

ELEGANT RESORTS LAUNCHES 2013 BROCHURES AS IT CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF THE FINEST IN LUXURY TRAVEL

This month luxury specialists Elegant Resorts is launching its 2013 brochures, as it enters its 25th year of luxury travel. With a total of eight brochures in its portfolio, it covers all corners of the globe, from Europe, North Africa and the Middle East to Asia and Australasia, and from North and South America to the Caribbean, Africa and Indian Ocean. Over 50 new properties are being featured across the portfolio, with a greater focus on Thailand and the Far East which is enjoying a resurgence in luxury travel with some fantastic new properties. Much closer to home, there are some beautiful additions to the Italy programme in Tuscany.

A brand new online brochure – Villas, Yachts and Private Islands, has also been launched, featuring a selection of villas and private houses in the Caribbean, Europe, Dubai, Mauritius, South Africa and Thailand as well as a number of private islands and exclusive yacht charter experiences.

Commenting, Michelle Sephton, Managing Director, says 'From the early days in 1988 when Geoff Moss and Barbara Catchpole established Elegant Resorts, to our new brochures for 2013, we continue to lead the way in luxury travel, bringing exceptional resorts, hotels and experiences to our discerning clients, who value our expertise and trustworthy information and service. In the late 80's, our founders pioneered luxury travel to the Caribbean, booking more seats on the weekly Concorde Barbados flight than any other tour operator. Now, 25 years on, we are still setting standards in luxury, whether this is a classic Caribbean beach hideaway, an exclusive tailor-made journey to the Far East, a once-in-a-lifetime expedition to Mount Everest Base Camp or even Space Travel with Virgin Galactic.

We've got some wonderful new product for 2013, including a renewed focus on the Far East. This is an area that is growing considerably in luxury travel, with many of our clients wanting to explore the combination of cultural activity, away-from-it-all luxury and superb service that this region offers. We have visited and researched the hotels there very thoroughly and added some superb new properties in Thailand and are confident that we now have a handpicked selection of the very best and most luxurious in the country.'

The new properties in Thailand and the Far East include the contemporary Paresa in Phuket, set up on the hillside with probably the best views over this beautiful coastline; the boutique Pavilions, also in Phuket, which has the most fabulous rooms and wonderful artwork; and the very stylish hideaway of Wanakarn Beach Resort & Spa in Khao Lak. In Cambodia, the classic Raffles Hotel Le Royal in Phnom Penh and Song Saa Private Island Resort in the Koh Rong Archipelago have been added, whilst Vietnam sees the addition to the brochure of the exciting Fusion Maia Resort in Da Nang, with the largest spa in Vietnam, where spa treatments are all complimentary and La Residence Hotel & Spa in Hue City.

In Abu Dhabi, there is a superb Ritz-Carlton due to open in December 2012, which is a Renaissance style property overlooking the Grand Canal. Bringing a touch of Italy to Abu Dhabi, the property offers luxurious accommodation, including 85 one and two bedroom villas, each coming complete with outdoor terraces and butler service.

In mainland Europe, the recently renovated Hotel Alfonso XIII in Seville is being featured, and the region of Tuscany has been expanded and Puglia in Italy has been added for the first time, where properties include the grand Borgo Egnazia in Puglia and a choice of wonderfully historic properties in Tuscany including Castel Monastero – a stunning country house resort in the medieval village of

Monastero dell'Ombrone and Hotel Castello Di Casole, a converted 12th century castle in the Chianti region.

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