

TRAVEL AND HOSPITALITY

## Peninsula Hotels bans disposable straws in step towards sustainability

June 6, 2018



*The Peninsula Hotels' global ban on straws is in effect immediately. Image credit: Peninsula Hotels*

By STAFF REPORTS

In a major step towards creating a sustainable future, the Peninsula Hotels has instituted a ban on the use of disposable plastic straws, effective immediately.

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The ban is part of the hotel's plan to transition away from all single use plastics by 2020. Straws may seem like a small thing, but at an institution such as a major luxury hotel, any bit of waste can add up to huge amounts of pollution.

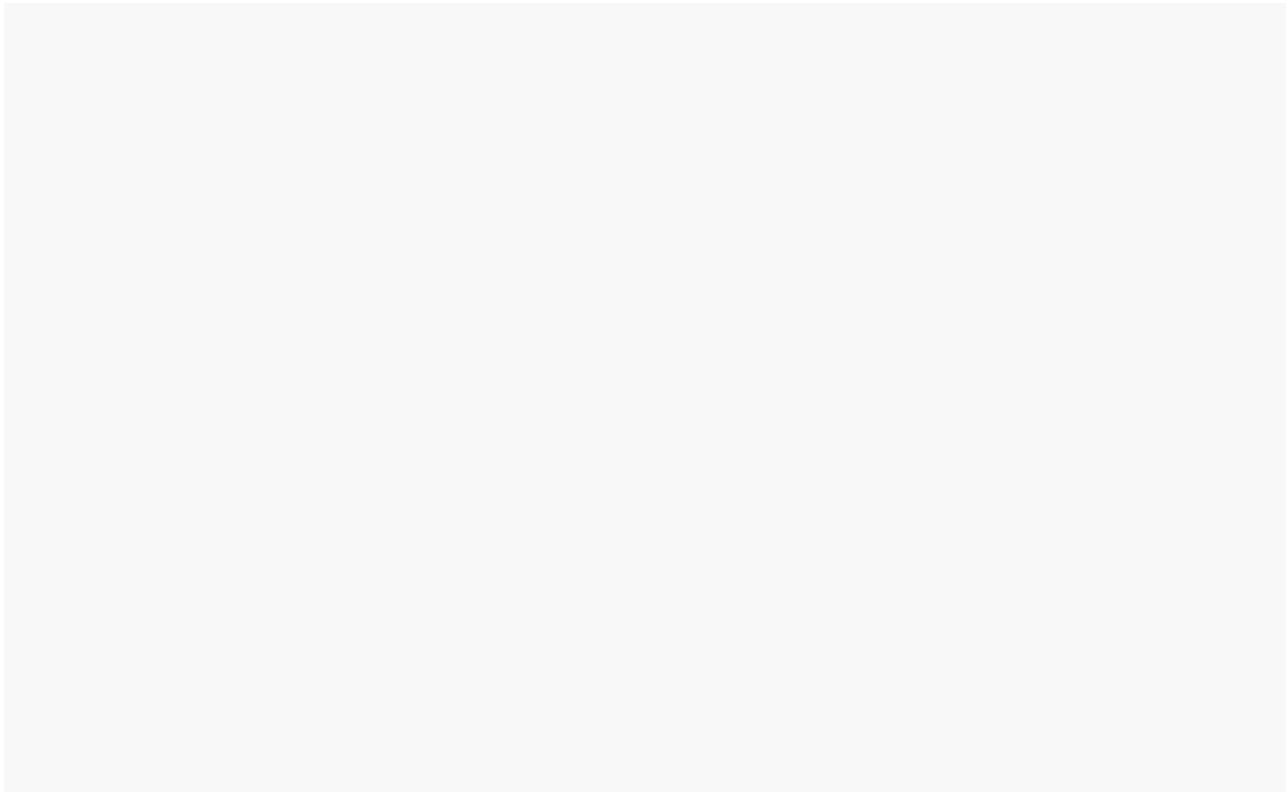
### Plastic independence

Over the past year, there has been a growing movement to reduce or outrightly eliminate the use of disposable plastic straws.

While small, their ephemeral nature makes plastic straws a massive contributor to plastic waste, especially from large institutions such as Peninsula Hotels.

In fact, a hotel the size of Peninsula can go through thousands of straws every year, each of which takes up space in landfills where it takes years to degrade or ends up in the ocean. Straws make up one of the major polluting factors facing the oceans today.

Peninsula Hotel's decision to ban straws is the first step the hotel is taking towards completely eliminating single-use plastics over the next few years.



Go strawless! We're thrilled to announce a ban on plastic straws at The Peninsula Hotels - this is the first step toward transitioning away from all single-use plastics in each of our hotels by 2020.

A post shared by The Peninsula Hotels (@peninsulahotels) on Jun 4, 2018 at 7:24pm PDT

But Peninsula is not the only luxury brand to begin transitioning away from plastics in recent months.

In April, British department store chain Selfridges began furthering its sustainability efforts by removing carbonated drinks in plastic bottles from its stores.

Part of its Project Ocean campaign, this latest move from the retailer follows other drink-related measures, including banning disposable water bottles and recycling coffee cups. Beyond boosting its own environmental impact, Selfridges is aiming to lead by example, hoping to inspire other stores to cut out plastic ([see story](#)).

Peninsula's ban on straws is in effect globally at every location. The move towards complete detachment from single-use plastics will happen in stages to smooth the transition and offer an easier path towards sustainability.

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