news release

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SHIRVAN CAFÉ MÉTISSE OF PARIS COMES TO MANDARIN ORIENTAL, MARRAKECH

Hong Kong, 24 December 2020 – Mandarin Oriental, Marrakech is delighted to welcome Chef Akrame Benallal's world-famous Paris restaurant, the Michelin-starred Shirvan Café Métisse, to Marrakech. And what better setting than Mandarin Oriental, Marrakech to bring together the aromas of the Orient, Europe and Asia with the scents of the nearby Medina.

From 20 December, Chef Akrame takes over the resort's restaurant and transforms it into a <u>Shirvan Café Métisse</u>. This pop-up restaurant is designed by architectural duo Gilles and Boissier as a "modern refuge with Berber and Andalusian Arab influences". The relaxing atmosphere blends the modern with Oriental culture and the *Tales from the Arabian Nights*.

Chef Akrame comes from Paris with his entire team to develop a menu where the textures, tastes and aromas of traditional Moroccan food mix with those of the West and some subtle hints of Asiatic cuisine. It's like an invitation to a gastronomic world tour. For example, guests can order a small Tartare of Bluefin Tuna, with an unmistakably Far-Eastern character. Or Oysters Chermoullah Style, flavoured with a mix of world spices: harissa, ras el hanout (a blend of traditional Moroccan spices), zkhoug (a hot sauce from Yemen) and chimichurri (a sauce from South America). There's also a Pastilla de Homard (Lobster Tart), the result of a love affair between Moroccan and French gastronomy, and a magnificent Shoulder of Suckling Lamb Confit en Croûte.

The idea of fusion underpins the style of the Oriental and international cuisine of the new Shirvan, a source of richness and diversity. To accompany these outstanding dishes, Chef Akrame, has some vegetarian fusions like a legendary Tahini-Roasted Cauliflower with orange blossom.



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Many of the vegetables come straight from the hotel's 100% organic kitchen garden. The garden also boasts a fine collection of herbs, which give the dishes and desserts exotic flavours and aromas. The proof is in the puddings with a superb Sorbet Grenade (Pomegranate Sorbet) with ginger and mint from the garden, and the resort's inimitable Baklava Glacé.

Some more good news. On New Year's Eve, the Shirvan will dress itself in light and, for just one evening, become a dreamlike escape from reality. In a discreetly subdued atmosphere, guests will be able to savour a special <u>menu</u> steeped in the flavours and perfumes of the Mediterranean, before enjoying the Electro-Oriental music provided by a DJ specially booked for the occasion. The Shirvan will be open from 6pm so guests can admire the sunset against a backdrop of the snow-covered Atlas Mountains.

Shirvan Café Métisse Restaurant and Bar is open every evening from 6pm to 11pm from 20 December. Dinner on 31 December is MAD2,680 per person.

Reservations can be made online at www.mandarinoriental.com or by contacting Mandarin Oriental, Marrakech on +212 5 24 29 88 88 / momrk-reservations@mohg.com

About Mandarin Oriental, Marrakech

Mandarin Oriental, Marrakech is set among 20 hectares of landscaped gardens filled with the scent of 100,000 roses, with the snow-capped Atlas Mountains providing a stunning backdrop. Located just 10 minutes' drive from the heart of the city and the historic Medina, the hotel offers 54 private villas inspired by Berber and Andalusian-Arabic influences, all with secluded walled gardens, swimming pools and hot tubs, extensive areas for sunbathing and shaded alfresco dining. A further nine spectacular suites, seven with their own rooftop plunge pool, feature panoramic vistas of the gardens and the surrounding countryside. There are a variety of exceptional restaurants and bars, and a world-class spa offering the Group's renowned signature treatments as well as treatments inspired by Moroccan traditions. The luxury experience is completed by the Group's unparalleled service, allied to the best traditions and hospitality of the Kingdom of Morocco.



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About Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group

Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group is the award-winning owner and operator of some of the world's most luxurious hotels, resorts and residences. Having grown from its Asian roots into a global brand, the Group now operates 33 hotels and seven residences in 23 countries and territories, with each property reflecting the Group's oriental heritage and unique sense of place. Mandarin Oriental has a strong pipeline of hotels and residences under development and is a member of the Jardine Matheson Group.

Photography of Mandarin Oriental is available to download in the <u>Photo Library</u> of our Media section, at www.mandarinoriental.com. Further information is also available on our social media channels.

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