

## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Philippines hospitality makes worldwide debut at the highest level**

*Marco Polo Ortigas Manila earns coveted five-star rating from Forbes Travel Guide*



**New York, 22 February 2017** – Forbes Travel Guide, the global authority on luxury travel since 1958, has announced the recipients of the 2017 Global Star Ratings and for the first time ever in six decades, Manila made it to the list.

Considered as the Olympics in the hotel industry, Forbes Travel Guide is a prestigious award giving body that recognizes the most luxurious hotels, restaurants, and spas worldwide. Marco Polo Ortigas Manila earned the coveted Five-Star rating — the mark of ‘outstanding, iconic properties with virtually flawless service and amazing facilities.’



Forbes Travel Guide gives accurate and objective ratings through its 800 worldwide standards. Its incognito inspectors 'use a proprietary algorithm that weighs service at 75 percent and the quality of the facility at 25 percent.' These standards are the most stringent in the industry and according to Forbes Travel Guide, only the best properties in the world earn the coveted Five-Star rating.

"We are delighted to recognize the 2017 Star Rating recipients, an exceptional collection of hotels, restaurants and spas that demonstrates a strong culture of service," said Gerard J. Inzerillo, Chief Executive Officer of Forbes Travel Guide.

"In an online environment of confusion and clutter, Forbes Travel Guide is the most trusted source of information to assist guests in making informed decisions," Inzerillo said. "These properties, the largest and most global group in the company's history, achieve an impeccable standard of excellence in hospitality, underscoring our overall mission of positively contributing to the international tourism industry as well as individual hotel experience. We are proud to congratulate everyone associated with the prestigious properties recognized today."

In response, Frank Reichenbach, General Manager of Marco Polo Ortigas Manila and recipient of the 2016 General Manager of the Year (ASEAN Region) Award said "Warm hospitality with a modern touch is what we have always been proud to showcase. We take pride in the exceptional service that we provide for every guest who wish to find a sanctuary in the city with premium accommodations and award-winning dining destinations. You will definitely have your best hotel experience with us. This award is the fulfilment of our hard work and passion for service,"

Going boldly on its third year, Marco Polo Ortigas Manila is only getting started.

Mr. Reichenbach adds, "The success of bringing the team together to raise to the level of service and consistency of the Forbes Travel Guide Five Star level means a lot to us. It also gives us satisfaction to know that with passion and dedication we can measure up with larger hospitality groups in the industry"



With 316 well-appointed guest rooms and suites, exclusive Continental Club facilities and perks, and unparalleled service with a smile, this towering gem in the heart of bustling Ortigas has been recognized worldwide. This recognition is a great milestone not just for Marco Polo Ortigas Manila, but also for the corporate brand and the Philippines' entire hospitality industry.

“To be one of the two hotels in Manila that received the Five Star rating is a great pride for the hotel, the Marco Polo Hotels group, and the hospitality industry in Manila and the Philippines. This definitely raises the bar on how we provide luxury services to our clients. We will continue to live and exceed guest expectations in terms of service and facilities. Our Forbes Travel Guide Five Star ranking will definitely boost business and will give us the marketing advantage, which will have a positive impact in all aspects of the hotel,” Mr. Reichenbach said.

For more information, contact (632) 720 7777 or book online via [www.marcopolohotels.com](http://www.marcopolohotels.com) or email: [manila@marcopolohotels.com](mailto:manila@marcopolohotels.com). Visit [facebook.com/MarcoPoloOrtigasManila](https://facebook.com/MarcoPoloOrtigasManila) or follow [@MarcoPoloManila](https://twitter.com/MarcoPoloManila) on Twitter or Instagram.

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Notes to the Editor:

#### **About Forbes Travel Guide**

Forbes Travel Guide is the originator of the prestigious Five-Star Rating system, and has provided the travel industry's most comprehensive ratings and reviews of hotels, restaurants and spas since 1958. Forbes Travel Guide has a team of expert inspectors who anonymously evaluate properties against up to 800 rigorous and objective standards in 162 destinations across 44 countries. Forbes Travel Guide is the most prestigious standard for luxury hospitality worldwide. For more information about Forbes Travel Guide, visit [www.forbestravelguide.com](http://www.forbestravelguide.com).

#### **About Marco Polo Ortigas Manila**

After two decades, a welcome transformation to the Ortigas skyline is finally unveiled with the opening of the brand new Marco Polo Ortigas Manila.

Nestled in the vibrant and growing commercial business district is the first purpose-built 5-star Marco Polo hotel in the country offering distinguished guests 316 large and well-designed rooms and suites, including two (2) Continental Club floors that accords unrivalled privileges and benefits. Adjudged to be the most beautiful in town and one of the best among Marco Polo hotels in the world, it is exclusive for guests who desire a higher level of luxury on top of our impressive new Continental Club lounge.

The hotel, a product of sophisticated design and well-planned development, is bestowed as the first sky hotel in the country with dedicated floor areas exclusively for business and recreational use. The floors are accessed via high-speed elevators including a wellness hub called Flow which houses a full-service spa, indoor infinity pool and fully-equipped fitness center plus the first sky lobby in the Philippines nestled at the 25th level of the hotel tower offering unparalleled views of the cityscape.

Adding to Manila's best dining destinations are four (4) specialty outlets that your guests can choose from. Cucina, the all-day dining restaurant that features live show kitchens; Lung Hin , the contemporary Chinese restaurant serving traditional and authentic Cantonese cuisine in a new, fresh and modern style; Café Pronto, the relaxed and friendly coffee area offering a wide range of designer coffee, specialty teas and freshly baked items good for dine-in or to go; and VU's, the first of its kind sky bar and lounge located at the topmost 45th floor of the hotel, offers Mediterranean tapas, signature cocktails, wines, sprits, and champagnes amidst awe-inspiring vistas.

For momentous social events and corporate meetings, the Marco Polo Grand Ballroom can accommodate up to 600 guests. In addition, the eight (8) state-of-the-art function rooms can accommodate 250 guests. Complimentary high-speed Wi-Fi internet service is available all throughout the hotel to provide savvy business and leisure travelers a balanced lifestyle of work and play seamlessly.

Visit [www.marcopolohotels.com](http://www.marcopolohotels.com)

#### **About Marco Polo Hotels**

A wholly owned subsidiary of The Wharf (Holdings) Ltd, Marco Polo Hotels currently operates 14 owned or managed upscale, full-service hotels throughout Hong Kong, China and the Philippines. Niccolo by Marco Polo was recently added to the group's portfolio as the new luxury collection. In addition to 3 more Niccolo hotels, the group has a Marco Polo hotel currently under development, bringing the group to 18 hotels in total. Marco Polo properties are well-known and established addresses for business and leisure travellers throughout the Asian region, with a proven reputation for exceptional service and an appreciation for their local identity. The brand maintains its long-standing ethos of discovery, creating unique guest experiences and drawing on the key philosophies of its namesake, Marco Polo: an adventurer, a traveller, an entrepreneur and a connoisseur of culture - just as Marco Polo's modern travellers are today.

Further details on Marco Polo Hotels are available at: [marcopolohotels.com](http://marcopolohotels.com)

#### **About Global Hotel Alliance**

Founded in 2004, and based on the airline alliance model, Global Hotel Alliance ("GHA") is today the world's largest alliance of independent hotel brands. GHA uses a shared technology platform to drive incremental revenues and create cost savings for its member brands, and operates a multi-brand loyalty programme, DISCOVERY, which has over seven million members. GHA currently includes more than 30 brands, encompassing over 550 upscale and luxury hotels with 110,000 rooms across 76 different



countries. For more information visit [gha.com](http://gha.com)