

JULY 2017

# TIMEOUT

THE ESSENTIAL MAGAZINE FOR LIVING AND TRAVEL IN VIETNAM

## CLIMBING HIGH

Conquering Base Camp

## CROWNING A CULTURAL AMBASSADOR

ASEAN beauties visit Phu Yen

## INTO THE WILD

Vietnam's remote islands



# Miss Asean FRIENDSHIP CROWNED

## JW Marriott Phu Quoc awarded



The five-star JW Marriott Phu Quoc Emerald Bay Resort & Spa has picked up the prized title of Asia's Leading New Resort at the 2017 World Travel Awards Asia & Australasia Gala Ceremony. "We're delighted to be named Asia's Leading New Resort, and in particular to be recognised in this way by our colleagues in the hospitality industry," said Ty Collins, the resort's general manager. The resort features 244 appointed rooms, suites, and stand-alone villas, the resort on Bai Khem Beach. This is the second hotel for the brand in Vietnam and joins a portfolio of more than 80 JW Marriott hotels in 25 countries.

## Melia Hanoi wins three awards



Melia Hanoi has been victorious in three categories at the International Hotel Awards, including 'Best City Hotel Vietnam', 'Best Large Hotel Vietnam' and 'International Five Star Hotel 2017 – 2018', demonstrating the hotel's consistent excellence on a global scale. This is the latest in a string of successes for Melia Hanoi which includes "Top ten 5-star hotel in Vietnam" from the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, "Best MICE Hotel in Hanoi" from the Vietnam Economic Times, "Best Revenue Management Hotel", and "Best Quality Hotel" from Melia Hotels International Asia Pacific.

## Park Hyatt Saigon brand new

In the third quarter of 2017, Park Hyatt Saigon announces the renovation of its restaurant Opera which will offer guests a brand new dining experience. This authentic trattoria-style Italian restaurant will be transformed into the dining room of Park Hyatt Saigon mansion, a place where guests can meet and socialise in a modern colonial setting with contemporary design. Diners will be immersed in a classic, rustic osteria fare in the Italian tradition of freshness, while indulging in the finest dishes.

## New managers at Metropole Hanoi

William J. Haandrikman has been appointed as new general manager to lead the Grand Dame of Vietnam and its 650 hotel ambassadors. Haandrikman has 25 years of experience in the hospitality industry, having started with Accorhotels in 1992. Since joining the French hotel chain, Haandrikman has held senior management positions in Amsterdam, Brussels, New York and Moscow, as well as with the Sofitel brand in The Hague, Paris, Vienna, Shanghai and most recently, Bangkok.



At the same time, Vietnam's most storied hotel also welcomes a new executive assistant manager, Joseph Colina. Colina has more than 10 years experience in the world's leading hotels. The American hotelier began his career as director of guest services at Sofitel Minneapolis in 2005 and later served as director of guest services at Sofitel Chicago Water Tower and director of rooms at Sofitel Washington D.C. Lafayette Square.

## Brand-new wing opens at La Siesta Resort & Spa Hoi An



A major expansion, refurbishment and rebrand has propelled La Siesta Resort and Spa Hoi An into the elite category of hotels in Hoi An. The property, which is owned and operated by leading Vietnamese boutique hotel brand Elegance Hospitality Group (EHG), recently unveiled a name change – it was formerly the Essence Hoi An Hotel and Spa - and its brand-new East Wing, a luxurious 37-room annexe that also encompasses a spa, saltwater pool and fine-dining venue.

## WMC Group rebirths Vietnam House

Vietnam House restaurant is set to introduce Vietnamese cuisine with a modern twist at the heart of Ho Chi Minh City. Through a unique partnership between celebrity chef Luke Nguyen and Windsor Property Management Group Corporation (WMC Group), the restaurant returns to its former location with a fully renovated interior design and façade accenting the historic building on the corner of Dong Khoi and Mac Thi Bui. The restored colonial building once housed the famed Café L'Imperial in the early 1900s, the new restaurant is set to bring back the nostalgia and charm of the storied street corner.