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RESORT IN HIMALAYAN FOOTHILLS

JW Marriott Luxury Hotels opened its first resort and spa in India in the foothills of the Garhwal Himalayan mountain range last week.

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Built amid lush mountains and historic walnut plantations, the 115-room JW Marriott Mussoorie Walnut Grove Resort & Spa is a convenient starting point from which to explore nearby temples, gardens, hiking trails and natural waterfalls, and is a short distance from the famous Bhatta Falls and the Rajaji National Park.

Rooms start from 14,000 rupees (S\$300) a night, but the resort is offering an opening promotional rate from 11,000 rupees (S\$235), which is valid till Dec 18.

For more information, go to

www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/dedjw-jw-marriott-mussoorie-walnut-grove-resort-and-spa

NEW ON THE PEARL, DOHA

Kempinski Hotels will open the Marsa Malaz Kempinski The Pearl Doha on Dec 1. It will be the first ultra-luxury hotel to open on The Pearl, a newly developed man-made island outside Doha that is named for the area's history as a pearl diving site.

The hotel, which features European architecture blended with traditional Arabian style, has amenities such as an exclusive beach located in a private bay, outdoor swimming pools, gardens, tennis courts, water sports facilities, a spa by Clarins and yacht jetties.

It has 281 rooms, including 69 suites, two Presidential suites and two Royal suites. Rooms rates start at US\$435 (S\$544) for a deluxe room.

For more information go to www.kempinski.com/en/doha/marsa-malaz-kempinski-the-pearl-doha

NEW SILKAIR ROUTES TO BALI, CAIRNS

The regional wing of Singapore Airlines, SilkAir, will start two new routes in the coming months.

From Dec 12, the airline will begin a daily service to Denpasar, Bali, adding to Singapore Airline's four daily flights to the popular holiday destination.

The daily flights will depart Singapore at 6.50am and Denpasar at 10.30am.

From May 30, SilkAir will commence flights between Singapore and Cairns in Queensland, Australia, thrice a week, on Monday, Thursday and Saturday.

Saturday flights will depart Singapore for Cairns direct and return to Singapore via Darwin. Monday and Thursday flights will go to Cairns via Darwin and return to Singapore non-stop.

For more information go to www.silkair.com

WINTER **SALE** ON HOTELS

Preferred **Hotel Group**, which represents 650 hotels, resorts and serviced residences around the world, has launched a winter **sale** with up to 57 per cent savings on accommodation.

The **sale** covers 116 hotels, including 30 per cent off rooms at the boutique **Hotel** Club Frances Buenos Aires in Buenos Aires, Argentina; 25 per cent off at Regal Kowloon **Hotel** in **Hong Kong**; and 20 per cent off Dromoland Castle **Hotel** in County Clare, Ireland.

The **sale** also includes free nights and extended stays in select destinations in the United States, such as Washington DC and California's wine country.

All stays must be completed by Feb 15 next year, except at hotels in the Americas, where offers end on March 31.

To book at these reduced rates, go to www.preferredhotelgroup.com/winter

ART The JW Marriott Mussoorie Walnut Grove Resort & Spa is the **hotel** chain's first resort and spa in India.

-- PHOTO: JW MARRIOTT HOTELS & RESORTS

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