

## press release

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### Resorts World Sentosa opens two new hotels

*Flanked by the waterfront and a lush tropical forest,  
Equarius Hotel and Beach Villas raise the bar in resort-style getaways*

**SINGAPORE, 13 February 2012** – On 16 February 2012, Resorts World® Sentosa (RWS) will open the doors to not one but two eco-luxurious hotels - the Equarius Hotel and Beach Villas - at its 49-hectare mega-resort. The two hotels are set to redefine resort-style vacations in Singapore with 360-degree views that take in the waterfront, the harbourfront skyline and a lush tropical rainforest.

“These two hotels cap the accommodation offerings at Resorts World Sentosa, which will be fully open once the Marine Life Park, water theme park and destination spa are ready”, said Mr Roger Lienhard, Senior Vice President, Hospitality Development and Projects, RWS.

“The hotels are the perfect tranquil getaway, offering guests the chance to be close to nature, lush greenery and serene waters. Yet, what sets the hotels apart is that guests are still just minutes away from the fun and thrills of RWS, and within easy reach to the city for business travelers,” he added.

The iconic resort-style architecture of the 172-room Equarius Hotel and 22 exclusive Beach Villas is complemented by verdant foliage provided by the 2.9-hectare natural forest located at its fringe, as well as 4,000 trees planted by RWS in and around the hotels. With panoramic views of the waterfront, Keppel Bay and Labrador Park, the result is an unparalleled close-to-nature experience.

“We set out to create a tropical garden of peace and tranquility that rejuvenates the senses. Upon arrival, guests will feel like they are entering a different world, as they are greeted by a splendid avenue of trees on both sides. As the hotel comes into view, they will be awed by two majestic 80 – 100 year old Shorea trees, specially chosen for the arrival area, creating a natural yet ethereal landscape,” said Mr. Tsuyoshi Narita, Senior Associate of Peridian Asia, the landscape architecture firm behind the landscape design for the two hotels.

Singapore’s two newest hotels will offer warm hospitality and the signature RWS VIP service provided by a team of butlers.

Guests at the two hotels can enjoy facilities such as seven meeting rooms, an event pavilion, gym and swimming pool, while a new restaurant helmed by award-winning celebrity chef Sam Leong will be housed in a magnificent glass house located adjacent to the Equarius Hotel Lobby. Opening on 16 February 2012, the aptly named *Forest* will serve chef Leong’s innovative contemporary Chinese cuisine with a strong Thai-

influence. Guests are also located steps away from the upcoming Marine Life Park, a water theme park and a world class luxury spa, offering a one-of-the-kind experience.

The two hotels are designed and conceptualised by award-winning American architectural firm, Michael Graves & Associates, in collaboration with DP Architects Pte Ltd, as well as interior design firms Dpd + Pte Ltd and Diana Simpson Design.

The opening of the Equarius Hotel and Beach Villas marks another milestone for RWS, bringing Singapore's first integrated resort closer to its position as Asia's number one family-holiday destination. In addition to the two new hotels, two treetop lofts above the canopy of the forest and 11 two-storey ocean suites situated within the Marine Life Park will be launched at a later date. Still to come also are a destination spa by world renowned UK spa brand ESPA, a water theme park and the world's largest oceanarium - the Marine Life Park.

All six hotels at the resort, including the newly-opened Equarius Hotel and Beach Villas, are owned and operated by RWS. From 16 February to 31 June only, special packages for the two hotels are available through the RWS website and authorised travel agents.

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### **About Resorts World Sentosa**

Resorts World Sentosa (RWS), Singapore's first integrated resort is located on the resort island of Sentosa. Spanning 49 hectares, the resort has welcomed over 15 million visitors in 2010 since it opened in January of that year. RWS is home to the region's first-and-only Universal Studios theme park, a Maritime Experiential Museum and Aquarium, a casino, luxurious accommodation in six unique hotels, the Resorts World Convention Center, celebrity chef restaurants as well as specialty retail outlets. The resort also offers entertainment ranging from its resident theatrical circus spectacular Voyage de la Vie, to public attractions such as the Crane Dance and the Lake of Dreams. Still to come are a destination spa and the world's largest oceanarium, the Marine Life Park. Resorts World Sentosa is wholly owned by Genting Singapore, a company of the Genting Group. For more information, please visit [www.rwsentosa.com](http://www.rwsentosa.com).

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## Enjoy plush comfort indoors and lush surrounds outdoors

Guests can take in the idyllic sights and sounds of the rich tropical rainforest as they drive up the majestic tree-lined avenue leading to the entrance courtyard of Equarius Hotel and Beach Villas, where their stay begins at Nature's unique address.

### About Equarius Hotel



***Designed to be linear in architecture, the seven-storey Equarius Hotel offers a selection of two different views: Marine Life Park/ Beach Villas view and Hill view***



***Inspired by nature, the design of Equarius Hotel deluxe rooms echo its tropical theme.***

Designed to be linear in architecture, the seven-storey Equarius Hotel offers views of the resort with its beautiful free form pool or a panoramic view of the Mount Imbiah hills and rainforest from the balconies of its rooms.

Equarius Hotel has a unique range of 172 well-appointed guest rooms with balconies, comprising 136 deluxe rooms (51 square metres) – one of the most spacious deluxe rooms in Singapore; 30 garden rooms (approx 139 square metres), each with a large patio and a private garden or direct access to the hotel swimming pool on ground level and six suites (102 square metres).

The interiors of the rooms at Equarius Hotel are inspired by the neutral tones of nature in palettes of brown, aubergine and sand. Accentuated by the use of furniture in a contrast of dark and light-coloured pine wood, the tropical theme is brought to life in a sleek style that is at once contemporary and colonial. Subtle touches like foliage patterns on the plush carpets and wallpaper further echo the tropical theme. Works of Ms. Laurence Meyer, known for her abstract painting and use of colours and textures to evoke emotions, adorn the walls of Equarius Hotel guestrooms.

Equarius Hotel is the perfect getaway for nature-lovers or couples looking for a serene stay that lets them take a respite from the bustling city-state and rediscover nature.

***172 keys, including Deluxe Rooms, Deluxe Garden Rooms and Deluxe Suites. Rack rates from S\$800.***

## About Beach Villas



***A home away from home - the interiors of the Beach Villas are decked in a comfortable, contemporary style which is elegant yet homely.***

Sprinkled across the tranquil western tip of the integrated resort is a tropical sanctuary where 22 Beach Villas represent the epitome of exclusivity.

With a selection of villas with one, two or three-bedrooms at a spacious 62, 182 and 301 square metres respectively, the Beach Villas offer the ultimate luxuriant tropical experience with direct access to the outdoor free form swimming pool surrounded by beautiful flora and greenery, views of the harbour from a private infinity-edge dip pool facing the waterfront or spectacular views of Keppel Bay and Labrador Park. The crown jewel is a four-bedroom two-storey villa (731 square metres) located on an elevated mound, which offers a view of the surrounding villas and the free-form pool.

The interiors of the Beach Villas are a modern take on a tropical retreat – clean lines, airy, light and designed to optimise views of the sea, coastal areas and lush foliage. The background palette is light and neutral, enriched with textural contrasts in timber, stone and natural materials and accented with bursts of warm color in fabrics, area rugs, artwork and artifacts. The result is a comfortable, contemporary style which is elegant yet homely.

All of the villas come with an outdoor pool pavilion, and a pantry, as well as a private spa treatment room, kitchenette and wine cellars in selected categories.

**22 keys, including One, Two, Three and Four-Bedroom Beach Villas. Rack rates from S\$1,200.**

### **Notes to Editor:**

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## **About the design team behind Equarius Hotel and Beach Villas**

Behind the resort-style architectural design, plush interiors and lush tropical landscaping of RWS's Equarius Hotel and Beach Villas is a stellar design team of architects, interior designers and landscape artists. With a wealth of experience in developing both local and international award-winning projects, they have created the close-to-nature and contemporary design that Equarius Hotel and Beach Villas represent.

### **Architecture:**

The iconic resort-style architecture of the seven-storey Equarius Hotel and the rustic-contemporary exteriors of the 22 Beach Villas are designed and conceptualised by award-winning American architectural firm - Michael Graves & Associates in collaboration with one of the most acclaimed architectural firms in Singapore, DP Architects Pte Ltd.

In the forefront of architecture and design since its founding in 1964, Michael Graves & Associates is known for its award-winning designs that range from the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Hotels in Orlando and resorts in Costa Rica and Egypt, to famed lifestyle products for Alessi and Target, created by MGA's sister company - Michael Graves Design Group. Michael Graves & Associates is the mastermind behind the overall concept of the 49-hectare RWS with its well-planned leisure and business spaces.

DP Architects was founded in Singapore in 1967 with a deep concern for the built environment and the need to create architecture of excellence that enriches the human experience and spirit. With over 40 years of architectural practice and a holistic approach that pairs design-consciousness with sensitive, innovative solutions to climate, site and context, DP Architects has established its presence as one of the leading architectural firms in Asia with a diverse portfolio of projects including Esplanade-Theatres on the Bay, The Dubai Mall, Singapore Sports Hub.

### **Interior Design:**

Leading the interior design for the Equarius Hotel lobby, its celebrity chef restaurant, Forest, as well as Beach Villas is Diana Simpson Design (DSD). Based in Sydney, Australia, DSD is a boutique interior design firm specialising in international luxury hotel and condominium design. They have designed luxury hotels around the world, including the Hyatt Regency Danang, Vietnam, New World Shanghai, China, Hyatt Regency Perth, Australia, Sheraton Grande Sukhumvit Bangkok, Thailand and Grand Hyatt Bali, Indonesia. Complementing the water views and natural beauty of the Beach Villa surroundings, the light, contemporary design deviates from overuse of dark-coloured timber ubiquitous in so many "tropical resorts", DSD enriched the neutral background palette with textural contrasts in natural materials and accent colours resulting in an elegant, but unpretentious style that offers the comfort of home in a tropical setting.

The interior design of the guest rooms at the Equarius Hotel is by Dpd + Pte Ltd, a Singapore-based firm of international stature. With the use of materials that are inspired from nature - from the sepia tones used in the design palette to the choice of wood grain-textured furniture and foliage patterned-finishings, the hotel rooms at Equarius Hotel are designed to exude a tropical colonial feel. Dpd + is known for its diverse portfolio of local and international projects which includes Singapore Press Holdings HQ, the United Overseas Land HQ, the Paragon Shopping Centre, Sofitel Luxury Westlake Hotel in Hanoi, the Le Meridien Hotel in Xiamen, Parkroyal Hotel in Saigon, the Address Hotel in Dubai Mall, Sheraton Perth and is currently involved in the A\*star Phase 2, Modena Service Apartments in Wuxi and Changzhou, the Singapore Embassy in KL, the Le Meridien Hotel in Jiaonan, China.

Both firms have brought the nature theme that is inherent to the two hotels to life by extending the experience from the outdoors to the indoors with their design.

**Landscape Design:**

Peridian Asia, one of the leading landscape architecture and planning firms in South East Asia, designed the lush tropical landscaping surrounding the two hotels. Supplementing the existing 2.9- hectare tropical rainforest on the island with an additional 4,000 trees, including 55 trees imported from Thailand, Peridian Asia seamlessly blended the natural with landscaping to create a tropical garden of tranquility. Although the species of the trees imported are not new to Singapore, they were chosen for their height, girth, form and shape - 31 out of the 55 trees from Thailand are specimen trees (10-15m tall primary forest species that are up to 50 years old) which create focal points in the overall landscape as well as serve to provide privacy for the hotel and villas. Flowering trees were also chosen to add colour and scent to the scenic garden.

Peridian Asia Pte Ltd has nearly 20 years of practice in Singapore and has provided Landscape Architectural Services for numerous hotel/ resort projects throughout Asia and the Middle East including Marina Bay Sands, Sanya Marriott Resort and Spa, Shangri-la Maldives, Conrad Hotel in Dubai, Sheraton Pattaya and Crowne Plaza Hotels in China and Vietnam. Local projects include the Singapore Botanical Gardens, Changi Airport T1, the much acclaimed Khoo Teck Puat Hospital, and currently Gardens by the Bay-Bay Central and Jurong General Hospital.