

For Immediate Release



CARIBBEAN HOTEL & TOURISM ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES LINEUP OF IMPACTFUL INDUSTRY LEADERS AS SPEAKERS AT CHIEF 2025

Key industry representatives will share valuable insight at premier tourism event this November

MIAMI, Fla. – October 21, 2025 – The [Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association](#) (CHTA) has unveiled a powerhouse lineup of industry changemakers for the 2025 Caribbean Hospitality Industry Exchange Forum (CHIEF), set for **November 16–18 in Barbados**. Featuring hotel innovators and global tourism experts, this year’s speaker roster brings real-world strategies for an industry navigating rapid transformation.

Guided by the theme “Innovating Caribbean Tourism for a Disrupted World: Adapting with Purpose, Leading with People, Planning for Permanence,” CHIEF 2025 will empower hoteliers and tourism professionals to translate disruption into growth, creativity and competitiveness.

“CHIEF continues to evolve in real time, addressing the challenges that hoteliers face today while providing the tools they can apply tomorrow,” said Sanovnik Destang, President of CHTA. “Our speakers represent the best of Caribbean innovation, collaboration and leadership.”

From rapid-fire CHIEF Talks to in-depth general sessions, this year’s program connects ideas to implementation—showing how technology, talent, and sustainability can drive profitability and resilience across the Caribbean.

Highlights include:

CHIEF Talks

- **Flavors with Intent: Elevating Caribbean Cuisine**
Carlos Portela, Owner, Orujo Taller de Gastronomía (PR), James Beard Foundation Finalist in 2024 for Best Chef South and 2005 Taste of the Caribbean Chef of the Year
- **Clicks That Count: Turning Social Media Into Direct Bookings**
Mikael Doumeng, Director of Digital Marketing, Bolongo Beach Resort (USVI)

General Sessions

- **Staffing Smarter: Building Flexible Teams for an Unpredictable World**
Panel: Karyn Williams-Sykes, Managing Director, Attune Consulting Inc., Ryan Matthew, Director, Human Resources at Sandals Resorts International and Néstor J. Ruiz Doreste, Chief Operations Officer, IHP Hospitality
- **Digital Futures: AI, Automation, and the Caribbean Guest Experience**
Panel: Charlie Osmond, Chief Growth Officer, Triptease and Adam Mongelonsky

Partner, Hotel Mogel Consulting Ltd. & Lead GAIN advisor

- Smart Revenue: How Data, Demand and Disruption can Increase the Bottom Line
Blanka Dewapura, Managing Partner/Co-Founder, Oceanid Hospitality Group

Breakout Sessions

- Wellness 360: Building a Healthier Business, Team and Planet
Adam Mongelonsky, Partner, Hotel Mogel Consulting Ltd. & Lead GAIN advisor
- Sourcing Smarter: Partnering Locally for Profit and Purpose
Patrick Antoine PhD, CEO and Technical Director, CARICOM Private Sector Organization
- Wired for Success: Building Smart Tech Infrastructure in Caribbean Hospitality
Carlos Lugo, Strategic Hospitality Advisor, GAIN and President, Lugatti Consulting Group

Attendees will walk away with actionable strategies, peer connections and new business opportunities, making CHIEF the Caribbean's must-attend forum for growth-minded tourism professionals.

Registration

Registration is now open at <https://chtachief.com/registration> for both CHTA members and non-members.

CHIEF partners include ABA Global Marketing, Alliants, Hovr, GAIN Advisor, Lubeco, Interval International, Maestro, Mastercard, MyBookingRewards.com, taConnect, the Anything Group and Wyndham Grand Barbados Sam Lord's Castle All Inclusive Resort.

For more information, visit www.chtachief.com.

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About the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA)

The Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA) is the leading organization representing the interests of the Caribbean hospitality and tourism industry for more than 60 years. With 32 National Hotel Associations as well as 1,000 diverse members spanning hotels, resorts, tourism providers, and allied partners across the region and beyond, CHTA serves as a powerful voice, resource, and connector for the Caribbean's most vital industry. Through ongoing advocacy, professional development, industry insights, and market intelligence, CHTA helps its members thrive in today's competitive global marketplace. Organizations worldwide with interest in the Caribbean that want to increase their presence and connectivity in the Caribbean Hospitality and tourism industry are invited to join this dynamic community. To learn more about membership benefits and upcoming virtual and in-person events, please visit www.caribbeanhotelandtourism.com.