

# NEWS



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **JW MARRIOTT ORLANDO, GRANDE LAKES APPOINTS NEW DIRECTOR OF FOOD & BEVERAGE**

**Orlando, Fla. – March TK, 2017** – Colin Mills has been appointed Director of Food & Beverage at JW Marriott Orlando, Grande Lakes. In this position, he will oversee the management of all food and beverage operations at the 1,000-room hotel, including Whisper Creek Farm: The Kitchen, the highly acclaimed farm-to-table restaurant that opened in April 2015, as well as Primo, Chef Melissa Kelly’s Italian restaurant serving cuisine inspired by the coastal regions of Italy, France and Spain, The Sushi Bar, offering new American Sushi and a selection of Asian tapas, and all banquet operations. Grande Lakes Orlando, comprised of The Ritz-Carlton and JW Marriott, is a 500-acre estate that sits on the headwaters of the Florida Everglades.

Mills holds more than 15 years of Marriott event operations and management experience, several of those at JW Marriott Orlando, including most recently as the resort’s Director of Event Management where he led the team to achieve Best in Class performance for the JW Brand. Prior to this he held other event operations leadership roles at the property. His previous positions included Director of Event Operations at Boston Marriott Burlington, St. Kitts Marriott Resort & The Royal Beach Casino and earlier in his Marriott career he was a Senior Event Services Manager for New Orleans Marriott.

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### **About Grande Lakes Orlando**

The 500-acre Grande Lakes Orlando estate features a 582-room Ritz-Carlton and 1,000-room JW Marriott hotel situated at the headwaters of the Florida Everglades. Guests at both hotels can enjoy all the facilities and services at Grande Lakes Orlando, including an 18-hole Greg Norman-designed championship golf course and the 40,000-square-foot Ritz-Carlton Spa as well

as three pools including the winding lazy river at JW Marriott. Dining options feature the culinary mastery of award-winning chefs Norman Van Aken with Norman's at The Ritz-Carlton and Melissa Kelly with PRIMO at JW Marriott, a leader in the city's farm-to-fork movement. The resort's renowned culinary program is further showcased at The Kitchen at JW Marriott Orlando and Highball & Harvest at The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, as well as The Brewery, an on-property nano-brewery and Chef's Table. Furthering this farm-to-fork commitment are the on-site apiaries and 18,000-square-foot Whisper Creek Farm.

On-property activities include Grande Lakes Adventures Experiences offering kayaking, eco-tours on Shingle Creek, and a fishing school. Conference and meeting attendees have their pick of a selection of meeting space options located across 150,000 square feet that connects the two properties plus more than 100,000 square feet of outdoor space.

Grande Lakes is located 15 minutes from the Orlando International Airport, five minutes from the Orange County Convention Center and minutes from the major theme parks. For more information about Grande Lakes Orlando, visit [www.grandelakes.com](http://www.grandelakes.com). Follow Grande Lakes Orlando on Twitter at @RC\_Orlando and @JW\_Orlando.

### **About JW Marriott Hotels & Resorts**

JW Marriott is part of Marriott International's luxury portfolio and consists of beautiful properties in gateway cities and distinctive resort locations around the world. These elegant hotels cater to today's sophisticated, self-assured travelers, offering them the quiet luxury they seek in a warmly authentic, relaxed atmosphere lacking in pretense. JW Marriott properties artfully provide highly crafted, anticipatory experiences that are reflective of their locale so that their guests have the time to focus on what is most important to them. Currently, there are 73 JW Marriott hotels in 28 countries; by 2020 the portfolio is expected to encompass more than 100 properties in over 30 countries. Visit us online, on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook and #experiencejwm.

Visit Marriott International, Inc. (NASDAQ: MAR) for company information.