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## R Hotels marks a decade in the hospitality industry

Seeks to capitalise on UAE's thriving tourism sector and be one of the fastest-growing hospitality groups in the region

















R Hotels celebrated its 10th year in the hospitality business in 2018. Starting with Ramada Hotel & Suites by Wyndham Ajman in 2008, the group has grown from strength to strength over the course of ten years. The group currently owns and manages a total of seven properties across the UAE – three in Ajman and four in Dubai.

Wyndham Garden Ajman Corniche, the group's seventh and newest property opened in April. His Highness Sheikh Humaid bin Rashid Al Nuaimi, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Ajman; His Highness Sheikh Ammar bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, Crown Prince of Ajman; and His Highness Sheikh Rashid bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, Chairman of Ajman Municipality and Planning, and Chairman of R Holding, graced the inauguration of the hotel.

In 2017, R Hotels opened The Retreat Palm Dubai MGallery by Sofitel, the region's first holistic wellness resort. The beachfront destination tucked away on the coastline of Palm Jumeirah's East Crescent highlights Rayya Wellness Centre, which offers a range of holistic tailor-made health and wellbeing programmes and packages.

Sumair Tariq, managing director, R Hotels, commented: "As we celebrate our ten-year milestone, R Hotels seeks to capitalise on UAE's thriving tourism sector and be one of the fastest-growing hospitality groups in the region. Our group is constantly on the lookout for new investment opportunities in prime locations in and outside the UAE, and we set sight on strengthening our foothold as we embark on our years ahead in this industry."

The other properties of the group are Ramada by Wyndham Beach Hotel Ajman, Ramada by Wyndham Downtown Dubai, Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham JBR and ibis Styles Jumeira Dubai.

### R Hotels appoints new hotel manager for Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham JBR

R Hotels announces the appointment of Binu Varghese as the new hotel manager of Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham Jumeirah Beach Residence.

In his role, Varghese will lead the 188-key property and head its overall operations and strategies. He brings in more than 20 years of hospitality experience, consisting mainly of sales and marketing roles with international hotel brands. Prior to joining Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham, he was the director of sales and marketing at Millennium Airport Hotel Dubai and Copthorne Hotel Dubai, managing nearly a thousand keys. He was previously affiliated with Wyndham Hotel Group and served as executive assistant manager for operations at Wyndham Dubai Marina. He held the same role as EAM for pre-opening support at various Wyndham properties in GCC and Africa including Ramada City Centre Manama, Ramada Addis Ababa and Ramada Resort Dar es Salaam. He also served as cluster director of sales and marketing at Ramada Plaza JBR and Ramada Sharjah.

Sumair Tariq, managing director of R Hotels, remarked: "R Hotels is pleased to welcome Binu to our group! With his notable track record in hotel operations, and sales and marketing, we are confident that Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham JBR will continue to thrive and achieve satisfactory figures in spite of the growing competition in the emirate."







# The Retreat Palm Dubai bags two Haute Grandeur accolades

The Retreat Palm Dubai MGallery was named as 'Best Resort Hotel in the Middle East' and 'Best Beach Hotel' in the United Arab Emirates at the Haute Grandeur Global Awards 2018. The Haute Grandeur Global Awards is the world's leading, most respected luxury hospitality awards initiative, honouring establishments that continuously excel through remarkable hospitality experiences.

#### R Hotels properties prevail at Hospitality Excellence Awards

Different hotels and individuals from R Hotels group were honoured at the 4th Middle East Hospitality Excellence Award organised by Hozpitality.com.

Ramada Hotel & Suites by Wyndham Ajman bagged its fourth consecutive Gold Award as Hotel of the Year for Green Initiatives while Wyndham Garden Ajman Corniche was named Gold Award recipient for being the Best New Deluxe Hotel in 2018. Eminence Spa at Wyndham Garden Ajman Corniche also won the Gold Award for Spa of the Year. Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham JBR triumphed with a Gold Award for Hotel of the Year in the four-star category.

For the individual categories, the Gold Award winners are: Hussain Gardezi from Ramada Ajman for Sales & Marketing/PR Person of the Year; Harshani Sandamali from Wyndham Garden Ajman Corniche for Young Chef of the Year; and Helen Mae Nugas from Ramada Beach Hotel Ajman for Hidden Gem of the Year. The Silver Award recipients are Vyara Tosheva from The Retreat Palm Dubai for Spa Manager of the Year and Aslam Shaik from Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham for Hidden Gem of the Year.









### Ramada Downtown Dubai recognised by Agoda

Ramada by Wyndham Downtown Dubai received the Agoda Gold Circle Award for its outstanding customer service and feedback, and for going above and beyond the call of duty in 2018.

The Gold Circle Awards, now in its 10th Year, recognizes elite service, high scoring peer-to-peer customer reviews from the 22 million reviews on Agoda, as well as excellence in pricing and availability.

### Hamdani receives Best GM award from CMO Asia

Iftikhar Hamdani, cluster general manager of Ramada Hotel & Suites by Wyndham Ajman, Ramada by Wyndham Beach Hotel Ajman, and Wyndham Garden Ajman Corniche added another feather in his cap. Hamdani was among the four recipients of GCC's Best General Managers award, presented by CMO Asia. The award was received by Sheryl Ramos on behalf of Hamdani.





### CSR Corner //

#### Hotels raise funds for Breast Cancer Awareness month

To join the global observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Ramada Hotel & Suites by Wyndham Ajman, Ramada by Wyndham Beach Hotel Ajman, and Wyndham Garden Ajman Corniche launched the "Think Pink: Hope, Care & Cure with One Dirham" campaign. The three hotels offered pink ribbons to their guests for just one dirham, to raise funds for the organisation. The money collected from the weeks-long drive were donated to Brest Friends through Al Jalila Foundation, and will be allocated for medical education and research on breast cancer.

In line with Ramada by Wyndham Downtown Dubai's long-standing partnership with Friends of Cancer Patients (FOCP), Kenza Restaurant hosted a Breast Cancer Awareness Brunch. Twenty per cent of the proceeds from the brunch were donated to FOCP through Emirates Red Crescent



### The Retreat Palm Dubai and ibis Styles Jumeira mark Solidarity Week

As part of AccorHotels' Solidarity Week, The Retreat Palm Dubai and ibis Styles Jumeira organised separate CSR activities for people of determination. The Retreat Palm Dubai visited Senses Centre Dubai and spent time with students with special needs, while ibis Styles Jumeira opted to volunteer at Rashid Centre for The Determined Ones.





## R Scene//

### R Hotels celebrates 47th UAE National Day

R Hotels commemorated the 47th year of the founding of United Arab Emirates with a variety of activities for its guests, associates, and UAE residents. The seven properties marked the occasion through cake-cutting ceremonies and by donning its lobbies with the UAE colours – red, green, white and black. The Ajman properties distributed chocolates among motorists and their families at Ajman Corniche, while The Retreat Palm Dubai hosted a special program.











### Hotels spread holiday cheers

Ramada Hotel and Suites Ajman, and Ramada Beach Hotel Ajman, and Wyndham Garden Ajman Corniche – brightened up the festive season with their Christmas tree lighting activity accompanied by the singing of traditional carols. Ramada by Wyndham Downtown Dubai and Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham JBR also marked the festive occasion through carolling activities.















### R Gallery hosts 'Tribute to Zayed Exhibition'

As a tribute to the Founding Father of the UAE, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, The Retreat Palm Dubai MGallery hosted a special art exhibition in honour of the Year of Zayed at the hotel's R Gallery.

R Sports//

### Wyndham hotels in Ajman organise Beach Sports Fiesta

The teams from Wyndham Garden Ajman Corniche, Ramada Hotel & Suites Ajman and Ramada Beach Hotel Ajman held a fun Beach Sports Fiesta at Ramada Private Beach Club. The sportsfest was followed by a dinner and dance party, plus special performances.



#### R Hotels at Dubai Rugby Sevens

R Hotels sponsors the Islamabad Jinns during the 2018 edition of Emirates Airlines Dubai Rugby Sevens. The team was welcomed at ibis Styles Jumeira, where they stayed during the tournament.









### R Wellness



### The Retreat Palm Dubai launches new detox brunch concept

An alternative take on the usual UAE brunch scene, the Middle East's first wellbeing resort, The Retreat Palm Dubai MGallery has launched a brunch like no other with the ultimate detoxifying experience for the body, mind and soul.

The new Detox Brunch at Vibe restaurant occurs every Saturday. Brunch-lovers and wellness enthusiasts can indulge in a selection of nourishing and healthy dishes including meat, pescatarian, vegetarian, vegan and paleo varieties.

The one-of-a-kind brunch also provides guests with a chance to take advantage of a number of fitness activities at the property's Wellness Lounge. Those looking to relax further can opt for the brunch and pool package, allowing access to the resort's infinity pool, set against a backdrop of the Dubai skyline.

Priced at AED 299 for food, beverages and wellness activities and AED 349 for the same package with pool access. Children below the ages of six are free of charge, and those aged between six and twelve can brunch at a special prize of AED 75.

For more information, please call 04-5247777 or visit theretreatpalmdubai.com.

### R Hotels Social Media

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