



For Immediate Release

The Silo Hotel opened its doors on 1 March 2017 and is the latest addition to The Royal Portfolio.

**V&A Waterfront, Cape Town** - The Silo Hotel occupies a very special location in the heart of Cape Town and has been built in the grain elevator portion of the historic grain silo building which was originally built in 1924. The Silo Hotel has 28 keys across seven room categories, including a spectacular penthouse.

David Green, CEO of the V&A Waterfront said, *"We have no doubt that The Royal Portfolio will bring to this hotel their impeccably high standards and offer its guests an exclusive experience quite unlike any other."*

Facilities at the hotel include The Silo Spa (with five treatment rooms, a manicure and pedicure area, a sauna as well as a state of the art gym), The Willaston Bar and Granary Café on the sixth floor and the rooftop bar and restaurant. With panoramic views of Table Mountain and Robben Island in the Atlantic Ocean, The Silo Hotel welcomes both international guests and local visitors.

Since first opening Royal Malewane in 2000, the vision of the Biden family has been to give guests a complete experience and a perfect stay. The opening of the new hotel completes The Royal Portfolio's circuit of quintessentially South African luxury travel experiences that includes Royal Malewane in the Greater Kruger National Park, La Residence in Franschoek, Birkenhead House in Hermanus and The One Above penthouse in Cape Town.

The Silo Hotel is situated above Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (MOCAA) which will house the single largest collection of contemporary African art in the world. London based Heatherwick Studio was responsible for the reimagining of the exterior of the grain silo building, which contains both the museum and the hotel above. The greatest visible change to the grain silo's monumental structure is the addition of the pillowed glass windows, inserted into the existing geometry of the upper floors. These windows bulge outward as if gently inflated. By night, this will transform the building into a glowing lantern or beacon in the harbour.

Liz Biden, the owner of The Royal Portfolio, has meticulously designed and decorated the interiors of the hotel. Each of the 28 rooms is unique. Liz explains that *"We always wanted to open a hotel in our home city of Cape Town. The Silo Hotel is an exciting and ambitious project which we believe will perfectly complement our existing properties and rank among the very best hotels in the world. The building is modern and industrial so the interior design contrasts that with the addition of comfortable, colourful and more playful touches."*

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## Notes for The Editor

### ABOUT THE ROYAL PORTFOLIO

The Royal Portfolio is a collection of iconic hotels and private residences in South Africa owned and run by the Biden family. The Royal Portfolio includes Royal Malewane in the Greater Kruger National Park, Birkenhead House in Hermanus, La Residence in Franschhoek and a collection of Private Residences which includes The One Above penthouse in Cape Town. [www.theroyalportfolio.com](http://www.theroyalportfolio.com)

### ABOUT ZEITZ MOCAA

The R500-million redevelopment of the historic Grain Silo Complex, announced in November 2013 as a partnership between the V&A Waterfront and Jochen Zeitz will retain and honour the historic fabric and soul of the building while transforming the interior into a unique, cutting-edge space to house the Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (Zeitz MOCAA). Considered the most extensive and representative collection of contemporary art from Africa, the Zeitz Collection has been gifted as the founding collection to this non-profit institution by ex-Puma CEO and Chairman, Jochen Zeitz. The collection will be showcased in 9,500m<sup>2</sup> of custom-designed space spread over nine floors, of which 6,000 m<sup>2</sup> will be dedicated exhibition space.

Professional and patrons preview weekend: 15 to 17 September 2017

Grand public opening weekend: 22 to 25 September 2017 (free entry for everyone)

Heatherwick Studio, based in London, is recognised internationally for projects including the UK Pavilion at the 2010 Shanghai World Expo, The London 2012 Olympic Cauldron, the New Bus for London and the redevelopment of Pacific Place, a 640,000m<sup>2</sup> complex in the centre of Hong Kong.

### ABOUT THE V&A WATERFRONT

The V&A Waterfront is a 123-hectare mixed-use destination, and one of Africa's most visited cultural and historical hubs. Set on the edge of a natural, historic working harbour with the iconic Table Mountain as its backdrop, it offers local and international visitors a cosmopolitan mix of experiences ranging from leisure, shopping and exclusive entertainment. It also offers prime residential and commercial property. The prime positioning of the V&A Waterfront boasts sweeping views of the ocean, city bowl and mountain peaks. Up to 100 000 people visit every day during peak season.

Contributing R259.1 billion in nominal terms to the South African economy over the last twelve years, the V&A Waterfront's cumulative contribution to the provincial GGP since 2002 was over R227 billion. The property also reported a 19% increase in retail trade sales for 2014, marking four consecutive years of consistent growth since 2011.

Total visitor numbers have grown to 24 million a year by 2014 (at year end). Although the V&A Waterfront remains South Africa's favourite tourist attraction for international tourists they account for only 23% of all visitors. Visits by locals increased to 63%, while 14% of visitors were from upcountry.

With 22 official landmarks on-site, it is also part of South Africa's historical legacy. Jointly owned by Growthpoint Properties Limited and the Government Employees Pension Fund (GEPF), represented by the Public Investment Corporation Limited (PIC), the V&A Waterfront was developed in 1988 by the state-owned transport corporation, Transnet Limited, while official commercial trading commenced in November 1990.

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