

Radisson SAS Hotels & Resorts: New first-class Radisson SAS Hotel in Lucerne

Egg/Zurich, 15 February 2006. **In summer 2006, Radisson SAS opens its new hotel in Lucerne at a top location in the Lakefront Centre, next to the railway station and the KKL Luzern (Culture & Congress Centre). With the two Radisson SAS Hotels in Basel and St. Gallen, this is the group's third hotel in Switzerland. With a total area of over 11'000 square metres, the hotel offers guests 165 rooms, a multi-functional conference and banqueting area, a restaurant with lounge and bar, a fitness centre and underground parking. In addition to the Radisson SAS Hotel, the complex houses luxury apartments, an educational institute, gastronomy establishments, retail outlets and offices. The high-standard, six-storey building plus attic storey has an overall effective floor area of around 21'000 square metres and a building volume of some 100'000 cubic metres. It has a direct link to the main railway station via a covered pedestrian walkway.**

The services of the new hotel are aimed principally at business travellers and company clients. The planned operating concept thus focuses on these target groups and guests will find all the fine amenities expected of a first-class hotel.

Kurt Ritter, President & CEO of Rezidor SAS Hospitality, says: "As a Swiss, I've always had great faith in our domestic hospitality industry and in our company's development of hotel projects in this central location. With the existing Radisson SAS Hotels in Basel and St. Gallen, the new hotels at Lucerne and Zurich Airport, the two Park Inns in Lully and at Zurich Airport and the Park Inn project in Fribourg, we are now one Switzerland's leading international hotel groups."

Ideal infrastructure for congresses, seminars and business travellers

The 165 rooms and suites have floor areas from 28 to 73 square metres. Each is planned to perfection and furnished with flair in one of three chic contemporary styles, "Urban", "Resort" and "Lifestyle", by acclaimed Swiss designers "Team by Wellis". All rooms and suites have an LCD flat-screen television and offer a "WiFi High Speed System" for fast, free, and cordless Internet access - as do all other public areas throughout the hotel.

The approximately 720-square-meter conference sector is equipped with state-of-the-art technology and comprises ten rooms with flexible usage options. The largest room can be divided and accommodates up to 180 persons and also has a separate foyer. Six conference rooms have dividing walls and can be extended if more space is required.

The modern design "Luce" restaurant seats 120 guests with a terrace providing extra seating in summer. The restaurant is decorated in warm colour tones, with an open fireplace, bamboo parquet flooring and light leather seating awarding an elegant yet informal atmosphere. Guests are pampered with light Mediterranean dishes prepared in the open show kitchen. The cosy lounge with its free-standing bar and direct restaurant access is the perfect place to rendezvous with friends for a drink or to enjoy a light snack. The hotel amenities are rounded off by a fitness zone fully equipped with the latest apparatus, underground parking and spectacular views of Lucerne's lovely lake and mountain world.

Rezidor SAS Hospitality on expansion course in Switzerland

Rezidor SAS aims to increase the number of its hotels in Switzerland from four to seven by 2008. The Radisson SAS portfolio with the existing hotels in Basel and St. Gallen will be complemented by two hotels, one in Lucerne (opening mid-2006) and one at Zurich Airport (opening 2008). The Park Inn brand with two hotels in Lully and at Zurich Airport will be augmented by a new hotel in Fribourg (project in planning stage).