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THE DARLING SYDNEY AWARDED FIVE-STARS BY FORBES TRAVEL GUIDE FOR THE 7TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

The Darling Sydney has again been recognised alongside the world's best hotels, with an esteemed Five-Star ranking awarded by Forbes Travel Guide - the only global rating system for luxury hotels, restaurants and spas.

This marks the seventh consecutive year The Darling has earned the prestigious and coveted rating. It was the first and remains the only recipient in New South Wales.

The Star Sydney's General Manager Hotels, Events & Guest Experience, Christina Grasso said it was an honour for The Darling to be recognised among an elite group of luxury hotels.

"This accomplishment is a credit to our team members – all of whom are motivated by a commitment to deliver an uncompromised level of service, genuinely care about guests and want to create experiences that last a lifetime," said Ms Grasso.

"Our people are at the heart of how we operate and how we deliver our signature experience. The Darling continues to invest in that talent to ensure we are pushing beyond our guests' expectations."

Forbes Travel Guide, President – Ratings, Amanda Frasier said: "The leadership and staff of The Darling once again demonstrated an elevated level of kindness to their guests showing why they continue to maintain a place on the Forbes Travel Guide annual awards list.

"We congratulate the property on earning its Five-Star hotel rating once again in 2023."

Over the last year, The Star has also invested around \$30 million to enhance The Darling's 171-rooms and to ensure its position as one of Sydney's best hotels for guest service and comfort, with the upgrades expected to be finalised by June 2023.

Based on guest feedback, the upgrades will focus on delineating 'rest' and 'play' areas throughout the rooms while subtly incorporating The Darling's signature red thread.

The hotel refurbishment brings a new contemporary look and feel to every suite including updated wall and floor finishes, updated minibar and wardrobes, new room automation, wireless charging, sculptures and artworks by Australian artists.

Ms Grasso added, "This investment will increase The Darling's appeal as one of Australia's most luxurious hotel offerings, and capitalise on the return of demand for luxury travel and personalised experiences, particularly from international visitors."

As part of this upgrade, The Star is working with its national community partner, online donation platform GIVIT to donate over 1,250 pieces of furniture to vulnerable families, and those communities affected by recent natural disasters such as the 2022 NSW flood.

The Darling Spa has also been awarded a prestigious Forbes four-star rating positioning it as a world-class wellness facility. With 13 luxurious treatment rooms including two exclusive couples' suites and a Moroccan Hammam chamber, The Darling Spa is Sydney's ultimate urban escape that takes pampering to new heights.

The Darling Spa facilities also include a steam room, salt water jacuzzi and a gym for an all-encompassing experience.

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For more information contact:

Nehad Kenanie, Media Manager, The Star Entertainment Group, 0402 271 142

About Forbes Travel Guide:

Forbes Travel Guide is the only global rating system for luxury hotels, restaurants and spas. Forbes anonymous professional inspectors evaluate based on up to 900 objective standards, with an emphasis on exceptional service, to help discerning travellers select the world's best luxury experiences. The only way to get a Five-Star, Four-Star or Recommended rating is by earning it through our independent inspection process.

For more information about Forbes Travel Guide, please visit [ForbesTravelGuide.com](https://www.forbestravelguide.com).

About The Darling Sydney

The Darling is a luxuriously appointed five-star hotel situated within Sydney's premier events and entertainment destination, The Star, on the edge of Sydney Harbour. The Darling has a distinctive inverted glass tower resting on a sandstone podium and features 171 stylish and spacious rooms and suites, a rooftop pool, world-class cuisine and an indulgent day spa.

To make a booking online, visit www.thedarling.com.au.