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Sancharaka Udawa 2026 Delivers Its Biggest Edition Yet with 100 International Buyers, 250+ Exhibitors and a Historic First Sri Lanka's only dedicated travel and tourism exhibition closed its doors on a landmark note

DINUSHKA CHANDRASENA

The 13th edition of Sancharaka Udawa 2026 made history, delivering what was undoubtedly the most ambitious edition of Sri Lanka's premier travel and tourism exhibition to date. Held on 15th and



16th May at the Hilton Colombo, the two-day event brought together over 100 international buyers, 250+ exhibitors and more than 300 stalls under one roof cementing its place as the defining event in Sri Lanka's tourism calendar.

The pre-event media briefing was hosted at The Blue, Hilton Colombo, by the Sri Lanka Association of Inbound Tour Operators (SLAITO) and the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau (SLTPB), reflecting the strong institutional backing that has made Sancharaka Udawa a cornerstone of the country's tourism industry.

In a landmark development for this year's edition, Sancharaka Udawa 2026 hosted over 100 international hosted buyers, predominantly from Asia, with the largest contingent arriving from India, Sri Lanka's number one tourism generating market. This global participation transformed the exhibition into a powerful inbound tourism marketplace, creating direct business opportunities between foreign buyers and local tourism service providers.

Sancharaka Udawa holds a unique and distinguished place in Sri Lanka's tourism landscape as the country's only dedicated travel and tourism exhibition. Its national significance was powerfully underscored at the 2025 edition, which was inaugurated by Her Excellency the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Dr. Harini Amarasuriya; a testament to the event's pivotal role in driving Sri Lanka's

tourism agenda forward.

At the heart of Sancharaka Udawa is a clear and compelling mission to connect Sri Lanka's small and medium tourism enterprises with international tour operators and integrate them into the global tourism ecosystem. The exhibition delivered on that promise once again, generating a significant surge in bookings for regional and small-scale tourism service providers, many of whom regard this event as their most important annual business platform.

The two-day programme delivered a dynamic and packed agenda. Day One featured a high-level Panel Discussion on Tourism Marketing with International Experts, followed by a Business Networking Gathering that proved invaluable for both industry newcomers and seasoned professionals alike. The evening culminated in a glittering Awards Ceremony recognising the Best Stall designs and event sponsors.

The event was officially launched with the SLAITO Special General Meeting (SGM), setting the tone for two days of deal-making, dialogue and industry innovation.

Sancharaka Udawa 2026 was organised by SLAITO and the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau, and once again proved why it remains the one event that Sri Lanka's tourism industry cannot afford to miss.

Sri Lanka's Santani Earns Its Place Among Vogue's Best Spas In The World

DINUSHKA CHANDRASENA

Santani's Vogue Global Spa Guide listing is the latest in a constellation of international accolades that have firmly established this Sri Lankan retreat as a world-class wellness destination.

When Vogue launched its inaugural Global Spa Guide — a curated index of 100 of the world's finest spa and wellness destinations — the editorial team made clear that the list was built on personal, writer-tested experience. Broken out by region and spanning everything from cutting-edge medispas to ancient healing traditions, the guide was conceived as a definitive authority on where discerning travellers go to feel their best. Among those 100 chosen addresses: Santani Wellness Resort & Spa, nestled in the misty highlands above Kandy, Sri Lanka.

For those who have visited, the recognition comes as no surprise. For those who have not, consider this your invitation.

Santani — a Sanskrit word meaning in harmony with — is precisely what its name promises. Perched at 900 metres above sea level within 48 acres of tropical forest and former tea estate land near the Knuckles Mountain Range, the resort was conceived not simply as a place to stay, but as a philosophy made physical. Its award-winning architecture of silence deliberately dissolves the boundary between indoors and out: open-sided treatment pavilions, floor-to-ceiling glass walls, and polished concrete floors cooled by the highland breeze rather than air conditioning. The surrounding landscape is not a backdrop — it is the therapy itself.

The resort comprises 20 stand-alone chalets — 16 with sweeping mountain views and four with lush garden outlooks — each designed to encourage stillness, with rooms intentionally free of televisions and Wi-Fi available only on request. The message is quietly radical: be here.

At the heart of Santani's offering is a deeply personalised approach to wellbeing, grounded in Ayurveda — the 5,000-year-old Indian system of healing that Sri Lanka has practised and refined for centuries. Every guest begins with a



consultation with the resort's Ayurvedic physician, from which a bespoke programme of treatments, therapies, meals and movement is crafted.

The spa itself is a three-tiered, open-air sanctuary where treatments are administered to the ambient soundtrack of birdsong and rustling forest. Wet and dry saunas, open-air thermal salt pools and Ayurvedic treatment rooms sit alongside yoga pavilions and meditation spaces. The dining concept — Rasa Haya — is equally purposeful: plant-forward, locally sourced menus calibrated to each guest's constitution and wellness goals, a programme that recently earned Santani a prestigious Michelin Key recognition for 2025.

Vogue's own previous recognition of Santani through its Hong Kong edition — which named it among the most idyllic Ayurvedic retreats on Asian soil and the best wellness resort in Sri Lanka — paved the way for the resort's global debut in the magazine's spa guide.

For Asia-based travellers, Santani represents a rare opportunity: a world-recognised wellness retreat that is close to home, deeply rooted in regional healing traditions, and set within one of the continent's most captivating landscapes. Sri Lanka's accessibility from major Asian hubs — with Colombo International Airport approximately four hours from the resort, and scenic seaplane connections available — makes it an entirely viable long weekend escape or the centrepiece of a longer island itinerary.

Sri Lanka continues to hold its own in an increasingly uncertain world. Arrivals remain on a positive trajectory, and that is encouraging but numbers alone should not be our measure of success.

As an industry, we must shift the conversation decisively toward yield. Filling beds and seats means little if revenue per visitor stagnates. The real opportunity for Sri Lanka lies in attracting travellers who spend more, stay longer, and return. Quality over quantity is no longer a slogan, it is a strategy.

On that note, it is heartening to see Santani Wellness Resort receive yet another international accolade, further cementing Sri Lanka's standing as a destination that genuinely appeals to the high-value traveller. Recognition of this calibre does not happen by accident; it reflects years of investment in authentic, world-class experiences. This is precisely the positioning Sri Lanka must continue to build upon.

Adding to the momentum, Sancharaka Udawa marks its 13th edition this year, larger and more ambitious than ever, with exciting new additions and 100 hosted buyers participating. It is a significant platform and a timely one.

Globally, the conversation in travel has shifted firmly toward experiential luxury. High-end tourism is already valued at US\$1.38 trillion, and today's affluent traveller is no longer seeking passive indulgence they want cultural immersion, purposeful engagement, and sustainability credentials. Sri Lanka, with its wellness offerings, biodiversity, and heritage, is ideally placed to meet that demand.



The challenge and the opportunity is to ensure our industry rises to it

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NEWS / FAMILY ALBUM

Antyra Solutions Secures Google Premier Partner Status for Third Consecutive Year

TTA BULLETIN

Antyra Solutions (www.antyrasolutions.com) has once again been recognised as a Google Premier Partner in 2026, marking the third consecutive year the agency has achieved the distinction under Google's Partners programme.

The recognition places Antyra Solutions among the top-performing Google Partners in its market, emphasising the agency's continued strength in digital advertising strategy and campaign performance.

Commenting on the achievement, Antyra Solutions Chief Operating Officer Naveen Marasinghe said, "Being recognised as a Google Premier Partner for the third consecutive year is an important milestone for us because it reflects consistency, not only in performance, but also in the value we continue to create for our clients."

"As the digital landscape becomes more competitive and increasingly shaped by AI-driven tools, our focus remains on helping brands make smarter marketing decisions backed by strategy, data, and platform expertise," he added.

As a Google Premier Partner, Antyra Solutions gains access to a range of Google resources, training, insights, and support designed to help agencies stay ahead of platform developments and deliver stronger campaign outcomes.

Antyra Solutions has built a strong reputation in Sri Lanka's digital space through its work across performance marketing, web and software development, and creative services, serving clients in sectors such as hospitality, travel, finance, insurance, e-commerce, agriculture, and FMCG.

The Agency's performance marketing capabilities include paid search, display advertising, YouTube campaigns, analytics, SEO, and conversion-focused digital strategy, supporting brands both in Sri Lanka and overseas.

The latest Google Premier Partner recognition adds to a growing list of milestones for the agency, including multiple international web awards, as it continues to strengthen its position as a results-driven digital partner for brands looking to grow in an increasingly digital-first marketplace.

Antyra Solutions is an integrated digital marketing agency, serving clients via three business verticals. Antyra Labs is the technology arm, building web platforms and software products. Antyra Digital provides performance-based digital marketing services, including SEO, PPC, social media management, analytics, and more. Antyra Studios is the design arm of the company, delivering end-to-end creative solutions.

The company specialises in the fields of travel and hospitality, finance, insurance, e-commerce and education, serving many of Sri Lanka's leading corporate entities. Antyra has won four of the top five web awards, including recognitions from Awwwards, Web Awards from the Web Marketing Association, a Grand Award at NYX Marcom 2021 and two Web Excellence Awards in 2025. The agency has also won two Canopus (Platinum) Awards at the Vega Digital Awards 2021, as well as SLT Zero One and SLIM DIGIS awards. The team's design work has also been featured in the prestigious Communications Arts Magazine, the world's largest international trade journal of visual communication.

Browns Hotels & Resorts Raises the Bar with Quintessential Bartender 2026

Browns Hotels & Resorts, in collaboration with Periceyl, turned up the energy and artistry with the successful conclusion of Quintessential Bartender 2026 — an inter-hotel bartending competition created to spotlight, sharpen, and celebrate the group's finest talent.





A SERENE *beachfront escape* ALONG NEGOMBO'S GOLDEN COAST



Set along the golden coast of Negombo, Jetwing Sea offers a refreshed take on a much-loved escape, where light-filled spaces and life by the beach shape an easy, welcoming stay, elevated by legendary Sri Lankan hospitality.

The newest addition, the Sea Residence, is a spacious suite where the sea greets you before the day even begins with wide, uninterrupted views right from the comfort of your bed. Across the hotel, a natural ease carries through, from Seaside Social, an easy-going lounge and cocktail bar, to The Horizon on the beachfront, where thoughtfully crafted cuisine and drinks reflect both local character and global flavour.

With the ocean always in frame and the shore just steps away, Jetwing Sea invites you to check-in, unwind and let Negombo surprise you.



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City of Dreams Sri Lanka Appoints Chef Ye Panwang to Lead Chinese Culinary Excellence at Spice 8

TTA BULLETIN

City of Dreams Sri Lanka has announced the appointment of Chef Ye Panwang as Chef de Cuisine, bringing over two decades of international culinary expertise to its dynamic dining portfolio and further strengthening the destination's commitment to world-class gastronomy.



as Chinese Chef de Cuisine at The Kingsbury Colombo before joining City of Dreams Sri Lanka in March 2026.

Known for his mastery across Cantonese, Szechuan, Huaiyang, Beijing, Shanghai, and Hunan cuisines, Chef Panwang combines traditional culinary techniques with modern presentation styles, creating dishes that are both visually striking and deeply authentic. His expertise also extends to vegetable and fruit carving, food sculpture, and artistic presentation—bringing theatre and craftsmanship to every dining experience.

Chef Panwang now leads the culinary direction of Spice 8, City of Dreams Sri Lanka's signature Pan-Asian dining destination, where his deep-rooted expertise in authentic and contemporary Chinese cuisine is set to elevate the restaurant's offering for local and international guests alike.

His appointment marks another significant step in positioning City of Dreams Sri Lanka as South Asia's premier integrated resort for luxury hospitality and exceptional dining experiences.

A Chinese national from Bengbu City, Anhui Province, Chef Panwang has built an impressive global career across some of the world's most prestigious hospitality brands and luxury resorts.

His journey includes senior culinary leadership roles at properties such as The Kingsbury Colombo, The Westin Maldives Miriandhoo Resort, Narcissus Hotel and Resort, and multiple five-star luxury resorts across the Maldives, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia. Most recently, he served

At Spice 8, guests can expect a refined culinary journey that celebrates the richness of Asian flavours while introducing innovative interpretations that reflect the sophistication of City of Dreams Sri Lanka's luxury dining ethos. His philosophy centres on delivering exceptional cuisine without compromising on taste, quality, or creativity, while continuously pushing boundaries in modern Chinese gastronomy.

As City of Dreams Sri Lanka continues to redefine Colombo's hospitality landscape, Chef Ye Panwang's appointment reinforces its vision of bringing globally celebrated talent to the destination—creating experiences that go beyond dining and into the realm of unforgettable culinary storytelling.

Cinnamon Sri Lanka Resorts Sector Welcomes the New Year with Island-wide Celebrations

TTA BULLETIN

Sri Lanka Resorts Sector of Cinnamon Hotels & Resorts came together to celebrate the Sinhala & Hindu New Year across its resorts, creating a warm and welcoming space for both guests and staff to share in the spirit of the season.



Across properties including Cinnamon Bentota Beach – Signature Selection, Cinnamon Bey Beruwala, Cinnamon Citadel Kandy, Cinnamon Lodge Habarana, Habarana Village by Cinnamon, Kandy Myst by Cinnamon, Hikka Tranz by Cinnamon, Trinco Blu by Cinnamon and Cinnamon Wild Yala, the celebrations reflected the simple joys and traditions that make the new year so special.



From lighting the ceremonial hearth to preparing traditional sweets, rounds of traditional games to cultural performances, guests were invited to take part and experience the Sri Lankan New Year in a genuine and a relaxed way. What made it truly special was the way teams joined in alongside guests, creating a shared sense of celebration and connection.

Each resort added its own local touch, whether by the coast, in the hills, or surrounded by wildlife, bringing a sense of place into the festivities.

Through these celebrations, Cinnamon Sri Lanka Resorts Sector continues to embrace the importance of local traditions, creating experiences that feel personal, meaningful, and rooted in Sri Lankan culture.

Nicolas Laufrais Appointed Senior Director of Commercial for Four Seasons Resort Bali at Jimbaran Bay and Four Seasons Resort Bali at Sayan

TTA BULLETIN

Nicolas Laufrais has been appointed Senior Director of Commercial, overseeing Four Seasons Resort Bali at Jimbaran Bay and Four Seasons Resort Bali at Sayan.



With more than 15 years of experience across sales, marketing and revenue management roles within international hospitality brands, Laufrais brings a balance of analytical expertise and creative commercial thinking to the role, with a focus on long term, sustainable growth. He most recently spent two years immersed in Bali's hospitality landscape, leading the commercial positioning and launch strategy at Regent Bali Cangu.

Previously, Laufrais served as Head of Commercial at InterContinental Cascais Estoril, where he focused on strengthening luxury partnerships and lifestyle positioning within a competitive European market. Earlier in his career, he held the role of Director of Sales and Marketing at Conrad Bora Bora Nui, further developing his experience in the ultra luxury segment.

In his new role, Laufrais will oversee commercial strategy across both resorts, integrating sales, marketing and revenue initiatives while maintaining a strong connection to place.

“Luxury travel today is about emotional

resonance,” says Laufrais. “The resorts offer distinctive experiences in two remarkable settings. My focus is to strengthen global positioning while ensuring each initiative reflects the authenticity, heritage and sense of connection that define these resorts.”

As Senior Director of Commercial, Laufrais will shape a unified strategy that balances each resort's distinct identity with a shared commercial approach. Four Seasons Resort Bali at Sayan, set along the Ayung River, offers a secluded jungle setting rooted in the island's spiritual traditions. Four Seasons Resort Bali at Jimbaran Bay presents a beachfront environment centred on Balinese culture and relaxed coastal living.

Across both properties, Laufrais will work to align commercial planning with local context, supporting a cohesive vision that respects each resort's individual character.

“To lead the commercial strategy for two resorts that reflect Bali so distinctly, from the oceanfront setting of Jimbaran Bay to the serenity of Sayan, is a meaningful responsibility,” says Laufrais. “Individually, each resort has a strong identity; together, they represent the breadth of the island's culture, landscape and sense of place.”

The Kingsbury Celebrates Avurudu in the Heart of Colombo

TTA BULLETIN

The Kingsbury, Colombo, marked the Sinhala & Tamil New Year with a memorable Avurudu celebration, bringing together tradition, culture and the spirit of togetherness in a day filled with meaningful moments.

The celebrations began in the morning with the traditional milk boiling ceremony, held in the hotel lobby at the auspicious time. Guests gathered to witness this symbolic ritual, marking prosperity and new beginnings, before enjoying a selection of authentic Sri Lankan sweetmeats served alongside tea and coffee. Throughout the day, Churros featured a dedicated Avurudu sweetmeat stall, offering guests the opportunity to savour and purchase traditional favourites.

At Harbour Court, the Avurudu lunch buffet welcomed guests to a lively dining experience, accompanied by traditional Avurudu music that set the tone for the day. The spirit of celebration continued into the evening as guests gathered at Tavern for an engaging, culturally immersive programme. The event commenced with an address by General Manager Nandana Wirasinha, who warmly introduced the significance of Avurudu to both local and international guests, followed by a captivating traditional dance performance.

As the evening unfolded, the energy of the celebration came alive with a series of traditional Avurudu games, including the yoghurt-eating competition, bun-eating contest, kana mutti, kotta pora, musical chairs, and the much-loved “placing the eye on the elephant.” Set to the rhythmic beats of the rabana, guests enthusiastically participated in the games, creating moments of laughter and excitement. Winners were awarded special prizes, adding to the spirit of friendly competition.



The celebrations concluded with a lively and colourful boat dance performance by the staff of The Kingsbury, bringing the evening to a memorable close. Blending tradition with warm hospitality, The Kingsbury, Colombo, once again created a meaningful Avurudu experience for its guests, celebrating not just a cultural festival, but the joy of coming together.

The Kingsbury, Colombo, is one of the most iconic five-star hotels in the city. With 229 rooms and suites, the hotel is located in the heart of the bustling city of Colombo.

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HOTELS

Cinnamon Velifushi Maldives introduces indoor mini golf experience

TTA BULLETIN

Resort experiences are increasingly shaped by the need for flexibility, with guests seeking activities that can be enjoyed beyond peak sun hours, creating a natural demand for engaging indoor spaces and particularly in tropical destinations where brief, seasonal rain showers are part of the island rhythm.

Cinnamon Velifushi Maldives builds on this evolving guest preference with the introduction of its new 8-hole Indoor Mini Golf Centre, adding a playful and interactive dimension to the island's leisure offering. The space was officially unveiled at a recent opening, where a guest was invited to mark the occasion, setting the tone for an experience centred around shared enjoyment and light-hearted moments.

The indoor mini golf course offers a relaxed, air-conditioned space where guests of all ages can take part, whether as a casual game between families, a friendly challenge among couples, or a fun addition to group stays. It provides a comfortable alternative to outdoor activities while maintaining the sense of energy and connection that defines time on the island, regardless of the weather.



The addition builds on the resort's existing indoor facilities, including billiards, table tennis, and a dedicated kids' playroom, creating a more rounded leisure experience that caters to different moods and moments. Outdoors, guests can continue to explore a wide range of activities, from beach volleyball and futsal to badminton, diving, and both motorised and non-motorised water sports.

As one of the first resorts in the area to introduce an indoor mini golf experience, Cinnamon Velifushi Maldives continues to evolve its offerings in line with how guests choose to travel today, blending activity, comfort, and shared experiences in a setting designed for both relaxation and discovery.

Hilton Yala Resort Featured by Condé Nast Traveller as a Leading Birdwatching Destination in Sri Lanka

TTA BULLETIN

Hilton Yala Resort has been featured in a recent global editorial by Condé Nast Traveller Middle East titled "Birdwatching trips are soaring in 2026 — here's where to see the world's most incredible species," spotlighting the resort as a premier destination for birdwatching experiences in Yala National Park, Sri Lanka.

This recognition places Hilton Yala among a curated list of the world's most remarkable birding locations, reinforcing the resort's growing reputation as a gateway to one of South Asia's richest biodiversity hotspots. Nestled within the buffer zone of Yala National Park and overlooking the Indian Ocean, the resort offers a rare vantage point where luxury hospitality seamlessly intersects with thriving wildlife ecosystems.

Yala is home to over 200 bird species, including both endemic and migratory varieties, making it one of Sri Lanka's most significant birdwatching regions. Hilton Yala enhances this natural advantage through curated, FGASA certified ranger-led experiences that allow guests to explore the park's diverse habitats—from wetlands and lagoons to forested landscapes—while gaining deeper insight into the region's avian life.

"Being featured by Condé Nast Traveller is a proud moment for Hilton Yala and a testament to the extraordinary natural environment we are privileged to be part of," said Gitanjali Chakravarthy, General Manager of Hilton Yala Resort. "Our vision has always been to create meaningful connections between our guests and the



destination, and this recognition highlights the unique experiences we offer—where luxury meets the untamed beauty of Yala."

At the heart of these experiences is Hilton Yala's commitment to responsible tourism and conservation. The resort actively champions ESG-led initiatives, including habitat preservation, responsible safari practices, and ongoing efforts to support wildlife and bird conservation in the region. Through education-led guest experiences and collaborations with local and international experts, Hilton Yala continues to promote awareness and appreciation for Sri Lanka's rich biodiversity.

"Yala is one of the most rewarding birding landscapes in the region, with a remarkable diversity of species found within a relatively compact area," said Sajith Withanage, Head Ranger at Hilton Yala Resort. "From endemic species like the Sri Lanka junglefowl to migratory visitors that arrive seasonally, each safari offers something unique. Our goal is to provide guests with an authentic, educational, and respectful way to experience this incredible ecosystem."

Earl's Regency Unveils Noor Weddings in Collaboration with Amana Bank

TTA BULLETIN

Earl's Regency introduces Noor Weddings, a new wedding offering shaped for celebrations launched in collaboration with Amana Bank, the offering brings the Noor Weddings experience to Amana Bank card holders, with an exclusive 15% discount on the package rate for qualifying bookings.

Set in the heart of Kandy, Earl's Regency has long been known for weddings that feel grand and graceful, with sweeping hill-country views, landscaped gardens, picture-perfect photography locations and stately interiors. From pre-wedding family gatherings to grand receptions, Noor Weddings is designed to make full use of the scenic spaces of Earl's Regency Kandy.

The all-inclusive package created for weddings at Earls Regency Kandy includes welcome refreshments, a dedicated service team, premium linen, cutlery and crockery, an elegant bridal throne, a styled throne pathway, head table décor, entrance styling, and wedding car décor. Guests to Earls Regency can also enjoy an attentive service, smooth coordination, spacious surroundings and ample parking.

The collaboration with Amana Bank adds a meaningful advantage for couples and



families planning their wedding at Earls Regency, with their strong network across Sri Lanka and a notable presence in the Central region including branches in Kandy, Katugastota, Gampola and Matale. With Noor Weddings, Earl's Regency introduces a distinct wedding experience, rooted in setting, styling, and service, and now made even more rewarding for Amana Bank card holders through an exclusive preferred rate.

Heritage Hotels and Resorts is the flagship brand of Aitken Spence Hotels, a part of Aitken Spence PLC, a leading Sri Lankan blue-chip conglomerate. Aitken Spence Hotels oversees a diverse collection of 18 hotels and resorts across Sri Lanka, Maldives, Oman and India through its diverse collection of brands Heritage Hotels and Resorts, Adaaran Hotels & Resorts, and Turyaa. Heritage Hotels & Resorts stands as the custodian of the largest portfolio of Bawa designed hotels in Sri Lanka, adding a touch of architectural distinction to its rich offerings.

Yazu Makes Its International Debut in Galle, Bringing a New Lifestyle Dining Brand to Sri Lanka's South

TTA BULLETIN

Yazu at the Beach officially opened today at Radisson Blu Resort Galle, marking the first international expansion of the Yazu brand and introducing one of India's best-known Pan-Asian hospitality concepts to Sri Lanka. The launch is a significant milestone not only for Yazu Hospitality Pvt. Ltd., but also for Galle, a destination that continues to strengthen its position as one of the country's most distinctive tourism and lifestyle hubs.

For Yazu, the move into Sri Lanka reflects a deliberate brand decision. Publicly positioned as a progressive Pan-Asian supper club and "House of Artisanal Pan-Asian Food," the brand has built its identity around immersive hospitality, strong design language, and a social, high-energy guest experience. That makes Galle a natural fit, given its mix of coastal appeal, heritage character, luxury hospitality growth, and strong relevance within the wider southern tourism circuit.

Galle occupies a distinctive place in Sri Lanka's tourism story. The Old Town of Galle and its Fortifications is a UNESCO World Heritage site on the island's southwest coast, recognized for its unique blend of European urban planning and South Asian architectural traditions. Sri Lanka Tourism also positions Galle and the Southern Coast as key visitor destinations, supported by beach, heritage, and port-led appeal. That combination gives the city unusual strategic value for hospitality



brands seeking both international visibility and local relevance.

Commenting on the launch, Yazu Hospitality Pvt. Ltd. Chief Executive Officer, Ranbir Singh Nagpal said: "Taking Yazu beyond India for the first time is a defining step for our brand. We wanted our international debut to happen in a destination that already carries its own identity and energy, and Galle offered exactly that. It is globally recognised, culturally rich, and increasingly important within the region's premium travel and lifestyle landscape. For us, this opening is about more than a new location. It is about planting the Yazu brand in a market that understands experience, atmosphere and hospitality at a high level."

Sino Lanka Holdings Pvt. Ltd. Chairman, Bob Kundanmal said: "Galle has become one of the most important hospitality destinations in Sri Lanka, particularly on the South Coast, and that creates the right environment for brands with international appeal and a strong point of view.

The Eden Beruwala

Five-Star Living on Beruwala's Golden Mile

Set along Beruwala's Golden Mile, The Eden Beruwala by Browns Hotels & Resorts offers a refined five star beach escape on one of Sri Lanka's most iconic coastlines.

With 158 modern rooms, the resort blends coastal comfort with thoughtful luxury. Whether you're unwinding, spending time with loved ones, or simply enjoying the sea, everything feels effortless.

Days unfold at your own pace - time at the spa, a swim, or playtime for the kids. Dining is a highlight, with generous buffet spreads, well crafted à la carte options, and destination dining by the ocean. Step into your Golden Mile getaway at The Eden Beruwala.



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City of Dreams Sri Lanka Strengthens Colombo's Position with a Distinct Luxury and Lifestyle Proposition

TTA BULLETIN

Building on its landmark opening, City of Dreams Sri Lanka continues to reshape the country's tourism and hospitality landscape as South Asia's first fully integrated luxury resort, bringing together Nüwa, its luxury flagship hotel, and Cinnamon Life, its vibrant lifestyle hotel, within a single world-class destination. Developed through the strategic partnership between Melco Resorts & Entertainment and John Keells Holdings PLC, the project introduces a new model for Colombo, one that combines luxury, lifestyle, entertainment, retail and business experiences at an unprecedented scale.

Spanning 4.5 million square feet and representing an investment of USD 1.3 billion, the largest private investment in Sri Lanka, City of Dreams Sri Lanka reflects both long-term confidence in the country and a new level of ambition for Colombo as a regional destination. More than a hospitality development, it is a statement of intent about the kind of city Colombo is becoming, more connected, more competitive and more relevant to high-value global travel, business and leisure.

At the heart of the development is the integrated resort concept, a model that has helped redefine leading destination cities around the world by bringing together premium hospitality, entertainment, retail, wellness and large-scale events in one cohesive environment. In Colombo, that concept now takes shape through a destination designed not simply to accommodate visitors, but to offer a complete and immersive experience.



Anchoring the resort is Nüwa, the luxury flagship hotel within the globally recognised City of Dreams portfolio. With 113 rooms and suites, Nüwa introduces an intimate and highly personalised expression of luxury to Colombo. Defined by refined service, design-led interiors, curated detail and panoramic views of the city, Nüwa is positioned as the resort's most elevated hospitality offering, setting a new benchmark for luxury in Sri Lanka.

Complementing this is Cinnamon Life, the lifestyle hotel within the integrated resort, bringing scale, energy and contemporary city appeal to the destination. With 687 rooms and suites overlooking the Indian Ocean and Colombo skyline, Cinnamon Life is designed for guests seeking a vibrant, connected and experience-led stay. Its social spaces, contemporary hospitality offering and broad guest appeal give the resort a strong lifestyle dimension, balancing the intimacy of Nüwa with the dynamism of a larger urban destination.

Beyond its hotel offering, City of Dreams Sri Lanka brings together a broad mix of experiences that reinforce its position as a landmark destination. At its centre is a 180,000-square-foot entertainment space designed to international standards,

A Grand Celebration at the Pegasus Reef Ballroom

TTA BULLETIN

Easter Sunday was celebrated in grand style at Pegasus Reef Hotel this year, as guests gathered in the magnificent Grand Ballroom for a festive Easter Sunday Brunch on 5th April 2026.

The elegant setting of the Grand Ballroom set the perfect stage for a morning filled with joy, indulgence, and wonderful memories. Guests were treated to a sumptuous brunch spread, carefully curated to delight every taste — from hearty classics to festive favourites.

But the fun didn't stop at the table. The celebration came alive with exciting fun games and activities, keeping guests entertained and creating a warm, lively atmosphere that had everyone smiling. Families, couples, and friends came together, making it a truly shared experience from start to finish.

The event was a resounding success, with guests thoroughly enjoying every moment — the food, the fun, and the festive spirit that Pegasus Reef Hotel so effortlessly brings to life.



Browns Hotels & Resorts Raises the Bar with Quintessential Bartender 2026

TTA BULLETIN



Browns Hotels & Resorts, in collaboration with Periceyl, turned up the energy and artistry with the successful conclusion of Quintessential Bartender 2026 — an inter-hotel bartending competition created to spotlight, sharpen, and celebrate the group's finest talent.

Bringing together bartenders from 16 Browns Hotels & Resorts properties across 10 iconic destinations, the competition offered a stage for personality, precision, storytelling, and skill, where the best bartenders from each resort went head-to-head in pursuit of the ultimate title.

The journey began with regional rounds hosted at Hotel Sigiriya, Club Hotel Dolphin Negombo, and Dickwella Resort & Spa, where competitors showcased their talents in both Classic and Innovative Cocktail categories before a respected judging panel. From these rounds, the top contenders earned their place in the grand finale at The Eden Beruwala, where the atmosphere was electric.

The grand finale was graced by Eksath Wijeratne, CEO of Browns Hotels & Resorts, and Senaka Amarathunaga, Director General Manager of Periceyl, reinforcing the importance of developing talent and driving excellence within the hospitality industry.

The distinguished judging panel featured Trevin Gomes, Managing Director of Cargills Retail and a respected pioneer in Sri Lankan hospitality; Ishadi Amanda, Mrs World 2024 1st Runner-Up and Mrs Sri Lanka for Mrs World 2024; Dushan Umayanga, All Island Flair Bartending Champion 2023 and Sri Lanka's Got Talent Semifinalist 2024; Rodger Peterez, Beverage Expert and Trainer at Periceyl; and Kanishka Jayathunga, Head of Learning & Development at Browns Hotels & Resorts.

Adding to the spirit of the evening, General Managers from across the Browns Hotels & Resorts portfolio, together with hotel executive teams and Food & Beverage Managers, were present to cheer on their representatives and stand behind their teams in a strong show of unity, encouragement, and camaraderie.

What unfolded throughout the competition was a masterclass in modern mixology. There were cocktails inspired by Avurudu traditions, creations rooted in medicinal

and wellness concepts, botanical blends layered with fresh herbs and aromatics, smoky and complex serves, and technique-driven drinks executed with finesse. Some competitors brought flair, drama, and showmanship to the stage, while others brought elegance, balance, and powerful storytelling. Local ingredients met international trends, proving that Sri Lankan bartending talent can stand confidently on any global platform.

Speaking at the finale, Eksath Wijeratne, CEO of Browns Hotels & Resorts, stated: "The level of talent displayed throughout this competition was truly inspiring. What stood out most was the passion, discipline, and originality shown by our teams. These are the individuals shaping guest experiences every day, and Quintessential Bartender 2026 has shown that our internal talent holds extraordinary potential. It gives us great confidence for the future of hospitality at Browns Hotels & Resorts."

The competition crowned three exceptional winners whose creativity and consistency set them apart: Champion – Imalshi Kaushalya of Newburgh Ella – The Tea Factory Resort, 1st Runner-Up – Nimesh Denuwan of Club Hotel Dolphin, 2nd Runner-Up – Chamindu Nimrada of Dickwella Resort & Spa.

The concept behind Quintessential Bartender 2026, in collaboration with Periceyl, was driven by Pahan Wijendra, Cluster Beverage Manager; Baba Carrim, Head of Business Excellence; and Kanishka Jayathunga, Head of Learning & Development, with the vision of strengthening internal capabilities, uplifting beverage standards across the group, and creating a meaningful platform for associates to showcase their creativity and grow their craft.

The evening concluded on a high note with a fellowship gathering, where participants, winners, management teams, and supporters came together to celebrate the spirit of the competition, shared success, and the strong culture of talent development within Browns Hotels & Resorts.

With talent poured into every glass and passion behind every performance, Quintessential Bartender 2026 has firmly established itself as a signature platform within Browns Hotels & Resorts — one that raises the bar for excellence, innovation, and opportunity.

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HOTELS / AIRLINES

Hilton Yala Resort Earns Global Recognition at Luxury Lifestyle Awards 2026

TTA BULLETIN

Hilton Yala Resort Sri Lanka has been recognized by Luxury Lifestyle Awards with the title of Best Luxury Wildlife Resort in Sri Lanka, acknowledging the resort's distinctive approach to nature-led hospitality and its positioning at the edge of Yala National Park.



Hilton Yala Resort represents a rare concept within the global hospitality landscape as the only wildlife resort within Hilton's worldwide portfolio. Located in a protected buffer zone adjacent to Yala National Park—one of the world's highest-density leopard habitats—the property offers a five-star stay shaped by direct access to nature and immersive safari experiences.

The resort's offering centers on refined accommodation paired with FGASA-certified ranger-led wildlife excursions, ensuring guests benefit from globally recognized expertise in guiding, safety, and conservation. Its accommodation portfolio includes thoughtfully designed rooms, suites, and private pool villas, many featuring private plunge pools, dipping pools, or whirlpools, allowing guests to unwind in complete privacy while immersed in the surrounding wilderness.

Complementing the experience is a curated selection of dining concepts that celebrate both local heritage and global culinary standards. Guests can indulge in locally inspired Sri Lankan flavours, international cuisine, and bespoke dining experiences, including destination-led settings such as beachfront, jungle, and poolside venues—each designed to enhance the connection between gastronomy and the natural environment.

Its design philosophy reflects a strong connection to the surrounding landscape, allowing guests to experience Sri Lanka's wilderness while enjoying the service standards associated with the Hilton brand.

Guest experiences at Hilton Yala Resort are guided by a personalized approach. Teams trained in both luxury hospitality and wildlife awareness tailor each stay around individual interests such as safari exploration, photography, wellness, or cultural discovery. The property is accessible to international travelers through Hilton's global reservation platforms and loyalty network, welcoming guests from South Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Asia-Pacific, and beyond.

"Hilton Yala was created to offer a form of luxury that is defined by experience and connection to nature," said Gitanjali Chakravarthy – General Manager, Hilton Yala Resort. "This recognition reflects the work of our team in delivering a wildlife destination that combines global hospitality standards with the authenticity of Sri Lanka's natural environment."

Luxury Lifestyle Awards is a global program that identifies and recognizes excellence in luxury goods and services across multiple industries and regions. Through comprehensive research and evaluation of publicly available information, the organization highlights companies that represent established standards of quality, innovation, and guest experience in the international luxury market.

Hilton Yala Resort is part of Hilton Honors®, the award-winning guest loyalty program for Hilton's 24 world-class brands. Hilton Honors members who book directly through preferred Hilton channels have access to instant benefits.

Kandy Myst by Cinnamon Hosts Exclusive Meet-and-Greet with Rugby Legend Kieran Read

TTA BULLETIN

An exclusive meet & greet with Kieran Read, former captain of the New Zealand All Blacks, was recently held at Kandy Myst by Cinnamon, bringing together a distinguished gathering from Sri Lanka's rugby fraternity.



Organised by the hotel, the engaging session provided guests with a unique opportunity to interact with the rugby great, gain insights into his leadership philosophy and approach to the game, and hear reflections from his celebrated career. The forum fostered open exchange, creating a platform for meaningful dialogue and inspiration among those present.

The event saw participation from Sri

Lankan rugby legends, alongside distinguished guests including the High Commissioner of New Zealand to Sri Lanka and the Mayor of Kandy, further highlighting the significance of the occasion.

The interaction concluded on a warm and engaging note, leaving attendees with valuable insights, shared inspiration, and a renewed sense of connection within the rugby community.

Emirates is reconnecting the world through Dubai with 96% of its global network restored

TTA BULLETIN

Emirates is marking a near-full return to operations, with 96% of its global network now restored, following a period of disruption. In the past weeks, the airline has progressively resumed services across the Americas, Europe, Africa, West Asia, the Middle East/GCC, the Far East and Australasia.



high-speed Wi-Fi keeps customers reachable at 40,000 feet. Emirates now has Starlink connectivity live on 28 aircraft, delivering ultra-fast, reliable internet in the air.

Enjoy flexible travel and rewards

Emirates is giving customers more reasons to travel with confidence with flexible rebooking, Dubai Connect stopover experiences and enhanced Skywards benefits:

- **Flexible bookings:** Customers booked from 2 April will enjoy added flexibility, with one free date change included across all cabin classes. Customers who have booked with Emirates can also hold a fare for 24 hours free of charge.

- **Dubai Connect:** For customers with extended transit times in Dubai from 6 to 26 hours, Emirates' Dubai Connect programme turns a long layover into a comfortable stopover, courtesy of the airline. Eligible customers will enjoy complimentary hotel accommodation at a 4 or 5-star property, airport transfers, meals, and, where required, a UAE entry visa. Available to passengers across all cabin classes with qualifying connection times, Dubai Connect can be booked up to 12 hours ahead via Manage Your Booking on emirates.com. Terms and conditions apply.

- **Skywards:** From 1 May to 31 August 2026, Emirates Skywards members can enjoy accelerated access to the programme's premium tiers through reduced tier requirements and Bonus Tier Miles on Emirates and flydubai flights.

*Between 1 March and 30 April

Emirates currently operates three daily flights to Colombo, ensuring reliable and consistent connectivity for customers travelling to and from Sri Lanka.

Today, the airline operates to 137 destinations across 72 countries, with over 1,300 weekly frequencies, representing 75% of pre-disruption capacity. The airline is offering more flights, more seats and more options each day while reaffirming Dubai's position as a vital hub through which global travel moves.

Even as it operated with a reduced schedule, Emirates carried 4.7 million passengers* during the disruption, a testament to the enduring demand for travel and the trust that travellers continued to place in the airline to get them where they needed to go.

The Emirates experience, wherever you're going

Wherever Emirates customers choose to fly, they can expect a best-in-class onboard and onground experience, defined by exceptional comfort, genuine hospitality, and a level of service that has set the standard for long-haul travel.

Onboard, customers enjoy a unique culinary experience, with regionally inspired, multi-course menus developed by a team of award-winning chefs and complemented by a wide selection of premium beverages. Emirates' award-winning ice inflight entertainment system offers more than 6,500 channels of the best global content in almost 40 languages, including movies, TV shows, music, podcasts, games, audiobooks and more, ensuring there is no such thing as a long flight.

And for those who need to stay connected,

Pegasus Reef Hotel Rings in Sinhala & Tamil New Year with Colour, Culture & Pure Joy

TTA BULLETIN

Pegasus Reef Hotel welcomed the Sinhala and Tamil New Year in truly memorable fashion this April, bringing guests together for a vibrant two-day celebration on 14th and 15th April 2026.

Themed around the beloved concept of "අන්දමේ එක්ක අවුරුදු", the event captured the very heart of the festive season — blending traditional culture with laughter, togetherness, and the unmistakable energy of a crowd united in celebration.

The hotel buzzed with excitement across both days as guests immersed themselves in the spirit of Avurudu. The event drew a wonderful crowd, filling the venue with warmth, colour, and the kind of genuine



happiness that only this special time of year brings.

It was, without doubt, one of the most successful and heartfelt celebrations the hotel has hosted — a proud reflection of Pegasus Reef's commitment to honouring Sri Lanka's rich cultural traditions with style and sincerity.



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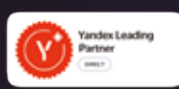
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Hahnair Hosts Top Agency Recognition Dinner for Sri Lanka's Leading Travel Partners

TTA BULLETIN



Hahnair, together with its service partner, Jetwing Air, hosted an engaging recognition dinner at Sapphire Dragon, Cinnamon Life in Colombo on 28th April 2026. The event provided the ideal setting to honour Sri Lanka's top ten travel agencies for their outstanding sales performance in 2025.

Celebrating teamwork, partnership, and shared successes, all participating agencies were awarded with certificates, while the three top contributors were honoured with trophies for their exceptional sales volume.

Representing Hahnair was Mr. Bharat Kapoor, while Jetwing Air was represented by Mr. Santhush Udamalagala, General Manager, and Mr. Tuan Kitchilan, Senior Manager Business Development.

"We want to thank all partners who took the time to attend this exclusive dinner," said Mr. Bharat Kapoor. "Hahnair is proud to be a reliable and trusted partner for travel agents in Sri Lanka. We look forward to continued collaboration and mutual growth."

For more information, visit www.hahnair.com.

Direct Flights Link Ahmedabad and Colombo as Sri Lanka Opens New Gateway for Indian Travellers

TTA BULLETIN

A landmark partnership between City of Dreams Sri Lanka, Cinnamon Hotels & Resorts, Walkers Tours and Sri Lanka's privately owned international carrier FitsAir has brought scheduled direct flights between Ahmedabad and Colombo into operation,

opening a seamless new travel corridor for visitors from Gujarat.

FitsAir will operate the route three times weekly, offering Gujarat-based travellers straightforward access to one of South Asia's most anticipated leisure destinations. Gujarat has emerged as one of Sri Lanka's most promising Indian source markets, driven by deep cultural connections, a well-connected travel trade, and a rapidly growing appetite for international leisure travel. The new service is designed to capitalise on that momentum, positioning Colombo as an accessible and compelling luxury getaway for the region's outbound travellers.

At the centre of the experience is City of Dreams Sri Lanka, the country's first fully integrated resort, situated in the heart of Colombo. Guests arriving on the new service can choose from a portfolio of Cinnamon Hotels & Resorts properties across the city — from the flagship Cinnamon Life at City of Dreams to Cinnamon Grand, Cinnamon Lakeside and Cinnamon Red — spanning luxury, upscale and contemporary categories to suit a range of preferences.

The partnership also introduces tailor-made holiday packages for Indian travellers, weaving together the City of Dreams Sri Lanka experience with wider island itineraries that take in cultural



highlights in Kandy and beachside escapes at Cinnamon's coastal resorts. Introductory packages are priced from INR 55,555 per person, covering return airfare, two nights' accommodation with breakfast at Cinnamon Life at City of Dreams, and private airport transfers.

Kamal Munasinghe, Senior Vice President, Colombo Hotels, Cinnamon Hotels & Resorts and General Manager, Cinnamon Life at City of Dreams, noted that Gujarat has consistently demonstrated strong interest in Colombo as a leisure destination. He described the new flights as a natural next step — a direct gateway that connects travellers from the region to the energy, entertainment and hospitality that define City of Dreams Sri Lanka, alongside Cinnamon's broader island experiences.

FitsAir Director Ammar Kassim highlighted the strategic value of the Ahmedabad connection, noting that the airline's overnight departure from Colombo delivers travellers into Ahmedabad in the early morning — giving them a full day from arrival — while also unlocking smooth onward connections through Colombo to FitsAir's expanding international network.

Bookings for the Ahmedabad-Colombo service and associated Cinnamon travel packages are now open.

Emirates Group achieves record profit of AED 24.4 bn (US\$ 6.6 bn) in 2025–26

TTA BULLETIN

The Emirates Group has released its 2025–26 Annual Report, posting record profit, revenue, and cash balance levels for the financial year ended 31 March 2026 — a remarkable achievement given significant disruption in the final month of the reporting period.



margin of 6.8%

- Record revenue of AED 23.6 billion (US\$ 6.4 billion), up 12%

- Strong cash assets of AED 4.7 billion (US\$ 1.3 billion), up 28%

International operations accounted for

77% of dnata's revenue, driven by strong performance in Australia, Europe, the UAE, UK, and US. dnata handled 888,793 aircraft turns globally — up 12% — and processed 3.2 million tonnes of cargo. The division also acquired Wymap Group, an air cargo trucking specialist in Australia and New Zealand.

Leadership Perspective

His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Chairman and Chief Executive, Emirates Airline and Group, said: "These outstanding results, despite significant challenges in the last month of our financial year, reaffirm the strength and resilience of the Emirates Group's business model, which is rooted in safety, excellence, innovation, people and partnerships.

"The Emirates Group enters 2026–27 with very strong cash reserves. Our aircraft deliveries and retrofit programme will continue, as will planned investments in new facilities. Our fundamentals are strong. Dubai's place at the nexus of global commerce, trade and travel flows is unchanged. Our ambition to be the best in the world, and to be of service to the world, is unchanged."

Investment, People & Sustainability

The Group invested AED 17.9 billion (US\$ 4.9 billion) in new aircraft, facilities, equipment, and technology. Its total workforce grew 8% to 130,919 employees worldwide, with the UAE national workforce surpassing 4,000.

On sustainability, the Group signed an MoU with ENOC Group to explore sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) supply at Dubai's airports, joined the Aviation Circularity Consortium, and partnered with four UK Wildlife Trusts through the "Championing Nature" initiative with Wimbledon. The Emirates Airline Foundation supported 13 active projects globally, providing over 500 flight tickets for medical missions and improving access to education, shelter, food and healthcare for disadvantaged children worldwide.

The full 2025–26 Emirates Group Annual Report is available at www.themiratesgroup.com/annualreport

Group Results at a Glance

- Record profit before tax (PBT) of AED 24.4 billion (US\$ 6.6 billion), up 7% year-on-year, with a PBT margin of 16.2%

- Record revenue of AED 150.5 billion (US\$ 41.0 billion), up 3%

- Record cash assets of AED 59.6 billion (US\$ 16.2 billion), up 12%

- EBITDA of AED 41.1 billion (US\$ 11.2 billion)

- Dividend of AED 3.5 billion (US\$ 1.0 billion) declared to the Investment Corporation of Dubai (ICD)

- Profit after tax of AED 21.0 billion (US\$ 5.7 billion), up 3%, after the UAE's adoption of Pillar Two tax rules raising the corporate rate to 15%

Emirates Airline

Retaining its title as the world's most profitable airline, Emirates reported:

- Record PBT of AED 22.8 billion (US\$ 6.2 billion), up 7%, with a PBT margin of 17.4%

- Record revenue of AED 130.9 billion (US\$ 35.7 billion), up 2%

- Highest-ever cash assets of AED 54.9 billion (US\$ 15.0 billion), up 10%

Emirates grew its network to 152 cities across 80 countries, launching four new destinations — Da Nang, Hangzhou, Siem Reap, and Shenzhen — and expanded its codeshare and interline partnerships, giving customers seamless access to over 1,700 cities. The airline took delivery of 15 Airbus A350 aircraft, bringing its A350 fleet to 19 units. Emirates SkyCargo carried 2.4 million tonnes of cargo, up 3%, with revenue of AED 16.2 billion (US\$ 4.4 billion). In a major connectivity milestone, 21 aircraft were fitted with Starlink high-speed Wi-Fi by year end.

dnata

dnata delivered solid growth across all business divisions, reporting:

- Record PBT of AED 1.6 billion (US\$ 437 million), up 2%, with a PBT

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Watching
Mirissa
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Dondra head
26Km

Galle Fort
19Km

Koggala lake
Boat Ride
4.6Km

Coconut
Tree Hill
15Km

Its Time! Emirates' iconic A380 returns to Dubai with world-first Starlink Wi-Fi onboard

TTA BULLETIN

Emirates' flagship A380, long celebrated as one of aviation's most iconic aircraft, is set to reach new heights as the first installation of next-generation Starlink Wi-Fi onboard has just been completed.



As the world's largest passenger aircraft, the A380 presents unique engineering challenges and opportunities. This

The Emirates A380 was one of the first commercial aircraft in the world to offer internet to its customers, with first generation systems offering a total aircraft bandwidth of less than 1 Mbps. Emirates' installation of three Starlink antennas on each A380 will improve the Wi-Fi available onboard a thousand-fold - offering a 'better than at home' connectivity experience for customers, while flying at 40,000 feet.

The first Emirates A380 aircraft equipped with Starlink made its return to Dubai this week, after its installation and certification was accomplished in Newquay, UK. With more A380s scheduled for accelerated installation throughout 2026, Emirates customers will soon enjoy a transformative leap in onboard connectivity with the ability to stream, game, browse, and work throughout their journey on personal devices. The service will be complimentary for all customers, across all cabins, with easy sign up and access. Future enhancements will include Live TV streaming over Starlink, initially on personal devices and later integrated into seatback screens.

From its celebrated Onboard Lounge to its signature First Class Shower Spa, the Emirates A380 has consistently redefined long-haul travel, beloved by customers from all corners of the globe. With the addition of Starlink's seamless connectivity across all cabin classes, the Emirates A380 experience evolves once more, delivering a fully connected journey in the sky.

industry-first Starlink configuration is designed to meet the demands of the A380's 'double-decker' layout and high passenger capacity and is capable of delivering more than 2 Gbps of total aircraft bandwidth across the cabin.

Compared with the Emirates Boeing 777, the Emirates A380 features additional wireless access points and a third antenna to deliver an enhanced connectivity experience for its higher passenger capacity. Optimised inter deck integration supports a seamless Wi-Fi experience, with customers able to enjoy high speeds depending on usage and device capability.

Starlink installations will soon begin at Emirates Engineering facilities in Dubai to accelerate deployment across the fleet. Emirates is committed to bringing the best possible connectivity to its entire fleet at the earliest opportunity, with 25 Boeing 777-300ER aircraft already equipped with Starlink and the first A380 now joining service.

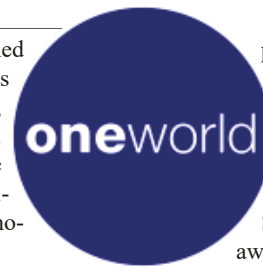
So far, more than 650,000 Emirates customers have already flown on Starlink equipped flights, experiencing the benefits of next generation onboard connectivity firsthand.

The introduction of Starlink on the A380 builds on Emirates' ongoing investment into redefining the customer journey, including one of the most ambitious retrofit programmes in aviation history. To date, 93 Emirates aircraft have been fully refurbished.

Aloha! oneworld welcomes Hawaiian Airlines to alliance

TTA BULLETIN

oneworld® has welcomed Hawaiian Airlines as its newest member airline, becoming the third US-based carrier alongside Alaska Airlines and American Airlines and adding Honolulu as a global hub.



plus fast-track security lanes at selected airports, regardless of class of travel, and a network of nearly 700 premium airport lounges, including oneworld branded lounges in Amsterdam Schiphol Airport and the award-winning facility in Seoul's Incheon Airport.

With Hawaiian Airlines on board, oneworld's global network offers greater travel opportunities across the Hawaiian Islands and new destinations in the Pacific including Hilo, Hawai'i; Rarotonga, Cook Islands; Pago Pago, American Samoa; and Papeete, Tahiti.

"We are delighted to officially welcome Hawaiian Airlines into the oneworld family, further strengthening our alliance's footprint in the Pacific region and the United States," said Ole Orvér, CEO of oneworld. "Renowned for its award-winning service for almost 100 years, Hawaiian Airlines will make travel to the beautiful islands of Hawai'i more connected and rewarding for oneworld customers, delivering an elevated journey that brings the spirit of aloha to our alliance."

"We are thrilled to join this extended 'ohana, or family of the world's best airlines," said Hawaiian Airlines CEO Diana Birkett Rakow. "oneworld brings significant global travel benefits to our guests, including Atmos Rewards loyalty members and Hawai'i residents. Our Hawaiian Airlines team members look forward to welcoming oneworld guests onboard from around the world, sharing their aloha and warm Hawaiian hospitality, and inspiring visitors to appreciate Hawai'i's culture, environment and people."

Hawaiian Airlines guests will now enjoy access to almost 1,000 global destinations across the oneworld network, while the airline's top tier guests will gain access to oneworld Priority benefits including access to First Class check-in and lounges

Hawaiian Airlines operates about 230 daily flights to, from and within the Hawaiian Islands and welcomed more than 11 million passengers in 2025. Hawaiian Airlines connects the Pacific, linking the islands of Hawai'i with key destinations in Asia, North America and the South Pacific, including oneworld hubs in Los Angeles, New York-JFK, Seattle, Sydney and Tokyo.

The airline serves every major Hawaiian island directly and operates an average of 140 daily inter-island flights. oneworld customers enjoy seamless connections throughout the archipelago to and from Europe, the Middle East, Australia, Asia and North America via its hubs in Honolulu, O'ahu, and Kahului, Maui.

Through Atmos™ Rewards, the combined company's new loyalty programme, members can earn and redeem points across Alaska and Hawaiian airlines and oneworld's global network. Benefits for oneworld Emerald, Sapphire, and Ruby customers include reciprocal status recognition, earning status points, priority check-in and boarding and industry-best lounge access.

Alaska Airlines, Hawaiian Airlines and Horizon Air are subsidiaries of Alaska Air Group, and McGee Air Services is a subsidiary of Alaska Airlines. We are a global airline with hubs in Seattle, Honolulu, Portland, Anchorage, Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco. We deliver remarkable care as we fly our guests to more than 140 destinations throughout North America, Latin America, Asia,

SriLankan Airlines Leads with Two Category Wins in South Asia at PAX Awards

TTA BULLETIN

SriLankan Airlines led with two wins in the Airline Award category for South Asia, securing both Best Overall Passenger Experience and Most Improved Airline at the PAX International Readership Awards 2026 held recently in Hamburg, Germany. The awards celebrate the industry's best and brightest, with winners determined by votes from PAX's global readership.

The Best Overall Passenger Experience – South Asia award recognises an airline that delivers an exceptional onboard experience to passengers across multiple service areas, including meal service, inflight entertainment and seating. At SriLankan Airlines, this entails meticulous planning at every stage of the passenger journey, supported by collaboration among multiple teams and continuous monitoring and refinement.

Maria Sathasivam, Manager Product Development of SriLankan Airlines, commented on the achievement, stating, "we are incredibly honoured to receive yet another independent endorsement of the service we deliver. Every interaction matters to us, and we are committed to consistently meeting and exceeding passenger expectations, and it is truly rewarding to see these efforts recognised."

SriLankan Airlines continues to enhance the end-to-end travel experience, from booking through to arrival. Ongoing digital upgrades, including improvements to the airline's website and app, are designed to deliver a more intuitive and seamless



customer experience, supported by AI-driven features and expanded ancillary offerings. At its hub, the Bandaranaike International Airport in Colombo, the airline has also expanded self-check-in and bag drop facilities for added convenience.

Onboard, passengers are welcomed with the signature warmth and hospitality of Sri Lanka, brought to life by the airline's cabin crew. Complementing this is SriLankan's acclaimed inflight dining, which combines international flavours with regionally inspired cuisine including a signature Sri Lankan meal option that showcases the island's rich culinary heritage.

The experience is further enhanced by SriLankan Airlines' diverse inflight entertainment offering. Available on seatback screens and wireless screening on select aircraft, passengers can access a wide range of on-demand content, from Hollywood blockbusters to regional favourites, along with an extensive selection of music.

SriLankan Airlines connects passengers to 120 destinations across 61 countries, including codeshare partnerships. Its direct services span cities across Europe, Australia, the Middle East, the Indian Subcontinent, Southeast Asia and the Far East. The airline operates an all-Airbus fleet, comprising state-of-the-art A330-200/300 and A320/321 aircraft fleet. For more information and to make bookings, visit www.srilankan.com or follow us on social media.



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FAMILY ALBUM

Skal International Colombo – World Skal Day celebrations

Skål International Colombo celebrated World Skål Day at Cinnamon Life at City of Dreams Sri Lanka, with Australian High Commissioner His Excellency Matthew Duckworth as Guest Speaker. The event also honoured a special milestone — Deshamanya Sohli Captain was felicitated for 50 remarkable years as a Skål member.





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Conceptualized by our founder, Chandra Wickramasinghe, and the Thema team, every destination reflects a distinctive theme inspired by the culture, nature, and history of its region.

At Thema Collection, sustainability is at the heart of everything we do. We focus on environmental stewardship, local employment, community empowerment, and the preservation of culture and heritage ensuring our initiatives enrich both our surroundings and guest experiences.

Moving beyond the traditional hotel chain model, we offer a collection of thematic, experiential properties - each telling its own story and creating unforgettable journeys for every traveler.



Aliya Resort & Spa
Sigiriya



Wild Glamping
Galoya



Amba Yaalu
Kandalama



Maalu Maalu Resort & Spa
Pasikuda



Waraka
Udawalawe



Mountbatten
Kandy



Scottish Planter
Nuwara Eliya



Ayurvie
Sigiriya



Aliya
SIGIRIYA



Amba Yaalu
KANDALAMA



Mountbatten
KANDY



Tea & Experience
MANDARAM NUWARA



Scottish Planter
NUWARA ELIYA



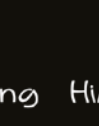
Waraka
UDAWALAWE



Wild Glamping
KNUCKLES



Wild Glamping
GAL OYA



Hikka House
HIKKADUWA



Parangi
WELIGAMA



Vista Vie
MIRISSA



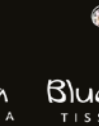
Kithala
TISSA-YALA



Blue Monk
TISSA-YALA



Maalu Maalu
PASIKUDA



Ayurvie
SIGIRIYA



Ayurvie
WELIGAMA

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