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## PRESS RELEASE

### Theo Gerlach – Hotel Legend & “Hijo Adoptivo” (Adopted Son) of Gran Canaria



Theo Gerlach in SIDE Hotel

In 1959 begin the professional footsteps of this native Hannover born business man in the construction business. During this time, projects were undertaken in Hannover, Munich and Sylt. In 1963 the construction company Gerlach-Bau GmbH was founded, to be renamed in 1976 Gerlach Wohnungsbau GmbH, as it still exists today, representing one of the largest construction companies in the north of Germany with offices in Hannover and Hamburg. Through a contact within the business, in July 1970 Theo Gerlach visited the Canary Islands for the first time and was so taken with Gran Canaria that he decided to buy land on the island. Today the hotel chain owns eight hotels, four in the Canary Islands and four in Germany.

- 1974 Inauguration of the Hotel Don Gregory, Gran Canaria (sold in 1998)
- 1975 Inauguration of the Hotel Palm Beach \*\*\*\*\*, Gran Canaria ( the only 5\* Design Hotel member on the islands)
- 1986 Inauguration of the Hotel Sandy Beach \*\*\*\*, Gran Canaria
- 1992 Inauguration of the Residenz Hotel \*\*\*\* , Germany (Chemnitz)
- 1994 Inauguration of the Hotel Los Jameos Playa \*\*\*\*, Lanzarote
- 1995 Inauguration of the Park Hotel Leipzig \*\*\*\*, Germany (Leipzig)
- 2000 Inauguration of the Grand Hotel Residencia \*\*\*\*\*<sup>L</sup>, Gran Canaria (The Leading Small Hotels of the World)
- 2001 Inauguration of SIDE \*\*\*\*\* , Germany (Hamburg), (Superior Design Hotel)
- 2010 Inauguration of VASANO Suites, Germany (Leipzig)

In April 2010 Theo Gerlach received the title of “Hijo Adoptivo” (Adopted Son) from the island of Gran Canaria. The Inter-island Council has honoured with this title his continual contribution since the 1970's to tourism in the south of the island. The President of the Inter-island Council, José Miguel Pérez García, made the official presentation at the “Pérez Galdós Theatre” on the island of Gran Canaria of the title “Hijo Adoptivo de Gran Canaria” (Adopted Son of Gran Canaria).

Additional information on Seaside Hotels can be found at [www.seaside-hotels.com](http://www.seaside-hotels.com).

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