

## WEEKLY INSIGHTS HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY NEWSLETTER

### Island resorts ready to reopen next month, says tourism minister

Top island resorts such as Langkawi, Pangkor, Redang, Tioman and Perhentian are expected to be ready for reopening early next month, says tourism minister Nancy Shukri.

However, the reopening would depend on the government's decision and the standard operating procedures to be set.

"The decision to reopen the tourism sector must be made after an in-depth study and with great care to prevent an outbreak which may cause the sector to be closed again.

"At the same time, the ministry is updating and finalising the SOPs for the tourism sector," she said in a statement today.

Nancy said a meeting was held with 15 representatives from the tourism industry to prepare for the reopening of the tourism sector, especially those operating the popular resort islands. [READ MORE](#)



### MAH hails move to reopen tourism industry

The tourism industry is gearing for a reopening on the heels of a recent announcement on privileges accorded to fully-vaccinated individuals.

Malaysian Association of Hotels (MAH) chief executive officer Yap Lip Seng said although the relaxations were only for states in Phase Two and above under the National Recovery Plan (NRP), it was a significant step forward not just for the tourism industry but also the country as a whole.

"It bears commitment from the government to transition the country from the state of pandemic to accepting Covid-19 as endemic.

"While these are relatively small progressive steps especially for the tourism industry, the industry can now prepare itself for an impending reopening," he said in a statement. Yap said allowing dine-in at restaurants, for example, was expected to benefit hotels. [READ MORE](#)



### Hyatt to buy Apple Leisure Group from KKR, KSL Capital for \$2.7 billion

U.S. hotel operator Hyatt Hotels Corp said on Sunday it entered a deal to buy resort company Apple Leisure Group from its private-equity owner KKR & Co and travel-and-leisure specialist KSL Capital Partners for \$2.7 billion in cash.

In 2017, KKR and KSL bought the Pennsylvania-based resort operator from Bain Capital for an undisclosed price.

The acquisition of Apple Leisure Group's asset-light business will increase the percentage of revenues and earnings Hyatt will generate from fees, Hyatt said in a statement.

The hotel operator said it anticipates fulfilling its current commitment to sell \$1.5 billion of hotel real estate in 2021 and is further committing to an additional \$2 billion in proceeds from the sale of hotel real estate by the end of 2024. [READ MORE](#)



### IHG signs garden-themed luxury Regent hotel for Kyoto

IHG Hotels and Resorts will develop a new luxury Regent Hotels branded property in the Japanese cultural city of Kyoto, in partnership with GI Capital Management.

The signing takes IHG's pipeline for the ultra-luxury Regent brand to six globally, building on the existing portfolio of seven.

Upon its opening in 2024, Regent Kyoto will feature 86 rooms and will be set within a garden originally landscaped more than a century ago by famed Japanese gardener Kumakichi Kato, who worked across parts of both the Showa and Meiji periods in Japanese history. [READ MORE](#)



### Anantara Hotels, Resorts & Spas announces upcoming launch of new resort on Dubai's World Islands

Anantara Hotels, Resorts & Spas has announced an exciting upcoming addition to its Middle East portfolio.

The luxury brand already operates nine hotels and resorts in the region, including six in the United Arab Emirates, with the newest addition to launch in Q4 of 2021.

Anantara World Islands Dubai Resort is in the final stages of development in the World Islands archipelago, located in the Arabian Gulf, approximately four kilometres off the coast of Dubai in the UAE. The new resort is the first hotel in the South American continent of the World Islands development. The island will be completely dedicated to the resort, with guests able to access by boat in just 15 minutes from the jetty at Anantara The Palm Dubai Resort. [READ MORE](#)

