news release

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MARRY ME, DANCE WITH ME... WEDDINGS BY MANDARIN ORIENTAL HYDE PARK, LONDON

Hong Kong, 22 January 2012 – The 24-carat gilded Ballroom at <u>Mandarin Oriental Hyde</u> <u>Park, London</u> is London's most prestigious location for weddings, where town meets country at one address.

This year, Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park has partnered with leading wedding first dance Choreographer and Director of WeddingFD Izabela Rai, to offer couples the opportunity to dance in the footsteps of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, who learned to ballroom dance in the historic Ballroom with her sister Princess Margaret. Couples who book their wedding at the hotel will receive three complimentary first-dance lessons with Izabela.

Most celebrated for her role in the third series of the popular BBC television programme *Strictly Come Dancing*, and as professional ballroom dance partner to Brendan Cole, Izabela can choreograph a dance routine for all levels of experience, that can include an elegant beginning, unique and fun freestyle moves, timeless Waltz and Foxtrot steps and a classical ending or a spectacular lift as an option. Izabela has professionally choreographed the 'first dance' at weddings for celebrities, high society couples, business leaders and sport stars in London, New York, Paris and Los Angeles. "I am delighted to have formed a dancing relationship with Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park. This hotel is very special to me, as my own wedding took place in the beautiful Ballroom. I absolutely love to see people enjoy dancing, especially on the most special day of their lives".

Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park's new 2013 Wedding Package, starts from GBP21,000 for 120 people, and includes:

- Pre dinner canapé reception including one glass of Champagne per person
- 3 course wedding breakfast including half a bottle of wine and mineral water per person



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- 3 first dance classes with Izabela Rai as well as a copy of WeddingFD DVD (www.weddingfd.com), the leading Wedding First Dance programme
- MO crockery, cutlery, table linens, glassware, tables and chairs
- Menu printing
- One night stay in a Mandarin Junior Suite on the wedding night with breakfast
- 10% service charge

Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park, London offers a one-stop-shop for every bride-to-be, with an in-house wedding expert, award-winning cuisine and gracious service. Dedicated *Wedding Expert* Kelly Hunt is on hand to help plan each event from start to finish, and to alleviate the stress of 'wedmin' in the happy pursuit of the perfect day to remember. Under the guidance of Executive Chef Chris Tombling, the dedicated team of Chefs can offer an authentic culinary journey and eclectic mix of flavours from around the world, and includes specialists in Western, Indian, Chinese, Middle Eastern cuisine. The hotel can even play host to an "after party" on the Lower Ground Floor, with dedicated event spaces offering a late night licence until 3am.

With an impressive Victorian façade and enveloped between the glitz and glamour of Knightsbridge and leafy Hyde Park, The Ballroom at Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park has long been the setting for many opulent weddings and extravagant parties including the Queen Elizabeth II's reception on the eve of the royal marriage of Prince William and Catherine Middleton in 2011. With both a private Knightsbridge entrance as well as its own Royal Entrance, from which the Bride and Groom may enter with permission from the Crown Estate, The Ballroom is set against the country garden-like backdrop of Hyde Park. The Terrace provides a tranquil, outdoor setting for a drinks reception.

About Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park, London

With bustling Knightsbridge on its doorstep and leafy Hyde Park at its rear, Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park is London's most prestigious address. Blending sumptuous guestrooms



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with a world-leading spa and a stylish bar, it is the definitive destination for a luxury escape. And with two award-winning restaurants including Bar Boulud, London and Dinner by Heston Blumenthal, the first London restaurant for one of the UK's most renowned chefs, Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park stands at the culinary centre of the capital.

About Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group

Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group is the award-winning owner and operator of some of the world's most prestigious hotels and resorts. The Group now operates, or has under development, 45 hotels representing 11,000 rooms in 28 countries, with 19 hotels in Asia, 13 in The Americas and 13 in Europe, Middle East and North Africa. In addition, the Group operates, or has under development, 14 *Residences at Mandarin Oriental* connected to its properties.

Photography of Mandarin Oriental is available to download, in high and low resolution, in the *Photo Library* of our *Media* section, at www.mandarinoriental.com. Please join us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/MandarinOriental) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/mo_hotels)

Visit <u>Destination MO</u> (<u>www.destinationMO.info</u>), the online version of <u>Mandarin Oriental</u> <u>Hotel Group</u>'s bespoke publication, MO. News about our award-winning hotels, the best dining experiences, spa treatments, travel retreats and interviews with the Group's celebrity fans is now just a click away.

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