



Sky Lagoon planned for Reykjavik

Attractions and hospitality brand, Pursuit, has unveiled plans to develop a premium ocean-front geothermal lagoon in Iceland - named Sky Lagoon.

The destination's multi-sensory oasis will feature cold pool and sauna experiences, as well as an unobstructed 70-metre (230 ft) ocean-side infinity-edge lagoon, designed to produce a visual effect that blends it with the sea.

Located in Kársnes Harbour, just minutes from Reykjavik city centre, the destination will offer expansive ocean vistas enhanced by sunsets and Northern Lights.

Additional amenities will include an in-lagoon bar, dining experience and retail offerings.

Scheduled to open in Q2 2021, construction has already begun on the destination. It will be in competition with the Blue Lagoon, which is around 40 minutes drive-time away and welcomes 2mn visitors a year.



■ The destination is set to open in Q2 2021



"Iceland is one of those authentic and remarkable places that has the power to excite and inspire," said David Barry, Pursuit president. "We're thrilled to grow our collection of travel experiences in Iceland."

MORE: http://lei.sr/S2c8R_B



Iceland is a remarkable place which has the power to inspire

David Barry



NEWS

Desert safari lodges to offer stargazing retreat

Aidia Studio's idea is in the concept design stage

p6



RESEARCH

What are the physical benefits of hydrotherapy?

Research review highlights key health effects

p12



OPINION

"Local markets are more important than ever"

Emma Darby, Resense COO, talks reopening

p16

HOT SPRINGS

Historic hot springs to become wellness retreat

Resources for Leisure Assets (RLA) has revealed plans for a luxury wellness retreat and thermal destination on the edge of the River Tâmega, Portugal.

Named Palácio de Canavezes, the 52-room riverside wellness destination and spa will open in a historic hotel, originally built in the early 1900s for people visiting the hot spring which breaks ground under the hotel.

The thermal water in Canavezes is claimed to have medicinal properties, which has made it a popular destination for people seeking treatment for ailments since the early 12th century, even drawing a former Queen of Portugal.

RLA is the resort consultant for both the hotel and wellness facilities and has selected Campbell GRAY Hotels as operator.

The resort will feature one of the group's signature PUREGRAY Health and Wellbeing Centres, spread across 1,366sq m with nine treatment rooms.

Plans also include a hammam, thermal spa centre, sauna, steamroom, relaxation rooms, indoor pool and gym.

"Palácio de Canavezes will be a unique destination because of its rich thermal water heritage and holistic wellbeing services," said Roger A. Allen, RLA Group CEO.

MORE: http://lei.sr/r4Q7R_B



■ The Portuguese region is famous for its thermal hot springs



Palácio de Canavezes has rich thermal water heritage

Roger Allen

TRADE BODY

Sustainable Spa Association announces official launch



Sustainability is not a trend, but a necessity

Alberto Apostoli

A new UK-based trade body has been launched to help spas achieve their key sustainability goals.

Called The Sustainable Spa Association (SSA), the membership-based organisation offers independent guidance and ongoing support to spa operators on how to improve their sustainability credentials. Membership is £1,000 (€1,105, US\$1,319) a year.

The SSA is launching with influential industry figures in sustainability as founding partners and on its board of directors, including Studio Apostoli's owner, Alberto Apostoli.



PHOTO:SHUTTERSTOCK/KAJUTA

■ The new trade-body champions sustainability

"I strongly believe the concepts of wellness and sustainability are intrinsic to each other," he commented, "sustainability is not a trend but a necessity."

SSA was founded by Robert Cooper, managing director of eco-towelling company, Scrummi Spa and Lucy Brialey, former group head of spa for Aspria.

MORE: http://lei.sr/R9Q3E_B