



HOTELS & RESORTS

### **Milestones in the History of Regent**

- 1970** Regent International Hotels is founded as a joint venture between legendary hotelier Robert H Burns and Japan's Tokyu Hotels group.
- 1971** The Hawaii Regent; the first hotel under the management of the new company opens for business.
- 1971** The Regent Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia opens, setting new standards of hotel accommodation in the Malaysian capital.
- 1971** Regent signs a management contract with the legendary Mark Hopkins hotel in San Francisco, USA.
- 1973** The Regent Fiji opens as the first resort under the Regent name and is quickly voted the finest resort in the South Pacific.
- 1973** Robert H Burns assumes full control of Regent International Hotels.
- 1975** Adrian Zecha, later founder of the iconic Amanresorts, joins Regent and becomes a leading light for the brand.
- 1976** Regent strikes a deal with Hong Kong developer New World to build and operate a landmark new waterfront hotel, the Regent Hong Kong.
- 1976** The Mayfair New York becomes the Mayfair Regent. Highly respected hotelier, Georg Rafael takes the helm of the Mayfair Regent and joins the Regent senior management team.
- 1979** The Regent Chicago opens.
- 1981** The Regent Hong Kong opens. A glamorous waterfront hotel, The Regent Hong Kong set new standards both locally and globally. Winning many prestigious international awards and accolades as the "world's best hotel", it became the flagship of Regent and an international benchmark.
- 1981** Regent Hotels signs an 8-year management contract with China's Jin Jiang Group to manage the historic but rundown Peace Hotel in Shanghai. The planned refurbishment never takes place and the contract finishes early.

- 1983** The Regent Sydney opens and becomes the first truly luxury hotel in Australia, setting new and lasting service standards for the country.
- 1984** The Regent Bangkok is acquired from The Peninsula Group.
- 1985** Regent purchases London's legendary Dorchester Hotel and operates it under Regent management from 1985 to 1990.
- 1986** Regent purchases the rundown Beverly Wilshire on Rodeo Drive, Hollywood and initiates a multi-million dollar, 3-year renovation.
- 1987** Regent signs deal for the restoration of a 16<sup>th</sup> century convent in the centre of Milan to develop The Regent Milan.
- 1988** Regent signs a deal for the development of the Regent New York with famous Chinese American architect I. M. Pei.
- 1988** Regent signs a deal for the development of a prime cliff top site on Jimbaran Bay, Bali for The Regent Bali.
- 1989** The Regent Beverly Wilshire opens [now Four Seasons Beverly Wilshire]. Originally built in 1928 but by now a tired Beverly Hills icon the hotel is magnificently restored into a 395-room luxury hotel that recaptures its former glory and rightful place at the heart of the city's social scene. It is subsequently chosen as the setting for "Pretty Woman", starring Julia Roberts and Richard Gere.
- 1990** Regent hotels begins a long run of international travel awards as The Regent Hong Kong is voted "best hotel in the world" in reader surveys by influential publications such as America's *Institutional Investor*, *Business Traveller*, *Travel & Leisure* and *Condé Nast Traveler*.
- 1990** The Grand Formosa Regent Taipei, now Regent Taipei, opens and is the most successful hotel in Taiwan.
- 1991** In the 1991 *Institutional Investor* award, two Regent hotels appear in the top 10 and five hotels are named in the top 100.
- 1992** The influential *Condé Nast Traveler* lists 8 Regents among the top 25 hotels in the world, with the lowest of them ranked at 14<sup>th</sup>.
- 1992** Robert Burns sells his interest in Regent and the brand is acquired by the Four Seasons group. Four Seasons rebrands a number of the existing properties and under development hotels including New York, Milan and Bali.

- 1992** Designed as a Regent, the Four Seasons Bali opens, setting another significant benchmark for luxury resorts. The private pool / villa concept – at this time the first of its kind – has now become the worldwide standard for luxury resorts.
- 1993** The Regent New York opened as the Four Seasons New York, and remains one of the most magnificent hotels in New York.
- 1997** Carlson Hotels Worldwide (CHW) acquires Regent International Hotels from Four Seasons Hotels & Resorts. At this time, Regent Hotels are located in New York (Wall Street), Almaty, Sydney, Bangkok, Jakarta, Singapore and Taipei
- 2005** Carlson brought together Regent International Hotels (which was renamed Regent Hotels & Resorts) and Radisson Seven Seas Cruises (which was renamed Regent Seven Seas Cruises) to create The Regent Luxury Group, offering luxury hospitality experiences on both land and sea.
- 2007** The Regent Beijing opens in China's capital while in the Caribbean, The Palms joins the brand as the Regent Palms Turks & Caicos.
- 2010** Regent International Hotels is acquired from Carlson by Formosa International Hotels Corporation, the owners of the Grand Formosa Regent Taipei. Steven Pan, Chairman of the Group, appoints original Regent founder Robert H Burns as Honorary Chairman.
- 2011** All Regent managed hotels are selected in *Condé Nast Traveler's* Readers Choice awards for the best luxury hotels in the world, being the first international luxury hotel group to achieve this recognition for the entire brand. Hotels include Regents' Berlin, Beijing, Taipei, Palms Turks & Caicos and Zagreb. In addition, Regent hotels in Berlin, Zagreb, Taipei and Beijing were included in the *Condé Nast Traveler's* 2011 Gold List, a ranking of readers' favourite hotels and resorts worldwide.