



“aha HOTELS & LODGES WINS BEST AFRICAN HOTEL GROUP AT 2017 WORLD TOURISM FORUM AFRICA SUMMIT”

JOHANNESBURG, 11 October 2017 – *aha Hotels & Lodges* has won the **“Best African Hotel Group”** award at the **2017 Africa Tourism Awards** on 10 October 2017, hosted by the **World Tourism Forum** in Accra, Ghana.

The Africa Summit is an international, large scale event where CEOs and Vice Presidents from global companies, heads of national promotion offices, senior executives from investment companies, travel agencies, senior executives from tour operators and leaders who shape the world of tourism contribute to the Africa Summit organization as participants and speakers. Some of the speakers this year include the **Vice-President of the Republic of Ghana ; His Excellency, Mahamudu Bawumia**, former President, **John Agyekum Kufuor**, President of the Executive Board of World Tourism Forum and President of Executive Board of the Association of Young Tourism Leaders, **Bulut Bağcı** and **Jack Straw**, former UK Home & Foreign Secretary.

The awards provide African tourism service providers an opportunity to showcase the best they have to offer and promote, encourage and reward tourism excellence.

aha Hotels & Lodges CEO, Neil Bald says, “Our strategic goal is to extend our footprint into other African countries and this award reinforces our position as the best hospitality group with the most consistent all-round offering. To be recognised by global tourism industry leaders as the “Best Hotel Group in Africa” signifies the relevance of our product to both the African and International market”.

The category of **BEST HOTEL GROUP** is given to the best hotel group, which offers guests increasingly exclusive experiences, quality, excellence and innovation. Participants were assessed by an independent Jury Expert Board which consists of experts in the travel, culture and hospitality markets.

aha Hotels and Lodges manages a collection of hotels and lodges throughout Southern Africa, including Gauteng, Western Cape, Northern Cape, Free State, North West Province, KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga, Limpopo and in Southern Africa; Botswana, Zimbabwe and Zambia and Ethiopia.