

Holiday Inn in the heart of Sandton

THE Holiday Inn Sandton has opened its doors to business and leisure guests, marking the reappearance of the global hotel brand onto the local scene after a three-year absence.

The rights to the Holiday Inn brand were originally held in SA by Southern Sun.

The newly developed Holiday Inn Sandton was purchased by the Hospitality Property Fund (HPF), who see it as the perfect business opportunity in Africa's prime business and retail destination. The hotel overlooks Village Walk, which is just a short, safe walk away, and is a short hop from Sandton City.

The hotel has been built according to the latest Holiday Inn specifications which are soon to be implemented in their 1800 Holiday Inn Hotels worldwide.

"The Holiday Inn Sandton has the three characteristics that make it the ideal property investment — location, location, location," says Andrew Rogers, chief operating officer of the HPF group. "Added to that, it has the strength of a global brand, supported by owners who understand and excel in the local market."



HOLIDAY HOME: Above, the top-floor pool terrace at Sandton's new Holiday Inn; right, the new place to be seen in Sandton — the Skye Bar. Pictures: HOLIDAY INN

"The Holiday Inn brand is so well recognised and respected globally that international visitors are very enthusiastic about experiencing a hotel group that they are familiar with, here in SA."

The hotel has 301 rooms on eight floors; the ninth floor has an

outdoor, heated swimming pool and terrace, small fitness centre, two restaurants and two bars.

The hotel also offers 24-hour in-room dining; a concierge and travel desk; an extensive and comprehensively equipped business and conference centre;

laundry and valet services; an executive floor with an exclusive lounge area; 24-hour secure covered parking; and a shuttle service at a "nominal cost".

One of the hotel's main attractions, for both Sandton residents and hotel guests, is the Skye Bar on the seventh floor which has a panoramic view of Rivonia and the northern suburbs of Joburg.

Plush upholstery and dangling chandeliers bring a sense of "timeless classicism" to the clean, modern lines of the bar.

Of the rooms, Rogers says: "They are welcoming and uncluttered, with locally sourced furniture of the highest quality, wood-panelled storage spaces and granite-topped surfaces in the bathrooms. The passages are light and wide, and the whole hotel has been designed and decorated to create a sense of space and luxury. For the business guest, all the rooms come equipped with wireless internet access as well as ADSL connectivity."

■ *Holiday Inn Sandton, 123 Rivonia Road, Sandton (11) 282-000*
www.holidayinn.com/rivoniard

