

**Marcel N.A. Holman**  
**General Manager, The Sukhothai Shanghai**



*“In the world of hospitality, the true difference lies in genuine passion and impeccable attention to details.”*

General Manager Marcel Holman is tasked with creating an exceptional experience that bears the Sukhothai quality imprint across the spectrum of services offered by the group’s first property in Mainland China.

Leading with vision and action in equal measures, Marcel works closely with his 250-strong team to turn each in-room, dining and event experience into fond memories that keep guests and patrons coming back.

A seasoned hotelier, he subscribes to the belief that people come first -- not just people he serves, but also those he serves with. With six openings and three hotel renovation and relaunch projects under his belt, he reckons that passionate and committed employees make a hotel stand out from the pack.

To Marcel, a hospitality career means an intersection of his aptitude and interests. He joined the industry in 1988, before starting his formal hotel management training in his native Netherlands.

He is no stranger to the hospitality scene in Asia Pacific. After making his career debut in Europe, Marcel went to New Zealand on a one-way ticket 24 years ago to launch his international career. His professional experience continues to grow in this region, having worked for InterContinental Hotels Group and Rotana Hotels, and assumed senior



managerial roles with Shangri-La Hotels & Resorts in various cities across Mainland China between 2005 and 2016.

Indeed, Marcel has made great headway in his career in the first decade of the millennium, tuning up from one posting to another with various high-profile hospitality establishments in China. As the resident manager, he plugged right in at Shangri-La Fuzhou and Shangri-La Chengdu in its opening phase.

He landed his first general manager position in 2008 with the China World Summit Wing, Convention Centre Beijing, providing strong leadership in preparing the flagship Shangri-La hotel at all levels before it welcomed its first guests.

Marcel admits that to see something through from the drawing board to ribbon-cutting is highly gratifying. The renovation of Shangri-La's Far Eastern Plaza Taipei and Mega50 managed by Shangri-La's Far Eastern Plaza Taipei was one such open canvas. Tasked with conceptualising and realising the hotel group's first external food and beverage precinct, he came out of it with flying colours when it was launched in 2016. He is all set to repeat the same with the 'Cha House', a restored heritage three-storey building turned lifestyle venue annexed to The Sukhothai Shanghai.

The charismatic hotelier wears more than one hat. He is currently Vice President Mainland China for The Sukhothai Hotels & Resorts, responsible for popularising the Sukhothai brand image and signature offering in Mainland China.

A recipient of the 'Food & Beverage Creativity Award' by the InterContinental Hotels North Asia, Marcel completed the Master of Business Administration programme offered by the University of Melbourne/GlobalNxt University Singapore in 2014.

In his free time, Marcel enjoys movies and a round of golf. His hobbies and interests include travelling, sailing and outdoor sports. Meanwhile, he has developed a passion for the rich and deep flavours of Southeast Asian and Sichuan cuisine.

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