

**Press Release**  
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**PEERMONT**

HOTELS CASINOS RESORTS

***Grand Palm's PeerMont Walmont hotel receives its fifth star***

Three-time Travel Award winner, The Grand Palm Hotel Casino and Convention Resort, in Gaborone, Botswana, has been awarded its fifth star from the Botswana Tourism Board towards the luxurious Walmont hotel. This achievement will see the PeerMont Walmont hotel at The Grand Palm operate as the first full service 5-star city hotel in Gaborone and Botswana.

The hotel has always upheld the high level of standards when it comes to customer service and guest experience at the hotel. Management and staff are extremely proud of this achievement.

"To be the first 5-star full service city hotel in Botswana is an unsurpassed achievement. This accolade is testament to the commitment and dedication of the staff who have worked tirelessly and passionately towards attaining this goal. It reinforces the achievement of the World Travel Awards for the leading resort in Botswana in 2006, 2007 and 2009," says Bruce Page-Wood, Regional Chief Operating Officer, Botswana Africa.

The award-winning hotel exceeded expectations and criteria set by the Botswana Tourism Board which is a combination of facilities and services with great emphasis on excellent customer service from staff and management. The resort and the hotel invested 24-million Pula in the refurbishment of the Casino and Mokolwane Bistro, 8-million Pula to the refurbishment of the 4<sup>th</sup> floor and 5<sup>th</sup> floor rooms of the Walmont hotel last year, and this contributed to this great achievement. "In addition to the hotel refurbishment, The Grand Palm management also invested money in improving the standards of service, guest amenities and recruiting staff capable of providing nothing but the best service for our guests," says Bruce

The now 5-star Walmont hotel at the Grand Palm boasts lavish gardens, a gift shop for guests to buy something special for those back at home, one of the world's most sought after conference facilities, the Gaborone International Convention Centre amongst other things. The Grand Palm has also taken giant eco-friendly steps towards going green. It launched a grey water plant, implemented significant power saving measures, installed water saving apparatus into bathrooms and has started its own Wormery. Page-Wood comments, "Tourism operations worldwide are increasingly being judged on their eco-credentials with guests choosing to support 'greener' hotel operators." The Grand Palm Hotel Casino and Convention resort still remains the perfect business and leisure destination in Gaborone.

For bookings and more information call 00267 363 7777 or visit [www.peermont.com](http://www.peermont.com)

**About PeerMont**

PeerMont Hotels, Casinos and Resorts is South Africa's most empowered hospitality and gaming company. PeerMont has an excellent track record in the design, development, management, ownership and operation of multi-faceted integrated resorts. This includes otels, casinos, convention centres, retail outlets, restaurants, bars and other sport and entertainment facilities.

PeerMont has a strong market position in South Africa and Botswana, where it owns and manages 15 casino and hotel properties including: Emperors Palace Hotel Casino Convention Resort, Johannesburg; Graceland Hotel Casino and Country Club, Secunda; Mondazur Hotel at San Lameer, KwaZulu-Natal; Frontier Inn & Casino, Bethlehem; Tusk Umfolozi Casino Resort, Empangeni; Rio Hotel Casino Convention Resort, Klerksdorp; Khoroni Hotel Casino Convention Resort, Thohoyandou; and Mmabatho Palms Hotel Casino Convention Resort in Mafikeng. In Botswana, PeerMont owns and manages The Grand Palm Hotel Casino Convention Resort and the Mondior hotel in Gaborone; the Metcourt hotel as well as the Sedibeng Casino in Francistown and Syringa Casino in Selebi Phikwe.