

New look for classic Burma hotel

One of Burma's most famed hotels, **The Strand Yangon** is to get a significant refurbishment this year.



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Bangkok designers to overhaul The Strand Yangon

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The hotel will close on May 1 until November with Bangkok-based **P49Deesign** overseeing design for the project.

P49 also created the **Strand Cruise**, a luxury river cruiser that launched at the end of last year, and has undertaken many projects for hotel groups including Taj, Anantara, Alila and Six Senses in the past.

While the hotel is closed, the company plans to run a Strand 'pop up' at the Inya Lake Hotel in the city, where guests booked on a Strand Cruise can receive a complimentary night's stay.

"This refurbishment comes just months after the successful launch of The Strand Cruise, our 27-cabin river cruiser operating on the Ayeyarwady River between Bagan and Mandalay, and will further reinforce the Strand's position as market leader in the region," said Olivier Trinquand, vice president of The Strand Hotel & Cruise.



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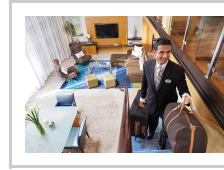
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The 31-suite hotel was built in 1901 by Aviet and Tigran Sarkies, who also create colonial hotels such as Raffles in Singapore and the Eastern & Oriental in Penang.

The Strand's classic colonial style will be retained, with a more contemporary edge added, along with new air conditioning, sound and communications systems.

The Strand Signature Restaurant is also set to re-open with a Michelin-starred chef at the helm; Sarkies Bar – known as a social hub for the city for 114 years - will also be fully refurbished.

During the closure, all staff will be retained and the hotel said it will use the opportunity to invest in service training and language courses.

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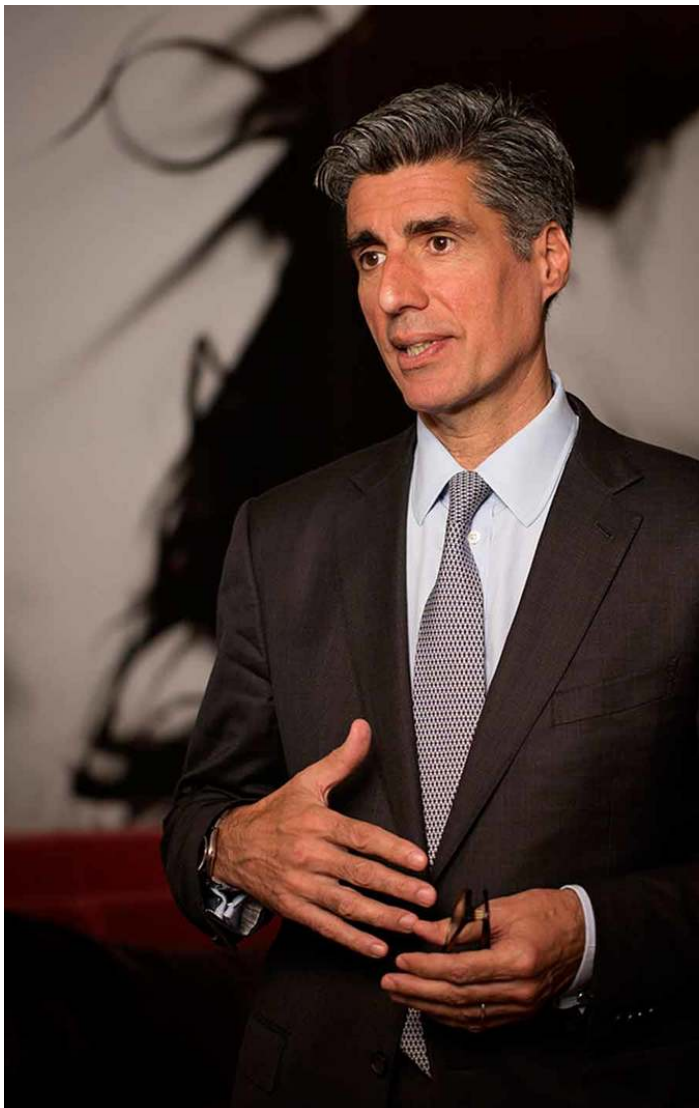
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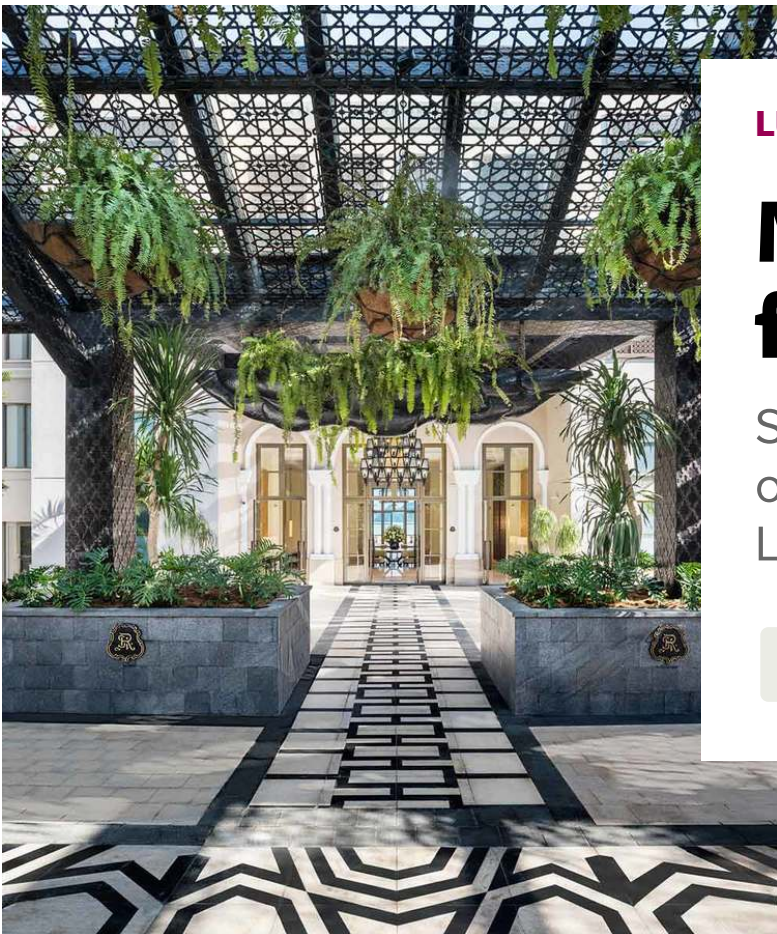
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