



MARCO POLO
PLAZA
CEBU

Press Release

Marco Polo Plaza is Overall Champion for Cebu Goes Culinary 2018



Marco Polo Plaza Cebu reigned supreme in the recently concluded Cebu Goes Culinary 2018 held at SM Seaside Cebu.

Cebu Goes Culinary happens every two years and the participants are different hotels, schools and establishments that are members of HRRAC – Hotel Resort & Restaurant Association of Cebu.

Bagging the Overall Champion award in the professional category, the hotel garnered medals and diplomas in 18 out of the 20 categories that they participated in.

The highest award of Gold with Distinction was given to the hotel's team who participated in the category Table Setting. Restaurant Supervisor Loren Paul Escalante said that his work was inspired by how his grandparents would do traditional dinner dates. They are the only team in the entire competition (including all the other categories) to have received the award Gold with Distinction which means all judges awarded them 100 points. "It feels amazing since it is so difficult to achieve a perfect score in Table Setting. The judges are very technical and traditional in terms of table appointments," said Loren Escalante.

Other categories that Marco Polo Plaza received awards are the following - For gold: Entremetier, Happy Hour, Cocktail Mixing, Pralines and Baby Chocolate Cake. For silver: Modern Chef, Soup Bowl, Coffee Concoction, Plated Desserts, Food Styling & Photography,

Creative Cake Deco, Flairtending, and Klasika Kulenarya. For Bronze: Pantry Chef, and finally for Diploma: Napkin Folding, Wedding Cake and Chef Wars.

Marco Polo Plaza General Manager Brian Connelly shared a heart-warming message to the participants immediately after the awarding. Here's an excerpt: "Team, as you know I am not one for a loss of words. However, tonight I am struggling to find superlatives to describe my intense pride, sincere appreciation and professional respect for all of our associates who worked so hard to make this happen. A team is made of selfless individuals and leaders who together create a sum that is greater than the parts. Please allow me to extend my genuine heartfelt congratulations to all of those individuals who made today a hotel memory that will never be forgotten. After almost 30 years of being a General Manager, you have all made me the proudest I have ever been to be in a hotel team. Salamat."

Stay tuned as Marco Polo Plaza features some of the award winning drinks and dishes at the hotel soon.

For inquiries and reservations, call (032) 253-1111 or email mpplaza@marcopolohotels.com. Stay tuned for more updates through our social media accounts. Like [facebook.com/marcopolocebu](https://www.facebook.com/marcopolocebu) and follow [instagram.com/marcopolocebu](https://www.instagram.com/marcopolocebu) to stay updated on all hotel activities and promotions. You may also call (63 32) 253 1111 or email mpplaza@marcopolohotels.com.

About Wharf Hotels

The Spirit of Discovery

Emanating the spirit of discovery, Wharf Hotels, a wholly owned subsidiary of The Wharf (Holdings) Ltd, is based in Hong Kong and currently operates 16 owned or managed hotels under Niccolo or Marco Polo Hotels in Hong Kong, China and the Philippines. Niccolo Hotels was added to the group's portfolio in 2015 as the new luxury collection, positioning the brand as contemporary chic. The Murray, Hong Kong, a Niccolo Hotel, opened in January 2018 as the brand's flagship hotel, with 2 new Niccolo hotels currently under development in China following successful openings in Chengdu and Chongqing. Marco Polo's international deluxe hotels in established locations within China, Hong Kong and the Philippines maintain their ethos to explore, discover and experience a destination, drawing on the philosophies of their namesake, Marco Polo: an adventurer, a traveller, an entrepreneur and a connoisseur of culture - just as Marco Polo's modern travellers are today. Further details are available at wharfhoteles.com.

About Global Hotel Alliance

Global Hotel Alliance (GHA) is the world's largest alliance of independent hotel brands, bringing together 33 brands with over 550 hotels in 77 countries. GHA uses a shared technology platform to drive incremental revenues and create cost savings for its member brands. GHA's award-winning

loyalty programme, DISCOVERY, provides 13 million members exclusive opportunities to immerse themselves in local culture wherever they travel. For more information, visit discoveryloyalty.com.

About Marco Polo Plaza Cebu

Marco Polo Plaza is considered a landmark in Cebu City. This urban resort hotel for leisure and business travellers is the city's only deluxe hotel nestled on a hilltop.

Elegantly gracing the city's skyline, Marco Polo Plaza is only 45 minutes away from the Mactan International Airport and a mere 10 minutes away from anywhere else in Cebu City, including the business center and shopping malls. The hotel has 329 well-appointed guest rooms and is home to four restaurants known for offering the best food in town.

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