

## MEDIA RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Goodwood Park Hotel, A 120 Years Of Timeless Elegance

Commemorating an everlasting legacy with year-long festivities

Singapore, February 2020 – Goodwood Park Hotel commemorates its 120-year legacy with a celebration of its illustrious history and pioneering firsts that has firmly established it as an institution in Singapore today.

Over the remarkable 12 decades, Goodwood Park Hotel has evolved from the prestigious Teutonia Club for the German expatriate community, to becoming the choice luxury hotel for notable dignitaries and celebrities, and a distinguished stalwart in the industry. To pay homage to the hotel's significant milestones, a line-up of festivities has been specially curated to mark this momentous occasion.

## **Durian Fiesta 2020**

The annual Durian Fiesta has shaped an outstanding 37 years in the hotel's passage of time since 1983. From 14 March to 26 July 2020, durian enthusiasts can look forward to a splendid 2020 Durian Fiesta repertoire highlighting 7 new durian pastries and perennial favourites. The new creations are inspired by the hotel's illustrious past, a nod to current trends and anticipation for an exciting future. Each pastry is intricately handcrafted to perfection, flaunting the divine flavours of the 'King of Fruits' using the finest D24 and 'Mao Shan Wang' durians.

To revel the hotel's remarkable 120 years, enjoy an exclusive 30% discount off the total bill with a minimum spending of \$120 nett in a single receipt on selected takeaway durian pastries at The Deli from 14 to 25 March - first 12 days of the launch of Durian Fiesta. All durian devotees can look forward to the following new durian pastries:

- D24 Pavlova and D24 Coffee Pavlova Commemorating the world-famous Russian ballerina, Anna Pavlova, who had given dazzling performances at the hotel in the 1920s.
- **D24 Party Squares** A showcase of the fiesta's most popular flavours, Cream Cheese, Pandan Coconut, Coffee and Chocolate Marquise, from the recent decade.
- **D24 Summer Dream** A beautiful jelly cake inspired by the tranquillity of lounging in the sun-drenched lush gardens of Goodwood Park Hotel.
- **D24 Nutty Delight** Set to be the next addiction for all durian and peanut butter lovers.
- D24 Galaxy Ice Cream Roll A firm favourite of durian fanatics since 2011, the D24
  Galaxy Ice Cream Roll draws on the hotel's great anticipation for a bright and starry
  future.



• **D24 Golden Fritter** – A crispy warm indulgence that opens up to a chilled and moreish D24 durian heart.

More details will be shared in the upcoming Durian Fiesta press materials.

# **Gordon Grill – Quintessential German Gourmet**

Gordon Grill pays homage to the origination of the building – Teutonia Club, with a specially curated German gourmet repertoire showcasing some of the notable German dishes interpreted through the modern European culinary style. Available from 17 April to 14 June 2020, the menu is deeply inspired by the German culture and traditions, and how the cuisine has evolved through the years.

The Teutonia Club was an exclusive enclave for the German expatriates in Singapore in 1900. The clubhouse was launched with much grandeur on 21 September 1900, marking the significant milestone for the German community residing in the Far East. The building was fashioned after the castles of the Rhine characterised by its prominent tower block – a masterpiece reflecting the German Heritage. This remarkable clubhouse played host to high society balls, famous plays and concerts, and graced by distinguished royalties and dignitaries.

More details will be shared nearer to date.

# <u>L'Espresso – A Nostalgic Afternoon Tea with Special Tea Blend</u>

To honour the hotel's 120<sup>th</sup> birthday, Goodwood Park Hotel is collaborating with TWG to create a new premium blended tea to complement the signature Afternoon Tea Buffet experience at L'Espresso from 1 June to 31 July. The 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary commemorative tea draws inspiration from the history of the hotel.

L'Espresso has earned its reputation as *the* "place for elegant teatime pursuits" since the 1970s for its splendid offering of English Afternoon Tea. The buffet spread is a dazzling assortment of dainty sandwiches, salads, savouries, pastries, desserts, a chocolate fountain and of course, traditional English scones which are freshly baked in the open-concept kitchen. Its wide selection of special blended teas from TWG has won the hearts of many afternoon tea enthusiasts throughout the decades.

More details will be shared nearer to date.



# Min Jiang at Goodwood Park Hotel - The Best of Chef Chan's Signatures

Renowned for its multi award-winning Sichuan and Cantonese cuisines, Min Jiang has garnered the loyal patronage of guests who have followed its journey since its beginnings in 1982 as Min Jiang Sichuan Restaurant and Garden Seafood Restaurant. In 1989, Goodwood Park Hotel opened Chang Jiang Shanghai Restaurant and was the first to serve Chinese food, French-style from a side servery. 2004 saw the merger of all three restaurants and transformation into today's flagship restaurant, Min Jiang. Following its success, Min Jiang at One-North was launched in 2006 as the hotel's first independent restaurant to be fully managed off site, while the hotel made its first overseas venture in 2008 to open Min Jiang at the Royal Garden Hotel in London; much to the pleasure of guests who covet its signature Wood-Fired Beijing Duck. Most recently, Min Jiang at One-North relocated to the lush locale of Dempsey Hill with the opening of Min Jiang at Dempsey.

In line with the hotel's celebration of its anniversary every 10 years, Min Jiang will bring back the top 10 dishes skilfully prepared by Master Chef Chan Hwan Kee in the past decade. Available in August/ September, '*The Best of Chef Chan's Signatures*' will showcase one signature from each year that was highly popular and well received by all.

More details will be shared nearer to date.

# **Goodwood Park Hotel Mid-Autumn Festival**

Mid-Autumn Festival has been a significant annual event for Goodwood Park Hotel for 38 years. This festival, the hotel is unveiling a limited mooncake creation to commemorate the hotel's 120th anniversary.

The grand dame was the forerunner in developing interesting new flavours each year to excite mooncake lovers. The hotel was one of the first in Singapore to introduce durian snowskin mooncakes in the late 80s, which have ever since been a mainstay in the annual Mid-Autumn repertoire. The hotel has garnered many ardent followers for their mooncake creations and they will continue to do so for this momentous occasion.

More details will be shared nearer to date.



# A Taste Of Heritage at Min Jiang at Dempsey

Min Jiang at One-North relocated last year in the peak of Spring after having called Rochester Park home for 12 years where it was recognised for its refined cuisine and as the only Chinese restaurant in Singapore to occupy a 'black and white' bungalow. Housed in new and bigger premises within the similarly lush, heritage destination of Dempsey Hill, Min Jiang at Dempsey continues to uphold its acclaimed repertoire of Cantonese and Sichuan cuisines as well as exceptional service.

As a tribute to the hotel's 120 years, Master Chef Goh Chee Kong will also present 12 heritage dishes from 18 September to 31 December 2020; one for every decade, and each representing the different dialect groups of Hokkien, Teochew, Cantonese and Hakka that form our diverse and rich Chinese culture.

More details will be shared nearer to date.



# **APPENDIX – The Legacy of Goodwood Park Hotel**

#### 1900s

- Teutonia Clubhouse opened in 1900, and was fashioned after the castles of Rhine to reflect its German heritage.
- The clubhouse was characterised by a tower block, and had incorporated electric lighting installations that were considered advanced for its time.

#### 1910s

 Three Jewish brothers – Morris, Ezekiel and Ellis Manasseh – bought the clubhouse at a public auction. They renamed the premises the Goodwood Hall after the famous "Goodwood" race course in England.

#### 1920s

- Goodwood Hall was expanded into a function room and then Restaurant-Café-Entertainment Palace.
- Anna Pavlova, one of the world's greatest ballerinas, performed for two nights only in her Singapore debut.
- In 1929, the Manasseh brothers converted the premises into Goodwood Park Hotel.



(Left) Anna Pavlova performed at Goodwood Hall in 1922



Teutonia Clubhouse in the 1900s



An old postcard featuring the Teutonia Club

## 1930s

- Room rates were modest starting from St\$6 a day!
- Hotel representatives met all steamers and mail trains to offer guests personal escort to the hotel.

## 1940s

• Incorporated as a public-listed company on 30 September 1947.

## 1950s

- Landmark tower was removed and kept.
- Broke the tradition of hiring room boys – instead, employed women as housemaids to clean and make the rooms.

### 1960s

- The hotel has a new owner
  - Mr Khoo Teck Puat.
- Opening of **Gordon Room** in 1963 (renamed as Gordon Grill in 1965) and **L'Espresso** in 1968.

# PIONEERING INNOVATIONS

Goodwood Park Hotel established a number of firsts in Singapore:

- ➤ A kidney-shaped swimming pool that made local history in 1947 – the first hotel in Singapore to include the luxury of a swimming pool
- Air-conditioned wine cellar at the Arundel Room (1950s)
- ➤ Air-conditioned hote taxis (1961)
- ► The hotel is the flagship of the Goodwood Group of Hotels – Singapore's first local hotel chain in 1968
- Latest technology a new guest key system in 1984
- ➤ In 2006, Min Jiang at One-North was the first Chinese restaurant to be located in a black and white colonial bungalow



#### 1970s

- Restoration and preservation of the original Teutonia Club tower.
- Roof topping ceremony in 1977.
- Opening of Coffee Lounge in 1977.
- In 1978, Mrs Mavis Oei, daughter of Mr Khoo Teck Puat, was promoted to General Manager of the hotel. She was one of the youngest female executives in the region to reach this position. She began her career in Goodwood Park Hotel in 1965.



Coffee Lounge in 1977

#### 2000s

- Windsor Room expanded from a 40 seater room to a 400 seater pillarless ballroom.
- Openings Min Jiang at One-North in 2006, and Min Jiang at the Royal Garden Hotel in London in 2008.
- Introduction of the Local Degustation Menu at Coffee Lounge.

## 2010s

• Min Jiang at One-North relocates to the **Dempsey** enclave in 2019.



Durian Fiesta's D24 Durian Puffs

#### 1980s

- Opening of **Min Jiang** in 1982.
- Launch of **Durian Fiesta** in 1983.
- **Taiwan Porridge** was introduced at Coffee Lounge in 1984.
- Became known as a leader in the celebrated Christmas light-up in the Orchard Road area.
- In March 1989, the hotel's architectural heritage was recognised when the government designated the tower wing as a national monument under the Preservation of Monuments Order.
- Introduction of durian snowskin mooncakes in the late 1980s.



Christmas display in 1997

# DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

For 120 years, the hotel has welcomed many dignitaries and guests-of-

- Former Queen Beatrix of The Netherlands
- Duke of Windsor (then Prince of Wales)
- Sultan Ibrahim of Johor
- ► Ronald Reagan
- ► John Wayne
- ► Shirley Bassey
- ► Cliff Richard
- Sir William Golding
- Roald Dahl
- ► Mohammed Al
- Iackie Chan
- Tony Leung
- Duran Duran
- Depeche Mode



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# **GENERAL INFORMATION ON GOODWOOD PARK HOTEL**

Address Goodwood Park Hotel, 22 Scotts Road, Singapore 228221

**Mainline** (65) 6737 7411

Websitewww.goodwoodparkhotel.comFacebookfacebook.com/GoodwoodParkHotel

Instagram@goodwoodparkhotelsgHashtag#goodwoodparkhotel

Pinterest pinterest.com/goodwoodparksg

Summarv

An icon on Scotts Road, Goodwood Park Hotel is housed in a uniquely designed building that dates back to 1900. A distinguished institution in hospitality circles, the hotel is one of the most reputable pioneers of the tourism industry. Much of her original beauty has been faithfully restored and her majestic air artfully accentuated with fluted columns, delicate woodworks, decorative plasterwork and graceful archways. Through the years, she has gained recognition for her exquisite elegance, legendary charm and tradition of excellence, with her Grand Tower gazetted a national monument in 1989. The Hotel has five distinctive restaurants, each providing an exquisite dining experience, along with a deli, a bar, two outdoor swimming pools and a fitness centre.

## **FACT SHEET - COFFEE LOUNGE**

Address Goodwood Park Hotel, 22 Scotts Road, Singapore 228221

**Reservations Tel** (65) 6730 1746

Email <u>coffee lounge@goodwoodparkhotel.com</u>

Online reservations www.goodwoodparkhotel.com

Summary

Since 1977, Coffee Lounge has been a favoured haunt of Singaporeans and tourists, who enjoy its authentic local fare and international favourites. Housed in the prominent Grand Tower wing of the hotel which was gazetted a national monument in 1989, it was revamped in 2007 and now welcomes guests to classic and contemporary surroundings with the same stellar cuisine and service that have garnered many fans over the years. Perennial favourites like the local high tea buffet and Taiwan Porridge remain. The local degustation menus were also introduced then and quickly became popular with many locals and foreigners alike.



# FACT SHEET - GORDON GRILL

Address Goodwood Park Hotel, 22 Scotts Road, Singapore 228221

**Reservations Tel** (65) 6730 1744

**Email** gordon\_grill@goodwoodparkhotel.com

Online reservations <u>www.goodwoodparkhotel.com</u>

**Summary** 

Gordon Grill, Goodwood Park Hotel's premier fine dining restaurant has built a strong reputation for serving some of the finest steaks and Continental cuisine in Singapore, since its establishment in 1963. The menu will leave even discerning gourmets spoilt for choice, with more than 50 different items including foie gras, imported fresh seafood, grill items and the restaurant's specialty - its fine selection of USDA Black Angus beef as well as grain fed Australian or USA Wagyu Beef. For meat lovers, the trolley specialties are highly recommended as the restaurant is famed for serving some of the finest choice cut steaks in Singapore.

# FACT SHEET - L'ESPRESSO

Address Goodwood Park Hotel, 22 Scotts Road, Singapore 228221

**Reservations Tel** (65) 6730 1743

Email <u>lespresso@goodwoodparkhotel.com</u>

Online reservations <u>www.goodwoodparkhotel.com</u>

Summary

Since its establishment in 1968, L'Espresso has earned a reputation as the destination for elegant teatime pursuits. In particular, the English Afternoon Tea buffet – available daily at this cosy restaurant – is the main attraction with a dazzling assortment of dainty sandwiches, salads, savouries, pastries, desserts, chocolate fountain and traditional English scones.

## **FACT SHEET - MIN JIANG**

Address Goodwood Park Hotel, 22 Scotts Road, Singapore 228221

**Reservations Tel** (65) 6730 1704

Email <u>min\_jiang@goodwoodparkhotel.com</u>

Online reservations www.goodwoodparkhotel.com

Summary

Established in 1982 and named after the Min River of Sichuan, this award-winning restaurant presents a lavish dining concept in Chinese cuisine. Its menu features Sichuan and Cantonese favourites, including dim sum on traditional trolleys during lunch and barbecued specialties.

## **FACT SHEET – MIN JIANG AT DEMPSEY**

Address 7A and 7B Dempsey Road, S(249684)

**Reservations Tel** (65) 6774 0122

Email <u>mjdempsey@goodwoodparkhotel.com</u>

Online reservations www.goodwoodparkhotel.com

**Operating Hours** Daily, 11.30am - 2.30pm | 6.30pm - 10.30pm

Seating Capacity 8 pax (bar)

20 pax (dining area near the bar)

80 pax (main dining)

30 pax (private dining rooms)

20 pax (outdoor)

Cuisine Cantonese and Sichuan

## Summary

Min Jiang at Dempsey continues the tradition of serving some of the best Chinese cooking to Singapore gourmands. The restaurant features extensive dining facilities, including a bar and alfresco space, and a contemporary chinoiserie interior. Alongside signature and specialty favourites, Master Chef Goh Chee Kong, a veteran of Min Jiang, serves a new menu showcasing Cantonese and Sichuan cuisines; with creations that conserve familiar flavours, but with contemporary presentations. With its prime lifestyle location, exquisite food and service, and chic ambience, Min Jiang at Dempsey is the perfect setting for any occasion, and a destination for lovers of fine Chinese cuisine.

## FACT SHEET - THE DELI

Address Enquiries Tel Goodwood Park Hotel, 22 Scotts Road, Singapore 228221 (65) 6730 1786 | **Opening hours** 9am – 9pm