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Jamal Al Habtoor Real Estate launches Rahat service to offer fully furnished serviced apartments for short-term occupancy

Range of 1, 2, 3-bedroom apartments provide visitors with luxurious and cost-efficient alternative to hotel rooms



Jamal Al Habtoor Real Estate, one of the leading real estate agents in the UAE, has announced that it has recently launched its new Rahat service to provide the burgeoning hospitality sector with a fresh supply of fully furnished serviced apartments in the heart of Dubai Marina. The Rahat service, offering one, two, and three-bedroom apartments, takes off as Dubai anticipates a surge in visitors in view of upcoming global networking events and winter attractions.

Initially 15 apartments for short-term occupancy are available, all fully furnished with sea views, and incorporating the latest technological amenities such as broadband internet, cable TV and telephone. The apartments also offer full housekeeping services and 24-hour security.

"The Rahat service will offer visitors a cost-efficient, spacious and luxurious alternative to a regular hotel room. Our apartment facilities are equipped with a complete set of amenities and hotel-style room services at very reasonable prices, aside from offering a strategic location that is just minutes away from all major destinations in Dubai," said Jamal Al Habtoor, Chairman, Jamal Al Habtoor Real Estate.

The Rahat apartments are located in Dubai Marina with easy access to the beach, shopping centers and Sheikh Zayed Road. The apartments are also just five minutes from Ibn Batutta Mall, 10 minutes from Mall of

the Emirates, and a short walk away from the new Marina Mall. Dozens of local food shops, cafes and fine-dining restaurants offering a range of gastronomic choices are in the vicinity.

"Current room occupancy rates are already very high, with most hotels indicating between 80 to 90 percent occupancy in a season when outbound tourism is at its peak. Within the next few months, inbound tourism to the UAE will boom as many visitors will attend various global networking events and other winter attractions such as the Dubai Shopping Festival. As a result, we can expect the corresponding increase in number of visitors to strain the current supply of hotel rooms. This will open an exciting growth opportunity for Jamal Al Habtoor Real Estate through our new Rahat service," Al Habtoor said.

According to recent reports, the Middle East posted the second strongest results in global tourism in the first four months of 2007, outperforming both Europe and America with an impressive nine per cent growth. In the UAE, growth was pegged at six per cent, led by Dubai's rising popularity with its impressive infrastructure development, widespread promotions, and a booming events sector. This has been manifested by Dubai's outstanding hotel room occupancy rate, which stands at 89.4 per cent, the best in the Middle East and significantly higher than the region's average of 71 percent.

However, according to the Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing (DTCM), Dubai's tourism growth was restrained in 2006 because Dubai's 40,000 rooms were not enough to accommodate the volume of visitors. Dubai now targets some 22,000 new rooms to be opened by end of 2008 to meet the strong demand.

Established in 1989, Jamal Al Habtoor Real Estate deals with all aspects of real estate services for both individual and corporate clients, including property and land sales, property investment, residential rentals and commercial leasing, and comprehensive property management services. The company mainly deals with prestigious properties such as Burj Dubai, The Palm and The World islands, Jumeriah Golf Estate and Business Bay.

Serving clients from countries such as United Kingdom, Italy, France and the entire Gulf Region, Jamal Al Habtoor Real Estate also offers a range of value-added services such as interior design, financial and legal advice, and top-to-toe property management, which have helped diversify and increase the company's customer base. Other innovative services offered by the company are helicopter and yacht tours of the properties for potential clients.



ADNEC revises visitor numbers as attendances soar More than 1.5 million visitors expected in 2008



Abu Dhabi National Exhibitions Company (ADNEC) has revealed that it expects 1.5 million visitors to attend events at the new Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre during 2008, with the 50 per cent increase on initial predictions attributed to soaring attendance records. The revised figures also indicate that ADNEC will grow the exhibition industry in the UAE by around 33 per cent, rather than the 25 per cent previously predicted.

International and national event organizers have been extremely quick to stage events at ADNEC since the venue was opened by H.H. Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE and Ruler of Abu Dhabi, in February 2007. More than 60 major exhibitions and conferences are already scheduled for next year.

Commenting on the increased numbers, ADNEC CEO Simon Horgan, said:

"The emirate of Abu Dhabi and the international exhibition industry have been very quick to embrace ADNEC. Our initial plan was to attract one million visitors by 2009 and this would have been a triumph for a brand new exhibition centre. To now be expecting 1.5 million in 2008 is an astonishing achievement which catapults ADNEC into the world's premier league of exhibition and conference venues. ADNEC would like to thank all involved in making this project such a success."

ADNEC recently announced that construction work has begun on both Phase 2 of the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC) and the surrounding Capital Centre development.

The AED 580 million (USD 158 million) Phase 2 project is scheduled for completion in October 2008, and it will see ADNEC double in size to become the Middle East's largest purpose-built exhibition centre with inter-connected exhibition floor space totalling more than 55,000 square metres.

On completion in early 2011, the Capital Center development, which surrounds ADNEC, will house a new micro-city of 23 towers, a 2.3 kilometre waterfront Marina Zone; a proposed monorail and the 'Galleria' - a shopping mall with restaurants, retail outlets, and cinemas. The most distinctive feature of the development will be the iconic 35-storey Feature Tower which will include a 200+ room five-star-plus hotel and 20,000 square metres of office and retail space.

festival
International
de la Plaisance
Cannes

A resoundingly successful 30th anniversary!

More prestigious than ever, the Cannes International Boat and Yacht Show adorned itself for its 30th anniversary with all its finery to invite its 65,000 visitors (up 19% compared to 2006) to dream and escape. With more than 200 new models on display for the first time ever, Cannes has confirmed its position as Europe's leading in-water show. Hosting, for the 2nd consecutive year, ever more magnificent boats, Port Pierre Canto met with great success, both among the visitors and the brokers, who represented the majority of the exhibitors.

An International Exhibition

The show welcomed the key players in pleasure boating and luxury yachting from all over the world: Europe (Italy, United Kingdom, Spain, Germany, France,...), United States, Asia, Middle East, Oceania,... . In all, 26 nations were present at the event now known worldwide. Close to 70% of the exhibitors and 87% of the boats on display came from abroad.

The visitors, trade professionals and private individuals alike, also appeared to be increasingly cosmopolitan, with a significant rise in the presence of foreigners - close to 50%

Compared to 30% in 2006, 13% in 2004 and 6% in 2000 - with the Eastern European countries, particularly Russia, strongly represented.

An excellent business climate thanks to a very upmarket visitorship, confirmed by the exhibitors

The 19% rise in attendance is evidence of the visitors' increased interest in the higher end of the market.

The progression in the number and amount of transactions carried out illustrates the high purchasing power of the clientele (31% of the visitors are in a high socio-professional category*).

The first surveys dealing with attendance at this year's show reveal that 21% of the visitors were planning on making a purchase and 40% were envisaging placing an order*.

Port Pierre Canto, a second year marked by success

Appearing for the first time at the 2006 show, the brokerage section seems to have found its place, as shown by the satisfaction expressed by all the Port Pierre Canto exhibitors: the customers were there in numbers and business was negotiated.

Reminder of the figures for the 30th Cannes International Boat and Yacht Show

585 boats in water (Vieux Port + Port Canto), 87% came from abroad - 200 new models - 480 exhibitors, 70% were from abroad - 80,000 m² of exhibition space

With this great week now at its end, the French Nautical Industries Federation and Reed Expositions France wish to thank the Nice Côte d'Azur Chamber of Commerce and Industry, as well as the official partners of the show: Audi, Blancpain, Only Yacht, Barclays, Relais & Châteaux, and Ladurée, for its cooperation.

The organisers of the Cannes International Boat and Yacht Show look forward to welcoming you to its 31st show, from 10 - 15 September 2008

The next event of the French Nautical Industries Federation Salon Nautique International de Paris, 1 - 9 December 2007

IFA International Guaranteed Fund gets off to a positive start

Chung Chun Hsing claims AIA Singapore Asian Senior Masters 2007

2006 Asian Senior Masters Phuket Champion, Chung Chun Hsing from Taiwan won his second Asian Seniors Tour victory on Sunday after shooting a final round 72 to finish on an 8-under par total of 208. Unlike previous years at Jurong Country Club, a venue which has experienced some close and exciting finishes, the AIA Singapore Asian Senior Masters 2007 was apparently a stroll in the park for the experienced Chung.

Tied in second place on 4-under par were American, Peter Teravainen, Eduardo Bagtas from the Philippines, Craig Owen from New Zealand and Phachoen Prempleeda from Thailand. Singapore also featured in the top ten with local favourite Poh Eing Chong returning a great last round 3-under par 69 to finish on a 3-under total of 213 which was matched by Australia's David Saunders, after he shot the low round of the day, a 6-under par 66. Saunders also challenged in last week's ASM Malaysia event and it will only be a matter of time before he breaks through for his first major Seniors Tour victory.

Asian Senior Masters 2007

Singapore based Terevainen, playing in his first Asian Seniors Tour event, had plenty of opportunities to challenge the overnight leader Chung. In the end Chung only needed to shoot a last round event par 72 to hold off Teravainen and the other determined challengers to record his second victory on the Asian Seniors Tour.

The legendary Hsieh Min Nan once again showed the young seniors a thing or two by returning an even par 216 on a course that some of the new seniors found, at the very least, challenging.

The final round of the AIA Singapore ASM 2007 also resulted in another impressive winner of the AIA Singapore ASM Amateur Championship, one of Singapore's leading junior prospects, Joshua Shou (SICC), who fired an impressive two under par 70 to just edge out Gregory Foo (SICC) who returned an even par 72. Just one shot back in third place was Russell Lim with a 1-over par 73, and a star of the future, 11 year old Jennifer Yan, who shot consecutive rounds of 76.

Presenting sponsors, AIA Singapore, announced that they were well pleased with the overall success of the tournament and plan to continue to ensure that the 2008 event will involve more of Singapore's leading amateur and junior golfers. The tournament format allows leading juniors and amateurs to play alongside the Legends of Golf under testing tournament conditions, thus resulting in quality golf and future champions taking home the overall amateur title.

Tannia's Maharat hospitality programme trains batch of 49 UAE National jobseekers

Tannia, the National Human Resource Development and Employment Authority, today (Wednesday, September 19, 2007), held a graduation ceremony for the eighth batch of 49 UAE Nationals who successfully completed a nine-week training course conducted by the Emirates Academy of Hospitality Management under its Maharat programme. The graduation ceremony was held under the patronage of H.E. Khalid bin Sulayem, Director General, Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing (DTCM). The graduation ceremony for the 30 male and 19 female trainees took place at the Emirates Academy of Hospitality Management premises in Dubai. Held in partnership with the DTCM Task Force, Tannia's Maharat hospitality programme equips UAE National jobseekers with appropriate skills that will help them

pursue a career in the UAE's booming hospitality and tourism industry. Ahmad Al Ahmadi, Dubai Tannia Office Manager, said, "The Maharat hospitality programme is a specialised training initiative that aims to hone the skills of UAE Nationals to make them well-prepared to take up jobs in the tourism and hospitality sector. UAE Nationals have been extremely enthusiastic about the hospitality sector, which is reflected in the overwhelming response we have been receiving for our Maharat programme over the years. The programme has been crucial to Tannia's emiratisation goals and we thank DTCM and Emirates Academy of Hospitality Management for their support."

AbdulRahim Sultan, Employer Relations Manager, Tannia, said, "The tourism and hospitality sector in the UAE is brimming

with opportunities, and UAE Nationals can make the most of this by acquiring the required skills and training. The Maharat programme has over the years, trained hundreds of UAE National job seekers and helped them find suitable jobs in the country's thriving hospitality industry." The Maharat hospitality programme was sponsored by major hotel and retail companies including Ajman Kempinski Hotel; Burjuman Rotana Hotel; Dusit Dubai; Hyatt Regency Dubai & Galleria; Grand Hyatt Dubai; Park Hyatt Dubai; Hilton Dubai Creek; Hilton Dubai Jumeriah; Jumeriah Beach Hotel; Le Royal Meridien Beach Resort & Spa, Dubai; Grosvenor House; Sofitel City Centre & Residence; Sheraton Dubai Creek Hotel & Towers; Taj Palace Hotel; Shangri-La Hotel; Jebel Ali Golf Resorts & Spa and Oasis Beach Hotel & Towers.

Dubai Maritime City to construct UAE's first specialized Maritime Museum

One of Middle East's most comprehensive maritime exhibits to play key role in the development and preservation of UAE's rich maritime heritage



Zenath Real Estate and Western Auto to jointly develop AED 50 million auto showroom complex in Dubai Investments Park



The complex will be rented out to select automobile retailers who are keen on leveraging its strategic location and facilities

Zenath Real Estate, one of UAE's leading property development companies and a part of the Khalid Abdullah Al Ghurair Group, has recently announced it has commenced construction of an AED 50 million auto showroom complex in Dubai Investments Park in partnership with Western Auto, a leading automobile trading company in the UAE, and part of the ETA-Star Group.

Spread over an area of 101,000 square feet, the auto showroom complex – comprising seven showrooms of different sizes – is located in proximity to the Green Community and the Emirates Road. In addition to housing vehicles of Western Auto, the showroom complex will be rented out to other automobile retailers who can leverage the facilities and location of the complex. The auto showroom complex will provide ample parking space for visitors, and each showroom, with its pillar-less design, allows placement of promotion and advertising materials by the retailers. The project is scheduled for completion by mid 2008.

“The construction of this state-of-the-art auto showroom in partnership with Western Auto adds a new dimension to our portfolio of projects,” said S. M. Sadique, Group Director, Zenath Real Estate. “The strategic location of this showroom, off Emirates Road makes it easily accessible to customers, and moreover, the complex is designed in such a way so as to easily accommodate different kinds of vehicles, perfectly complementing Western Auto’s marketing USP of dealing with vehicles in all categories, while also making it an attractive proposition for other automobile retailers in the country.”

Recently, Zenath announced the launch of a string of new hotel, residential and commercial projects in the UAE worth AED 2 billion. In the pipeline are 10 luxurious hotels across the country, a shopping mall in Dubai Investments Park, and several commercial and residential projects around Dubai.



Western Auto specialises in the purchase and sale of vehicles in all categories. They provide a comprehensive range of retail packages to attend to all possible customer needs, ranging from import and export of various automotive brands, including luxury models; purchase and sale of new and used cars; vehicle insurance and warranty; finance packages; vehicle registration; and supply of spare parts.



Radisson SAS wins ACN Award 2007 in the hospitality sector

Trapeze Networks' Smart Mobile helps hotel and resort chain boost client satisfaction by seamless integration of hospitality applications and devices

Dulscos Event Equipment Rental boosts inventory to cater to high volume of Ramadan activities

Also extends value-added services such as event themes, specialized seating arrangements, stage and other customized offerings