

HYATT'S PARTY

Hyatt Regency Kinabalu's annual Appreciation Party was recently at their Kimanis Ballroom, and was attended by more than 150 important clients from the corporate, government and travel agency sectors, as well as Private Line members. This annual event is staged to thank the hotel's supporters and the theme on this occasion was "Shanghai Nite".

In his welcoming speech, General Manager Franz Mascarenhas acknowledged the support of all the sectors represented and thanked the staff members involved for the success enjoyed in 2008.

He also announced the upcoming guestroom renovation, which will see Hyatt Regency Kinabalu begin the first of a four-phase RMmillion renovation in May 2009. The transformation covers the hotel's 288 guestrooms and suites, the Regency Club's Lounge and the creation of a modern swimming pool. Mascarenhas emphasised that there will be minimal impact to guest comfort as the work will be limited to daylight hours and the sites will not be visible to hotel guests when inside the building. Newly appointed guestrooms will be released for reservations at the end of each phase of the renovation. Mascarenhas also mentioned the new menu concept, Hot Stone Cooking, which is available at Shenanigan's Terrace for dinner and at Mosaic for lunch and dinner, as well as the enhanced a la carte menu at Nagisa Japanese restaurant. Following the speech, the Private Line Award was presented to the highest achieving Private Line members.

The evening continued with a delicious spread of dishes served from progressive live food stations. The guests also had a chance to mingle and catch up with each other over a few games including Chance, Black Jack, and Katam Katam. Throughout the evening, the floor was abuzz with punters placing bets with their coupons and redeeming prizes with their winnings. A number of guests also won great prizes as complimentary accommodation at the hotel and electrical goods in the spin-the-wheel lucky draws.



Radisson makes weekend getaways affordably easy

RADISSON® Hotels and Resorts, the leading upscale, full service hotel brand, part of Carlson Hotels Worldwide, is making weekend getaways easy and more affordable with the launch of the Friday is Freeday promotion.

From May 15 to September 15, this year, guests will receive a free Friday night stay when staying two or more consecutive nights (Thursday or Saturday night stay required). Friday is Freeday is available for booking starting May 8 at participating Radisson hotels and resorts properties in Asia Pacific; North, Central and South America; and at Radisson Edwardian Hotels in the United Kingdom.

During their stay, guests will enjoy global Radisson hotels and resorts offerings such as the brand's notable "Yes I Can!" service, and free high-speed Internet access in the guest rooms of majority hotels and resorts. In addition, members of the goldpoints plusSM guest loyalty programme will qualify for the 1,000 Bonus Points Every Night goldpoints plus promotion, effective June 1 through August 31, including the free Friday.

"This promotion is just one of several initiatives launched by Carlson to incentivise and reward our guests. The free night aims to make guest holidays and business trips more attractive and affordable," said Frank Trampert, executive vice president, Revenue Generation - Asia Pacific, Carlson Hotels Worldwide.

Radisson Hotels & Resorts currently has more than 20 properties in operation across Asia Pacific, with over 5,000 rooms, including the recently opened Radisson Plaza Hotel Tianjin. The 270-room property has panoramic views of downtown Tianjin and modern high quality urban living facilities such as an indoor heated swimming pool, spa, health club, high speed internet access in guest rooms, as well as extensive conference and meeting facilities. The Friday is Freeday offer must be booked a minimum of seven days in advance of the stay. Reservations can be made at www.radisson.com/freefriday, or by contacting a travel professional.

Carlson Hotels Worldwide enters Tibet



Carlson Hotels Worldwide, one of the world's leading hotel companies, has signed an agreement to open its first property in Lhasa, the capital of Tibet Autonomous Region, People's Republic of China. Famed as the 'City of Sunshine', Lhasa will be home to the Park Plaza Lhasa City Center. Park Plaza® Hotels & Resorts is the upper mid-scale brand of Carlson. The company's overall development plan is to double its portfolio in Asia by 2012, targeting key gateway cities and major resort locations.

The 87-room property, owned by Tibet Gakyiling Construction Company Limited, will be located along one of Lhasa's main streets in the newly developed city centre.

When the hotel opens in 2010, guests will have easy access to all parts of the city, including the Qinghai-Tibet Railway and the Lhasa Gonggar Airport, which offers flights to major cities in China, including Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Chengdu, as well as an international connection to Kathmandu, Nepal.

"This hotel marks a significant milestone for the Park Plaza brand, which continues to establish itself in key destinations across

Asia. This agreement is also part of our strategic plan to enter more regional markets over the next three years," said Jean-Marc Busato, managing director - Asia Pacific, Carlson Hotels Worldwide.

Designed by the Nepal DISGN CELL Designer Company, the Park Plaza Lhasa City Center will be an ancient-Tibet-style building. At an altitude of 3,650 metres, the hotel's facilities include a business centre, and meeting and banquet rooms.

"We look forward to working with Carlson to establish the Park Plaza Lhasa City Center as a choice accommodation in Tibet among both business and leisure travellers," said Daga, general manager, Tibet Gakyiling Construction Company Limited.

Carlson currently has nine hotels in operation in China. This includes The Regent Beijing, the luxury flagship property for the group in China, and the 270-room Radisson Plaza Hotel Tianjin which soft-opened last month. There are another nine hotels under development in China. Carlson Hotels Worldwide is one of the world's leading hotel companies with more than 1,000 locations in 74 countries globally.