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Center Parcs awards contract to Birse Civils

Construction is soon to start at Woburn Forest to build the new Center Parcs; its fifth holiday village in the UK, due to open in spring 2014. Before construction begins, 3 separate contracts will be awarded for the infrastructure, the lodges and the leisure buildings.

Birse Civils, a Balfour Beatty Company, was awarded the £26 million 'roads and technical infrastructure' contract by Center Parcs on 15th May.

The contract at Woburn in Bedfordshire; involves major infrastructure works within a forest habitat and includes the delivery of a new environmentally-friendly energy centre using innovative modular construction techniques, to minimise the environmental impact of the work.

The works also include construction of all lakes, roads, footpaths, boardwalks, car and cycle parks, lodge platforms, retaining structures, a district heating system, drainage and street lighting.

Birse Civils will also carry out all utilities' distribution, bulk earthworks and attendance on statutory undertakings, as well as managing site logistics for the entire construction project, interfacing with the other contractors, as yet to be appointed, who will be constructing the centre buildings, lodges and ancillary buildings.

The 'lodges' contract and 'leisure buildings' contract are currently still within the tender process and these contracts will be awarded in the next 3 months.

Contact information

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Notes to Editors

1. Center Parcs has five Villages across the UK; Sherwood Forest in Nottinghamshire, Elveden Forest in Suffolk, Longleat Forest in Wiltshire, Whinfell Forest in Cumbria and Woburn Forest in Bedfordshire which opened to guests on 6 June 2014
2. As the leader in the UK short break holiday market, Center Parcs regularly achieves average annual occupancy in excess of 97%
3. Center Parcs offers weekend, (Friday to Monday) or midweek (Monday to Friday) breaks and welcomes over 1.7 million guests each year, with 96% of guests expressing an intention to return
4. The Center Parcs concept is to provide a range of high quality accommodation, shops, restaurants and exceptional leisure facilities, carefully nestled amongst 400 acres of protected forest environment
5. This concept originated in Holland in 1967, with the first UK Center Parcs opening in 1987. Center Parcs is now a separate entity in the UK, owned by The Blackstone Group

6. Center Parcs has been awarded the following accolades since 2008: the Green Business Award for Biodiversity Protection, Visit Britain 5 Star Rating, Hospitality Assured, Biodiversity Benchmark - Land Management, Carbon Trust Standard, Good Spa Guide Award, ISO14001, Investors in People
7. Center Parcs has recently been announced '[Best Family Holiday Provider](#)' in the Tommy's Awards for the eleventh year in a row

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