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world

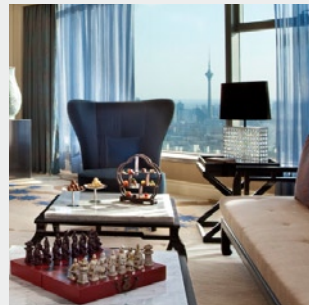


RAFFLES
HOTELS & RESORTS

RAFFLES world

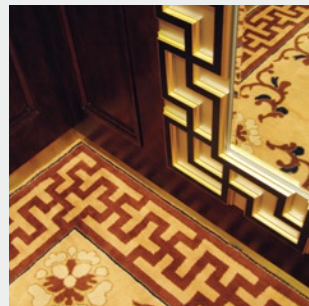
AN UPDATE BY RAFFLES HOTELS & RESORTS
ISSUE 1, 2010

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Auspicious opening for Raffles Tianjin

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+ Prefix with your international access code
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Raffles Hotels & Resorts is owned by Fairmont Raffles Hotels International, a leading global hotel company with 95 hotels worldwide under the Raffles, Fairmont and Swissôtel brands. The company also manages Fairmont and Raffles branded Residences, Estates and luxury private residence club properties

www.raffles.com



Soaring above the central business district, Raffles Tianjin is a striking landmark in this dynamic Chinese city. The hotel is located along the prime shopping belt of Binjiang Avenue, high atop Tianjin Centre's glittering West Tower, above a retail mall.

Tianjin is north China's future financial hub, only 30 minutes by high-speed train from Beijing, and easily accessible from key international cities through Tianjin Binhai International Airport. There are many cultural and natural attractions to be explored, including the 15th century Confucian Temple, the magnificent 1,000-year-old Dule Temple, a section of the Great Wall of China and spectacular Panshan Mountain.

The penthouse hotel welcomed its first guests recently, and is set to celebrate its grand opening in June.

Raffles Tianjin is an urban retreat in this vibrant city, featuring 116 luxurious rooms with sweeping views, including 22 elegantly appointed suites – the most spacious in the city. The oversized rooms exude intimacy with an air of sophistication and residential comfort –



The Presidential Suite features two bedrooms, a spacious living room (pictured) and dining room. Glittering Swarovski crystal chandeliers add to the dramatic modernity.

harmonising contemporary interiors with exquisite Chinese furnishings.

Hotel residents will experience a unique level of service, including the exemplary and discreet Raffles Butler. Raffles Tianjin also pioneers the city's first 24-hour citywide Business Concierge ready to assist whether hotel residents are within the hotel or across the city, from arranging culturally appropriate gifts for a meeting, arranging for a professional translator or city guide. Assistants can also attend to any pre-arrival requests, and are permanently in contact through email, direct telephone or text message (SMS).

Unrivalled dining experiences include five exclusive restaurants and lounges – Qing Palace Chinese restaurant; City Space bar and Sôu contemporary Japanese restaurant atop the building with dramatic views; as well as Opera Café and the Lobby Lounge.

Raffles Tianjin is the ideal venue for a memorable business or social function, with unsurpassed banqueting, conference and corporate event facilities, featuring a Grand Ballroom accommodating up to 400 guests.

(right) All bathrooms feature stunning views. Luxuriate in a warm long bath and soak in the city skyline.



(top left) Clay figurine sculptures, a local Tianjin artform, adorn each table at Qing Palace for added aesthetic and cultural appeal. (top right) Located on level 50, Japanese restaurant Sôu offers a bird's eye view of the city skyline.





The Writers' Bar honours the many Chinese and foreign literary luminaries - including American journalist and writer Edgar Snow, Indian poet Rabindrinath Tagore and Chinese novelist Guo Mo Ruo - who have been in residence at the hotel, visited or written about it over the years.

Beijing snapshot

Bustling hutongs, ancient palaces and temples, ballroom dancers in parks, towering skyscrapers and over 17 million people. Beijing is one of the world's most fascinating cities.

The capital of The People's Republic of China, Beijing is one of the country's six ancient cities, with an intriguing history dating back over 3,000 years.

With a wealth of attractions to discover, it's not surprising Beijing is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world.

The Great Wall of China is an engineering marvel and an incredible experience to explore. Construction of the original wall began over 2,000 years ago and overall the wall extends more than 6,000 kilometers. There are sections of The Great Wall within close proximity of Beijing.

Located at the heart of the ancient city of

Beijing, the Forbidden City, also known as Palace Museum, is China's largest and best-preserved imperial residence, home to 23 successive emperors. The sprawling grounds cover 720,000 square metres, and comprise a staggering 800 buildings and 9,999 rooms.

Covering an area of 44 hectares, Tiananmen Square is the world's largest downtown plaza. Located in the city's centre, Tiananmen Square is a popular tourist attraction with great cultural significance. Tiananmen Square is named after its magnificent Tiananmen Square Rostrum (Gate of Heavenly Peace), the first gate of the Imperial Palace during the Ming and Qing dynasties. Tiananmen Square features Tiananmen Square Tower, Monument to the People's Heroes, Great Hall of the People and Mao Zedong Memorial Hall.

In the northwestern suburbs of Beijing next to the Summer Palace, discover the historic relics of Yuan Ming Yuan

(Old Summer Palace), once the seat of government of the emperors of the Qing Dynasty.

The Temple of Heaven is one of Beijing's most distinctive landmarks. The most impressive building in the park is the Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests. The structure's three-tiered roof and golden dome are among Beijing's most recognisable symbols.

Conveniently located just minutes from the Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square and in close proximity to the Silk Market and other famous sights, is Raffles Beijing Hotel. Established in the 1900s, the hotel evolved from small hostel to legendary hotel over the course of a century and served as a venue of social contact for Chinese and foreign dignitaries. As Beijing flourished, the hotel became the preferred address for gourmet parties, concerts, dances and the bar was especially popular with diplomats and journalists.



Raffles Beijing Hotel features nine distinctive Personality Suites named after personalities who were associated with the Hotel in its early heyday, including dramatist George Bernard Shaw who resided in Beijing Hotel whilst in China.



Raffles Beijing Hotel is tastefully appointed with European and Oriental details such as hand-tufted carpets from the province of XinJiang, famous for carpet weaving since the days of the Silk Road, and Austrian crystal chandeliers (above) reminiscent of the grand hotels in Europe.

Luxury Residences in the Seychelles



Raffles Estates luxury homes are being developed on Praslin Island, the second largest island in the Seychelles and the most pristine and tranquil.

The residential paradise offers 3, 4 and 5-bedroom freehold homes each with an infinity pool, for private ownership. Located adjacent to Raffles Praslin resort which will open in the first quarter of 2011, home owners will enjoy access to the stunning Raffles Spa, dining and leisure facilities at the resort and exclusive membership in The Raffles Ambassadors affording privileges at Raffles hotels and resorts worldwide.

Raffles Estates homes at Seychelles are designed by architects Wimberly Allison Tong and Goo, one of the world's leading design consultants, with interiors by Wilson Associates Interior Design who are renowned for designs which seek to interpret the geographical flavour of each location by using local craftsmen, artisans and artists.

Soon to be completed in summer 2010 will be the 4-bedroom model estate home occupying 460 square metres at Praslin Island.

For more information on homes and development progress, simply visit www.seychellesraffles.com

(clockwise from top left) Raffles Estates at the Seychelles features elegantly appointed living rooms, bedrooms and patio.



Sizzling dining at Raffles Dubai



Fire & Ice at Raffles Dubai has unveiled a scintillating new menu.

John Pelling, General Manager, Raffles Dubai describes the cuisine as “Nothing complicated or pretentious, simply excellent steaks and side dishes, with a few surprises”.

A steakhouse with a contemporary twist, the tantalizing menu includes such tempting offerings as Rare Greg Norman Wagyu Marble S, Juicy Fire burger, beef ribs that slip off the bone through to wickedly decadent desserts.

The new menu is complemented by an award winning wine list of more than 400 wines, credited by the prestigious Wine Spectator 2009 and offering the best of both the Old and New World.

Four semi-private dining rooms located on the mezzanine floor, with two outdoor terraces,



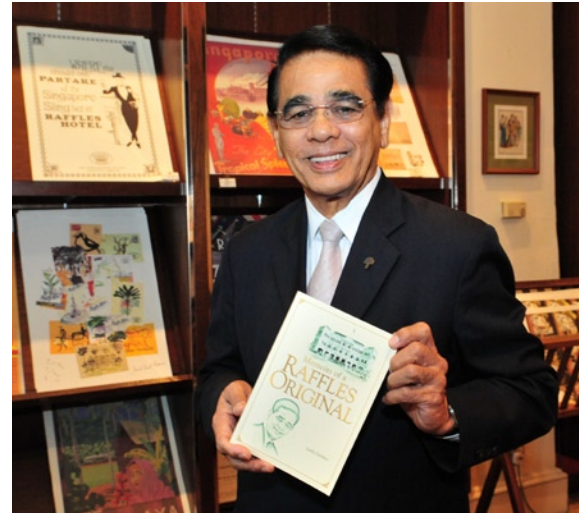
The Australian Grain Fed Sirloin - a classic favourite .

are perfect venues for intimate gatherings and elevated entertainment in total privacy.

The sophisticated surroundings and dramatic atmosphere, combined with the unparalleled Raffles service, ensure Fire & Ice is Dubai's ultimate dining destination.

Fire & Ice is open for dinner every day from 7 until 11.30pm.

A true Raffles original



Recently, Raffles Hotel Singapore launched “Memoirs of a Raffles Original”, a fascinating new book featuring the story of the hotel’s Resident Historian, Mr. Leslie Danker and his unique relationship with the iconic property. In this illuminating and humorous autobiographical account, Mr. Danker recounts his nearly four decades of service; from humble beginnings in the maintenance department, to becoming “The Grand Dame’s” first Resident Historian, sharing the hotel’s illustrious history with visitors, celebrities and dignitaries.

In Memoirs of a Raffles Original, he shares historical anecdotes of the hotel through the device of an encounter with two fictional residents Mr and Mrs Turner: “For decades, the lobby here was actually the Main Dining Room. After dinner, the tables would be cleared to make way for dancing, fancy dress balls, and sometimes,” I pause before adding, “skating parties.”

“Skating! On the marble floor?” Mr Turner shook his head. “They knew how to live back then, didn’t they!”

“Well, the damage to the marble is probably why they were eventually stopped,” I say. “The Nobel Prize-winning author Herman Hesse also describes them as being very noisy when he stayed here on the 29th of October, 1911.”

“Memoirs of a Raffles Original” is available at Raffles Hotel Shops and selected bookstores in Singapore.

Raffles welcomes new General Managers



MR. ROBERT HAUCK RAFFLES GRAND HOTEL D'ANGKOR

With a distinguished career spanning twenty-two years, Mr. Robert Hauck has held senior positions at renowned hotels in Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur, Taipei, Shanghai, Ecuador, Leipzig and Bermuda, and brings a wealth of experience to his new position of General Manager of Raffles Grand Hotel d'Angkor in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

An avid athlete, Mr Hauck regularly takes his triathlon training through the scenic landscape of Siem Reap with long runs and distance cycling. He commented, “It is such a pleasure to be in Siem Reap. From the temples of Angkor to the floating villages of the lake, Siem Reap offers a multitude of unique sights and experiences. It is a stunning highlight of any journey through Asia.”



MR. OLIVIER HEUCHENNE RAFFLES PRASLIN, SEYCHELLES

Mr Olivier Heuchenne is a hospitality veteran with close to two decades of global experience in the luxury arena and has held progressive management positions with established hotel groups in Hawaii, California, Cancun, Egypt, London, Singapore, Hong Kong, Barcelona, and Dubai.

He will helm Raffles Hotels & Resorts’ new resort in the Seychelles, which is slated to open in the first quarter of 2011. Set on the pristine island of Praslin, Raffles Praslin features 86 villas each with a private plunge pool, and a stunning Raffles Spa with 13 spa pavilions set amongst natural rock formations to offer breathtaking views.

Mr Heuchenne speaks fluent French, English, Spanish and Greek.

Gastronomic greats

A glittering event on the world culinary calendar, Raffles Hotel's 15th Annual Raffles Hotel Wine, Food and Arts Experience was held in January this year.

Guests savoured unique epicurean experiences crafted by Michelin-star chefs and sampled rare and award-winning vintages from renowned winemakers. The week long event culminated in the highly anticipated Brunch With The Stars.



(top) Sunday Brunch with the Stars in the Lobby, with Champagne Billecart-Salmon Brut Reserve.

(below) Guest Chefs, Wine-maker and the Raffles Hotel team who made the 15th Raffles Hotel Wine, Food & Arts Experience a rousing success.



3 Michelin-star chef Shuzo Kishida (centre) and Raffles chefs in action.



1 Michelin-star chef Alvin Leung's unique brand of 'X-treme Chinese' exemplified by Sea Urchin with Ink Noodles & 'Har Mi' Chilli Oil



3 Michelin-star chef Marc Haeberlin preparing L'oeuf en Meurette Façon Haeberlin, at Sunday Brunch with the stars



Front Row (Left to Right): Chef Alvin Leung (Bo Innovation, Hong Kong), Chef Shuzo Kishida (Restaurant Quintessence, Japan), Chef Marc Haeberlin (L'Auberge de L'III, France), Ms Sandrine Garbay (Château d'Yquem, France), Mr Jimmy McKissic (Musician, USA)

Back Row (Left to Right): Mr Celian Skandrani (Assistant Director of Food and Beverage, Raffles Hotel), Chef Pierre Burgade (Executive Chef, Raffles Hotel), Mr Jean-Marc Poli (Hotel Manager, Raffles Hotel), Mr Pierre Jochem (General Manager of Raffles Hotel and Regional Vice President of Operations, Asia Pacific, Raffles Hotels & Resorts), Mr Stephane Soret (Wine Director, Raffles Hotel), Mr Christian Westbeld (Executive Assistance Manager, Food and Beverage, Raffles Hotel), Mr Linus Loh (Resident Florist, Raffles Hotel)

A night to remember

Jimmy McKissic is a Raffles institution. The veteran virtuoso performer and Resident Pianist at Raffles Hotel recently celebrated his 70th birthday with his first piano recital in Singapore. The wonderful evening at Raffles Hotel's Victorian-styled theatre playhouse Jubilee Hall showcased Jimmy's supremacy on the ivories and mesmerising voice. Congratulations Jimmy.



Beijing spice

Earlier this year, residents of the Raffles Beijing Hotel experienced a unique gourmet journey through the exotic spice trail of India.



Master Chef Ankit Sharma



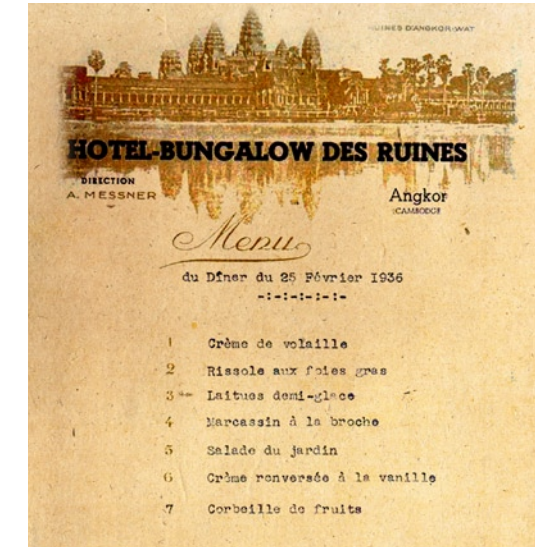
Fish tukra in basket (fish fritters with spicy & tangy chutney sauce)



Lamb boti chat (crisp lamb tossed with peppers & tangy sauce)

Master Chef Ankit Sharma and his team of chefs of the acclaimed Varq restaurant in the Taj Mahal Hotel New Delhi, prepared a set of seven contemporary dishes crafted especially to suit Chinese tastes. These innovative creations, magnificently presented, infused aromatic flavours from the northern Mughal cuisine over Goan and coastal cuisine, to the southern spices and curries. At age 27 Chef Sharma is one of the exciting up and coming stars of the culinary world, and has trained under the renowned grand master chef Hemant Oberoi, Corporate Executive Chef of Taj Mahal Hotels, Resorts and Palaces in India.

A timeless dinner



A truly memorable evening was held at Raffles Grand Hotel d'Angkor in Cambodia in February. A historic menu was discovered dated February 25, 1936 and that same seven-course dinner was served at Café d'Angkor seventy-four years to the day. The evening provided a unique bond to the hotel's timeless heritage.

Earth Hour 2010



Raffles Hotel Le Royal, Phom Penh

Raffles Grand Hotel d'Angkor, Raffles Hotel Le Royal and Raffles Dubai reprised their support for Earth Hour, the world's largest single environmental event by turning off their lights for an hour. Organized by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Earth Hour 2010 reached a record 126 countries and territories, over 4,000 cities, towns and municipalities and hundreds of millions of people around the world through the participation of communities, businesses, and governments.

Photo courtesy of Vinh Dao - Blind-Eye Productions

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Raffles Paris-Le Royal Monceau

(Opening 2010)
www.raffles.com/paris

Raffles Makkah Palace, Saudi Arabia

(Opening 2010)
www.raffles.com/makkah

Future Additions

Raffles Praslin, Seychelles
Raffles Jakarta, Indonesia
Raffles Konottaa, Maldives
Raffles Makati, Philippines
Raffles Sanya, Clearwater Bay, China