



## Today's issue of BEN

*Business Events News* today has two pages of news plus a full page from **Novotel Sydney International Airport**.

## Xmas Venues

**ADVERTISING** slots in the 2019 *Business Events News*

Christmas venue guide are filling up fast, with limited space still available.

To have your venue's festive offerings featured call 1300 799 200 or **EMAIL** us now.

The new look 2019 guide has been designed to give venues more space to highlight their facilities and services to event organisers.



# HYATT REGENCY SYD TOPS APAC

**SYDNEY'S** Hyatt Regency is the number one hotel in the Asia Pacific region for hosting meetings for the second successive year, according to the Cvent Top Meeting Hotels list.

The hotel held off competition from the Grand Hyatt Hotels in Singapore, Seoul and Hong Kong, and the Pan Pacific Singapore to retain the top spot on the list compiled by the events technology provider.

Australian hotels accounted for 25% of the Cvent Top 50 Meeting Hotels in APAC, with the InterContinental (6), Hilton (12), Four Season Hotel (19), Sofitel Sydney Darling Harbour (20), ParkRoyal Darling Harbour (21), Shangri-la Hotel (25), The Westin (30), Sheraton Grand Sydney Hyde Park (33), Sofitel Sydney Wentworth (37) and Sydney Harbour Marriott Hotel at Circular Quay (38) all

featuring in the top 50.

Melbourne's Crown (18) and the Pullman Melbourne On The Park (32) were the only other Australian hotels included in the top 50 APAC hotel venues.

Crown Perth was the highest hotel outside of NSW and Victoria, at 62, followed by the Hilton Brisbane (79), Hilton Adelaide (196), the Sofitel Gold Coast Broadbeach (119) and Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley (179).

Chela Evans, Director of Sales, Cvent Australia said the results illustrate the key role Australian hotels play in attracting business events and supporting tourism growth in the region.

"It is exciting to see an increased Australian presence in this year's Top 50 Meeting Hotels in Asia Pacific," Evans said.



"Meetings mean business, and the hotels featured on this year's list are attracting top conferences and events to their venues by enhancing their group marketing efforts and expanding their offerings.

"After just two years in Melbourne, it's been an honour collaborating with our hotel partners here in Australia to help them grow their group business and elevate their positioning within the global meetings and events marketplace."





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## NZ WORLD CLASS FOR EVENTS

**AUSTRALIAN** events organisers at Conventions and Incentives New Zealand's (CINZ) MEETINGS 2019 event in Auckland last week, left impressed by what the Shaky Isles has to offer.

CINZ CEO Sue Sullivan said the new convention facilities in Auckland and Christchurch, which are due to open next year, are proving attractive to international events organisers.

"Our influential contingent of international buyers and media at MEETINGS 2019 left inspired about New Zealand as a business events destination, and what we can offer for large events, as well as for high-end, bespoke incentive travel," Sullivan said.

"The quality of our exhibitors has created a real buzz amongst our buyers, and together they have held over 6,000 meetings, and will be leaving MEETINGS with strong business signed," she says.

"Last year \$60 million of business was signed on the show floor.

"For our business it is all about building strong relationships, and meeting face to face to cement ties.

The welcome our visitors have received this week has given them an unforgettable taste of New Zealand's unique culture, our people, our distinct regional characteristics, and a deep insight into how warmly their



delegates will be received here."

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons event organiser Elise Campbell from Melbourne, was one of the Australian guests at MEETINGS 2019, who has said she will bring events to NZ.

She said the meaningful cultural experiences on offer in NZ were a key attraction to bring RACS events across the ditch.

**Pictured**, Auckland city skyline.

### Hilton Melb Square

**HILTON** Partners is strengthening its position in the Melbourne market, signing a deal to manage a new hotel and events centre at the Melbourne Square development.

The Hilton Melbourne Square will feature 600 rooms and more than 2,800m<sup>2</sup> of meeting and events space including a 1,140m<sup>2</sup> ballroom and an 849m<sup>2</sup> junior ballroom.

The hotel will deliver state-of-the-art convention facilities to meet international demand.

Located on the corners of Power and Kavanagh Street in the Southbank precinct, the hotel will be part of an \$2.8 billion mixed-use development which will include residential, commercial, and retail.

Construction of the Hilton Melbourne Square will commence in 2020, with an opening date slated for early 2023.

### Melb Int'l Film Fest

**THE** Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) will be one of five venues across the city to host the Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF) in Aug.

The MCEC will host the MIFF 2019 Opening Night Gala, *Girlhood + Sampa The Great* and *Thurston Moore: In Conversation*.

More special events and film screenings are set to be announced when the full MIFF program is launched in Jul.

MIFF takes place from 01 to 18 Aug, with the festival in its 67th year, making it Australia's leading film festival.

### New event software

**EVENT** Solutions has partnered with software platform Entegy, to deliver a new end-to-end event tech suite for New Zealand.

The new product offers events apps and tool.

### ICC Sydney lands World Scholar's Cup comp

**STUDENTS** from around the globe will take over the International Convention Centre (ICC) Sydney from 15 to 20 Aug, to compete for the World Scholar's Cup - Global Round.

The event will feature 1,600 high school science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) students from 82 countries, who will debate, collaborate and compete in team and individual challenges.

The winners will earn a chance to go to Yale University to participate in the 'Tournament of Champions'.

The competition is expected to generate \$4.4 million for the NSW economy in direct expenditure.



**WHEN** winter comes around each year, the cooler temperatures can really bring you down, especially in Waratah, Tasmania - one of Australia's coldest towns.

To limit the impact of Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), AccorHotels staged a "Wintervention" on Fri 31 May, inviting the entire town to the Gold Coast for some winter sun, staying at the Novotel, Surfers Paradise.

While soaking up some vitamin D, the Waratahians also enjoyed a number of GC must-do activities including visiting SeaWorld and a trip on the Aquaduck Tour.

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