



BADRUTT'S PALACE
ST. MORITZ SWITZERLAND

PRESS RELEASE

EHMA GIVES ITS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD TO HANS WIEDEMANN

*THE MANAGING DIRECTOR & DELEGATE OF THE BOARD OF THE BADRUTT'S
PALACE ST. MORITZ RECOGNIZED AS AN ICON OF THE EUROPEAN HOTELLERIE*

ST. MORITZ, March 2017 – There are professionals who possess vision, experience, pioneering abilities and can serve as an example and inspiration to new managers. The European Hotel Managers Association has decided to award Hans Wiedemann, Managing Director & Delegate of the Board of the Badrutt's Palace St. Moritz, for his extraordinary career on the occasion of the annual General Meeting that took place on March 17/19 in The Netherlands. Hans Wiedemann has received from the hands of President Hans E. Koch the “Ehma Lifetime Achievement Award”.

It is in fact the mission of the Association to promote the professional development of its members, who are committed to fostering fellowship and respect to better serve the industry.

Since the beginning of summer 2004, Hans Wiedemann has been at the helm of the “Grande Dame” of St. Moritz – Badrutt's Palace Hotel. One of the top hotel managers in Switzerland, Wiedemann has a wealth of experience gained from working in leading positions around the world.

Hans Wiedemann was born in 1953 in Basel, the son of two physicians, married to his wife Martha and father of two children, Raphael and Rebecca. He graduated from the world-famous École Hôtelière de Lausanne, where today he remains a member of the school's International Advisory Board. After various stints in Switzerland, Wiedemann relocated abroad where he successfully managed an establishment of 600 rooms in China, before spending 13 years managing five top hotels – and some 2,000 employees – in Australia. While working in Australia, he was awarded with the National Award of “Excellence in Service”.

In 1994, Nestlé and Swissair, owners of the traditional Montreux Palace, brought Hans Wiedemann back to Switzerland as director of this first-class hotel. In 2004 Hansjürg Badrutt, owner of the Badrutt's Palace Hotel, appointed him Managing Director. Since then, the hotel has posted double-digit growth figures and turnover has doubled over the past decade. At the same time, Wiedemann gives great importance to training the 550 employees during the winter season, organising advanced training courses with motivation coaches and seminars on the body language of guests.

Wiedemann is also a pioneer in the field of sustainability. Since 2006, 80% of the Palace's heating in winter has been provided by energy extracted from the water of Lake St. Moritz.

Today, Hans Wiedemann is renowned for his inexhaustible élan and optimism and is held in high regard for his achievements in the hotel industry.

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swiss
historic
hotels



Hans Wiedemann is an EHMA member since 1996 and was National Delegate of Switzerland from 2004 to 2008 and Chairman of the Organizing Committee of EHMA St. Moritz 2008.

Present memberships

EHL Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne; International Advisory Board
Vice President of the Board of the Grand Hotel Les Trois Rois Basel

Awards

National Australian Service Excellence Award
Hotelier of the Year 2007 Switzerland
Hotelier of the World 2009
PATWA Award – category “Hall of Fame – Lifetime Contribution in the Hospitality Industry”

Badrutt's Palace Hotel has celebrated on 29th July 2016 its 120 years anniversary. The hotel has undergone careful yet radical renovations over the past few years, resulting in an even more attractive and exclusive establishment, a celebration of style, sports, cuisine and fashion, with discreet service and traditional elegance evoking an atmosphere of pampered luxury for all. An ideal destination in both winter and summer, the hotel is located in one of the most challenging ski areas in the world and offers a host of summer alpine activities as well as a huge spa zone with various treatments. Badrutt's Palace Hotel has 157 guestrooms, including 37 suites, and is a member of Leading Hotels of the World, Swiss Deluxe Hotels and Swiss Historic Hotels.

EHMA in brief

EHMA was founded in Rome in 1974 by a small group of top quality hotel properties general managers of the Italian capital. The European Hotel Managers Association aims to improve qualification of professionals through training in view of increasing the standards of services to be provided to guests. At present the Association gathers about 400 general managers of the most prestigious hotels in 29 countries that make a total of 300 represented hotels, 80,000 rooms, and 62,000 employees. Members meet once a year to discuss about shared themes such as: new technologies, trends, issues, relations, European hotel data and market search. EHMA admission requires a minimum of ten years' experience in the hotel sector.

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