

THE MOUNT NELSON TO OPEN SOUTH AFRICA'S MOST SOUGHT-AFTER CITY SPA

CAPE TOWN, MARCH 16, 2007 – Cape Town's legendary **Mount Nelson Hotel** will open a 6,100-square-foot spa in December 2007 that will offer unsurpassed luxury, pampering and attention to detail. The project is valued at more than US\$2 million and will incorporate Victorian design features to create a conservatory-like ambience with ample natural light and gentle tones of whites and creams.

The entrance will be near the main swimming pool and will consist of a spacious warm reception area and a luxury retail boutique showcasing international and locally sourced brands and labels. Changing areas will lie on either side of the reception, and guests will be invited to disrobe and enjoy a sauna or steam bath as well the use of hot and cold plunge pools prior to their treatments. While waiting for their therapist(s), guests can sip on herbal teas in an idyllic resting area replicating a quintessential English conservatory room.

Romance will play a key note in the spa concept with four of the ten rooms offering dual treatments for partners. Two rooms will offer a choice of either an outdoor private shower or an oversized indoor copper bath. A staircase leads to a second floor of treatment rooms offering stunning vistas of Table Mountain and the hotel's landscaped gardens.

The Mount Nelson is Cape Town's legendary "pink palace" set amidst nine acres of landscaped gardens with stunning views of Table Mountain. Adjacent to the city center and just five-minutes by car from the harbor, the hotel continues to be the 'toast of the town' with the recent complete refurbishment of its Oasis Wing, a stunning new Presidential Suite, the supremely popular Planet Champagne Bar. The hotel's combination of elegance, grace, grandeur and exceptional location ensures all guests have a truly memorable experience.

The spa's name, signature treatments, and spa product lines will be announced in May. All therapists will be sourced from South Africa and will undergo intense training prior to the opening.

*Orient-Express owns and operates five properties in Africa: the Mount Nelson Hotel in Cape Town, The Westcliff in Johannesburg, and in Botswana, Savute Elephant Camp, Khwai River Lodge and Eagle Island Camp. Each property epitomizes its unique environment and heritage, while embracing the grace and charm that is unmistakably Orient-Express the world over. Reservations can be made by calling **800-237-1236** or via **www.mountnelson.co.za** .*