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ISPA research: men visiting spas more than ever

Research by the International Spa Association (ISPA), has revealed that more men are going to spas than ever before, with stats indicating that 49 per cent of spa customers are now men – an astonishing 20 per cent increase from the 29 per cent reported in 2005.

According to ISPA president Lynne McNees, this shift, which began two years ago in 2017, has had a knock-on effect on spas, with operators having to rethink their treatment and relaxation areas and changing facilities to become more male-friendly spaces.

According to the 2018 ISPA US spa

industry study, there are now around 21,770 spas in the country. Of those, the study shows, 41 percent are keen on introducing marketing strategies aimed solely at men.

"Spas are really having to evolve to accommodate the male spagoer," she said.



Around 49 per cent of spagoers are now men according to research by ISPA

"Typically, your back-of-house areas for males would be smaller because, historically, it has been predominantly female. Now they're having to shift that."

The increase in male customers can also be seen in the way treatment menus are changing.

Until recently, it was not uncommon for even large spas to only have one general massage and facial on the menu for men.

Now, however, spas have moved to offering treatments catered to men's individual's preferences - including those based on ingredients, skin colour, massage techniques and seasonal changes.

Garrett Mersberger, board chairman of ISPA, added: "We are now seeing a lot more men going to spas. Attending spas used to always be a very female-driven thing but we're now seeing 50-50, if not swinging more toward the males."

"Men are more aware that it's not just a thing to go and get pampered. It's an actual lifestyle choice with benefits to their body, to their wellness. It's part of their routine now. It's not just about going for relaxation." Details: http://lei.sr/W7X8U_S

ISPA CONFERENCE & EXPO 2019

11-13 September The Venetian, Las Vegas

The Spa Business and Spa Opportunities team will be attending this year's ISPA Conference. Come and meet us!



Astrid Ros astridros@



leisuremedia.com

Jane Kitchen janekitchen@ leisuremedia.com

Marriott introduces W Hotels to Oman

Marriott International has opened its latest W Hotels in Oman, the second W to open in the Middle East this year.

The 279-bedroom W Muscat is set against the backdrop of the rugged Al Hajar Mountains, which form a stark contrast to the historic capital city's lively waterfront.

All of the guestrooms and suites at W Muscat provide uninterrupted sea views, with their design drawing inspiration from the water, as well as the asymmetrical lines of the nearby mountains, caves and desert.

The Escape's Away Spa offers 10 treatment rooms, a steamroom, a hammam and a double treatment room for couples.

The design has been inspired by the ancient ritual of stargazing, where guests are



All of the 279 guestrooms and suites at W Muscat provide uninterrupted views ocean

enveloped under a "bejeweled night sky with the intimacy of cave-like comfort".

Other services at the spa includes a Beauty Bar for touch-ups and other 'quick fix' treatments. Continued on back cover

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CONTACT US

The Leisure Media Company Portmill House, Portmill Lane, Hitchin, Herts SG5 1DJ, UK Tel: +44 (0)1462 431385 Fax: +44 (0)1462 433909 e-mail: please use contacts' fullname@leisuremedia.com

Subscriptions

subs@leisuremedia.com

Editor in chief

Liz Terry +44 (0)1462 431385

Editor

Jane Kitchen +44 (0)1462 471929

Deputy editor, news and products

Lauren Heath-Jones +44 (0)1462 471927

Reporters

Tom Anstey +44 (0)1462 471916 Katie Barnes +44 (0)1462 471925 Tom Walker +44 (0)1462 471934

Publisher

Astrid Ros +44 (0)1462 471911

Recruitment

Gurpreet Lidder +44 (0)1462 471914

Subscribe to Spa Opportunities: Online: www.leisuresubs.com Email: subs@leisuremedia.com Tel: +44 (0)1462 471913

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GWS relocates from HK to Singapore

Susie Ellis, chair of the Global Wellness Institute, has announced the 2019 Global Wellness Summit will move from Hong Kong to Singapore. Dates will remain unchanged at 15-17 October and Hyatt will still play host, with the Grand Hyatt Singapore replacing the Grand Hyatt Hong Kong as the venue.

Escalating civil unrest and clashes between prodemocracy protesters and the Chinese government in Hong Kong have closed the airport over the last few days, with the government reportedly moving tanks to the border.

Ellis said: "Our GWS leadership, advisory board and partners felt this shift in location was important for the collective wellbeing of everyone involved with the Summit.

"In 13 years of planning the event, this is a first for me," she explained.

The Global Wellness Summit has earned a reputation for stoicism in the face of a wide range of challenges over the years, with previous events having contended



The Global Wellness Summit is held annually at different venues

with everything from epidemics to volcanic eruptions and terrorist attacks, but this is the first time the event has been relocated.

It's likely the unrest in Hong Kong has impacted registrations for the event, with the GWS announcement saying "The Global Wellness Summit is traditionally a sold-out event. First-time and previous delegates and invitees are encouraged to apply to attend and register as soon as possible."

Details: http://lei.sr/K7H7m_S

GOCO designs Australia's first Ritz-Carlton

Australia's first Ritz-Carlton, in Perth, is set to open this November with immersive experiences conceptualised around the history, culture and natural beauty found in the West Australian region.

The hotel's spa and wellness areas have been created with the guidance of international spa and wellness consultants GOCO Hospitality. Clad in 10,000 pieces of Kimberly sandstone on both the exterior and the lobby, the Ritz-Carlton Perth will feature 205 bedrooms including 18 suites.

The Ritz-Carlton Spa is set to feature three treatments rooms, one spa suite, a number of saunas, a heated outdoor infinity pool, vitality pools with massage jets and a private mind & body studio.

Through market research and feasibility studies, GOCO Hospitality assisted Ritz-Carlton in spa concept, brand development and provided design and technical services.



The Ritz-Carlton Spa will feature three treatments rooms

"It has been an incredible pleasure to work with Ritz-Carlton on this exciting new project on the beautiful West coast of Australia," said Ingo Schweder, GOCO's founder and CEO. "By marrying local and natural elements with exclusive wellness treatments, the Ritz-Carlton Spa taps into the true energy of the locale." *Details: http://lei.sr/a9v7K_S*





GWI publishes first white paper

The Global Wellness Institute (GWI) has launched a new white paper series with an aim to bring clear, expert insights on how wellness is evolving now and into the future.

The *'Understanding Wellness'* white paper series has been designed to be a "goto primer" for policymakers, businesspeople, researchers and students.

The first paper, authored by GWI senior research fellows Ophelia Yeung and Katherine Johnston, is called *The Global Forces Driving the Growth of the Wellness Economy.*

It examines the four macro forces that are propelling consumer demand and the ongoing, surging growth of the wellness economy around the world.

The white paper suggests that in recent decades, vast economic, technological, social, demographic, and environmental changes have transformed every aspect of our lives — our homes and communities, food, work, shopping, education, friendship, leisure, travel, etc. — with both positive and negative impacts on wellbeing.



The first paper examines the four macro forces affecting the spa sector

Future topics will include important definitions and terminologies, a thorough history of wellness, and the wellness movement's social and economic implications.

"Wellness is a concept that is both ancient and contemporary," said Yeung. "Because of that, most people have an intuitive understanding of what it means, how to apply it to daily life, or how to create business opportunities out of it." Details: http://lei.sr/5p9r5_S

Windsor Court spa to undergo revamp

The Spa at Windsor Court Hotel in New Orleans, US, is set to undergo a major renovation that will see the addition of new relaxation spaces and treatment rooms.

The renovation, which is scheduled to complete in early Autumn, will be spearheaded by Houston-based design firm Montgomery Roth Architecture & Interior Design and forms part of a larger renovation, worth US\$15m, taking place across the entire property. As well as

the new treatment rooms and relaxation areas, the renovation will include the expansion of the changing areas and modifications to existing relaxation areas. New furnishings, artwork and lighting will also be installed.

The Spa will also see the addition of new infrared saunas, supplied by Viking Leisure, a New Orleans-based provider of sauna and steamrooms. The new saunas will operate at a lower temperature and use infrared panels in place of a conventional heat source.



The Spa will be expanded to include new treatment areas

In addition, The Spa has signed new brand partnerships with Diptyque, a Parisian company specialising in bodycare, fragrance and homewares, and HOBO, a luxury leather goods company. The brands will be introduced alongside existing product partners Tata Harper, SLIP, Skinceuticals, Mason Pearson and Lunya Sleepware.

Diptyque will also become the official line of in-room amenities throughout the hotel. *Details: http://lei.sr/n3Q8e_S*



The circle-shaped Steam of Life Pavilion was co-designed by Sauna on Fire collective

Burning Man festival features Finnish Sauna

Revellers at Burning Man were given an extra dose of heat in the Nevada Desert as Helsinki-based JKMM architects brought the Steam of Life Pavilion to the festival.

The resort included a 1,640sq m (17,65 Jumeira and 15 villas and 61 residences, with units ranging from one to four bedrooms.

The circle-shaped Steam of Life Pavilion, co-designed by Sauna on Fire collective, was built to offer the sequenced sauna experience, as a deconstructed art installation.

The timber pavilion was described as "a place for tranquility and contemplation. The "Steam of Life" embodies the typical physical elements of a Finnish sauna. It is a human scale wooden building, minimalistic in its aesthetic and focused on embracing ambient natural light and shade.

Details: http://lei.sr/q8A9B_S

Dr Sunita Shekhar Mahamuni joins Amatara

Amatara Wellness Resort in Phuket, Thailand has named Dr Sunita Shekhar Mahamuni as director of wellness.

With more than 12 years experience working as holistic health manager at The Dhara Dhevi, Chiang Mai (previously operated by Mandarin Oriental Group), Dr Mahamuni possesses knowledge in holistic health training, wellness counselling, guided meditation and retreat management.

Her background as a certified ayurvedic doctor and management experience have helped her establish and build a longlasting and loyal clientele.

Alongside the resort's wellness team, Dr Mahamuni will continue to develop Amatara's comprehensive programme of spa and wellbeing experiences. Details: http://lei.sr/b4p9Y_S





Reynolds is a senior at the University of Houston

Quincy Reynolds wins Mary Tabacchi Scholarship

The ISPA Foundation has awarded Quincy Reynolds the 2019 Mary Tabacchi Scholarship. Reynolds will be honoured onstage during the General Session at the 2019 ISPA Conference & Expo.

Reynolds is from Friendsville, Texas, and is a senior at the University of Houston who will obtain a degree in hotel and restaurant management in 2020. After graduation, she looks forward to starting a career within the resort and hospitality industry before returning to the academic setting to teach the next generation of hospitality leaders.

"It is truly humbling – and I am honoured – to receive the 2019 Mary Tabacchi Scholarship from the International SPA Association," said Reynolds *Details: hhttp://lei.sr/F4Q8F_S*

Susan Cain to deliver opening keynote

New York Times best-selling author and TED Talk speaker Susan Cain will be the opening keynote speaker at the 2019 ISPA Conference & Expo.

Cain is the author of Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking and Quiet Power: The Secret Strengths of Introverts.

Her first book has been translated into forty languages and is in its sixth year on the *New York Times* best-seller list.

It was also named #1 best book of the year by *Fast Company* magazine, which also named Cain one of its 'Most Creative People in Business'.

With her books, Cain explains how society undervalues introverts and what we lose by doing so. *Details: http://lei.sr/d7K3z_S*

US spas hit US\$18bn in revenues

Spas across the US generated US\$18.3bn (€16.3bn, £15bn) in revenues in 2018 and have seen a steady growth across key financial indicators in the last nine years.

This is according to data from the International Spa Association (ISPA) which released the 20th edition of its *ISPA US Spa Industry Study.*

Revenues in US spas increased by 4.7 per cent between 2017 and 2018 and

this has been attributed to a growth in revenue per visit which has seen an uptake of 3 per cent – from US\$93.70 (\in 83.50, \notin 77.10) to US\$96.50 (\in 86, \notin 79.40) – over the same time. There's been a boost in spa visits too with numbers rising from 187 million in 2017 to 190 million in 2018. Additionally, there were 22,160 spa locations in 2018, which is 1.8 per cent more than in 2017.

"We're grateful to once again report record growth for the spa industry with 2018 marking a record high US\$18.3bn in revenue," says ISPA president Lynne McNees.

"The spa industry continues to prove itself as a thriving market perfect for anyone looking to enter an industry with limitless potential."



ISPA president Lynne McNees says this is a record revenue mark

The ISPA Foundation commissioned PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) to conduct the study. Colin McIlheney, global research director at PwC said the study shows that the sector is "still on the march to new highs".

"There are now more than 22,000 across the country, continuing to expand its footprint," he said.

"The other notable statistic is that revenues are getting ever close to the iconic US\$20bn mark. This remarkable threshold could be reached as soon as 2020."

The complete study will be released at the 2019 ISPA Conference & Expo. *Details: http://lei.sr/V7m5G_S*

Pre-conference: 'Workforce Super Session'

For the first time, the International SPA Association (ISPA) will host a pre-Conference Spa Workforce Super Session focusing on workforce development within the spa industry at the 2019 ISPA Conference & Expo. This two and a half-hour workshop will take a deep dive into one of the spa industry's top priorities of recruiting, retaining and engaging quality talent.

The Spa Workforce Super Session is designed to provide tools for business leaders as they look to fill open positions on their teams while developing a strong work environment that produces loyal employees.

"We're pleased to offer this extended educational opportunity at the 2019 Conference," said ISPA president Lynne McNees. "This session will provide our attendees with tangible skills they can implement at

their businesses. The knowledge they will gain will allow them to create a working environment that fosters employee growth and retention."

Led by speaker and author Bryan Williams, the Spa Workforce Super Session will feature four modules, each offering tangible takeaways

that are designed to elevate the attendees' businesses. Williams will be leading discussions on finding the right candidate, implementing proactive on-boarding strategies even before new hires start, and creating a culture of excellence to increase loyalty and retention with a company's workforce. Details:

http://lei.sr/C2r8w_S

The session will be led by speaker and author Bryan Williams Talent Symposium for 2020

The International SPA Association (ISPA) has announced the addition of the ISPA Talent Symposium and ISPA Resource Partner Summit, taking place 14-15 April 2020 at The Ritz-Carlton, Bacara in Santa Barbara, California.

The two-day event will be a first of its kind for the spa industry and focus solely on workforce issues.

The new ISPA Talent

Symposium will highlight energetic and innovative approaches to solving workforce challenges. In addition to insight from established spa industry and workforce development professionals, the event will feature a keynote speaker providing takeaways attendees can use to build an engaged workforce.

"As spa revenues and spa visits continue to exceed record highs, so does the number of vacancies within the industry," said ISPA president Lynne McNees.

"The ISPA Talent Symposium will explore ways to acquire new talent as well as how to grow talent from within your organisation and build strong leaders."



The two-day event will be a first of its kind for the industry

The day prior to the ISPA Talent Symposium, a half-day Resource Partner Summit will take place that will focus exclusively on the issues that matter to ISPA's resource partner members, such as the rise of online retailing, how to capture the attention of spa decision-makers and more. Leading spa industry professionals will offer feedback and guided think-tank discussions will emphasise resource partner's voice in the spa industry.

Additional details about the ISPA Talent Symposium and ISPA Resource Partner Summit will be announced at the 2019 ISPA Conference & Expo.

Details: http://lei.sr/s7p8v_S

2019 Innovate Award winners revealed

ISPA will honour twelve members with an ISPA Innovate Award onstage during a general session at the 2019 ISPA Conference & Expo in Las Vegas. Established to recognise those companies who have launched innovative solutions and products over the past year, the Innovate Awards celebrate members who have demonstrated creativity and commitment in the ever-changing market.

"We're very fortunate to have leaders that are constantly

looking for innovative ways to grow our industry," said ISPA president Lynne McNees.

ISPA members determined the winners by voting for their favourite among a lengthy list of 80 Innovate Award applications. The organisation that received the most votes will be awarded ISPA's Innovation of the Year Award, announced at the 2019 ISPA Conference & Expo.

The ISPA Innovate Award recipients and categories are as follows:



The spa at Cliff House was among the nominations for the award

- Leadership & Philanthropy
- Conscious Coconut, Hilton, Saltability.
- Experiences & Treatments
- Knesko Skin, The Edgewater Spa, The Spa at Cliff House
- Technology & Equipment

Hyperice Inc, Living Earth Crafts, Technogym. **Products**

Circadia by Dr. Pugliese, Eminence Organic Skin Care, Noel Asmar Group Inc. *Details: http://lei.sr/Y5H9V_S*

Spa-goer insights from Consumer Snapshot

ISPA PREVIEW

ISPA Foundation has released the ninth volume of its *Consumer Snapshot Initiative*, focusing specifically on the spa-going experience. Findings from this study reveal the spa experience through the lens of spa-goers by diving into their behaviors, preferences and experiences, with particular attention paid to both the role of the service provider and the use of technology.

Service providers continue to play a pivotal role within the spa as they educate and advise spa-goers on a range of topics such as product suggestions, health care ideas and the benefits of spa-going.

When choosing the gender of a service provider, almost half (47 per cent) of spagoers had no preference whatsoever. *Details: http://lei.sr/3F6T8_S*



Buckingham will share insights on how to harness and apply employee strengths

Marcus Buckingham to deliver keynote speech

Marcus Buckingham will be the day two General Session keynote at the 2019 ISPA Conference & Expo, on 12 September in Las Vegas. Buckingham is a leading authority and best-selling author on employee productivity and best practices of leadership and management.

Buckingham's goal as a 'strengths revolutionist' is to build a world where people are passionate about finding love and purpose in their work. Founder of the Love + Work Movement, Buckingham encourages people to create an impactful community that believes everyone has boundless potential.

"Marcus Buckingham's insights on how to maximise workplace strengths will allow our attendees to build stronger, happier teams," said ISPA president Lynne McNees. *Details: http://lei.sr/A9Z4M_S*



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Emma Darby joins Resense as COO

Leading wellness consultancy Resense has announced the promotion of Emma Darby to the position of chief operating officer (COO).

Darby benefits from more than 20 years of experience within the wellness industry. Prior to joining Resense in 2012, she was a senior spa director for six years with Ritz Carlton, managing spas in Tenerife, Dubai and the Manama Spa in Bahrain.

Darby also successfully

directed the award-winning Rosewood Spa in Mayakoba, Mexico and was instrumental in leading and expanding non-invasive laser clinical company throughout the UK.

Since joining Resense, Darby has been a key figure in the company's spa operations globally, progressing from operations manager to regional operations director, and more recently, for the past three years she has directed the entire portfolio as global operations director. Darby will oversee a global team of operations and training managers supporting a portfolio of 35 spas in operation with a further 30 spas in various stages of creation, design and pre-opening.

Darby oversees a team supporting a portfolio of 35 spas in operation

"It is a privilege to lead Resense's operations, in such a time of growth," said Darby. "We have ambitious plans and I look forward to taking our operational support systems to a new level." *Details: http://lei.sr/r7D5B_S*

Los Cabos resort for Four Seasons

Four Seasons will open a resort in Los Cabos, Mexico this November, featuring a 15,855sq ft Oasis Spa.

Designed by Guerin Glass Architects, the Four Seasons Resort Los Cabos at Costa Palmas includes 141 bedrooms, including 23 suites, all designed to integrate indoor-outdoor living.

Native landscaping and layers of texture – metal, wood, glass, plaster and stone – contrast with vibrant local art to create an elemental luxury designed to feel warm and modern. First floor rooms

and suites are outfitted with outdoor showers and private plunge pools.

The Oasis Spa features 10 treatment rooms, including two couples' suites that include outdoor lounge areas and plunge pools.

A hydrotherapy area will feature a steam room and sauna, and the spa will also include a salon for hair, makeup and nails.

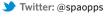
Spa treatments will be available for children and teens, and wellness programmes such as meditation, sound healing and yoga will also be offered. Set against the majestic backdrop of the Sierra de la Laguna Mountains on the



The resort has been designed by Guerin Glass Architects

East Cape of the Baja California Peninsula, the 1,000-acre (405 hectare) resort community of Costa Palmas stretches along two miles (3.2 kilometres) of swimmable white sand beach on the shores of the Sea of Cortez.

"We are truly breaking new ground here, being part of this community that, while only 45-minutes from Los Cabos International Airport, presents an undiscovered paradise like no other on the Baja Peninsula," said Vince Parrotta, Four Seasons president, hotel operations – Americas West. Details: http://lei.sr/e3V2e_S



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Azerai La expands spa offering

Azerai La Residence in Hue, Vietnam – the second hotel from renowned hotelier Adrian Zecha – has unveiled a newly refurbished luxury spa which is more than 50 percent larger than before, and boasts new thermotherapy areas for men and women, in addition to a range of new treatments.

The two-time winner of the World Luxury Spa Award for Vietnam's "Best Luxury Boutique Spa" (in 2013 and 2017) now covers an area of 545sq m (from 360sq



The six treatment rooms are decorated with eclectic details

m before the renovation), with high-end amenities, including six inspired treatment rooms decorated with eclectic details of the great 1930s Art Deco era, along with classic Finnish-style saunas, luxury steamrooms, an ice fountain, and more.

Situated on the ground floor of the hotel's west wing next to a new gymnasium, Le Spa offers two double treatment rooms and four single treatment rooms, each with a fully private dressing area, vanity and shower, as well as a lounge sofa. The redesign features a sophisticated minimalist aesthetic, with neutral color tones and Art Deco flourishes, and was completed by the French-Canadian architect Pascal Trahan, who also designed the tropical bungalows at Azerai Resort Can Tho. **Details:** http://lei.sr/n9R3J_S

Singapore office for Healing Holidays

UK-based wellness travel specialist Healing Holidays has expanded its operations with the opening if its first overseas office in Singapore.

The new branch offers wellness solutions to healthconscious consumers from across Asia, Australia and the West coast of the US.

The Singapore branch will also play an important role in the sourcing and securing of new wellness properties in the region.

The Singapore office will be headed by Claire Bostock, previously chief business

officer at the Absolute Sanctuary resort in Thailand, who will work closely with the head office in the UK.

"Wellness is rooted deeply in Asian tradition and lifestyle, and in the last few years there has been an increasing interest from the region in Wellness travel," said Bostock.

"However, there are no established experts in these markets who can advise and point consumers to the right wellness property or programme to meet their needs.

"Healing Holidays, with its strong brand reputation and profile, is very well placed



Healing Holidays contracts with many of the world's finest spas

to cater to this growing demand and I am extremely excited about expanding its footprint across the region."

Originally a private banker from Singapore, Bostock left the corporate world and started her career in wellness as a Yoga teacher. In 2008 she began overseeing one of Thailand's leading wellness properties, Absolute Sanctuary, and in 2011 her portfolio was expanded to also include Absolute Fit Food and Absolute You's international business expansion and its team of teachers. Details: http://lei.sr/4e5K8_S





Vagheggi S.p.A. | Via Pigafetta 6 36024 Nanto (VI) Italy | Tel. +39 0444 639600 export@vagheggi.com | www.vagheggi.com f@

CALENDAR

5-7 September 2019 Annual SWAA Conference

Sarova Whitesands Beach Resort & Spa, Mombasa, Kenya The event will look to define Africa's role in the global wellness phenomenon. www.swaafrica.org

9-11 September 2019 SpaChina Summit

Ritz-Carlton, Xi'an in China The event provides delegates a unique insight into the growing Chinese market. www.spachina.com

16 September 2019 UK Spa Association -Summer networking event

South Lodge, Horsham, West Sussex, UK

An opportunity for the leaders of the UK spa sector to catch up on developments and trends.

www.spa-uk.org

19-23 September 2019 CIDESCO World Congress & Exhibition

Chicago, United States The event offers industry professionals the opportunity to interact and network with colleagues across the wellness industry. www.cidesco.com/events

19-20 September 2019 Termatalia

Expourense, Ourense, Spain Officially entitled the *19th International Fair of Thermal Tourism, Health and Welfare*, the event aims to be the "thermal bridge between Euroasia and America". www.termatalia.com

21-22 September 2019

World Wellness Weekend

Locations worldwide On the third weekend of September, 2,000+ spas, yoga studios and fitness clubs in 100 countries open their doors to boost wellness.

countries open their doors to boost wellne www.world-wellness-weekend.org

25 September 2019 Asia Fitness & Wellness Summit

Mira Hotel, Hong Kong

Exclusive thought leadership and business development conference for the industry. thefitsummit.com/events/asia



The WWI event includes keynote speakers, breakout sessions and a networking lunch

28 October 2019 Women in Wellness Leadership Conference (WIW) The Waterfront Beach Resort, California, US A conference for women who aspire to leadership in the wellness industry. The

29-30 September 2019 Olympia Beauty

Olympia Exhibition Centre, London Now in it's 15th year, the show attracts around 20,000 beauty professionals to London. www.olympiabeauty.co.uk

7-9 October 2019 Spa Fest 2019

St Michaels Resort, Falmouth, UK Spa Fest offers delegates an opportunity to listen to inspiring speakers and learn about their own wellbeing. www.madeforlife.org/spa-fest-2019

15-17 October 2019 Global Wellness Summit

Grand Hyatt Hong Kong

The Global Wellness Summit is an invitationonly gathering that brings together leaders and visionaries to positively impact and shape the future of the global wellness industry. www.globalwellnesssummit.com sessions and conference programme have been devised to address some of the most pressing issues facing women leaders and leaders-to-be – as well cater for those looking to develop their professional and personal leadership skills. www.americanspawiw.com

15-18 Oct 2019

Piscina & Wellness Barcelona

Gran Via Exhibition Centre, Barcelona, Spain

The leading trade show for residential swimming pools, wellness and public swimming pools (sports and recreational facilities).

www.piscinawellness.com

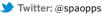
05-08 November 2019

Spa and Wellness International Congress Courtyard by Marriott Hotel

Tbilisi, Georgia

Now in its sixth year, the agenda of the event will be composed of scientific and business conferences and panels, round table discussions, as well as free consultations to attendees from SWIC experts. The congress will be supported by an exhibition, featuring designers, consultants, product distributors and equipment suppliers.

spaandwellnesscongress.com/eng



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Alchemist Spa targets teenage market with treatment menu

The Alchemist Spa at Woolacombe Bay Hotel in Devon, UK, has teamed up with product house Natural Spa Factory to launch its new summer treatment menu, which will include treatments for teenagers.

Designed to give teens the chance to enjoy spa time with their parents and relax after a stressful school year, the treatments, consist of Teenage Dream, a soothing facial developed for younger, hormonal, combination and sensitive skin types and Prom Date, a gel manicure or pedicure.

A range of 'fruity' facials and sea salt pedicures complete the menu.

The spa is looking to capitalise on the current trend for multi-generational tourists and spa visitors.

Details: http://lei.sr/v8S6f_S



Waring spent five years with Six Senses Hotels

Jamie Waring joins Sangha Retreat By Octave Institute

Sangha Retreat by Octave Institute, a master-planned destination retreat for mindful living in China, has appointed Jamie Waring as managing director, wellness. In this newly appointed position, effective immediately, Waring will oversee At One Clinic, At One Healing Spa, and the Family Learning Center.

Waring brings more than 30 years of experience leading cross-cultural teams and working in business development, brand creation, sales and marketing, operations, and financial and strategic planning of multi-unit businesses within the hospitality and wellness industries.

"Jamie's global experience and proven track record in wellness and hospitality is a strategic addition to our senior management team as we further enhance Octave Institute's programming and anticipated expansion," said Sook-Yee Tai, chief operating officer, Octave Institute. Details: http://lei.sr/V4F5F_S

Lahm named COO of TLee Spas

Spa design and consulting firm TLee Spas has named Michael Lahm as vice president and COO.

Based in New York City, Lahm works closely with founder Tracy Lee to conceive and implement new spa and wellness experiences from concept through completion.

In his role, Lahm assumes operational and leadership responsibilities for the company, while continuing his lead role on design and turnkey project management for all development projects.



Based in New York City, Lahm works closely with founder Tracy Lee

"I am thrilled to be elevating Michael's position to COO, which signals the beginning of a new era of growth and deeper focus on design and innovation in operations," said Lee.

"Michael's experience and keen design sensibility allows TLee Spas to build upon the foundation that has been created since the inception of TLee Spas 10 years ago. Our presence on both coasts allows us to have more efficient interaction with clients, designers and operational teams to effectively leverage our diverse, yet complementary backgrounds."

With a background in operations and development, Lahm combines a depth of operational and development expertise within a broad spectrum of the wellness landscape. *Details: http://lei.sr/6K2u7_S*

FHT reveals details of conference

The Federation of Holistic Therapists (FHT) has released details of this year's conference, which will take place on 29 November at The King's Fund in Cavendish Square, London, UK and will focus on research, best practice and positive body image.

Confirmed speakers include Dr John Hughes, director of research for the Royal London Hospital for Integrated Medicine, UCLH NHS Trust and co-chair of the Research Council for Complementary Medicine (RCCM), who will deliver a speech on patient-

reported outcome measures (PROMS) and how this data can be used to evaluate treatments and support integrated healthcare.

Dr Fiona Holland, a massage therapist and senior psychology lecturer at the University of Derby, will be speaking on the impact of negative body image across different populations and encouraging therapists to consider creating pro-esteem environments to support wellbeing, promote healthier 'selftalk' in their clients.

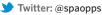
Gwyn Featonby and Sarah Grant from the NHS Natural Health School at Harrogate



The event will include talks from Dr John Hughes and Dr Fiona Holland

District Hospital in the north of England – described as a self-sustaining model of care for cancer patients, delivered by highlytrained therapists – will present a series of case studies demonstrating the ways in which complementary therapies have been successfully integrated into more conventional healthcare.

The event will culminate in an awards ceremony, announcing the winners of the 2019 FHT Excellence Awards which recognises best practice in the industry. *Details: http://lei.sr/c6k8f_S*







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SPA PRODUCTS UPDATE



A.W. Lake launches new lcebox concept for spas

AW Lake Design is set to launch the Icebox, a new cold therapy experience for spas.

Developed over a two-year period, the Icebox consists of three cryo-chambers contained inside a single unit. Each chamber offers a different air temperature, and features natural 'special effects' such as wind chill, humidity and dryness.

It builds up cold resistance gradually by exposing the body to various temperatures and environments, activating stress response pathways that strengthen the body's defence mechanisms KEYWORD: AW LAKE



Aromatherapy Associates launches new forest blend

Aromatherapy Associates has launched Forest Therapy, its first new oil blend in seven years.

Working in partnership with author and Forest Therapy expert Sarah Ivens, the oils features a blend of juniper berry, pink peppercorn and cypress and is intended to be used as part of a daily ritual to improve mental and physical wellbeing through a connection with nature.

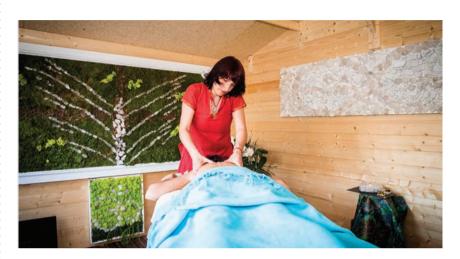
It's designed to help user's lead more 'natureful' lives and promote a sense of calm. KEYWORD: AROMATHERAPY ASSOCIATES

Supplier Spotlight

Industry suppliers tell *Spa Opportunities'* Lauren Heath-Jones about their latest product, treatment and equipment launches.



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Thalion launches exclusive colour-change mask

Crystal artist Elizabeth Contal has developed a new concept for spas that combines crystal therapy and meditation.

Called the Rock Crystal Room, the concept targets all five of the senses and enables spas to offer 'sacred' spaces where guests can relax. It features walls embedded with more than 800 crystals, with varying healing benefits, and is designed to rebalance and recharge the energy centres in the body, known as 'chakras'.

The Rock Crystal Room aims to restore the chakras to optimal functioning, leaving guests mentally and physically balanced.

The concept is entirely scaleable and can be tailored to the clients' needs. It's manufactured by ASPA International. KEYWORD: ELIZABETH CONTAL

Jean-Guy de Gabriac creates massage for Lemi

Lemi has partnered with Tip Touch International CEO Jean-Guy de Gabriac to develop a new massage treatment.

Inspired by the ocean, the Ocean Dream Massage treatment is designed to be performed on Lemi's Spa Dreams table, which features heated water cushions to make users feel weightless.

The movements of the massage, inspired by the flow of waves combined with the peaceful ebb and flow of the water beneath, provides a tactile experience for the client. The heat relaxes muscles, relieves pain and eases tension, and the movement of the water soothes the mind, while water cushions gently cradle the body.

"Taking care of our body is an act of self-



love: a journey to reclaim our balance and enjoy our full-potential," said de-Gabriac. "I've been designing signature massages for cosmetic brands and hotel groups since 2004, so it was a pleasure to be given carte blanche to create a bespoke massage." KEYWORD: LEMI

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



Caprica jumpsuit a stylish and sustainable uniform option

Fashionizer Spa, a uniform supplier for high-end hotels and spas, has launched the Caprica Jumpsuit a comfortable and contemporary uniform for spa therapists.

Billed as an 'effortless and stylish' alternative to the traditional spa uniform, Caprica is part of the New Life collection, which combines Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) fabric with yarn made from 100 per cent recycled plastic bottles to create a fabric that is light, soft and supple, while also being kind to the environment.

Fashionizer Spa uniforms are a popular option for spas which are focused on boosting their sustainability credentials. KEYWORD: FASHIONIZER SPA

L'Authentique is 'perfect alchemy between minerals and plants'

Payot has launched L'Authentique, a cellular booster which combines precious actives and natural ingredients to protect the skin from environmental stressors.

Described as a hybrid between a cream and a serum, L'Authentique was developed for several years, and is formulated



with saponaria plant stem cells, which protect the skin from pollution.

Saponaria stem cells can also improve the skin's elasticity, density and firmness, while pure gold particles reduce the overall appearance of fine lines and wrinkles, as well as blemishes and pigmentation. KEYWORD: PAYOT



NatureSauna launches 'open air wellness' concept

Starpool, an Italian wellness consultancy, has partnered with design studio Aledolci & Co to develop an outdoor sauna concept.

Called NatureSauna, the concept is billed as a tribute to the Nordic culture of 'open air wellness', and is designed to unite 'building, man and nature'.

It's made entirely of Italian spruce wood and offers immersive, natural

experiences for guests 'seeking a healthy lifestyle in harmony with nature'.

"NatureSauna perfectly embodies Starpool's values of: aesthetics, design, texture, effectiveness and environmental care," says Riccardo Turri, CEO of Starpool. "We aim to ensure memorable experiences and NatureSauna is an experience in itself." KEYWORD: STARPOOL



Doctor Babor creates professional skincare range

Doctor Babor, a Germany-based luxury skincare brand, has developed a professional product line.

Called Doctor Babor Pro, the 16-piece collection consists of a range of creams, concentrates, face masks and even a fruit acid peel.

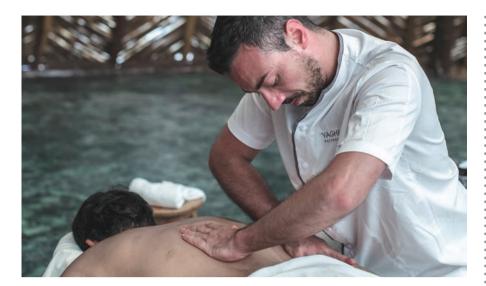
Free from artificial colourants and fragrances, the products were developed in

partnership with skincare experts and are designed to target specific skincare concerns such as dehydration, dryness, irritation, dullness and environmental damage.

The products are formulated with optimal doses of high-performance active ingredients, such as AHA fruit acids, to encourage cell turnover, and hyaluronic acid. KEYWORD: BABOR

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





Irritual line encourages guests to 'take it slow, feel the flow'

Italian skincare brand Vagheggi has partnered with industry consultant Jean-Guy de Gabriac to create Irritual, a signature massage treatment and product line for spas which can be tailored to the client's needs.

A loving homage to Italy, Irritual is made from natural Italian ingredients sourced according to geographic location, such as almonds from Avola, walnuts from Veneto and chestnuts from the Tuscan-Emilian Apennine.

The collection offers a range of professional and retail products, including a massage oil, body scrub and aromatherapy oils as well a haircare line.

De Gabriac, CEO of Tip Touch International, teamed up with Italian perfumer Morgane Collinot for the launch: "Irritual's intention is to encourage guests to 'take it slow, feel the flow'.

The signature massage uses lavish textures and fragrances chosen by Collinot.

"Irritual is completely bespoke to the client, they choose the fragrance, the intention, tempo and depth of the massage, all of which can be changed to fit with the moment," says de Gabriac.

"It's perfect for men and women living in cities who want to disconnect from stress and technology, and reconnect with themselves."

Vagheggi was founded in 1975 and exports to more than 30 countries worldwide. KEYWORD: VAGHEGGI

Knesko masks tap into gemstone energy

Skincare brand Knesko has launched two hydrogel collagen masks for the face, eyes, lips and décolleté to combat environmental damage to the skin using semi-precious gemstones as active ingredients.

The Rose Quartz Antioxidant face mask uses quartz, along with vitamins C and E, white tea, licorice root and grape seed, to calm and repair the skin while protecting it from free radicals. While the Black Pearl Detox uses pearls, which are associated with emotional balance, and bamboo charcoal to draw out toxins and purify the skin.

Knesko founder Lejla Cas, says the masks can be used as a VIP service poolside, or even added to mini-bars, to create multiple wellness touchpoints throughout a property and



increase revenues. "Offering the masks outside of the spa translates to more visits in the spa," she says. "We are blessed that spas and resorts reasonate with our message and mission." KEYWORD: KNESKO



Vital Tech's Nuage promotes feelings of wellbeing

Vital Tech has developed a new infrafred spa lounger boasting a host of physical and mental health benefits.

Called Nuage, the French word for cloud, the lounger features a unique cloudlike shape that envelopes the user while evenly distributing their weight, giving them the sensation of weightlessness.

It's designed to make users feel instantly relaxed and incorporates Vital Tech's patented infratherapy, chromotherapy and music to promote an overall feeling of wellbeing. KEYWORD: VITAL TECH

Anne Semonin collection inspired by Mediterranean summer

Anne Semonin has created a bath and body care collection inspired by summertime in the Mediterranean.

Called Mémoires D'Été, the six-piece collection consists of a hand wash, hand cream, shower gel, body lotion, shampoo and conditioner.

Paraben-free and vegan-friendly, the products are formulated with marine and botanical ingredients to revitalise the skin.



KEYWORD: ANNE SEMONIN

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



[comfortzone] Beauty Reloaded

Skincare brand Comfort Zone has partnered with Wellness for Cancer to create a new programme of spa treatments for people touched by cancer. Barbara Gavazzoli tells us more

t Comfort Zone, we believe in the joy of beauty for everyone, at every age, and in every phase of our life," says Barbara Gavazzoli, director of communication and education for Comfort Zone. "We all have the right and the responsibility to care for the way we look and feel, and

to assist those who need our support; sometimes this is easier, sometimes this gets very challenging for many different reasons. One of those reasons is cancer."

To address this need, Comfort Zone has created a new programme called Beauty Reloaded, which includes a spa facial and body massage for cancer survivors, as well as a professional educational class.

Wellness for Cancer

Gavazzoli points to statistics that show 40 per cent of the population will suffer from cancer at some point during their lives. "Challenging and undesired as the situation can be when facing cancer and its effects, we know today, more than ever, that medical care is key to recover good health, and that professional spa care can be

For a project to succeed, it must have commitment and a cross-functional team that ensures the best for the clients



a valid support in again attaining serenity, energy and a revived glow," she explains.

Gavazzoli first met Julie Bach, chair of Wellness for Cancer, at the Global Wellness Summit in Morocco in 2014, when Bach called for spas to stop turning away cancer survivors and instead, provide comfort, solace and positive recovery paths. Bach has been working closely with Comfort Zone on the Beauty Reloaded programme since then; the skincare company has even made her part of its scientific committee. That committee also includes Dr Mariuccia Bucci, a well-respected dermatologist who is also a founding member of the International-Italian Society of Plastic-Aesthetic and Oncologic Dermatology.

"For a project to succeed, it must have commitment and a cross-functional team that ensures the best for the clients," says Bach. "Comfort Zone's master trainers have been very open to learn, and also share some personal experiences they had with cancer directly or through their clients. This has added a more personal dimension to the professional one, and resulted in a very compassionate and empathic attitude, which is what the brand stands for."

New protocols

The Beauty Reloaded programme includes one facial and one body treatment, as well as the educational session, which helps therapists learn to adapt their protocols to the different guests' needs when they have been through a cancer-related care or surgery.

Bach, left, and Gavazzoli have worked together to create the Beauty Reloaded programme



The new facial uses Comfort Zone's Remedy line to address sensitivity and dehydration



Right: the Beauty Reloaded Pro-Sleep Massage combines a gentle touch and unique soft brushes for relaxation

The facial addresses two important skincare issues of particular importance to cancer survivors: dehydration and sensitivity, which is catered to through Comfort Zone's Remedy line. The body treatment takes on the issue of troubled, poor-quality sleep through the Beauty Reloaded Pro-Sleep Massage. All the formulas applied during these protocols are fragrance-free and without essential oils, to ensure maximum comfort for the skin.

The Beauty Reloaded Facial is a soothing, replenishing, calming facial to help with skin's recovery, and to provide emotional comfort and reinforce the epidermal barrier after periods of intense stress. Fragrancefree delicate formulas are enriched with natural-origin prebiotics, which nourish and empower the skin's good bacteria; Marula oil, which aids in repairing the skin; and Marvel of Peru and Mexican Hyssop extracts, which soothe inflammation.

Julie Bach, chair of Wellness for Cancer, is part of Comfort Zone's scientific committee The Beauty Reloaded Pro-Sleep Massage is designed to deeply alleviate both body and mind, and combines the benefits of a gentle touch and unique soft brushes to induce a deep relaxation. The fragrance-free, nourishing, restoring formulas are enriched with Illipé butter, Jojoba and Babassu oil.

H

"The Beauty Reloaded Pro-sleep Massage responds to the fact that sleep is a big issue for people touched by cancer," says Bach. "Medical evidence suggests that sleep disruption is actually linked to cancer metastasis. Up to eighty per cent

of people touched by cancer have sleep issues during treatment, and many continue to have sleep issues up to 10 years after cancer treatment."

The Beauty Reloaded educational programme, which includes both in-class and digital sessions, is being organised through Comfort Zone's regional branches and distributors around the

> world. The first one took place at Derby University in the UK, with many more scheduled across Europe and the US.

At ease in skin and body

"What people touched by cancer look for – and what we want to offer them – is a regenerative experience that can relieve both their skin and their emotional discomfort," says Gavazzoli. "We want to make them feel and look beautiful and at ease in their skin, and in their bodies – this is why we have called the educational programme and the spa treatments Beauty Reloaded."

Bach finds the name a perfectly fitting one. "The name 'Beauty Reloaded' fully expresses Comfort Zone's understanding that the skin is a mirror of one's physical and emotional wellbeing, and at the same time recalls what Wellness for Cancer stands for," she says. "When someone goes through cancer treatment, the physical effects are very visible on the skin, but what's worse is the damaging psychological effects on their own body perception and the sense of 'lost beauty'. Therefore it is key, as Comfort Zone decided to do, to offer holistic, empathic care including 'clean' products and special massage techniques to repair the skin and ensure a total de-stressing, regenerating experience."

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From the creators of Urban Retreat, 'The White House' a new hair, beauty and hospitality concept is set to open in Knightsbridge this Spring. Be a part of this amazing team set to redefine the London beauty scene.

We are currently recruiting for 2 roles and are looking for individuals who are hardworking, highly skilled and professionals! If you are someone who has real passion for the beauty industry, who would like to be part of the best team in luxury surroundings, and able to provide services of the highest standards then we'd love to hear from you!

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Essential key skills:

- Minimum of 2 years' experience in a professional salon environment
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- Experience in manicure, pedicure, gel, everlasting and acrylic services
- Demonstrable experience of delivering customer excellence
- Excellent organisational and time management skills

- Fluency in English and excellent communication skills
- Sales-driven with the ability to achieve targets
 Sales (actail ability on averaging action action)
- Sales / retail ability or experience
 Ability to work cohesively with other employees as part of a team
- A high level of professionalism and understanding of client confidentiality
- Must be flexible and prepared to work evenings weekends and Bank Holidays
- Must adhere to salon standards of exceptional personal grooming, representing the Urban Retreat brand to the highest of standards

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For the right candidate, The White House are offering the opportunity to spend three weeks training in the Frederic Fekkai salon in NY.

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- Minimum 3 years shop floor and column generating experience
- Excellent all-round colour skills; possess the ability to perform classic, contemporary and trend styles
- Excellent all-round knowledge and experience with colour techniques
- Ability to blow-dry and finish in a modern way
- Good command of English both verbally and in written communication

- Level 3 NVQ or equivalent
- Documented professional development over your career
- Certified training with any of the major providers such as L'Oreal
- Ability to work in areas such as session work, shows, competitions, seminars etc.

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- To have previous experience in a similar role or a real desire to prove yourself as a first-time therapist
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More information: http://lei.sr/l1Q0s

ADDRESS BOOK

Marriot to open W Hotel in Oman

Continued from front cover A 1,800 sqm beachfront pool offers views of the Gulf of Oman and forms part of the W brand's WET experience.

Here, guests can swim, soak up the sun and enjoy signature beverages while listening to live DJ performances.

W Muscat will be hosting a FUEL Weekend in October – the W brand's signature fitness and wellness retreat – where WET will take centre stage. The hotel's FIT fitness centre boasts sea views and state-of-the-art equipment. The architectural

narrative of W Muscat immerses guests in the concept of exploration and the storytelling tradition of the nomadic Bedouin traveler.

Its design is inspired by the diverse natural locale – from the rugged mountain range to the Omani desert and the azure waters of the Arabian Sea. Colourful hints of Muscat's vibrant culture are interspersed throughout the spaces to evoke the mystery and adventure of the city's rich heritage and storied past.



The wellness offer includes a spa and a health club with a big gym floor

Welcoming guests upon arrival is a striking, nine-ton frankincense tree sculpture designed by artist Pongsatat Uaiklang that pays tribute to Omani culture. Standing at an impressive 10 meters tall, the piece is made of solid stainless steel, welded from 28 winding pieces. In traditional Omani culture, frankincense was used to bless and welcome weary travellers after their long journeys.

Details: http://lei.sr/d6J6s_S

GWS 'Shark Tank of Wellness' finalists

The Global Wellness Summit (GWS) has named the three finalists of its annual 'Shark Tank of Wellness' competition.

The finalists – who coincidentally all hail from the Savannah College of Art & Design in Georgia, US - were selected from 191 submissions from students across the globe. They are Jazmin Darling for her WEL Organic Organizers concept; Matthew Payne for his RU Wellness Straw and Simon Lewis for his Enfuze Home Goods Package Concept.

They will be flown to Singapore and hosted at the Grand Hyatt Singapore, where they will compete for US\$10,000 in prize money.

In front of a live audience of more than 600 professionals from across the wellness industry, the finalists will present their ideas to a panel of 'Wellness Sharks', which this year includes Karen Campbell, business development consultant at Chiva-Som; Mia Kyricos, senior vice president and global head of wellbeing at Hyatt Hotels; Joe Magnacca, president and CEO of Massage Envy, Frank Pitsikalis, founder and CEO of ResortSuite, Michael



The 'Wellness Sharks' include Frank Pitsikalis (second from left)

Pugliese, owner and CEO of Circadia Skincare and Hugo Yu, investor of Yu Sum Tong.

The finalists will be judged on the business viability of their concepts, which can serve any aspect of the wellness spectrum including architecture, spa design and technology.

"What makes this such a great opportunity is that, in addition to prize money, airfare and hotel accommodations, the competitors will be fully immersed in the business of wellness, attending the full three-day conference," said Nancy Davis, executive director of the GWS. *Details: http://lei.sr/a4D2s_S* Argentina Spa Association T: +54 11 4468 0879 W: www.asociacionspa.org Association of Malaysian Spas (AMSPA) 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 T: +55 11 2307 5595 W: www.abcspas.com.br Bulgarian Union for Balneology and Spa Tourism (BUBSPA) T: +359 2 942 7130 W: www.bubspa.org China Spa Association T: +86 21 5385 8951 W: www.chinaspaassociation.com Association of Spas of the Czech Republic T: +420 606 063 145 W: www.jedemedolazni.cz The Day Spa Association (US) T: +1 877 851 8998 W: www.dayspaassociation.com **Estonian Spa Association** T: +372 510 9306 W: www.estonianspas.eu **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 Spas 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 W: www.visitspas.eu/iceland The International Medical Spa Association T: +1 877 851 8998 W: www.dayspaassociation.com/imsa International Spa & Wellness Association (ISWA) T: +49 69 130 25 86 0 W: www.iswa.de International Spa Association (ISPA) T: +1 859 226 4326 W: www.experienceispa.com Japan Spa Association W: www.j-spa.jp Leading Spas of Canada T: +1 800 704 6393 W: www.leadingspasofcanada.com National Guild of Spa Experts Russia T: +7 495 226 4289 W: www.russiaspas.ru Portuguese Spas Association T: +351 217 940 574 W: www.termasdeportugal.pt **Romanian Spa Organization** T: +40 21 322 01 88 W: www.romanian-spas.ro Salt Therapy Association W: www.salttherapyassociation.org Samui Spa Association T: +66 7742 08712 W: www.samuispaassociation.com Serbian Spas and Resorts Association T: +381 36 611 110 W: www.serbianspas.org South African Spa Association T: +27 11 447 9959 W: www.saspaassociation.co.za Spanish National Spa Association T: +34 902 1176 22 W: www.balnearios.org Spa Association of India T: +91 995 889 5151 W: www.spaassociationofindia.in Spa Association Singapore T: +65 6223 1158 W: www.spaassociation.org.sg Spa & Wellness Africa Association W: www.spaassociationofafrica.com Spa & Wellness International Council (SWIC) T: +7 4957640203 W:www.1swic.ru Taiwan Spa Association W: www.tspa.tw Thai Spa Association T: +66 2168 7094 W: www.thaispaassociation.com Turkish Spa Association T: +90 212 635 1201 W: www.spa-turkey.com The UK Spa Association T: +44 8707 800 787 W: www.spabusinessassociation.co.uk

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