

IHG Announces Plans for Second Crowne Plaza Hotel in the Caribbean

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Puerto Rico capital to host \$77 million new-build property near the Hato Rey Business District

IHG (InterContinental Hotels Group) announced plans to construct a 264-room Crowne Plaza hotel in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Slated to open mid-2009, the new Crowne Plaza will be situated near the Hato Rey Business District and just minutes from the Luis Munoz Marin International Airport. The new hotel, which is owned by Plaza Internacional and will be managed by Plaza Internacional Hospitality Group, under a license agreement with a company in the InterContinental Hotels Group, will be the Caribbean's second Crowne Plaza hotel.

'We are thrilled to expand our hotel portfolio in the Caribbean with the addition of a Crowne Plaza in San Juan,' said Gina LaBarre, vice president, Brand Management, Crowne Plaza Hotels & Resorts, the Americas. 'Puerto Rico has long been considered a mainstay for international leisure and business travel in the Caribbean and we look forward to providing guests with the brand's industry-leading amenities, including the meetings services and Sleep Advantage program.'

The new Crowne Plaza will be located in San Juan, the largest city in Puerto Rico and minutes away from the island's commerce, entertainment, shopping districts and tourist attractions. It will be part of a mixed-use development spanning 26 acres, which will include 558,600 sq. ft. of shopping mall space and two 11-story office buildings with 429,400 sq. ft. The hotel will be constructed in two connecting towers with direct access to the new Plaza Internacional shopping mall that will neighbor the hotel.

Overlooking the San Jose Lagoon, the new Crowne Plaza property will have expansive views of the Atlantic Ocean and will afford guests access to popular destinations, including the Puerto Rico Convention Center, historic Old San Juan, and the new José Miguel Agrelot Coliseum. The Crowne Plaza in San Juan will be the fourth IHG hotel property in San Juan. Other IHG properties include the InterContinental San Juan Resort & Casino, Holiday Inn San Juan, and Holiday Inn Express San Juan.

The new Crowne Plaza hotel will offer its guests the luxury and convenience of a day spa for both adults and children, a casino, fitness center, outdoor pool with Jacuzzi, upscale in-room amenities, valet and self parking, a full-service business center, and the popular Crowne Plaza Club Level.

The new Crowne Plaza in San Juan will feature the brand's Sleep Advantage(R) which is available at all Crowne Plaza hotels in the Americas. The Sleep Advantage encompasses the entire sleep experience, from training staff on how to create and maintain a restful environment to providing innovative products and services. Program components include new bedding, guaranteed wake-up calls, designated quiet zones, night lights, drape clips, sleep CDs, sleep tips and amenities such as eye masks, ear plugs and lavender spray.

Also consistent with the Crowne Plaza brand, the hotel will offer a comprehensive meetings package to ensure a seamless planning process and exceptional meeting experience consisting of three key components: a Two-Hour Response Guarantee, Crowne Meetings Director and a Meetings Daily Debrief. The new Crowne Plaza in San Juan will offer 15,000 sq. ft. of meeting space with complimentary wireless and wired high speed Internet access.

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