

## Raffles To Manage Historic Le Royal Monceau In The Heart Of Paris

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Raffles Hotels & Resorts has yesterday signed an agreement with Royal Monceau Pte Ltd to manage the historic Le Royal Monceau hotel in Paris. The hotel will join Raffles Hotels & Resorts' award winning collection of luxury properties in winter 2008.

Le Royal Monceau is jointly owned by Alexandre Allard and Qatari developer, Barwa Real Estate, with Mr. Allard assuming majority ownership. Alexandre Allard is a well respected French entrepreneur, known for his association with luxury brands and his visionary ventures. His heartfelt passion and vision for Le Royal Monceau is an inspiration, bringing together the sophistication of Parisian culture and the inimitable service for which Raffles is renowned worldwide.

Le Royal Monceau is scheduled for refurbishment in 2008 and is greatly anticipated to re-open as a 21st century French masterpiece, fully restored to its former glory under the creative eye of renowned French designer, Philippe Starck. When it re-opens, the hotel will feature 152 of the most spacious and luxurious rooms and suites in Paris, with each guestroom exuding the elegance and residential charm that Raffles hotels and resorts are known for, while maintaining Le Royal Monceau's unique style which celebrates the French tradition of 'art de vivre'.

Raffles Hotels & Resorts will also introduce several environmentally friendly practices, such as the use of Hybrid cars, a solar energy heated swimming pool and recycling processes for water, when Le Royal Monceau makes its re-debut in 2008.

Le Royal Monceau enjoys an unsurpassed location on Avenue Hoche, just minutes from the famous Arc de Triomphe and Champs-Elysees. The hotel opened in 1928, and since then has welcomed numerous dignitaries, celebrities and artists.

Each level of the hotel will feature a private lobby and residents will be able to enjoy residency in rooms that offer features unique in Paris, such as rooms with a view of the hotel's generous landscaped gardens - a rarity in Paris, elegantly appointed duplex suites, and rooms complemented with private balconies. Each room will be individually designed and decorated with modern artwork and contemporary colour palates to exude a timeless feel.

When re-opened, Le Royal Monceau will offer 5 exquisite dining and bar options. From Italian favourites enjoyed al fresco style in the midst of an enchanting landscaped garden, to French cuisine in a fine dining ambience, gourmet aficionados will have much to revel in.

Residents seeking a sophisticated luxury spa experience will find the new Spa at Royal Monceau an ideal sanctuary in which to indulge in the joy of living well. With more treatment rooms to cater for the demand from wellness seekers, a beautifully redesigned indoor swimming pool and a new fitness centre with top of the range equipment, the Spa promises to be a haven of wellness and bliss.

With a team of private butlers, when Le Royal Monceau re-opens, residents will be pampered with attentive and intuitive service, all undertaken in the heartfelt and gracious

manner for which Raffles is renowned. Residents wishing to discover some of the best kept secrets in Paris, the fashion mecca of the world, can also seek the advice of an in-house Fashion Advisor and Personal Shopper.

Le Royal Monceau will make a precious addition to Raffles Hotels & Resort's collection of heritage properties, which includes Raffles Hotel Singapore, Raffles Grand Hotel d'Angkor, Siem Reap, Raffles Hotel Le Royal, Phnom Penh and Raffles Beijing Hotel, China. The Group's approach to the restoration of historic buildings is underscored with a deep respect for each building's treasured memories. This sensitivity has earned for each of its heritage hotels and resorts global recognition as among the finest in the world.

Said Alexandre Allard, President Royal Monceau Pte Ltd., 'Raffles Hotels & Resorts is renowned not only for its expertise in hospitality, service and culinary excellence, but also for its appreciation and respect for local culture. Under the Raffles management, Le Royal Monceau will be the epitome of gracious hospitality imbued with true Parisian spirit. We are very pleased to be working with Raffles, and have no doubt that discerning travellers to Paris will find Le Royal Monceau, a veritable Palace of the 21st century.'

'We are delighted to have been entrusted with this historic property, and to bring the Raffles name to this much sought-after destination. With its array of old and new world attractions, Paris continues to be the destination of choice for millions of visitors each year,' commented Bill Fatt, Chief Executive Officer, Fairmont Raffles Hotels International. "We look forward to working with our partners to fully refurbish and restore Le Royal Monceau to its original grandeur."

Diana Ee-Tan, Managing Director, Raffles Hotels & Resorts added, 'We have always wanted to extend the presence of Raffles to Paris, and we are thrilled that we now have this opportunity to be a part of this vibrant city. Le Royal Monceau will be distinguished by the heartfelt service, refined ambience and residential charm that Raffles hotels and resorts around the world are known for, to become the favoured home-away-from-home for privileged travellers to Paris.'

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