spa opportunities

25 MAY - 7 JUNE 2012 ISSUE 138

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Patricia Urquiola spa for Milan hotel

Four Seasons Hotel Milano in Milan, Italy, has announced that its long-awaited spa, which has been designed by Italian architect and interior designer Patricia Urquiola, will have its soft opening in June after nearly 10 years in development.

The new spa has been incorporated into a former 15th century convent following detailed planning, with the original 19th century vaulted ceilings preserved as part of the project.

Seven treatment rooms, a swimming pool and a Turkish

bath with a sauna and a whirlpool will be among the facilities, along with a signature hair spa by Rossano Ferretti.

Luxury product houses La Prairie and Sodashi will be used at the spa, while new facilities also include a fitness studio with equipment supplied by Technogym.



Urquiola describes the design of the spa as a "realisation of beauty"

Commenting on the spa's design, Urquiola said: "Here we have tried to achieve, through a harmonious atmosphere of space, materials and colours, a realisation of beauty that every guest will associate with both an emotional and absolute organic idea of comfort." Detail: http://lei.sr?a=t2s4g



The eco spa is marketed as a carbon neutral space

Fijian eco resort opens sustainable day spa

The Matava eco and adventure resort on the island of Kadavu in Fiji has added an ecofriendly day spa to its facilities.

With two treatment rooms - including a couples' room - the Bamboo Spa will reflect the resort's ethos of being green and sustainable. The spa is powered entirely using solar power, making it the only carbon neutral spa in the South Pacific.

All treatments at the spa will also use products sourced exclusively from Fiji. Details: http://lei.sr?a=6F8Io

Langham to create new At One spa brand

Hong Kong-based Langham Hospitality Group (LHG) is working on a new signature spa brand for its portfolio of mid-scale Eaton hotels.

Exact details of At One are yet to be revealed, but it's understood that the new brand will be a contemporary. design-oriented offer for the six Eaton sites that are open and under development across Asia. LHG currently has one main spa brand - Chuan Spas.

Barry White, group director of spa for LHG, confirmed plans for the At One brand. Details: www.langhamhospitalitygroup.com

Banyan Tree to design Laguna Lang

Banyan Tree has been appointed to masterplan Vietnam's first fully-integrated resort development, Laguna Lang Co. Once complete, the resort will host seven international hotels with 2,000 guestrooms.

The first US\$200m (€157m, £126m) phase of the 280-hectare (692-acre) scheme is to open during the third quarter of 2012 and will comprise a Nick Faldo golf course, private residences and two Banyan Tree-branded sites.

Banyan Tree Lang Co and Angsana Lang Co Resorts will represent a combined 350 keys and each will incorporate a spa. Banyan Tree Lang Co's spa will include 10 treatment rooms across 2,555sq m (27,500sq ft) and a yoga pavilion.



The first phase will include the launch of two spas

Meanwhile, the spa at Angsana Lang Co Resorts will house 10 treatment rooms; two Rain Mist rooms and a relaxation area across 2,040sq m (22,000sq ft).

Archetype Group has also been working on the masterplanning of the resort. Read more: http://lei.sr?a=V3p6k

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Spa Opportunities is published fortnightly by The Leisure Media Company Limited, Portmill House, Portmill Lane, Hitchin, Herts SG5 1DJ, UK and is distributed in the USA by SPP, 75 Aberdeen Road, Emigsville, PA 17318-0437. Periodicals postage paid @ Manchester, PA POSTMASTER Send US address changes to Spa Opportunities, c/o PO Box 437, Emigsville, PA 17318-0437. The views expressed in print are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the publisher The Leisure Media Company Limited. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, reco or otherwise without the prior permission of the copyright holder. Printed by GC Print Solutions plc. ©Cybertrek Ltd 2012 ISSN 0952/8210

Marriott to launch three Thai hotels

US-based group Marriott International has unveiled plans to expand its presence in Thailand to 16 properties with the launch of three new hotels later this year.

The openings will include the Bangkok Marriott Hotel Sukhumvit and the Rayong Marriott Resort and Spa, as well as the Marriott Executive Apartments Bangkok-Sukhumvit Thonglor.

A 500sq m (5,832sq ft) spa with five treatment rooms four single and one double - will be among the facilities at the new 296-bedroom

Bangkok Marriott Hotel Sukhumvit.

The hotel's spa will also feature a foot massage room; a manicure and pedicure space; and a relaxation area. Elsewhere, the property will feature a rooftop bar and restaurant.

Meanwhile, the 206-bedroom Rayong Marriott Resort and Spa is set to incorporate a 968sq m (10,419sq ft) spa with nine treatment rooms; steamrooms; a sauna; and a fitness centre. The resort will be located on a stretch of



Marriott Rayong - one of the new hotels scheduled to open during 2012

coastline in the resort area of Rayong and will also house extensive meeting space.

Marriott Executive Apartments Bangkok-Sukhumvit Thonglor will be located in the same building as the Bangkok Marriott Hotel Sukhumvit and offer 74 apartments.

Craig Smith, COO for Marriott's Asian business said: "In addition to these three hotels we'll continue to grow in Thailand with a further five set to open in the next three to four years."

Four Seasons Baku prepares for June opening

Four Seasons is preparing to open the doors to its first ever hotel in Baku, the capital city of Azerbaijan.

Designed by UK-based architects ReardonSmith, the 175-bedroom hotel will include a range of restaurants and a luxurious 800sq m (8,611 sq ft) Jaleh Spa.

Facilities at the spa, which was designed in partnership by Spa Developments Consultancy and interior designer Richmond International, include nine single treatment rooms and a VIP couples' suite.

The wet areas - supplied by Barr and Wray - feature separate hammams for males and females, steamroom and an indoor atrium pool. There will also be a professional beauty and hair salon and a 211q m (2,271sq ft) fitness club. At the centre of the spa menu are treatments and products created especially for the Jaleh Spa by Swiss Perfection. Other product brands available at the spa include



The Jaleh Spa will feature 10 treatment rooms and extensive wet areas

Australia-based Sodashi, which has created several treatments exclusive to the Jaleh Spa; organic Irish brand Voya; Italian Comfort Zone; hair company Kérastase; and Cor Silver, which specialises in facials for men.

The hotel is one of many new developments scheduled for Baku. To read more about the tourism boom in Azerbaijan, see Spa Business Q4 2012: http://lei.sr?a=KoO7E



Starwood returns to Iraq after 20 years

Starwood Hotels and Resorts is to have a presence in Iraq for the first time in two decades after it signed an agreement with BCD Co for a new-build Sheraton property in Erbil.

The 221-bedroom and 39-suite Sheraton Erbil Hotel is scheduled to open in 2015 and will incorporate a Shinebranded spa, which will be around 1,600sq m (17,222sq ft) in size. Spa facilities will include separate wet areas for male and female guests, which will comprise a hammam, a sauna, a steamroom, showers

and a relaxation area.



An indoor and an outdoor swimming pool will also be included in the hotel's facilities, plus a 720sq m (7,750sq ft) ballroom, a conference centre and four meeting rooms.

In announcing its plans to return to Iraq, Starwood has become the latest hospitality group to re-enter the country following the overthrow of Saddam Hussein in 2003.

Erbil - the capital of the Kurdistan Autonomous Region - is emerging as Iraq's commercial hub and is already being targeted by a number of hotel groups, such as Hilton Worldwide and Marriott International.

Hilton has signed an agreement with US-based real estate developer The Claremont Group for a new 200-bedroom property opening in Erbil next year.

Meanwhile, Marriott is planning two properties in Erbil - a 200-room Marriott Hotels and Resorts-branded hotel and a a 75-unit Marriott Executive Apartments complex.

Siblu is investing in wellness to attract guests

Siblu unveils wellness facilities at French holiday villages

France-based Siblu has unveiled new health and wellbeing facilities at some of its 14 holiday villages in a bid to attract more "spa lovers" and first-time visitors to its sites.

Le Bois Masson, the group's four-star location in the Vendée, now offers a wellbeing centre housing a sauna, a steamroom and a fitness centre in order to extend its appeal. Meanwhile, Britanny's Le Domaine de Kerlann offers a range of massages such as Kansu, Ayurvedic and Zen Shiatsu massages - and a menu of hand and foot treatments. Les Sables du Midi on the Mediterranean coast now offers massages and body scrubs, along with sauna, steamroom, hot tub and fitness facilities.

Wellbeing services have also been rolled out at four other villages - La Pignade at Ronce-les-Bains; La Réserve, Aquitaine; Le Lac des Rêves, Laguedoc; and Le Montourey, Côte d'Azur.

Plans unveiled for ESPA-sponsored Pavilion

Serpentine Gallery - the contemporary art attraction in London, UK - has unveiled designs for this year's Pavilion commission, which is being sponsored by international spa company ESPA.

ESPA revealed in March it was sponsoring the scheme - designed by Ai Weiwei and Herzog and de Meuron - in the first of its 2012 cultural partnerships. Visitors will have the opportunity to walk beneath the Serpentine's lawn in order to examine the "hidden history" of former pavilions, with eleven col-

umns representing each structure.

A 12th column will support a floating platform roof 1.4m (4.6ft) above the ground, with the pavilion to operate as a public space and a venue for the Serpentine Gallery's Park Nights programme.

ESPA founder and chief executive Susan Harmsworth said in March the company's sponsorship was part of a programme of



The pavilion was designed by Herzog and de Meuron and Ai Weiwei

collaborations with British cultural institutions, artists and luminaries.

Harmsworth said: "Our British heritage is extremely important to us and to be able to support British arts and culture - in particular the creativity and innovation of Serpentine Gallery's Pavilion - is important to ESPA as it reflects our core values." Details: http://lei.sr?a=F3V2W

Montage Hotels plans to open new Los Cabos luxury resort

California-based Montage Hotels is planning to open a luxury resort in Los Cabos, Mexico - its first property outside the US.

Located on the shores of Santa Maria Bay, the exact details of the property are yet to be confirmed but plans include a full-service spa, a range of restaurants and other leisure facilities.

In a statement, Montage Hotels revealed that the architecture of the resort will reflect the region's history and heritage. It said: "The resort will reflect elements of colonial Mexico in its architectural design.

· To read a full interview with James Bermingham, vice president of Montage Hotels & Resorts, look out for Spa Business Q3 2012. To subscribe for a free digital copy, visit our our subscriptions page: http://lei. sr?a=moX8I. To read the current issue of Spa Business, visit: http://lei.sr?a=n7M1E

Facilities include a couples' treatment room

Meritage Resort and Spa unveils US\$40m expansion

The Meritage Resort and Spa - one of the largest resorts in California's Napa Valley, US - has unveiled new facilities as part of a major USs40m (EUR31.4m, £25.4m) expansion. PK Architects of Tempe, Arizona, were behind the design of the 131,000sq ft (121,70Sq m) extension, which has been developed adjacent to the existing facilities at the resort.

Crush Ultra Lounge with six bowling lanes; a piazza with a spa/hot tub; an Italian-style café; and extensive meeting space have been created as part of the privately-financed scheme. Meritage Resort and Spa already includes Spa Terra - a luxury subterranean facility housed in the 22,000sq ff (2,044sq m) Estate Wine Cave and boasting 12 treatment rooms. A signature couples' room is among the treatment rooms.

Groupon UK introduces Scheduler service

Daily deals website Groupon has launched its new Scheduler online booking system to provide UK businesses with the opportunity to manage their schedules and accept bookings directly. Designed for service providers such as spa and wellness operators, the free service is based on technology from OpenCal – a startup company founded in 2009 in Vancouver, Canada and acquired by Groupon in September 2011.

Once customers have purchased a Groupon voucher for services, they can schedule or cancel appointments for the services. Customers immediately receive an email confirmation upon completion of each booking, as well as automated email reminders 24 hours before any scheduled appointments. Merchant partners also benefit from the Scheduler service sending them similar email reminders. Details: http://lei.sria=N/GO. Details: http://lei.sria=N/GO. Details: http://lei.sria=N/GO.

Hemaraj to build Thai mega resort

Hemaraj Land And Development Public Company Limited has confirmed that it has bought land at Koh Lan, Thailand, for a new integrated leisure and entertainment development.

The 91.68 acres (37 hectare) site is to be the location for the Million Island Pattaya scheme, which aims to cater for the "vast tourism and business needs" of the local area.

According to Hemaraj, the region attracts 8 million visitors and the proposed

development is to include resort hotels, a marina, entertainment facilities and a private beach when complete. Planning is now underway for the scheme, with a new company - Million Island Pattaya Company Limited established to bring the proposals to fruition.

Hemaraj CEO David Nardone said: "The land acquisition of 228 Rai (a Thai unit of



The resort will be located at the picturesque Koh Lan in Thailand

area), though large, is a fraction of the cost of resort, hotel, or entertainment developments in Bangkok or Pattaya sea front locations.

"This provides the opportunity for a controlled environment integrated resort and entertainment real estate development, much like our experience in industrial estate master planning and development."

First Caribbean property for JW Marriott

Marriott International has announced that its luxury hotel brand, JW Marriott, is planning to open a new 131-bedroom property in the Dominican Republic – its first in the Caribbean.

JW Marriott Santo Domingo is to be operated by the group under a management agreement with Grupo Velutini, the Panama-based subsidiary of Fondo de Valores Immobiliarios. A spa will form part of the new hotel, although design work is yet to begin on the facility and no further

details are yet known at this stage. A swimming pool and a fitness centre will also feature.

JW Marriott Jr, chair of the Marriott International board, said: "The Dominican Republic is a highly desirable destination for



Marriott has agreed a deal with Grupo Velutini to manage the property

today's luxury traveller and a growing business hub in the Caribbean."

Mexico-based Gomez Vasques Aldana Asociados is the primary architect on the project. Details: http://lei.sr?a=b1f5k

Centara takes over Koh Chang Resort and Spa

Centara Hotels & Resorts has taken over the management of the 157-bedroom Koh Chang Tropicana Resort & Spa, located at Klong Praow Beach, on Koh Chang, Trat Province.

The property will undergo a multi-million dollar redevelopment and upgrading programme, during which the resort's existing spa will be become Centara's own-brand Spa Cenvaree Facilities at the spa include two double and a number of single treatment rooms, indoor and outdoor swimming pools, a relaxation area and a spa bar.



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Regent Palms resort opens redeveloped luxury spa

The Regent Palms resort in Turks and Caicos has relaunched its luxury spa following a comprehensive redevelopment.

The spa now covers 26,000sq ft (2,400sq m) and each of the standalone treatment rooms are surrounded by water in order to create a sense of space.

The menu combines traditional Asian healing rituals with treatments using indigenous Caribbean ingredients. Product houses used at Regent Palms' spa include Sothys and Zents. Details: http://lei.sr/a=q3/VID



The Café Royal site on London's Regent Street

June launch for London's Café Royal hotel and spa

London's historic Café Royal – once a restaurant and meeting place for legends such as Oscar Wilde – is to reopen as a lux-ury 159-bedroom hotel in June in time for the 2012 Olympics.

Following a reported £90m (USs145m, £112m) lease deal and extensive three-year refurbishment, the Regent Street property will relaunch as a member of The Set - a new hotel collection established by property entrepreneurs Alfred and Georgi Akirov.

The hotel has been designed by London's David Chipperfield Architects and Donald Insall Associates and new additions include the 1,200sq m (12,900sq ft) two-storey Akasha Holistic Wellbeing Centre day spa with its own dedicated entrance.

The upper floor will feature a branded yoga studio and gym. The lower level, boasting the main facilities, will include a 19m pool and five treatment rooms – three with whirlpools – private and public hammams, a sauna and watsu pool.

Dutch-based 4SeasonsSpa provided technical advice as well as wet spa facilities. It also worked on the spa at The Set's Conservatorium Hotel that opened in Amsterdam in December. Details: http://lel.sr/a=8857v

Smurfit acquires Ireland's K Club

Sir Michael Smurfit has confirmed that he has become the sole owner of the Kildare Hotel, Spa and Country Club – The K Club – in Straffan, County Kildare, Ireland.

The Irish Times reported that Sir Michael had paid €40m (US\$52.5m, £32.4m) in order to acquire a 49 per cent stake in the K Club from developer Gerry Gannon.

According to the newspaper, Gannon's assets are being overseen by the National Asset Management Agency

(NAMA), which negotiated the sale.

A former host of the Ryder Cup golf tourna-

A former host of the Ryder Cup golf tournament, the iconic resort includes a spa hotel that houses the 20,000sq ft (1,858sq m) K Spa.

The K Spa contains seven treatment rooms and two private suites – The Ash Suite and The Oak Suite, the latter of which includes its own whirlpool and steamroom.

Products from Carita and Voya, the Irelandbased organic seaweed spa product supplier, are used in the treatments on offer at the spa.



The iconic resort includes the K Spa and its seven treatment rooms

Facilities also include the Pool Hall as part of the K Health and Fitness Centre – incorporating a 16.5m resistance pool with hydrotherapy jets and experience showers. Saunas, steamrooms, a whirlpool and a relaxation area complete the line up at the Pool Hall.

Sir Michael said: "I would like to record my sincere appreciation for the understanding and support of our members, customer and guests during an uncertain and difficult period."

Details: http://lei.sr?a=uzO2W

KSL acquires historic North Carolina resort

KSL Capital Partners has completed the purchase of the historic Grove Park Inn Resort and Spa - located between the Blue Ridge and Great Smoky Mountains in North Carolina. US.

Built in 1913, the resort will now be operated by KSL Resorts and will undergo an extensive US\$25m (€19.4m, £15.6m) renovation as part of the planned Centennial celebrations next year.

The resort boasts one of the most acclaimed spas in the US, with the 43,000sq ft (3,995sq m) subterranean sanctuary drawing its

"aesthetic inspiration" from the Blue Ridge Mountains. Facilities include 26 indoor treatment rooms; three couples' rooms; three manicure stations; three pedicure thrones; and two outdoor treatment pagodas.

Mineral pools and waterfall pools form part of a 20,000sq fit (1,858sq m) area that includes a range of amenities for guests to use before and after treatments. Contrast pools; a lap pool; an inhalation room; a sauna; and a eucaptustus-infused steamroom are also among the



Built in 1913, the resort houses one of the most celebrated spas in the US

spa facilities, together with men's and women's relaxation lounges. Elsewhere at the resort are eight dining outlets, an 18-hole Donald Ross-designed golf course and a 50,000sq ft (4,645xg m) sports complex, as well as meeting and conferencing space.

Grove Park Inn Resort and Spa becomes the latest to join the KSL Resorts portfolio, which includes La Costa Resort and Spa in California and Barton Creek Resort in Texas, US. Read more: http://lei.sr?a=M5Wom



DIARY DATES

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www.beautyworldme.com

3-6 June 2012

Global Spa & Wellness Summit 2012 Aspen, Colorado, US

The sixth annual Global Spa & Wellness Summit (GSWS) will be held 3-6 June 2012 in Aspen, Colorado, US. The first gathering to be held in the US since 2008, the 2012 Summit will be very unique, as it's being held in collaboration with the 61-year-old Aspen Institute, one of the most prestigious thinktanks in the world

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www.globalspaandwellnesssummit.org

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21 June 2012 Forum HOTel & SPA

Ritz, Paris, France

The theme for the fifth annual HOTel & Spa is Experience. Key objectives will include: client and therapist experiences; authenticity; offering a strong message; and creating a profitable spa business. It will be hosted by a panel of international experts. Tel: +33 (0)1 43 21 05 69

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Sheraton Hotel, Buenos Aires, Argentina Organised by the Argentine Spa Association, the event is for owners and managers of spas. Tel: +54 11 4468 0879 www.vitaspaestetica.com

8-9 July

Les Nouvelles Estethiques Spa Conference

Monte Casino Ballroom, Fourways, Johannesburg, South Africa The conference offers a top educational programme for spam wellness and hospitality professionals in South Africa Tel: +27 11 447 9959 www.lesnouvellesblog.co.za

10-12 Sep 2012

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World Spa & Well-being Convention 2012 IMPACT Exhibition and Convention Center, Bangkok, Thailand

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when working in the industry. www.worldspawellbeing.com

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* ABC audit for UW 2011 (20-22 September 2011). Total attendance: 9,064. Visitor attendance: 7,177. Exhibitor attendance: 1,877.



Wahanda begins lastminute partnership

Online wellness marketplace Wahanda and deal website lastminute.com UK have began their partnership which will see Wahanda manage the portal's spa category.

Wahanda will operate a new bespoke, lastminute. com-branded spa platform including full search and filter capabilities, as well as expanded inventory and exclusive deals on spa days, breaks and pampering.

The platform will also provide Wahanda suppliers with a single integrated offering to seamlessly promote their business on both Wahanda and lastminute.com.

The deal between the companies was first announced in March 2012.

Wahanda CEO Lopo Champalimaud, said: "This is a hugely exciting development for our business that will make us the largest health and beauty marketplace in the world. Lastminute. com is one of the UK's leading internet brands and together we can give our merchants and suppliers access to the biggest audience of health and beauty consumers anywhere.

"This means we can deliver even greater volume of customers for our suppliers with no additional workload on their part, as it will be managed across the same technical platform."



Wahanda CEO Lopo Champalimaud: "This is a hugely exciting deal"

Lastminute.com president and CEO Matthew Crummack added: "Spa is one of the most popular products within our diverse lifestyle category, attracting millions of customers each year. Through this partnership, we will significantly expand our spa product portfolio and make our search and filter capabilities even more efficient.

"With Wahanda providing a bespoke lastminute.com-branded spa platform, we'll have the product knowledge and expertise to provide possibly the most comprehensive and compelling spa propositions on the market today."

YTL to open Borneo spa resort in July

YTL Hotels, the hospitality arm of Malaysian conglomerate YTL Corporations Berhard, will open its Gaya Island Resort in Borneo on 1 July 2012. Located just off the coast of Kota Kinabalu and set on the shores of the island of Pulau Gava, Gava Island Resort will combine elements of traditional local Sabahan architecture and contemporary design.

The resort will comprise 121 spacious stand-alone hill

and sea-front villas offering views of Mount Kinabalu. Facilities will include a Spa Villagebranded luxury spa with six treatment rooms. The spa will offer treatments, therapies and healing practices specific to Borneo culture and will be designed to blend in with its mangrove setting with outdoor decks and a yoga



Facilities include a Spa Village-branded spa with six treatment rooms

retreat space. There will also be a 50m infinity-edge swimming pool.

Gaya Island Resort is the first of two new Borneo properties to be opened by YTL. Pulau Tiga, which will open later in 2012, will be located 48km south of Kota Kinabalu and the resort will boast a dedicated spa area.

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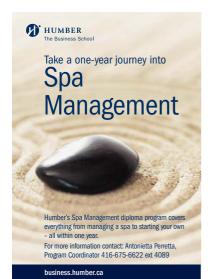




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■ Part-time Qualified Beauty therapists Company:

The Glassworks Health Club Location: Cambridge, UK

■ Spa Manager Company:

The Bannatyne Spa Location: Hastings, UK

■ Holistic Therapist (Full time)

Company: Ushvani Location: London, UK

■ Full Time Receptionist Company: Spa Illuminata Location: London, UK

■ Spa Manager Company:

The Bannatyne Spa Location: Inverness, UK

■ Spa Therapist

Company: Sofitel London St James Location: London, UK

■ Spa Butler-Receptionist

Company: Sofitel London St James Location: London, UK

■ Wellness Director Company:

Kamalaya Koh Samui Location: Thailand

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Email: asia@aromatherapyassociates.com

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- Excellent customer care and attention to detail
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- You should be committed to maintaining high standards, achieving targets and objectives

Please submit a full CV and covering letter in confidence to:
Kelly Rimmer – Spa Manager, Ushvani,
1 Cadogan Gardens, London SW3 2BJ
or by email to:- reservations@ushvani.com





International well-known clinic is searching for a

HEAD THERAPIST

Located in Clarens/Montreux (Switzerland) on the shores of Lake Geneva, Clinique La Prairie offers a wide range of medical and paramedical services. Besides its medical activities, Clinique La Prairie is also running a SPA which houses a pool area with relaxation pool, jacuzzi, sauna, fitness area, massages, beauty and thalasso treatments.

We are looking for a dynamic person, highly motivated and having the following qualifying criterias:

- Internationally recognised beauty therapy qualifications
- Ability to lead and motivate a team of therapists to deliver outstanding client care and treatment standards
- Experience at supervisory level within a five star hotel SPA environment
- Previous experience of overseeing a stock control process
 Excellent written and spoken French is essential as well as a good level of spoken English
- Excellent personal and presentation skills

Candidates must be eligible to live and work in Switzerland and may send their detailed resume along with a recent picture to the following address:

Clinique La Prairie

Ressources humaines CH - 1815 Clarens-Montreux t: 021 989 34 50 | f: 021 989 34 99 ressources.humaines@laprairie.ch | www.laprairie.ch



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- **HASTINGS** OTE £29K
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Bannatyne's health clubs are the largest independently owned health club operator in the UK with currently 34 Spas spread across our estate.

Bannatyne Fitness Ltd currently requires Spa Managers for their clubs in Hastings, Tamworth and Inverness. The successful candidates must be able to demonstrate experience of managing a similar operation with a proven history of achieving targets. You should have excellent commercial skills and the ability to drive the business forward as well as delivering a top class customer service. The role will involve managing all aspects of the Spa including finance, stock taking, training, promotions and performance management to ensure the team consistently achieves their KPI's. In return Bannatyne will offer you the opportunity to develop your talents in an industry which is truly rewarding. So, if you enjoy working with the public, are dedicated, enthusiastic and passionate about the business and would like to get more out of life, then simply apply now!

Essential Requirements: Management experience in a similar environment / qualified to NVQ3 or equivalent in Beauty / must be able to perform hands on treatment regularly.

Desirable: Elemis trained but not essential as training will be given.

CV's to be sent to karenwilkinson@bannatyne.co.uk

St Regis expands in Middle East

St Regis Hotels and Resorts has announced the opening of a new 336-bedroom property in Doha, Qatar, as part of the brand's continued growth in the Middle East.

Owned by Resorts Development Company and developed by Alfardan Group, The St Regis Doha is one of three St Regis-branded properties scheduled to open within a year across the region.

The hotel boasts 16,000sq m (172,223sq ft) of leisure facilities, including the Middle

East's first Remède Spa - one of the largest spas in Doha with 22 treatment rooms.

A fitness centre; an Olympic-size swimming pool; and a private beach with 10 cabanas also feature at The St Regis Doha, along with a number of eateries inspired by renowned chefs.

The St Regis Doha joins the new St Regis Saadiyat Island Resort, United Arab Emirates,



The St Regis Doha houses the Middle East's first Reméde-branded spa

in the Middle East, with The St. Regis Abu Dhabi scheduled to open later this year.

"Introducing the brand's celebrated legacy and unparalleled luxury offerings to Qatar with the opening of The St. Regis Doha is an exciting and significant accomplishment for St Regis," says Paul James, global brand leader for St Regis Hotels and Resorts.

Hilton Garden Inn to debut in south east Asia

Hilton Worldwide is to open its first Garden Inn-branded hotel in south east Asia with the new 86-bedroom Hilton Garden Inn Hanoi, Vietnam, during Q2 2012.

The opening of the new hotel - Hilton Worldwide's second in Vietnam - is the result of a management agreement with Hoan Kiem Tourism and Trading Company.

Facilities at the 11-storey Hilton Garden Inn Hanoi will include a large spa - details of which are yet to be confirmed - and an all-day dining restaurant, as well as a lounge bar.

Andrew Clough, senior vice president, development, Middle East and Asia Pacific at Hilton Worldwide, said the new hotel demonstrated the group's commitment to the region.



The Hanoi hotels will be Hilton Worldwide's second site in Vietnam

"This announcement underlines our commitment to strengthen and expand our portfolio of unique properties in key cities across Asia Pacific," said Clough. Details: http://lei.sr?a=W4A1r

Pop Up Kids Spa to return to Shanti Maurice resort

A Pop Up Spa for guests aged between five- and 15-years-old is to make a return to the Shanti Maurice resort in Mauritius between July and September. The outdoor, cabana-style facility has already operated during April in order to give younger guests a taste of the resort's Nira Spa.

Spa manager Novie Jones said: "With an increase in children's spa interest, instead of turning our younger guests away to protect the adults-only haven that is Nira Spa, we simply pamper them in a different area. Read more: http://lei.sr?a=A9S8h

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