

News Release

Rezidor SAS continues rapid expansion of luxury brand

Regent to open in Dubai

23 August 2006... Regent Hotels today announced the launch of its first property in the United Arab Emirates - the Regent Dubai Canal Point. Regent Hotels, which include The Regent Beverley Wilshire and The Regent Singapore, have become synonymous with the highest standards of luxury and personalised service across the globe. The finest traditions of Asian hospitality are married with truly luxurious surroundings to create the ultimate hotel experience.

The Regent Dubai Canal Point, which is set for completion in 2010, will feature ground-breaking architectural design, inspired by the Asian lotus flower. At approximately 460m high, the hotel will stand out in a city of high-rise buildings as a new landmark. The hotel is part of a major new multi purpose development right in the heart of the city between the Palm, Jumeirah and Jebel Ali Free Zone. The development will consist of three office towers, two major residential towers and a community services area, including a medical centre and a Thai inspired wellness centre. The iconic property was designed by US architects Burt Hill, and is being developed by Istithmar, part of the Dubai World Group that is behind some of the most recognisable features of the Dubai landscape – Palm Island, World Islands and the Dubai Waterfront.

Kurt Ritter, President & CEO Rezidor SAS Hospitality said, "Opening a showcase property in Dubai is part of a long term strategy to further enhance and develop the Regent brand. Both Dubai and Regent are pioneers in the luxury segment and synonymous with the highest standards. We are extremely pleased to have found the right project in this fast expanding market."

The Regent Dubai Canal Point will have approximately 250 luxurious guestrooms, 255 serviced apartments and 105 residential apartments. The hotel will offer a wide-range of bar and restaurant facilities, including a top-floor sky restaurant, a spa and wellness area, extensive conference facilities consisting of approximately 20 meeting rooms and two ballrooms, a lecture theatre with a capacity to host up to 300 delegates, and a library.

The hotel is set in serene, relaxing surroundings with lavish gardens and lagoon, helping visitors to relax and feel removed from the busy, fast moving Dubai city.

"We are positive that the Regent brand will be very well received in the region by the upscale business and leisure traveller. The hotel will offer the superb standards of hospitality that travellers have come to expect from the Regent, and deliver supreme luxury for all senses," added Kurt Ritter.

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Regent is one of the fastest growing luxury brands in the hospitality industry, and the Dubai property is one of nine new hotels that will open in the next two years across North America, Europe and Asia, in sought-after locations including Dubrovnik, Beijing and Boston. Earlier this year, the Regent brand was extended to include cruising, with the re-branding of the Radisson Seven Seas cruise line. Regent Seven Seas Cruises is now one of the worlds finest providers of cruise experiences, offering cordon bleu restaurants, personalised service and state of the art facilities.