



# CLARIDGE'S



## **CLARIDGE'S CHRISTMAS TREE 2013 BY DOLCE & GABBANA IS UNVEILED**

London, November 20th 2013. Claridge's, London's legendary Mayfair hotel, has unveiled the Claridge's Christmas Tree 2013 in its lobby, designed by long time guests and friends of the hotel, designers Domenico Dolce and Stefano Gabbana.

The 7 metre-high tree, which depicts iconic elements from a traditional Christmas tree reinterpreted with Sicilian elements draws on the Italian heritage and origins of the designers. The tree is adorned with more than 450 Italian festive glass baubles blown by master artisans from Verona and Lake of Como, which have been hand-painted with images of the sun, citrus groves, flowering almonds and prickly pears to recreate the idea of a Sicilian garden. A bespoke multi-coloured 'luminarie' framework, created in Southern Italy, surrounds the tree and references the traditional illuminations seen in Italian streets and Piazzas during Christmas time. The colours of green, red, yellow and blues have always been associated with Italian festivities. At the base of the tree are 30 hand crafted Sicilian marionettes (Pupi) made in the likeness of Charlemagne and other medieval knights, carved in wood and dressed in velvet robes.

The Claridge's Christmas tree has long been a festive landmark, drawing visitors and Londoners alike to marvel at its magnificent design. This is the fourth year that Claridge's has invited one of its favourite guests to create and decorate the Christmas tree in their own inimitable style.

Commenting on the collaboration, Thomas Kochs, Claridge's General Manager, says: "We are delighted to welcome Domenico Dolce and Stefano Gabbana to spread their special Christmas magic in our lobby. Both Claridge's and Dolce and Gabbana are synonymous with timeless glamour, innovative spirit and traditional family values that are so important at this time of year."

Designers Domenico Dolce and Stefano Gabbana comment: "To us Christmas is the most magical moment of the year. We spend the holidays with our families and the people we love. Christmas is the moment to give, not only in terms of gifts we put under the tree but especially for emotions and LOVE. The tree we created for Claridge's is special because it brings to London a bit of Italy, of its warmth and traditions".

High resolution images may be downloaded from the following link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/114n2uwgvgxwznk/-C5TAa707r>

## **ABOUT CLARIDGE'S**

At the centre of London's Mayfair, Claridge's, part of Maybourne Hotel Group, embodies grand English style, timeless glamour and impeccable, intuitive and highly tailored service. It is London's art deco jewel, and home to breathtaking rooms and suites. From London's finest afternoon tea in the Foyer to vintage champagnes and rare spirits at Claridge's Bar or after-dinner drinks in the Fumoir, all are part of the hotel's unique splendor and charm.

## **ABOUT MAYBOURNE HOTEL GROUP**

Maybourne Hotel Group owns and manages Claridge's, the Connaught and the Berkeley, three of the world's most legendary five-star hotels, located in the heart of London. Maybourne Hotel Group is committed to delivering authentic and unique guest experiences that reflect the individual nature of its hotels, its guests and its staff whilst maintaining a timeless elegance and intuitive service style that are the hallmarks of its properties.

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