

# GRIF 2018 will see 60 disruptive speakers addressing 300 delegates from 30 countries over 3 days

The Global Restaurant Investment Forum (GRIF), the meeting place for the international restaurant investment community will be held at from 12-14 March 2018.

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, March 6, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Bringing together more than 300 investors, owners, franchisors and senior hospitality professionals, GRIF delivers inspiration, insight and opportunities to the global restaurant investment community over the three-day event. With a stellar line-up of 60 local and international speakers, GRIF 2018 is set to discuss and dissect the modern-day disruptors impacting expansion and global growth for restaurant investors, operators and entrepreneurs.



## Focused Networking

Off the main stage, GRIF offers unmatched networking opportunities with access to its ever-growing executive business community.



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Joey Ghazal, Founder & Managing Partner, BARBARY Deli + Cocktail Club.

### **GRIF** on Tour

A key feature of GRIF 2018 will be the Culinary Tour on Monday 12 March, which will take <u>delegates</u> on a mouthwatering journey of Dubai's leading home-grown, standalone restaurant concepts.

From the Indian-inspired Masti, where modern traditions are fused with colour, flavour and expression to BB Social, a multi-layered dining journey that features an Eastern-influenced menu, delegates will enjoy experiencing the

concept of truly social dining.

Delegates will also have the opportunity to visit seafood and steak brasserie, Sean Connolly; the eclectic and quirky Molecule; and contemporary Italian, LARTE Dubai – all of which are firsts for the region.

Then, from 6:00pm until late on Monday 12 March, GRIF delegates can enjoy all that BARBARY has to offer – a Parisian-inspired cocktail bar, retro club and delicatessen, nestled in the heart of Barsha, at Tryp by Wyndham Hotel for the Opening Reception of GRIF 2018.

"BARBARY Deli + Cocktail Club is excited to be part of GRIF and host their opening reception. I am a big believer in



the power of conversation about the ongoing challenges that face our industry. There is much to be learned from interfacing with investors, hoteliers and concept developers alike. There is certainly a lot we can learn from our peers who attend GRIF from all over the world," said Joey Ghazal, Founder & Managing Partner, The MAINE Oyster Bar & Grill / BARBARY Deli + Cocktail Club.

On Tuesday 13 March, delegates will get a sneak preview of Hotel Cartagena, an eclectic gastronomical lifestyle experience that combines the playfulness of a tropical Latin American Lounge, with the finest Caribbean, Latin and Japanese Nikkei cuisine. Set to open in April, this memorable sensorial experience will soon hit Dubai's shores.

"It is with great pleasure that Atelier EPJ is partnering with GRIF, who has been ground-breaking in its approach to the restaurant industry – bringing leaders and innovators together from all over the world. We look forward to contributing to discussion panels with a stellar line up of speakers, and are also excited to be offering an exclusive preview of our fantastic new concept, Hotel Cartagena, to the 2018 GRIF delegates, ahead of our official opening," said Ryan Hattingh, Partner, Atelier EPJ.

Following the tour of Hotel Cartagena, guests will be taken to Weslodge – a modern interpretation of the classic American saloon, where house-made ingredients elevate classic cocktails with innovative and exciting twists that make this world-class cocktail bar, which boasts a panoramic view of Dubai, an experience not to be missed.

Completing the line-up on Wednesday 14 March, a select group of guests will be treated to a 'Dine Around at The Promenade', the elegant dining destination recently launched at Park Hyatt Dubai.

The evening begins with sundowners at NOEPE, overlooking the panoramic vista of the creek, followed by dinner at Brasserie du Park which has been conceptually modeled after the quaint French town of Deauville, offering Normandy inspired brasserie cuisine in a relaxed atmosphere. The evening ends with cocktails at seventyseventy, a grown-up bar offering sense of nostalgia with its curated interiors and the retro glamour of a classic record player transporting guests back to the 70's.

Adrien Piot, F&B Manager, Park Hyatt Dubai, said: "We are proud to work in collaboration with GRIF for such an esteemed event and I am very excited to show case our new dining destination - The Promenade."

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# Global Restaurant Investment Forum (GRIF)

Launched in 2014, GRIF is an annual event for the restaurant and hospitality community. It is a forum that brings together industry leaders and professionals from the hospitality industry, F&B brands, investors, hoteliers, owners, lenders, franchisors, franchisees, and other key industry professionals from across the Middle East region. GRIF's features include conferences, roundtable and panel discussions, culinary tours, receptions and other knowledge-sharing platforms together with several senior-level networking opportunities spread over three days. The event is geared towards helping attendees gain valuable insights from industry leaders, build contacts, share best practices with the industry and gain confidence in the market.

GRIF 2018 is powered by Michelin and hosted by Palazzo Versace Dubai. Gold Sponsors: NH Hotel Group, Dentons and Insignia; Silver Sponsors: Electrolux, LXA, Soho Hospitality and xnprotel; Reception Sponsors: Hotel Cartagena, Rosewood, Atelier EPJ, BARBARY, NOEPE, Brasserie du Park and seventyseventy; Culinary Tour Hosts: BB Social Dining, Masti Dubai, Larte Dubai, Molecule and Sean Connolly; Workshop Sponsor: MMU; and Sponsor: Servme.

### **Bench Events**

Bench Events has a long track record of delivering multiple premium hotel investment conferences and forums across Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Russia, Asia and Latin America. Market leading annual conferences include the Arabian Hotel Investment Conference (AHIC), the Africa Hotel Investment Forum (AHIF) The Summit in London and the Latin American Hotel & Tourism Investment Conferences (SAHIC). Bench Events' extensive portfolio also includes the Global Restaurant Investment Forum (GRIF) in Dubai and AviaDev, designed to promote the future air connectivity in Africa. Bench Events' mission is enabling prosperity by facilitating growth, networking, and thought leadership in the hospitality industry worldwide.

# Palazzo Versace Dubai

Palazzo Versace Dubai is a luxury urban resort located on the foreshore of the Dubai Creek, Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The 215 suites and the 169 exclusive residences together with several signature restaurants, a spa and the sophisticated range of Versace Home Collection products are brought together to create the Palazzo Versace Dubai

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