



The largest Nordic hotel company

PRESS RELEASE

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Scandic Hotels to stop using plastic straws and cocktail sticks

Scandic Hotels, the leading Nordic hotel company, has decided to stop using plastic straws and cocktail sticks in all of its hotels to help reducing the harmful impact these products have on the environment.

- As a part of our sustainability program, we're looking to remove all single-use disposable items made of plastic. In total, we're taking approximately 1.3 million straws and 120 000 cocktail sticks out of circulation on a yearly basis. We are also replacing the plastic lids for our take away coffee mugs with biodegradable ones, says Lena Bjurner, SVP HR & Sustainability at Scandic Hotels Group.

Plastic waste is one of our biggest environmental challenges. Different organizations around the world has estimated that there are over 150 million tons of plastic in the world's oceans and that every year, about one million birds and more than 100 000 sea mammals die from eating or getting tangled in plastic waste. Worse still, according to a new report by the UK Government Office for Science, the amount of plastic in our oceans is expected to triple between 2015 and 2025.

- This is a small but important step for Scandic to take. We are an industry leader within sustainability and rightly proud of how we pioneered the pick-up-your-towel behavior and our fight to reduce food waste. These products that we are phasing out are fossil-fuel products that use up the planet's resources and are difficult to recycle, making them extremely detrimental to our environment. It's about time we stop using them, says Lena.

Scandic will begin phasing out plastic straws, cocktail sticks and the plastic lids for the take away coffee mugs at all of its hotels. Scandic is also evaluating different eco-friendly replacement products and will offer eco-friendly straws at its bars and restaurants for guests who need them, for example, people with special needs.

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About Scandic Hotels Group

Scandic is the largest hotel company in the Nordic region with 16,000 team members and a network of around 280 hotels in operation and under development in more than 130 destinations. Scandic Friends is the biggest loyalty program in the Nordic hotel sector. Corporate responsibility has always been a part of Scandic's DNA and Scandic has been a pioneer when it comes to integrating sustainability in all of its operations. Scandic Hotels is listed on Nasdaq Stockholm.

www.scandichotelsgroup.com