

spa opportunities

01 AUGUST - 14 AUGUST 2014 ISSUE 195

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Viceroy to redevelop 17th Century convent in Colombia

Viceroy Hotel Group and investment firm KIT Capital will redevelop the UNESCO World Heritage site of Obra Pía, which dates back to 1640. It was the original capital of the Spanish Empire in the New World, Cartagena de Indias in Colombia. This site initially functioned as a Franciscan convent and was later home to a hospital, army barracks, orphanage and a school.

Scheduled for completion in early 2016, the Convento Obra Pía, Viceroy Cartagena will be the hotel group's first branded property in South America. The restored 17th Century convent will feature 102 luxury guestrooms and 15 cabanas at an affiliated site in the Rosario Islands – off the coast of Cartagena.

The project will be led by KIT Capital, an



The hotel will feature a nightclub, pool and a bar with 360-degree views of Cartagena

The Viceroy Cartagena will be restored by architectural firm Barrera & Barrera, preserving the structure and cultural heritage of the convent, but adding modern amenities such as a 275sq m pool (2,960sq ft), a fitness centre and spa.

The cabana property on the Rosario Islands – keeping guests connected via two luxury yacht ferries from the Old City to the islands – will also feature an Asian-themed spa. The entire Viceroy resort, including both sites, will offer a 'country club'-style membership for up to 400 non-hotel

investment group based in Cartagena and Dubai which is controlled by Colombian-American entrepreneur Kaleil Isaza Tuzman. The redevelopment is expected to cost more than US\$50m (£37m, £29m).

guests, who will have full access to both the hotel gym and spa as well as the private beach club and Asian island spa. The mainland hotel's event space will measure 1,250sq m (13,455sq ft).

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=P3h8R>

Indonesian island resorts resorts to be ready from Q4

The domestic market of Indonesia is being targeted by two major tourism developments underway on the island of Bintan, one of which is set to open in stages from the end of 2014.

Gallant Ventures, which owns the entire northern coastline of Bintan, is creating the 338-hectare Treasure Bay integrated complex and Lagoi Bay, which covers 1,300 hectares, with the help of developers Landmarks Bhd.

Treasure Bay will feature a series of hotels, retail developments and attractions. Lagoi will include up to 10 hotels and resorts such as the Sanchaya and Alila Villas Bintan.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=g7S8V>

Dubai healthcare laws under reform

Dubai's strict medical healthcare laws – which apply to massage therapists – are being reformed with the help of Anne Cook, principal and owner of the renowned Dubai spa training facility Healing Zone Academy and dR Global director, Daniella Russell.

The Dubai Health Authority (DHA) implemented strict new regulations for massage therapists in 2013, which require massage therapists to have undergone 500 hours of training. This is made up of 200 hours of massage instruction, 100 hours of clinical practice, 125 hours of anatomy and physiology theory, 40 hours of general pathology, 25 hours of ethics and 25 hours of hands-on business practice.

At the end of this process, each therapist needs to have two years of post-qualification



dR Global's Daniella Russell is keen for reform

experience signed and attested by previous or existing employers to become licensed.

After much persuasion, the DHA has stopped the previously mandatory prometric testing because it was too medical for the role of a massage therapist. Training programmes for therapists do not cover this content.

Continued on back cover

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Jeremy McCarthy advocates rest

Jeremy McCarthy, the new group director of spa for Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group, has spoken exclusively to *Spa Opportunities* about his new role based in Hong Kong and the ethos he'll embrace as he bids to drive the prestigious spa business forward.

McCarthy revealed that Mandarin Oriental's reputation for having the best spa in any city where the chain operates was a major factor in his decision to leave his role at Starwood Hotel and Resorts as global spa development and operations director – replacing Andrew Gibson who is now vice president of spa at FRHI.

"The company (MO) is growing," McCarthy explained. "We have less than 30 hotels today, but another 12 in development. This growth provides a unique opportunity to innovate around our spa and wellness offering."

For McCarthy, spa and wellness go hand in hand. "I've been seeing a shift in the way we view wellness. For the last 100 years, wellness has mostly been about diet and exercise. We are now realising that there are two other pieces to



McCarthy said Mandarin Oriental's core spa philosophy will not alter

the puzzle: one is the importance of rest and recovery; the other is the importance of positive emotions." These two factors are important for what McCarthy calls "energy management."

"Exercise is only good for you if it's balanced with the adequate amount of rest," he added. "The same is true of productivity. We perform better if we alternate periods of activity with periods of rest. McCarthy's belief that spas provide psychological experiences will shape his vision for Mandarin Oriental spas.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=M5H3r>

French hotel & spa hosts Ananda yoga pop-up

The Chateau Saint-Martin & Spa hotel in the French Riviera is partnering with Himalayan destination spa Ananda in September 2014 to create a unique detox and relaxation programme.

Ananda yoga guru Sushant Pandley has designed a spa and yoga menu in the form of five, seven or nine-day packages for guests of the iconic Oetker Collection hotel, which is nestled between olive groves and lavender gardens near the Cote d'Azur.

The personalised programme will include ayurvedic therapies, yoga, meditation and theoretical aspects of yogic tradition. Guests will also enjoy breakfast and lunch served in the new "Le 180-degree" bistro, with menus in harmony with Ananda's ayurvedic principles.

The pop-up programme at Chateau Saint-Martin & Spa will also take place in 2015, but exact dates have not yet been confirmed.

The spa at Chateau Saint-Martin features



La Prairie and Bamford are the product lines at the spa facility

four treatment rooms and a couples' room, which includes its own sauna, steamroom and experience shower. Massages are also available in the chateau's gardens in a 'romantic gazebo'.

Products used in the spa are by La Prairie and Bamford. The spa is accompanied by a beauty salon, fitness centre and extensive yoga classes.

The Ananda is a GOCO-designed spa.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Y7c8U>



Spa town for South Korean super-city

A planned super city in South Korea that will cost an estimated US\$275bn (€202bn, £160bn) will feature a host of leisure features including a theme park, casinos, luxury hotels, a 50,000 seat concert hall and a medical-themed wellness 'healing town'.

Dubbed 'City8', the giant metropolis will create an estimated 930,000 new jobs and aims to attract 134 million global tourists annually.

Other features for the proposed city – to be built on an island shaped like a figure of eight – include a Formula One race track, and 'hallyu town' – which will show off traditional Korean entertainment to international visitors.

A series of artificial landmarks will also be built, including the 'Inner Circle' – a tubular 8.6m (13.8km) building along the city's coast, and the 'Mega Strip' – a 200m (656ft) high, 880m wide (2,887ft), and two-mile (3.3km) long building that will be the largest architectural structure ever built in the world.

Aside from the tourist attractions, City8 will also have government offices, plus permanent



UK-based architects **Fosters and Partners** are working on the design

and temporary housing for up to 320,000.

Scheduled to be completed by 2030, the city is to be located next to South Korea's busiest airport, with the majority of visitors coming from China. The green city would house green industries and eco-friendly homes. Further details on the 'healing town' will be revealed as the development progresses. The proposed super city will be completely self-sustainable, requiring no fuel inputs from outside sources.

It is scheduled to be completed by 2030.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=v3G4e>

Grand Resort Bad Ragaz develops new spa programme

The Grand Resort Bad Ragaz in eastern Switzerland has developed a brand new one to five-day therapeutic relaxation programme to mark its five year anniversary.

Following renovation and expansion work involving CHF 160m (US\$179m, €132m, £104m) of investment, the resort originally opened to the public in 2009.

The Therapeutic Relaxation programme is the first programme to be launched by the resort in its new 36.5°C Thermal Water Collection. The collection marks a further milestone in the integration of thermal water into the wellbeing services offered by the Grand Resort Bad Ragaz.

In developing the programme, the resort's experienced team of therapists obtained advice from water experts and doctors from the resort's own Medical Health Centre.

The programme includes a yoga session.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=g7f4r>



Madden-Nadeau previously worked for Minor

FRHI appoints director of spa integration and operations

Lindsay Madden-Nadeau has been appointed as director of spa integration and operations at FRHI. Working alongside FRHI's vice president of spa and wellness, Andrew Gibson, Madden-Nadeau will act as a support for the company's spas across the Fairmont, Raffles and Swissotel brands.

"We have many new exciting projects lined up for the next few years," Madden-Nadeau told *Spa Opportunities* exclusively. "I will play an integral part in the successful opening of each spa, brand identity and consistency of our existing spas. I will also be instrumental to the strategy and drive of our key business platforms."

Madden-Nadeau's previous post was regional spa director for Minor International, based in the UAE. Before that, she was director of spa and wellness at Talise Spa Madinat for Jumeirah Hotels and Resorts, also in Dubai, UAE.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=K6r5x>

Rare hot spring found for 'onsen' resort, Tokyo

The first ever natural hot spring has been found in the heart of Tokyo's Otemachi financial district by Japan's biggest developer by market value, Mitsubishi Estate, after digging 1.5km (0.9 miles) deep.

Mitsubishi Estate was told two years ago that the likelihood of thermal waters in the region was high, so it developed a plan for a natural spa in the most expensive business district in the country – where executives have a love for hot spring bathing, known as 'onsen'. The digging began in April and the thermal water was found – pumping at a rate of 240 litres per minute – in June. The water will be 36.5°C and contains high levels of sodium chloride. Thermal waters are thought to help fatigue, poor blood circulation, depression and skin dryness. A spokesperson for Mitsubishi Estate told *Bloomberg* that the project will be complete in 2016, ready for the 2020 Olympics.

The development is expected to cost more



Onsen baths are a big part of Japanese culture and lifestyle

than 100 billion JPY (US\$983m, €726m, £534m) according to news site *ajw.asahi.com*.

The project includes an 18-storey hotel building which will be run by luxury hotel operator Hoshino Resort Co, and next to it will be a 31-storey office tower, which may also include fitness and spa facilities of its own, according to Mitsubishi Estate – quoted by *Bloomberg*.

The hotel will house a large rooftop pool.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=T9B7M>

Radisson Blue to launch mixed development in Chongqing

The Carlson Rezidor Group and CUTC Chongqing Easpring Hot Spring Development are teaming up to create the Radisson Blu Resort Chongqing BeiBei in the Chinese region known for its natural hot springs and picturesque scenery.

The 280-bedroom new build hotel will be part of a mixed development called Yishang Mountain Hot Spring Town in Chongqing, which includes a hot spring and spa, luxury residences, commercial space, plus leisure facilities. The completion date has not yet been revealed by Carlson Rezidor.

The hotel itself will feature three restaurants, a lobby lounge and bar, a variety of meeting spaces along with a fitness centre, spa and an indoor swimming pool.

A record 288m people visited Chongqing in 2012 and the government is revamping the tourist infrastructure to boost arrivals.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=w7a3q>



Mesa has spent eight years in the US Marine Corp

Planet Beach's David Mesa leads franchise operations

Automated spa business Planet Beach has announced the promotion of David Mesa to president of franchise operations.

Mesa will be responsible for overseeing and managing the company's various franchise operations, both domestic and international. Headquartered in New Orleans, US, but with a presence in Egypt, Australia, Canada and Saudi Arabia, the company recently took its first steps into the European market – in Poland.

"David's experience in taking a strategic vision and executing on that vision will strengthen Planet Beach's position as the industry leader," said Stephen P. Smith, CEO of the Planet Beach franchise.

"With a proven track record for successfully leading large-scale initiatives and driving innovation, David's leadership skills are well-suited to lead Planet Beach's development as we continue in our mission to change the way the world rejuvenates."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=p6V4r>

Canadian barbershop expands into US

The Canadian upscale barber and men's spa franchise Taylor & Colt is making its way to Ann Arbor in Michigan, US.

Slated to open in September or October this year, the 1,150sq ft (107sq m) old English-inspired shop incorporates a spa salon with a traditional barbershop. It offers "shave-cut-wash-style" methods for men, hot towel services, laser hair removal, teeth whitening, manicures, pedicures and nail fixes, according to local press.

Co-owners of the franchise, the Canadian White brothers, currently operate five other Taylor & Colt barbershop sites in the Metro Toronto area.

"There are obviously barbershops locally, but there's virtually nothing that competes," John White said, speaking to *mlive*. "It offers a full line of not just cutting, but spa services for men. This luxury concept is unique."

The property – which will offer complimentary newspapers, iPads, flatscreen TVs, Wi-Fi plus a coffee and juice bar – will be the franchise's first and flagship US location.



The owners plan to open at least three more Michigan locations

"We're still at the stage where we're getting building permits, but once we get those we're probably 60 days out," White added.

The facility was scheduled to open earlier this year, but White admitted he was a little too optimistic with planning and Historical Committee reviews delaying the process.

White said that hiring for the shop will take place within the next month. Ideally, there will be five to seven stylists employed at the site.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=F2C5c>

A.W. Lake develops child-specific spa concept

Spa consultancy A.W. Lake has come up with a new child-specific spa concept which involves warm rain tunnels, a climbing wall and a cooling "snow" shower dome.

Following on from the rise in demand for wellness centres which cater for younger audiences, A.W. Lake has developed a Hydro-Thermal Kids Spa Concept, which is being implemented for several high-end hotel companies.

The idea behind the Kids' Spa is to make spas interactive, educational and fun for children from the age of three upwards. The spa will be divided into "toddler," "child" and "youth" zones to allow children to play and learn safely. Full supervision is provided throughout the area, which varies in size, depending on the hotel property.

"The Kids' Spa Concept is designed with children's cognitive development in mind through a fun and engaging learning experience," said owner and founder of A.W. Lake,



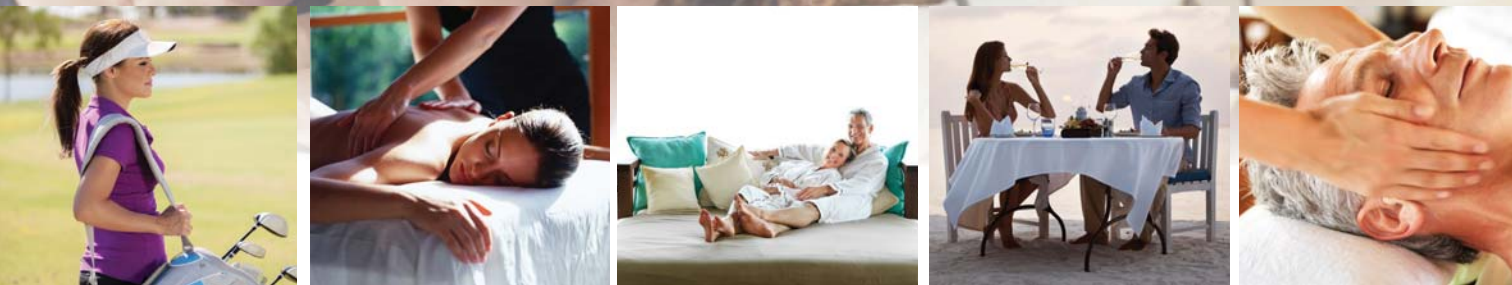
The Kids' Spa menu includes salt body scrubs and mud body wraps

Adria Lake. "We want to introduce children to spa and wellness in a playful manner," Lake added.

Elements featured in the concept include cool water foot wash pods – which prepare the youngsters for a luminaire shower tunnel with raindrops and rainfall features – a climbing wall and an LED-illuminated sauna and an aroma steambath called "The Cave".

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GHM updates spa offerings across international portfolio

The Chedi Club Tanah Gajah Ubud has launched three new pool spa villas on the Island of the Gods in Bali to meet demand for more intimate experiences, as part of a range of updates to operator General Hotel Management's portfolio of properties.

Each of the three villas now features a pool, 3.5m (11ft) wide by 7m (23ft), in a private Balinese stone walled courtyard.

"People who come to Ubud crave the opportunity to make the most of as much quiet, contemplative time as they can," said Simon Spiller, the general manager. "With pools in their courtyards and treatment facilities nestled between their indoor living space and outdoor bathing area, we're cultivating even more exquisite levels of privacy."

Interior spa treatment facilities have been updated to include ironwood decks, pregnancy massage beds and new furnishings.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=k8g2d>



Moore was MSpa's international project manager

MSpa's Kathryn Moore now group spa director for Asia

The operations director for MSpa International, Kathryn Moore, has been promoted to group spa director of MSpa in Asia, where she'll oversee more than 35 facilities and an expanding portfolio.

MSpa is the spa management arm of Minor Hotel Group and Moore was 'number two' to former general manager Lee David Stephens until he left late in 2013.

Having joined the division as regional spa director, for Thailand's Hua Hin region in 2009, Moore has quickly progressed.

In her most recent role as operations director she provided corporate support for spas in the region. One key development Moore headed up was the creation of a fast-track spa management and training programme to help with staff shortages.

MSpa International has five spa brands: Anantara, Avani, Mandara, Aequalis and the Individually Tailored Spa Collection.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=k9N8p>

NWI announces a new co-president

Former CNN and *Today Show* health correspondent Meg Jordan has become co-president of the National Wellness Institute (NWI), after being a board member for 13 years.

Jordan is a medical anthropologist, an international health journalist and a behavioural health specialist. She is a professor and chair of integrative health studies at the California Institute of Integral Studies. The education programmes are non-clinical degrees that prepare graduates for careers as wellness coaches, programme managers and more.

Successful students of Jordan's classes assume leadership roles in a variety of settings, such as integrative health and medicine clinics, international global health organisations, holistic health spas and in corporate wellness.

In her role as director of integrative practice as a clinical medical anthropologist, Jordan experienced hands-on practical knowledge of helping patients navigate healing options for chronic ailments. As president of Global Medicine Enterprises and editor-in-chief of



As co-president of NWI, Jordan will seek solutions to industry issues

American Fitness Magazine, Jordan is an expert in both practical and theoretical elements of the health and wellness industry.

Founded in 1977, the NWI was formed to promote health and provide wellness professionals with the resources and services that support professional and personal growth.

Jordan's extensive experience includes defining educational benchmarks for health and wellness coaches and promoting the need for harmonised national certification.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Q9a4E>

16,000lbs of Himalayan salt imported for spa

The Salt Cave and Spa in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, US, has opened its new healing cave made from 16,000 lbs (7,257kg) of imported Himalayan salt.

The spa invites guests to indulge in halotherapy (salt therapy), which clears the lungs from accumulated mucus, making it easier to breathe. By reducing the inflammation in the lungs, killing bacteria and dislodging mucus that blocks the bronchioles, halotherapy is said to have healing qualities for skin conditions and immune deficiencies, in addition to aiding respiratory complications.

The spa facility offers a variety of massages including Thai massage, hot stone massage, hot salt massages, facials, body treatments, wraps and scrubs, according to news website WVVA. Other holistic treatments include herbal baths, reflexology, reiki, and acupuncture.

Treatments are performed on an Amethyst Biomat, which is an infrared heating mat



The spa's boutique sells salt lamps, scrubs and even 'healing' deodorant

supposed to improve circulation. Yoga and meditation will also be carried out in the cave.

The Salt Cave and Spa claims that one 45-minute session is said to have the equivalent restorative effects to three days at the beach.

The spa's boutique also sells salt lamps, scrubs and even 'healing' deodorant.

Energy healing sessions and taro readings also take place in the Salt Cave and Spa.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=j6g3X>

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Calendar: July 2014, Aug 2014

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DIARY DATES

23-24 Aug 2014

Sydney International Spa & Beauty Expo

Sydney Exhibition Centre, Glebe Island, Sydney, Australia

The Sydney International Spa & Beauty Expo is a key event for the country's spa and beauty industries. Professionals from both sectors and at all levels have a unique opportunity to source and experience the latest beauty products, treatments, ideas and equipment from buyers and suppliers.

Tel: +61 2 9422 2535

www.internationalbeautyexpo.com.au

9-11 Sep 2014

HBA Global Expo

Javits Convention Center, New York, United States

HBA is a B2B event that provides personal care and beauty manufacturers with a spectrum of new ingredients, solutions, supplier resources and education to help bring innovative concepts to market.

Tel: +1 609 759 4700

www.ubmlive.com

10-12 Sep 2014

Global Spa & Wellness Summit

Four Seasons Resort Marrakech, Morocco

The annual GSWS will bring together the leaders and figureheads of the spa industry to help guide and shape the future of the spa and wellness industries in years to come. Sessions include panel-led discussions, general sessions, small group breakout sessions and dining debates.

Tel: +1 212 716 1202

www.globalspaandwellnesssummit.org

10-12 Sep 2014

Cosmeeting Paris

Porte de Versailles, Paris, France

A Spa Corner will be incorporated into this trade show featuring over 230 exhibitors. Other zones will include Nat&Bio, for natural products; the Cosmeeting showcase; Zoom for new emerging brands; and Cosmeeting Colour for ethnic beauty suppliers.

Tel: +33 1 44 69 95 69

www.cosmeeting.com

14-17 Sep 2014

SPATEC Fall North America

Scottsdale, US

SPATEC Fall 2014 will bring together the operators of the US's leading hotel resort, destination, athletic, medical and day spas with key domestic and international



21-23 Aug 2014

SpaChina Summit & Awards

The Ritz-Carlton, Chengdu, China

The seventh Spa China Summit is a three-day event aimed at the country's spa professionals, owners, investors and suppliers. It will include speeches by

top experts, workshops and networking sessions. Held alongside the summit, the fifth SpaChina Awards ceremony recognises leaders and innovators in China's growing spa industry.

Tel: +86 21 5385 8951

www.spachina.com

suppliers to participate in a series of one-to-one meetings over two business days.

Tel: +1 214 592 4270

www.spatecna.com

17-18 Sep 2014

Hotel Investment Conference (Hot.E)

Jumeirah Carlton Tower, London, UK

Hotel Investment Conference Europe (Hot.E) sessions focus on two things, the capital markets (debt and equity) and where the investment opportunities across the length and breadth of Europe are today. One third of attendees in 2013 represented debt, equity and development companies.

Tel: +1 714 540 9300

www.europehotelconference.com

18-20 Sep 2014

World Spa & Well-being Convention 2014

Bangkok, Thailand

A three-day trade exhibition and a two-day congress, focusing on Education and Standards & Innovation, the WSWC is setting new operational standards, helping to strengthen the industry for the future.

Tel: +66 2833 5126

www.worldspawellbeing.com

20-23 Sep 2014

SPATEC Middle East 2014

Dubai, UAE

SPATEC Middle East 2014 offers the most important spa operators from the Middle East region a place to meet with key domestic and international suppliers.

Tel: +356 9944 8862

www.spatecme.com

30 Sep-1 Oct 2014

Spameeting Europe 2014

Radisson Blu Hotels & Resorts, Dubrovnik Sun Garden, Croatia

A two-day forum of face-to-face meetings between spa suppliers and decision makers from Europe.

Tel: +33 1 44 69 97 67

www.spameeting.com

4-5 Oct 2014

Camexpo 2014

Olympia, Hammersmith Road, London, UK

Two day line-up of over 200 leading natural healthcare suppliers, associations and training centres, plus seminars, and demos.

Tel: +44 1273 645 117

www.camexpo.co.uk

SHOW INTRODUCTION:

The World Spa & Well-being Convention (WSWC) – a tri-part event of exhibition, congress and awards night, is the brainchild of the Thai Spa Association (TSPA) and was first launched in 2012. In 2014, the 3rd WSWC – or WSWC2014 seeks to build on past success, and continue to explore all opportunities for business growth and development within the spa & well-being industry. We are pleased to announce the Department of International Trade Promotion, Royal Thai Government as a co-organiser this year, and with the **WSWC2014 being held in conjunction with the 1st Beyond Beauty ASEAN – Bangkok** the international focus continues to expand with much higher expectation for professional visitor numbers.

KEY EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

Education Village:

Earth element is an integral part of the spa industry, and WSWC pays homage to this through earth themed displays and demonstrations. Practical wellness therapies, wellness cuisine, spa fashions and health & wellness books all contribute to this educational opportunity.

Business Matching:

Which product supplier? Which service provider should you talk to? Do you have a new product that you want to introduce to prospective distributors? Submit your company profile with the completed Business Matching Request form no later than before 1st August 2014 via our website and we will screen the requests to target your ideal business partner.

Thailand Spa & Well-being Awards:

The Thailand Spa & Well-being Awards is a Gala celebration where trophies in a total of 20 categories will be presented. In a setting which celebrates the unique qualities of 'Thai'. This is a deserving celebration of popularity and professionalism in the Thailand Spa industry.

ZOOM ASEAN

The renowned Beauty Challenger Awards competition and the ZOOM exhibition area, launched on Beyond Beauty Paris in 2003, are now exported to Bangkok for the 1st edition of Beyond Beauty ASEAN – Bangkok 2014. **ZOOM ASEAN** is a unique launching platform for brands willing to launch or expand on the ASEAN market. Innovative fragrance & beauty brands, with original concept, will meet with key ASEAN retail buyers and wholesalers, as well as strengthen their identity, on this specific exhibition area.

World Spa & Well-being Congress

The 'Earth' element is associated with the qualities of patience, practicality and hard work. It is also nurturing and seeks to draw all things together with itself, in order to bring harmony, rootedness and stability. We will endeavour to explore each of these qualities, as we seek to providing delegates with an energising 'grounding' opportunity that will yield tangible benefits of knowledge and connectivity. Technical experts and industry professionals will provide a wealth of information that is vital to spa industry professionals today.



World Spa & Well-being Convention 2014

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18-20 September 2014

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Hotel research firm bought by CBRE

Consultancy and research firm PKF Consulting USA – whose hospitality branch carries out the annual *Trends in the Hotel Spa Industry* study – has been acquired by real estate services and investment company CBRE Group.

The PKF Hospitality Research (PKF-HR) division produces comprehensive hotel spa financial information for properties in the US. The latest *Trends in the Hotel Spa Industry* was based on 125 properties in the US. The research indicates a 6.6 per cent increase in average RevPAR in 2014.

A spokesperson for PKF-HR told *Spa Opportunities* that the acquisition will have no effect on its research or the researchers' roles.

PKF-HR's financial benchmarking, custom market research and econometric forecasting services mean the new owning company, CBRE Group, will be able to provide its clients – real estate owners and investors – with access to the latest hospitality and spa industry predictions.

"We are pleased to welcome the PKFC and



The acquisition by CBRE will not affect PKF's research operations

PKF-HR teams of 62 professionals – led by David Arnold, Thomas Callahan and Mark Woodworth – who have joined CBRE in 13 offices in the US," said Robert McGrath, senior director for the global CBRE Group.

CBRE, whose headquarters are in Los Angeles, US, offers strategic advice and execution for property sales and leasing; corporate services; property, facilities and project management; mortgage banking among others.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=h8U8p>

Thai hotel operator BHMAAsia rebrands for larger projects

Thai hotel management company Boutique Hospitality Management Asia has changed its name to Bespoke Hospitality Management Asia (BHMAAsia still) to diversify away from the boutique sector and allow it to focus on larger developments.

BHMAAsia told *Travel Daily* that it will now be able to consider larger properties of between 100 and 300 rooms. The company is also developing a new luxury spa brand called Yan Spa – which will focus primarily on the Chinese market. The company has five Yan Spas in the pipeline, including two in Shanghai and one in Hainan.

"We have decided to change our name in line with our expanding business operations, which now include resorts, hotels, villas, apartments, residential projects and spas," Anthony McDonald, CEO of BHMAAsia continued. "The name change highlights a growth in the scale of our hospitality business operations."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=F3C4w>

Couples-focused resort opens in Maldives

A new Chavana Spa has opened at the Adaaran Select Hudhuranfushi resort in the Maldives, a surfing destination within a 30-minute speedboat ride from Male International Airport.

Situated in the North Male Atoll, the tropical coastal property near Kani Beach on Lhohifushi Island now features a spa by Steiner Spa Consultants – the subsidiary of Steiner Leisure, which deals with spa operations, staff training, concept, design, construction and management.

The Chavana Spa features four double treatment rooms with an outdoor bath and shower. The treatment rooms are located in three outdoor timber pavilions, which are arranged around a central courtyard. This central space is occupied by an open air reception space, a manicure-pedicure room and a retail boutique.

The Chavana Spa brand offers face and body treatments influenced by Balinese healing traditions, including the signature four-hands



The Chavana concept is aimed at four and five-star hotels and resorts

Chavana massage. Spa products and therapies will be provided by product house Elemis.

Steiner Spa Consulting oversees over 200 spa venues on land and at sea (in spas on cruise liners). Land-based spas are operated under Steiner's five distinct spa brands: Elemis, Mandara, Chavana, Bliss and Remède.

The Chavana brand offers a streamlined treatment menu designed for spa novices.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=R6s3Z>



The 1855 facade of The Titanic Hotel, Liverpool

Maiden voyage for The Titanic Hotel in Liverpool, UK

The Titanic Hotel in Liverpool, UK, opened to the public on 5 July, in a Grade II listed former tobacco warehouse, as part of a major development of the area.

Situated in the heart of Liverpool's docklands, the North Warehouse at Stanley Dock has been completed transformed into a 153-bedroom luxury hotel, featuring a restaurant, bar, spa and a large events space. The spa, which will open later this summer, will feature five treatment rooms encased in exposed brickwork arches, a Roman bath pool area, aqua thermal experiences as well as a fitness area. The original warehouse was designed by Jesse Hartley – as part of Stanley Docks, which opened in 1848. Linked to the Titanic Visitor Centre in Belfast, this building joins those found on the Heritage at-Risk Register.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=6Y8h2>



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*Thank you and we look forward to hearing you soon! -
The Cape Weligama Team*

Permission sought for US destination spa

Development of a 50-key inn and spa at Canandaigua Lake, New York state, on land which is currently zoned for housing, will be put to a vote by the local planning authority.

The South Bristol town board voted against plans to develop 143.5 acres of land into Everwilde Inn & Spa in 2013, but the project has been fixed to relieve local concerns.

The proposal includes an 18-treatment room destination spa, a restaurant, bakery, wine cellar, meeting rooms, a reception area for events and access to the lake. Owner Laura Cook hopes the plan, masterminded by Hanlon Architects, will be accepted so the facility can open in 2016.

"I've felt for years that an inn and spa located here – in Canandaigua – would offer an escape for others to appreciate," Cook told local media. "It will be a very personal haven with very thoughtfully landscaped grounds, leaving most of the pastoral acreage untouched."

A spokesman for the Inn and Spa told local press: "We're planning to have the land rezoned and build on 30 per cent of this property. We



Traffic, noise and the possibility of future expansion are locals' concerns

want to leave two thirds of it as vegetation."

Cook compared the impact of her Everwilde vision to the alternative use of the land – the likely construction of 40 upscale single-family homes across the whole property.

The proposed inn will be a 'New England-style' building with grey peaked roofs and window dormers – one or two storeys high. Cook said the positive ramifications of the inn & spa project would include an increase in job creation, tax revenue and tourism.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=j3K3F>

Reform for Dubai therapist licensing

Continued from front cover

Earlier this month, Cook – owner of Dubai's Healing Zone Academy – and dR Global director Daniella Russell met with Dr David Riley, head of licensing at the Dubai Healthcare City (DHCC) to help re-draft the rules for massage therapists.

Necessary adjustments to the healthcare rules include the creation of a Massage Assistant Licence, according to Cook and Russell's letter. This licence would allow a newly qualified therapist to work under the supervision of a fully qualified existing therapist to gain the two years of work experience required to become a fully licensed therapist.

Having seen an initial draft, the duo have also recommended that some of the 500 hours – which are beyond most educational requirements for massage qualifications – are comprised of additional training.

"This will help existing therapists that fall short of the required 500 hours and enable them to take further training to make up the



Cook says therapists should be supported by spas during training

hours here in Dubai," continued the letter. "We believe this will also sustain staff retention for the spas that already employ them."

Russell and Cook also advised that therapists who are supported by spas during their training period should remain a further two years in that spa after gaining their full license.

Hotel spas are not under pressure to adhere to the licensing rules right now but both Cook and Russell advise all Dubai-based spa operations to adhere to the regulations.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=5B5G4>

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