30 October – 13 November 2026

The Bridge





From the Editor

Growing Connections, New Opportunities and an Evolving J-1 Market

Dear Applicants, Employers, Sponsors and Partners,
The past two weeks have been particularly exciting for Cultural Exchange Bridge, with opportunities to strengthen partnerships, meet industry professionals and explore new possibilities across international hospitality.
One of the highlights was our participation in the Institute of Hospitality's Passion4Hospitality 2026 event in London. It was a fantastic experience, featuring inspiring keynote speakers, familiar faces, valuable networking opportunities and one-to-one interview sessions. Our sincere thanks to the Institute of Hospitality for bringing the industry together through such a successful event.
Meanwhile, we are seeing increasing demand for J-1 Internship and Trainee Programmes (ITP). American employers are showing growing interest in international talent, professional development and cultural exchange. We believe this creates exciting opportunities for students, graduates and employers alike.
At Cultural Exchange Bridge, we continue to expand our international recruitment network, strengthen employer relationships and develop quality placements across hospitality and other professional industries. Our priority remains creating meaningful experiences that benefit both participants and host employers.
Thank you to all our partners and colleagues for being part of this journey. We look forward to sharing more updates, insights and opportunities in the next edition of The Bridge Newsletter.
Warm regards,

Cultural Exchange Bridge UK
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Wow… What an Inspiring Experience!

We were delighted to participate in THIS! '26: The Hospitality Internship Summit, a global virtual event bringing together students, educators, employers, researchers and industry leaders to discuss the future of hospitality internships.

The summit was an incredibly informative experience, offering valuable insights into internship programme design, student readiness, mentorship, employer engagement and the importance of stronger collaboration between academia and industry.

Beyond the knowledge shared, the networking opportunities were equally rewarding. Connecting with professionals from different backgrounds and markets reminded us how important collaboration is in creating meaningful international internship experiences and preparing the next generation of hospitality talent.

At Cultural Exchange Bridge, we believe that successful internships go far beyond placements. They are about professional growth, cultural understanding, knowledge sharing and building lasting connections between education and industry.

A sincere thank you to Hospitality Nexus and Internology for bringing the global hospitality community together and creating such a valuable platform for learning and collaboration.

We look forward to putting these insights into practice and continuing to build bridges between international talent, educational institutions and hospitality employers.

The future of hospitality starts with meaningful connections.





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London: Connecting Hospitality Talent at IoH P4H 2026

We were delighted to take part in the Institute of Hospitality's Passion4Hospitality (P4H) 2026 event in London, an inspiring gathering that brought together hospitality students, graduates, educators, and industry professionals.

The event offered a wonderful opportunity to engage with the hospitality community through an exciting programme of keynote speakers, networking opportunities, familiar faces, and dedicated one-to-one interview sessions. It was particularly rewarding to reconnect with industry colleagues, meet new professionals, and exchange perspectives on the evolving hospitality landscape and the opportunities available to the next generation of hospitality talent.

The one-to-one interview sessions were especially valuable, providing an opportunity to meet aspiring hospitality professionals, understand their ambitions, and introduce them to international career development opportunities. At Cultural Exchange Bridge, we strongly believe that international exposure, practical industry experience, and cultural exchange play an important role in shaping successful hospitality careers.

Through our J-1 Internship and Traineeship programmes in the United States, we aim to connect talented hospitality students and graduates with leading American hotels and hospitality employers, allowing them to develop their professional skills while experiencing a different working culture.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Institute of Hospitality (IoH) for organising P4H 2026 and creating such a valuable platform for collaboration, professional development, and meaningful connections across the hospitality industry.

Events like this remind us of the importance of bringing education and industry closer together. We are grateful to everyone who took the time to meet with our team, share ideas, and explore potential opportunities.

We look forward to continuing these conversations, strengthening our industry partnerships, and building new bridges between hospitality education and international career opportunities.







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From Madrid to the World: Expanding Our Hospitality Network

Cultural Exchange Bridge at the 16th Vatel Hotel Companies Forum 2026

Cultural Exchange Bridge is delighted to announce its participation in the 16th edition of the Vatel Hotel Companies Forum 2026, taking place on Monday, 16 November, at the prestigious Truss Madrid – Movistar Arena in Madrid, Spain.
Bringing together hospitality companies, educational institutions, industry professionals and emerging talent, the Vatel Hotel Companies Forum represents an important meeting point for the hospitality sector. The event provides a valuable platform for exchanging ideas, developing professional relationships and creating new opportunities for the next generation of hospitality professionals.

For Cultural Exchange Bridge, this occasion is another important step in strengthening relationships with international hospitality schools and connecting talented students and graduates with global career opportunities.
Through our international network of educational partners, recruitment agencies and leading hotel employers across the United States, we continue to promote practical international experience through the J-1 Internship and Trainee programmes. Our aim is to help aspiring hospitality professionals develop their skills, gain exposure to different working environments and build stronger foundations for their future careers.

During the Forum, we look forward to meeting Vatel students and graduates, reconnecting with industry representatives and exploring new opportunities for collaboration with hospitality employers and educational institutions.
We are particularly pleased to be part of this international gathering and look forward to strengthening our relationship with the Vatel network while building new bridges between hospitality education and the global industry.

Event Details

- Event: 16th Vatel Hotel Companies Forum 2026
- Date: Monday, 16 November 2026
- Venue: Truss Madrid – Movistar Arena
- Address: Calle de Jorge Juan, Nº 99, 28009 Madrid, Spain
- Exhibitor Access: From 9:00 AM
- Event Closing: 6:00 PM

Madrid, we look forward to meeting you!

VATEL
HOTEL & TOURISM BUSINESS SCHOOL

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Introduction of a Property

Discover Boar's Head Resort – Charlottesville, Virginia

A place where history, luxury and hospitality come together to create unforgettable experiences.

Nestled in the beautiful foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Charlottesville, Virginia, Boar's Head Resort is an award-winning luxury country resort where Southern hospitality, historic charm and exceptional guest experiences come together.
Set across more than 600 acres of picturesque Virginia countryside, the resort offers an outstanding combination of elegant accommodation, fine dining, wellness and world-class recreational facilities. With 168 guest rooms and suites, Boar's Head provides a welcoming and sophisticated atmosphere for leisure travellers, families and business guests alike.
The property features several distinctive dining experiences, including The Mill Room, its signature restaurant, where guests can enjoy locally inspired cuisine in an elegant setting. The resort is also home to the renowned Birdwood Golf Course, extensive tennis and racquet facilities, swimming pools, fitness amenities, nature trails and a variety of outdoor activities.
Boar's Head Resort has a rich history dating back nearly 300 years, with connections to Thomas Jefferson and the heritage of Virginia. Today, it combines this historical character with modern luxury and a strong commitment to personalised service.
Its location offers easy access to the University of Virginia, historic downtown Charlottesville, the Blue Ridge Parkway and the region's renowned wineries and scenic attractions.
For international hospitality professionals and J-1 Internship and Trainee candidates, Boar's Head Resort represents an excellent opportunity to gain hands-on experience in an upscale American resort environment. With exposure to multiple food and beverage outlets, guest services, events and recreational operations, trainees can develop valuable professional skills while experiencing authentic Southern hospitality.







Benefits

- Share Employee Housing (150 USD per week)
- Cultural Outings
- Free Employee Meals
- Employee Appreciation Events
- Discounted Golf
- Free Sport Activities



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