

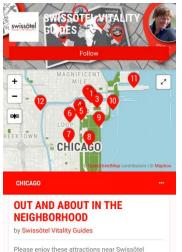
SWISSÔTEL LAUNCHES NEW VITALITY GUIDES

- Developed in partnership with alpine adventurer John Harlin, Vitality Guides showcase key attractions within walking distance of hotels-

Zurich, March 2, 2015 – <u>Swissôtel Hotels & Resorts</u>, in partnership with alpine adventurer John Harlin, is celebrating the hotel brand's very own Vitality Day with the launch of a series of new destination Vitality Guides. Vitality is a Swissôtel programme aimed at inspiring travellers to maintain an active and energised body and mind while on the road. The Guides are digital, interactive maps that showcase key attractions within walking distance of Swissôtel locations and are meant to encourage guests to explore the great outdoors.

"This year, we wanted to celebrate Vitality in a fresh and fun way and to provide our guests with a new travel tool to experience the Vitality concept all year long," said Lilian Roten, vice president, Swissôtel Brand. "Through our new Vitality Guides, we can now curate a list of compelling attractions that will help our guests gain a greater appreciation and deeper sense of place of destination they are visiting."

And the timing couldn't be better. According to the ITB World Travel Trends Report 2014/2015, "Consumers are more interested in individual and local experiences, authenticity, wellbeing, community, and engagement as part of their travels. As a result, demand is rising for specialist and niche travel and tourism, such as wellness, sustainable trips and adventure/sports."



Chicago. The sights are within a brisk walk of your hotel. They will add joy and discovery to your visit.

The Guides also have an interactive component that allows guests to pinpoint and share interesting attractions they discover while exploring the destination.

In Chicago, the Guide takes guests on an enjoyable walk from Swissôtel, across the Riverwalk through New Eastside and Millennium Park to the world famous Loop neighbourhood, the Chicago Public Library, Dusable Harbor and Navy Pier, ending with a spectacular view at Wolf Point. The entire walk takes approximately 25 minutes.

At launch, the Guides will be available in Amsterdam, Ankara, Bangkok, Berlin, Bremen, Chicago, Dresden, Dusseldorf, Foshan, Geneva, Istanbul, Kolkata, Moscow, Osaka, Shanghai, Singapore, Sochi, Sydney, Tallinn, and Zurich, with more destinations to be added throughout the year.

"Swissôtels are often located in urban centres where exploring key attractions and local cultures is easily done on foot," said John Harlin, travel writer and alpine adventurer. "The slower you go the more you can see and these guides give guests an opportunity to truly immerse themselves in the culture of a destination without having to purchase a tour package or hire a guide."

Swissôtels around the world will be holding special events on March 21 to celebrate Vitality Day, providing guests and community members with an opportunity to take advantage of the new Guides.

Swissôtel Chicago will host a global brand event in the form of an urban adventure, where participants will visit nearby destinations, completing a different Vitality-themed task at each, and finish at a Vitality Lounge. One lucky adventure participant will win a trip to Switzerland.

Vitality city tours are being planned around Swissôtels in Zurich, Tallinn, Amsterdam and Ankara while properties in Berlin, Istanbul, Kunshan and Singapore will host special exercise and health and wellness classes in celebration of Vitality Day.

The new Vitality Guides, which are optimized for mobile viewing and housed on the Jauntful platform can be <u>found here</u>.

Social @ Swissôtel

Swissôtel invites travellers to share their travel adventures and experiences through <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u> using the hashtag *#SwissVitality*. Also, become a fan to receive the latest brand and hotel updates, travel tips, other exciting offers.

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About Swissôtel Hotels & Resorts

Swissôtel Hotels & Resorts got its start in Switzerland, a country known for big mountains and equally high standards of living. Its contemporary Swiss style and locally inspired flair attracts business and leisure travellers who enjoy high-end hotels but prefer fresh innovation to stale pretension. Conveniently located where travellers want to be, Swissôtel provides guests with the opportunity to stay in the heart of city centres worldwide where access to business and shopping districts are right around the corner. Swissôtel properties can be found in over 30 well-located properties around the world, with many more in development. As guests of the world, every Swissôtel upholds Swiss sustainability standards. In fact, Swissôtel has a mission: to treat guests, team members, and the environment with equal respect. Swissôtel is part of FRHI Hotels & Resorts, a leading global hotel company with over 110 hotels under the Raffles, Fairmont, and Swissôtel brands. But no matter how international Swissôtel becomes, just like the country it was founded in, it remains a small hotel at heart. For more information or reservations, please visit swissotel.com.

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