




## Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup>

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12:00 PM	<b>Client Registration Open</b>	<b>Grand Salon Foyer</b>
5:30 PM	<b>Client Meet &amp; Greet!</b> Kick off the weekend by getting to know your Global DMC Partners Sales Rep and other GDP clients in a relaxed setting before the Connection begins.  UK (Chris Bason & Maxine MacPherson) Benoit Cavard Riley Sassano Dawn Barbeau Shelley Meixell Sebastian Kubin	<b>The Olive Restaurant</b> <b>Amsterdam</b> <b>Inazia Restaurant</b> <b>Inazia Restaurant</b> <b>Brussels</b> <b>Athens</b>
6:15 PM	<b>Depart for Dinner</b>	<b>Hotel Main Lobby</b>
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM	<b>Opening Reception &amp; Dinner</b>	<b>Warsaw Marriott Hotel</b>


## Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>

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6:30 – 7:15 AM	<b>Morning Walk</b> ( <i>optional</i> )	<b>Hotel Main Lobby</b>
7:30 – 8:30 AM	<b>Breakfast at Leisure</b>   <i>Sponsored by</i> 	<b>The Olive Restaurant</b>
8:30 – 8:45 AM	<b>Welcome to Connection 2018!</b> <b>Catherine Chaulet, Global DMC Partners</b>  <b>Emcee:</b> Sam McNeil, SongDivision	<b>Grand Salon A - B</b>
8:45 – 9:30 AM	<b>MICE Industry: State of the Global Industry and Top Trends</b> <i>Michael Dominguez, Chief Sales Officer, MGM International Resorts</i>  As the economic environment and meetings industry continue to change at a rapid pace, it is important to understand the current global outlook, economic concerns and forecasts that will dictate behavior in the Meetings Environment. Our meeting's world has become much more complex with a variety of issues, and we will take a deep dive of where we have been, where we are and what is on the horizon for the worldwide meeting and event industry. You will have an opportunity to look at recommendations and dialogue on ways to prepare to take advantage or protect yourself in this current environment.	<b>Grand Salon A - B</b>
9:30 – 10:30 AM	<b>Interactive Panel &amp; Roundtable Chats:</b> <b>Data Protection &amp; Your Role in GDPR Compliancy as a Meeting Planner</b> Data privacy has had a significant impact on the global meeting and incentive industry, especially with the launch of GDPR (Global Data Protection Regulation) in Europe. While IT and Legal departments at many companies have taken on the responsibility of identifying, developing, and implementing processes for GDPR	<b>Grand Salon A - B</b>



compliance, meeting planners are capturing and sharing an enormous amount of data and attendee personal information on a regular basis. Our panel of Customer Advisory Board Members will tackle questions on how their companies and/or event teams have adjusted their internal and external processes to be GDPR compliant, specifically when it comes to meetings and events. Then, through roundtable discussions, small groups will be presented with different questions to brainstorm ways to become more GDPR compliant when collecting, sharing and managing personal information throughout the event management process. At the end, the group will come back together to present and discuss actionable takeaways from each question.

10:30 – 11:00 AM	<b>Coffee Break</b>	<b>Grand Salon Foyer</b>
11:00 – 1:00 PM	<b>Client One-On-One Appointments</b> The one-on-one appointments are one of the most important aspects of the Connection. During registration, you'll choose up to 6 appointments each day with our DMCs and Sponsors. This is your ideal opportunity to learn what is new around the world, meet with those that you have upcoming questions or programs with, and learn about places or sponsors you may not have considered in the past. Take advantage and fill up your slots!	<b>Ground Floor</b>
1:00 – 2:00 PM	<b>Lunch</b>   <i>Sponsored by:</i>  <b>ALHI</b> <small>GLOBAL LUXURY SALES</small>	<b>The Olive Restaurant</b>
2:00 – 5:00 PM	<b>Afternoon Activities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Warsaw in a Nutshell</li><li>➤ Communist Tour</li><li>➤ WWII History Tour</li><li>➤ Bicycle Tour</li><li>➤ Vistula River Walking Tour</li><li>➤ Tastes of Warsaw</li><li>➤ Shopping Tour</li><li>➤ At Leisure</li></ul>	<b>Depart from Hotel Main Lobby</b>
6:30 PM	<b>Depart for Evening Event</b>	<b>Hotel Main Lobby</b>
7:00 PM	<b>Dinner</b>	<b>Chopin Park</b>

## Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup>

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7:30 – 8:30 AM	<b>Breakfast at Leisure</b>	<b>The Olive Restaurant</b>
8:30 – 10:30 AM	<b>Client One-On-One Appointments</b> The one-on-one appointments are one of the most important aspects of the Connection. During registration, you'll choose up to 6 appointments each day with our DMCs and Sponsors. This is your ideal opportunity to learn what is new around the world, meet with those that you have upcoming questions or programs with, and learn about places or sponsors you may not have considered in the past. Take advantage and fill up your slots!	<b>Ground Floor</b>
10:30 – 11:00 AM	<b>Coffee Break</b>	<b>Grand Salon Foyer</b>
11:00 – 12:30 PM	<b>Come &amp; Learn from Your Peers</b>	



Spend time with your peers, discussing the issues and topics that are most relevant to you in a very open format! The sessions will be moderated by a Global DMC Partners Customer Advisory Board Member and will be split up by industry and meeting planner role to allow for the most effective sharing and discussion. Come ready to ask questions, learn from others, and talk freely! Topics for discussion will include creating unique attendee experiences, shrinking budgets, talent retention & acquisition, crisis management, GDPR, changing trends, and many more topics that you submitted in the pre-event survey!

- Incentives (North American Clients)
- Incentives (International Clients)
- Meetings (North American Clients)
- Meetings (International Clients)
- DMCs – Owners
- DMCs – Sales

**Sofia**  
**Paris**  
**Rome**  
**Warsaw**  
**Vienna**  
**London**

12:30 – 1:00 PM      **Connection Wrap-Up**  
**2018 Partners of the Year**  
**2018 Clients of the Year**  
**Announcement of 2019 Connection Location**      **Grand Salon A - B**

1:00 – 2:00 PM      **Lunch** | *Sponsored by:*  **The Olive Restaurant**

2:00 – 5:00 PM      **Afternoon Activities**  

- Warsaw in a Nutshell
- Communist Tour
- WWII History Tour
- Bicycle Tour
- Vistula River Walking Tour
- Tastes of Warsaw
- Shopping Tour
- At Leisure

**Depart From Hotel Main Lobby**

6:30 pm      **Depart for Dinner**      **Hotel Main Lobby**

7:00 PM      **Gala Dinner**  
*Sponsored by:*   *and*  **Palace of Culture and Science**

**Sunday, August 19<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 – 10:30 AM      **Breakfast at Leisure**      **The Olive Restaurant**

**Departures**      **Hotel Main Lobby**  
Refer to your badge or mobile app for your departure time.