

spa opportunities

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Nira to open Swiss mountain sanctuary

Nira Hotels and Resorts is to launch a new 70-bed-room glass-and-timber-built "mountain sanctuary" in the hamlet of Surlej, near Silvaplana, Switzerland, on 30 November.

Located just under 5km (3.1 miles) from the wintersports resort of St Moritz, Nira Alpina will provide guests with views overlooking Lake Silvaplana and offers a "ski in, ski out" experience.

Facilities at the resort will include the Nira Spa, which comprises five treatment rooms; an Aroma cabin; a steamroom and sauna; a Rasul bath; a whirlpool; and an underwater relaxation bed.

Clay wraps; sports and hot stone massages; exfoliation treatments; and manicures/pedicures will be among the services offered in the Nira Spa, which will use Spiezia Organics and Alpine products. A double treatment room



The resort's Nira Spa includes five treatment rooms and a large pool

with twin heated beds will be used mostly for massages, although deep sports massages will also be available throughout the ski season.

Elsewhere, Nira Alpina - a member of Design Hotels - will also offer a fitness suite; the Stars restaurant and rooftop bar; a bistro and a bakery; and the Stalla Veglia dining experience.



The spa is open to both hotel guests and the public

Sense spa for Rosewood's Vancouver hotel

Sense, A Rosewood Spa, has opened at the historic Rosewood Hotel Georgia in Vancouver, BC, Canada.

The 3,000sq ft (279sq m) spa has five treatment rooms, along with an indoor saltwater swimming pool and fitness center stocked with Cybex and Technogym equipment.

The spa's signature treatment, Vancouver Signature Sensation, is a custom blend scrub that imparts the feel of a cool glacial breeze and the aroma of fresh mountain air.

Fattal and Izaki begin work on Herzliya hotel

Israel-based companies Fattal Hotel Management and Izaki Group Investments have begun construction of the Herod's Hotel at the Herzliya Marina near Tel Aviv.

The NIS300m (US\$82m, €60m, €51m) luxury hotel will boast 230 bedrooms and is scheduled to open by the end of 2013.

Facilities will include a day spa offering sauna, steamroom and a number of treatment rooms.

There will also be a health and fitness club and a wide range of restaurants.

St Regis resort to open in Florida

St Regis Hotels and Resorts, part of Starwood Hotels and Resorts Worldwide, is to open a new Yabu Pushelberg-designed property in Bal Harbour, Florida, US, on 19 January 2012.

Housed in three 27-storey all-glass towers, the new St Regis Bal Harbour Resort will boast 214 bedrooms and suites and 307 residences overlooking an expansive section of beach.

Yabu Pushelberg was responsible for the interior design of the guestrooms, with South Miami-based Sieger Suarez Architectural Partnership also involved in the development.

Facilities will include the 14,000sq ft (1,301sq m) Remède Spa offering 12 treatment rooms



The adults-only pool area at the Florida St Regis

and a full-service salon, along with men's and women's lounges, a sauna and a steamroom.

An adults-only pool area with day cabanas; a fitness centre; and a St Regis Children's Club will also be on offer, in addition to renowned chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten J&G Grill concept. Fresco and Atlantico complete the dining options.

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Hyatt brands set to enter Asian market

Hyatt Hotels Corporation has revealed that its Hyatt Place and Hyatt House brands are to enter the Asian market with the opening of three properties in Shanghai, China.

The international hospitality operator said its affiliates had secured management agreements for two Hyatt Place and one Hyatt House hotels, which will represent a total of 437 rooms.

Hyatt House Shanghai Jiading and Hyatt Place Shanghai Jiading are to launch in mid-2014, while the 150-bedroom Hyatt Place Xinjiangwan is expected to open in early 2015.

Meanwhile, HHC has also confirmed that affiliates had signed deals for eight additional full-service properties across China, as well as its first two Hyatt-branded hotels in Mongolia. Additional Chinese hotels include Grand Hyatt Lijiang (2014), the Grand Hyatt Hefei (2016)



Hyatt plans to have 33 resorts open in China by the end of 2013

and the Hyatt Regency Shanghai, Hongqiao (2014), which will boast spas and fitness centres. Hyatt Regency Shanghai, Wujiaochang (2013); the Hyatt Regency Shanghai, Jiading (2014); and the Hyatt Regency Zhenjiang (2014) will also include spas and fitness centres.

Elsewhere in China will be the Hyatt Regency Shanghai, Chongming (early 2014) and Grand Hyatt Shenzhen Peninsula (2013).

Macdonald Hotels launches Spa Collection

Macdonald Hotels & Resorts, one of the largest privately owned hospitality brands in the UK, has announced its plans to focus on the growth of its spa hotels. As part of the strategy, it has introduced the Spa Collection. The first capital expenditure under the new strategy will

see the group invest £4m (US\$6.4m, €4.7m) in the refurbishment of its flagship spa hotel, the Macdonald Inchyra Hotel & Spa, Stirling.

The spa at the Scottish Manor House, will boast eight treatment rooms, a rock sauna, ice fountain, massage shower and Rasul.

New spa launches at Conrad Koh Samui

A new 1,100sq m (11,840sq ft) spa overlooking the Gulf of Thailand has officially launched at the Conrad Koh Samui Resort and Spa development on Thailand's Aow Thai Beach.

The spa offers treatments influenced by traditional Thai healing practices and was developed in collaboration with Dr Buathon Thienarom, a leading authority on holistic therapies.

Facilities at The Spa at Conrad Koh Samui include

a VIP water/rock treatment room and two double treatment rooms, as well as five single treatment rooms and a relaxation lounge.

Two Thai massage rooms; a hydro steam zone; a stone changing room; and a manicure and pedicure salon also feature at the



The Conrad resort is located on Thailand's Aow Thai Beach

spa, which uses Aromatherapy Associates products.

A spokesperson said: "The Spa at Conrad Koh Samui focuses its attention on the brand's most important ethos: the Luxury of Being Yourself."



Steiner Leisure reports Q3 results

Steiner Leisure has reported an 11.3 per cent increase in revenue for the third quarter ending 30 September 2011, when compared with the same three-month period last year. Meanwhile, the spa and wellness operator's revenues for the year to 30 September increased by 12.6 per cent. Net income for the nine-month period was also up on 2010.

However, net income for Q3 2011 remained flat due to a US\$1.3m (£949,000, £815,000) cost incurred due to its recent acquisition of Ideal Image Development and Cortiva Group. Steiner said that it would continue to consolidate and expand its portfolio of services, brands and products, while also taking advantage of new opportunities to complement its business. The company operates spa services onboard more than 150 ships and also



Steiner said increased revenue at its spas will help fund its expansion

announced new agreements with both Cunard and P&O Cruises during the third quarter.

A spokesperson said: "We are dedicated to maintaining the highest quality standards and continually evolving to include and anticipate new developments within our industry."

Disney Fantasy to make maiden voyage in 2012

The Walt Disney Company has confirmed that its fourth Disney-branded luxury cruise liner, *Disney Fantasy*, will make its maiden voyage from the US in March 2012.

Currently being built at the Meyer shipyard in Papenburg, Germany, the 1,115ft (340m) long ship will have 14 decks and will have a maximum capacity of 4,000 passengers.

The ship joins *Disney Magic*, *Disney Wonder* and *Disney Dream* in the company's fleet of cruise liners.

Facilities aboard *Disney Fantasy* will include a Senses Spa & Salon spread over two decks, boasting 17 treatment rooms and two VIP spa 'villas'. Spa amenities include pre- and post-treatment relaxation room and a rain-forest-themed thermal suite comprising a



Disney Fantasy will join three existing cruise ships in Disney's portfolio

hammam, caldarium and laconium. There will also be a separate Chill Spa for teenagers located within the Senses Spa.

Disney Fantasy will be based at Disney Cruise Line's terminal at Port Canaveral, Florida, US.

Genting unveils US\$3bn Miami masterplan

Genting Malaysia Berhad has moved forward with its international expansion plans after the unveiling of a US\$3bn (£1.9m, €2.2bn) masterplan for Resorts World Miami, US.

The 10 million sq ft (929,000sq m) mega development will include four hotels offering a

total of 5,200 bedrooms and around 1,000 residential units, along with spas, health clubs and more than 50 restaurants, bars and clubs.

A casino could also be included if the Florida state legislature and governor back destination resort legislation permitting the facility.



The spa is scheduled to open to the public in 2012

YTL to develop new spa hotel in Bath

YTL Hotels, the hospitality division of Malaysia-based YTL Corporation Berhad, has said it plans to transform a historic Bath property into a new 98-bedroom spa hotel.

Housed in the vacant Gainsborough Hotel building on Beau Street, the planned new hotel is to become one of the first in the UK to use natural thermal water when it opens in 2014. It is hoped that the conversion of the property will start in early spring 2012, although initial development work has already been undertaken by Bath Hotel and Spa Limited (BHSL).

YTL Hotels will now take over the development of the spa hotel, although BHSL joint owner Trevor Osborne will continue to advise on the project as it moves forward.

Meanwhile, work has commenced on the drilling of a new borehole in order to source water from Bath's hot springs, which will also be used at the Roman Baths and Thermae Bath Spa.

UK invests in increasing share of global tourism arrivals

VisitBritain has been given an additional £27m of funding to help promote the UK in key overseas markets in a concerted effort to drive greater numbers of visitors to the country over the next four years.

The money will be invested in campaigns that will aim to capitalise on the international attention the UK will receive during 2012 - the year of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Announcing the funding, culture secretary Jeremy Hunt said that over the next four years inbound tourism to the UK aims to attract an extra 4.6 million visitors, spending an additional £2.3bn (US\$3.7bn, €7bn) across the country.

Houston hotel added to Autograph Collection

Hotel ICON in Houston, Texas, US, has become the latest property to be added to Marriott International's "unique" portfolio of independent hotels, the Autograph Collection. The 12-storey property was first launched in 2004, following the completion of a US\$35m (EUR25m, £22m) investment in the renovation of the 1912 Union National Bank building. Hotel ICON includes the BALANCE Urban Spa, which comprises a total of four treatment rooms; separate men's and women's changing facilities; and a relaxation area.

Elsewhere, the property also includes a fitness suite, 8,000sq ft (743sq m) of function space and the Line and Lariat Restaurant, as well as the L&L Bar.



Facilities at the health club spa include a 25m pool

New-look M Club Spa and Fitness launches

A former Esporta Health Club on Festival Heights, Stoke-on-Trent, has been revamped and relaunched as M Club Spa and Fitness by entrepreneur Mo Chaudry.

Chaudry bought the 35,000sq ft (3,252sq m) facility in August and has transformed it into a new private club, which includes a fitness suite; a spa area; a swimming pool; and a crèche. The club's spa area offers a full range of treatments and wellbeing packages, as well as providing access to the sauna and whirlpool facilities.

A total of 120 pieces of cardiovascular and resistance machines have been installed by Pulse Fitness in the gym, along with its new management software called SmartCentre. In addition to supplying equipment and assisting in the gym layout design, Pulse helped in the pre-launch sales campaign.

Hilton signs deal with Al Habtoor

Hilton Worldwide has entered into a new agreement with Al Habtoor Group for three hotels in the Middle East; two in Beirut, Lebanon, and one in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The deal marks Hilton's first move into the Lebanon market with the conversion of the 195-bedroom Habtoor Grand and the 183-bedroom Metropolitan Palace in the heart of Beirut.

Both the Hilton Beirut Habtoor Grand and the Hilton Beirut Metropolitan Palace will be run under the Hilton Hotels and Resorts brand and are expected to open in early 2012.

Hilton Beirut Habtoor Grand will feature two swimming pools; three restaurants; two bars; a fitness suite; and one of the region's largest spas at 3,500sq m (37,674sq ft).

The property's Elixir Spa is spread across three floors, with the second floor including



The 195-bedroom Hilton Habtoor Grand will boast a large beauty spa

heat cabins; hydro spas; snow rooms; heated lounges; fog showers and relaxation areas.

An extensive range of face and body treatments are on offer on the third floor, while the spa also includes a yoga pavilion; a sun deck; Volcano steamrooms; and a beauty salon.

Hilton Beirut Metropolitan Palace will feature a health club; a swimming pool; two bars; and four restaurants.

Anantara opens Riverside Resort and Spa

Anantara has launched its 10th property in Thailand with the opening of Anantara Bangkok Riverside Resort & Spa.

The rebranded Bangkok Marriott Resort & Spa has 407 guest rooms - including 97 suites - and a Mandara spa with nine treatment rooms and suites, a tropical swimming pool and spa pool.

The nine treatment rooms are divided into two suite treatment rooms, six deluxe treatment rooms and a single treatment room.

The wide range of treatments include facials, massages and body scrubs and blend ancient remedies with modern techniques, all with a focus on restoring individual wellness, and tranquility. Set within lush gardens, the two private spa suites feature



Each of the spa's treatment rooms has been designed as a private enclave

outdoor treatment spaces and each treatment room is designed to be a 'private enclave'.

Other resort facilities include 10 restaurants and bars as well as a range of conferencing and meeting rooms.

£463m loss for Jurys Inn's holding company

Vesway, the Ireland-based holding company behind the Jurys Inn hotel group, is to report a loss of £463m (US\$740m, €540m) for the year to December 2010 due to a number of exceptional charges. According to the Telegraph, Vesway will file accounts at Companies House

detailing a £212.7m write-down against Jurys Inns' assets, when compared with a 2007 valuation. The newspaper also said that Vesway were hit by interest payments and a £223.9m goodwill impairment, although Jurys Inns did see a 5.9 per cent growth in sales.

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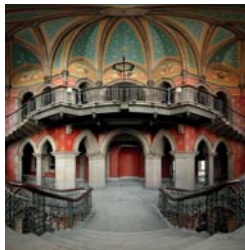
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Ayada Maldives resort opens its doors

Ayada Maldives, a new island-based resort covering 150,000sq m (1.6 million sq ft) of land in the Gaafu Dhaalu Atoll to the south of the country, has opened its doors to guests. Facilities at the 112-villa resort include the 3,500sq m (37,674sq ft) AySpa and Health Club, which is managed by ESPA; a dive and watersports centre; and seven restaurants.

The AySpa and Health Club is located at the heart of the resort and is designed for form an enclave within the island's natural vegetation and other facilities at the property. Eight treatment villas, some with their own hydrotherapy baths; a segregated steamroom and sauna area; a cold plunge pool; and two Vichy showers are on offer at the spa.



St Pancras Renaissance was among the winners

Spa hotels and resorts among winners of architecture award

London's St Pancras Renaissance Hotel, which was officially opened earlier this year, has been named Hotel of the Year at the European Hospitality Awards (EHA) 2011. The historic London hotel, which received an extensive £150m restoration, was also awarded the accolade for Refurbishment of the Year at a ceremony held on 4 November.

Facilities at the 245-bedroom hotel include a 6,226sq ft (578sq m) spa area, which comprises five treatment rooms and a couple's suite; a spa pool; and a relaxation area. Meanwhile, other EHA winners include Borgo Egnazia Hotel Villa Spa and Golf in Brindisi, Italy, which opened in spring this year and has been named the Best New Build of the Year.

London's Coworth Park was picked up Green Hotel of the Year and Sanctuary Hotel, New York, US, was crowned International Hotel of the Year.

Two von Essen hotels for Longleat

Longleat Enterprises has completed the acquisition of Homewood Park Hotel and Spa near Bath, the second property it has bought out of the administration of the von Essen group.

It follows Longleat's purchase of the 32-bedroom Bishopstrow House hotel in Warminster, with both sales being overseen by Christie + Co on behalf of von Essen's administrators. Homewood Park Hotel and Spa, a 21-bedroom country house property sited in 10 acres (4 hectares) of land on the outskirts Bath, includes a spa located amid the hotel's gardens.

Spa facilities include a hydrotherapy pool; a thermal suite with sauna and steamroom; and a Champagne nail bar, along with two treatment rooms offering [comfort zone] therapies. A number of signature treatments devised by



The visitor attraction has acquired two spa hotels in the past two months

[comfort zone] are on offer at the spa, while an outdoor heated swimming pool within the gardens and changing rooms also feature.

Christie + Co managing director Chris Day said: "Homewood Park Hotel and Spa is another fine example of an historic country house hotel acquired by Longleat, and is an ideal companion to Bishopstrow House."

Meritage Resort and Spa prepares for expansion

The Meritage Resort and Spa in Napa Valley, California, US, is to expand its capacity by 165 bedrooms in early 2012.

The resort, which boasts an 9,000sq ft (836sq m) underground spa, has also joined Associated Luxury Hotels International as part

of its expansion strategy. Situated beneath the grape-crusher statue at the Meritage, the resort's Spa Terra features 10 private, temperature-controlled treatment rooms, separate male and female steam saunas and soaking pools with water walls.

Hyatt Regency unveils new Vietnam resort

Hyatt Hotels Corporation (HHC) has announced the launch of the Hyatt Regency Danang Resort and Spa, which is located on Vietnam's central coastline. The resort, which is situated between the Hoi An world heritage site and the city of Danang, offers views of both the South China Sea and the Marble Mountains.

Facilities include the VIE Spa, which includes eight single and two double treatment rooms. Signature treatments include Mountain Air, Expansive Sea and Pure Earth. Elsewhere, the 200-bedroom resort also comprises 182 residences and 27 Ocean Villas; the Beach House signature restaurant; a fitness centre; swimming pools; and event facilities.


Hyatt Hotels and Resorts area vice president Willi Martin said: "Vietnam is fast joining the



The new resort is situated on the coast and facilities include the VIE spa

of the region's most popular tourist destinations as well as becoming an increasingly important centre for business.

"Hyatt Regency Danang Resort and Spa is the second Hyatt hotel in Vietnam, joining the award winning Park Hyatt Saigon, and we believe the resort will further strengthen our brand portfolio in South East Asia."



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Treatment Room, The Ritz-Carlton Spa by ESPA, Hong Kong.

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Location: Central London, London, United Kingdom

Mobile applications are in use more than ever. Internet giants such as Facebook, Apple and Google as well as thousands of online businesses like Tesco, H&M and British Airways offer mobile applications, but with growing popularity comes more legal issues. tel: +44 (0) 20 7012 1384 www.cecilparkconferences.com/Mobile_Apps_Legal

5-6 December 2011

Spameeting Istanbul

Location: Swissôtel The Bosphorus, Istanbul, Turkey

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8-9 December 2011

Asia Spa Show 2011a

Shanghai, China

New event aimed at senior executives and technicians in the Asian spa sector. Tel: +8621 6085 1000 www.noppen.com.cn/upcoming/11131/

22-23 January 2012

2nd annual Spa Marketplace

Hilton Hawaiian Village

The two-day event has a focus on future salon services, wellness, anti-aging, new medical aesthetics, spa trends and medical tourism. Today, there are over 800 Hawaiian lodging facilities as well as over 600 spas of every type serving over 7 million Hawaiian residents and visitors. Educational Workshops will also offer CEU credits for an array of seminars on spa therapies, business and marketing practices. tel: +1 450 833 2400 www.HawaiiSpaMarketplace.com

8-11 February 2012

Kosmetik Expo

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Tel: +7 495 937 13 18
www.ki-expo.ru



15-17 February 2012

Aesthetic Life

Kiev, Ukraine

This inaugural spa and wellness trade show and conference is part of Kiev's Healthy Nation event. Tel: +380 44 423 30 89 <http://hn2012.treex.com.ua>

4-5 March 2012

Professional Beauty & European Spa Convention

ExCel London, UK

Focused on strategy and business issues the convention gives a platform to spa owners and senior managers to share their experiences of operating a successful spa. Running alongside a dedicated spa exhibition at Professional Beauty, the UK's largest trade show for the beauty industry the European Spa Convention is set to attract day spas, hotel spas, resort spas and destination spas. Tel: + 44 (0) 20 7351 0536 www.professionalbeauty.co.uk

11-12 March 2012

Spa & Salon Expo

The New Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, US

The event is designed to appeal to owners, operators, directors and managers for styling and beauty salons; all spa segments, including resort, destination, day, medi/medical, eco, organic and salon spas; aesthetics and wellness centers; tanning salons; boutiques and specialty shops, beauty supply stores, health and nutrition stores tel: +1 702-436-6854 www.bestvalueexpos.com/DHBPE.html

13-14 March 2012

Retail Business Technology Expo and Cards & Payments Solutions

Location: Earls Court 2, London, United Kingdom

Retail Business Technology Expo and Cards & Payments Solutions is the definitive event for retail and hospitality organisations in the UK and mainland Europe looking for the right tools, solutions and advice to run their businesses even more effectively. Tel: 0044 28 874 2728 www.retailbusinesstechnologyexpo.com

14-17 March 2012

SpaTec Spring 2012

The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes, Florida, US

a 3-day forum of one-on-one meetings between corporate spa owners, directors and design/management companies and leading spa suppliers and vendors from the following categories: Tel: +44 (0) 208 547 9830 www.mcleaneventsinternational.com/events/SpatecSpringNA12/about/

26-27 March 2012

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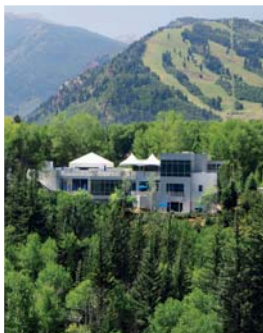
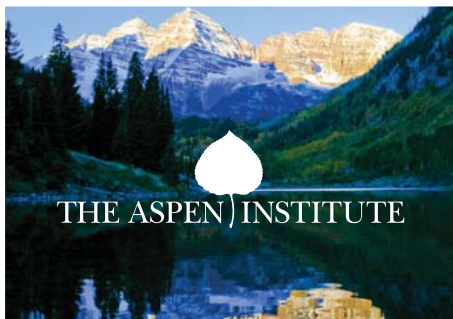
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{ Supplier information }

- Company profiles including key information, contact details, images of products and a picture of a key contact
- A-Z listing of trade associations

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COMMENT

Managers of the future

What do spa operators look for in a potential manager? And what skills should therapists, who aspire to be managers, look to improve?

Finding a fully qualified and experienced spa manager can be a hard task. There are currently so many different spa management courses and so many people aspiring to become spa managers that when a spa publishes a vacancy, it is often flooded by all sorts of applications. To better understand what operators look for in a manager – and which skills therapists should improve to make sure they land a management role – a study called *Best Practices of Spa Managers* was published by Tip Touch in July 2011.

Produced in association with Vladi Kovanec, founder of Hotel & Spa Forum in Paris, the report shows that many managers do not believe that someone could run a spa without having worked as therapist, receptionist and attendant, doing and understanding all job aspects of spa operations. Sound organisational skills are obviously fundamental to keep variable costs as low



Jean-Guy de Gabriac

Jean-Guy is the founder and chief executive officer of TIP TOUCH Academie

“The key thing for an aspiring spa manager is to understand that you can’t run before you can walk”

as possible, while optimizing the agenda, with offers and packages suited for the specific needs of the customers and their lifestyles.

Meanwhile, some operators say that they are looking for passionate, fiery personalities to lead their staff to excellence and consistency; others, claim they want calm professionals, always wearing a smile, able to listen, decide with an ambition for the spa (not just for themselves) and lead by example.

It is expected from the spa manager to be the “ambassador of the spa”, fluent in the cultural differences and expectations of international guests. Therefore, extensive work experiences in Asia or the Middle-East are a huge Plus!

One thing is certain; being able to work under pressure, keeping a cool head, and building a sense of belonging for the team is a pre-requisite. Above all, beyond skills and many experiences, what operators look for are the 5 five PAWOCs: an engaging personality, with a positive attitude, great work ethic, solid organizational & business skills, and excellent communications skills to share his/her passion with the guests, while defusing potential conflicts with associates and patrons.

The key thing for aspiring spa managers is to understand that you cannot run before you

can walk. So find ways to assist your manager in daily tasks (for a couple of years), not just in lighting scented candles, but understanding the KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) of profitable spas. Most of all you have to master the essential actions that will exceed the clients expectations all along the spa experience, so that, as Aristotle is quoted as saying: “We are what we repeat everyday. Excellence is therefore not an isolated act, but a habit”.

I find it sad when some owners expect their spa manager to perform in treatment rooms, to produce direct revenue, when they should be in contact with the guests to make sure that their spa journey is memorable so that they want to come back and tell their friends, family and colleagues about it. They also have to find the time to implement actions based on best practices with vendors, PR, the revenue manager and partnering partners with cross-marketing.

These are some of the things that are touched in this study that unveils the fact that human resources in a spa are more about talent management, so that spa managers truly become spa leaders to influence the lives of their guests, their staff, and their own. It is not a nice fairy tale, it common sense in action for a sustainable development!

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APPLICATIONS

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Vidhun Spa launches at Maldives

The 50-villa Park Hyatt Maldives Hadahaa resort in the Gaafu Alifu Atoll, which was taken over by the Hyatt Group earlier this year, has announced the launch of its new Vidhun Spa.

Guests at the spa will be able to benefit from the traditional Maldivian medicinal practice of Dhivehibey, which has roots in Ayurvedic, Chinese and Tibetan medicine.

The Vidhun Spa, which means "to shine", aims to generate Sethathu (good health) through the balancing the three humours of the body: Hoonu (hot); Fini (cold); and Hiki (dry). Vidhun-branded products will be used, along with June Jacobs.

Visitors start their Vidhun "journey" by walking through lush gardens to a tranquility pool that marks the entrance to the spa village, which consists of five treatment villas.



The newly opened Vidhun Spa consists of five individual spa villas

The 'experience' starts with the application of the signature Meeruvus (scent) to the wrist of the guest, who is also offered the customised Maldivian drink Kurun'baa Fani.

Treatments begin with the Meeruvus Loni (aromatic salt) ritual, with visitors invited to soak their feet in warm peppermint salt water to stimulate the nerve endings.

Massage Envy set for Alaska expansion

Massage Envy Franchising is to enter Alaska with the opening of four new Envy Spa clinics after signing a multi-unit regional developer agreement with Gregg and Debbie Olsen.

The first of the new clinics will open in Anchorage during the first half of 2012, with a move into Alaska forming part of the group's "steady and strategic" growth plan.

This year has seen Massage Envy open more than 50 new sites and sell 75 franchises, taking the group's total estate to more than 700 Massage Envy and Massage Envy Spa facilities. Founded in 2002, the group aims to offer affordable massage and spa services to consumers with "busy lifestyles at convenient times and locations", and currently spans 44 US states.



The franchise offers affordable massages and spa services across the US

Franchisee Debbie Olsen said: "Our goal is to provide our members and guests the ability to take charge of their own health and wellness through Massage Envy's full range of convenient, affordable and professional spa and massage services."

Hyatt opens first branded property in Abu Dhabi

A new 360-bedroom hotel has become Hyatt Hotels Corporation's first branded property in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, in partnership with Abu Dhabi National Hotels.

Park Hyatt Abu Dhabi Hotel and Villas is located on Saadiyat Island and boasts the

Atarmia Spa, which comprises nine treatment rooms, outdoor private terraces and an ice fountain. A whirlpool; a sauna; and a steamroom also form as part of the new spa, which is influenced by traditional aromatherapy methods that have been used throughout Arabian history.

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