

News · 16th Jul 2018

Major design names brought in to deliver branded residences in Sri Lanka

Philippe Starck's YOO and US architecture practice Gensler are on board to 'redefine uber-luxury vertical residential living in the Indian Ocean region', says developer

PRIME RESI

--
16TH JULY 2018

--
CIRCULATION
178,000

--
AVE £2,500



SAPPHIRE RESIDENCES
— COLOMBO 1 —

SP!DER
BRAND PR & DIGITAL MARKETING

India's second-largest hotel chain, ITC Hotels, has released details about its first foray into the branded residential market.

The top-end hotelier is, via its subsidiary WelcomHotels Lanka, developing 132 luxury apartments as part of a mixed-use scheme on the prestigious Galle Face in Sri Lanka's capital, Colombo. Sapphire Residences are "set to redefine uber-luxury vertical residential living in the Indian Ocean region", trumpets bumf, in a development that is "destined to become a globally recognised landmark for the city".

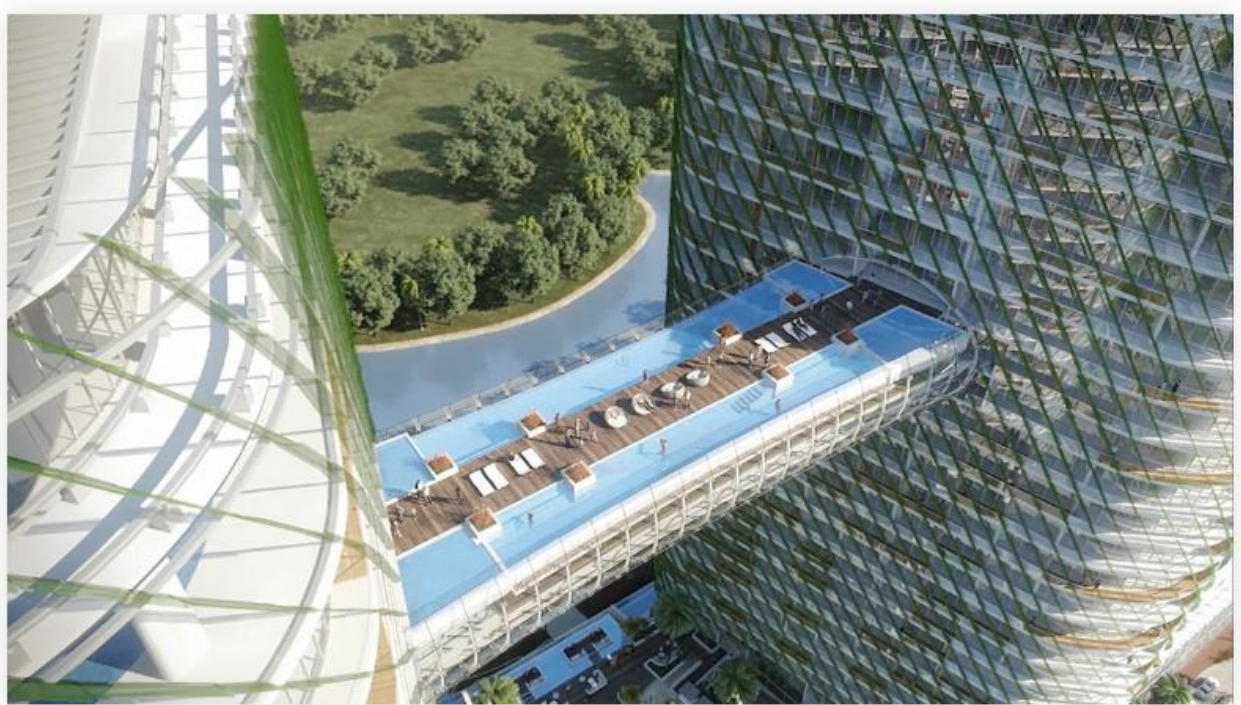
A very top-tier international design team has been assembled to make it so. Heavyweight American architecture firm Gensler has come up with the two distinctive parallel towers connected by a sky bridge, while interiors are being created by London-based YOO working with Philippe Starck in Paris; landscaping is being done by Singapore's Burega Farnell.

The taller tower (224 metres) will house 132 residences, while the shorter (140 metre) building will operate as a hotel, topped with the area's only helipad; towers will be linked at the 19th and 21st floors by a 54-metre long sky bridge, incorporating a bar and lounge on the lower level, and an outdoor pool and sunbathing deck above.



SAPPHIRE RESIDENCES
— COLOMBO 1 —

SP!DER
BRAND PR & DIGITAL MARKETING



SAPPHIRE RESIDENCES
— COLOMBO 1 —

SP!DER
BRAND PR & DIGITAL MARKETING

All apartments take advantage of 180° panoramic views of the city, lake and ocean with floor-to-ceiling windows and four-metre ceilings heights (rising to five metres in penthouses); units average a sprawling 5,000 square feet a-piece, with penthouses coming in at 9,325 square feet.

YOO and Starck are also behind concepts for a 25,000 square foot Residents' Club, which will offer several swimming pools, a cinema, residents' lounge and library, outdoor amphitheatre, full-service spa, gym and fitness centre, yoga room, squash court, indoor multi-purpose sports court, function rooms, "hobby" studio, teens' and kids' lounges and a lawn play area.



SAPPHIRE RESIDENCES
— COLOMBO 1 —

SP!DER
BRAND PR & DIGITAL MARKETING

Gensler has come up with “a futuristic illuminated exterior wrapping” around each triangular tower, which are engineered with no external supporting walls to deliver “uninterrupted light flows” into every residence.

YOO and Philippe Starck have “drawn inspiration from the island culture and the serendipitous nature of Sri Lanka” for their work at Sapphire Residences, coming up with four interior design styles that buyers can choose from.



SAPPHIRE RESIDENCES
— COLOMBO 1 —

SP!DER
BRAND PR & DIGITAL MARKETING



Apartments will be priced from US\$1.4m, and are scheduled to launch onto the market in Q4 2018, via Sotheby's International Realty.

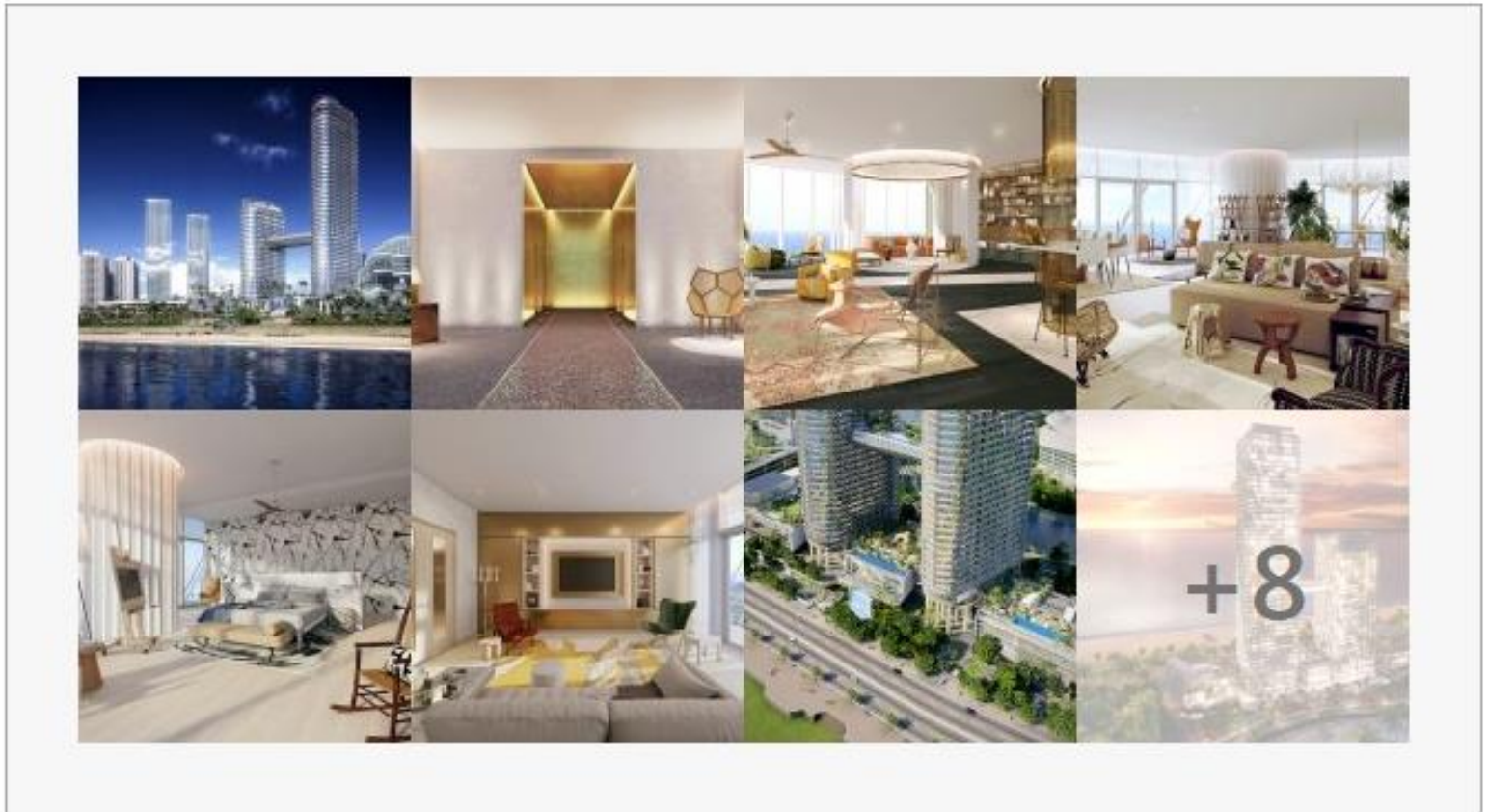
Construction is currently under construction with completion expected in 2021. The Sapphire Residences Experience Centre (21, Galle Face Centre Road, Colombo 1) opens this month.



SAPPHIRE RESIDENCES
— COLOMBO 1 —

SP!DER
BRAND PR & DIGITAL MARKETING

IN PICTURES



SAPPHIRE RESIDENCES
— COLOMBO 1 —

SP!DER
BRAND PR & DIGITAL MARKETING

Arun Pathak, Managing Director of WelcomHotels Lanka (Private) Limited: “Our objective was to develop a new icon for the country on this ultra-prime Colombo coastline that would be recognisable across the globe. This inspired us to bring together and collaborate with an exceptional team of international designers to deliver this truly striking development, comprising the finest collection of apartments and penthouses in the region.”

Discussing his work as Yoo Inspired by Starck for Sapphire Residences, his first project in Sri Lanka, Philippe Starck: “Yoo projects, and Sapphire Residences in particular, are about You. I wanted to create a place that draws people together, that makes them laugh, make them more in love, more sparkling, more intelligent. I wanted to create fertile surprises to awake people, to create conversations, to create interactions. A place where Us humans are at its heart. ”

www.sapphireresidences.lk



SAPPHIRE RESIDENCES
— COLOMBO 1 —

SP!DER
BRAND PR & DIGITAL MARKETING