

Paris, September

Kristin Scott Thomas becomes ambassador of the MGallery label and signs the first guide of the collection

The MGallery collection: upscale hotels remarkable in their personality, launched by Accor in 2008, is now represented by a charismatic ambassador: Kristin Scott Thomas, an actress with an international career and a rich and diverse filmography.

What the 32 hotels of the MGallery international collection have in common is the fact that they all possess a distinctive personality shaped by their history. This may be due to the prestige of the building, to famous guests who have stayed there or important events that have taken place there; or it may stem from their outstanding location in the heart of a historic capital or at a site in nature; it may be due to the vision behind their creation, i.e. the particular project their founder was pursuing; or it may be because of their exceptionally elegant and original design, both interior and exterior. MGallery hotels target a demanding, pleasure-seeking clientele of experienced travellers. For them the hotel is central to their holiday, and they want a place rich in character and with true soul.

Kristin Scott Thomas, recognised for her sensitivity and her unique personality, says that she "gives highest priority to films that transport you" and confesses to enjoy "being in places full of soul". It is therefore only natural that she has agreed to become the ambassador for this collection.

The actress, who divides her time between France, Great Britain and the United States and travels the world, was involved in the creation of the first MGallery guide. Through her travel notes, Kristin Scott Thomas also shares with readers a few of her many memories... City neighbourhoods to discover, specialties to savour, moments of life to share... Plus many personal favourites to savour freely.



The MGallery guide*, launched last **October**, leads travellers in search of new experiences to discover exceptional places. It is available to guests in all the hotels of the collection. If an exceptional location is given an iconography, each hotel presentation tells the story of the site and uncovers its treasures and secrets.

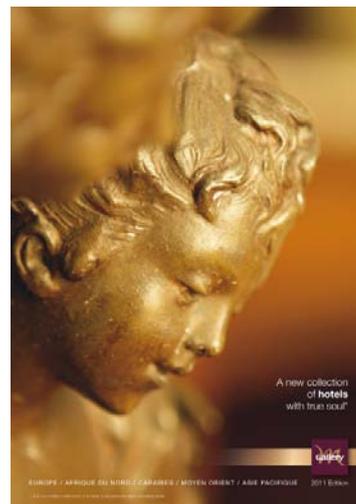
It includes among others the Grand Hôtel Cabourg and its rich historical past, where Marcel Proust used to stay.

The VIE Hotel, Bangkok, for its part, impresses with its evocative design. The architect JH Boiffils imagined a place imbued with a charismatic personality, which captures the spirit of Bangkok in the twenty-first century.

The Hotel Rotary in Geneva is a reflection of its creator, René Favre. A major collector of antiquities, he created sober and elegant décor to house his collection and other treasures unearthed during his travels.

The hotels of the collection are all different and unique, but all display an exceptional personality...

* The MGallery guide was produced in collaboration with the PRO DEO Agency



KRISTIN SCOTT THOMAS

Educated at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts et Techniques du Théâtre in Paris (the famous "Rue Blanche"), Kristin Scott Thomas's film debut was in a film directed by and starring Prince, "Under the Cherry Moon".

Her filmography, deliberately eclectic and cosmopolitan, has led her to meet the greatest European directors, Jean-Pierre Mocky ("Agent Trouble"), Roman Polanski ("Bitter Moon"), Lucian Pintilie ("An Unforgettable Summer"), Philip Haas ("Angels and Insects") with whom she has often been nominated at Cannes. It was really with "Four Weddings and a Funeral" by Mike Newell that she received international recognition.

In 1995, "The English Patient" by Anthony Minghella and her unforgettable interpretation of Katharine Clifton earned her first Oscar nomination. Thereafter followed memorable performances under the direction of Robert Redford ("The Horse Whisperer"), Sydney Pollack ("Random Hearts") and Régis Wargnier ("Man to Man").

It was with Philippe Claudel in 2008 in "I've Loved You So Long", that she was nominated at the Césars and at the Golden Globe Awards as Best Actress.

With "Go" by Catherine Corsini and "Sarah" by Gilles Paquet-Brenner to be released this October, she has returned to the kind of roles of power and intensity that had earned her reputation.

And at the same time, she is careful not to absent herself too long from treading the boards in live theatre. Having interpreted "Bérénice", directed by Lambert Wilson at the Théâtre National de Chaillot, she rejoined Jonathan Kent at the Playhouse Theatre in London in "As You Desire Me" and Ian Rickson at the Royal Court in London and the Walter Kerr Theater in NY in Chekhov's play "The Seagull", for which she was named best actress at the Laurence Olivier Awards in London in 2008.

MGALLERY

MGallery is a collection of upscale hotels notable for their personalities, which will appeal to individual travellers seeking distinctive services or looking for a place with more soul.

In the city centre as well as in tourist hotspots, each hotel in the collection offers a distinctive environment in which to fulfil an authentic experience that revolves around a philosophy of pleasure. This is particularly true of the Baltimore, which offers an incomparable sensory culinary journey in its starred restaurant.

This is also true of the exceptional site for thalassotherapy at the Tombolo in Tuscany or the Cour du Corbeau in Strasbourg, a real timbered house, a maze of nooks and passageways that has travelled through five centuries of history and known illustrious guests such as Frederick II, King of Prussia, Voltaire...

A collection of hotels like so many different worlds.

Launched in September 2008 by Accor, it now covers five continents and will grow to over 40 locations by late 2011.

Everything you need to know about MGallery hotels can be found at the mgallery.com website.

ACCOR

Accor, top hotel operator of the world and leader in Europe, is represented in 90 countries with 4,100 hotels and nearly 500,000 rooms. With a broad portfolio of brands, with Sofitel, Pullman, MGallery Novotel Suite Novotel, Mercure, Adagio, Ibis, All Seasons, Etap Hotel, Formule 1 and Motel 6 plus its associated activities Thalassa Sea & Spa and Lenôtre, Accor offers an extensive range, from luxury to budget.

With 145,000 employees worldwide, the Group offers its customers and partners the know-how and expertise it has acquired over nearly 45 years.

Media Contacts

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| <u>Europe Middle East Africa</u> Elsa Mélique Tel. + 33 (0) 1.45.38.18.29 Elsa.melique@accor.com | <u>France</u> Delphine Kerfysier Tel. + 33 (0) 1.60.61.81.65 Delphine.kerfysier@accor.com | <u>Asia Pacific</u> Evan Lewis Tel. + 65 6408 8888 Evan.lewis@accor.com |
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