

INTERNATIONAL FOCUS

What's New and Next in Singapore

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by Lisa A. Grimaldi | October 01, 2016



(Pictured) The world's only island city-state offers groups sleek hotels, high-tech venues, gardens and more.

R E A D M

Singapore may be diminutive in size (277.6 square miles), but it offers everything that makes an outstanding meeting and incentive destination: posh hotels, a variety of meeting and convention facilities, gaming, great food, unique culture and natural attractions. Following are some recent developments in this storied city-state off the coast of Malaysia.

HOTEL UPDATE

The 634-room South Beach hotel will become the **JW Marriott Hotel Singapore South Beach** in December. The property, which opened last year adjacent to the Suntec Singapore Convention Exhibition Center, was designed by Philippe Starck. It features 19 meeting rooms, a grand ballroom, a spa, and nine food-and-beverage outlets, including a specialty restaurant by chef Akira Back.

The **Hôtel Vagabond** on the hip Jalan Besar, a colorful avenue lined with restaurants and clubs just outside the central business district, is now a Tribute Portfolio property. The boutique hotel

has 41 guest rooms and the Vagabond Salon, a 5,000-square-foot versatile event space. The hotel has an artist-in-residence program, the first to be hosted by a hotel in Singapore.

The 131-room **Hotel Indigo Singapore Katong** opened in June. Housed in a former police station, the property has earned BCA Green Mark Platinum status and offers Baba Chews Bar and Eatery, featuring locally sourced, seasonal ingredients; a rooftop infinity pool; a fitness center, and two meeting rooms.

Construction on **The Patina, Capitol Singapore**, a luxury property with 157 guest rooms, a fitness center, a signature restaurant, a club lounge, and 4,000 square feet of meeting and event space, is in the works. An opening date has yet to be announced.

Coming in 2019 on the site of the former Boulevard Hotel is the 190-room **Singapore Edition**, a Marriott brand.

VENUE NEWS

Suntec Singapore Convention and Exhibition

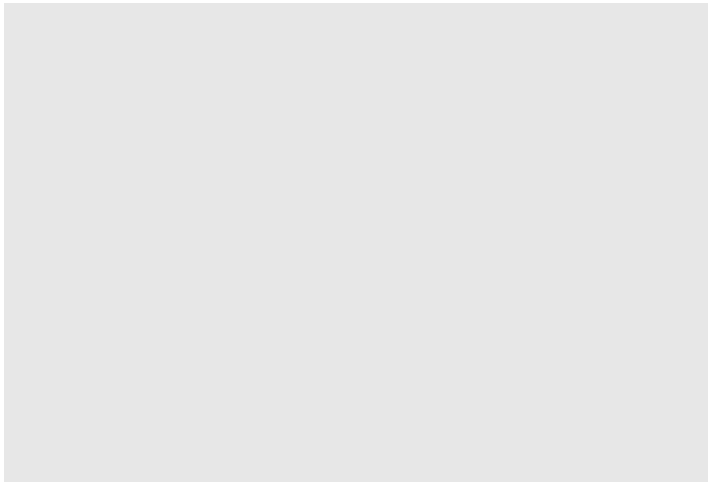
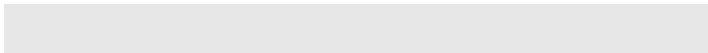
Center, which has 453,600 square feet of flexible meeting space, now offers ImmersiveAV Suite technology for meetings. Components include The Panorama, a wide-format projection screen powered by 20,000 lumen projectors and a state-of-the-art A/V system, and The Float3D, a projector that displays still images and logos with animated effects.

TECH TALK

In its mission to become a technology thought leader, Singapore is hosting a number tech events this year and beyond. Among them are the **ISACA Cybersecurity Nexus Asia Pacific**, taking place this Nov. 12-16, and the **Internet Engineering Task Force 100** meeting, which will be held Nov. 12-17, 2017. The two events are each expected to attract some 2,500 global IT engineers and developers to explore initiatives on everything from new Internet framework developments to enhanced cyber security.

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The partnership will allow both organizations to share data and studies about the impact of the sharing economy and more.

Kempinski's First Luxury Hotel in Cuba Opens in Spring

The 246-room Gran Hotel Manzana Kempinski La Habana opens this spring in the heart of Old Havana.

International Travel to U.S. Finally Returned to Pre-9/11 Levels in 2016

Economic data shows amount of spending by visitors was highest since 2000.

Disney Reveals Opening Dates for Star Wars Attractions, Pandora

Lisa A. Grimaldi lgrimaldi@mcmag.com The new Star Wars -themed attractions at Disneyland and Walt Disney World will open in...

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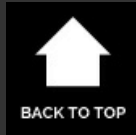
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100 Lighting Way, Secaucus, NJ 07094-3626 USA | Telephone: (201) 902-2000