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The Cottage Bakery win Center Parcs contract

Amphill-based bakery, The Cottage Bakery, have been awarded the contract to supply the new Center Parcs Village with baked products.

The Cottage Bakery have been in business for more than 20 years creating cakes, bread and pastries and now with five shops across Bedfordshire. In

1988, owners Gary & Joanne Williams started with only one shop and twelve employees, since then the Cottage Bakery has grown to sixty staff, five shops and four vans delivering wholesale in the Bedfordshire, Milton Keynes, Luton and Cambridgeshire areas. It is hoped the Center Parcs contract will provide further growth opportunities for the business over the next few years to bring The Cottage Bakery products to even more people in the area.

Joanne Williams from The Cottage Bakery said:

“We are so excited about working with Center Parcs, knowing that the thousands of people coming to the new Village every year will be enjoying our products. We knew that this opportunity would be coming up and now that we have won the contract, we’re over the moon!”

Center Parcs Woburn Forest opened to short break guests on the 6th June 2014 and will welcome more than 300,000 people into the area every year. The estimated boost to the local economy Center Parcs will create is approximately £20m annually through employment, use of local services and local suppliers.

Contact information

Jessica Marshall-Pearce, Press Officer

Telephone: 01623 821723

Email: jessica.marshall-pearce@centerparcs.co.uk

Sustainability facts and figures

Committed to enhancing the forest and wider environment, Center Parcs aims to be one of the leading sustainable ‘Large Scale Tourist Destinations’ in the UK. The Center Parcs Sustainability Strategy, launched in 2011, promises to reduce Center Parcs carbon emissions by 20% and produce 10% of its energy from renewable sources by 2020. Center Parcs currently uses a variety of different energy saving choices including:

- New and refreshed accommodation projects have included environmentally efficient technology such as:
 - Ground source heating
 - Solar panels
 - Photovoltaic
 - Combined heat and power plants
 - Energy-saving LED lighting
 - Water-efficient showers
 - Low-energy kitchen appliances
 - Intelligent thermostats

- Electric vehicle fleet for housekeeping and technical services

Center Parcs is investing in energy efficiency and renewable technologies - such as District Heating - to achieve the aim of consuming 25% less than the average existing Center Parcs village.

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

Contacts



Simon Kay

Press Contact

Head of PR

press.office@centerparcs.co.uk

01623 821600



Emily Beaumont

Press Contact

PR Executive

press.office@centerparcs.co.uk

01623 821600