

HD Wanda Commercial Properties to Invest \$271M in Gold Coast Project

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WC 320 words

PD 12 August 2014

ET 13:17

SN Dow Jones Newswires Chinese (English)

SC RTNW

LA English

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SHANGHAI—**Chinese** conglomerate Wanda **Commercial** Properties (**Group**) Co. is investing up to 2.1 billion **Hong Kong** dollars (\$271 million) in a project in Gold Coast, Australia, marking its latest venture abroad and its first investment Down Under.

The **Hong Kong**-listed unit of Wanda **Group** will **buy** a 55% stake in a 11,355 square-meter **site** on Old Burleigh Road in Surfers Paradise in Queensland, Australia, it said in a statement. The remaining 45% would be owned by two individuals, Riyu Li and Fengliu Wu, the statement said.

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The **site** can be developed into a mixed-used project comprising three high-rise buildings, with a resort **hotel**, apartments, shops, cafes and restaurants.

"With its beautiful beaches, amazing views and subtropical climate and night life, the Gold Coast is one of Australia's most beloved vacation holiday spots," Wanda said. "There is significant demand for **hotel** facilities as well as premium apartments and accommodation from local as well as foreign buyers."

Wanda, which is run by tycoon Wang Jianlin, has been on a hunt for investments abroad to diversify its sources of income.

It said Friday it is investing \$1.2 billion in another real-**estate** project in Los Angeles, which "will serve as the Wanda **Group**'s first important step into Hollywood."

In July, Wanda said it would invest \$900 million to build a new tower that would be the third-tallest building in Chicago. In June, it bought a 28-story building in Madrid from Spanish bank Banco Santander SA for 265 million euros (\$361 million).

The **group** also **purchased** U.S. cinema chain AMC Entertainment Holdings in 2012 and U.K. yacht maker Sunseeker in 2013.

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12-08-14 0317GMT

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