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Radisson Blu Hotel Sandton celebrates Grand Opening

New hotel offers complete luxury for business and leisure travelers in Johannesburg

The Radisson Blu Hotel Sandton in the South African city Johannesburg has celebrated its glamorous Grand Opening. The hotel which is the landmark building in the recently developed Sandton Isle offers guests a truly five-star experience in the heart of Sandton. "We are proud to open our doors to guests who will enjoy European contemporary style rooms and elegant public spaces resulting in the creation of a truly innovative lifestyle" says District Director of Southern Africa and General Manager, Maarten van den Nieuwenhuijsen.

All 290 guest rooms have individual climate control, flat screen LCD television, en-suite bathrooms with bath and shower facilities, comfortable work stations and free high speed wireless internet access. The design reflects a clean, cool style and incorporates the sophistication and elegance of other Radisson hotels, while introducing a unique South African feel that is reflective of van den Nieuwenhuijsen and his staff's "Yes, I Can!" attitude. "It's about creating an experience for our guests, a sense that anything is possible and that we are there to ensure it happens," he says.

Conveniently located within the exclusive Sandton Isle development in Rivonia Road, the hotel is within walking distance of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange and major banking institutions and is a focus point for the area. "The Radisson Blu Sandton has forever changed the skyline of Sandton and we wanted a hotel culture that reflects the key place the hotel has taken in the city," says van den Nieuwenhuijsen. "Radisson Blu is all about the comfort of our guests and meeting their needs – and the Sandton hotel will exemplify this, both physically and in terms of the staff attitude and culture."

Amenities are first class offering a full-service experience to guests for business or leisure. Pride of place goes to the first-class Vivace restaurant, which serves cutting edge, top quality Italian food that van den Nieuwenhuijsen says will be the best in the city. Executive chef Paul Gindra is part of the multiple gold-medal winning South African team at the Culinary Olympics, which took place in Germany this year.

Located on the 9th floor, an elegant outdoor swimming pool and sun deck is the ideal place to enjoy the African sunshine. Run by ONEwellness Spa and Platinum Planet Fitness Gym, the hotel houses a modern wellness centre along with a spacious fitness centre (5000 m²). Guests looking to get their heart racing can enjoy a run on the fabulous indoor/outdoor jogging circuit which snakes in and out of the hotel's public areas.

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The Rezidor Hotel Group currently operates a further Radisson hotel in Cape Town and will open new properties of this core brand in Port Elizabeth (2009), Blaauwberg (2010) and yet again in Sandton: The Radisson Blu Hotel Sandton Central featuring 200 rooms is scheduled to welcome the first guests in early 2010.

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About the Rezidor Hotel Group:

***The Rezidor Hotel Group** is one of the fastest growing hotel companies in the world. The group features a portfolio of close to 370 hotels in operation and under development with 78,000 rooms in 58 countries.*

*Rezidor operates the brands **Radisson Blu Hotels & Resorts, Regent Hotels & Resorts, Park Inn and Country Inns & Suites** in Europe, Middle East and Africa, along with the goldpoints plusSM loyalty programme for frequent hotel guests. Rezidor has signed a worldwide license agreement with the Italian fashion house Missoni, in order to develop and operate a lifestyle hotel brand of the same name: **Hotel Missoni**.*

In November 2006, Rezidor was listed on the Stockholm Stock Exchange. Carlson Companies is the main shareholder.

The Corporate Office of the Rezidor Hotel Group is based in Brussels, Belgium.

For more information on Rezidor, visit www.rezidor.com