

SOFITEL RINGS IN 2007 WITH A GOLDEN START

Ten Sofitel Hotels Included in *Condé Nast Traveler's* "Gold List: World's Best 700 Hotels, Resorts and Cruise Lines"

Paris (January 9, 2007) – According to the readers of *Condé Nast Traveler* magazine, 10 out of 700 of the world's best hotels are Sofitels, as named in the publication's annual "**Gold List: World's Best 700 Hotels, Resorts and Cruise Lines**" issue. Sofitel, with more than 200 hotels worldwide, is the prestige brand of Accor Hotel Group.

The list, released in the January 2007 issue of the publication, is the result of 21,000 subscribers having completed the 2006 Readers' Choice Survey, an in-depth look at the world's best properties for the rankings in the magazine's November issue. To understand the ratings attributed to each property, a team of editors at the magazine contacted readers to find out what made a particular room, view or locale unique in its own right.

Sofitel hotels exude a unique sensibility, *l'art de vivre à la française* (French art of living), which is embodied in the hotels' high standards of service, alluring design, gourmet cuisine and thoughtful amenities. This focus is strengthened by relationships with renowned French personalities, including, architect Jean-Paul Viguier, interior designer Pierre Yves Rochon and Michelin-starred chefs.

The Sofitels that made the list are:

Africa

Sofitel Palais Jamaï, Fez, Morocco – The *Suite Princière*, photographed by Patrick Tourneboeuf, was featured on the cover of *Condé Nast Traveler's* January 2007 issue.

Overlooking the Medina, the Palais Jamaï is an UNESCO World Heritage Site, originally built as a royal palace in the 19th century.

Sofitel Winter Palace, Luxor, Egypt

On the banks of the Nile, in the heart of a tropical garden, this Victorian-style hotel, built in 1886, is next to the Temple of Luxor and an ideal departure point for cruises of the Nile.

United States

Sofitel Lafayette Square Washington, D.C.

Decorated in the Art Deco style, this swanky business hotel attracts D.C.'s elite movers and shakers and is just steps from the White House.

Sofitel Chicago Water Tower, Chicago

Recognized for its futuristic and award-winning prism-shaped design by Jean-Paul Viguier, the hotel's Le Bar is a favorite hangout of Chicago's stylish set.

Sofitel New York, New York

Conveniently located in Midtown Manhattan, on 44th street between Fifth and Sixth avenues, close to the Broadway theater district, major corporate headquarters and upscale shopping, the hotel is a favorite destination for many leisure and business travelers.

The Americas

Sofitel Montreal, Quebec, Canada

At the foot of Montreal's most famous landmark, Park Mont Royal, on Sherbrooke Street, home to the city's best known art galleries and boutiques, close to the historic center of Montreal and the train station.

Sofitel Buenos Aires, Argentina

A charming hotel housed in a restored landmark Art Deco tower of the 1920's. Ideally located on Arroyo Street in the Retiro district, one of the most elegant residential areas in the heart of Buenos Aires.

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Asia, Australia and Pacific Nations

Sofitel Royal Angkor Golf & Spa Resort (Siem Reap, Cambodia)

Just five minutes from the ancient Angkor Wat Temple Complex, this resort boasts a sumptuous spa offering traditional Khmer treatments.

Sofitel Métropole Hanoi (Hanoi, Vietnam)

The Grand Dame of Hanoi, the Metropole is the toast of the city. The more than 100-year-old hotel is steeped in history and it is where Graham Green wrote his famous novel *The Quiet American*.

Europe

The Grand Amsterdam, Sofitel Demeure Hotels (Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

This historic hotel, dating back to the 15th century, has served as a convent and the site of the wedding of Her Majesty Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands.

For Sofitel reservations and information, visit www.sofitel.com or call 800-SOFITEL (763-4835).

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Sofitel: 200 premium hotels around the world

Because no one country or city is the same, Sofitel has made each of its 200 hotels around the world a truly unique establishment. Combining the spirit of each place with the values of modernity, refinement and absolute comfort, they are all imbued in their inimitable way with the French “art de vivre”.

Whether their setting is a great business metropolis like Paris, New York or Bangkok, or nestling in the landscape in Indonesia, Polynesia or Brazil, each Sofitel hotel offers travelers a genuine haven of peace. So that each guest, for an overnight stay or longer, during a business trip or for a holiday, can enjoy the rich variety of these unique places in comfort and tranquility.

Accor, European leader in hotels and tourism, global leader in corporate services, operates in nearly 100 countries with 160,000 employees. It offers to its individual and corporate clients nearly 40 years of expertise in its two core businesses:

- **Hotels**, with the **Sofitel, Novotel, Mercure, Suitehotel, Ibis, Red Roof Inn, Etap Hotel, Formule 1 and Motel 6 brands**: over 4,000 hotels and 475,000 rooms in 90 countries, as well as strategically related activities, such as **Lenôtre**, ambassador of the gastronomy ‘à la française’ worldwide;

- **Services to corporate clients and public institutions**: 21 million people in 35 countries benefit from **Accor Services** products – meal and food vouchers, people care, incentive and loyalty programs.

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