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GIARDINO

PRESS RELEASE



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Depart from Ecco
Restaurant at the Giardino
Hotels in Winter 2025

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HOTELS

ROLF AND JENIFER FLIEGAUF TO DEPART FROM ECCO RESTAURANT AT THE GIARDINO HOTELS IN WINTER 2025

Ascona, September 23, 2024 – After over 18 years of successful collaboration, renowned 2-Michelin-starred chef Rolf Fliegauf and his partner Jenifer will bid farewell to the Ecco restaurant. Rolf Fliegauf has significantly shaped the culinary profile of the Giardino Hotels over many years, earning both national and international recognition for his innovative cuisine.

Rolf Fliegauf began his career at Hotel Giardino Ascona in 2007, where he led the restaurant Ecco to national and international acclaim. Through his creativity, precision, and passion for the culinary arts, he earned his first Michelin star in 2007 and his second Michelin star in 2010. Under his leadership, the restaurant became a staple in the national and international gourmet scene, regularly earning 18 points in the GaultMillau guide in recent years. His wife Jenifer, who has always been by his side and managed the service, was instrumental in the success of the Ecco concept, with the service also consistently receiving top ratings.

Rolf Fliegauf shares his thoughts on their departure:

"After many successful years in Ascona and St. Moritz, it is time for Jenifer and me to explore new paths and face new challenges. We are deeply grateful for the wonderful collaboration with my team and the support of the hotel throughout the years. This experience will always hold a special place in our hearts."



Ascona Minusio-Locarno Champfèr-St. Moritz

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ZusammCEOs Daniela and Philippe Frutiger express their gratitude to Jenifer and Rolf Fliegau for their outstanding contributions and the unforgettable culinary experiences they have provided to the hotel and its guests. "We are saddened to see Rolf and Jenifer go, but above all, we are thankful for the successful years we've had together. We respect their decision and wish them all the best for their professional and personal future." Daniela Frutiger adds, "We look forward to enjoying more culinary excellence with them this winter in St. Moritz."

Now begins the farewell tour for their loyal guests in Ascona. From October 9 to 19, 2024, Rolf and Jenifer Fliegau will welcome their guests at 6:30 p.m. for a get-together with Perrier & Jouet champagne, followed by a 5-course menu created by Rolf Fliegau. The menu, including an overnight stay, is available from CHF 1,215.-.

The highly anticipated successor to Rolf Fliegau has already been chosen, but we ask for your patience as we keep the name under wraps for now. Stay tuned for the unveiling.

About the Giardino Group

The Giardino Group comprises three distinctive properties: the five-star hotels Giardino Ascona and Giardino Mountain in St. Moritz, as well as the boutique hotel Giardino Lago in Minusio, near Locarno, nestled along the shores of Lago Maggiore. During the summer season, the Engadin-based Giardino Mountain adapts its concept to a bed & breakfast without star classification, catering to the needs of summer guests.

Internationally acclaimed for its culinary excellence, the Giardino Group is home to the renowned Ecco fine dining restaurants, led by chef Reto Brändli. Known for his refined craftsmanship and innovative approach, Brändli continues the legacy of exceptional gastronomy at both the Ascona and St. Moritz locations. The hotels' second restaurant concept, Hide & Seek, celebrates innovative, light, and flavorful cuisine crafted from regional ingredients. Meanwhile, Ristorante Lago at Giardino Lago draws inspiration from Italian culinary traditions, reinterpreting classic dishes with a modern and refined approach.

Since 2016, the Giardino Group has also been a pioneer in holistic well-being, with dedicated Ayurveda centers in Ascona and St. Moritz. Guests can further indulge in relaxation at the dipiù Spa, featuring the exclusive in-house dipiùcosmetics line, alongside premium products from AVEDA and QMS.



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