



## **Katsuya by Starck launches its first stand-alone restaurant in the Middle East**

*Kuwait's second Katsuya by Starck now open at Arabella, offering breathtaking views of the Arabian Gulf*

**Kuwait – XX 2014:** Katsuya by Starck today opened its first stand-alone restaurant in the Middle East, and its second Kuwait location, at Arabella. The restaurant is a result of the prodigious pairing of master sushi chef Katsuya Uechi and world-renowned designer Philippe Starck.

The opening of the restaurant was celebrated at an official launch ceremony hosted by John Kolaski, COO of sbe Restaurant Group, and Jim Dunn, VP of Asian Dining at M.H. Alshaya Co. The launch was attended by prominent dignitaries, VIP guests and local media, who engaged in an interactive sushi-making and a cocktail mixology session on how to make signature Katsuya dishes and drinks.

Katsuya by Starck is known for its dynamic decor and menu, which are truly a feast for the senses. With four speciality kitchens, award-winning freshly-squeezed elixirs, and spectacular sushi and sashimi platters, Katsuya skilfully translates Japanese flavours for an international palate. Guests at the Arabella restaurant will love the diverse collection of signature dishes made fresh from the highest quality ingredients. Favourites include Crispy Rice with Spicy Tuna, Baked Crab Hand-roll, Yellowtail Sashimi with Jalapeño, and Wagyu Tenderloin Toban-yaki.

The new 465 m<sup>2</sup> Arabella restaurant seats 204 guests and features three private dining rooms for up to 10 people each.

Commenting on the launch of the new restaurant, Mr Kolaski said: “We have had an overwhelmingly positive response to our first restaurant in the region at Grand Avenue, The Avenues, which opened in October last year. Since then, we’ve also expanded into the UAE with a similarly successful restaurant at The Dubai Mall. We see great opportunities for further regional openings and expansion.”

Katsuya by Starck was created in Los Angeles by the entertainment group sbe and is a regular destination for Hollywood's A-listers. The interiors of the restaurants are designed by the internationally acclaimed French creator and architect, Philippe Starck. The stunning new restaurant at Arabella blends samurais with bento boxes and uses the natural beauty of wood and stone to create an exquisite and stylish environment.

Since its 2006 brand launch in Los Angeles, Katsuya by Starck has developed a reputation for its superior design, ambiance, experience and cuisine. As part of sbe's growing portfolio, Katsuya by Starck has expanded quickly internationally and developed a fan base including Hollywood's A-listers. The menu features more than 100 selections and in keeping with its high standards, menu items are only ever made in-house, to order.

- The newest Katsuya by Starck is conveniently located at Arabella overlooking the Arabian Gulf, and is open daily from Saturday to Wednesday from 11:00am – 11:00pm and Thursday-Friday from 11:00am -12:00am.