

"Kurdistan's surging growth and development has been making headlines lately, but none of this is news to The Claremont Group," said Claremont Principal and Founder, A. Alexander Lari. "As one of the first western developers in Iraq, we are uniquely situated to help meet the rising demand for commercial and residential properties in Kurdistan. As more people learn about the region's growth potential, we will be there to welcome them with open arms."

The Kurdistan Regional Government estimates that there is demand for more than 100,000 such housing units. The Atlantic will be one of the few new projects of this type to be licensed in Erbil.

"We'd like to commend President Barzani and the leadership of the Kurdistan Regional Government for fostering a secure, stable and pro-investment environment," Claremont Group Principal Stephen Lari said. "As tourist and business travel to the region continues to grow, we look forward to a continued partnership that opens the doors of this beautiful and historic destination to the rest of the world."

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Hilton Worldwide To Open Hotel in Erbil

Posted on 07 September 2011. Tags: [Claremont](#), [DoubleTree](#), [Erbil](#), [Hilton](#), [hotels](#), [Kurdistan](#)

Hilton Worldwide is set to open its first hotel in Erbil, the flourishing capital city of Iraqi Kurdistan, under a management agreement with New York based real estate developer The Claremont Group. Comprising of 200 serviced apartments, DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Erbil is expected to open at the end of 2013.

The new hotel will be strategically located on Erbil's central thoroughfare, close to the recently expanded Erbil International Airport and the Alnkawa district, one of the city's main retail and entertainment centres.

Rob Palleschi, global head, DoubleTree by Hilton brand said, "I'm delighted to be bringing our brand to such an important city in the Middle East. DoubleTree by Hilton has built its success on providing high standards of service and quality facilities in gateway cities, which makes it the ideal choice for Erbil's thriving community."

Tailored for the needs of long-staying guests, the hotel will feature a business centre, health club, swimming pool, eight meeting rooms, two restaurants and a lobby lounge and bar. Around 200 jobs will be created at the hotel and the company's focus will be on employing people locally.

"Erbil's commercial status is increasing year on year and the city has a growing reputation as an up and coming tourist destination. We have every confidence that the DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Erbil will prove popular with the growing number of business and leisure travellers," commented Rudi Jagersbacher, area president, Middle East & Africa, Hilton Worldwide

National Geographic recently listed Kurdistan, Iraq, amongst their Top 20 best trips describing it as 'an oasis of peace and stability with ancient cities, snowcapped mountains and bustling bazaars' and the New York Times travel section also listed Kurdistan in their 41 places to visit for 2011 saying 'the biggest lure is the opportunity for authentic cultural encounters'.

Stephen Lari, Principal of The Claremont Group, said "There is so much potential in Kurdistan and particularly the city of Erbil. We've seen travel to the region grow considerably over the past couple of years. If that trend is going to continue then further infrastructure is required to support the industry. Hotels are key to that, and with Hilton Worldwide we know we have the right brand and management partner to make this hotel an integral part of the travel industry in the region'.

He added: "We'd like to commend the leadership of the Kurdistan Regional Government for fostering the secure and pro-investment environment that has been the catalyst for the region's steady growth and prosperity. By making the first major American-sponsored investment in the region's hospitality sector, we are firm believers in the Kurdistan success story"

Hilton Worldwide currently operates 53 properties across the Middle East and Africa and has 36 hotels in the development pipeline. So far this year the company has signed a total of 14 new hotels into the pipeline across the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and now Iraq.

(Source: Hilton Worldwide)

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