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5-star Mexican restaurant opens

Posted: Thursday, November 02, 2006

Maya, the first five-star Mexican restaurant in the region, has opened its doors at Le Royal Meridien.

This highly anticipated Latin-American experience is set to add rhythm, robust flavours and rich colours to Dubai's fine dining scene.



Mexican-born celebrity chef Richard Sandoval is the inspiration behind the restaurant which will combine exciting, bold and flavourful food in his Modern Mexican signature style.

Maya Dubai adds to Sandoval's long list of established charismatic restaurants in New York, San Francisco, Denver, Las Vegas and Washington DC.

Maya, New York has been billed by many reviewers as "unlike just anything else being served in New York" and Sandoval is equally keen to keep Dubai's gastronomic taste buds sizzling.

"Maya captures the zing and zest of Latino cuisine. There's nothing hotter on the beach than sand between your toes, frosty margaritas and spicy ceviches," he said.

Le Royal Meridien's Maya restaurant is set in the gardens at the five-star resort and features floor to ceiling glass windows overlooking the waters of the Gulf.

The walls are adorned with Mexican art to complete the scene.

Commenting on the new restaurant, Pam Wilby, general manager of Le Royal Meridien said: "Dubai is a vibrant city that thrives on new ideas and choices. Maya will add to the dazzling array of dining options already available at Le Royal Meridien and offer a new dining experience that will delight old and new customers alike.

"Maya will challenge the status quo on what a classic haute cuisine restaurant is and I would recommend people leave behind their existing perceptions of a Mexican restaurant is.

"This is not a 'Mexican cantina'; Maya is a whole new experience with a fantastic culinary heritage that will be an exciting asset to Dubai as a whole."

Sandoval and his team specialise in authentic Mexican food and use a contemporary interpretation in the presentation and ingredients.

The beverage selection also benefits from Mexican influences with a Maya twist.

Set in along the landscaped beachfront at Le Royal Meridien, Maya was created as part of a \$7 million in development project at the property - including an extensive garden refurbishment and a new infinity pool - which is part of an ongoing programme to meet and exceed guest expectations.

Le Meridien Hotels & Resorts, with its portfolio of 130 luxury and upscale hotels in 53 countries worldwide, is owned by Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide.

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In the 2005 Luxury Brand Status Index survey Le Meridien was recognised as one of the top 15 luxury hotel brands.

Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, is one of the leading hotel and leisure companies in the world with approximately 850 properties in more than 95 countries and 145,000 employees at its owned and managed properties.

Starwood Hotels is a fully integrated owner, operator and franchisor of hotels and resorts with the following internationally renowned brands: St. Regis, The Luxury Collection, Sheraton, Westin, Four Points by Sheraton, W, Le Meridien and the recently announced AloftSM. Starwood Hotels also owns Starwood Vacation Ownership, one of the premier developers and operators of high quality vacation interval ownership resorts. **TradeArabia News Service**

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