

14 JULY 2018 | GALGORM RESORT & SPA | NORTHERN IRELAND

WORLD LUXURY SPA & RESTAURANT

Awards

2018 World Luxury Spa and Restaurant Awards Gala Event

On 14 July participants from the World Luxury Spa and Restaurant Awards gathered at the magnificent Galgorm Resort & Spa in Northern Ireland for the annual event, recognising and celebrating their success for exceptional service in the luxury wellness and fine dining industries. The red carpet was rolled down the stairs and out between the wide pillars and high arches of the impressive venue – The Great Hall. Guests were welcomed at the entrance by the sound of Irish Uilleann pipes and a single reel Irish dance performance as they were led into an ‘Enchanted Forest’ reception area with exotic cocktails and canapes on arrival. The theme for the evening was Irish with a mythical feel, guests were immersed in a truly memorable celebration of Irish culture, fine food and ‘craic’. Over 200 guests from 42 countries across the globe attended this unforgettable occasion filled with opulence, glitz and glamour.

This truly unique experience was enhanced by the symphony of tastes from award winning produce representing the best of Northern Ireland’s cuisine on the flavourful 5-course menu. Resort Head Chef, Donna Hughes, oversees the menu selection of all the resort’s outlets and proudly presented the best on offer for the evening’s enjoyment, this included local goat’s cheese, prawn bisque, followed by lamb (2 ways), locally sourced honey and dairy for the buttermilk panna cotta, and was finished off with a selection of Irish cream fudge and coffee macaroon’s.

To accompany the sensational food were the awe-inspiring, national and world champion Irish dancers, The Hooley, who provided world class entertainment which was specially choreographed for the event.

All guests were thrilled to receive a generous gift bag with products supplied by Vanity Group, Voya, Bioeffect, Aromatherapy Association, Vita Liberata, Bushmills and Bacardi-Brown Forman.

The resort, in conjunction with their spa partners, created a Spa Festival for attendees to enjoy, this included a pop-up Wellness Bar by Aromatherapy Associates and Finishing Bar by Vita Liberata (the world’s first non-toxic and organic tan). Attendees were invited to experience the products, tan before the event and relax with complimentary treatments after their travels, before preparing to attend the evening’s event.

All attending the event were impressed with the entire evening, especially with the representation of each attending country’s flag outside the entrance of the Great Hall. The awards were well received and the evening flowed smoothly from start to finish, culminating with the much anticipated Global awards, followed by the winners of the Global Spa and Restaurant of the Year winners.

The 2018 Global Spa of the Year was awarded to Este Fitness & Spa in Bulgaria. This sought-after award was well deserved for this luxury spa that has stood out among the worlds’ most advanced, respected and trusted treatment centres. The award was accepted by Nadia Halacheva, Spa Director.

The 2018 Global Restaurant of the Year was awarded to Le Grand Restaurant, a luxury restaurant that has showcased outstanding and original creativity, ambience, service and fine dining, among the world’s most respected restaurants. The award was accepted by Yohan Jossier, Restaurant Director and Alexandra Madesclair Freud, Development Manager.

Guests were invited to remain and celebrate their success together in the Grand Hall with lively music from the 7-piece band, The Coves, which rounded off a perfect evening of celebration.