# Philippe Belhay FHCIMA

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## Personal profile

Multi properties Cluster General Manager 5 Star Luxury Brands Hotels & Resorts, including Marriott, Iberostar, De Vere Hotels & Resorts UK, Saraf Hotels & Resorts (Owning Company Hyatt Regency Asia ) and a Privately Owned Properties (LHW) in North Africa, Europe, Asia & The Middle East. Strong Commercial & Financial Acumen demonstrated in the results over several properties.

### Specialties and skills:

- Experienced in managing simultaneous award winning destination Resorts (LHW), Luxury Boutique Hotels in cities and sea side with 3 golf courses home of "Ryder Cup".
- Showcase strong knowledge of branding acquisition, develop strategies and monitor business performances of hotels, real estates, casino, night clubs indoors and outdoors, restaurants and fine dining, 3 star Michelin, including branded retail stores.
- Successful track record of reviving the growth of poor performers outlets in terms of finance and market strength repositioning the business to high end Market with new concept.
- Dealing at all levels, including Union Labour, Government Authorities, Board international associates and stake holders.
- Overseeing hotels constructions amongst restaurants, luxury villas, theme park projects, using my concept working in partnership with owing companies meeting deadlines, communicating with architect, designers, lawyers, suppliers and tour operators.

### Major achievements:

- Yak and Yeti 5 star Luxury Hotel and Resort Nepal Saraf hotel group and owning company of Hyatt Regency in Asia. Repositioned hotel leisure travel business to corporate and mice business resulted to 44% GOP where used to be 32.6% GOP.
- Successfully pre- opened 3 luxury boutique hotels in Kensington London and Doha in Qatar within 2 years.
- Fully refurbished 266 bedrooms and suite 5 star luxury and member of (LHW) hotel and resorts in Tunisia North Africa.
- Complete construction of 144 luxury villas & Apartments, Spanish style on time and on budget.
- Successfully hosted Ryder Cup at "<u>The De Vere Belfry Hotel and Resort"</u> in UK and delivered best GOP results ever.
- Took a challenging assignment hotels in Brighton under bankruptcy owned by Norwich Union insurance and asset management, successfully converted the business into a profitable viable business and sold it to investors in Dubai.
- Successfully launched a new restaurant beach bar "Nikki Beach" concept Saint Tropez in Hammamet, Tunisia.

• Working in Nepal under very demanding and difficult 4 different union and staff, managed to bond with them and successfully signed of a 2 years "Collective Bargaining Agreement" with terms and condition. This has helped me to deliver company annual budgeted profit margin.

## Career Summary:

- May 2014 Present: Senior General Manager 5 star luxury hotel and resort with 274 beds, 3 outlets, 7 banquet halls, casino, health club at "Saraf Hotels Asia".
  - Successfully repositioned the business mix from travel market to corporate & mice market, this has resulted 44% GOP from what was 32.06%. (www.sarafhotels.com)
- May 2012 May 2014: Cluster executive hotels manager Al Rayyan luxury hospitality group in London and Doha, Qatar.
- Pre-opened 5 star Luxury Boutique Hotel in Kensington London.
- Managing a pre opening 3 hotels in Doha ready for the grand opening ceremony for the Amir State
  of Qatar.
- Launched 8 international restaurants (Moroccan, Lebanese, Chinese, French, Japanese, Italian, Saudi and Indian). (<a href="www.theadriaboutique.com">www.theadriaboutique.com</a>) (<a href="www.theadriaboutique.com">www.swbh.com</a>)

#### • March 2011 – May 2012:

- General Manager at Iberostar Spanish International Hotels and Resorts, 246 beds 5 star hotel
   & palace, Hammamet in Tunisia. (www.iberostar.com)
- Managed a 5 star luxury hotel and crises management labour strikes due to the Tunisia Arab Spring revolution, successfully achieved a (certificate of excellence for the year 2011) by Iberostar company and the trip advisor.
- Signed of 1 year deal with Tunisian governments to host their seminar at The Amir palace resulted to an excellent revenue increase of 37% year on year.

## • February 2010 - March 2011:

- General Manager "Crown Golf Group" The Hertfordshire Golf and country manor & spa. (<u>www.crown-golf.co.uk</u>)
- Approached by a head hunted to manage a luxurious manor house and golf with a deficit business and converted to a profitable viable business focused on sales & marketing and recruited competent accountable management team.

#### January 2008 - February 2010:

General Manager and Vise President for hotel GM's association in Tunisia.

- Le Royal Hammamet a 5 star luxury hotel and resort (member of LHW), 266 beds + suites,
   144 luxury villas + apartments, mini golf, 7 international cuisine, 13 meeting rooms-1000 guest capacity, night club, casino, health fitness for Thalasso Therapies and beach club high end market 600 guest (www.leroyal.com)
- Successfully delivered 39% GOP from 28.6% previously whilst increased guest satisfaction from 63% to 89%via customer care program and training team development.

### • June 2006 – January 2008

- General Manager for Choice Hotels Europe Owned by Norwich Union insurance and asset management. (<u>www.choicehotels.com</u>)
- Brighton hotel, was running in the last 8 years in a financial difficulties. I have been approached to turn the business around, within this period, hotel become profitable and viable and successfully sold it to investors in Dubai.

### September 2004 - June 2006

- o General Manager De Vere Bellhouse Hotel and Spa, UK. (www.bellhousehotel.co.uk)
- Decided to move closer home in Buckinghamshire when this opportunity arrived to manage this 4 star luxury hotel to take it to the next level, during this period I have successfully repositioned this hotel to be best hotel revenue performer in Buckinghamshire.

## • February 2002 - September 2004

- Director of operations De Vere The Belfry Hotel Golf And Resort 5 star luxury hotel, 324 beds, 3 golf course, 750 acres of parkland, 21 conference rooms, 8 bars and restaurants, 825 staff, 21 head of departments, 3200 leisure members. (www.thebelfry.co.uk)
- Successfully delivered international Golf Tournament "The Ryder Cup 2012", with added pressure via the media spot light, demanding the highest level of security post 9/11. This has been achieved through a precise communication, above all it was very rewarding to enjoy the best revenue and GOP performance at all times.

#### December 1997 - February 2002

General Manager, The International Hotel Canary Wharf, London four star luxury city hotel with 442 beds + suites, 3 international restaurants with a major corporate and mice business in access of 2000 covers daily.5 years excellent experience working in Canary Wharf under very demanding chairman, despite the weekly pressured meeting with him. This has made me the successful person that I am today. (www.britanniahotels.com)

## **Education**

- University of west of London: HCIMA Professional Diploma
- Dortmand university Germany: Hotel management & Business Studies.
- Academies d'orleans, tours, France : Diploma de Brevet de technician superior (HND equivalent)

### Language

English, French, German, Italian and Arabic