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# Design-led hotel to open on London's South Bank

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A 161-bedroom hotel, with designs reflecting local art and craftsmanship, is to open on London's South Bank in September 2018.

Bankside is being developed as part of the One Blackfriars development by St George, Berkeley Group on behalf of the owners, the Canadian property investment company Realstar and Amerimar Enterprise, a US-based company.

Realstar's most recent investment in the UK hospitality sector was as the owner of the LRG portfolio of 73 Holiday Inn and Crowne Plaza hotels which it sold in 2015.

The hotel will be managed by Amerimar Enterprises, which currently operates the four-AA-star, 331-bedroom St Ermin's hotel in Westminster, London. It will feature a 78-cover restaurant, al fresco dining space, bar, lounge, gym and function space for 120 guests.

Situated on Blackfriars Road close to the Tate Modern and Borough Market, Bankside will be located within a six-storey glass building designed by architect Ian Simpson of Simpson, Haugh and Partners. Film set producer-turned-interiors architect, Dayna Lee of Powerstrip Studios, is creating the interiors which will feature a mid-20<sup>th</sup> century aesthetic.



Lee said that the aim was to design "a genuine boutique hotel for the modern mindset, with calm rooms and creative public spaces that reflect the vibrant, history-steeped community of SE1." Featured art work from the local community will include post-kiln pottery drying racks for shelves and kid-leather-covered furnishings.

The bedrooms, meanwhile, will have "an airy-residential style" vibe.

Sustainability will be at the core of Bankside, with key initiatives including in-room power-saving elements, rooftop beehives, sustainably-sourced wood, the use of non-or low-solvent paints, and an ambition to achieve zero waste landfill.

The South Bank has seen a plethora of hotel openings since the launch of the 202-bedroom Shangri-La at the Shard in 2014, followed by the 292-bedroom Hilton Bankside in 2015 and the 494-bedroom Park Plaza Waterloo earlier this year. Also opening in the locality next year is the 192-bedroom Hoxton Southwark.

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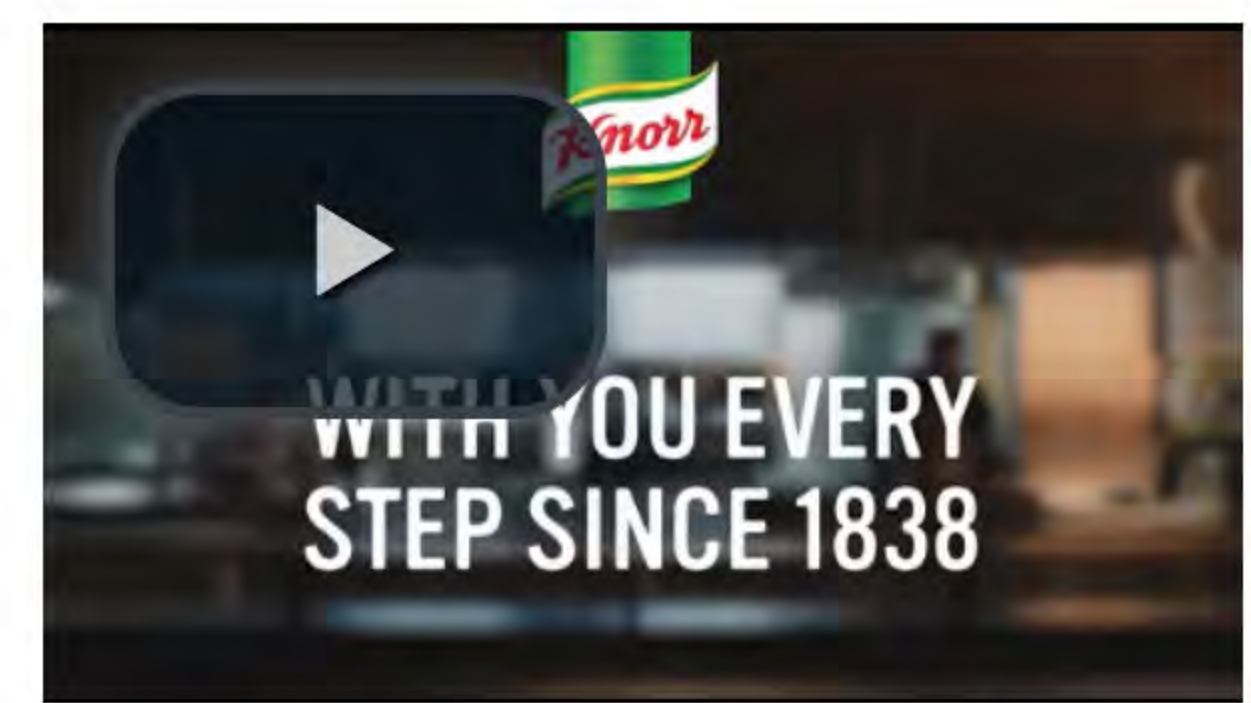
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