

Langham Hotels International Signs Management Agreement for Boutique Vineyard Resort + Spa In
New Zealand
2008-07-14

Langham Hotels International (LHI) has signed a new management agreement which takes Langham Place, a sister brand of The Langham, outside Asia. The luxury hotel operator will manage the five-star boutique Vineyard Resort + Spa on behalf of Isola Estate on Waiheke Island, an exclusive enclave 30 minutes off the coast of Auckland, New Zealand, which will open in 2010.

The resort will nestle amongst the 26 award-winning vineyards of Waiheke Island including its own, forming the basis of a paradise for travellers and meeting planners seeking a gastronomic and wine lover's experience. The management agreement with Isola Estate marks the sixth Langham Place branded property in the world.

Langham Place Vineyard Resort + Spa, Waiheke Island, Auckland is designed by one of New Zealand's leading hotel architects, CDA Architecture. The boutique resort will feature modern Tuscan-style characteristics and showcase 78 contemporary condominium-style rooms and suites, a Chuan Spa, state-of-the-art gym, tennis courts, a premium quality restaurant as well as extensive meeting and banquet facilities for up to 300 people.

The island resort experience will include an interactive wine theatre which will form the heart of the special events showcase for conferences, meetings, incentive groups, banquets and wine tours.

Langham Place Vineyard Resort + Spa, Waiheke Island is just 8 minutes by helicopter and 30 minutes by ferry from downtown Auckland.

Dr. KS Lo, Chairman of Langham Hotels International said: 'The Langham brand is well-established in Auckland with an enchanting property in the heart of the city. We're pleased to be introducing its vibrant sibling brand, Langham Place to New Zealand, offering a stimulating and adventurous choice for the region.'

'Langham Place will help to open up new global luxury travel markets when it opens with its exciting blend of inspiring hospitality. Waiheke Island will capture imaginations with an incredible aerial arrival experience that will be matched only by its vineyards and facilities,' he added.

Brent Gibson, Managing Director of Isola Estate anticipates that a new level to New Zealand's luxury wine tourism market will be created. He said: "Langham Place Vineyard Resort + Spa, Waiheke Island will be the Martha's Vineyard of the South Pacific. The resort will create a new dynamism to the economy of Waiheke Island - building a five star boutique, wine-based hospitality business.'

'When the resort is completed, it will create a buzz with meeting planners looking for new ideas in New Zealand and the South Pacific by adding new facilities to the Auckland scene.'

'Langham Hotels International's operation of Isola Estate will ensure that the hotel achieves maximum exposure to the international market, and that it has the impeccable service standard for which Langham properties are world-renowned, Isola Estate is being developed in a sustainable, controlled manner which fits with the landscape visually and ensures that the clean, green qualities for which Waiheke Island - and New Zealand - are known are protected and preserved,' he concluded.

Langham Hotels International is the subsidiary of the Hong Kong-based Great Eagle Holdings, spearheaded by Dr. KS Lo, who is also the Chairman and Managing Director of Great Eagle Holdings. Spanning four continents, the group currently features 15 properties either open or under construction, with over 5,000 rooms in 11 cities, namely Auckland, Beijing, Boston, Changchun, Hong Kong, Koh Lanta, London, Melbourne, Pasadena, Shanghai and Toronto

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