

spa opportunities

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Daily news & jobs: www.spaopportunities.com

Shangri-La opening 145-acre Sri Lankan resort

Shangri-La is to unveil a 145-acre resort on Sri Lanka's southern coastline on June 1, 2016, with a 12-treatment-room Chi The Spa.

The spa will be located in a secluded area of the resort with lush tropical greenery and soothing water features. It will be decorated in Shangri-La's signature Chi style, along with local design elements. The twelve treatment rooms will include both indoor and outdoor pavilions.

The menu also features Chinese and Ayurvedic treatments and incorporates movement into its signature therapies. Body massage, exercise, stretching, hydrotherapy and

movement of the mind through relaxation and meditation all feature prominently in the Chi spa philosophy, which maintains that these practices combine to assist the body's natural renewal. Guests can also undergo a private consultation with nutritionists and ayurvedic



The resort will include a 12-treatment room Chi The Spa

doctors to create a bespoke wellness experience through personalised programmes. The resort also includes a health club, dive centre, lap pool, freeform pool and tennis courts.

Hirsch Bender Associates have designed the spa and suites, while Singapore-based

designers Chao Tse Ann Partners have worked on the restaurant interiors.

The beachfront resort will include 300 bedrooms – including 26 suites with private butler service – tropical gardens, an 18-hole golf course, an artisan village and a range of dining, event and entertainment options.

The Village is designed to preserve Sri Lanka's traditional artisan communities, and features four traditional huts where craftsmen create, exhibit and sell items including pottery, ceramics, wood carvings and weavings. In the evening, The Village will transform into an entertainment venue, showcasing Sri Lankan music

and dance performances of Angampora, Sri Lanka's indigenous martial art.

Shangri-La is also slated to open a second hotel in Sri Lanka – the Shangri-La Hotel, Colombo – which will debut in 2017.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=r7q6k_S

Anbang ups offer for Starwood takeover

The Chinese consortium led by Anbang Insurance Group that is trying to buy Starwood has upped its offer.

Marriott agreed to buy Starwood in November for US\$12.2bn, but a rival offer from Anbang on 18 March threatened the deal. Marriott then came back with a higher offer of US\$13.6bn, but now Anbang's latest offer of US\$82.75 per share in cash for Starwood stock – or about US\$14bn – threatens the deal once again.

Marriott and Starwood have moved their stockholder meetings to vote on the acquisition to 8 April. Details: http://lei.sr?a=H7Q9X_S

Satteva designing cenote-inspired spa

At the upcoming design-led, all-white hotel Mar Adentro in Los Cabos, Mexico, spa consultant Bonnie Baker, co-founder of Satteva Spa & Wellness Concepts, is creating a spa in stark contrast – a dark, cave-like area inspired by local cenote swimming holes that aims to focus on the concept of water and reflect a sense of the internal.

A signature hotel for Mexican architect Miguel Ángel Aragonés, Mar Adentro (“The Sea Inside”) is designed to encourage guests to contemplate the immensity of the ocean, with 198 guestrooms and a minimalist all-white aesthetic. Aragonés envisioned the hotel and residences as chambers suspended over mirrors of seawater.

“I imagined floating houses, houses like boxes that I would harvest in order to trap



The Mar Adentro will feature an all-white aesthetic

light,” explained Aragonés. “At Mar Adentro, the houses are made of glass on the seaside, and of concrete where they meet both sun and desert. They are cubes in the middle of the ocean that use water not to navigate, but to sustain life. Everything becomes water, flooding your eyes and running through your body as well.”

Continued on back page

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Renzo Piano designing Vienna Andaz

Pritzker Prize-winning architect Renzo Piano is designing the Andaz Am Belvedere hotel, set to open in Vienna's new Quartier Belvedere district in 2019.

The project is a joint venture between Hyatt Hotels and Signa, who previously collaborated on the Park Hyatt Vienna. The hotel will be located opposite the 21er Haus – formerly the Museum of Modern Art – and Vienna's Schweizergarten, next to the Belvedere Palace.

The 300-room Andaz Am Belvedere will “take inspiration from the city's art and architecture, diverse cuisine, outstanding quality of life and irresistible charm,” according to a statement from Signa, and will feature interiors designed by Gabriel Kacerovsky of Archisphere and Swiss designer Claudio Carbone.

Taking its cue from Prince Eugene of Savoy – a developer, art collector and the man behind the Belvedere Palace – the Andaz Am Belvedere will feature contemporary local art and design.



The Andaz Am Belvedere hotel will include a large wellness centre

The hotel will be comprised of two separate buildings connected by interwoven bridges, and will include a 16th floor rooftop bar with views of the Schweizergarten, as well as a large spa and wellness area on the fourth floor.

“This is an incredibly important development for Vienna, with the Belvedere Quarter set to become a sought-after destination in the city,” said Peter Norman, SVP of acquisitions and development for Hyatt in Europe.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=D2W2d_S

Four Resense spas due to open in Q2

Four new spas will join Kempinski's portfolio in 2016, in Europe, Asia, the Middle East and Africa.

Partly opened since November 2015, the 269-room Kempinski Gold Coast City Accra in Ghana will include a 3,000sq m (32,292sq ft) Resense Spa, billed as the largest in West Africa. The spa will include ten treatment rooms, relaxation areas, a hammam and yoga studio.

The Resense spa will be finished in natural tones, from gold mosaics to stone and wood. The Resense ‘kur’

– a combination of steam, heat, water and soap massage – will combine ancient Roman bathing traditions with a holistic approach of natural therapies.

Kempinski will also open the 327-bedroom Kempinski Hotel Fuzhou in China in the second quarter of 2016, which will include a 550sq m (5,920sq ft) Kempinski The Spa, managed by Resense.



The Kempinski Gold Coast City in Ghana will have a 3,000sq m spa

The 153-bedroom Kempinski Summerland Hotel & Resort in Beirut is being built on the Lebanese coastline over an area of 65,000sq m (16 acres), and will include a 1,500sq m (16,146sq ft) Resense spa, several pools, water-skiing, sailing and diving, as well as a 5,000sq m (53,820sq ft) private sandy beach and a 47-berth marina. It will open in Q2 2016.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=S7G2G_S



ESPA developing Saudi Arabian spas

Skincare brand and spa development company ESPA has entered into an ongoing exclusive partnership of ESPA-branded spas in Saudi Arabia with Al Khozama Management Company.

This follows the successful collaboration with Al Khozama for the ongoing operation of Al Faisaliah Spa by ESPA at Al Faisaliah Hotel Riyadh, a women's-only spa.

ESPA will now work with Al Khozama on two further luxury spa properties within Riyadh: the Al Faisaliah Resort and Spa

at Durrat Arriyadh by ESPA and the Al Khozama Lifestyle Club and Spa by ESPA.

Located 30 minutes from Riyadh, Al Faisaliah Resort and Spa at Durrat Arriyadh by ESPA will open in Q4 of this year, and will offer five-star separate male and female spa facilities and a signature treatment menu created exclusively for the resort by ESPA.

The Al Khozama Lifestyle Club and Spa by ESPA will be located in the new upscale Al Khozama Hotel in Riyadh, and will be a private



ESPA is working with Al Khozama on two luxury spas within Riyadh

men's club and spa. Designed by London architecture firm Gensler, the spa will combine state-of-the-art design, extensive spa and fitness facilities and a men's treatment and grooming menu designed by ESPA. It is set to open towards the end of the decade.

"This is a particularly exciting and important time in our partnership with Al Khozama Management Company," said Sue Harmsworth, ESPA founder and chair.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=8n9H6_S

Apple-themed spa launching in Italy

Italian collective the Network of Architecture (noa*) have started constructing an apple-inspired spa and wellness centre for a boutique hotel set amongst the apple trees of Italy's Passiria Valley.

The centre will be built into the side of a tree-covered hill, with a large wooden circular volume forming the entranceway – a touch that resembles the dwelling of Bilbo Baggins in JRR Tolkien's *The Hobbit*. The outer space is completely green, evolving into a "mystical and intimate space" as guests enter the centre's sauna, showers and relaxation area.

"A key element of the design was the cycle of the apple throughout the year, from bloom to harvest, refinement and repose," said the architects in a statement. "The entire sauna area is dedicated to the repose period and is diving into nature in the truest sense of the word."



The centre will be built into the side of a hill amongst the apple trees

The spa, which will be completed this month, is an extension of the Apfelhotel Torgglerhof, which is currently spread across three buildings in the town of Saltaus.

The reception, restaurant and bar in the existing hotel buildings are also being refurbished to create a strong apple theme, with apple flowers decorating the walls.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=n7e6A_S



Paltrow has launched goop by Juice Beauty

Paltrow partners with Juice Beauty for skincare line

Gwyneth Paltrow's goop brand has launched its first branded product line – goop by Juice Beauty – a skincare line that capitalises on the goop aesthetic of "fresh-faced, glowy, natural beauty."

Paltrow worked with California-based skincare company Juice Beauty to create the collection, which is made with plant-based juices and organic ingredients. The line features six products, including an Enriching Face Oil, Exfoliating Instant Facial, Luminous Melting Cleanser, Revitalizing Day Moisturizer, Replenishing Night Cream and Perfecting Eye Cream.

The formulas are made with Meristem plant cells, which are sourced from poet's daffodil and sweet iris, then blended with an antioxidant juice complex.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=C9J8D_S

Aromatherapy Associates names Woodward CEO

Skincare brand Aromatherapy Associates has named Tracey Woodward as its new chief executive officer effective 7 April 2016.

Woodward has worked in the spa, retail and beauty business for more than 30 years, with high-level positions with Aveda, Urban Retreat Spa at Harrods, Donna Karan Beauty and Marks & Spencer. Since June 2014, Woodward has been a retained consultant to B&B Investment Partners, which acquired Aromatherapy Associates in February 2014. Woodward replaces Muriel Zingraff-Shariff, who joined the company just one year ago. Aromatherapy Associates co-founder Geraldine Howard died in January following a battle with cancer.

"Aromatherapy Associates is an iconic British brand and our intention is to build on the legacy of brand founder Geraldine Howard," said Woodward.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=4h5h2_S

Grand Hyatt spa reflects heritage

Hyatt Hotels has opened the Grand Hyatt Chengdu in the capital of Sichuan province in Southwest China.

Spanning floors 10 to 39 of the 166m (545ft) high Chicony Square, the 390-bedroom hotel will include a 1,274sq m (13,713sq ft) Huan Spa, which is not yet open, designed by New York-based Tony Chi & Associates. Chi is incorporating the heritage of both Chengdu and France in the spa's design, which will feature five private spa suites and 12-foot massagers as well as steamrooms and saunas, plus a swimming pool and whirlpool in the fitness centre. Product houses will include Omorovicza and I plus Q.

Tony Chi & Associates also designed the rest of the hotel, which was inspired by aristocratic country houses found both in the cultural legacies of Chengdu and its Western cultural counterpart of France.



The Grand Hyatt Chengdu will include a 1,274sq ft Huan Spa

The hotel features garden spaces that are influenced by the landscape throughout Sichuan province as well as the elegant homes of France.

“Chengdu has been a prized and important strategic post for 2,000 years and has an incredible, longstanding culture and heritage accumulated over centuries,” said Chi.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=S9m8C_S

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Dubai plans new Wellness Village

The developers of Dubai Healthcare City – a health and wellness destination occupying over four million square feet – have announced plans create “the world’s largest wellness village.”

The Dubai Healthcare City Authority are expanding the city, which launched in 2002, to feature a WorldCare Wellness Village which will occupy an area equivalent in size to 16 football fields.

Located on a waterfront site in Al Jadaf Dubai, the village will contain 810,000sq ft (75,200sq m) of built-up area with holiday villas, personalised spas, sports venues and other health and leisure facilities.

The village will be anchored by a 100,000sq ft (9,200sq m) Wellness Center that will focus on prevention and management of diseases and ailments by offering comprehensive medical programmes built around patient education and lifestyle change.

“We are confident that the expansion will drive wellness tourism together with medical tourism, boosting Dubai’s diversified economy,” said Dr Raja Al Gurg, executive director of the authority. “It will bring together unique



The Wellness Village will occupy an area as big as 16 football fields

wellness concepts and specialised services such as rehabilitation, counseling, sports medicine and elderly care for both residents and visitors.

“The eco-friendly spaces will be designed to serve wellness and rehabilitation needs through features such as therapy zero-gravity pools, spas, and rigorous exercise and diet facilities.”

The village, proposed as “the world’s largest wellness concept,” is being driven by US-based medical consultant WorldCare International and developed by Dubai’s MAG Group. The site is expected to be operational in four years time.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=N5c4q_S

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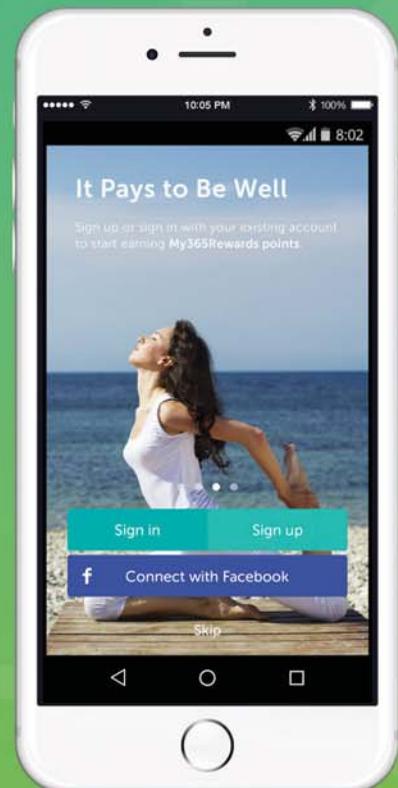
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As we move forward in 2016 the biggest question is 'what now?' What will be the next trend within the wellness industry?

We know there has been a significant rise in openings of health clubs, gyms and other fitness centres and that that is projected to keep on rising, but where does spa stand in this lucrative period for fitness?

In this new era of technology, we find ourselves looking for ways of not feeling guilty for spending time in silence while we check our Facebook or Twitter, or the free hours we now use working, when we should be spending time socialising, maintaining our fitness and rebalancing our minds.

So yes – people are joining fitness groups and trying to detox on wheat grass because they heard this would remove hours of gazing at screens and eating junk food.

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This enables guests to understand how the body works and what they can do in their everyday lifestyle in order to maintain their body. If one guest a day goes away and changes their water intake or outlook on food, then that will have a rolling effect on many others, which could help the bigger picture of this generation's anti-ageing and the main focus: health.

The days of spa being sold as quiet retreats is old school. People want to feel energised, revitalised and de-stressed; fitness is known to give people that positivity outlook and empowers people to know that all goals in life can be reached.

If we were to do this, we would find that the wellness industry will be able to strengthen client loyalty, upgrade packages, and provide great results – and great PR. Spa and gym are the perfect marriage.

Starwood plans Cuba expansion

Starwood Hotels & Resorts has signed three new hotel deals in Cuba, making it the first US-based hospitality company to enter the Cuban market in almost 60 years.

Iconic Hotel Inglaterra, first opened in 1875, will join The Luxury Collection, and Hotel Quinta Avenida will become a Four Points by Sheraton. Both hotels will undergo renovations before raising their new brand flags later this year. Starwood also intends to convert the famed 27-bedroom Hotel Santa Isabel into a member of The Luxury Collection, pending US Treasury Department approval.

Thomas B. Mangas, Starwood's CEO, said: "With Cuba's rich history, natural beauty and strong culture, there is no question the entire US hospitality industry has watched Cuba with great interest, and we are thrilled to lead the charge and bring our sophisticated, high-end



Thomas B. Mangas, Starwood's CEO, says he is 'thrilled' to enter Cuba

brands into the market at this inflection point."

It is not clear whether any of these hotels will have spas – currently they do not – but the signings mark a historic moment in hotel development and pave the way for additional US hotel brands to enter the country.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=x6T9t_S

Spafinder launches wellness app

Spafinder Wellness has launched a new mobile platform, The Wellness App, which gives users the ability to find, book and pay for wellness services from their mobile phones. The app helps users to find yoga and Pilates studios, fitness clubs, spas, salons and wellness travel destinations, bringing together 25,000 providers from Spafinder's network.

"The app bridges the many gaps that have made wellness offerings diffuse and inconsistent, and brings together all types of

providers, from large, established businesses to single-location establishments, to offer consumers a unified, seamless experience under one umbrella," said Pete Ellis, chair and CEO of Spafinder Wellness.

Behind the scenes, the Spafinder Wellness platform allows for payment processing to these locations with the app, even with uncommon point-of-sale or booking systems. Starting in May, users will also be able to make an appointment or reserve a class at select locations. Consumers can also download their Spafinder Wellness 365 Cards to



Spafinder chair and CEO Pete Ellis says the app bridges many gaps

the app and use them to purchase from providers in the Spafinder Wellness Network. Additionally, The Wellness App is integrated with Spafinder's My365Rewards. Users will also be able to get location-based promotions and notifications of nearby deals.

"We believe finding ways to feel good and stay healthy should be easy and rewarded," said Ellis. "With The Wellness App, Spafinder Wellness gives users a simple way to keep wellness funds handy and find, book and pay for services they choose."

Details: http://lei.sr?a=C7k7D_S

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Marriott opening in Macedonia

Marriott International will bring its eponymous brand to the Balkan nation of Macedonia in the capital city Skopje this year.

Set to open in May 2016, the Marriott Skopje will include a 500sq m (5,382sq ft) spa.

“This is an exciting project which combines the best of contemporary, western spa traditions with the locale,” Alison Ainsworth, senior director of golf, leisure and spa operations for Marriott in Europe, told *Spa Business*.

The spa will include five treatment rooms, a swimming pool, whirlpool, four saunas – herbal, steam, Finnish and infrared – as well as relaxation areas. The spa manager is Anja Lubarda.

The nine-floor hotel includes 143 bedrooms and 21 suites, as well as a fitness centre, and will be located in the city square near the Stone Bridge, which represents the connection



The spa will include five treatment rooms and four saunas

between Skopje’s past and present. Interior design of the public areas, including the spa, is by French architect and designer Jean-Philippe Nuel, who has also designed the first Baccarat Hotel in Dubai and the boutique le Grand Balcon Hotel in Toulouse.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=c7G6b_S

Gen X, Millennials favour wellness

Wellness elements – from healthy food to fitness classes to spiritual healing – are ranked as more important for travellers under age 49 (Gen X and Millennials) than for Baby Boomers (age 50 and older), according to a new study from Spafinder Wellness 365.

The results were released in Part II of Spafinder’s State of Wellness Travel Report, based on a survey of travel agents in North America and Europe and designed to offer ongoing insight into wellness travel trends.

The most significant differences in generations are in outdoor adventure – such as hiking and surfing – as well as environmentally-friendly properties, “voluntourism” programmes and fitness or yoga classes and facilities, all of which matter more significantly to younger travellers.

The most desirable property types for Baby Boomers are luxury spa resorts, while for Millennials and Gen X, eco/adventure resorts and authentic yoga retreats rank much higher.

“As Millennials and Gen X become the core wellness tourism demographic, trends are emerging,” said Spafinder Wellness COO John Bevan. “Not only do younger travellers demand



Outdoor adventure is particularly popular with younger clients

more wellness offerings in general, they seek more intensive, out-in-nature adventure and fitness. And a property’s ‘values,’ such as respect for the environment and whether it gives back to the local community, aren’t niche considerations – they’re more important than traditional sports like golf or tennis.”

Agents rated the importance of 16 wellness components or programmes to their clients. Every component ranked as ‘important’ for every age, scoring at least 5.9 out of 10 points.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=P2C4j_S

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Angel of Water targeting medi-spa sector

In 1989, Rocco Bruno entered the then little-known field of colon irrigation. After 10 years of conducting thousands of sessions and perfecting the device, Rocco and his wife Amy formed Lifestream Purification Systems in 2000 to produce The Angel of Water.

The Angel of Water and is now being marketed to the medi-spa world.

The device, which has FDA clearance, is designed to hydrate, activate and evacuate the contents of the bowel.

KEYWORD: ANGEL OF WATER

Babor adds black Ampoule to celebrate 60th anniversary

German skincare brand Babor – first launched in 1956 by Dr Michael Babor – is celebrating its 60th anniversary. Dr Babor, a German biochemist, developed his first product in a kitchen in Cologne. Babor is now run by a third generation of the family, and scientific research remains part of the brand's DNA.

The company has just added a new Ampoules Concentrate to its legendary Ampoule line; Active Night Fluid features active ingredients that are all black in colour, designed to take effect during sleep.

An extract of black algae regenerates the dermis, while black truffle extract strengthens natural collagen production and black willow extract is designed to increase cell turnover.

KEYWORD: BABOR



Supplier Spotlight

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



Comfort Zone's new Hydramemory range is silicone-free

The new Hydramemory range from Comfort Zone is a silicone-free hydration system. Designed to restore features typical of healthy skin and moisturise for 24 hours, the home care products use fair trade hyaluronic acid and moringa oil.

The silicones have been replaced with natural oils and butters, formulated to give the same softness on the skin.

With a light sorbet texture, the four formulations can be used in a layering effect so that the level of moisture is modulated for different skin needs and

weather conditions.

Products include the Hydramemory Serum for 24-hour hydration boosting, Hydramemory Cream Gel for normal skin or use in warmer climates, Hydramemory Cream for dry skin or use in cold climates, and the Hydramemory Mask which can be left on the skin.

Comfort Zone offers the Hydramemory alongside nutritional and lifestyle advice and treatments for significant improvement to the skin's moisture levels.

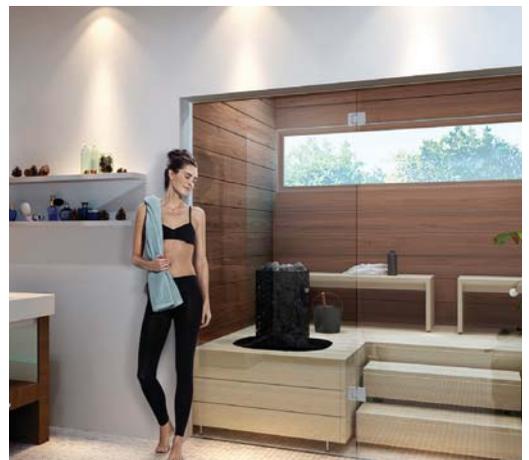
KEYWORD: COMFORT ZONE

Helo offers yoga sauna concept with Kokoro

Kokoro is a new space-saving sauna concept from Helo that's designed with a steam function, sauna, infrared treatment and yoga session in one. The Kokoro reinforced benches are made to accommodate yoga and exercises in the sauna, but can also double as relaxing benches for traditional sauna use.

The Helo Himalaya heater includes 100kg of sauna rocks and is designed for more gentle temperatures for yoga. It also has a water reservoir so can be used for steam experiences as well.

KEYWORD: HELO





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Job location: Bedfordshire, UK

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Job location: Across the UK and Europe

Spa Therapist

Whittlebury Hall Hotel & Spa

Salary: £15,000 to £17,000 per annum

Job location: Northamptonshire, UK

Beauty Therapist

The Wellbeing (London) Co

Salary: Competitive

Job location: Richmond, London, UK

Spa Therapists

Lifehouse Spa and Hotel

Salary: Competitive

Job location: Essex, UK

Tutor Beauty Therapy

The Training Room

Salary: Competitive

Job location: Nationwide, UK

Spa Therapist

Hamilton Princess Hotel

Salary: Competitive + Housing & Benefits

Job location: Hamilton, Bermuda

Assistant Spa Manager

Hoar Cross Hall Hotel

Salary: Competitive

Job location: Burton upon Trent, UK

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For more details: www.spaopportunities.com

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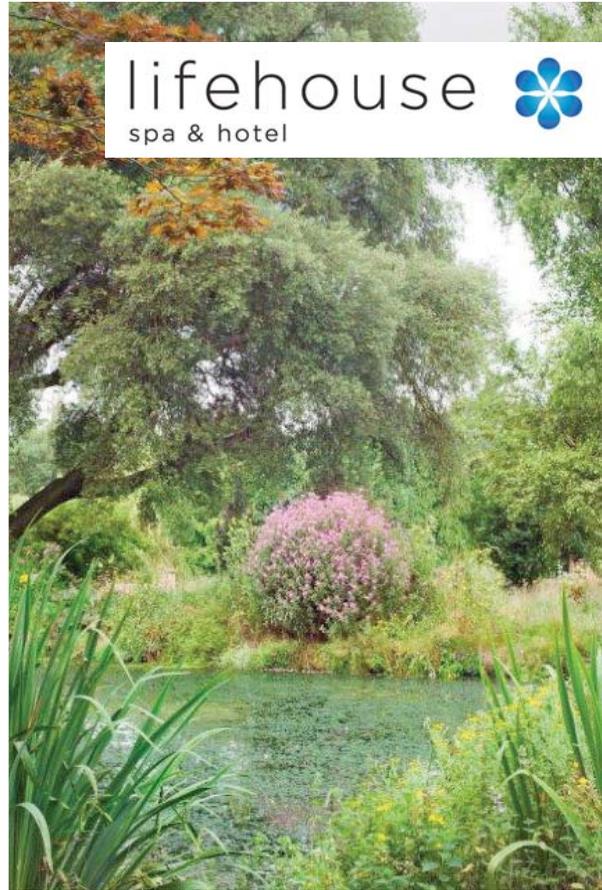
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SPA THERAPISTS

Location: Essex, United Kingdom

Salary: Competitive

- Experienced spa therapists, ideally having worked in a highly customer service oriented spa environment.
- Outgoing, nurturing and friendly towards their customers.
- Passionate about the health and well-being industry and be able to communicate that passion appropriately to our guests.
- Able to provide excellent customer service to our guests.
- CIDESCO/BABTAC qualified (or equivalent) and experienced (NVQ level 3 or similar).
- Flexible in approach and work best in a team-working environment.
- Have excellent communication skills.
- Fluent in spoken English.



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Spa Therapist

Location: Northamptonshire, United Kingdom

Salary: £15,000 to £17,000 per annum

Job purpose:

The position of the Spa Therapist is there to provide a service of excellence and high quality to all clients and guests visiting the Spa on a day to day basis.

Main area of responsibility:

- All treatments administered will be of the highest standard and delivered with the utmost professionalism. Adherence to treatment timings and training guidelines is essential.
- Assistance is required in keeping a high standard of cleanliness and professionalism at all times throughout the treatment rooms and within all other areas of the Spa.
- Confidentiality with regards to work issues such as salary, working requirements and other related work subjects is mandatory. Therapists are not allowed to discuss such matters with clients, guests or colleagues.
- Adherence to all regulations in respect of Health, Safety, Fire and Emergency procedures is mandatory.
- Therapists are expected to be fully knowledgeable regarding all the products offered in the Spa. Retail sales and up-selling to clients and guests on a daily basis.

- Therapists are expected to retail in all treatments that they carry out as this is part of the treatment for the guest, in conjunction with this all therapists should be working towards their retail target that is set by their executive therapist.
 - Therapists are required to undertake all other reasonable requests from the Spa Management team and to carry out any additional work necessary to make the Spa a success, within the remit and level of responsibilities for their role.
 - Follow company SOP's in all treatments.
- What are we looking for?**
- Positive attitude.
 - Being open to new ideas.
 - Good time keeping.
 - Wanting to learn.
 - Personal appearance is to be immaculate and professional at all times.
 - Commitment to delivering high level of customer service.
 - Flexibility to respond to a range of different work situations.

Qualifications:

- NVQ Level two and three
- BTEC
- NVQ Level two and a massage course
- Qualification in Massage

Experience:

- Experience working with clients either in college or in the industry.
- Required skills.
- Beauty.
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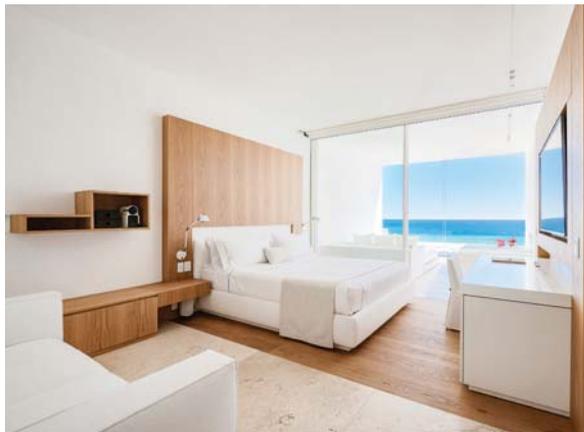
Cenote-inspired spa to provide contrast

Continued from front cover

The Mar Abierto Spa is located deep within the property, and a spiral walkway provides the sense of entering into a secluded cavern, with seawater cascading into the core of the spa. Baker's concept focuses on the idea of the spa as a portal that takes guests deep within and opens them up to existence, life and wellbeing, she said.

"The spa's concept speaks to a state of duality – the meeting place between sky and sea, the above and below, the inner and outer," said Baker. "It speaks to that ability to remove yourself from what's happening out there and find yourself in such a deep place."

In contrast to Aragonés' all-white aesthetic, the Mar Abierto Spa is designed to be dark and cave-like, and reflects the interaction of water both within and surrounding us, with the environment inspired by the colours and textures of the ocean and the rhythm and motion of the waves.



The spa will provide contrast to the all-white interiors of the hotel

Baker created openings in the spa's ceiling – inspired by local swimming holes, or cenotes – through which water will cascade into the aqua therapy lounge, and also provide direct light and blue sky vistas for spa-goers. The spa will include a steamroom, sauna, reflexology stone path and water therapy areas, as well as six multi-purpose treatment spaces and three spa couples' suites with private whirlpools.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=2Q5T8_S

Historic Czech baths seek renovator

The City of Karlovy Vary in the Czech Republic will be revitalising its historic Elizabeth Baths Spa Complex, originally opened in 1906.

The facility is currently in operation, but the city is looking for someone to renovate and operate the spa complex and also build and run accommodations at the complex, which is located in the city centre. Elizabeth Baths offers a range of 60 traditional and modern spa treatments, and utilises local mineral waters. Facilities comprise a swimming pool, relax pool, whirlpool, sauna, steamroom, salt chamber and wading pool.

Treatments include herbal extract baths, Indian head massage, aromatherapy, oxygen therapy, infrared sauna, purifying enemas, dry carbon dioxide bag, cryotherapy, cupping massage, underwater massage, and more.

The spa complex also includes a team of five medical doctors, with specialisations from gynaecology to plastic surgery.

The spa claims to attract 100,000 customers a year, especially those suffering



The Elizabeth Baths Spa Complex originally opened in 1906

from digestive system disorders, metabolic disorders and neurological diseases.

The city is looking for companies that are interested in both renovating the facility and adding accommodation of between 50 to 100 bedrooms, as well as operating the facilities. The City of Karlovy Vary will contribute approximately €11.1m (US\$12.4m, £8.7m) to the renovations, and will be open to discussions about service improvements and adding or removing facilities, officials said.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=A4t8x_S

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T: +603 4253 3478 W: www.amspa.org.my

Australasian Spa Association

T: +61 4 3003 3174 W: www.spaandwellness.com.au

Bali Spa and Wellness Association (BSWA)

W: www.balispawellness-association.org

Brazilian Spas Association

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Bulgarian Union for Balneology and Spa Tourism (BUBSPA)

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China Spa Association

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Association of Spas of the Czech Republic

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The Day Spa Association (US)

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Estonian Spa Association

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European Spas Association

T: +32 2 282 0558 W: www.espa-ehv.com

Federation of Holistic Therapists (FHT)

T: +44 23 8062 4350 W: www.fht.org.uk

French Spa Association (SPA-A)

W: www.spa-a.com

German Spa Association

T: +49 30 24 63 692-0 W: www.deutscher-heilbaederverband.de

Hungarian Baths Association

T: +36 1 220 2282 W: www.furdoszovetseg.hu/en

The Iceland Spa Association

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The International Medical Spa Association

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Salt Therapy Association

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