

Property notes

Christy Wyatt rounds up the latest venue news and developments from Azerbaijan to Johannesburg, and Kunal Dutta reviews the Hyatt Regency Trinidad

1 Edgbaston Cricket Ground, Birmingham

The sporting venue has erected a 1,150m² 'grand marquee', which can hold 700 for gala dinners or 1,000 for meetings. The semi-permanent structure will be available until summer 2011. It features a reception area with a private bar, kitchen, and cloakroom facilities, and a 'star cloth' ceiling. The marquee replaces the demolished Pavilion Suite, and marks the start of the ground's £32m redevelopment, which will see the construction of a new stand, set to increase spectator capacity to 25,000. A 500-cover banqueting suite and exclusive member's area is due to open in the summer of 2011.

www.edgbaston.com



2 Lakeside Hotel, Lake District

The hotel has reopened following a three-month refurbishment after it was hit by flood waters last November. Located on Lake Windermere, the four-star property is a former 17th-century coaching inn and offers 75 rooms, a spa, the double-AA Rosette Lakeview Restaurant and a conservatory overlooking landscaped gardens, which lead down to Lake Windermere. New features include chandeliers, fully refitted kitchens and new wallpaper and carpets throughout the restaurant and

conservatory. The hotel's event space includes nine suites for up to 100.

www.lakesidehotel.co.uk

4 HMS Belfast, London

The former warship has completed a £250,000 refurbishment programme. Its events offer now includes the restored, exclusive private dining and sitting room, Admiral's Quarters with capacity for 18 delegates, and the Ward & Ante Room with capacity for 50. The Gun Room and the Ship's Company Dining Room have also been updated in an authentic style, with capacity for 60 and 144 respectively.

hmsbelfast.iwm.org.uk

5 The Saxon Boutique Hotel & Spa, Johannesburg

The hotel doubles its capacity to 53 suites in May after expanding into an adjacent property, which has added three villas comprising 29 additional suites. Each villa will offer a pool, terrace and lounge, plus a boardroom. The hotel's event spaces include an auditorium with capacity for 30, a conference room with capacity for 40, a lounge for 70 and a wine cellar with space for 12 delegates for wine-tastings.

www.thesaxon.com



2 Centara Grand Beach Resort & Spa Sokhna

This Egyptian property is set to open this month on the beach at Ain Sokhna on the Red Sea coast between Suez and Zafarana. It offers 98 rooms and 21 villas, an all-day restaurant, the Hagi Japanese restaurant, a seafood restaurant and meeting spaces for up to 1,000 delegates. Incentive facilities include two pools, the Cenvaree spa and a recreation service centre offering a variety of water-sports.

www.centarahotelsresorts.com

THE REVIEW Hyatt Regency, Trinidad

C&T REVIEW

The lowdown

Looking out towards the Gulf of Paria, the Hyatt Regency is the jewel of Trinidad with an outstanding guestbook that features Gordon Brown, Barack Obama and the Queen.

First impressions

Delegates are greeted with complimentary champagne,

bottled water or a range of other drinks while they wait to check in. Decadence runs throughout, from the infinity pool situated on the sun-soaked rooftop to the 836m² Hyatt spa with an assortment of treatments.

Sleep tight

The 428 rooms vary in style. They include ten luxurious suites



Caribbean edge Hyatt Regency

replete with walk-in shower. Other features include the Hyatt Grand beds, 32" flat screen TVs, docking stations and both wired and wireless internet.

Meetings menu

There is 3,995m² of meeting space, including the Port of Spain Ballroom with capacity for 1,300 gala diners. There are 12 break-



PIPELINE

Fairmont Baku, Azerbaijan

The luxury 347-room property will open in the coastal city of Baku in early 2011 next to the Azerbaijan parliament buildings.

www.fairmont.com

Hotel Indigo Liverpool

The 151-room property is scheduled to open in spring 2011 in the city centre.

www.hotelindigo.com

Conrad Koh Samui Resort and Spa, Thailand

The villa property is set to open on the Thai island in 2011, offering 79 villas, a variety of restaurants and meeting rooms.

conradhotels1.hilton.com

Four Points by Sheraton Bangkok, Thailand

Located in Bangkok's trendy Sukhumvit district, the property will offer 276 rooms, a spa, restaurants and event space occupying 625m² when it opens in August.

www.starwoodhotels.com

Radisson SAS Hotel, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The four-star property will open in late 2010, adjacent to the United Nations

Conference Centre. It will offer 209 rooms, five meeting spaces and a restaurant serving international cuisine

www.radissonsas.com

H10 Forum Mar, Barcelona

The 253-room property is set to open at the Barcelona Forum in 2011, and will offer seven meeting spaces and a health and beauty centre.

www.h10hotels.com

Kempinski Hotel Nikolskaya, Moscow

Located in a complex of historic buildings, the hotel will open in 2011 alongside designer boutiques and will offer 200 rooms, restaurants, conference facilities, a fitness centre and a pool.

www.kempinski.com

citmagazine.com/venues

out rooms and two ballrooms. As it has hosted the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting twice, security and discretion come as standard.

Extras

The restaurant's show kitchen, where guests can witness meals being prepared by the chefs and the culinary team is compelling.

Those staying on the top three floors of the hotel can access the Hyatt's Regency Club.

Delegates rates

Prices on application.

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THE PRINGLES TEST

With each review we look at four commonly priced items

PRINGLES	
From the patisserie	£2.67
CLUB SANDWICH	
Room service	£12
GIN & TONIC	
Hotel bar	From £5.35
TAXI	
To the middle of town	£5

