

spa opportunities

10 APRIL - 23 APRIL 2015 ISSUE 213

Daily news & jobs: www.spaopportunities.com

evianSpa to launch site in commercial plaza in Doha

An evianSpa is planned to open in 2016 as part of a 38,000sq m (409,029sq ft) plaza development in Doha's Cultural Village Foundation Katara – elements of which originally opened to the public in October 2010.

Renowned Qatar operator Ali Bin Ali Group, which will run the Katara Plaza when it opens, signed an agreement with the Cultural Village foundation. Key tenants at the upcoming property will include the French department store Galeries Lafayette – designed by architect Bruno Moïnard – and evianSpa.

Laurent Houel, evian's global brand director and owner of the evianSpa concept, outlined the partnership between evian and Ali Bin Ali: "The Middle East is



The evianSpa will be located at the plaza within Doha's Cultural Village Foundation Katara

an important market for evian and Ali Bin Ali Group is a great partner for us already. What's more, the Katara Plaza project shows great ambition, creating an iconic space, blending multiple experiences of art and culture, entertainment

and leisure, retail and wellbeing. This project will reinforce evian's premium position with a top of the range concept – representing the brand's identity and core values."

To complete the project, Ali Bin Ali has teamed up with evianSpa's dedicated Doha team – coordinated by international spa project manager and evianSpa's international business developer Patrick Saussay, owner of Global Spa Advisory (GPSA). Christine Masson Nicolier, also from GPSA, will incorporate evianSpa into Qatari culture.

Leyk & Wollenberg Architecture and Atelier GH will lead the design of the evianSpa project. Gael Hiétin of Atelier GH developed the evianSpa global design concept.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=u4w4J_S

Alila Salalah resort to open in Q3 of 2017

Alila Hotels and Resorts will launch its second luxury resort development in Oman in Mirbat, east of Salalah – a coastal town in the Dhofar governorate.

The project, owned by Alil Salalah – a subsidiary of the Oman Investment Fund – will open in the second half of 2017 comprising 100 bedrooms, 25 villas, fine dining restaurants and a Spa Alila wellness centre.

Alila's guests will be able to visit both the Hajar Mountains – via the existing Alila Jabal Akhdar – and Mirbat beaches at the new property. Interiors are by BLINK Design Group. Details: http://lei.sr?a=D5x4Q_S

Mexican journalist to Emcee GWS

Giselle Fernandez, a five-time Emmy award winner and Mexico native, will emcee the 2015 Global Wellness Summit (GWS) in Mexico City in November.

Fernandez's journalistic career includes anchoring NBC's weekend edition of the *Today Show* and the Sunday edition of the *NBC Nightly News*; she was also a regular contributor to *CBS Sunday Morning*, *Face the Nation* and *48 Hours*. She has covered international news stories on location including the Gulf War and the US invasions of Haiti and Panama and she has interviewed global leaders including Fidel Castro, Henry Kissinger and President Bill Clinton.

"Giselle is not only an award-winning journalist and experienced television host, but



Giselle Fernandez is an Emmy award winner

she has also won countless humanitarian and philanthropic awards for her outreach to the Latino community in her hometown of Los Angeles," said Susie Ellis, chair and CEO of the Global Wellness Institute (GWI), the umbrella organisation that runs the GWS. Fernandez will also moderate key discussions.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=N8U4E_S

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Swedish-owned US spa upgrades

The spa at Pelican Grand Resort in Florida's Fort Lauderdale, US, is undergoing major renovations under the wellness concept: 'where Scandinavia meets South Florida.'

Jefast Pelican Grand, a company from Sweden, owns the 136-key property – which is part of the Noble House Hotels & Resorts collection. The Swedish patronage of the resort is the driving force behind the Scandinavian-style at Pure Spa, which is located on the hotel's 11th floor.

Set to open on 1 June, spa director George Powell-Lopez told *Spa Opportunities* he worked with designer Cassandra Jertshagen of Jefast to create a facility that comprises an octagonal spa suite with a panoramic view of the Atlantic ocean. It also features floor-to-ceiling windows, two treatment rooms, two outdoor spa cabanas, two ocean-view manicure/pedicure stations, locker rooms and a relaxation room. The interior spa space measures 1,515sq ft (141sq m) and the exterior spa terrace is 1,470sq ft (137sq m).

Products in use at the spa will include



Spa director George Powell-Lopez and designer Cassandra Jertshagen

those by Maria Akerberg, Babor, Coola, SpaRitual, Tara Spa Products, SoyDelicious, plus luxury linen by the Madison Collection.

Other enhancements to the property during the renovations, include the addition of two ballrooms and a new penthouse. FSMY Architects and Planners are involved in the property's renovations.

In addition to direct beach access, lazy river and pool, the resort offers guests a number of dining venues.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=r4Q6g_S

Swiss hotel opens at Kameha Lake

The Kameha Grand Zurich hotel opened in Switzerland in March, surrounded by 128,000sq m (1,377,781sq ft) of forests, meadows, ponds and Zurich's Kameha Lake. It also features a Kameha Spa designed by Marcel Wanders.

The 245-key hotel is the first Autograph Collection property by Marriott in Switzerland. It was developed by real estate development company Mettler2Invest, owned by Peter Mettler. On completion it was handed over to Turintra AG, a real estate fund of Swiss bank UBS. The UBS fund is therefore the owner and lessor of the property. Kameha Grand Glattpark Betriebsgesellschaft operates the property as part of a long term lease.

A representative for the hotel told *Spa Opportunities* that the 300sq m (3,229sq ft) Kameha Spa features four treatment rooms, two saunas, a steamroom, relaxation room/ roof terrace, in addition to a gym.



The Kameha Spa features four treatment rooms and a relaxation room

House products include Alessandro, Spa Manufaktur, La Biosthétique and Artemis.

In addition to a number of leisure activities, the hotel offers a choice of two dining options – one Italian restaurant and a Japanese outlet.

The property also has an event hall that can accommodate up to 960 people, a large convention centre and several business suites.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=7j8n8_S



Native tribe buys hot spring resort

Family-owned Ainsworth Hot Springs Resort in British Columbia, Canada, has been sold to the Lower Kootenay Indian Band (LKB) – a tribe that has a history with the site dating back hundreds of years.

Ownership will change hands in April and while there are no immediate changes planned for the wellness resort, LKB will be investing in capital improvements in the near future, according to the band's chief Jason Louie. One of the goals for the new owners is

to work closely with Ainsworth area residents and continue to build relationships to strengthen the area's tourist economy.

Located 22km south of Kaslo on the west shore of Kootenay Lake, the 41-key resort has been family-owned since 1962. Current owners Norm and Joyce Mackie purchased the property from Joyce's parents, Sam and Belle Homen in 1979.

The new owner, LKB, is one of four Canadian and two US communities that comprise the Ktunaxa Nation. Lower



The hot spring water enters the resort's systems at about 47°C (117°F)

Kootenay, also known as Yaqa Nukiy, is located in Creston Valley, British Columbia, and has a population of about 250.

"The Ainsworth Hot Springs are known by the Ktunaxa people as 'nupika wu'u', which has a literal translation meaning 'spirit water,'" said Louie. "The resort will provide meaningful employment and business opportunities for the citizens of Yaqa Nukiy and local residents. It will continue to be a major tourism destination of the region."

Details: http://lei.sr?a=F2j3V_S

Millennium Hotel Fujairah set to soft-open in April 2015

The Millennium Hotel Fujairah in Fujaira, UAE, is now reaching the final phase of development and is on track to soft-open in April, before the full launch in May 2015.

The 221-bedroom hotel will be operated by Millennium & Copthorne hotels and resorts.

Speaking to *Spa Opportunities*, spa and recreation manager for the hotel Ahmed Said said the hotel's 3,200sq ft (2,97sq m) spa is located across the top floors of the hotel – storeys 18 and 19.

There will be three treatment rooms in the facility, in addition to separate male and female sections that will each include a sauna and steamroom, in addition to a rooftop pool on the 19th floor.

French skincare brand Phytomer has partnered with the property's spa.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=X9b9j_S



The venue will offer 128 bedrooms after completion

Mövenpick launches in Istanbul

Mövenpick Hotel Istanbul Golden Horn, Turkey, opened on 31 March. The hotel is situated 10 minutes from the Old City's historic sights and 10 minutes from the Haliç Congress Centre, enabling it to target both business and leisure guests.

The 136-key property, owned by Istanbul-based Akgel Real Estate Investment, has been designed by Loft Architects - with interiors by Sinan Kafadar from the Metex Design Group - to evoke Greek, Roman Byzantine and Ottoman history through naval motifs. Compass designs, interlinking chains and wave wood panelling decorate the interior space within the hotel.

In addition to five dining venues, six meeting rooms and the 380sq m (4,090sq ft) Golden Horn Ballroom, the hotel houses a Serenity Wellness Centre – which includes a fitness centre, Turkish hammam, saunas, steam-room, relaxation zone and massage rooms.



The Turkish property is owned by Istanbul-based Estate Investment

There is also a Vitamin Bar for rehydration, located within the Wellness Centre.

The property is located close to Taksim Square, a major shopping, dining and leisure district – which is home to the Republic Monument.

This hotel is the second Mövenpick in Istanbul and the fourth in Turkey – with properties in Ankara and the port city of Izmir.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=p7E3D_S

'Spa village' set for Northern Irish resort in £10m upgrade

Northern Ireland's Galgorm Resort & Spa, UK, has unveiled details of an extension planned at the property, costing £10m (US\$15m, €14m). The new leisure and accommodation wing will open in September 2015 and the leisure aspect will comprise a 'spa village' – separate to the property's existing spa.

Located outside Ballymena and 30 minutes' drive from Belfast, the property is owned by Tullymore House – which is run by brothers Paul and Nicholas Hill. The venue will house a total of 128 bedrooms when the development is complete, thanks to funding from First Trust and Invest NI – according to the *Belfast Telegraph*. The number of bedrooms being added is 48.

The new 'spa village' is set to include a relaxation pool, riverside sauna – the River Maine runs through the 163-acre (66-hectare) estate – plunge pool and a sheltered area with an open fire and private hot tubs.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=X4r5Q_S

The Washington Spa Alliance's fifth Annual Symposium



MARY BEMIS

Co-founder and Symposium chair, Washington Spa Alliance

I am very proud to report that spa history was made in Washington, DC, on 17 March, when the Washington Spa Alliance (WSPA) gathered for its fifth Annual Symposium at the National Press Club. A highlight of the day's activities, Mary-Elizabeth Gifford, pro-bono curator, announced the opening of the first-ever Spa Hall of Fame.

Americans increasingly turn to the spa community to learn about diet and exercise, the benefits of plant-based diets, to redefine ideas of beauty and wellbeing, and to learn techniques of mindfulness and preventive medicine," noted Dr Brent Bauer, MD, director of the Mayo Clinic Complementary and Integrative Medicine Program and Rejuvenate at the Mayo Clinic Healthy Living Program. "With the founding of the Spa Hall of Fame, spa comes of age," said Bauer.

Class of 2015 inductees include:

- Deborah Szekely: co-founder of Rancho La Puerta (1940); founder of the Golden Door (1958)
- Sheila Cluff: owner and founder of The Oaks at Ojai (1977)
- Jerrold Cohen: co-founder of Canyon Ranch (1979)
- Pat and Juanita Corbett: co-founders of The Hills Health Ranch (1982)
- Professor Mary Huddleston Tabacchi: co-founders of the first university course on spa at Cornell University (1984)
- Clodagh: founder of Clodagh Design (1984)
- Ruth Stricker: founder of The Marsh (1985)
- Bernard Burt: historian and author of *Fodor's Health and Fitness Vacations* in 1989 and co-founder of ISPA in 1991.

Gathered to salute these spa giants were the leaders and presidents of the regional spa associations from across the US. As a co-founder of the Washington Spa Alliance (WSPA) and the Symposium chair, I'd been hard at work on this special initiative. It had long been my hope to one day bring together all of the regional spa leadership in the States – in one room in our nation's capital.

Starwood plans luxury Latin American sites

Starwood Hotels & Resorts has announced that it will expand its luxury portfolio in Latin America and the Caribbean through a series of new hotel launches.

Starwood will open high-end properties under its St Regis, W Hotels and The Luxury Collection brands – taking the total of luxury properties under its operation in Latin America and the Caribbean from 19 to 22 by 2017.

Solaz, a Luxury Collection Hotel in Los Cabos – located at the southern tip of Mexico's Baja California Peninsula – will be in full operation mode by 2017 with 18 branded residences and 131 guestrooms.

In addition to a number of dining venues and bars, the mixed-use property will offer a 1,200sq ft (111sq m) fitness centre, tennis courts, 10,000sq ft (929sq m) of meeting space and an 8,000sq ft (743sq m) spa – the details of which have not yet been released. The Santa Maria, a Luxury Collection Hotel in



W Panama will open in 2017, minutes away from the Zona Rosa area

Panama will mark the brand's debut in the country by 2017. Complete with a Jack Nicklaus-designed golf course, the Santa Maria Golf & Country Club, the hotel will have 180 bedrooms and will be located in Costa del Este. There will also be a pool, fitness centre and spa.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=A5hdz_S



Members of Onyx and the site's owning company, Sino Lanka Hotels Galle, celebrated the ground-breaking

Onyx breaks ground on Sri Lankan hotel

Thailand-based Onyx Hospitality Group has broken ground on its third project in Sri Lanka – the 172-bedroom Amari Galle.

The hospitality group's hotel brand OZO already features on the island, in the form of OZO Colombo and OZO Kandy – the latter of which will open this month.

Owned by Sino Lanka Hotels Galle, Amari Galle will be managed by Onyx under the full-service Amari brand and will offer guests a swimming pool, gym, Breeze spa, banqueting facilities and two restaurants.

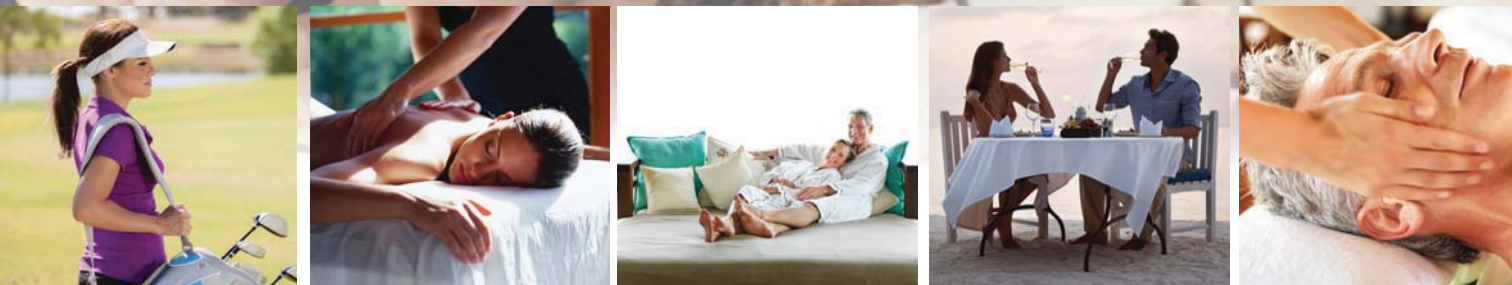
Bob Kundanmal, owner of Sino Lanka Hotels Galle, said the hotel will target business and leisure travelers as the country's tourism industry takes off.

"Sri Lanka's tourism industry is growing rapidly, with 2.5 million tourists expected to arrive by 2016," he said. "This property, along with the other two OZOs in Colombo and Kandy, will help to meet the projected demand for new hotel rooms and contribute to Sri Lanka's continued economic growth."

Details: http://lei.sr?a=y7c6J_S

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Resistance to benchmarking in the UAE



CHRIS KIEFER

General manager
for Cedar Bridge's
partners: Dreamworks
Spas and Zen
Yoga Studios

Locally we're facing resistance to benchmarking and have not seen proper reports that could help us to know where to position ourselves in the UAE.

The closer spas are located to each other, managers are less inclined to share their numbers. Many owners, spa managers and directors are still not open to the idea of offering an insight into their business.

What they are forgetting, however, is that by not sharing their data, they will not be able to establish if they are performing better than others.

For example, let's say you run a 10-treatment room spa with six therapists and exceed your set budget of AED270,000 (US\$73,508, €67,235, £49,405) in revenue every month by AED10,000 (US\$2,723, €2,490, £1,831) to AED15,000 (US\$4,084, €3,725, £2,745), is that good news?

Well, it depends on your gross operating profit first and foremost, but it also depends on what your competitors are doing revenue-wise.

If a spa nearby is generating AED325,000 (US\$88,482, €80,931, £59,506) every month, but has the same number of treatment rooms and the same number of therapists then obviously the first spa's figures don't look as good anymore.

This is why we need transparency and the will to share our individual profit and loss data. Benchmarking is key to success and we can only perform better in the industry if we all begin to communicate our great results.

While no one has previously taken ownership of the mission to change the regional mindset and encourage data sharing, a new committee is being set up by industry leaders to analyse the KPIs of spas in the Middle Eastern region. First discussed at the Professional Spa & Wellness Conference Dubai, the initiative to collect and examine data is expected to launch before Q3 2015.

• **Kiefer moved to Cedar Bridge from Starwood, where he was director of spa and leisure for the St Regis-branded properties in the Middle East, in February.**

Green Spa Network shares resources

The Green Spa Network (GSN) is extending its impact by creating regional spa associations to enable more spas to access its sustainability resources – part of its 2015 strategy to cause positive change in sustainability through spas.

GSN provides information, tools and resources to support the 'greening' of the spa industry. Regional association members – for example managers of facilities that are members of the Florida Spa Association (FSA) – will have access to the GSN's resources at no charge.

"The open membership that GSN has introduced to regional associations provides more opportunities for collaboration among organisations to raise the social consciousness of wellness and our environmental footprint," said Ilana Moses, CEO and founder of FSA.



GSN's executive director Paul Schmidt was appointed in June 2014

"Our goal at FSA is to strengthen our message about wellbeing by creating a greener and healthier lifestyle in our community."

In other news, GSN's executive director Paul Schmidt discussed spas and sustainability with representatives of the US Congress and Senate. *Details: http://lei.sr?a=T6D4J_S*

Thermal spa operation course starts

The School of Tourism, Leisure and Hospitality of BKF University of Applied Sciences in Budapest, Hungary, is offering a new educational programme for individuals interested in health tourism and spa management based on natural resources.

The Thermal Spa and Resort Management course aims to teach students how to work in spas, hotels and resorts that use thermal or hot springs. The course will be based on the well-established heritage of the thermal water management and thermal bathing culture of Hungary.

Management and marketing techniques for international markets will be taught to students, through a collaboration of several industry partners: the Hungarian Bath Association; the Tourism Observatory for Health, Wellness and Spa; Budapest Baths Corporation; and the Hungarian Association of Hotels & Restaurants.

"We witness, in international markets, the renaissance of the use of natural (healing) resources – such as thermal water. It is understood that natural healing remedies and resources have been used by many cultures throughout the history of humankind," said



The course will be taught at the BKF University in Budapest, Hungary

Lazlo Puczko, head of the programme at BKF.

"By this time and age, however, establishments face new challenges and need to adapt this traditional approach. Working closely together with industry partners, this unique programme will prepare students with the necessary skills and knowledge. As a result, they will be excellent resources for thermal / hot spring establishments."

Specialist subjects on the course will include wellbeing studies, evidence-based therapies and healing resources, hotel and resort management, health tourism, thermal spa management and health industries.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=a4V7h_S

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WTS INTERNATIONAL

DIARY DATES

19-20 April 2015

Natural & Organic Products Europe

ExCeL, London, UK

A spa and beauty section features at this trade show and is set to include 600 exhibitors this year, representing thousands of natural and organic brands. *Natural Products* magazine editor, Jim Manson, will discuss key retail trends and changing consumer behaviour in his opening keynote speech. The Soil Association will present a market report.

Tel: +44 1273 645 117

www.naturalproducts.co.uk

26-29 April 2015

SPATEC Spring North America 2015

Turnberry Isle, Miami, Florida, US

Operators of America's leading medium-to-large hotel resort, destination, athletic, medical and day spas will meet with key domestic and international suppliers to participate in a series of one-on-one meetings over two dedicated business days. Sharing of ideas and best practices occurs during planned networking activities including dinners and keynote speeches.

Tel: +1 214 592 4370

www.spatecna.com

30 April - 2 May 2015

Beauty Eurasia

IFM, Istanbul Expo Centre, Istanbul, Turkey

The 11th Beauty Eurasia event will feature 550 beauty, cosmetic, haircare, plus spa and wellness brands from 44 countries. It aims to attract 25,000 visitors this year.

Tel: +90 212 603 33 33

www.beautyeurasia.com

19-21 May 2015

China Beauty Expo

Shanghai New International Expo Centre, Shanghai, China

An annual event held in Shanghai, China Beauty Expo (CBE) is the leading beauty trade show in Asia. It is a popular trade platform for international cosmetic companies entering the Asian beauty market and is the key beauty and cosmetic exhibition promoted by the Chinese Ministry of Commerce. In 2014, the event attracted 252,200 visitors from 80 countries. The event measures a total of 127,000sq m (31 acres) across 11 halls, featuring 6,433 exhibition booths.

Tel: +86 21 2326 3697

www.chinabeautyexpo.com



3-6 June 2015

SPATEC Europe

Meliá Villaitana, Costa Blanca, Spain

During the two-day event, spa owners, operators, directors and suppliers network during dinners and carry out a series of 20-minute one-to-one business

meetings. Both buyers and suppliers get to choose who they would like to meet with and are each given a schedule of meetings. Evening entertainment is also incorporated into the event.

Tel: +35 6994 58 305

www.spateceu.com

19-22 May 2015

European Spas Association Congress

Sofitel Grand Sopot, Poland

This will be the 20th anniversary of the European Spas Association. In addition to business meetings, the congress will focus on the opportunities for regional spas and health resorts. Research demonstrating the health benefits of balneotherapy will be highlighted and innovative spa products and services will also be spotlighted at this event.

Tel: +32 2282 0558

www.europeanspas.eu

26-28 May 2015

Beautyworld Middle East

Dubai, UAE

Beautyworld Middle East will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2015. The event is said to be a leading trade and networking event for professionals in the beauty, wellbeing, haircare and fragrance sectors. In 2014, approximately 1,350 companies – from both surrounding regions and international markets – showcased their products, equipment and services.

Tel: +971 4389 4500

www.beautyworldme.com

28 May 2015

Forum HOTEL & Spa

Four Seasons George V, Paris, France

This one-day educational event is now in its eighth year. It comprises panel discussions and aims to bring together hotel and spa professionals. The annual Black Diamond Award ceremony takes place during the day, where the promoters of the event recognise an outstanding professional in the industry.

Tel: +33 142 409 077

www.forumhotspa.com

8-11 June 2015

HOTEC Design

San Diego, California, US

Created specifically for hospitality design professionals, HOTEC Design brings designers, hoteliers, architects, management companies and purchasing firms face-to-face with innovative suppliers for three days of one-to-one meetings and creative exchange. Domestic and international buyers and vendors attend the event – participating in team-building activities in a relaxed setting for networking purposes.

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- Network with entrepreneurs and industry insiders and trade professionals
- Celebrate the 2015 Thailand Spa & Well-being Awards which rewards the most outstanding brands/services in the Thai Spa industry

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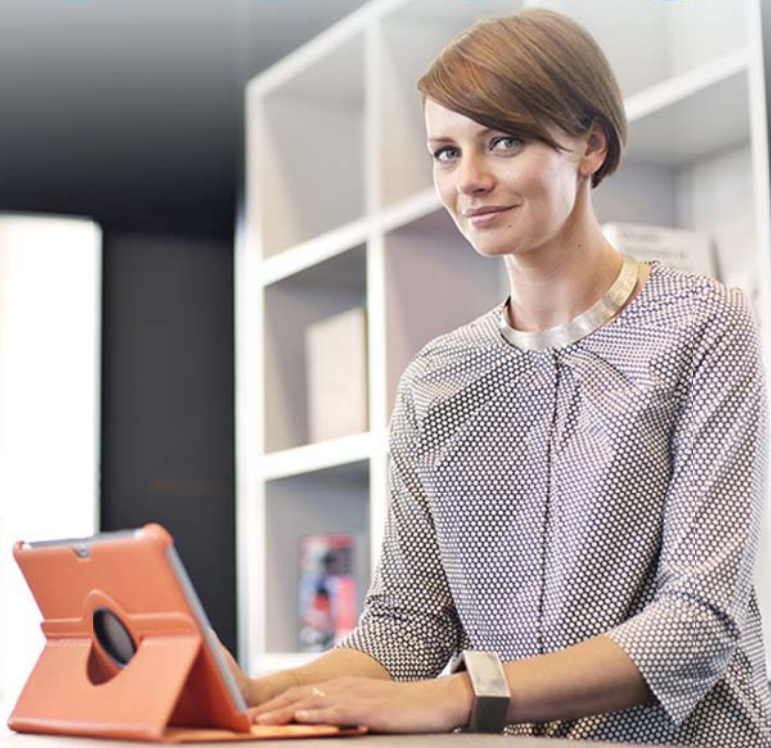
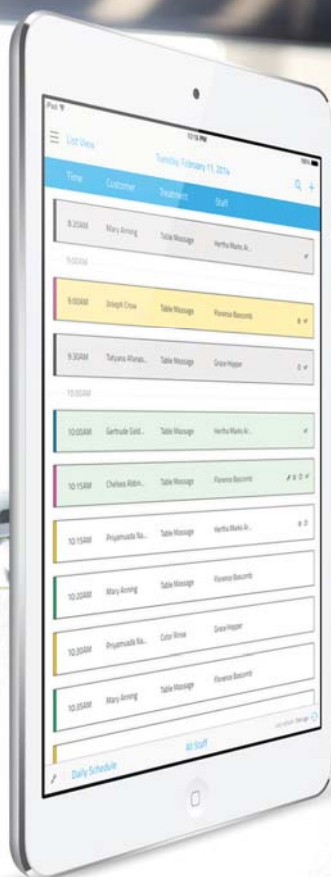


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Baccarat Hotel Manhattan launches

The Baccarat Hotel in Manhattan – which Beijing-based Sunshine Insurance bought from hotel operator Starwood for US\$230m (£210m, £154m) earlier this year – reopened on 18 March.

For the spa, which is set to open in April, famous crystal maker Baccarat has partnered with skincare brand La Mer to create Spa de La Mer – its first spa in the US. The spa has four treatment rooms and a 50ft (15m) black and white marble-tiled indoor pool, which is surrounded by day beds in alcoves. Spa consultancy Raison d'Etre is in charge of the Baccarat spa concept.

The 114-key property features 15,000 pieces from Baccarat SA in addition to a number of dining facilities, a gym and a spa.

Artwork by painter François Houtin, who is known for his detailed prints of utopian gardens, will decorate the spa.

The hotel's interiors were designed by French duo Gilles & Boissier to combine the features of a classic Parisian hotel with



Artwork by painter François Houtin will decorate the Spa de La Mer

the contemporary midtown New York vibe. Skidmore, Owings & Merrill served as architects for the 50-storey tower, while Tony Ingrao led the residential design of the 60 private residences within the tower.

Chinese companies are buying up high-end hotel real estate around the world. For example, the Anbang Insurance Group is planning to buy New York's Waldorf Astoria Hotel for US\$1.95bn (£1.8bn, £1.3bn).

Details: http://lei.sr?a=U7V9n_S

Mandarin Oriental's group spa trainer receives a promotion

Mandarin Oriental's Petra Roberts has been promoted from group spa trainer to group spa manager – learning and development, the operator's group director of spa, Jeremy McCarthy, told *Spa Opportunities*.

"Petra has been in the group spa training role for seven years and this change is a recognition of her continued contributions that have kept the Spa at Mandarin Oriental signature treatments at the forefront of the industry," said McCarthy.

"In her new role, Petra's focus will expand beyond training on signature treatments to evolving how our learning and development strategy supports the overall guest experience," added McCarthy. "Petra's focus right now is on creating learning opportunities for our expert therapists to continue their career development."

Details: http://lei.sr?a=g5D3g_S



The Nail Yard is expected to expand in Europe soon

Six Senses unveils meditation package

Six Senses Spas has launched Six Senses Meditation, mindfulness sessions to be offered to guests of the brand's resorts and spas around the world on a complimentary and regular basis.

This is separate to the roll out of Six Senses yogic programmes. Anna Bjurstam, VP of Six Senses Spa, outlined the differences exclusively for *Spa Opportunities*: "The yoga programmes are targeted and encompass yoga, treatments, nutrition and mindfulness. The Six Senses Meditation programme is a standalone service – to provide guests with a chance to work on general consciousness, awareness and mindfulness."

The mindfulness aspect of this new service is based around the brand's six senses philosophy: engaging with sight, sound, scent, taste, touch and the sixth sense – which is described by the company as the heart chakra. Practitioners are asked to expand their hearts to feel compassion.

The meditation programme is not just for



Anna Bjurstam, VP of Six Senses Spa, outlines the meditation programme

guests though. Staff within the spa are encouraged to undertake seven or 15-minute sessions during team briefings and training courses.

"For our staff, we have a seven minute version and it is very much targeted at rising above the daily challenges a spa goes through," continued Bjurstam. "For example, if a spa is full that day, the meditation is focused on maintaining a vibrant energy."

Details: http://lei.sr?a=p2G8X_S

Family-owned Eco nail boutique to open in Edinburgh

Former director of global spa development at skincare brand Elemental Herbology, Kirsty MacCormick, is to launch the first of a number of facilities dedicated to manicures and pedicures under her new beauty service brand: The Nail Yard. The first facility is in Edinburgh, UK.

MacCormick, who is founder and CEO, formed the new brand with her cousin Sandra Macleod, who is a partner and MD of the venture. The pair's extensive market research revealed an opportunity for a professional brand that provides value for money while also being good for the environment.

The duo have created an open plan nail boutique in Morningside in Edinburgh, which opened on 7 April. The ground floor will house six manicure stations, six pedicure stations and a retail area of 20sq m (215sq ft). The mezzanine level will host a Boyzone – a private space for men.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=F9q6A_S



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Champneys and One Aldwych both choose BC Softwear

BC Softwear has been selected to provide its 'Healthy' line of waffle pattern bathrobes in white at all Champneys resorts. The 4,000 bathrobes in the initial order have been embroidered with the Champneys logo.

Five star independent hotel One Aldwych has also sought out BC Softwear to provide a new look for its spa treatment beds. It selected a slate grey and silver towelling combination using the treatment bed

makeover collection of waffle towelling couch covers, waffle towelling jumbo sheets, towelling bath sheets and hand towels. The London hotel also added a fleecy blanket in slate grey which was embroidered with the health spa's logo. BC Softwear said it had seen an emerging trend among customers to use the acrylic fleecy blankets as a method of dressing the treatment or relaxation beds.

KEYWORD: BC SOFTWEAR



Phytomer spa protocol aims to redefine contouring

'Morpho Designer' is a new 60-minute treatment from Phytomer designed to provide a modern approach to slimming. Its two stages are based on a thorough exfoliation and a massage, and the treatment combines three beauty actions: contouring, firmness and skin quality. The protocol aims to break away from codes and redefines contouring movements in order to obtain effectiveness with maximum comfort. Phytomer says its signature citrus scent provides the body and mind with an "experience of total calm".

KEYWORD: PHYTOMER



Riby becomes sales director at Elemental Herbology

Elemental Herbology has appointed Louise Riby as its new sales director. She joins the company from Aromatherapy Associates, where she has spent the last 13 years.

Riby has been working in the luxury spa sector for more than 20 years in total.

"We are absolutely thrilled to welcome Louise to our team," commented Kristy Cimesa, founder of Elemental Herbology. "With ambitious plans for growth in the UK and European spa market we feel Louise is without doubt the right person for the job."

KEYWORD: ELEMENTAL HERBOLOGY



SpaSoft online booking engine will help drive reservations

An integrated online booking engine has been launched by SpaSoft in an effort to streamline the web and mobile booking process.

The company aimed to deliver a responsive and intuitive experience for guests, which would in turn drive more reservations for spas. Using the service, spa guests can browse and book activities and appointments from desktops, tablets or phones.

All available spa activities are shown along with detailed descriptions. Once the booking is confirmed, guests receive a personalised confirmation email and can view or cancel reservations online.

Fully integrated with SpaSoft, the booking engine is also customised with an individual spa's branding.

KEYWORD: SPASOFT



Germaine de Capuccini targets cellulite with its latest product

'Slim Starter Night' from Germaine de Capuccini is a body booster concentrate which reduces cellulite during the hours of sleep.

It works by increasing the activity and amount of brown adipose tissue, helping to burn off and reduce body fat. Slim Starter Night is based on a combination of plant extracts and algae including buxus sinica, pimpinella anisum and plancton. Germaine de Capuccini also recommends that its 'Slim Precision' rapidly penetrating emulsion is used on affected areas. Its ingredients have both a corrective and preventative action on the two main factors involved in the generation of cellulite, adipocytes and the circulatory system.

KEYWORD: GERMAINE



Flexible floor coverings and a glue-free installation system

A highly flexible material and a glue-free installation system have been showcased by Italian ceramics manufacturer ABK Group.

Produced from raw materials with a high degree of plasticity, the 'Auto-Leveling' floor covering panels are able to display a small degree of convexity but automatically level under their own weight, thereby ensuring flat results in all conditions.

The tiles can be installed using the company's new 'Insta-Tile' dry system, which eliminates joints and glue and can be quickly and easily removed, according to ABK Group.

KEYWORD: ABK GROUP



Aquatic Treasures make-up collection launched by Clarins

Clarins has launched a water-based make-up collection for summer 2015.

For skin complexion, the 'Aquatic Treasures' range includes 'Summer Bronzing Compact', which combines four matte shades, from beige to terracotta, and two limited edition radiance boosting complexion base shades – 'Instant Light' – one for fair skin tones and the other for darker complexions. For the eyes, 'Ombre Iridescente' features three "cream-to-powder" eyeshadows, iridescent blends of soft-focus

pigments for pure colour and bamboo powder for a long-lasting result. 'Instant Light Lip Balm Perfector' is a melting balm that hydrates and nourishes the lips, leaving a wet-look effect.

Continuing the aquatic theme, Clarins has also developed a signature treatment at the Molitor Spa by Clarins in Paris. Placing the body and mind in a sensorial cocoon, 'Beyond the Water' has been "choreographed like a ballet, with unique aquatic sensations".

KEYWORD: CLARINS

'Millionaires Row' spa selects La Sultane de Saba treatments

La Sultane de Saba has launched its 'Journeys of the Seas' treatments at the newly renovated Holm House Spa in Cardiff, UK.

The luxury boutique spa selected the company as its exclusive spa partner, and more than 20 special treatment concepts will be created specially for Holm House, inspired by its history. Built in 1926 and

situated in a mansion on Penarth's Marine Parade, also known as 'Millionaires Row', the spa has views across the Bristol Channel and is surrounded by gardens described in the Victorian era as 'The Garden by the Sea'.

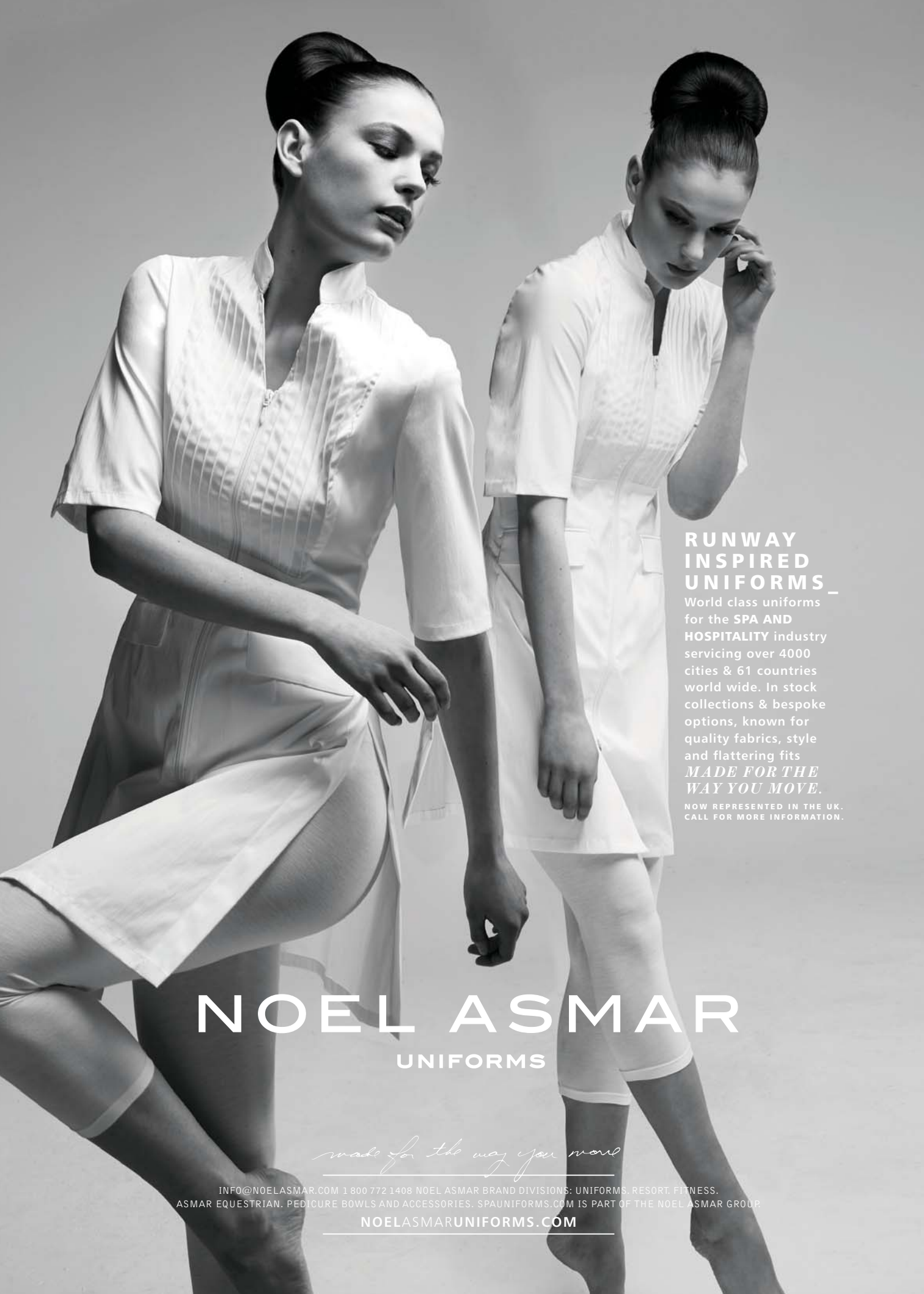
The menu features treatments inspired by the Bay of Bengal, such as Ayurvedic massages and spice body scrubs, as well as the Indian Ocean, with traditional Malaysian Ludayah facials and bamboo stick body massages, among others.

La Sultane de Saba also recently launched a new online store in the UK, as well as a number of new products. 'The Journey Of Delight' features six products infused with sweet scented orange blossom from Tunisia.

The range includes 'Orange Blossom Moisturising Body Mist' to instantly refresh and soften skin, and nourishing 'Orange Blossom Body Oil'.

KEYWORD: SULTANE





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Trainees to run luxury spa on campus

Sunderland College's £29m new vocational campus in the city centre is set to feature a luxury spa, which will be operated by a spa manager who will supervise students working towards the City & Guilds NVQ Level 3 in Spa Therapy.

The UK spa is one of many facilities that will be open to the public at the 12,500sq m (134,549sq ft) vocational campus that is set to accommodate up to 2,000 students when it launches in Q2 of 2016.

The new spa, being built by DaleSauna, will offer an overflow spa pool, sauna, salt steam-room, aromatherapy room, rasul mud treatment room, experience showers, ice feature, reflexology walk and heated loungers.

DaleSauna's interior designer Lynn Russell Hanson is in charge of making sure the finishes on the spa's surfaces will stand the test of time. This is because the spa will be open to members of the public, offering Caci treatments and a variety of massage and body therapies using skincare products by Dermalogica.



Architecture firm IBI Taylor Young is in charge of the campus' design

"We have designed a spa that can not only deliver the requirements of the NVQ Level 3 Spa Therapy curriculum, but also compares favourably to some of the finest hotel spas around," said Gerard McCarthy, sales director at DaleSauna.

Architecture firm IBI Taylor Young is in charge of the campus' design and BAM Construction is building the campus – which is being funded by a number of sources, including the Skills Funding Agency (SFA).

Details: http://lei.sr?a=K5c5A_S

Retail tourism hub is coming to Kuwait

Designed by international architecture firm RTKL and landscaped by US-based designers PWP, Kuwaiti mixed-use property developer Tamdeen Group is set to create a US\$700m (€658m, £477m) retail and tourism project at the centre of the Sabah Al Ahmad Sea City in Kuwait.

The 350,000sq m (3,767,369sq ft) waterfront resort-style development, called Al Khiran, will feature a 75,000sq m (807,293sq ft) high-end outlet mall, entertainment, dining venues, a marina to house more than 900 boats, apartments and a five-star hotel with an international spa.

The entire mall will have an outdoor ambience with indoor streets covered by continuous skylights to provide natural light, according to kuwaitup2date.com. A covered arcade will showcase the retail elements and a giant promenade covered with palm trees will create a pedestrian space between the mall and the marina. With a reputation for developing shopping centres



A five-star hotel with an international spa will feature at the project

and mixed-use properties for the last two decades in Kuwait – such as the 360 Mall and Al Kout waterfront project – Tamdeen Group claims to have projects worth US\$2bn (€1.9bn, £1.4bn) in the pipeline.

Mohammed Jassim Khalid Al Marzouq, chair of Tamdeen said: "Kuwait's economy is among the strongest in the region and in a country where 45 per cent of the population is in the 20-39 years age range, household spending on international brands is on the rise."

Details: http://lei.sr?a=k5p4z_S

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The Iceland Spa Association

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