

# spa opportunities

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## Philippe Starck's YOO resort to launch in the Philippines

Aqua Boracay by YOO, a five-star 168-bedroom hotel, is set to launch in the last quarter of 2015 in the Philippines. The property is designed by YOO Studio, an international development and branding company led by property entrepreneur John Hitchcox and designer Philippe Starck.

Set on 16,000sq m (172,223sq ft) of lush tropical gardens, the beachfront resort on the island of Boracay is the first YOO-branded resort residence in the Pacific, according to CEO of YOO Hotels & Resorts, Marco Nijhof. YOO

Hotels & Resorts is the operating arm of YOO and the facilities' interiors are designed by YOO Studio. The other architecture firm working on the project is Buensalido Architects – which came up with the design for the exteriors.



Activities on offer in the region include kitesurfing and boat trips to secluded beaches

“Aqua Boracay by YOO embodies our philosophy that design enhances the wellbeing and comfort of guests and is not an end in itself,” said Mark Davidson, design director at YOO Studio. “Our concept is borne

from the unique energy and natural beauty of the island, with a palette of warm, natural and clean finishes that perfectly complement the simple, tranquil and laid-back Boracay experience.”

The resort's 300sq m (3,229sq ft) spa will be complemented by a health club, yoga studio, a lagoon pool facing the sea, another rectangular pool, function rooms and a wedding pavilion.

Anticipated to launch at the same time as a local airport that is undergoing renovations, the property will enjoy enhanced accessibility. Additional facilities will include two restaurants and access to Bulabog beach. Activities on offer in the region include island hopping and visits to local fish markets. Details: [http://lei.sr?a=c2N8j\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=c2N8j_S)

### Mövenpick Hotel Bahrain, UAE, debuts Rimal Spa

The Rimal Spa at the Mövenpick Hotel Bahrain has launched with extra-room for expansion if the operation is successful in its first year.

The 106-bedroom hotel's spa features 12 treatment rooms, including a double female suite with a steam shower, two single suites with steam showers, plus seven individual rooms and two hammam suites.

There are also segregated spa lounges and a female relaxation suite.

Speaking to *Spa Opportunities*, manager Daniela Nikolic said the spa is providing ten treatments a day currently – just five days after opening. Details: [http://lei.sr?a=m4M7Z\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=m4M7Z_S)

### JW Marriott Resort Venice updates plans

JW Marriott Hotels & Resorts has revealed further spa details for its first Italian hotel in Venice, its first resort in Europe, opening in March 2015.

Architecture practice Matteo Thun & Partners is in charge of converting historic buildings on the Isola delle Rose (Rose Island – also known as Sacca Sessola) into a sustainability-focused 266-key luxury hotel.

Using locally-sourced materials such as Venetian tiles, textiles, bricks and glass, the resort will also feature villas and a spa.

Situated 15 minutes by speedboat from Piazza San Marco in Venice, the 1,750sq m (18,837sq ft) spa – to be operated by GOCO Hospitality – is set to be the largest in Venice. It will offer an indoor and outdoor stainless



A former hospital, built in 1936, will become the hotel

steel vitality pool, a health club, eight treatment rooms, sauna, steamroom, experience showers, two bio saunas, a hammam with scrub room and a spa suite. The wet zone facilities will be supplied by Barr + Wray, working with main contractor Chandler KBS. Skincare products will be by QMS Cosmetics and Amala.

*Continued on back cover*

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# Former monk becomes spa mentor

A former Buddhist monk, Ibu Fera, has been appointed as Four Seasons Resort Bali at Sayan's new resident wellness mentor and is already "shifting the vibration of the resort," according to the group director of spa for Four Seasons, Luisa Anderson.

Fera, who studied the Dharma in monasteries across Asia, will lead two meditation classes per day at the resort's The Sacred River Spa. She will also host a series of life talks each week. The life talks have the following titles: The Secret to Happiness; Love and Compassion; Finding Inner Peace; and Managing Stress.

"Meditation and mindfulness is a very realistic way of addressing all sorts of stresses," said Fera. "It's a free, easily-accessible method that goes straight to the root of the problem."

Her meditation classes cover the introductory principles on how to focus and maintain practice, how to achieve present moment awareness, and techniques to calm the body and mind.

Located in the jungle greenery in the Ayung River valley, the 60-key property – with its



The Balinese resort features a number of wellness activities for guests

three restaurants and seven hectares of gardens and paddies – has benefited from Fera's presence, according to regional director of spa for Four Seasons, Luisa Anderson.

"After only a few classes, Fera is already shifting the vibration of the resort," said Anderson. "We've had excellent feedback from guests who have commented on how much she has 'inspired' them. There are so many stages and levels to wellness that can be achieved and advanced across body, mind, spirit and soul."

**Details:** [http://lei.sr?a=u4B4P\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=u4B4P_S)

## Shangri-La's CHI Spa set for China

Shangri-La Hotels and Resorts has opened the Shangri-La Sanya Resort and Spa in Hainan, China, but the retreat's signature CHI spa is yet to be unveiled.

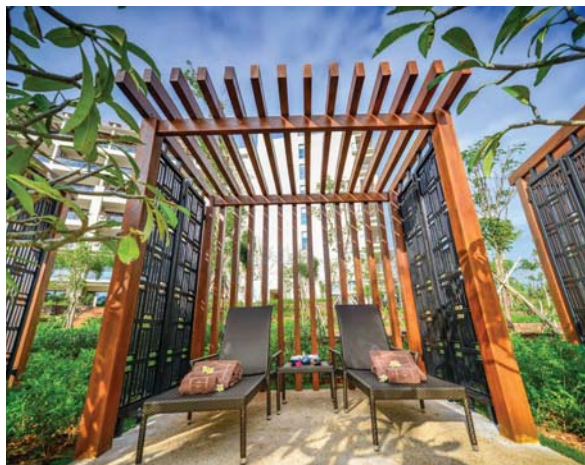
The hotel features 348 guestrooms in total and the spa will have a total of 15 treatment rooms and 23 treatment beds: seven single suites and eight double rooms. Poolside and in-room treatments are also available for guests.

The 757sq m (6,028sq ft) wellness facility will also feature two pools, a sauna, steamroom and whirlpool.

Offering a range of body treatments, facials and massages, the skincare solutions used in the spa will incorporate locally-sourced coconut oil and powder. The products used in the CHI spa are by Aroma Vera and Biodroga.

There is also a gym and an outdoor deck for yoga or tai chi on offer at the resort.

The 300m (984ft) beachfront property houses 8,000sq m (86,111sq ft) of recreational



There is a gym at the resort, in addition to an outdoor deck for yoga or tai chi

and sports facilities, including jogging and mountain bike trails, a football field, an archery range and sand volleyball courts.

The resort has six food and beverage outlets, including an all-day-dining restaurant that features six live theatre kitchens, combining various southeast Asian and international cuisines – plus a liquid kitchen for beverages.

**Details:** [http://lei.sr?a=6g4r5\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=6g4r5_S)





# Thermes Marins Monte Carlo reopens

Thermes Marins Monte-Carlo has relaunched after several months of renovation, offering two new cryotherapy rooms, in addition to expanded facilities and 28 medical experts.

Established in 1895, the expanded 7,000sq m (75,357sq ft) wellness centre is a subsidiary of the Société des Bains de Mer (SBM) – a public company controlled by the Principality of Monaco.

It now comprises 30 treatment rooms, seven private cabanas and employs 28 health specialists including sports doctors, nutritionists, physiotherapists, relaxation therapists, hydro-therapists, beauticians, personal trainers, hairdressers and a hygiene and quality specialist.

The two cryotherapy rooms that have been incorporated into the centre offer icy temperatures and are widely used by athletes for recovery and improved performance. Within 180 seconds, temperatures between -60°C and -110°C treat muscle and inflammatory disease, sleep disorders, relieve jet lag and lessen the effects of stress, according to the spa's representatives.



Designer Olivier Antoine worked on the interior of the expanded spa

Other facilities include an ice fountain, hammam for men and women, Russian banya, outdoor whirlpool facing the sea and a heated seawater pool – which has been fitted out with extended nozzles on the underwater jet faucets to provide a full body massage.

Unbescheiden, a water-based spa equipment supplier, provided the wellness facility with six bathtubs for automatic underwater massage, two dry flotation systems and two Vichy showers.

*Details: [http://lei.sr?a=H2sgd\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=H2sgd_S)*

## Starwood adds Amanda Roman Al-Masri to global spa team

Amanda Roman Al-Masri has become global director of spa development and operations at Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide.

Al-Masri is now in the role vacated by Jeremy McCarthy when he moved to become group director of spa at Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group.

Prior to her switch to Starwood, Roman Al-Masri worked as project director of Resense Spas, director of operations for Resense projects at spa consultancy Raison d'Etre, task force spa manager at the Grand Hotel Kempinski High Tatras in Slovakia and task force spa director at Nob Hill Spa at the Huntington Hotel, California.

*Details: [http://lei.sr?a=B2S7k\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=B2S7k_S)*



Milk + Honey products will be sold in-store

## Whole Foods to open Milk + Honey-operated spa in Boston

Health-conscious US grocery chain Whole Foods will unveil a spa inside its new 50,000sq ft (4,645sq m) flagship, opening in the South End's Ink Block in Boston.

To be located on the former site of the *Boston Herald* newspaper headquarters, the spa and food shop is set to open in Q1 of 2015, according to the *Boston Herald*.

"It's more about getting both done at the same time, versus a day at the spa," said regional president for Whole Foods, Laura Derba. "We are always looking for something innovative, exciting and fun and our customers and consumers really want convenience. Other grocery stores have banks in them, so it's about convenience."

The spa is a collaboration with Austin-based spa and salon chain, Milk + Honey, which will operate the facility. The Milk + Honey product range will be sold at Whole Foods in December. "I think that a spa is not a luxury, it should be part of everyone's regular habits – like grocery shopping," said Alissa Bayer, who is the co-owner of Milk + Honey, with her husband Shon.

*Details: [http://lei.sr?a=4V6x5\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=4V6x5_S)*

# Mandarin develops spa training

Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group has announced a new six-month spa internship programme and a separate subsequent 18-month spa management programme.

"We started on these programmes last year," said Andrea Lomas, head of group spa operations for Mandarin Oriental, speaking to *Spa Opportunities* about how the two programmes work and why they were developed.

"About twelve years ago, we worked closely with universities – recruiting young graduates to work in our spas. These people stayed for around a year, but then they left. They hoped to become the next CEO in six months without any practical experience.

"Now, we're taking people on who are studying business management degree courses during their second year placement periods for a duration of six months," added Lomas. "These students are our spa interns." During the spa internship programme, candidates



Andrea Lomas is head of group spa operations for Mandarin Oriental

will be taught the basic spa business principles in the role of a spa attendant. Then, they will be taught how the spa fitness and wellness areas correspond to the treatment room facilities. The next step involves learning health and safety protocols and about the organisation and set up of a spa. Interns will then spend 14 weeks in the role of spa concierge, working on their product knowledge.

*Details: [http://lei.sr?a=v3e5U\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=v3e5U_S)*

## ISPA appoints 2015 board of directors to begin late 2014

The International Spa Association (ISPA) has announced its 2015 board of directors and officers. Their term will begin at the ISPA board meeting this December.

"The ISPA board of directors have tremendous experience in the spa industry and will serve the ISPA membership well," said ISPA president Lynne McNees.

The executive committee comprises: chair – Michael Tompkins, CEO of Hilton Head Health; vice chair – Ella Stimpson, director of spa of The Spa at Sea Island; secretary/treasurer – Todd Shaw, director of fitness, tennis and spa of The Club at Las Campanas; Todd Hewitt, senior spa director of Four Seasons Toronto; Frank Pitsikalis, founder and chief executive officer of ResortSuite; and Todd Walter, CEO of Red Door Spas.

Each person was elected by ISPA members following nominations and interviews. *Details: [http://lei.sr?a=e2z4e\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=e2z4e_S)*



The wet zone facilities at the spa are by Barr + Wray

## Four Seasons Resort Dubai at Jumeirah Beach opens Pearl spa

The Four Seasons Resort Dubai at Jumeirah Beach has launched amid the city's skyscrapers, with a U-shaped aqua-thermal spa experience. The 237-bedroom hotel features a 706sq m (7,600sq ft) spa including 10 treatment rooms, extensive thermal facilities by Barr+Wray, an indoor pool, juice bar, boutique and relaxation zone.

An reinterpretation of the traditional Moroccan hammam ritual will be incorporated into the U-shaped aqua-thermal experience, comprising a rain tunnel, scrub bar, chill zone, steamroom and whirlpool.

The Pearl Spa's treatment menu includes indulgent ingredients such as gold leaf, pearl extract, caviar and chocolate. Sodashi's all-natural products will be in use at the spa and Natura Bissé will provide a skin-care range for facials. Treatments by Dr Burgener Switzerland feature in Dubai for the first time in this spa. The hotel also offers an Ever En Vogue Coiffure salon.

*Details: [http://lei.sr?a=h5d6f\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=h5d6f_S)*

## Sun Aqua brand launched in Sri Lanka

Maldivian hotelier Sun Siyam has launched a newly-branded property in Sri Lanka to create more options for tourists visiting the popular destination.

Founded by entrepreneur Ahmed Siyam Mohamed, the original Sun Siyam brand was launched earlier this year – reflagging its 221-bedroom Iru Fushi property. The new brand, Sun Aqua, is designed to be 'unpretentious and laid back'.

The hotel in Sri Lanka using this brand is called Sun Aqua Pasikuda. It features 32 suites and two villas, designed by architect Khatoun A Rasheed, on the east coast of the island.

"There has been a lot of noise about luxury hotels opening in the country in recent years, but we want to make sure there is a mix of good quality options and not just top end," said general manager of Sun Siyam Iru Fushi, Abdhulla Thamheed.

The Sun Aqua Pasikudah includes a Sun Aqua Spa with four treatment rooms: one couples' suite, a room for scrubs and wraps, an Ayurvedic treatment suite and an



The Sri Lankan property features a Sun Aqua Spa with four spa suites

aromatherapy room. There will also be a sauna and steamroom, two pools – one of which is heated – and a flower bath, while the products on offer are produced by Kemara.

A spokesperson for the spa said: "Our spa products are carefully blended especially for the Sun Aqua Spa. Potent herbs used in Ayurvedic medicine have been incorporated in the preparation of our skin, body and hair care products. Our products use 100 per cent natural ingredients."

*Details: [http://lei.sr?a=y5K6t\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=y5K6t_S)*

## Trumps spa to open at Australian hotel

The new 140-bedroom InterContinental Sydney Double Bay hotel in Australia has opened its doors to guests, boasting a selection of high-end retail offerings on the ground floor and an upcoming Trumps Spa.

Developer and owner Royal Hotels Australia and designer Bates Smart Architects transformed the former property into an intimate bayside sanctuary, which InterContinental claims is the only five-star luxury hotel outside of Sydney's central business district.

The 242sq m (2,605sq ft) Trumps Spa will feature five treatment rooms, a sauna, steamroom and a shower or hairdressing salon. There will also be a spray tan room, while a VIP room will be on offer for guests seeking extra privacy.

The opening date for this facility has not yet been confirmed. Manel Daetz, from architecture firm Henry Corbett & Co, is the spa's consulting designer.



The bayside resort, designed by Bates Smart, has private cabanas

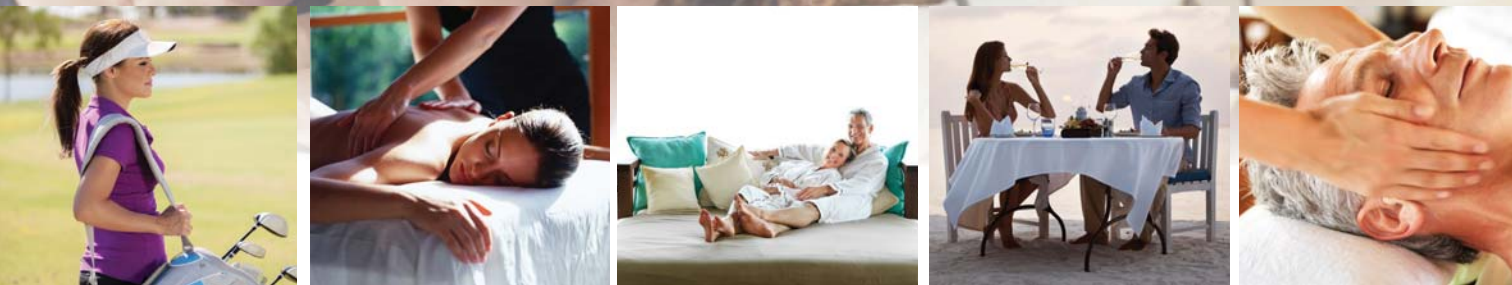
Treatments at the spa will include a range of body treatments, massages, facials, waxing, eyelash extensions and makeup application. Full hairdressing services will also be available.

The hotel itself features a number of dining options – including a fully-separate kosher kitchen – a rooftop pool and lounge, private cabanas and a 495-person capacity ballroom. *Details: [http://lei.sr?a=U2Z7m\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=U2Z7m_S)*



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## Crescent-shaped island in the Maldives unveils 'spa palace'

After more than a year of renovations, the five-star Hideaway Beach Resort & Spa at Dhonakulhi in the Maldives has reopened with a brand new wellness facility called the Hideaway Spa & Beauty Palace.

The property, located on the crescent-shaped island called Dhonakulhi in the Haa Alifu Atoll in the Indian Ocean, was expanded to include 50 more villas – taking the total number to 103 villas. The former Island Hideaway Spa Resort & Marina was also renamed after the upgrades were completed.

The Hideaway Spa & Beauty Palace is a 12-treatment room spa featuring a steamroom, mani-pedi stations, relaxation rooms and a hairdressing salon. The design of the spa incorporates water paths, sand floors, silk fabrics, plus teak and coconut timber furnishings. Products at the spa are supplied by Natura Bissé.

*Details: [http://lei.sr?a=M9f5E\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=M9f5E_S)*



The hotel's interiors will be chosen by GA Design

## Starwood's W hotel brand to debut in Marrakech in 2017

Starwood Hotels & Resorts will launch its W brand in Marrakech, Morocco, in 2017 in the Hivernage district of the city.

The hotel will be called W Marrakech and will be owned by Morocco-based Menatlas 14 S.A. – a company that operates within a global investment fund launched to take advantage of the many opportunities which have arisen in the kingdom over the past few years. The fund has successfully developed a diverse portfolio of operations involved in hospitality, infrastructure and cultural projects.

The 148-bedroom W Hotel will feature a signature Away Spa, the details of which have yet to be announced. Other amenities will include an all-day dining venue, a destination bar, outdoor bar, FIT gym, 24-hour business centre and an outdoor pool deck. The hotel will comprise more than 1,000sq m (10,764sq ft) of meeting space.

*Details: [http://lei.sr?a=q8M7m\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=q8M7m_S)*

## Dusit expands international portfolio

Thai hospitality brand Dusit International is growing globally with properties launching in the US, Africa and Australia.

Dusit recently opened the dusitD2 Constance Pasadena hotel in Pasadena's downtown area, Los Angeles. The 136-bedroom hotel has been remodelled and a second phase of the property's development – set for completion in 2016 – will add 25 club level guest rooms, a rooftop pool with outdoor sundeck and pool bar, a fitness centre, two boardrooms and a selection of retail and dining outlets.

In October 2014, the 101-bedroom dusitD2 Nairobi soft-opened in Kenya. Located in Riverside, the signature Devarana Spa features six single treatment rooms and one double suite. There is also an outdoor swimming pool a DFIT health club and a range of meeting rooms at the property. Dusit International has indicated it expects to increase its African portfolio in years to come.

Meanwhile, investors Springfield Land Corporation, World Group UK and Maxsen



The Australian site will cost a total of AU\$550m (US\$474m, €382m, £303m)

Capital Hong Kong gathered recently at the Brookwater Golf Club in Queensland to announce the Dusit Thani Brookwater Golf Club and Spa Resort at First Residence. The first project for Dusit on Australian soil will see the construction of 168 resort apartments in its first phase, with private plunge pools overlooking the Greg Norman-designed Brookwater Golf Course.

Also included in the first phase of development will be a recreation club.

*Details: [http://lei.sr?a=a3y4y\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=a3y4y_S)*

## Heritage fund invests in Buxton Crescent

The UK Heritage Lottery Fund has pledged a further £11.3m (US\$18m, €14m) towards the scheme to redevelop the country's Buxton Crescent and Thermal Spa, in addition to the £12.5m (US\$20.5m, €14.9m) it awarded the project in 2006.

The project to repair and restore the Grade I-listed building into a five-star thermal spa and 79-bedroom hotel, which is jointly owned by Derbyshire County Council and High Peak Borough Council, is expected to open at some point in 2016, according to the *Buxton Advertiser*.

The extra funding is expected to secure the long-term future of the famed £46m (US\$73m, €58m) development, which has undergone a number of delays due to legal difficulties and funding problems.

Before work can begin on the project early in 2015, developers must secure the final sum of £2m (US\$3m, €2.5m) from the D2N2 Local



On completion, the site will be accessible to the public for the first time since 1992

Enterprise Partnership, a regional growth fund.

The spa will have a sauna, saunarium, infra-red sauna, ice room, aroma room, steamroom and salt grotto. The two existing basement pools – one for each sex – will both be completely refurbished. Carbon dioxide and peat-infused baths will also be on offer, plus hydro massage and a hydrotherapy bath for couples. Dalesauna is consulting on the spa.

*Details: [http://lei.sr?a=C5G2g\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=C5G2g_S)*



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# DIARY DATES

**22-25 January 2015**

## Les Thermalies

Carrousel du Louvre, Paris, France

Les Thermalies, the French water and wellness show, features eight exhibition areas themed around sectors such as thalassotherapy, French thermal springs, balneotherapy design, day spas, foreign destinations, and beauty. There will even be yoga workshops at the event, in addition to cooking workshops, a herbal tea room and swimsuit fashion shows.

Tel: +33 1 45 59 09 09

[www.thermalies.com](http://www.thermalies.com)

**1-3 February 2015**

## Spatex

Ricoh Arena, Coventry, West Midlands, UK

A trade show for pool, spa and wet zone facilities – the catchphrase of which is ‘by the Industry, for the Industry’. Now in its 19th year, the event is host to the Institute of Swimming Pool Engineers (ISPE) Workshops – which relays valuable business and technical expertise to attendees. There is a gala dinner at the end of the event for continued networking opportunities.

Tel: +44 1264 358 558

[www.spatex.co.uk](http://www.spatex.co.uk)

**6-8 February 2015**

## BeautyPro Event MOLITOR

Molitor, Paris, France

The organisers of the Mondial Spa et Beaute event have replaced the event with one called BeautyPro. Each exhibitor will have its own room/ mini spa for meetings with buyers. Prizes will be awarded for beauty, cosmetic and aesthetic equipment innovations.

Tel: +33 4 97 22 00 00

[www.beautypro-event.com](http://www.beautypro-event.com)

**8-10 February 2015**

## ISWKC Annual Spa Convention

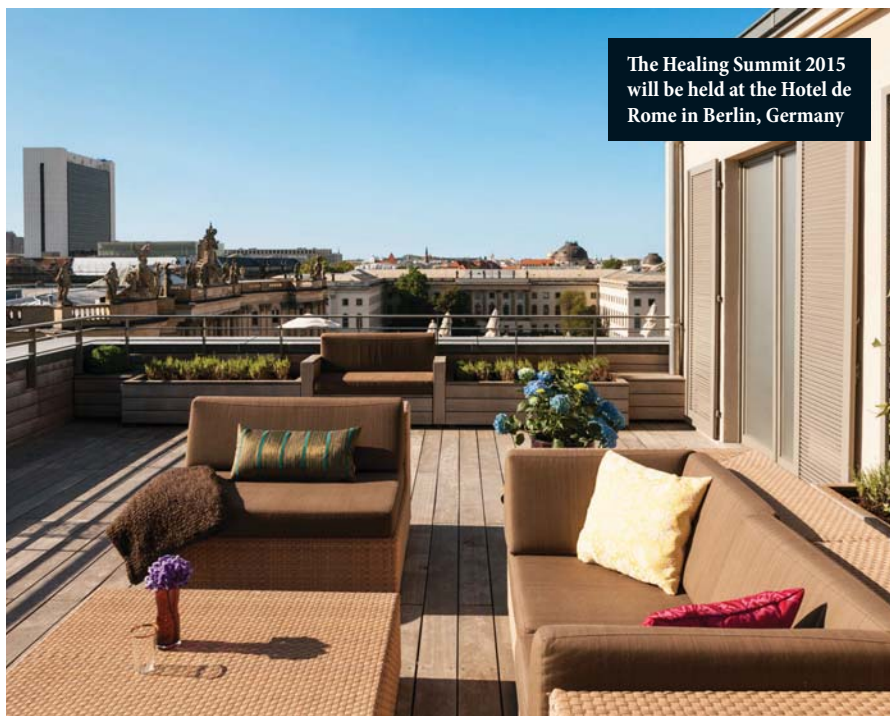
Thermae 2000 in Valkenburg,  
The Netherlands

The International Spa & Wellness Knowledge Centre's (ISWKC) annual convention will revolve around the theme “The agenda for the future - there's no time to waste!”

The European-centred event will feature a programme with industry leaders providing keynote speeches, best practice discussions and an ‘experience centre’ – demonstrating the latest innovations and trends in the hospitality industry.

Tel: +31 4335 61091

[www.iswkc.com/events](http://www.iswkc.com/events)



**3 March 2015**

## Healing Summit

Hotel de Rome, Berlin, Germany

Spa professionals convened at the first Healing Summit last year with a view to exploring ideas of how to “create a paradigm shift through a holistic

lifestyle.” Topics for debate included a caring economy, sustainability, personal wellbeing and the future of the wellness industry. The event is organised by Healing Hotels of the World consortium.

Tel: +49 221 2053 1175

[www.healinghotelsoftheworld.com](http://www.healinghotelsoftheworld.com)

**22-23 February 2015**

## Professional Wellness & Spa Convention

ExCel, London, UK

A two-day convention for international spa leaders which focuses on practical business solutions. Attracts some 300 delegates and speakers. On the first day, many delegates will also attend the annual World Spa & Wellness Awards, which had 11 categories last year. The convention and awards will take place alongside the two-day Professional Beauty exhibition.

Tel: +44 20 7351 0536

[www.professionalbeauty.co.uk](http://www.professionalbeauty.co.uk)

**27 February - 1 March 2015**

## Kosmetik Expo

Crocus Expo, Moscow, Russia

Around 250 Russian cosmetics and perfumery companies exhibit at this main part of the Kosmetik series for beauty professionals. It is held alongside Nail Expo – a dedicated event for the nailcare sector. Exhibition divisions include areas dedicated to equipment for spas, medi-spas, clothes for cosmetologists and education centres.

Tel: +495 937 13 18 19 21

[www.ki-expo.ru](http://www.ki-expo.ru)

**2-3 March 2015**

## Beautyworld Japan Fukuoka

Fukuoka Kokusai Centre, Japan

A key event for the beauty and spa industries in the region, this event showcases the latest beauty products, equipment, services and ideas in the sector. Highlights include exhibitor presentations, special seminars and nail make-up demonstrations on stage. Attendees are representatives from beauty salons, spas, hotels and resorts, beauty schools, health institutions & manufacturers.

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[www.beautyworldjapan.com/fukuoka](http://www.beautyworldjapan.com/fukuoka)

**4-8 March 2015**

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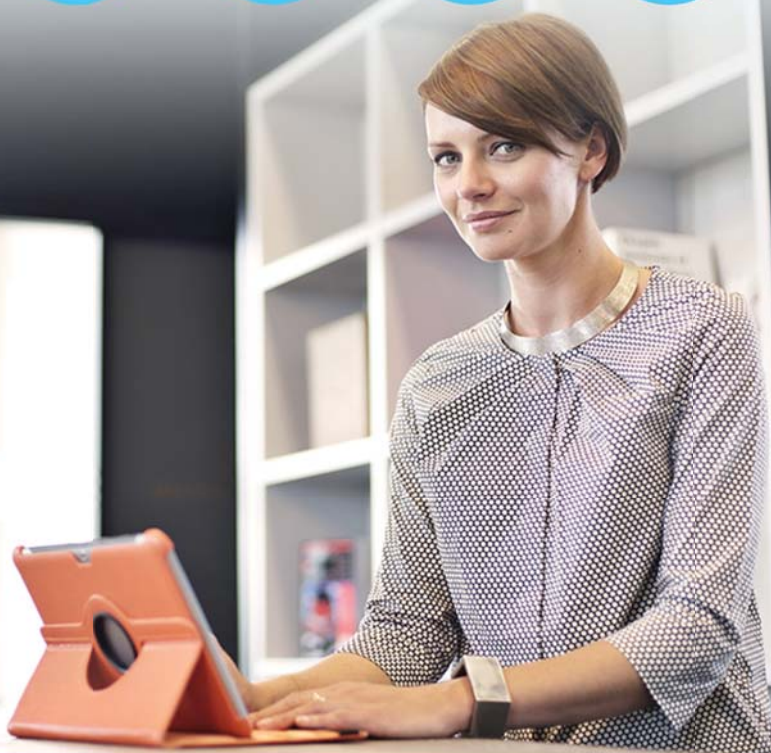
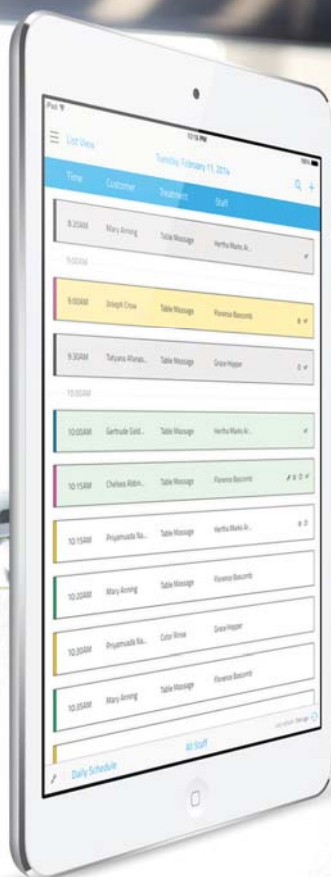
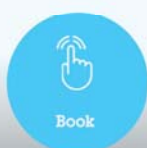
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## Sharia-compliant resort to cost AED500m

R Hotels, the hospitality management division of the Ajman-based R Holding, UAE, has revealed plans for the first sharia-compliant four-star resort and spa on the east crescent of Palm Jumeirah – set to cost AED 500m (US\$136m, €109m, £87m).

The 259-key property will be the group's sixth hotel and is due to launch in Q4 of 2016.

Recreational facilities will include a spa for men and women, a gym and swimming pool. Wellbeing treatments will be offered at the spa, plus fitness and nutrition programmes – in collaboration with a wellness centre that specialises in these services. The name of this centre was not disclosed.

Details of the spa were not revealed but there will be a sauna and steam bath at the property.

In keeping with sharia compliance, the male and female areas of the spa will be separate. Sharia compliance is increasingly a key trend for resorts and spas looking to boost tourism in the Middle East.



The resort will open in Q2 of 2015 at Al Mina Road in Jumeirah

“We take pride in our sharia-compliant properties in the UAE and we aim to make a mark in the hospitality by capitalising on strategic locations, particularly in Dubai,” said Sumair Tariq, managing director for R Hotels.

Other features of the resort include an all-day dining restaurant and a poolside bar, in addition to an array of activities exclusively for children, including a fully-supervised indoor and outdoor play area.

Details: [http://lei.sr?a=jsK2c\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=jsK2c_S)

## Nintendo to develop non-wearable sleep tracker device

Games firm Nintendo is moving into the healthcare market with a specific focus on sleep tracking, following the company's return to profitability after a period of heavy losses.

The first product from Nintendo's healthcare division will be a handheld device, designed in collaboration with US company ResMed, to sit on a bedside table while its owner sleeps. It is therefore not a wearable piece of technology.

Nintendo's move into healthcare was announced in January 2014 and the product is due to launch during the company's next financial year, which ends in March 2016. Details of the exact launch date and the cost of the product have not been revealed, however Nintendo president Satoru Iwata told a press conference in Japan that a recurring subscription might be a payment method for the device.

The new product will compete with devices by companies including Fitbit and Withings. Details: [http://lei.sr?a=k6E4T\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=k6E4T_S)



Guests have access to the 25m (82ft) swimming pool

## Consumers reject 'synthetic' products

The major trigger for consumers to start using natural and organic products is concerns over health, according to a recently released consumer behaviour report.

The report, by London-based research consultancy Organic Monitor, is the second edition of the UK *Consumer Insights* report – which was first conducted in 2007 – and shows a significant increase in awareness of synthetic chemicals in cosmetics and toiletries, thus driving growth in the natural and organic personal care products market.

90 per cent of UK buyers of natural and organic personal care products said 'avoidance of synthetic chemicals' was important or very important to them. Specific chemicals were identified by respondents as ones to avoid. For example, almost two-thirds of buyers stated they look to avoid parabens, while 19 per cent of buyers wished to avoid phthalates and lanolin, compared to just 3 per cent



All survey respondents said they are willing to pay more for certified products

in 2007, highlighting increased consumer awareness of synthetic chemicals.

43 per cent of buyers say they look for symbols and logos on personal care products, which represent 'natural' and 'organic' certification, up from 33 per cent in 2007. The Soil Association logo, associated with organic products, is sought out by 30 per cent of buyers and all respondents said they are willing to pay more for certified products.

Details: [http://lei.sr?a=d8K9q\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=d8K9q_S)

## Hamad International Airport opens airside hotel and spa

The airside Airport Hotel and Vitality Spa has debuted in the south node of Hamad International Airport in Doha, Qatar, with more treatment rooms for men than women.

All passengers, whether they are staying at the 100-bedroom hotel or not, can access the Vitality Spa – which features three treatment rooms for men and two for women, plus a hydrotherapy bath in both the male and female spa areas.

Guests also have access to the 25m (82ft) swimming pool, gym and squash courts.

The number of wellness developments at airports is on the rise, offering passengers a luxurious way to spend layovers. Recent airport wellness proposals include yoga, spa rituals in first class lounges and spa boutiques with treatment menus.

Details: [http://lei.sr?a=G3E3H\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=G3E3H_S)



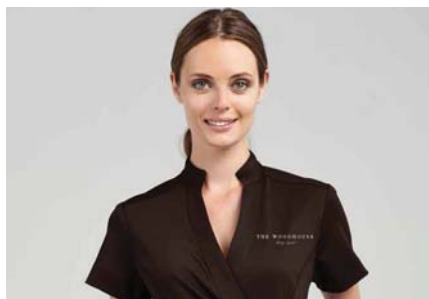
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## Woodhouse win a new step on Noel Asmar's wellness journey

Noel Asmar Group has been selected by Woodhouse Spa Group to be its exclusive uniform provider.

The manufacturer created an upscale wrap tunic for the spa group in a chocolate colour, intended to complement its branding, and will also supply multiple options from its stock uniform selection.

Noel Asmar said the use of technical fabrics in the tunic design meant that it would be both comfortable for practitioners and appropriately tailored for the Woodhouse clientele.

**KEYWORD: NOEL ASMAR**



## HydraSea skin hydrating cream works throughout the night

Skincare company Phytomer is launching what it describes as an "ultra-comfortable" enveloping cream this month.

Based on the synergy of two marine ingredients, 'HydraSea Night Plumping Rich Cream' has been created to provide optimum skin hydration during the night.

Using the company's concept of 'Hydrافusion', the cream's formula includes a high concentrate of red alga, *furcellaria lumbricalis*, which is hydrolysed by a green method – supercritical CO2 extraction – and then made into a complex with marine minerals.

This ingredient blends with the epidermis to provide the skin with a moisturising infusion – it plumps up and hydrates the epidermis from its deepest layers right up to the surface.

**KEYWORD: PHYTOMER**



## Spa Products Update

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For more information, or to contact any of these companies, log on to [www.spa-kit.net](http://www.spa-kit.net) and type the company name under 'keyword search'

## Relaxation can be achieved by means of ceramic radiant heat

Austrian ceramics manufacturer Sommerhuber has combined the gentle ceramic radiant heat and treatments of a traditional hammam in its latest product.

The 'Hammam oval' is designed to foster a sense of deep relaxation, creating soft lying surfaces in single rooms.

By means of long-wave health-enhancing infrared radiation, the soft heat storing ceramics have a soothing effect on the

autonomic nervous system, which Sommerhuber says enhances vitality and vigour. The gentle radiant heat boosts circulation, dissolves muscle tensions and enhances the immune system.

The Hammam oval, niches and water basins are available in 22 different glazes and can be produced to a customer's individual requirements.

**KEYWORD: SOMMERHUBER**



## Booker makes series of upgrades to its mobile app

An upgrade to Booker's mobile app allows business owners to remotely manage appointment calendars, payments and customer records. Included within the remote calendar management features, the app enables designated employees to view their specific schedules and appointments, while single-service appointments can be booked and customer notes can be viewed in the context of booking or editing appointments. The app is available on the iOS platform, with an Android version upcoming.

**KEYWORD: BOOKER**





### Comfort and control central to Gharieni's new lounge

A new high comfort lounge for relaxation areas has been introduced by Gharieni.

The 'MO1 Evo' is equipped with four actuators which can be operated individually with a handset for adjusting headrest, backrest, leg and foot support separately. The manual control features a functional memory setting system that is able to save and recall smoothly and almost noiselessly any of up to eight different positions. The handset control also includes a lock/unlock function preventing unwanted use of the spa table. Other features of the lounge include two pull-out shelves, a reading lamp with dimmable LEDs and a soft cushioning upholstery with memory foam.

KEYWORD: GHARIENI



### Hughes becomes European general manager at Murad

Murad has appointed Blake Hughes as general manager - Europe, a newly-created position. He has more than 18 years of experience in the beauty and cosmetic industries and has previously held global commercial, marketing and strategy appointments at Procter & Gamble, Elizabeth Arden and Marks & Spencer.

He will report to Richard Murad, general manager of LA-based Murad Inc, which recently completed the acquisition of distribution partner Murad UK. From its London head office, Murad UK will operate as the headquarters for the UK and Europe.

KEYWORD: MURAD



### Personal touch improves effectiveness of skin treatment plan

A new treatment programme from Biologique Recherche offers a bespoke approach to skincare. The result of four years of research, the personalised 'Haute Couture 1-month Programme' focuses on specific skin issues, with specific goals.

It begins with a 'Skin Instant' measurement session in which highly-trained skin professionals assess the state of the skin and determine what it needs. The evaluation is backed by a visual analysis, photographs and a dermo-cosmetic questionnaire.

In the next 'preparation' phase, specific products from the Biologique Recherche skincare range are selected for use ahead of a customised treatment.

One month after the first stage evaluation and documented analysis of data, the personalised skincare programme is shared with the client. A box set is presented containing a made-to-measure cream and serum with a prescription sheet explaining how to follow the treatment at home.

KEYWORD: BIOLOGIQUE RECHERCHE

### Sodashi products on show at Rosewood London's Sense Spa

Renowned for their regenerative properties, Sodashi's skincare products have been chosen by Rosewood London's Sense Spa.

Founder Megan Larsen puts an emphasis on wellbeing in both spirit and mind, with the products containing only "therapeutic-grade, ethically-sourced" essential oils and plant actives to heal and nurture.

Facilities at Sense Spa include dry heat saunas, amethyst crystal steam rooms and a relaxation lounge, with features such as bamboo walls, soft lighting and wooden walkways over rippling water and pebble stones adding to the tranquil atmosphere.

Sodashi's facial and body treatments will be used in the seven treatment rooms, and some of the highlights on the spa menu include the 'Thermal Infusing Facial' and 'Refining Body Toner'.

"There is growing demand for high-performance chemical-free skincare, as spa customers become more savvy about the authenticity and purity of their spa products and treatments," said Larsen. "About sixty per cent of what is applied to the skin enters the bloodstream, and increasingly people understand the need to make skincare choices that support their internal health."

KEYWORD: SODASHI







## Spastream shower replicates skill of an experienced masseur

Aquademy's recently-launched 'Spastream' is a vichy shower concept featuring the electronic management of 1,200 water points designed to replicate the manual skill of an experienced masseur.

Providing rejuvenating, de-stressing and anti-ageing treatments, Spastream is a horizontal shower which offers water massages. The product is composed of three parts in stainless steel, framed in corian (consisting of head and shoulders, lower back, legs and feet).

The 1,200 water points are grouped into 50 massage jets, and the unit also features six RGB Opto 3W colour therapy spotlights, two 20-watt loudspeakers, an integrated audio system, and an integrated essence diffuser with freeze-dried pods.

Spastream is monitored and controlled through a 4.3" colour touch screen keyboard. As well as a manual mode, there are also 16 pre-set programmes for users to choose from.

KEYWORD: AQUADEMY

## EcoSmart becomes focal point at luxury London hotel

Bio-ethanol 'EcoSmart' fires have been used in many different hospitality projects, and provided the perfect solution at a five star all-suite hotel in London.

The creation of four penthouse suites at the Wyndham Grand Hotel in Chelsea Harbour, led by interior designer Maria Rice's design company adi studio, was initially hampered by the lack of a gas supply.

However, the EcoSmart fires offered an ideal alternative, according to Rice, and became the focal point for the rooms, with marble and other natural stone used for the fireplace surrounds.

The 'EcoSmart Fire BK5', which is solely distributed in the UK by retailer Smart Fire UK, was selected for its design versatility.

KEYWORD: SMART FIRE



## E-commerce solution offers link to Nymphéa spa software

SequoiaSoft, founded by ADN-informatique and SoftBooking, and hospitality agency Spa Collexion have launched an online booking solution dedicated to spas, which is modelled on and connected to Nymphéa software.

An e-commerce and web marketing platform, 'E-Nymphéa Collexion' is designed to allow spas to combine the online booking of spa treatments and rituals with the sale of gift vouchers. The solution also enables users to book classes in real-time, and manage their subscription. Another main feature of E-Nymphéa Collexion is that it provides spas with the ability to market their spa treatments and gift vouchers on their own website.

KEYWORD: ADN



## Tester stand puts Katherine Daniels brand on full display

A bespoke tester stand has been designed by Katherine Daniels Cosmetics for display in the company's salons.

Katherine Daniels Cosmetics hopes the tester stand will fully immerse clients in the look and feel of its brand, encouraging them to touch, smell and feel the products, while it complements "the beauty of the brand's personality in its entirety".

The stand is sold complete with a full range of tester products, two risers, a brochure holder, a 'please try me - testers' plaque and the Katherine Daniels logo in a 3D wall mount.

KEYWORD: KATHERINE DANIELS

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We all want to be healthy, feel good and live under positive physical and mental conditions. Living well is practically the whole world's common dream... So if this is how we all feel, **why not have a special day dedicated to this common dream?**

## WHAT IS GLOBAL WELLNESS DAY?

**Global Wellness Day**, which brings together exercise, healthy eating and inner health, is a social movement that raises awareness of living well throughout the world. **Global Wellness Day** was celebrated for the first time in Turkey in 2012, with the participation of wellness opinion leaders. Since then, **Global Wellness Day** continues to be celebrated as a not-for-profit event each year, and each year with greater international involvement. In 2015, Global Wellness Day will be celebrated in **45 different locations throughout the world.**

## WHY A GLOBAL WELLNESS DAY?

According to many studies, depression is the most common health problem throughout the world. The problem often manifests itself in sleep problems, stress, poor nutrition, inactivity, obesity, heart disease and more... To overcome this problem and lead a healthier and happier life, we need an inspiring beginning. The name of that beginning is **Global Wellness Day.**

**Global Wellness Day's 7 Step Manifesto**  
for an increased awareness of living well:

- 1) Walk one hour
- 2) Drink more water
- 3) Don't use plastic bottles
- 4) Eat organic, locally sourced produce
- 5) Do a good deed
- 6) Eat a family dinner
- 7) Go to bed at 10:00 PM

## HOW TO TAKE PART IN GLOBAL WELLNESS DAY?

Global Wellness Day is celebrated every second Saturday of June. If you would like to join us and celebrate the next **Global Wellness Day** on June 13, 2015, by holding a health & wellness oriented event in your city that is free and open to the public, we invite you to contact our **Global Wellness Day** Committee. By fulfilling appropriate conditions, you too can become an ambassador to this very special and powerful day.

Or if you would like to participate on a personal level and become part of **Global Wellness Day** TODAY, we invite you to visit our Website and take place in our signature campaign.



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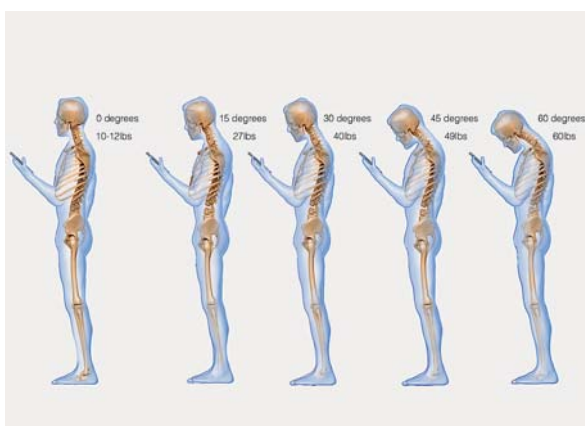
## Looking at your phone can cause back pain

The amount of force exerted on the head of an adult human looking down at his or her phone is equivalent to 60lb (27kg) – the weight of an eight-year old child.

A New York-based spine surgeon, Kenneth Hansraj, will publish his calculations in the journal of *Surgical Technology* next month, highlighting that tilting one's head down to check a smartphone screen increases the gravitational pull on that person's cranium. An average human head weighs about 10-12lb (5kg).

"As the head tilts forward, the forces seen by the neck surges to 27lb (12kg) at 15 degrees, 40lb (18kg) at 30 degrees, 49lb (22kg) at 45 degrees and 60lb (27kg) at 60 degrees," writes Hansraj. "These stresses may lead to early wear, tear, degeneration and possibly surgeries."

Nielsen – a global information measurement company that provides insights and data about what people watch, listen to and buy – has recorded that Americans spend about an hour on their smartphones each day. This suggests a high potential for damage done to the spine.



When the head is tilted to different degrees, different forces act on the spine

"People spend an average of two to four hours a day with their heads tilted over, reading and texting on their smartphones and devices," says Hansraj's report. "Cumulatively this is 700 to 1,400 hours a year of excess stresses seen about the cervical spine."

Younger generations may spend 5,000 more hours hunched over in this way, according to Hansraj's research. Physical therapists have warned of "text neck" for years now but handheld devices are more prolific now than ever. Details: [http://lei.sr?a=R9z2F\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=R9z2F_S)

## JW Marriott island resort to open in 2015

Continued from front cover  
The design masterplan for the JW Marriott Resort Venice, by architecture firm Matteo Thun & Partners, reorganises the island into three main parts, each defined by its garden areas.

A former hospital, built in 1936, will become the hotel. The site's outbuildings, including an old church, will make space for the 1,750m (18,837sq ft) spa – to be operated by GOCO Hospitality – and a convention centre.

Matteo Thun & Partners' website describes the project, that uses local suppliers for sustainability and waste-management efficiency, as a "three zero village, both in its construction and in its subsequent management: zero kilometres, zero CO2 and zero waste."

The property's fruit arbours, olive groves and cultivated plots – including a turnip garden used for soil regeneration – will supply the resort's four restaurants, five bars, cooking school and wine academy. Additional facilities include weekly authentic



The property's fruit arbours and olive groves will supply the restaurants

Murano glass and Venetian mask-making workshops led by local artisans, as well as water sports such as canoeing and sailing. The hotel's rooftop pool offers views of Piazza San Marco and La Serenissima.

JW Marriott will be the brand's sixth European hotel. Other 2015 global openings planned by the brand include JW Marriott Cabo San Lucas Resort, Mexico; JW Marriott Austin, Texas; and JW Marriott Vancouver Place Stadium, British Columbia, Canada.

Details: [http://lei.sr?a=q3U8J\\_S](http://lei.sr?a=q3U8J_S)

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T: +55 11 2307 5595 W: [www.abcspsa.com.br](http://www.abcspsa.com.br)

### Bulgarian Union for Balneology and Spa Tourism (BUBSPA)

T: +359 2 942 7130 W: [www.bubspa.org](http://www.bubspa.org)

### China Spa Association

T: +86 21 5385 8951 W: [www.chinaspaassociation.com](http://www.chinaspaassociation.com)

### Association of Spas of the Czech Republic

T: +420 606 063 145 W: [www.jedmedolazni.cz](http://www.jedmedolazni.cz)

### The Day Spa Association (US)

T: +1 877 851 8998 W: [www.dayspaassociation.com](http://www.dayspaassociation.com)

### Estonian Spa Association

T: +372 510 9306 W: [www.estonianspas.eu](http://www.estonianspas.eu)

### European Spas Association

T: +32 2 282 0558 W: [www.espa-ehv.com](http://www.espa-ehv.com)

### Federation of Holistic Therapists (FHT)

T: +44 23 8062 4350 W: [www.fht.org.uk](http://www.fht.org.uk)

### French Spa Association (SPA-A)

W: [www.spa-a.com](http://www.spa-a.com)

### German Spas Association

T: +49 30 24 63 692-0 W: [www.deutscher-heilbaederverband.de](http://www.deutscher-heilbaederverband.de)

### Hungarian Baths Association

T: +36 1 220 2282 W: [www.furdoszovetseg.hu/en](http://www.furdoszovetseg.hu/en)

### The Iceland Spa Association

W: [www.visitspas.eu/iceland](http://www.visitspas.eu/iceland)

### The International Medical Spa Association

T: +1 877 851 8998 W: [www.medicalspaassociation.org](http://www.medicalspaassociation.org)

### International Spa & Wellness Association (ISWA)

T: +49 69 130 25 86 0 W: [www.iswa.de](http://www.iswa.de)

### International Spa Association (ISPA)

T: +1 859 226 4326 W: [www.experienceispa.com](http://www.experienceispa.com)

### Japan Spa Association

W: [www.j-spa.jp](http://www.j-spa.jp)

### Leading Spas of Canada

T: +1 800 704 6393 W: [www.leadingspasofcanada.com](http://www.leadingspasofcanada.com)

### National Guild of Spa Experts Russia

T: +7 495 226 4289 W: [www.russiaspas.ru](http://www.russiaspas.ru)

### Portuguese Spas Association

T: +351 217 940 574 W: [www.termasdeportugal.pt](http://www.termasdeportugal.pt)

### Romanian Spa Organization

T: +40 21 322 0188 W: [www.romanian-spas.ro](http://www.romanian-spas.ro)

### Salt Therapy Association

W: [www.salttherapyassociation.org](http://www.salttherapyassociation.org)

### Samui Spa Association

T: +66 7742 08712 W: [www.samuispaassociation.com](http://www.samuispaassociation.com)

### Serbian Spas and Resorts Association

T: +381 36 611 110 W: [www.serbianspas.org](http://www.serbianspas.org)

### South African Spa Association

T: +27 11 447 9959 W: [www.saspaassociation.co.za](http://www.saspaassociation.co.za)

### Spanish National Spa Association

T: +34 902 1176 22 W: [www.balnearios.org](http://www.balnearios.org)

### Spa Association of India

T: +91 995 889 5151 W: [www.spaassociationofindia.in](http://www.spaassociationofindia.in)

### Spa Association Singapore

T: +65 6223 1158 W: [www.spaassociation.org.sg](http://www.spaassociation.org.sg)

### Spa & Wellness International Council (SWIC)

T: +7 4957640203 W: [www.iswic.ru](http://www.iswic.ru)

### Taiwan Spa Association

W: [www.tspa.tw](http://www.tspa.tw)

### Thai Spa Association

T: +66 2168 7094 W: [www.thaispaassociation.com](http://www.thaispaassociation.com)

### Turkish Spa Association

T: +90 212 635 1201 W: [www.spa-turkey.com](http://www.spa-turkey.com)

### The UK Spa Association

T: +44 8707 800 787 W: [www.spabusinessassociation.co.uk](http://www.spabusinessassociation.co.uk)

### Ukrainian Spa Association

T: +3 8044 253 74 79 W: [www.spaua.org](http://www.spaua.org)