

NEWS RELEASE

Paris, July 5, 2017

**HÔTEL DE CRILLON:
AN HISTORIC TREASURE, A TIMELESS PARISIAN LANDMARK**

In March 2013, Hôtel de Crillon closed its doors to embark on a major restoration to enhance the majesty and elegance of this exceptional establishment. After four years, on 5 July 2017, it opens to much anticipation and Hôtel de Crillon, A Rosewood Hotel, emerges as an elegant expression of the spirit of Paris.

The guiding philosophy of Rosewood Hotels & Resorts is A Sense of Place®, in which each property reflects its location's history, culture and sensibilities. Hôtel de Crillon is an exquisite illustration of this: the hotel is an 18th century architectural treasure that has witnessed and even played a role in major moments in French and world history. Today, this past becomes a rich backdrop to Hôtel de Crillon's modern-day story.

Created by royal command

In 1754 King Louis XV called upon Ange-Jacques Gabriel, the greatest architect of his day, to design the splendid public square now known as Place de la Concorde. Gabriel also carried out the monarch's commission for two "palaces" on the Place, creating a pair of identical, perfectly proportioned stone structures set on either side of the Rue Royale. One of them houses the Naval Ministry. The other is the site of Hôtel de Crillon.

Standing at 10, place de la Concorde, Hôtel de Crillon belongs to an architectural ensemble that is among the finest examples of the French Neoclassical style. With its magnificent Corinthian colonnade and sculptures by Coustou, the hotel's façade is a registered historic landmark.

Behind that façade, in the 1770s, a sumptuous private dwelling arose, built for the Duke d'Aumont, a noted connoisseur and collector. He employed the era's foremost artists and craftsmen to decorate his home, where Marie-Antoinette would come to study piano. The Duke



de Crillon acquired the residence in 1788. Although it was confiscated during the Revolution, the building was ultimately returned, and the Crillon family retained ownership until 1907.

The historic *hôtel particulier* was transformed into a luxury hotel for elegant travellers in 1909. Since that time, it has welcomed guests from around the world including renowned celebrities, politicians, artists, princes and queens.

Hôtel de Crillon has been managed by Rosewood Hotels & Resorts since 2013, at the start of renovation work.

A witness to epochal events

Over a span of more than 250 years, Hôtel de Crillon has watched history play out, within its walls and on the Place just beyond its doors. The spirit of Marie-Antoinette still inhabits the hotel, where she once took music lessons in the salon that bears her name. Across from the hotel, on the very square where cheering crowds had acclaimed her on the occasion of her marriage to the future King Louis XVI, Marie-Antoinette followed in her husband's steps to the guillotine in 1793. Closer to our time, the place de la Concorde was the scene of some of the final combats for the Liberation of Paris in 1944.

Peace is also present on these premises: in 1778, the hotel's Salon des Aigles witnessed the signing of the first French-American treaty to recognize the Declaration of Independence, with Benjamin Franklin in attendance. And in the same monumental chamber in 1919, the Covenant of the League of Nations was signed.

A beacon for illustrious guests

With its prestigious address and reputation for exquisite hospitality *à la française*, Hôtel de Crillon has attracted royalty, heads of state and celebrities. Artists in particular have chosen the hotel on their travels to Paris: Isadora Duncan, Igor Stravinsky, Diaghilev, Peggy Guggenheim, Charlie Chaplin, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Andy Warhol, Leonard Bernstein, Madonna, Mario Testino...all have inscribed their names in the hotel's guest book.



ABOUT HÔTEL DE CRILLON, A ROSEWOOD HOTEL

Fronted by the majestic architecture of Ange-Jacques Gabriel, Hôtel de Crillon, A Rosewood Hotel overlooks the spectacular Place de la Concorde, one of the most beautiful city squares in the world. Built at Louis XV's request, the hotel became the residence of the illustrious Count de Crillon and his family for many years and was transformed into a hotel in 1909 under the guidance of architect Walter-André Destailleux. Since then, its guest list has featured celebrities, politicians, artists, princes and queens, all attracted to the hotel's unique and perennial reputation for excellence. Hôtel de Crillon has long since secured its iconic status as a one-of-a-kind property, a living testament to the very best way of life France has to offer. Following a four-year transformation, the hotel opened in 2017 and now boasts 124 guestrooms and suites, four restaurants, Sense, A Rosewood Spa, a newly created swimming pool, three heritage landmark salons for meetings and functions, and more.

For more information: rosewoodhotels.com/crillon

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ABOUT ROSEWOOD HOTELS & RESORTS®

Rosewood Hotels & Resorts® manages 20 one-of-a-kind luxury properties in 11 countries, with 17 new hotels under development. Each Rosewood hotel embraces the brand's A Sense of Place® philosophy to reflect the individual location's history, culture and sensibilities. The Rosewood collection includes some of the world's most legendary hotels and resorts, including The Carlyle, A Rosewood Hotel in New York, Rosewood Mansion on Turtle Creek in Dallas and Hôtel de Crillon, A Rosewood Hotel in Paris, as well as new classics such as Rosewood Beijing.

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