024 Corporate Inductee”, and MHR Chairman Mr Kwek Leng Beng will be a “Class of 2024 Inductee”.

“The Biltmore Los Angeles inspires our dignitaries to engage with Asian Hall of Fame’s global impact and timeless elegance. We are excited to develop a lasting legacy with Millennium Hotels and Resorts and look forward to hosting immersive experiences at their iconic destinations,” said Ms Maki Hsieh, President and CEO of Asian Hall of Fame.



The upcoming awards will be held in the Crystal Ballroom (above) at The Biltmore Los Angeles, which has hosted luminaries from President John F. Kennedy to The Beatles since 1923. It was the first home of the Oscars and was designated a Los Angeles Historical Cultural Monument in 1969.

Mr Benedict Ng, Owner’s Representative, MHR said, “We’re pleased to announce Millennium Hotels and Resorts as the official hotel partner for the esteemed Asian Hall of Fame. This collaboration emphasizes our shared commitment to excellence, grandeur, and innovation. We eagerly anticipate highlighting the unique experiences curated by the Asian Hall of Fame at our properties, promising a memorable synergy. Together, we’re dedicated to enhancing guest experiences and ensuring the success of this prestigious event.”

Stay tuned to this space for more updates on the Asian Hall of Fame 2024 Awards!



Refreshing Phuket With Revitalised Lifestyle Mall And Trendy Hotel

The joint opening celebrations of Jungceylon Shopping Centre and M Social Phuket.

Thumbs up to the joyous opening of M Social Phuket, fondly abbreviated 'MSP'. (L-R): M Social Phuket General Manager Mr Pjey Mayandi; CDL Board Members Mr Chong Yoon Chou and Mr Philip Lee; CDL Group General Manager Mr Chia Ngiang Hong and CDL Group COO Mr Kwek Eik Sheng; special guest Mrs Cecilia Kwek; CDL Group CEO Mr Sherman Kwek; CDL Group CFO Ms Yiong Yim Ming; CDL Board Members Mr Tan Kian Seng and Mr Colin Ong.

Jungceylon Shopping Center, one of Phuket's largest shopping malls, officially unveiled its new look with a massive opening ceremony following an extensive revamp that began in 2022.

Located in Patong, the transformed mall has been repositioned as "The Oasis of Shopping in Patong". The AEI is in line with CDL's asset rejuvenation strategy, which focuses on enhancing its assets to drive performance.

With 80% of the mall's shoppers being international tourists, Jungceylon has curated targeted marketing strategies to attract this key segment, including the growing Free Independent Travelers (FIT) group. For the second half of 2024, a marketing budget of over THB 60 million has been allocated for exciting promotions and initiatives, which aim to enhance the vibrancy of the mall by offering compelling experiences for all shoppers.

Boasting over 300 stores across four distinct zones – The Jungle Zone, The Botanica Zone, The Bay Zone, and The Garden Zone – Jungceylon is a one-stop shopping paradise that caters to all ages and needs of locals and tourists.



The official relaunch of Jungceylon's new look was graced by Phuket Governor Mr Sophon Suwannarat (centre right) and special guest Mrs Cecilia Kwek (centre left). First row, from left to right: CDL's Group CEO Mr Sherman Kwek, Phuket Square's CEO Mr Prawit Janyasittikul, Patong City's Mayor Mr Chalerm Sak Maneesri, Phuket Square's Executive Board of Director Mr Suchad Chiaranussati, Mai-Davika Hoorne, Phuket Province Vice Governor Mr Norasak Suksomboon. Second row, from left to right: Kathu District Chief Mr Theeraphong Chuaychu, Patong City Deputy Mayors Mrs Lalita Maneesri and Mr Sanakorn Keesin.



live

M Social Phuket introduces a new era in hospitality

M Social Phuket, formerly Millennium Resort Patong Phuket, has also undergone a rebranding and complete makeover. Located adjacent to Jungceylon, the 418-room trendy hotel features the inclusion of an AI-voice-controlled assistant in all rooms and suites, allowing all guests to effortlessly control IoT-enabled lighting, air conditioning and smart TVs in their room by simply using their voice. M Social Phuket is the first M Social hotel in Thailand, and the sixth worldwide.



(L-R): Ms Yong; Mr Chia; MHR Global HR Director Ms Zeng Shujuan; MHR SVP of Global Partnerships Mr Andy Tan; CDL SVP Hospitality Asset Management Mr Ng Chee Theam; Mr Kwek Eik Sheng (also MHR Executive Director); MHR Owner's Representative Mr Benedict Ng; MHR VP Finance Mr Yam Kit Sung; MHR Design Director Mr Frederick Chan; and Mr Sherman Kwek.



Mrs Kwek smiling brightly as she celebrated the festivities at M Social Phuket that included a lion dance and acrobatic performances.

M Social Phuket also offers a diverse culinary journey with two restaurants and two pool bars. Guests can savour delectable boat-to-table seafood, exquisite fine wines, and tropical tiki cocktails at Beast & Butterflies, or enjoy fresh sushi, artisan cocktails, and premium sake at Bincho Izakaya.

The hotel's enchanting pool bars, Sun-Kissed and After Glow, offer stunning views over the Andaman Sea and are the perfect place to relax and enjoy cocktails in a tropical paradise. As daylight fades into evening, the pool bars transform into lively hubs of entertainment with pulsating DJ parties.



Highlights at Jungceylon's festivities included "The Blooming Oasis", a spectacular show of sounds and lights (left photo), and a high-energy dance performance by Thailand's Queen of Dance, KT Kratae (right photo).



Celebrate
Tradition And
Innovation At
Copthorne Tara's
Bugis Kitchen

Bugis Kitchen opens at Copthorne Tara Hotel London Kensington.

Bugis Kitchen, a new restaurant inspired by the flavours of Asia has opened at Copthorne Tara Hotel London Kensington. The restaurant is named after Bugis Street, one of Singapore's most iconic areas in the 1950s to 1980s for its nightlife with risqué fire dances and drag performances.

Bugis Kitchen at Copthorne Tara reinvents and celebrates Singaporean heritage dishes and transforms them into modern Singapore cuisine known as "mod-Sin".

The specially curated menu draws influence from all over Asia, focusing on authenticity, freshness and high-quality ingredients. At Bugis Kitchen, guests can also tuck into such dishes as fried pork and prawn wontons submerged in a spicy curry sauce, salt and pepper squid, satay chicken in a sticky peanut sauce, and the Singapore laksa – a homemade spiced coconut broth featuring shrimp, tempura tiger prawns and squid fish balls.

According to food reviewer, Ms Emma Fradgley with UK publication News Shopper, it was delectable Southeast Asian food.

"The restaurant itself is gorgeous with huge mirrors lining the room making it feel like a huge ballroom when it's actually relatively intimate. There are glass chandeliers hanging over you as you peruse the menu, giving an air of glamour to the evening," added Ms Fradgley as she described her dining experience.

"We are pleased to launch the Bugis Kitchen, where we celebrate the fusion of tradition and innovation. From tantalising street food classics to contemporary interpretations of Singaporean favourites, each dish is crafted with the freshest ingredients and infused with the bold and aromatic flavours that define Singaporean cuisine," said Copthorne Tara General Manager Mr Philip Bell.



Clockwise from top left corner: Roast Pork Char Siew, Singapore Chilli Crabs, and Chicken Satay.
(Photo credit: Emma Fradgley/News Shopper.)



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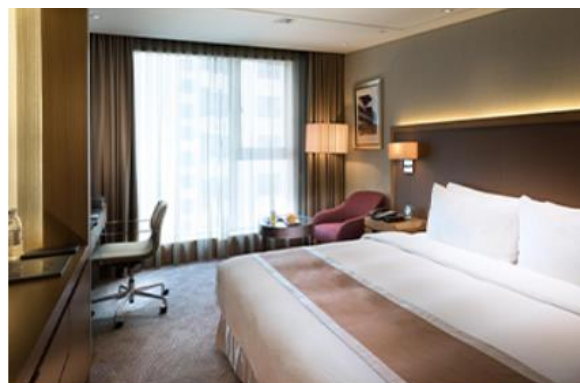
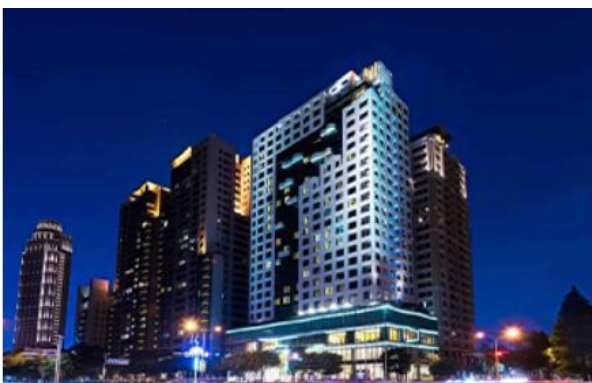
Millennium
Taichung
For A
Hot Springs
Stay

Guguan Hot Spring is a hot spring located in the Heping District of Taichung in Taiwan, and among the most popular of hot springs for locals and tourists

Taichung Hot Spring Hotel Recommendation 2024! In addition to eating, playing and shopping, soak in some of the most popular hot springs like Guguan and Wuri Hot Spring in Taichung!

The "Good Food, Fun and Flight" channel of "Hong Kong 01" has compiled 10 hot spring hotels in Taichung for everyone. Most of them have private hot springs, and some even include free breakfast. The average price per person is only \$387!

Millennium Hotel Taichung



Located in the centre of Taichung, Millennium Taichung offers 243 rooms and suites designed to make your stay as comfortable as possible.

Millennium Hotel Taichung is located in the center of Taichung, close to Taichung National Opera House, Autumn Maple Valley, Shin Kong Mitsukoshi, City Life and other attractions. It is also only a 10-minute walk from the MRT Shui'an Temple Station. The hotel offers 243 rooms and suites, with a simple wooden home style. All rooms are equipped with floor-to-ceiling windows, king-size beds, desks, and sufficient power sockets. The hotel also provides recreational facilities such as a fitness room, outdoor swimming pool, steam bath, sauna, hot spring pool, and free private parking.



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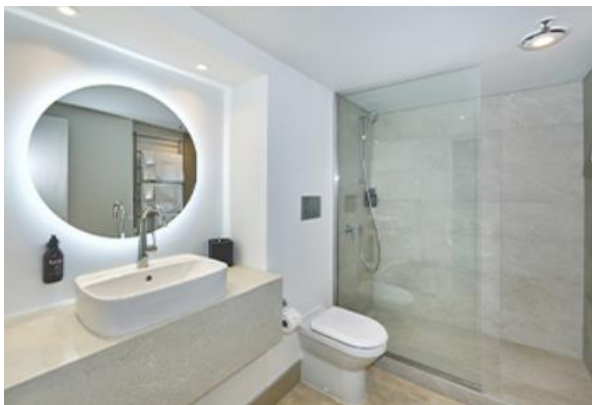
Rotorua's Hotel Stalwart Hits Refresh Button For Sustainable Hospitality

Located near Lake Rotorua in New Zealand, the 227-room Millennium Rotorua has completed Phase One of renovations with 99 refurbished rooms. Each space is designed by the Millennium Rotorua team with floor-to-ceiling panels, and a colour palette of Burnt Orange and Azure Blue inspired by the volcanic and lake tones.

The 227-room Millennium Rotorua has completed Phase One of renovations, delivering 99 revamped guestrooms for a warm and refreshing welcome to business and leisure travellers. The renovations started in March 2023 with the first phase costing about NZ\$5 million. Phase Two of the remaining 129 rooms is expected to begin in Q4 2024 and complete in Q3 2025.

This is the largest rooms refurbishment at the hotel in almost 20 years, reflecting its long-standing tradition of excellence and the local team's vision for the future. The last refurbishment was done in 2005.

"We've seen a 70% return in visitation over our high seasons of October to April in this region. The timing was just opportune to refresh and start again," said General Manager Ms Pipiana Whiston in an interview with The Rotorua Post.



Guests can now enjoy updated bathrooms with new walk-in showers with a geothermally heated water system, New Zealand-made cedar hot tubs in deluxe rooms, and luxurious touches such as 100 per cent NZ wool throws on the beds.



Instead of the hotel servicing the room, guests can opt to save on housekeeping for a meal donation to "feed a kiwi for the night". (Photo credit: Alex Cairns/The Rotorua Post.)



live

Sustainability in hospitality is about ‘persistent education’

Sustainability practices are high on the hotel's priority list. This includes reducing plastic use with big bottle amenities, introducing clearly marked recycling bins, and repurposing material during construction.

As part of the renovations, a food waste audit was conducted last year with an assessment of the hotel's sustainability practices.

“We took the opportunity to review our waste flow. The audit found 80% of rubbish removed from our guestrooms was brought into the hotel by guests themselves. So we introduced guest recycling cupboards on each floor, right next to the elevator. We’re not doing the oversell but trying to do little reminders for guests to help with our sustainability journey,” said Ms Whiston.



General Manager Ms Pipiana Whiston said ongoing education is important for staff and guests to understand how their own actions can impact the wider community.



Operations Manager Mr Carl Bennett said the hotel is trying to partner with someone to help recycle soft plastics on a commercial scale.

Millennium Roturua’s kitchens also aim to produce no waste. According to Operations Manager Mr Carl Bennett, the hotel is operating with New Zealand’s first anaerobic digestion, Ecogas, to convert its food waste to biofuel and nutrient-rich fertiliser.

“All of our waste is measured. We track it to ensure we’re making improvements, take suggestions on best practices, as well as review and modify our business operations while making gains. It’s an ongoing process,” said Mr Bennett.

“It’s an ongoing education. Staff and guests gets to understand that what we do here impacts the wider community and the environment. We’re not just putting a recycle bin in because that’s the theme of the week for everyone,” said Ms Whiston.



Bigger And Better Reasons To Indulge In Brunch At Grand Copthorne Waterfront

With 18 live stations and an array of cuisines, it's no wonder the Epicure Brunch at Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel is The Honeycomber's pick of the feast.

The Honeycombers, a Singapore-based online lifestyle publication, recently spotlighted the Epicure Brunch at Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, saying it has a bigger and better spread than typical buffets with 18 live stations. Here's what they say!

1. Indulge in a dizzying array of cuisines

Known for having one of the largest buffet selections in Singapore, this multi-restaurant spread features delicacies from the hotel's three signature restaurants: the bustling Food Capital, top-rated North Indian restaurant SanSara, and Riverside Terrace.

Wear your stretchiest pants and tuck into raw seafood like oysters and lobsters, and savour hot dishes like Wagyu Ribeye and Mediterranean octopus cooked a la minute at the Jospur grill station.

Savour delicacies around the world: traditional Awadhi dishes like *lamb bhuna gosht* and *dum ka murgh* from SanSara; Japanese sushi and tempura; local delights like chilli crab and laksa.



Seafood galore at the raw bar, and wagyu ribeye, Australian lamb rack cooked a la minute at the Jospur grill station



Savour the dessert section with strawberries at the chocolate fountain, croffles, cakes and pastries.



live

2. Live it up with bottomless booze

Want to turn up your Sunday with some boozy fun? Splash out an additional \$30++ per adult at Epicure Brunch and say hello to bottomless prosecco, wines and beers. If you're up for more indulgence, top up an extra \$60++ for the premium Veuve Clicquot champagne package.

3. Ever-changing thematic experiences

Now, who says indulgence is only reserved for the weekends? Good news: Food Capital offers international buffet spreads with thematic specials throughout the week. Come by for lunch (12pm to 2.30pm) from Mondays to Saturdays, or a sumptuous dinner available daily.



With themed buffets on rotation every two months, coming up next is a King of Durian special (pictured) alongside an Oktober Seafood and festive buffets!



CDL Opens New Annex At Singapore Sustainability Academy

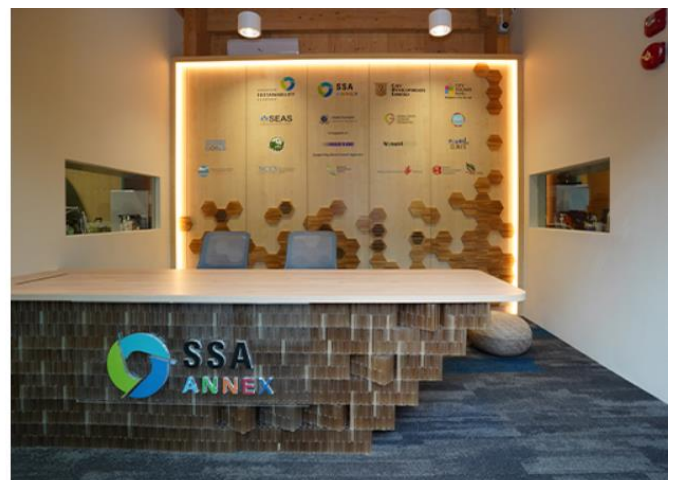
The official opening of Singapore Sustainability Academy (SSA) Annex was attended by over 200 partners, industry representatives, as well as CDL's Board of Directors, management and staff. They include (front row starting 3rd from left): CDL Chief Sustainability Officer Ms Esther An; CDL Group COO Mr Kwek Eik Sheng (in pink shirt behind Ms An); Singapore Deputy Prime Minister Mr Heng Swee Keat; CDL Group CEO Mr Sherman Kwek; CDL Group General Manager Mr Chia Ngiang Hong; and CDL Group CFO Ms Yiong Yim Ming.

City Developments Limited (CDL) has opened a new 2,690 square feet (sq ft) annex to the Singapore Sustainability Academy (SSA). Deputy Prime Minister Mr Heng Swee Keat was the Guest-of-Honour at the opening ceremony on July 25.

Located on the roof terrace of City Square Mall, the new SSA Annex comprises a collaboration space, a conference room, and office spaces for its anchor tenant, the Singapore chapter of the United Nations (UN) Global Compact Network (CGNS).



An extension of the SSA, the zero-energy SSA Annex will boost capacity building and collaboration in climate action and sustainable development, housing the United Nations Global Compact Network Singapore as its anchor NGO partner.



The SSA Annex comprises a collaboration space, a conference room, and office space for UN GCNS. Pictured here is the reception.



work

The SSA Annex also aims to foster collaboration between industry and Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) partners, spread industry best practices and promote a low-carbon economy to businesses.

The SSA opened seven years ago on the roof terrace of City Square Mall as a first-of-its-kind hub for sustainability education and action. "Through our extensive collaboration with six government agencies and 15 like-minded industry and NGO partners, we created Singapore's first ground-up initiative and zero-energy facility dedicated to capacity building and thought leadership for climate action," said Mr Sherman Kwek, group CEO of CDL. "Since then, the facility has hosted over 1,000 events and training sessions, welcomed over 35,000 visitors and engaged more than 100 partners."



The SSA opened seven years ago on the roof terrace of City Square Mall as a first-of-its-kind hub for sustainability education and action.



Designed for climate resilience, the SSA Annex is powered by a 31.6 kilowatt peak (kWp) rooftop Solar Photovoltaic (PV) System enabling it to achieve net-zero operational energy.

Similar to the main SSA building, the SSA Annex incorporates green technology to achieve the Green Mark Platinum award. It was built with eco-friendly materials such as mass-engineered timber panels and laminated veneer lumber (LVL) sourced from sustainably managed forests. The lightweight, thermally insulated properties of the materials also help reduce cooling costs.

The SSA Annex is also equipped with a 31.6-kilowatt peak (kWp) rooftop Solar Photovoltaic (PV) System to achieve net-zero operational energy consumption.



Kassia Sees
Strong Demand
With 52% Sold
On Launch
Weekend

Strong interest at the showflat of Kassia, Tripartite Developers' final new launch in Flora Drive.

Tripartite Developers sold 52% (144 units) of the 276-unit freehold Kassia condominium during its launch weekend July 20-21. Tripartite is a joint venture comprising Hong Leong Holdings Limited, City Developments Limited, and TID Pte. Ltd.

Kassia has since moved 11 more units, bringing to a total of 155 units (55%) sold as of 4 August 2024. Kassia is the final project by Tripartite Developers in the Flora Drive area in Singapore's Upper Changi Road North.

The take-up rate was good at a selling price ranging between S\$1,821 to S\$2,177 per square foot (psf), with the one and two-bedroom being the most popular. Around 90% of the buyers are Singaporeans, while Permanent Residents make up the remaining 10%.

With a good mix of unit types, the apartments are competitively priced from S\$883,000 for 1-bedder (473 sq ft), S\$1.196 million for 2-bedder (656 sq ft), S\$1.659 million for 3-bedder (904 sq ft), and S\$2.462 million for 4-bedder (1,345 sq ft).



Kassia's one and two-bedroom units were the most popular among buyers. Pictured in the left photo is the one-bedroom-plus study, and the layout of a two-bedder in the right photo.



work

Ms Betsy Chng, Head of Sales and Marketing at Hong Leong Holdings said, “The encouraging take-up for Kassia by local homebuyers reflects a resilient demand for a thoughtfully designed home that is in harmony with nature and a quiet locale, coupled with enhanced transport connectivity. With the functional layouts offered, we believe our buyers will be delighted with their new homes.”

Situated on a 14,013.40 sqm (or approximately 150,838 sq ft) site, Kassia is in District 17 off Upper Changi Road North and will comprise four blocks of eight storeys each upon completion in 2027.



An Inside
Look In
Manchester's
Latest Lifestyle
Rental
Apartment,
The Castings

CDL Hospitality Trusts' (CDLHT) The Castings is Manchester's latest rental apartment building that aims to cater to the lifestyle needs of tenants. Pictured above is the stylish residents' lounge with a pool table, 65-inch TV, and even a private dining room with kitchen to host family and friends.

Manchester's latest build-to-rent- scheme, the 352-unit The Castings, opened its doors on July 16 to welcome new tenants. It is situated in Piccadilly East behind Manchester Piccadilly train station.

Prices start from £1,180 per month for a studio apartment, £1,310 for 1-bedder, £1,525 for 2-bedder, and £2,165 for 3-bedder.

According to community manager of The Castings, Mr Dave Evans, "We are offering more than just apartments. We have created a space where residents will find a whole new lifestyle waiting with the best service and living experience that Manchester has to offer in the city centre."

Inside the apartments

The Castings has a vibrant range of studio, one, two and three-bed apartments available for its residents. Each home is finished to a luxury standard, complete with huge windows, high ceilings and an open-plan design. Each apartment has a large kitchen complete with top-of-the-range built-in appliances, a spacious and bright living space, large bedrooms with big built-in wardrobes and stylish bathrooms.



A thoughtfully designed two-bed apartment.



The gorgeous private dining and lounge space.

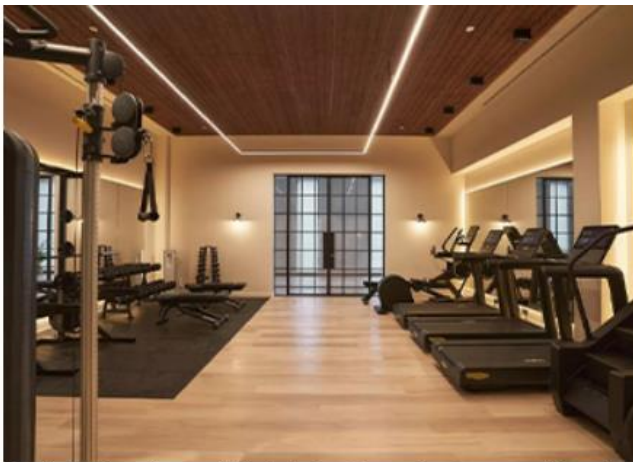


work

The facilities

The amenities at The Castings have been designed with young professionals and creatives in mind. It includes a fully equipped gym with state-of-the-art equipment from Technogym including a free weights zone, squat rack, cardio equipment and cable resistance machines.

The star of the show is the main rooftop terrace which sits on the 21st floor with wrap-around views of the city and plenty of comfortable seating. There are two other private terraces on the first floor for residents to relax and spend time outside.



A fully equipped gym (left photo) and a rooftop terrace with unrivalled views of the city makes The Castings a star attraction for the urban professional.



work



New Zealand Invests In Industrial Land In Christchurch

Located in Burnside, Christchurch in New Zealand, CDL Investments New Zealand plans to develop the 10.08 hectares of land into multiple industrial lots.

CDL's subsidiary, CDL Investments New Zealand (CDI), has entered into unconditional agreements to purchase 10.08 hectares of land in Burnside, Christchurch, New Zealand NZ\$17.1 million.

The land will become part of the wider Industrial Park Precinct and will be developed into multiple industrial lots.

CDI Chief Executive Officer Jason Adams said that opportunities to acquire land for industrial development in Christchurch in such strategic locations were rare and this was an opportunity that CDI could not ignore.

“As part of our wider diversification strategy, we have been looking at opportunities of this nature to expand our commercial development portfolio. This is an area which we have been scouting for some time and having completed due diligence, this purchase gives us the opportunity to expand our commercial developments to the South Island”, said Mr Adams.

He noted that the land's current zoning allowed it to be developed immediately and he indicated that approximately 15 to 17 industrial lots could be created.

“We will be working on our scheme plans for the site ahead of settlement later in the year and applying for resource consents in due course. The size of the land will give us opportunities to develop and then sell some of the lots in the next few years with the potential to retain some to add to our commercial portfolio and grow our rental income”, he said.

Settlement of the purchase is scheduled to take place in September 2024.



Finance At Your Fingertips: Hong Leong Finance Launches HLF Digital

Hong Leong Finance management celebrating the launch of HLF Digital on 1 August. (L-R) Mr Lim Wei Leon, SVP of Transformation & Innovation; Mr Jeffrey Toh, SVP of Corporate & Consumer Business; Mr Ang Tang Chor, President; Ms Joan Yeo, Chief Financial Officer; Mr David Thong, SVP of Shared Services; and Mr Sia Nam Chie, SVP of Risk Management, Legal & Compliance.

As part of its ongoing journey to transform and meet the evolving needs of its customers, Hong Leong Finance (HLF) launched **HLF Digital** on 1 August.

Available exclusively to HLF customers, HLF Digital is a mobile device app and web portal which provides customers with access to their accounts and a range of related financial services, anytime and anywhere.

With HLF Digital, customers can now avoid queues and branch visits and enjoy greater convenience and flexibility while ensuring their financial transactions are secure.

Below are the key features of HLF Digital for customers:

- **Comprehensive account overview**
View balances, monitor transaction histories, and access e-statements effortlessly. Manage funds transfers, fixed deposits, loan repayments, and add payees—all through a user-friendly interface.
- **Payments and transfers ensure efficient transaction handling**
Transfer funds between Hong Leong Finance accounts, repay loans, and set up standing instructions for recurring payments. Securely place fixed deposits with funds from your Savings Account.
- **Change limits and personal details for full control over your account**
Adjust your transfer limits and update personal details such as mobile contacts and email directly from your app. Utilise the kill switch to immediately freeze online transactions upon detection of unauthorised or suspicious activity, ensuring your account's safety. Reactivation is available at our branches, allowing you to regain access securely.



work



Enjoy seamless 24/7 access to HLF Digital from anywhere. Customers can now manage their accounts, make secure transactions and enjoy special promotions, all through the user-friendly HLF Digital app.

HLF President Mr Ang Tang Chor shares, “HLF Digital is more than just a new service; it represents our dedication to customer satisfaction. We empower our customers’ journey, putting finance at their fingertips and enabling them to manage their accounts with ease and efficiency, anytime and anywhere. As we move forward, we remain committed to continuously improving and adapting to meet the needs of our customers. Our journey with HLF Digital has just begun.”

Customers can also enjoy exclusive dining and leisure promotions through the HLF Digital app. In addition, HLF Savings Account customers who sign up for HLF Digital stand a chance to win return air tickets to Seoul!



MHR Opens First Jeddah Hotel In The Middle East

The 252-room Millennium Jeddah is Millennium Hotels' first hotel in the port city of Jeddah, and the ninth property in Saudi Arabia.

Millennium Al Masar Jeddah has officially opened, marking Millennium Hotels and Resorts (MHR) in the Middle East (MEA) first hotel in the port city of Jeddah.

The 252-room hotel is also MHR MEA's ninth property in Saudi Arabia, joining existing hotels in Hail, Jazan, Madinah, Makkah and Tabuk, a strategic expansion for the group.

Millennium Al Masar Jeddah spans eight floors and offers a five-star experience. It features a variety of room types and three distinct dining options. The hotel includes nine function rooms equipped with complimentary WiFi, modern audio-visual technology and ergonomic furnishings. There are also facilities to accommodate events of various sizes.

For leisure travellers and families, the hotel provides a health club, an outdoor swimming pool, and a dedicated ki Millennium Al Masar Jeddah is located on Al Maadi Street, Al Ruwais. It is a two-minute drive from Al Hamra Beach and 24km from King Abdul Aziz International Airport.

The hotel group has announced plans for three new properties scheduled to open in the Kingdom in 2024, and additional developments expected in subsequent years.



Spanning eight floors, the hotel offers a variety of contemporary and luxurious room types (left photo) with amenities that includes a health club and an outdoor swimming pool (right photo).



work



China Yuchai Makes Waves With New Turbine Fan To Promote Clean Energy

A wind turbine installed with China Yuchai's latest QT700-10 turbine fan main shaft that features high strength and durability with improved low-temperature fracture toughness.

China Yuchai recently announced that it has made a significant advancement in the wind energy sector with the launch of the QT700-10 turbine fan main shaft. Developed by subsidiary, Guangxi Yuchai Foundry, the materials used in the QT700-10 turbine fan main shaft feature high strength, high plasticity, and improved low-temperature fracture toughness. The overall weight has been reduced by 15%-30% compared to conventional main shaft products.

Wind power is a major force in clean energy transformation and carbon emissions reduction.

Following a successful 6-month trial, the test results of the QT700-10 turbine fan main shafts have been well received by customers, including leading domestic wind turbine manufacturers. Yuchai Foundry is now in position to take orders and has expanded its production capacity of the QT700-10 turbine fan main shaft to an annual output of 1,000 units.

The QT700-10 turbine fan main shaft can be used with wind turbine capacity of 5MW and above. A typical 5MW wind turbine will generate 5,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity per hour, creating considerable economic benefits.

“We continue to leverage our strong research and manufacturing capabilities to broaden our offerings in the clean energy sector. The QT700-10 turbine fan main shaft represents a leap forward in the design and manufacturing of a component critical to wind power generation, and demonstrates our commitment to making technological advancements to power the renewable energy sector,” said China Yuchai President Mr Hoh Weng Ming.



meals & deals



Celebrate
Mid-Autumn
Festival
With
Hong Leong
Group's
Finest Mooncakes
Across Its
Hotels And
Restaurants!

The Mid-Autumn Festival is one of the most important holidays in Chinese culture; its popularity is on par with that of Chinese New Year. The history of the festival dates back over 3,000 years.

Are you still looking for the best mooncakes? Look no further! With the Mid-Autumn Festival just around the corner, what's better than to indulge in the best, finest, and most delectable mooncake treasures? Whether you are a traditionalist or a fan of innovative flavours, our selection of mooncakes across the Group's hotels and restaurants will have something to tickle your taste buds!

Singapore

1. Orchard Hotel Singapore, Hua Ting Restaurant

Mooncakes from the award-winning Hua Ting Restaurant are renowned for their delicate texture and vibrant flavours, the MICHELIN selected restaurant has established exceptional repute since 1992 and is consistently recognised as one of Singapore's top Chinese restaurants, offering dynamic yet refined flavours in authentic Cantonese cuisines.

The restaurant's Lunar Elegance: Mid-Autumn Treasures comes with Snowskin Mooncakes that offer an exquisite harmony with luscious fillings, where each bite reveals a medley of refined charm.

The Lunar Luxury: Exquisite Gift Selections offers an exquisite harmony where each bite reveals a medley of refined charm, transcending generations with a meticulously crafted golden-brown crust with rich flavourful filling.



The Signature Teapot Collection with Curated Teapot comes with a 1 piece White Lotus Paste with Single Yolk and Macadamia Nuts, 1 piece White Lotus Paste with Double Yolk and Macadamia Nuts, 2 boxes of the finest selected Chinese Tea (Wellness and Tangerine Pu'er Tea), and a curated teapot with 4 teacups.



meals & deals

2. Grand Shanghai Restaurant



Every purchase of a mooncake box set comes with a complimentary bottle of Moët & Chandon.

Grand Shanghai presents a selection of exquisite mooncakes crafted to perfection. Each piece is meticulously handmade with no added preservatives, artificial flavouring, and has less sugar.

The Signature mooncakes such as the authentic Shanghainese Crispy Yam Paste comes with a generous amount of silky and smooth yam encased in golden flaky layers of crust. Back by popular demand, the Shanghainese Crispy Lava Salted Egg Yolk has a multi-textured medley of sweet and savoury flavours that contrast beautifully with every bite.

Enjoy 25% OFF when you order from now till 16 August!

3. St. Regis Singapore, Yan Ting Restaurant

Yan Ting at The St. Regis Singapore is faithful to the traditional cooking techniques of Cantonese cuisine characterised by the immense diversity of ingredients used and the philosophy of extracting natural flavours of the freshest ingredients. This year, the restaurant is commemorating the Mid-Autumn festival with a collection of fine art mooncakes that evokes a celebration of artisans.

Relish in a medley of classic baked mooncakes or the mini snowskin mooncakes steeped in virtuosity.

Collection is available from 2 August to 17 September 2024.



The assorted baked mooncakes come in a box of four with Reduced Sugar White Lotus Paste with Macadamia Nuts, White Lotus Paste with Single Yolk, White Lotus Paste with Double Yolk, and Assorted Nuts.



meals & deals

4. W Singapore Sentosa Cove

Celebrate the season with a fusion of style and flavour that leaves a lasting impression. Inspired by the latest runway trends, W Singapore Sentosa Cove presents a Mooncakes Lunar Couture for the Mid-Autumn Festival.

The mooncakes showcase vibrant colours and captivating patterns, drawing inspiration from the unique and majestic ecosystems of Sentosa Island. Encased in stunning, tropical-themed boxes, these exquisite baked mooncakes offer unparalleled taste experiences.



Delight in classic white lotus seed paste, Green Tea with Goji Berry and Walnut, or Caramel Paste with Yuzu Parmesan Cheese.

5. JW Marriott South Beach, Madame Fan

A culinary virtuoso who embodies the philosophy of elevating classic flavours with a touch of modernity, Executive Chinese Chef Pak Chee Yit curates four new snowskin flavours, each featuring a decadent truffle centre complemented by sophisticated notes.

The Baked Mooncakes Medley includes 1 of each flavour: Signature Single Yolk Lychee Lotus Mooncake, Double Yolk White Lotus, Chrysanthemum with Melon Seeds and Wu Ren Mixed Nuts with Chinese Ham Mooncake.

Collection and delivery available from 1 August to 17 September 2024.



The Snowskin Mooncakes Medley includes Pomelo Mango with Lime and Elderblossom Mooncake, Black Sesame Creme Brulee Mooncake, Tiramisu Matcha Pistachio Mooncake and Osmanthus Paloma Mooncake.

Malaysia

6. Grand Millennium Hotel, Lai Ching Yuen

Delight in an array of heartwarming, well-loved baked classics beautifully encased in elegant packaging options patterned with intricate oriental floral motifs. Featuring a trio of sophisticated colours, you can choose between the Premium Collection or the Signature Collection.

From now until 18 September 2024, indulge in a collection of timeless baked mooncakes filled with luscious, classic fillings. Each dainty creation signifies refined elegance, perfect to commemorate the occasion.



the Signature Collection and Premium Collect comes in a box of four with Pure White Lotus Paste with Single Yolk, Pandan Paste with Single Yolk, Red Bean Paste, and Assorted Fruits & Nuts flavours.



meals & deals

Hong Kong

7. JW Marriot Hong Kong



The Man Ho assorted mini mooncake gift box is perfect for sharing with family and friends, the set includes 6 pieces of mooncakes with Dried Tangerine Peel and Red Bean, Dried Figs and Assorted Nuts, and Jinhua Ham and Assorted Nuts flavours.

For the first time, the Michelin-starred Man Ho Chinese Restaurant at JW Marriott Hotel Hong Kong will be introducing a limited-edition artisanal mooncake freshly baked at an exclusive pop-up counter, to evoke fond memories and curate a pleasurable sensory experience.

Exquisite mooncake gift boxes with traditional and speciality flavours are also available, ideal for sending warm wishes to loved ones or business partners. The mooncakes are individually packed and presented in a newly designed gift box, adorned with elegant shades of champagne gold and embellished with graceful lotus motifs.

** Information correct at time of print.*



meals & deals



Go Full-Throttle With Room Discounts, Dining Credits, And Extra Perks With Millennium Hotels And Resorts!

Speed Savers: Book early and save up to 32% off stays for the Singapore F1 Grand Prix! (Photo credit: SkySports F1)

Are you geared up for an exciting Singapore F1 Grand Prix? Boost your speed-seeking adventure with an exclusive early booking deal with Millennium Hotels and Resorts!

Save up to 27% on premium accommodations when you book at least 7 days in advance in any of the handpicked hotels. Pop a bottle of champagne as you take the podium with an additional 12% off, making it a total of 32% off your stay!

Enjoy dining credit of up to SGD 25 per stay and earn 4X points when you book by 30 September, 2024, for any stay dates. Plus, you will be entitled to a hassle-free cancellation for stays between 19 September and 22 September 2024!

Participating hotels:

- Copthorne King's Hotel Singapore
- Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel Singapore
- M Social Singapore
- M Hotel Singapore
- Orchard Hotel Singapore
- Studio M Hotel

Key perks:

- Free cancellation*
- Complimentary Dining Credit per Stay
- 4x My Millennium Points
- Additional discount of up to 12% Off Room Rates for My Millennium members
- Complimentary High Speed Wifi

* Information correct at time of print.



meals & deals



A Mega Summer With Copthorne King's And Universal Studios

Create unforgettable memories with your loved ones at Copthorne King's Hotel Singapore - Experience the best of Singapore with unforgettable memories! (Photo credit: @riri_lim and RWS Sentosa)

Discover the ultimate getaway at Copthorne King's Hotel Singapore with an exclusive Room Package consisting of a luxurious and spacious Suite Room and an unforgettable roller-coaster adventure with complimentary tickets to Universal Studios Singapore.

Package Includes 3D2N stay in Executive Suite with breakfast for 2 adults and 1 child, and complimentary tickets to Universal Studios Singapore for 2 adults and 1 child.

Check out the latest Minions installment:

From now till 11 August 2024, immerse yourself in the latest Minions installment at Universal Studios. Wander down New York Street and be amazed by the Mega Minion inflatables towering above. Enjoy a brand-new, action-packed live show and join in the fun with the first-ever Minionvasion flash mob.

Book now and enter code 'TSGE' to unlock special savings and create lasting memories with loved ones.

Available for minimum stay of 3 days and 2 nights, with club lounge and gym access, complimentary breakfast for two, and 20% discount at all F&B outlets.



Get in the groove with Illumination's Minions as they flood New York Street with their slick and synchronized moves. Capture sweet memories with Gru, Lucy, and the girls – Margo, Edith, and Agnes. (Photo credit: RWS Sentosa)

* Information correct at time of print.



meals & deals



W Hotel Sentosa Cove: One Day ONLY Summer Fair 2024

Experience the ultimate in retail therapy at the Sentosa Fair, hosted exclusively at W Singapore – Sentosa Cove. Discover the latest trends and exclusive deals from top-notch brands and designer fashion to unique artisanal products at the summer fair!

The highly anticipated one-day-only Sentosa Summer Fair 2024 is back!

There will be a fabulous selection of products from jewellery to shoes, gorgeous dresses and home decor items, you'll be spoiled for choice!

Upgrade your wardrobe with sustainable pieces by Apostrophe The Label, shop cute kids' apparel by Saffron Strokes, pick up affordable rugs and homeware by Peaches by Komalgill and more at this flea market in W Hotel Sentosa Cove.

Happening on **31 August 2024, 10am to 5pm**
in the **Great Room at W Hotel Sentosa Cove.**

Entry is free!

** Information correct at time of print.*



The Summer Edition of the Sentosa Fair has a line up filled with gorgeous new brands alongside old favourites. Get the date in your diary for a Family Fun Filled day with Children's Entertainment and lots of prizes to be won!



meals & deals



Maximise Your Room With Full 24-Hours Per Stay At M Social Auckland And Copthorne Hotel Auckland City!

Auckland is a multi-cultural urban oasis of food, music, arts and culture. It's where sparkling waters and lush landscapes meet city sophistication. You'll find the best of both worlds with beautiful rainforests, parks and beaches all so close to the city centre.

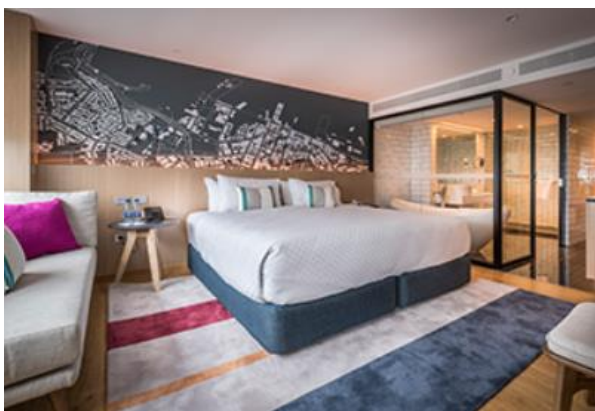
Get Your Best Hotel Deals on M Social Auckland and Copthorne Hotel Auckland City

There's lots to do in a day, especially in New Zealand. You can now enjoy your hotel room for a full 24 hours* from the moment you check in!

Get the most out of your travel and enjoy a little extra time in Auckland with M Social Auckland and Copthorne Hotel Auckland City. The clock for your 24 hours* stay starts the moment you check in, if you arrive at 7:00pm, enjoy your room up until 7:00pm the day of checkout!

Available for bookings and stays until 30 September 2024.

** Information correct at time of print.*



M Social Auckland is a contemporary hotel for the curious, the explorers and those who thrive on new experiences. Functionally chic, it features 190 rooms and suites overlooking the vibrant Princes Wharf with a stunning array of dining, entertainment and shopping experiences.



Simple, sophisticated, and designed for comfort, the 102-room Copthorne Hotel Auckland City is centrally located, making it the perfect base to explore the city or attend conferences. All rooms are uniquely equipped with soundproof 'hush windows' for the utmost privacy and comfort.



meals & deals



Go Co-Co-Nutty
With Refreshing
Afternoon Tea
At Grand
Millennium
Beijing's
Lobby Lounge

Cool down the summer heat with Lobby Lounge's Coconut Afternoon Tea with a refreshing menu. Be the first to taste the new tropical-flavoured dark chocolate shell with sour and sweet passion fruit!

Grand Millennium Beijing's Lobby Lounge has refreshed its afternoon tea menu to "cool the heat" with a nourishing coconut afternoon tea experience!

Each item is elegantly crafted by the pastry chef, capturing the essence of the tropical flavour, awakening summer taste buds with refreshing and delicate sweet and savoury treats.

Be transported to a "sunny beach" with summer-themed food at the Lobby Lounge today!

Available daily from 2pm to 5:30pm till 30 September 2024. RMB368 for 2pax.

** Information correct at time of print.*



meals & deals



Washoku Suki Desu!
A Summer
D-Eel-Lights
With New World
Millennium
Hong Kong's
Sagano Restaurant

The set dinner consists of an assorted range of appetisers, assorted sashimi, grilled eel egg rolls, barbecued Japanese eel, and a greenhouse melon with jelly.

Inspired by a famous suburb of Kyoto, Sagano offers an authentic Japanese dining experience. With bamboo and wood as its core design elements, the restaurant is a modern interpretation of the traditional Kyoto style – simple and elegant.

Summer D-eel-lights

Staying true to traditions, eel delicacies are savoured during summer as a custom rooted during the Edo period in Japan. Sagano salutes this tradition with a delicate, seasonal eel set dinner menu, priced at HKD1,650 per person, throughout August.

Enrich with this distinctive fresh sweetness and rich nutritional eel a delectable mainstay this summer!

Valid from 1 July to 31 August 2024. For details or reservations, please call +852 2313 4222, or visit the website.

** Information correct at time of print.*



play



On The Green At Beijing Riviera With Esteemed Malaysian Delegation

The distinguished guests and General Manager Mr Kenny Hon enjoying a around of golf at Beijing Riviera.

On 6 July, Ambassador of Malaysia to China Dato' Norman Muhamad, Trade Commissioner Mr Niqman Rafee Mohd Sahar, and Chairman of MAYCHAM China Mr Loh Wee Keng, visited Beijing Riviera, accompanied by General Manager Mr Kenny Hon.

Following an enjoyable round of golf, the esteemed visitors visited the Beijing Riviera clubhouse for some refreshments. Despite the hot weather, we thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to connect with these distinguished guests and were delighted and honoured to have the chance to meet with them.

Beijing Riviera has hosted prominent individuals from music and film stars to high-ranking government officials over the years, reflecting its stellar reputation and service excellence.



play



Summer Fun For Little Ninjas! Millennium Place Barsha Heights Returns With Popular Children's Hospitality Camp

The Hospitality Ninja summer camp engages young minds in a fun day of activities, where they can make friends and learn new skills.

Millennium Place Barsha Heights is back with its popular Hospitality Ninja programme, dedicated to children aged 4 to 10. Available from 8 July to 23 August, the summer camp runs from 9am to 3pm, Mondays to Fridays.

Hosted by the hotel's hospitality team, the young participants can unleash their inner masterchef via hands-on cooking classes, spark their creativity with arts, crafts and engineering sessions, take part in treasure hunts and bed-making classes and learn how to make fluffy towel art animals.

During the day, the children can look forward to fun-filled activities including pizza workshops, a culinary relay race, a bed-making and towel art class, an immersive kitchen garden experience, a treasure hunt, movie time, and so much more.

Delicious snacks are served, so ninja parents won't need to pack a lunch box.

When they complete a weekly programme, each qualified hospitality ninja is awarded their own certificate to celebrate their new skills and achievements.

More details are available here: <https://millenniumplacebh.com/hns/>



play



The Best Sentosa
Beach Club
For A Day
Of Fun
In The Sun

Dive into one of the largest private outdoor pools in Singapore with a vibrant marina experience.

Lifestyle publication Urban List recently featured the sizzling **WET Deck at W Singapore – Sentosa Cove** as one of the coolest Sentosa beach clubs to enjoy a day out in the sun!

With its idyllic location and unrivalled amenities, WET Deck is an exclusive poolside day escape offering relaxation and entertainment. You can indulge in their private cabanas (complete with plush poolside sofas), take a dip in the resort pool, enjoy refreshing cocktails from the poolside bar, bust a move to live DJ performances, and even pamper yourself with a rejuvenating spa treatment.

Once you've worked up an appetite, the menu showcases a fusion of international flavours, featuring fresh seafood, vibrant salads, and delectable snacks.

To top off your indulgent experience, book a stay at one of the hotel's luxurious rooms so the fun doesn't stop!



A Children's Day Celebration With Monk Andrew's Foundation At The Biltmore Tbilisi Hotel

The children from Monk Andrew's Foundation posing happily with staff from The Biltmore Tbilisi Hotel after the fun-filled celebration.

In celebration of Children's Day, The Biltmore Tbilisi Hotel proudly continued its cherished tradition of welcoming the beloved children from Monk Andrew's Foundation and their family members. This annual event demonstrates The Biltmore Tbilisi's ongoing commitment to supporting the community and creating joyful experiences for children battling cancer.

The celebration featured a special luncheon prepared exclusively for the children and their families. The event was marked by an atmosphere of warmth and happiness, further enlivened by professional animators who engaged the young guests with various entertaining activities. The hotel staff ensured that every moment was filled with delight, aiming to uplift the spirits of these special guests.

Monk Andrew's Foundation is dedicated to the rehabilitation of children with cancer, offering comprehensive support that includes medical treatment, accommodation, food, and psychological assistance. The foundation's efforts have significantly impacted the lives of many families, and The Biltmore Tbilisi Hotel is proud to support this noble cause.

Hosting these remarkable children and their families is a privilege for The Biltmore Tbilisi Hotel, and an opportunity to celebrate the children's strength and resilience. This partnership with Monk Andrew's Foundation allows the hotel to contribute meaningfully to the well-being of these families, providing them with cherished memories and moments of joy.



Hong Leong Asia Catalyses Action For Ocean Protection

About 47 Hong Leong Asia staff cleaned up about an 800-metre stretch at Pasir Ris Beach Park, experiencing first-hand how small actions can impact the environment.

Answering the call to this year's World Ocean Day, Hong Leong Asia lined up a series of activities. Starting with a webinar to raise awareness about ocean protection and to encourage collective action for preserving ocean resources, the activities culminated in a beach clean-up in collaboration with the **Ocean Purpose Project** at Pasir Ris Beach.

During the two-hour activity, HLAAsians collectively removed 62kg of waste and seaweed, or an average of 1.3kg per volunteer — significantly above the 0.88kg of domestic waste generated per person daily.

Looking ahead, HLA will explore other opportunities to contribute towards protecting the marine ecosystem in Singapore waters as well as reducing marine litter and plastic waste in the oceans to foster a more sustainable and healthier planet.



HLAAsians picking up pieces of waste discarded at the beach to keep the trash at bay.



Dubai Hotels Reduce, Reuse, And Recycle To Manage Environment Impact

The award-winning Millennium Airport Hotel Dubai is a contemporary lifestyle destination for those who desire to be at the centre of Dubai's pulsating business and cultural scene. Being the in heart of the airport, the hotel recently collaborated with Emirates Environment Group to drive plastic recycling campaign for World Ocean Day.

Our Dubai hotels, Millennium Plaza Downtown Hotel and Millennium Airport Hotel Dubai recently did their bit to reduce, reuse, and recycle to manage waste and minimise environment impact.

To promote environment preservation, Millennium Airport Dubai collaborated with Emirates Environment Group to collect and recycle 175 kg of plastic as part of its Plastic Recycling Campaign for World Ocean Day.

To address landfill space issues caused by textile waste, Millennium Plaza Downtown partnered with Kiswa Recycling Programme and donated an estimated 495 pieces (or 99 kg) of clothing to the needy community. The hotel's clothing donation is equivalent to the reductions of 356.4 kg carbon emissions, 594,000 liters of water, 29.7 kg of fertilizers, and 19.8 kg of pesticides.



Millennium Plaza Downtown received a certificate of recognition from UAE-based Kiswa Recycling Programme for their efforts to reduce textile waste and address landfill space issues.



A Fond Farewell
To Mr C.E. Chua.
He Retires
After 30 Years
Of Excellence
At Beijing Riviera

A photo of Mr C.E. Chua taken in his office in 2006. Together with his team in the early days, Beijing Riviera and its residents regularly contribute to the local community like China Welfare Fund for the handicapped in 1997, the Yangtze River Floods in 1998, and fundraise for various orphanages and local charities.

Beijing Riviera has undergone a remarkable journey over three decades under the visionary leadership of founder Mr K.C. Gan (also Managing Director of Hong Leong International (HK) Ltd.), and the capable management of Mr C.E. Chua, its general manager. Together, they transformed a rice field into a renowned villa community, adhering to the principles of "ESG" long before the term was widely used.

In this issue of Voices, we recognise the tremendous efforts of Mr Chua who retires this year after 30 years of unwavering dedication in building Beijing Riviera to what it is today.

“ In 1994, I came to Beijing as the chief representative and project manager of Hong Leong Holdings (HLH) to oversee the construction of Beijing Riviera. I had previously worked at HLH in Singapore and was sent overseas to be the Project General Manager (GM) for the Group’s first project in Taipei, the Grand Hyatt Taipei.

The opportunity to join the project team in Beijing arose when HL International (HK) Ltd. and HLH acquired the site in Beijing at around 1990.



Mr K.C. Gan presenting Mr Chua with a retirement commemorative album, honouring his outstanding contributions and diligent efforts over the years.



As the representative of the shareholders, my main responsibilities were to supervise and control the entire project, communicate and coordinate with various government departments on project procedures, exercise comprehensive oversight and management of the project, and resolve issues among stakeholders to ensure the smooth progress of the project.

When the project first kicked off, the site was still a rice paddy, with the crops having just been harvested. We began recruiting personnel and starting from June that year, we carried out a series of preliminary tasks, including draining the farmland, backfilling the land, and dredging the ditches and canals. Subsequently, the formal groundbreaking of Beijing Riviera commenced.



The Beijing Riviera team members gathering to celebrate Mr Chua's birthday in 2020.



A milestone photo taken at the site in June 1994: Assistant Managing Director of Hong Leong Holdings Mr Kwek Leng Kee (5th from left); Mr Gan (6th from left); and the project's team of engineering technicians.



Mr Chua delivering a speech at the Beijing Riviera Open House Ceremony in 1999.

Meeting challenges head-on

One of the biggest challenges our project team faced was the lack of municipal infrastructure in the area. There were no utilities, and the team had to lay all the cables and pipes to bring in electricity, gas, telephone lines, sewerage facilities, and build a water treatment plant drawing untreated water from the underground, including water softening. Since the low-rise, single-family homes were built for expatriates living in Beijing, the team also constructed schools starting with kindergartens.

Fortunately, the various government departments embraced an open and dynamic approach, providing the project with tremendous support. I quickly assembled a team of over 20 outstanding domestic engineering and technical professionals, and they began to create a beautiful community on the vast expanse of the fields.



voices



An aerial view of the sprawling Beijing Riviera development today, covering 1.5 million square metres and over 600 residential homes, including villas, apartments and townhouses.

The project provided good working conditions for staff, including the few expatriate staff from Singapore. We ensured that the interests of purchasers of the villas and townhouses (including investors), residents, and counterparties like suppliers and contractors were all well looked after.

We asked ourselves how we can look after the natural environment. That motivated us to build the project in the most sustainable manner, using appropriate designs and materials, minimising waste, and incorporating comprehensive landscapes with abundant water features to address climate change concerns about Beijing's poorer air quality in the early days.

Solidifying Beijing Riviera's position and our transformation today

Beijing Riviera was originally a joint venture with the local government and a sovereign fund. It is also perhaps one of the earliest property developments of its kind in mainland China after the country's opening up to foreign investors. This greater responsibility meant that we had to showcase our best practices in our management, rules and regulations, transparency, and comprehensive reporting to all relevant parties.

After the project's construction was completed, I focused on building the company's hardware and software services, with the aim of transforming Beijing Riviera into the most prestigious villa community in Beijing.

Today, Beijing Riviera is a sprawling site of lush green pastures, tranquil lakes and spacious houses covering 1.5 million square metres. It also encompasses an exclusive Country Club and a Resident Service Centre to provide a one-stop service centre for all residents.



voices

The project's success was evidenced by the visits from prominent Singaporean leaders, including Singapore's founding father Mr Lee Kuan Yew and former Prime Ministers Goh Chok Tong and Lee Hsien Loong. In 2001, Dr Richard Hu, the Minister of Finance, also visited Beijing Riviera, hailing it as an outstanding example of Singaporean investment.



(L-R) Singapore Ambassador to China Brigadier General Chin Siat Yoon, Mr Chua, the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew and his wife Madam Kwa Geok Choo, and Mr Gan at the Beijing Riviera in September 1999.



Mr Gan (left) and Mr Kwek (centre) welcoming then Prime Minister of Singapore Mr Goh Chok Tong (right) at Beijing Riviera in 2000.



Former Prime Minister and now Senior Minister of Singapore Mr Lee Hsien Loong and his wife Madam Ho Ching dined at the Riviera Country Club's Chinese Restaurant in 2016, pictured here with Mr Chua (left) and Mr Kenny Hon (right). Mr Hon is now Beijing Riviera's new General Manager.

This has indeed been a challenging but rewarding journey, and I'm greatly appreciative of the teams who have worked tirelessly to achieve this success together. ’



congratulations / appointments



Celebrating
20 Years Of
Excellent Service
At Copthorne
Hotel Plymouth

General Manager Mr Raj Srinivasan presenting Ms Carly Hobbs (pictured centre, carrying a congratulatory bouquet of flowers) with her long service certificate, surrounded by her supportive colleagues.

Copthorne Hotel Plymouth recently celebration a special work anniversary of its staff Ms Carly Hobbs, who successfully completed 20 years of service at the hotel on 1 June 2024!

Carly joined the hotel back in June 2004 as part of the Front Office Team, taking on the role of supervisor. Since then, she successfully transitioned into a Reservations role in 2016, and progressed up to Rooms Division Manager, which is a role she has held since 2017.

Throughout her 20 years, Carly has demonstrated her commitment to the hotel and provided support to all departments in the hotel at some point, and her knowledge remains invaluable to the hotel.

The teams at Copthorne Hotel Plymouth are greatly appreciative of her years of dedicated service and look forward to many more years of her great support!



congratulations / appointments



TripAdvisor
Names SanSara
Singapore's
Best Indian
Restaurant

Embodying the spirit of constant exploration of cuisines and flavours, SanSara, located at Grand Copthorne Waterfront is recognised as "Singapore's Best Indian Restaurant" on TripAdvisor.

Named "Singapore's Best Indian Restaurant" by TripAdvisor, this marks a proud moment for SanSara which will soon mark one year of opening since August 2023.

Backed by ancient recipes and unique renditions of well-loved flavours, SanSara promises a warm and inviting dining experience for guests, a true reflection of the Indian hospitality. Master Chef Pannalal Nath is at the helm of the restaurant's curated menu that showcases humble ingredients and traditional techniques to suit the discerning palate. Guests are invited to delight in the flavours of Rajasthan with the Rajasthani Set Menu, priced from S\$68++ for a unique gastronomical affair.

The newly introduced Executive Set Lunch Menus offers a choice between a two-course meal at S\$28++ and a 3-course indulgence at S\$38++, perfect for business lunches or a midday break.

"We are beyond excited to have earned this recognition on TripAdvisor. At SanSara, we will continue welcoming guests to discover refreshing new flavours that encapsulate the taste of North India. We look forward to bringing more signatures adapted from recipes for the royals to transport guests to the streets of North India," said Master Chef Pannalal Nath.

"I am extremely proud of my team for this commendable achievement and passion for delivering memorable dining experiences. At SanSara, every dish tells a story of craftsmanship and dedication to the art of Indian cuisine," said Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel General Manager, Mr Andrew Tan.

"SanSara continues to be a hallmark of Millennium Hotels and Resorts' commitment to delivering exceptional service and global dining experiences for our guests. This recognition is also a testament to our team's effort in ensuring our guests are treated with utmost care while serving authentic food that exceeds expectations," said Chief Commercial Officer at Millennium Hotels and Resorts, Mr. Saurabh Prakash.



congratulations / appointments



Spa By JW & St. Regis Spa Take Top Spots For Luxurious Pampering In Her World Spa Awards 2024

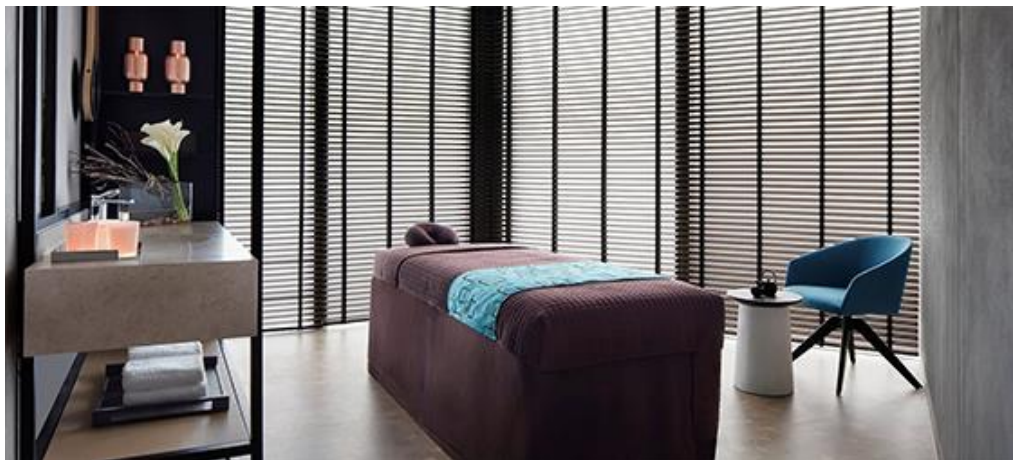
Step away from the city bustle and into the soothing cocoon of rest and relaxation at Spa by JW (pictured here) and St. Regis Spa.

With Singapore's fast-paced lifestyle, there's no better way to decompress and unwind than with a luxurious day of pampering at the spa.

Her World, Singapore most popular women's magazine, recently curated a list of the best spa hotels in Singapore. We're proud to share that **Spa by JW** at JW Marriott Singapore South Beach and **St. Regis Spa** at The St. Regis Singapore took top spots in Her World Spa Awards 2024!

Check out the recommended spa treatments below and what Her World contributors have to say about their pampering experiences.

Best Spa Day Out - Spa by JW, JW Marriott Singapore South Beach



Wind down after a hectic week with a rejuvenating massage session at Spa by JW.



congratulations / appointments

Most Pampering Couple Spa - St. Regis Spa, The St. Regis Singapore



Enjoy an indulgent full body treatment with your loved one at the luxurious St. Regis Spa.

Over 300 camp overnight to book Azalea Park units



Food for the early birds: Condo buyers stocking up on their food supply yesterday at 6 pm before booking for the apartments starts this morning. — Picture by Yow Yun Woh

Hong Leong's
Love Story
With 'Master
Developer'
Site In
Singapore's
Upper Changi

Azalea Park was the first of the instalment to launch for sale in March 1993. More than 300 buyers queued as early as 7am the day before the sales launch at Hong Leong Building. The picture above shows buyers stocking up on food as they camped overnight to try score the best units. (Source: NewspaperSG archives)

It all began with big dreams, a far-sighted vision, patience, and a long-term strategy. After more than half a century, the launch of Kassia condominium finally concludes the master development in Singapore's Upper Changi by Tripartite Developers, a consortium of three sister developers comprising Hong Leong Holdings, City Developments Limited, and TID Pte Ltd. The site was acquired in the early 1970s and built up gradually with its first development, Azalea Park in 1993.

The journey was long and not an easy one. But together, the developers have successfully shaped the site into a beautiful, private residential enclave with 11 condominiums today.

Let's learn about the striving and legacy that Tripartite Developers have laid in the area. This article is adapted from an interview between property publication, EdgeProp and Ms Betsy Chng, Head of Sales and Marketing at Hong Leong Holdings.

'The Master Developer'

The entire private residential enclave in the eastern region of District 17 was built up gradually over the past three decades. Hong Leong Group acquired the original three million square foot (sq ft) of undeveloped land at Upper Changi Road North in the early 1970s.

Shortly after, Hong Leong Holdings and Japan's largest real estate developer, Mitsui Fudosan, teamed up to become shareholders of a joint venture, TID. This led to a consortium, Tripartite Developers — a joint venture of three sister developers comprising Hong Leong Holdings, Singapore-listed City Developments Ltd (CDL) and TID.



getting to know you



Pictured (L-R): Azalea Park, Ballota Park and Carissa Park were the first three condominium projects launched by the developers.



Following the success of the first three projects, the consortium launched Dahlia Park (left photo) and Edelweiss Park (right photo).



Ferraria Park (left) and The Gale (right) was launched shortly after.

“Tripartite had intended to build an ambitious project with 1,820 residential units. “However, at that time, the sheer size of the project was too much for the market to absorb if it was developed in five years. After studying the area, we decided to divide the land into multiple parcels to be developed at ‘an opportune time’ to shape and mould the area into the private residential enclave it is today with 11 exclusive condominiums, including Kassia,” said Ms Betsy Chng, Head of Sales and Marketing at Hong Leong Holdings Limited.



getting to know you

She adds that Tripartite Developers' role as "master developer" was to set the tone for the neighbourhood from the start and culminate in its final project, Kassia. When the authorities chose the names Flora Drive and Flora Road for the roads, Tripartite Developers decided to name its properties after flower names in alphabetical order.

The first project was Azalea Park, a 316-unit development launched in the mid-1990s, followed by the 365-unit Ballota Park, the 528-unit Carissa Park, the 299-unit Dahlia Park, the 517-unit Edelweiss Park, the 475-unit Ferrara Park, the 329-unit The Gale, the 501-unit Hedges Park, the 396-unit The Inflora, and the 428-unit The Jovell. Concluding the master plan is the freehold 276-unit, Kassia.



Pictured (L-R) Hedges Park and The Inflora came in the late 2010s with a different tenure – a 99-year leasehold for the first time in the developers' instalment.

Why the different tenures?

While Azalea Park has a 999-year lease from 1885, the following five condos launched — from Ballota Park to Ferrara Park — were freehold. Hedges Park has a 99-year lease from 2010, while The Gale is freehold. The Inflora has a 99-year lease from 2012, and The Jovell has a 99-year lease from 2018.

The difference in tenure for the various private condominiums was due to the various zoning under the URA Master Plan on the land bank. According to Ms Chng, some were zoned for rural or agricultural use, and the tenure was reset to a 99-year lease in exchange for removing the land restrictions.



Pictured (L-R) Recently completed, The Jovell, has a 99-year leasehold. The finale, Kassia, has a freehold tenure that will last through generations.



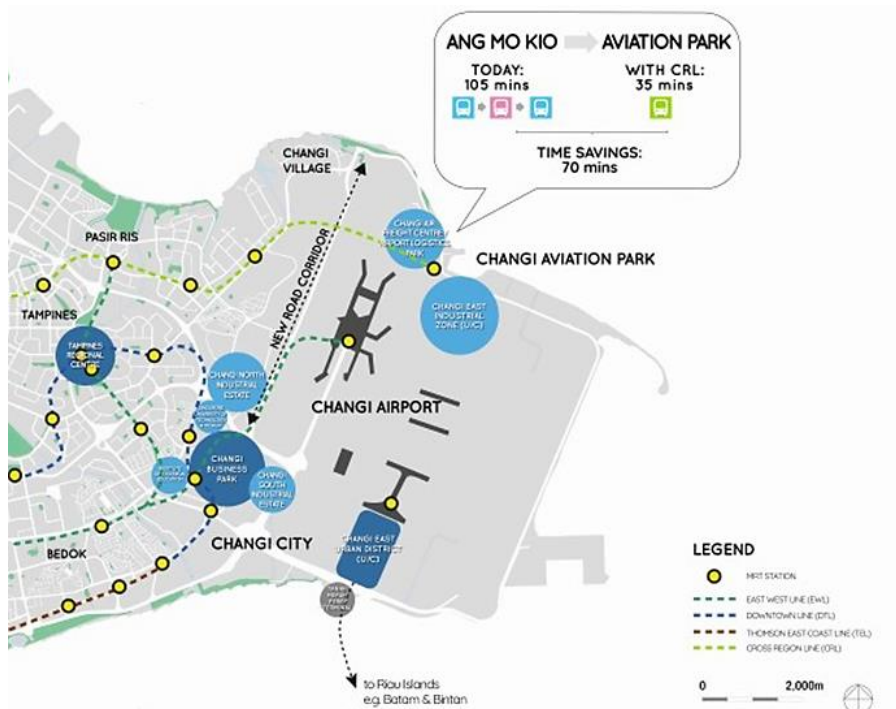
getting to know you

Kassia, which has four 8-storey blocks spanning a 150,389 sq ft freehold site, is expected to obtain its temporary occupation permit (TOP) in 2027. Three years from now, its TOP will bring the number of completed private dwelling units in the area to 4,430.

Following Kassia's completion, we estimate the number of residents in the enclave to be over 13,000, based on an average household size of 3.11. It aligns with Statista's estimate for Singapore's average household size over the past decade, from 2014–2023. "The profile of residents has remained largely Singapore citizens, from Azalea Park, our first launch, to the most recently completed project, The Jovell," says Ms Chng.

An Added Boost: The Changi Transformation

New infrastructure projects have sprung up as the neighbourhood matured, such as Changi Business Park, Singapore University of Technology and Design, Jewel at Changi Airport, and the upcoming Cross-Island MRT Line. The value-add in terms of lifestyle and convenience has also drawn residents — owner-occupiers and tenants — who work in the nearby industrial and business hubs, says Ms Chng.



The new Connectivity Plan of the Changi Region. An array of infrastructure is being planned by Singapore's Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) to transform Changi into a well-connected, mixed-used district for businesses, employees, residents, and tourists. The newly announced Cross Island Line will complement existing MRT lines and reduce travel time to Changi Region, while a study to extend the Cross Island Line and the Thomson-East Coast Line to serve Changi Airport is ongoing. (Source: URA)



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Besides the private condominiums in the Flora Drive neighbourhood, Hong Leong has also been involved in developments in other districts of the East, making it one of the dominant players in the area. This includes the 566-unit, 99-year leasehold Penrose at Sims Drive, a joint development with CDL (launched in September 2020); and the 537-unit, 99-year leasehold The Tropica at Tampines Avenue 1 (launched in 1997, completed in 2020).



The 566-unit Penrose is a joint development with CDL located in Singapore's east side at Sims Drive. It was launched in 2020 and expected to complete next year, 2025. (artist's impression)



Located off Marine Parade Road, the 215-unit Fernwood Towers is a freehold condominium that completed in 1994.

Hong Leong has also developed several freehold condo projects in the prime Meyer Road enclave of District 15, such as the 196-unit Aalto (launched in 2007, completed in 2010), the 293-unit freehold The Meyerise (launched in 2011, completed in 2014), and the 157-unit The Atria at Meyer (launched in the early 1990s, completed in 1996).

Elsewhere in prime District 15, Hong Leong's other freehold projects include the 215-unit Fernwood Towers off Marine Parade Road (launched in the early 1990s and completed in 1994) and the 72-unit King's Mansion on Amber Garden, completed in 1982.

With Kassia, the final private condo in Flora Drive at the launch gates, "there is a huge sense of achievement", notes Ms Chng. "We are fulfilling the government's vision to build the Changi District into a vibrant 'live-work-play-learn' ecosystem."



Kassia's Arrival Court (left) welcomes with a relaxing grandeur that leads into a tranquil and modern home. (Artist's impressions)