



THE EXCELSIOR HOTEL GALLIA, A LUXURY COLLECTION HOTEL, MILAN

Made in Milan, Excelsior Hotel Gallia Offers Refined Style, Exceptional Hospitality and Indigenous Travel Experiences in the Heart of the Emerging Porta Nuova District

MILAN, Italy –The Luxury Collection® Hotels & Resorts announced in May 2015 the opening of **Excelsior Hotel Gallia, a Luxury Collection Hotel, Milan**. Owned by Katara Hospitality, this Milanese landmark emerged from a meticulous, all-encompassing renovation of the historic building, whilst adding a new contemporary wing. Formerly known as “Palace Gallia”, the hotel is strongly rooted in Milanese history, located in the heart of the new Porta Nuova district. Excelsior Hotel Gallia is the latest gem to be unveiled by The Luxury Collection as part of a multi-million Euro investment to restore the brand’s most iconic European hotels.

“Excelsior Hotel Gallia is a magnificent property that has undergone a meticulous renovation and strategic expansion that marries contemporary design with the hotel’s Belle Époque architectural style, ensuring that this remains as one of Milan’s historic landmarks,” said Sheikh Nawaf Bin Jassim Bin Jabor Al-Thani, Chairman, Katara Hospitality. “This Luxury Collection hotel is one of Katara Hospitality’s flagship international investments and we are proud of what has been achieved together with our partners such as Marriott International. Excelsior Hotel Gallia is a true reflection of our vision to ensure the heritage of such iconic properties continues around the world” added Hamad Abdulla Al-Mulla, CEO and Board Member, Katara Hospitality.

Led by the award-winning Milan-based **Studio Marco Piva**, the extensive architecture and interior design project marries contemporary aesthetics with the hotel’s original Belle Époque style. The renowned design firm also curated a unique collection of more than 500 pieces of art, including paintings, sculptures and photographs. The interiors feature distinct references to Milanese lifestyle and the timeless elegance of the Art Deco era, including furnishings exclusively created by Italian designers and craftsmen.

Excelsior Hotel Gallia comprises two buildings – the fully restored historic palace and a new modern wing with a façade that resembles a delicate steel and glass curtain. The striking juxtaposition is inspired by the hotel’s luminous past and the emerging skyline of the Porta Nuova area. Guests entering the hotel are welcomed by the dazzling sight of a custom-made 30-metre Murano glass chandelier created by De Majo, depicting a waterfall of 180 light cylinders which illuminates the eight-story monumental stairwell. The historical lobby pays tribute to notable Milanese architecture of the 1930s, such as La Scala Theatre, Vittorio Emanuele Gallery and Villa Necchi Campiglio. The public spaces have been outfitted by B&B Italia using aluminium, glass and marble.

Excelsior Hotel Gallia features 235 luxurious guest rooms, including 53 suites. The 1,000sqm **Katara Royal Suite** – one of the largest Royal Suites in Italy – is situated on the seventh floor, offering two terraces, four bedrooms and a private spa. The two-bedroom **Gallia Presidential Suite** mimics a sophisticated private residence with its beautiful loggia surrounded by historical columns and statues. The other 51 suites revolve around four distinct themes: **Signature Suites**, dedicated to a renowned Milanese designer or architect, namely Vico Magistretti, Achille Castiglioni, Giò Ponti, Luigi Caccia Dominioni and Franco Albini; **Atelier Suites** have been conceived as art galleries with theatrical use of lighting, colour, and artworks; **Panoramic Suites**, bright open spaces which overlook the square and feature a large sliding panel with photos of the hotel’s historic façade; while **Executive Suites** are inspired by the elegant atmosphere of Milanese lofts and guests might choose between a suite featuring Technogym equipment for personal workout with city view or a Suite with steam bath and chromo therapy.

All the rooms are outfitted by Cassina Contract with the exception of the Katara Royal Suite which has been furnished by B&B Italia.

Opened in September 2015 on the seventh floor, the hotel’s roof-top mixologist bar and signature restaurant **Terrazza Gallia** is managed by the brothers Vincenzo and Antonio Lebano with the advice of the renowned Cerea family. With the three Michelin-star duo Enrico and Roberto Cerea providing culinary guidance on Terrazza Gallia, diners can savour the best of traditional Italian and Lombard cuisine with a contemporary

twist. Guests seated on the covered and heated outdoor terrace enjoy a panoramic view of Milan, including the landmark Central Station and the adjacent Pirelli skyscraper by Giò Ponti. The Cerea family also lend their gastronomic expertise to the hotel's banqueting and events services. The **Gallia Restaurant** on the ground floor offers the ideal location for a breakfast meeting, smart business lunch, or private dinner, whilst the **Wine Cellar** is the ideal setting for an intimate private lunch or dinner.

Featuring the first Shiseido Spa in Italy, guests can enjoy treatments at **Shiseido Spa Milan**, one of the largest hotel spa in Milan, spanning over 1,000sqm. Located on the sixth and seventh floors of the hotel, the spa provides a relaxing and tranquil ambiance with natural daylight, offering a wide range of beauty and wellness rituals as well as a swimming pool and fitness area with the latest equipment from Artis by Technogym.

The hotel's historical Cupola room on the seventh floor houses a modern, multifunctional space equipped with the latest audio-visual technology, making it a spectacular and unique venue for celebrations and events. Connecting the historical centre of the hotel with the main hall of the new building is the indoor "Promenade", a charming 100-metre walkway with large boutique windows from the fashionable Montenapoleone Street. The ground floor of the new wing features 12 meeting rooms, spanning across 1000sqm, as well as 700sqm of foyer space

For more information about Excelsior Hotel Gallia, visit www.luxurycollection.com/excelsiorgallia.

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Marriott International, Inc. (NASDAQ: MAR) is based in Bethesda, Maryland, USA, and encompasses a portfolio of more than 7,300 properties under 30 leading brands spanning 134 countries and territories. Marriott operates and franchises hotels and licenses vacation ownership resorts all around the world. The company offers Marriott Bonvoy™, its highly - awarded travel program with 141 million members globally. For more information, please visit our website at www.marriott.com, and for the latest company news, visit www.marriottnewscenter.com. In addition, connect with us on [Facebook](#) and [@MarriottIntl](#) on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

About The Luxury Collection® Hotels & Resorts

The Luxury Collection®, part of Marriott International, Inc., is comprised of world-renowned hotels and resorts offering unique, authentic experiences that evoke lasting, treasured memories. For the global explorer, The Luxury Collection offers a gateway to the world's most exciting and desirable destinations. Each hotel and resort is a unique and cherished expression of its location; a portal to the destination's indigenous charms and treasures. Originated in 1906 under the CIGA® brand as a collection of Europe's most celebrated and iconic properties, today The Luxury Collection brand is a glittering ensemble, recently surpassing 119 of the world's finest hotels and resorts in more than 30 countries and territories. All of these hotels, many of them centuries old, are internationally recognized as being among the world's finest. For more information and new openings, visit theluxurycollection.com or follow Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. The Luxury Collection is proud to participate in Marriott Bonvoy, the new name of Marriott's travel program replacing Marriott Rewards®, The Ritz- Carlton Rewards®, and Starwood Preferred Guest® (SPG). The program offers members an extraordinary portfolio of global brands, experiences on Marriott Bonvoy Moments and unparalleled benefits including earning points toward free hotel stays and nights toward Elite status recognition. To enrol for free or for more information about the program, visit MarriottBonvoy.marriott.com.

About Katara Hospitality

Katara Hospitality is a global hotel owner, developer and operator, based in Qatar. With more than 40 years' experience in the industry, Katara Hospitality actively pursues its strategic expansion plans by investing in peerless hotels in Qatar while growing its collection of iconic properties in key international markets. Katara Hospitality has already achieved its target of owning and/or managing 30 hotels by 2016 two years ahead of schedule and is now focused on adding another 30 properties by 2026. As the country's flagship hospitality organisation, Katara Hospitality supports Qatar's long term economic vision. Katara Hospitality currently owns properties spread across three continents in Qatar, Egypt, Morocco, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Singapore and Thailand. While it partners with some of the finest hotel management companies, Katara Hospitality operates owned and non-owned hotels through its standalone operating arm, Murwab Hotel Group. Katara Hospitality has gained global recognition for the contributions it has made to the Qatari and international hospitality landscape. The World Travel Awards have named it the World's Leading Hospitality Company for two years running as well as the Middle East's Leading Hospitality Development Company. On a regional scale, Katara Hospitality has been recognised as the Hospitality Company of the Year at the fifth Arabian Business Qatar Awards and the '2014 Hospitality Achiever' at the Inaugural Qatar Enterprise Agility Awards. For more information, please visit www.katarahospitality.com

About Studio Marco Piva

Exciting, fluid, functional. This is the language that distinguishes MARCO PIVA's architectural creations, product and interior design. The effort in material research and technology, the value of differentiation, the design innovation, lead the establishment of Studio Marco Piva, whose work ranges from large projects to architectural interior design, to industrial design. A traveller and a designer, an innovator educated in rational approaches, Marco Piva studies and creates design solutions which are pervaded by stylistic freedom and stylish elegance. For more information, visit www.studiomarcopiva.com

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