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**KIMPTON INTRODUCES EPIC, A NEW COSMOPOLITAN PLAYGROUND IN DOWNTOWN MIAMI**

**MIAMI** – The long-awaited EPIC, a new lifestyle, boutique waterfront hotel located in the heart of downtown Miami, opened its doors December 15, 2008. Managed by Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants, EPIC represents the company’s first new-build hotel property in Florida.

Located at the edge of the Miami River and Biscayne Bay, EPIC combines the timeless style of a cosmopolitan boutique hotel with the amenities of a resort to create a sophisticated recreation oasis for guests amidst the energy and pulse of Miami.

Surrounded by lush landscaping and palm trees, EPIC captures the essence of Miami from its distinct waterfront location, offering inspiring cityscapes and glimmering views of the bay throughout the elliptical-shaped 54-story building. With interiors designed by award-winning designer Cheryl Rowley, EPIC offers an inviting and sophisticated style with a sense of warmth, simplicity, rhythm and understated elegance for the stylish and seasoned traveler.

“EPIC captures the vibrant and seductive vibe of Miami, providing a hotel experience where guests can work, play, and be inspired,” said Joe Schwinger, general manager at EPIC. “Our unique combination of sophisticated whimsy delivers a playful experience designed to amuse and entertain within a welcoming and relaxed environment.”

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EPIC provides guests with heroic experiences and larger-than-life moments throughout their stay. It pays homage to heroes through its design, amenities, services and staff who offer an unmatched level of visionary service, which is a reflection of Kimpton's commitment to unparalleled personalized care and attention to unique guest needs. Since 2007, Kimpton has consistently garnered the highest customer satisfaction ranking from Market Metrix Hospitality Index (MMHI), surpassing other luxury, five-star hotel brands in customer care satisfaction. MMHI provides survey, analysis and service improvement tools, and benchmarking data for the hospitality industry.

EPIC guests can enjoy a range of amenities that evoke the ultimate Miami fusion – a blend of sensual energy and sophisticated ambiance. Sitting 16 floors above sea level overlooking the “Magic City” is a 13,752-square-foot wrap-around pool deck with two swimming pools and 10 private cabanas, which provides a relaxing atmosphere by day and turns into a pulsating hotspot at night. EPIC also features a private marina that offers charter departures directly from the hotel and is available for unconventional and one-of-a-kind yacht parties, receptions and events – as well as Area 31 restaurant, offering premium seafood with a Mediterranean influence; a waterfront lounge; and a full-service spa and fitness center operated by Exhale.

The hotel's 411 spacious guestrooms and suites feature private balconies with inspiring views of the bay and city, and are artfully designed by Rowley, with calming earth tones, custom furnishings and fine fabrics. Rooms offer a wide range of amenities to provide a relaxing and indulgent experience, including fine Italian linens with luxurious triple sheeting and throw blankets, LCD flat screen televisions, and spa-inspired luxury bath amenities – with many of the guestrooms offering hydrotherapy air bath tubs. Additional room services and hotel amenities include complimentary morning newspaper, coffee and tea in the hotel's Living Room lobby, Hosted Evening Wine Hour, twice-daily housekeeping service, as well as high-speed wireless Internet access.

Located on EPIC's 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> floors are club level rooms and suites, and a club lounge. Club level guests have exclusive access to a private lounge that offers a concierge, television and culinary delights throughout the day, including complimentary continental breakfast, mid-morning and afternoon light fare and refreshments, evening hors d'oeuvres and a private evening wine hour.

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In addition, EPIC features more than 11,000 square feet of inspiring indoor meeting and event space, providing business travelers and groups with high-touch, customer care and stylized spaces to create memorable and productive meetings and events.

EPIC is owned primarily by the Spanish real estate company Ponte Gadea and in partnership with Alfredo and Diego Lowenstein's Lionstone Development and Ugo Colombo's CMC Group. Situated in the heart of downtown Miami at the edge of the Miami River and Biscayne Bay, EPIC is surrounded by first-class dining, shopping, nightlife, entertainment, and the city's finest museums and attractions – all within easy reach. The hotel is located seven miles from Miami International Airport and is in close proximity to Miami Beach and the Port of Miami. "We are very excited to participate in this landmark project in Miami," said Roberto Cibeira Moreira, CEO of Ponte Gadea's U.S. operations.

EPIC is located at 270 Biscayne Blvd Way. For more information or reservations, please call (866) 760-3742 or (305) 424-5226 or visit [www.epichotel.com](http://www.epichotel.com).

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#### **ABOUT EPIC**

A member of the award-winning San Francisco-based Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants, EPIC is located at the edge of the Miami River and Biscayne Bay, and combines the style of a cosmopolitan boutique hotel with the amenities of a resort to create a sophisticated oasis for guests amidst the energy and pulse of Miami. The hotel's 411 rooms and suites are artfully designed by Cheryl Rowley, with furnishings that convey an understated sense of cool, and all feature private balconies that provide inspiring views of the city and bay. Hotel offerings include a 13,752-square-foot wrap-around pool deck with private cabanas; Area 31 restaurant, offering premium seafood with a Mediterranean influence; a spa and fitness center operated by Exhale; a waterfront lounge; 11,000 square feet of indoor meeting and event space; and a private marina.

#### **ABOUT KIMPTON**

San Francisco-based Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants, a collection of boutique hotels and chef-driven restaurants in the US and Canada, is an acknowledged industry pioneer and was the first to bring the boutique hotel concept to America. Founded in 1981 by Bill Kimpton, the company is well-known for making travelers feel welcomed and comfortable while away from home through intuitive and unscripted customer care, stylish ambience and having a certain playfulness in its approach to programs and amenities. Each hotel provides a range of exciting culinary experiences through affiliated, top-rated, destination chef-driven restaurants. Kimpton leads the hospitality industry in ecological practices through its innovative EarthCare programs that span all hotels and restaurants. Privately held Kimpton has consistently earned the highest ranking customer satisfaction scores by the Market Metrix Hospitality Index, exceeding all other hotel companies including those in luxury and upscale segments. Among the company's newest properties are Lorien Hotel & Spa and restaurants BRABO by Robert Wiedmaier and BRABO Tasting Room in Alexandria, VA, which opened in February 2009. Currently, projects are underway in New York City, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Baltimore and Chicago. For more information, please visit [www.KimptonHotels.com](http://www.KimptonHotels.com) or call 1-800-KIMPTON.