



CIGRAAL

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SLOWEST RACE ON THE PLANET HISTORICAL DEBUT IN HONG KONG

Bertie Hong Kong recently had the immense honour of welcoming the 'Cigar Smoking World Championship', aka 'The Slow Smoking Competition' for an evening filled with adrenaline and good sportsmanship spirit.

Marko Bilić, creator of this 'slowest race on the planet' was here in person, bringing his charisma and immense showmanship to the 'Best Cigar Lounge in Asia' (Cigar Trophy 2024).

The event was nicely fuelled by **Samai Rum**, the first Cambodia rum brand, which is soon doing its debut on the Hong Kong scene, and was a perfect match with the competition cigar especially created by Oliva.

The 'first out' happened early on, within 5 minutes of the start. At 1 hour 35 minutes, only 7 persons were still in the race (out of 23), and the last 3 held on tight until the last 20 minutes. Hong Kong record is officially 1 hour and 48 minutes, held by Mr Brian Chau, who will represent Hong Kong in the Grand Finale in Split, Croatia!

Eric Piras said "I am hugely proud of welcoming such an amazing competition in Bertie Hong Kong; it definitely consolidates our trophy as 'Best Cigar Lounge in Asia!'"

Marko Bilić said "I have been very much impressed by the ladies and gentlemen competing for Hong Kong. The event was of a very high quality and competition was tense through the end, with an excellent final time!"

It was a first for all competitors, as none of them had entered a cigar competition before, but they have woved to train all year long and participate again in the 2026 edition, as they had an incredible experience.

PHOTOS & VIDEOS: <https://cigraal.smugmug.com/CSWC-Hong-Kong-2025>

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