

CEO **2026** SUMMIT

EXPLORE

THE MINDSET OF MODERN LEADERSHIP

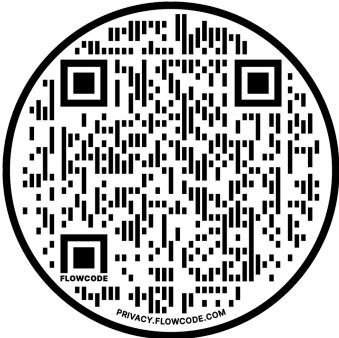
MARCH 30 - APRIL 1, 2026 • NEWPORT BEACH, CA, USA

MONDAY, MARCH 30

CEO Concierge The Welcome Port	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Riviera Registration
Registration	2:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Riviera Registration
Board Meeting	3:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Amalfi Salons 1-3
PAC and Board Meeting Reception	4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	Marea Canvas 1
First Timers' Reception <i>(Courtesy of MMGY)</i>	4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	Marea Canvas 2
Welcome Reception: Drop Anchor: An Evening of Heritage, Hospitality & Connection	5:30 PM - 8:00 PM	Sunset Lawn

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

Registration	7:30 AM - 1:45 PM	Riviera Registration
Networking Breakfast	7:15 AM - 8:15 AM	Riviera Lawn
CEO Concierge The Welcome Port	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Riviera Registration
Welcome	8:30 AM - 9:15 AM	Riviera Ballroom
Opening Keynote by Deepak Malhotra	9:15 AM - 10:30 AM	Riviera Ballroom
Coffee Break	10:30 AM - 10:45 AM	Riviera Foyer
Global Forces, Destination Futures	10:45 AM - 11:25 AM	Riviera Ballroom
Leading When Everyone Is Watching: Redefining Destination Leadership for the Future	11:25 AM - 12:10 PM	Riviera Ballroom
From Complexity to Clarity: The CEO's Role in Shaping the Next Era of the Visitor Economy	12:10 PM - 12:25 PM	Riviera Ballroom
<u>Flashes of Brilliance Round 1</u> 1.) The Next Revenue Lever for Destination CEOs: Why Midweek, Business Travel and AI Visibility Are the CEO Conversation Now 2.) A Destination Vibe Check: Rethinking Visibility in the Age of AI Discovery 3.) AI is Easy. People are Hard.	12:35 - 12:50 PM	
	1.) Riviera Ballroom	
	2.) Amalfi Salons 1-3	
	3.) Amalfi Salons 4-5	

Lunch	12:50 PM - 1:45 PM	Riviera Lawn
Fireside Chat: Setting the Stage for What's Next	1:45 PM - 2:00 PM	Riviera Ballroom
Leadership Exchange: The Conversations That Matter Most	2:00 PM - 2:45 PM	Riviera Ballroom
<p>Immersive Experiences Choose your ideal Newport Beach afternoon:</p> <p>1) Cruise the harbor on a Duffy boat with drinks and coastal views</p> <p>2) Enjoy a stylish Fashion Island shopping experience with a curated boutique visit and whiskey tasting</p> <p>3) Unwind at your own pace with spa and poolside relaxation at VEA</p>	3:00 PM - 4:30 PM	<p>Sign up for you experience:</p> 
Caroline Beteta's Farewell Reception (Offsite)	5:30 PM - 7:30 PM	<i>The Resort at Pelican Hill</i> (Lower Mar Vista and the Event Lawn)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

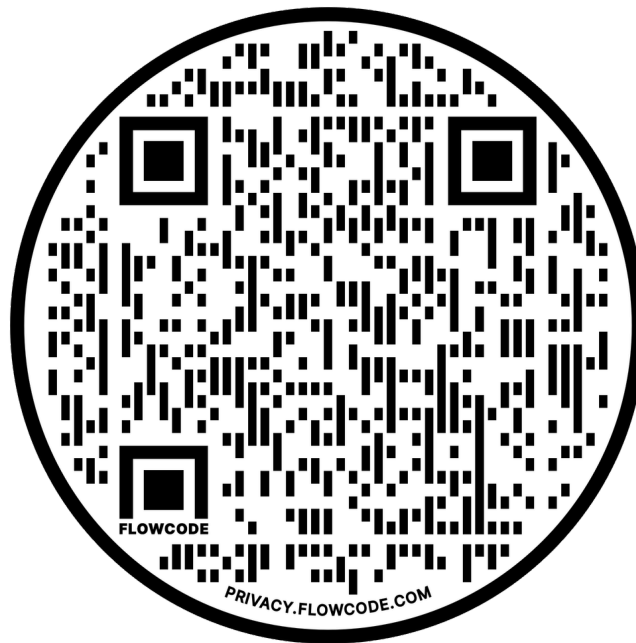
Registration	7:30 AM - 3:30 PM	Riviera Registration
CEO Concierge The Welcome Port	7:30 AM - 1:00 pm	Riviera Registration
Breakfast	7:15 AM - 8:15 AM	Riviera Lawn
The Growing Influence of Sports Tourism on Destination Strategy	8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	Riviera Ballroom
Stronger Relationships as a Moat for Challenging Times	9:00 AM - 9:55 AM	Riviera Ballroom
<u>Breakout Sessions</u> 1) Partner Strategy Lab: Winning in a Complex DMO Environment: The Power of Strategic Relationships 2) Leadership Exchange: Destination Influence System <i>(Powered by CDME Thought Leadership)</i> 3) Leadership Exchange: Building the Credibility Stack <i>(Powered by CDME Thought Leadership)</i>	10:05 AM - 10:50 AM	
	1.) Amalfi Salons 4-5	
	2.) Riviera Ballroom	
	3.) Amalfi Salons 1-3	
Coffee Break	10:50 - 11:05 AM	Riviera Foyer
Leading What Comes Next in AI	11:05 - 11:50 AM	Riviera Ballroom
<u>Flashes of Brilliance Round 2</u> 1.) The Future-Ready Destination: Why Accessibility is a Leadership Decision 2.) The Budget Waste Nobody's Talking About	12:00 PM - 12:15 PM	
	1.) Riviera Ballroom	
	2.) Amalfi Salons 1-3	

<p>3.) Mapping Discovery to Decision: How Access is Changing Destination Demand</p>	<p>3.) Amalfi Salons 4-5</p>	
<p><u>Flashes of Brilliance Round 3</u></p> <p>1) The Sky Is Not Falling... Travel Sentiment During Unsteady Times</p> <p>2) Would You Sign Your Name and Personal Brand to That Number?</p> <p>3) The Trust Alliance: Building Your Trust Moat in the Post-Megaphone Era</p>	<p>12:25 PM - 12:40 PM</p>	
	<p>Riviera Ballroom</p>	
	<p>Amalfi Salons 1-3</p>	
	<p>Amalfi Salons 4-5</p>	
<p>Lunch</p>	<p>12:40 PM - 1:30 PM</p>	<p>Riviera Lawn</p>
<p>Unplanned Disruptions, Unshakable Leadership: How These CEOs Led When the Playbook Ran Out</p>	<p>1:30 PM - 2:15 PM</p>	<p>Riviera Ballroom</p>
<p><u>Breakout Sessions</u></p> <p>1.) Partner Challenge Lab: From Friction to Meaningful Engagement</p> <p>2.) Leadership Exchange: Scaling Smart: Aligning Structure for Organizational Success <i>(Powered by CDME Thought Leadership)</i></p> <p>3.) Leadership Exchange: Built to Thrive: Maximizing Impact with a Lean Team <i>(Powered by CDME Thought Leadership)</i></p>	<p>2:25 PM - 3:10 PM</p>	
	<p>1.) Amalfi Salons 4-5</p>	
	<p>2.) Riviera Ballroom</p>	
<p>3.) Amalfi Salons 1-3</p>		
<p>Coffee Break</p>	<p>3:10 PM - 3:25 PM</p>	<p>Riviera Foyer</p>

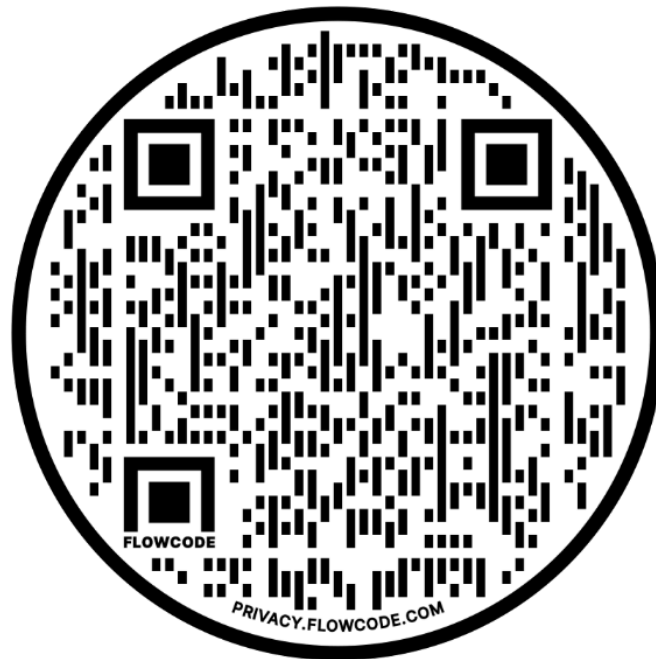
Rethinking DMO Funding: Aligning Destinations and Hotel Ownership	3:25 PM - 3:55 PM	Riviera Ballroom
Destination Leadership Issues: Compensation Attacks	3:55 PM - 4:25 PM	Riviera Ballroom
Inside the Funding Room: A Leadership Exchange: Leadership Structures, Compensation Pressures, & Organizational Realities	4:30 PM - 5:15 PM	Riviera Ballroom
Closing Remarks	5:15 PM - 5:30 PM	Riviera Ballroom
Closing Happy Hour	5:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Riviera Lawn

Sessions are subject to change.

Visit the CEO Summit website for the latest information.



**Optimize your summit experience with the
new AI Companion:**



THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT PARTNERS

