



BANYAN TREE  
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## PRESS RELEASE

### EUROPEAN SIGNATURE RESTAURANT BELON GARNERS TOP DESIGN AWARD OF ‘DESIGN ET AL’

#### *Unique & memorable interior design applauded in International Hotel & Property Awards 2012*

(Macau, November 09, 2012) – Banyan Tree Macau’s signature European restaurant *Belon* has collected top honours in the prestigious International Hotel & Property Awards 2012. Hailed as a “unique and memorable experience”, the prestigious aquatically-themed restaurant styled by dwp | design worldwide partnership, wins the 'Restaurant within a Hotel' award.

Hosted by leading interior design magazine ‘design et al’, The International Hotel & Property Award recognises the best in hospitality interior design and architecture, from across the globe.

“Belon required high impact to achieve the highly acclaimed reputation as a premier dining experience in a luxury brand name hotel, such as Banyan Tree. The evocative underwater experience tied into the oyster theme of the restaurant is uniquely indulgent for guests, and a memorable dining experience from entry to exit, exceeding client and guest expectations in design.” said the judges.

Premier dining destination Belon opened last year with spectacular panoramic views over Asia’s entertainment capital, from the top-floor of the luxury urban resort Banyan Tree Macau.

World-class architecture and interior design firm dwp’s design was inspired by the celebrated French Belon oyster, after which the restaurant is named.

Starting with the oyster shape, the design theme embraces a continuation of aquatic forms, movements and colours. Curvaceous oceanic shapes are inspired by scallop tails, jellyfish tentacles, flowing waves and spiralling shells, filling the space with a visual aquatic language.

A sense of grandeur begins during the arrival experience, as guests descend a grand glass staircase glowing deep blue underfoot, passing the waterfall along the walls. Above the Oyster Bar, the ceiling morphs into a spiralling array of illuminated coves, in the shape of a giant conch shell.

Entry to the dining room is through a soaring whale bone archway, with dining tables styled as glowing shelters, and bubbles of air rise through columns to the ceiling, in which the ceiling of suspended crystal is reminiscent of a starlit ocean sky at night, with descending sinuous blown glass chandeliers of jellyfish shape.

At the end of the restaurant, the open grill bar is sculpted like a swirling scallop tail and the colour scheme is based on soft sandy beiges, coral pinks and creamy shell tones, animated by plunging deep blues, rich orange and turquoise, and aqueous light blues and greens.

"We are thrilled to have won this prestigious award and have our work recognised in this way," said dwp Group CEO, Brenton Mauriello. "These design awards are a truly significant international platform, showcasing the very best in hospitality interiors and architecture."

Banyan Tree Macau was on the Condé Nast Traveller (UK) Hot List 2012 and voted one of ‘The 60 Best New Hotels in the World’ and “probably the finest new hotel in a city full of brasher contenders”, while specialty European restaurant Belon was also praised as “superb”.

Banyan Tree Macau marks the debut of internationally-renowned luxury hotel group Banyan Tree Hotels and Resorts in Macau. The enclave’s first 5-star all-pool all-suite urban resort, featuring Outdoor Villas in a tropical garden setting. Part of the US\$2 billion integrated Galaxy Macau Complex, featuring the world’s largest ‘sky wave’ pool, with an artificial 150-metre white sand beach complete with crashing waves.

For more information or reservations, please contact Banyan Tree Macau at (+853) 8883 8833, email [reservations-macau@banyantree.com](mailto:reservations-macau@banyantree.com) or visit [www.banyantree.com](http://www.banyantree.com).

For more information on dwp | design worldwide partnership, please visit [www.dwp.com](http://www.dwp.com).

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#### **About Banyan Tree Hotels and Resorts**

The leading international operator in the boutique resort, residences and spa industry, Banyan Tree offers a signature blend of romance and travel with a green conscience. The philosophy behind the hotels, resorts, residences, spas, retail galleries and destination club is based on rejuvenation of the body, mind and soul – a Sanctuary for the Senses. Angsana Hotels and Resorts is the ideal complement to Banyan Tree, comprising contemporary, chic and ecologically sensitive retreats. Based in areas of outstanding natural beauty and exciting city hubs, Angsana hotels, resorts, residences, spas and retail galleries reflect the spirit and communities of their environment.

**To date, the Banyan Tree Group manages and/or has ownership interests in over 30 resorts and hotels, over 60 spas, in excess of 80 retail galleries, as well as three golf courses.**

**For high resolution images or media enquiries, please contact:**

#### **Banyan Tree Macau**

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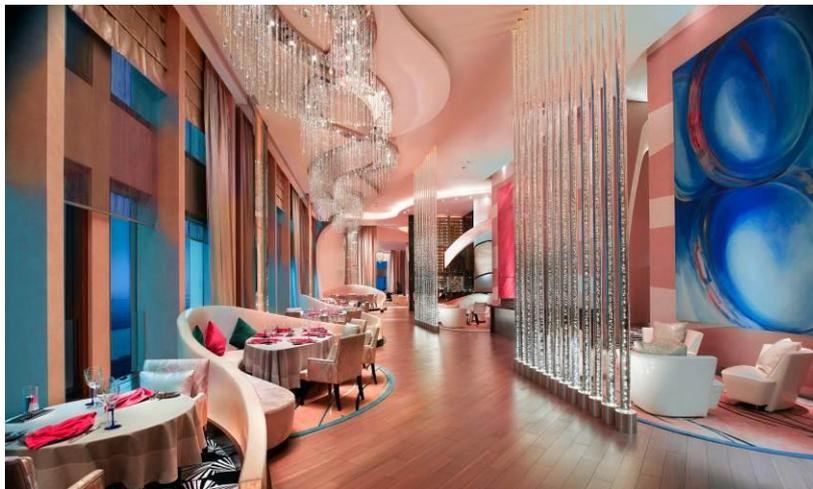
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Entering Belon, the ceiling of the Oyster Bar morphs into a spiralling array of illuminated coves in the shape of a giant conch shell.



A ceiling of suspended crystals is reminiscent of a starlit ocean sky at night.