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New Center Parcs Village now open to short break guests

Today sees the arrival of the first guests at Center Parcs Woburn Forest, the fifth Center Parcs Village in the UK. Woburn Forest in Bedfordshire is expected to welcome 350,000 guests in its first year.

The new Village is set within 362 acres of forest in Bedfordshire and builds

on Center Parcs' 27 years of experience and commitment to providing great family breaks. It is home to Center Parcs' largest Subtropical Swimming Paradise, along with a state-of-the-art Aqua Sana spa, 625 lodges, a 75 bedroom hotel, six Spa Suites and a host of restaurants, shops and over 100 leisure activities. Woburn Forest will be Center Parcs' closest Village to London, just four miles from the M1 junction 13 and only 50 minutes by rail from St Pancras, London.

Woburn Forest will feature all of the ingredients that have been key to the success of Center Parcs over many years and will include some new and exciting designs.

Preparing to personally welcome the first guests to Woburn Forest, Martin Dalby, CEO of Center Parcs said: *"After years of hard work, dedication and passion, we're thrilled that Woburn Forest is opening today and we're ready to welcome our first guests. There is already a real buzz around the new Village and we hope that families are as excited as we are at the prospect of a short break at Woburn Forest."*

"Everything about the new Village is the result of a culmination of 27 years of experience and lots of guest research into what modern families are looking for. We are determined to offer the best short break experience for families, unrivalled in quality by anyone else in Europe."

New and exclusive to Woburn Forest are the 'upside down' Executive Lodges, which have unrivalled panoramic views across the woodland from the first floor family living space. Woburn Forest also has the highest percentage of executive and exclusive accommodation of all the Center Parcs Villages. All lodges feature stylish modern interiors and are wooden clad with sloping roofs.

The Subtropical Swimming Paradise is one of the most popular elements of a Center Parcs break with 90% of guests visiting during their stay. At Woburn Forest, there is a wave pool, Venture Cove family play area, Lazy River, Wild Water Rapids and three exciting water rides that are new to Woburn Forest: Tornado, Twister and Typhoon. The stunning clam-shape structure, which sits beneath the treeline, houses more than 6,000 tropical plants that were rescued from areas threatened by deforestation in South East Asia.

The Shearing House restaurant, inspired by the local area's farming heritage, has been designed specifically for the new Village. Its spacious and relaxing environment offers large sofas, communal kitchen tables and an outdoor terrace with stunning forest views.

Woburn Forest has the biggest, most innovative spa Center Parcs has ever created, a concept evolved from the success of its existing Aqua Sana spas. Inspired by nature, the Aqua Sana combines different experiences inspired by many of the leading spas across Europe. There are six unique spas to

journey through within Aqua Sana, each one with a variety of multi-sensory experience rooms, two of which are the first of their kind in the world. There is also an outdoor infinity pool looking out across the forest views.

Summer breaks at Woburn Forest in June currently start from £399. For more information or to make a booking, call 03448 266 266 or visit: www.centerparcs.co.uk/woburn

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, Whinell 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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