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GLOBAL RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE IN HOSPITALITY, FINE DINING, AND WELLNESS

FOUR GLOBAL WORLD LUXURY AWARDS 2026 FOR VAN OYS MAASTRICHT RETREAT

At this year's World Luxury Awards gala in Bucharest, the five-star superior Van Oys Maastricht Retreat in Dutch Limburg received four global awards: the World Luxury Hotel Award 2026 for Best Interior Design, the World Luxury Spa Award 2026 for Best Luxury Health & Fitness Spa, and the World Luxury Restaurant Award 2026 for Best Gourmet Cuisine. The prestigious title of **2026 Global Restaurant of the Year,** one of just four coveted Overall Wins, was awarded to the two-MICHELIN-starred restaurant Create by Guido Braeken.

The World Luxury Awards celebrated their 20th edition in 2026, with the anniversary gala held at the JW Marriott Bucharest Grand Hotel. Around 250 representatives from the international hotel, restaurant and travel industries gathered in the Romanian capital. For two decades, the awards have been a fixture on the international luxury industry's awards calendar.

THE GUESTS' VOTES COUNT

Established in 2006, the World Luxury Awards recognise hotels, restaurants, spas and tourism experiences for their quality and achievements within the international luxury sector. Winners are determined through a public voting process involving guests, travellers and industry professionals. Awards are presented at global, continental, regional and national levels.

Managing Director Marc Alofs accepted the awards in Bucharest on behalf of the owners and the entire team. "International recognition at this level is not simply handed to you. It has to be earned. The nine awards received by Van Oys Maastricht Retreat are a testament to the dedication of our entire team. At the same time, they provide the perfect motivation to give our very best every single day and create a truly unique luxury experience for our guests."

In his keynote address at the World Luxury Awards 2026, Panos Almyrantis, President of the European Hotel Managers Association (EHMA), emphasised that people will continue to make the decisive difference in a future increasingly shaped by artificial intelligence and automation. "True excellence in luxury hospitality comes from personal attention, authentic hospitality and attention to detail – qualities that even the most advanced technologies cannot replace."

THE GLOBAL AWARDS AT A GLANCE

WORLD LUXURY RESTAURANT AWARDS | Create by Guido Braeken
2026 Global Restaurant of the Year
2026 Global Winner for Best Gourmet Cuisine

WORLD LUXURY HOTEL AWARDS | Van Oys Maastricht Retreat
2026 Global Winner for Best Interior Design

WORLD LUXURY SPA AWARDS | Oysana Spa & Sports
2026 Global Winner for Best Luxury Health & Fitness Spa

ABOUT VAN OYS MAASTRICHT RETREAT

Opened in 2025, Van Oys Maastricht Retreat is situated on a historic estate along the River Meuse in Eijsden-Margraten, approximately six kilometres from Maastricht. The five-star superior hotel is a member of *The Leading Hotels of the World* and has been awarded a MICHELIN Key. The property features 81 rooms and suites, the restaurants Create by Guido Braeken and Maes, Cuisine du Terroir, Wine Bar César, Oysana Spa & Sports and extensive landscaped parkland. The retreat's philosophy is inspired by the Cittaslow movement. The owners are Michel and Leon Maes, and the Managing Director is Marc Alofs.

WORLD LUXURY AWARDS

The World Luxury Awards were founded in South Africa in 2006 on the initiative of hotelier Brandon Lourens. Today, the programme recognises hotels, spas, restaurants and businesses within the tourism industry. In addition to infrastructure and facilities, the awards consider the individual concept, the quality of its execution and service excellence. According to the organisers, the evaluation criteria continue to evolve in line with changing guest and industry expectations.

Originally focused on hotels, the awards expanded to include the Spa Awards in 2010, the Restaurant Awards in 2015 and the Travel Awards in 2020. Entries are submitted in categories that reflect the individual characteristics of participating properties. Official guest feedback forms part of the nomination process. Winners are subsequently determined through a public vote involving international guests, travellers and industry representatives.

PRESS CONTACT

marketing deluxe | **Amy Rose**
Tannenberggasse 2/G1 | 6130 Schwaz | Austria
T +43 5242 61115 | presse@marketing-deluxe.at | marketing-deluxe.at